William F. Henderson

Game Worn Guide *to* MLB Jerseys

1970 - 2025: Tenth Edition

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(1970-2025) Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

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Tenth Edition

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This volume is part of the permanent collection of the research library of The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York.

This book is dedicated to my father,

William F. Henderson Sr.

(1928-2010)

...Who always tolerated with a smile my penchant for collecting things, and encouraged my interest in history and art. Without his active involvement and encouragement early in my life, I doubt this research volume would exist today.

National Baseball Hall of Fame And Museum
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William F. Henderson

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Foreword

As sports fans, we're used to having historical information at our fingertips, whether on the back of a baseball card, in a statistical almanac, or on the Internet. It takes only a moment to confirm that Wade Boggs hit .366 in 1988, or that Steve Carlton finished his career with 329 wins. But when it comes to uniforms, the historical record is much sketchier, with spotty documentation and lots of misinformation floating around. Simply put, there's no Elias Sports Bureau for uniform design.

But there's something close, at least for baseball uniforms of the past four decades: Bill Henderson's *Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys*. As a guy who's lucky enough to write about uniforms for a living, I'm doubly lucky to have access to this tremendous resource, which makes my job easier and more pleasurable on a near-daily basis.

Aside from providing a much more thorough and complete listing of jersey styles than any other available reference source (including coverage of patches, alternate styles, throwbacks, and other related issues), *Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys* also offers one huge advantage over other uniform databases: It's based on photographs, not illustration templates, so nothing is left to the researcher's interpretation and nothing gets lost in the translation from photo to template. Instead, you see photos of the actual uniforms, which ensures the most accurate information possible.

Someday maybe Bill will get around to providing us a similar resource for the flannel era, but that's another project for another day. For now, the pages the follow provide the best available documentation of the modern Major League Baseball uniform. Enjoy.

- Paul Lukas, "Uni-Watch" blog and columnist

Photo credit: Paul Lukas

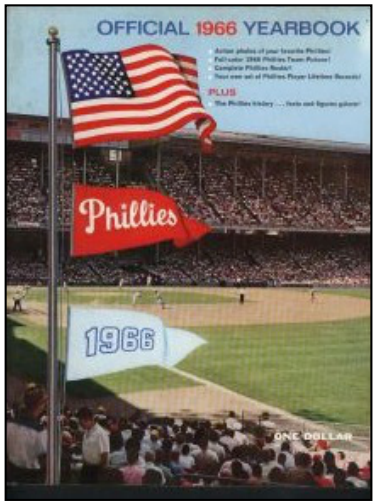
Preface

It was some thirty years ago in 1996 that the modest "First Edition" of this book appeared. It was about 100 pages long, had no photos, and I printed it for the three friends who asked me for copies. With this Tenth Edition of 2025, we have now grown to more than 5,500 pages and have cataloged thousands of major facts as well as tiny obscure details into a body of work that would have been unimaginable to me "back then."

The original reason I started compiling this reference is more valid today than it was when I began: as a collector, I recognized there were a lot of fake "Authentic" jerseys out there, or supposedly team-used ones being represented as something they weren't. And the explosion of the Internet (which barely existed 20 years ago) has made the problem both better… and so much worse! "Better" in that there are so many jerseys being sold by so many individuals that there are opportunities and bargains galore. "Worse" in that the number of fakes, misrepresentations, counterfeits and frauds has increased exponentially.

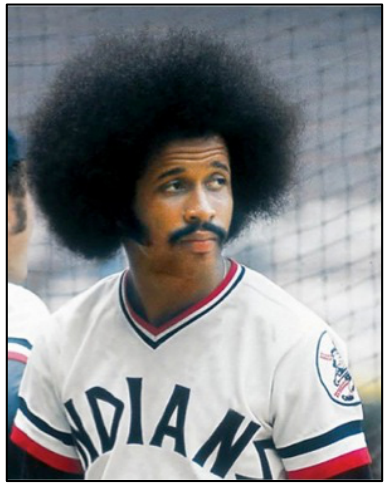
Originally, my handwritten notes that eventually became this book simply detailed which years memorial and commemorative patches were used, when player names-on-back (NOB) were used or not, when nameplates were used, when team styles changed from pullovers to button-fronts, and a host of other details that would allow me to tell with a simple search when something was being represented as something it was not. Our research has grown to so much more.

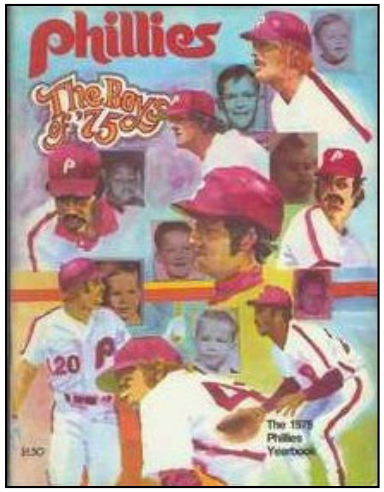
Way back in 1995, teams brought some real meaning to the word "uniform," as in implying the definition of "common and unchanging." Teams had a home jersey, a road one, and a batting practice top. A few teams had alternate jerseys. And the phenomenon that became "throwback games" had only just started and by that point there had only been a handful of them, less than a dozen.



Baseball in the 1970s: Traditional themes began to give way…

...to mod colors and big hair. This was the era I grew up in.





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Fast-forward to 2014, and the vast majority of teams had at least one alternate jersey, while some had three or more. Several had adopted multiple batting practice jerseys as well. There are alternate uniforms worn on Sundays, Throwback Thursdays, Military Salute Wednesdays, Negro League Tribute Weekends, Ethnic Heritage Celebrations, Memorial Day Camouflage league-wide, and more Turn Back the Clock games than I could have ever imagined. For example, in 2014, the Cubs, one of the most tradition-oriented teams in baseball, and that hasn't substantially changed its home uniform in decades, wore a total of *fifteen different jerseys* in games that year alone, not counting warm-ups. Through it all, I have documented every single one of these games and jerseys. Had I not started tracking them in 1995, I can't imagine tackling the task of going back now to research them all from zero.

Our hobby exploded when performers in the popular music industry began wearing oversized MLB jerseys in the early 2000s. It suddenly became fashionable to wear team jerseys in public. This period brought amazing growth in the interest for both store bought (retail) and game-worn Authentics, but also polluted the hobby with more fakes and rip-off counterfeit jerseys than anyone could imagine. And these fakes will continue to surface, circulate, and resurface for years to come.

By 2015, the "hip hop" fashion craze has long passed. Today, getting a great deal on authentic jerseys on eBay or other auction sites is a real possibility–if you know what to look for. The truth is, there are many bargains out there among the fakes, because with all the junk being sold, many buyers have become gun-shy about on-line purchasing. That, coupled with a great increase in availability of game worn jerseys by the teams means that, *if you know what to look for* you can get some real steals. Keep this guidebook always handy on your tablet and desktop, and *you* will be one of those people who knows what to look for and doesn't get fooled, while picking up some great bargains as well.

Bill

I believe that game worn uniforms should not be banished to hang unseen in the closet. However, even my friends think I am a little bit bizarre when I show up wearing one in the local softball league (in Tokyo, Japan, where I lived 2003-2004, here, wearing game-used Pittsburgh Pirates Turn Back the Clock uniform, pants and all).

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Classic Threads: 1979 All Star Game NL Team Photo

This photo is a classic to me, as it perfectly captures what baseball looked like when I was growing up. Taken as the away-team photo for the 1979 game, these players would have been dressed in their road grays. Yet look at what passed for "road gray" in 1979. There are a few grays, but mostly blues, orange, rainbows, golds as well as a smattering players wearing that new garment that came to be known as the "Batting Practice Jersey." Pete Rose (center row, sixth from the right) actually wore his Phillies maroon batting jersey as his game jersey during that All-Star game, for some reason.

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Tenth Edition Notes

So much is new in this edition. It's been five years since our last update was released. While we had been on a three-year revision cycle for many years, we waited five seasons this time for a couple of reasons. When Nike took over making MLB on-field jerseys for 2020, they simply put their "swoosh" logo on Majestic's designs. Everything was the same as 2019; fabrics, garment construction, lettering, and trim. In actuality, Nike simply had acquired Majestic's production facility and even all its employees, continuing production with 2019's status quo. The plan apparently was for Nike to introduce their planned changes for the 2020 season. But… the pandemic intervened. It disrupted everything; shortening the season, prevented fans from attending ballparks for a whole year and messing up the manufacturing supply chain so that the materials that Nike needed to make and distribute its planned new product were simply not available. Nike decided to wait to make their changes until things settled down. That took until 2024.

For the 2024 season, Nike made major changes to nearly everything, and to be blunt, it was not well received. Besides changing the fabrics used to make the jerseys and the overall construction of the garments, they shrunk the size of front team scripts; altered front number fonts; eliminated embroidered sleeve patches, replacing them with cheap-looking printed ones; and made player names and numbers much smaller. You can read all about the many detail changes within, but there was an uproar of complaint from both players and fans, eventually causing Nike to make the unprecedented move to retreat back to older style lettering but still on the new style jersey template for 2025. More changes are planned for 2026, when we are told that Nike will abandon their jersey template and go back to the old Majestic designs and fabrics. This edition of The Game Worn Guide will be complete for the changes for the 2025 season up through June 1.

In this edition, aside from the usual error corrections, additional facts and improved photo substitutions, for the first time we are including dozens of actual authentication documents- my Letters of Professional Opinion on jerseys I have evaluated over the years. This is a valuable resource for those who want to take a deeper dive into authenticity. It might surprise to you to see how many jerseys featured in these letters have been restored by me to their original configuration, after their trip from MLB to the next year's spring training, then to the minor leagues. I hope you will enjoy and benefit from this enhancement.

Updating and editing a research book of this size and scope is a Herculean proposition, and I am grateful again for the assistance of Editor Rick Subrizio, who was responsible for nearly all of the post 2020 content within. Rick collected all of the data, news releases, and photographs for the Nike 2024 league-wide changes, and then did it all again for the 2025 "correction". I also want to recognize the contributions of collector Steve Kraljic who not only helped with this edition's content and error checking, but assisted by submitting photos of many jerseys from his own massive and diverse collection.

Since my retirement from corporate life in 2017 and starting my new business, the Dream Shop, I've been immersed in restoring and authenticating jerseys daily. And while some are from everyday players, I've had the privilege of handling some really rare and valuable pieces, including jerseys of Babe Ruth, Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson and Mickey Mantle among many others. It seems with every authentication and restoration, I learn something new. Sadly, I also see my share of things that are inauthentic and contrived, many with ill intent. I have updated the chapter in this edition regarding authenticity with some of my latest learnings. You can read about some of my work in the Dream Shop chapter of this book, visit my website, https://thedream.shop/; and please follow my blog on Facebook; https://www.facebook.com/gameworngguides.

The tenth edition of *The Guide* covers 55 seasons of history in exacting detail. While some readers enjoy casually skimming the content and pictures, others use it as a serious reference that they consult before investing in anything being sold as accurate and original. I am glad for all of you and our shared sense of community.

A part of my collection, "Phillies Uniforms of the last 50 years" in 1997, loaned out and on public display.

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The Scope of this Research

This guide covers all Major League Baseball game-worn jerseys and All-Star Game batting practice jerseys from 1970 through 2025, as well as regular season batting practice jerseys issued through 2023. This edition includes all team uniform changes announced prior to July 1, 2025. Within, I have not attempted to include jackets, hats, stirrups, pants or any other uniform accessories, though sometimes we may mention them to add color or context.

Importantly, I always include information on the official manufacturer of each season's team-worn game jerseys. I have provided photographs of team tagging where space allows, and where I am unsure of any facts, I note this and avoid making any assumptions. "Team Tagging" is covered in detail within. Missing, falsified or modified team tagging are the most common ways that collectible jerseys are misrepresented in this hobby. Team tagging does not usually "fall off" or get lost without some help!

While I continue to study game worn examples with great interest, and I believe that all the examples I have shown in this guide are authentic, it is entirely possible that I have shown something believing it is correct and authentic when it is not. avoid using photos of claimed game worn jerseys of star players unless I have personally authenticated them, since the possibility of one of these being a fabrication is much more likely.

With each new edition, I have replaced photos that knowledgeable readers have called into question. Please always use caution and your own common sense.

I have striven for accuracy in this guide, but I am certain that it is not 100% error free. Every time I discover another bunch of old photos, I learn something new!

"Never" and "always" are words I try to avoid. Just when I think I have found an ironclad rule, it seems I will find an exception to it. It helps to remember that these uniforms were sewn by real people under deadlines in less than ideal conditions mostly without guidebooks, templates, or unbreakable rules.

I have used the best photographs I have of actual game worn jerseys wherever possible. I have backed up my research with period news photos and sports cards photographs. When I am unsure of a fact, I will note it by saying "More Research Required." I do not want to introduce my opinions as facts, and as I uncover evidence, I update my research for future editions. And always, comments and corrections are welcome! Please send them to me.

Some more information on how research for this publication was done is included in the final chapter, "Acknowledgments."

One final word – while I am accessible to all readers through email and social media, I have a firm policy of not casually offering comments on the authenticity of items, nor will I ever speculate on the value of items. Please do not take this personally. I provide my expert services as a professional authenticator to the trade, and one of rules that authenticators must follow is to *always* make thoughtful and thorough evaluations of all items. I charge fair fees for this service.

Should you have any item you want evaluated, please contact me. Keep in mind: this publication is a source that most authenticators depend upon as a reference, so in using it you may find evidence to allow you to make your own educated assumptions.

Bill

(2002) Sammy the dog (RIP, and I miss her) politely suggests a far better use of your author's time after watching him spend hours spreading shirts on the floor and climbing on the step-stool to take photos of them.

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Chapter 1
Introduction

The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys 1970-2025, Tenth Edition
William F. Henderson

The reference you are using is the most complete guide on the subject written, documenting every Game Worn and Retail Authentic Game Jersey covering the seasons 1970 to 2025. Since its modest first edition from 1996, it has found several avid audiences:

- Researchers and trade professionals including auction companies looking to determine the facts of authenticity of jerseys they are evaluating to buy or sell.
- Restoration professionals and lettering shops that are committed to lettering their clients' jerseys correctly.
- Fans and casual collectors, perhaps the largest group of readers, mostly people who find this an interesting topic, and this a fun reference book to own and refer to.

In this first chapter, we will discuss some categories and definitions for MLB jerseys that you will see frequently used throughout this book: **Game Worn**, **Team Issued**, **Retail Authentic**, and **Retail Replica**. We will complete this first chapter with a brief overview of the hobby of collecting MLB jerseys.

Definition: Game Worn Jersey

Game Worn (or Game Used) jersey: A jersey that is lettered/numbered, issued to and worn by a player in a game, even an exhibition/Spring Training one. It is also used to refer to player-used **Batting Practice jerseys** whether they were used in an actual game or not. Likewise, uniforms worn by coaches during the season and on the field of play are commonly referred to as "Game Worn" even though the coaches are clearly not playing in the game.

Many actual game worn jerseys prior to 2010 have no real provenance—or traceable concrete proof—that they were worn in an MLB game. And truly for the tens of thousands of jerseys worn over the years by thousands of everyday players, to most collectors that fact matters very little. 95% of all the game worn jerseys in the hobby are like these. Fans collect them because they want to have a piece of the game, or something worn by a real MLB player. In reality, most of these jerseys, especially from recent years, may sell for about the same as a retail-store Authentic lettered for a big-name player. In the case of non-famous, everyday players, especially those who had MLB jerseys made for them by the team in preparedness, but who never actually made a pro roster, their jerseys may often be purchased for a fraction of the cost of a new, blank retail one.

Photo of the some of the players taken during the 1979 postseason MLB Tour of Japan. Players wore their home-city uniforms as they toured, and the combination of colors shows just how colorful baseball looked in the 1970s.

The remaining 5% of the jerseys are something else entirely: they are claimed to have been worn by stars of the game, and/or they are said to be from a specific game of historical importance that makes them more collectible, and therefore more expensive and valuable to a collector. These jerseys really require proof to cement their collector value. It is an adage of collecting anything that *an item is worth only what the next buyer will pay to own it.* A whole chapter of this book is dedicated to the productive pursuit of "Game Worn" jerseys.

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Definition: Team Tagging

refers to team-added sewn-on tags usually found inside the garment, or on the outside on a normally hidden shirttail. These are often used for team inventory purposes. Most team tags are added at the very beginning of the jersey's life; even before a player name and number are applied. And, some game worn jerseys are team-tagged while others are not. Each team has its own tagging policy, method and tag coding and those will vary depending on the year of issue and the jersey's manufacturer. During the 1970s through the 1990s it was very common for a team to source jerseys from multiple manufacturers in the same year, and often the tagging is different depending on the jersey manufacturer. In this book we have tried to show as many examples of team tagging as possible, but we certainly do not claim to have every example for every team.

Additionally, some teams went long periods without applying team-tagging at all. These include whole blocks of years for the Marlins, Padres, Phillies, Devil Rays, Diamondbacks, Brewers, Royals and several other teams. When they tag, some teams may include a simple tab with the year on it, others have sewn in neck or tail tags with codes including a player number, size, year, set number and even the player's name. Some teams tag game jerseys but not batting practice jerseys. Your team's detail chapter will tell you what to look for in greater detail.

A varied selection of team tagging. Even on one specific team, tagging codes, styles and locations vary by manufacturer and by year. Rarely is a specific style used for more than a few years before it changes.

Definition: “Team Issued” Jerseys

Team Issued jersey is a term that can be vague and is used in a number of different cases. I will list some here, and you will note that as we move further down the list, definitions can become less clear and even be dishonestly applied:

- ***A jersey that was made for and indeed worn by a player in a game (or games) but is being sold without an authenticator’s mark that it certifies it as game worn.*** This is quite common, when all team jerseys are collected up by the team at the end of a season and sent off to be sold.
- ***A jersey that was made for team use and sent to the team, was an extra and never actually worn by the player whose name and number is on the back,*** or lettered and issued to a player who never made the team roster and therefore never played in a game.
- ***A jersey that was made for team use and sent to the team and was numbered with a random player number but never issued***, and then was sold by the team at the end of the year having never been issued to anybody.
- ***A jersey that might have been made for team use and sent to the team, was never numbered and never issued,*** and then was sold by the team at the end of the year having never been issued to anybody. It may carry team tagging, or it may not.
- **But, it can also be used to represent a jersey without team tagging that was never sent to the team but is made to “team specs”** and carries one or more hallmarks that only a very knowledgeable person would recognize, such as specific code numbers on a manufacturer’s tag. These jerseys are especially common at the end of manufacturer style runs, when teams change uniform designs, or manufacturer contracts end and when manufacturer inventory is being cleared out to wholesalers.

Left: *This Royals jersey was made by Russell for the team, then cleared out as disposal inventory when Russell lost the team’s contract to Majestic just before the 2005 season. When I got it, the numbers were on it but no name. I added the name and nameplate. There are no red marks on the jock tag to denote this as “disposal” merchandise.*

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Left: *This Indians jersey was tailored, team tagged and numbered by Russell, but never made it to the clubhouse for some reason. Perhaps it was because the person this jersey was tailored for did not play on the 2002 team?*

Far left: *the most common of the misleading "team issued" jerseys, the minor league jersey. How do we know? First, this specific design was never used by the MLB Padres, and Rawlings did not have permission to put its sleeve logo on MLB jerseys in 1997. Minors and MLB both wore the Jackie patch in 1997. Seller claims that this is authentic MLB.*

Left, and Above: *Russell never made this style jersey for the Padres, but clearly they made at least one team set before losing the contract. This one has no red mark on its jock tag. How would you know this can't be team issued? The charts in this book detail the manufacturer for every year as used by each team. Incidentally, the Padres also decided not to use this NOB font. So, while this is an interesting curiosity, it is just not game worn or team issued.*

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*"***Team Issued"*** can also be used sometimes deceitfully to represent a jersey that was used by one player and then converted to show the name of another (usually) star player when *it was not worn by that player.* To delicately skirt honesty, these jerseys are sometimes described like this: "Astros 1982 team issued and tagged jersey, #34 Nolan Ryan." There may be no overt falsehood in that statement, but the impression is clearly inferred that it was Nolan Ryan's 1982 Astros jersey when it was not. It was someone else's, converted to Ryan's number.

There are other scenarios as well--starting in the early 2000s and in increasing numbers annually, some teams routinely began to order extra uniforms for its players, knowing well that if they are not needed by the player that they can be sold in the team's Authentic store to eager collectors. Team issued uniforms will generally carry the same team tagging as game used ones.

But even in the 1980s and 1990s, it was very common for teams to order extra jerseys at the start of the year, in a variety of sizes, perhaps even sewn with non-issued and unused player numbers, so that a jersey could be made available at a moment's notice for a player called up from the minors. These jerseys sometimes carry a simple two-digit year mark, while jerseys issued to players at the start of the season may have a longer code. Again, especially before the 2000s, teams would commonly strip player names off of jerseys and reuse them for other players, or even use them in Spring Training the next year. Especially prior to 1990, teams would send whole sets of uniforms to the minor leagues and they would be reused there.

Removing names and numbers is relatively easy to do with a seam ripper and a warm iron, and this practice is the main reason why some teams have used nameplates for player names, as they are far easier to remove than individual letters in a name. Today recycling like this is less common, both because of the high cost of labor and the fact that used jerseys are easily sold to fans.

Actual team issued and game worn Phillies jersey from 1986, yet still may be fraudulently positioned as a blatant fake. How can that be? To learn its secrets see the chapter on ***Game Worn Authentication****, ahead.*

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In 2005, when Majestic won the contract to supply all game jerseys to MLB, they committed that they would sew and overnight-ship numbered and lettered jerseys to teams as needed and on demand. While this perhaps lessened the need to have lots of extras on hand at the stadium, surely some were always ordered in advance for emergencies. We have yet to encounter an MLB team that does not have a trusted local tailor or seamstress to use in a pinch.

My reason for going into all this detail? Simply, be aware that any jersey bearing the name of a famous player and with team tagging in place may well have been altered and re-lettered in the past. **Team issued** does not mean **famous player game worn**, and a jersey showing game use may not have been used by the star player whose name is lettered on the back. Team issued jerseys may have been sold by the team unused and unnumbered, or with a rookie call-up's name and number on back, only to be changed by a future owner.

There are a few ways to guess if Russell jerseys of the 1992–2004 period are team issued. And starting with Majestic's jerseys of the early 2000s, inside seam tagging codes tell even more about who the jersey was made for—the team or the retailer. We cover all of this in detail in the pages ahead.

Starting in 2001, MLB began to implement a hologram-based authentication system. Consisting of a tamper-resistant hologram sticker affixed to the garment, serial numbers allow one to look up the provenance/origin of the item. It is important to note that while nearly everything purchased by the teams is hologrammed today, it was not always that way**. From 2001 through 2010 (or so) only historically significant items were tagged**. But now, according to MLB, they have an authenticator on the field at every game, tagging game-used items on the spot, and team issued items in the clubhouse. Much more information can be found on the MLB.com website, by clicking here:mlb.com/official-information/authentication

Collecting "Team issued" is fun, and if you are a collector of game jerseys made prior to 1980, that's about all there is to collect, since very few non-team issued Authentics ever existed.

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(Retail) Authentic Collection/Diamond Collection Jerseys

"Authentic" jerseys made purposely for retail sale really did not exist prior to 1987. The Sand-Knit Company had a license to make "Authentic Merchandise" team jerseys for some teams from about 1980 through early 1986. In that time period, some teams offered team spec jerseys through special offers to a very limited population of buyers. Rawlings won the contract for on-field jerseys in 1986, and gained the license to make some teams' jerseys for retail sale in 1987.

But the actual real marketing of these Authentic-branded jerseys didn't begin until Russell won the contract for on-field jerseys for the 1992 season, and simultaneously earned the right to make the newly-branded *Diamond Collection* authentic jerseys for sale to fans for all teams. Sometimes, these **Retail Authentic** jerseys might differ slightly from team-spec (or team issued) jerseys in a few minor ways, detectable to the expert. Starting in 1992, all Authentic game jerseys sold in the store with Diamond Collection tagging were exclusively made by Russell, even though a specific team still might use Rawlings or Wilson jerseys on the field. (Russell and Majestic shared the BP jersey retail market.)

Most, but certainly not all of the jock tags found on Authentics since 1992.

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On the store-bought Authentics, the style or color of buttons might be different, certain patches or Velcro closures might be missing, some aspects of team logos may be layered twill instead of chain-stitched embroidery found on the on-field Authentics, and sometimes, especially with batting practice jerseys, the fabric of the store-bought models might be noticeably more lightweight. Starting in 1992 and coming right up to the present, you would generally not find Authentics for sale in anything but a specialty store, and even there, if any are on display they will usually be on the top rack behind the counter where you need to as a clerk's help to see them. Retail Authentic jerseys in 2015 typically sold for between $180 and $250 unlettered with player name or number, and by 2025 this jumped to over $400 in some cases; and when compared by most non-discriminating buyers to **Retail Replica** jerseys that they usually hang side-by-side with, they are not worth two to three times the price.

These photos from various teams' "Team Stores" show us that most of the display space is taken by replica MLB jerseys, which are less than half the price of Authentics, and frankly most people don't know the difference. ***Bottom right:*** *Team issued Authentics offered on a rack at the Mets Clubhouse store for $200 each.*

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Going back in time, we can divide the period of 1970–2025 into approximately six basic time segments that are useful for collectors to consider:

1970–1979 (or thereabouts): Teams issued players one or two sets of uniforms for the year, and often times used them a second year or sent them to Spring Training or to the minor leagues to be used until they literally fell apart. Game worn jerseys for common players or coaches had little cachet for anyone as memorabilia in the hobby so they generally were not saved or preserved. Authentic jerseys made to team spec were not generally available to the public in this time period, and demand for them is nonexistent. It may seem hard to believe today, but it would have been very strange for any adult to be seen in public wearing one of these, even at the game. You usually had to know somebody within the team to get one. However, extras for famous players were sometimes made to give as gifts by the player or the team. Team-spec replicas are therefore rare. A very high percentage of MLB jerseys were sent to the minors and reused to death.

My rule of thumb: for each year and each team, a few dozen were made.

1980–1986 (or thereabouts): Just like the period above, except now for the first time very, very limited availability of Authentic team spec jerseys are offered to the public, but only by some teams and these are usually sold through special team gift shops on special order. These were certainly not mass merchandised items; one had to be truly dedicated to try to find one. Making a convincing copy of this era's game worn jersey is possible, but requires real dedicated effort. Sending used MLB jerseys to the minors or spring training for reuse is still the standard procedure in MLB. Unused extras made for star players are more commonplace.

My rule of thumb: for each year and each team, hundreds were made.

Frank Fitzpatrick, longtime sportswriter for the ***Philadelphia Inquirer*** quipped something that I have always treasured, in an article called, **Old enough to recall a distant age** (June 13, 2007)**:**

"…I'm so old I remember when the only Philadelphia fans who wore team jerseys to games were 8-year-olds who didn't know any better."

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1987–1991: For the first time, manufacturer logos are permitted to appear visibly on jersey sleeves, and a small, limited channel of distribution begins. For the first time authentic team jerseys are sold at retail, but through a very few specialty outlets. Even "common" actual game worn jerseys gain some small collector cachet, and creating a convincing copy of a famous player's game worn jersey is now possible for almost anyone with the pressing desire. Wearing replica jerseys to games becomes acceptable and even common for fans, but seeing real Authentics being worn by fans is still rare. They don't make many, distribution is still extremely limited and few are willing to pay over $125 when they can buy a convincing authorized merchandise replica for $35 Famous-player replicas made by the team as gifts or specifically for signing events grow more and more common.

My rule of thumb: for each year and for each team, a few thousand were made.

My rule of thumb:for each year, and for each team, tens of thousands were made.

1992–1999: "Diamond Collection" branding is born, and while distribution is still limited and the jerseys out of the price range of most fans, some general marketing begins in mall specialty stores and through MLB Authorized catalog sales. Players on the field wear jerseys with the Diamond Collection tags on the shirt tails, and not all teams use inventory tagging. Creating a convincing copy of a game worn jersey is very easy indeed. Some teams begin to sell very limited quantities of real team issued and game worn jerseys to fans through team stores. Signing events are very common, famous player jerseys cited as "game worn" are frequently signing event jerseys.

2000–2009: Thanks to the fashion leaders in the hip-hop music world, in 2000, wearing a MLB Authentic jersey becomes very cool indeed, and this change happens nearly overnight. Millions of full-priced Authentics are produced and sold at retail, some convincingly lettered with player names and numbers by licensed shops, others lettered with a poor imitation of the real thing. At the same time, teams belatedly discover that game worn jerseys will sell for big money in their gift shops and through stores on-line. Some teams may make a dozen or more complete sets of jerseys for players to wear during the season, and after only a few games they are retired and sold at retail with an authentic game worn certificate. And thanks to the popularity generated by the rappers and the fashion market, Asian-made counterfeit "*Authentics*" make a strong appearance on the market. As the number of team-tagged authentics that have never been game worn grows, photo-matching grows as the primary accepted way to determine if a jersey is actually game-worn.

My rule of thumb: for each year, and each team, hundreds of thousands were made. I suspect by 2009 there are more retail counterfeit fakes being sold than real jerseys.

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All the Official phillies Products You've Been Asking About

Available Now at SIXSMITH'S Sporting Goods

phillies world

1979 Phillies World Lineup

(A) Official Phillies Equipment (adult sizes only)

#	ITEM	PRICE
1	Pitcher's Satin Warmup Jacket (36-48)	$57.95
2	Fielder's Knit Warmup Jacket (S,M,L,XL)	57.95
3	V-Neck Cardinal Batting Jersey (34-48)	29.95
4	Hat (6½-7⅝)	15.50
5	Authentic Broken Bats	9.95
6	Canvas Equipment Bag	24.95
7	Uniform Top - Home (36-48)	45.95
8	Uniform Top - Away (36-48)	45.95

Uniform tops are available in numbers 10, 14, 19 and 20 only. No names.

(B) Official Customized Phillies Clothing

12	Tie - Maroon or Navy	5.95
13	Wristband Set - Scarlet & White	1.49
14	Terrycloth Baby Bib	2.25
15	Replica Hat [A & Y] Pomponette	3.95
16	Pickering Golf Shirt - Red [A] (S,M,L,XL)	20.95
17	Pickering Golf Shirt - White [A] (S,M,L,XL)	20.95
18	Lady Pickering Top - Red [A] (S,M,L,XL)	12.95
19	Lady Pickering Top - White [A] (S,M,L,XL)	12.95
20	Knit Mesh Jersey - [A] (S,M,L,XL)	8.95
21	Knit Mesh Jersey - [Y] (S,M,L,XL)	7.95
22	UCLA-Style Cotton Jersey - Scarlet [A] (S,M,L,XL)	9.95
23	UCLA-Style Cotton Jersey - Scarlet [Y] (S,M,L,XL)	8.95
24	Track Shorts [A] (S,M,L,XL)	5.95
25	Track Shorts [Y] (XXS,XS)	5.95
26	Warmup Suit - Nylon/Cotton - Navy [A] (S,M,L,XL)	37.95
27	Warmup Suit - Acrylic - Scarlet [Y] (S,M,L,XL)	19.95
28	Replica Uniform Top - Home [A & Y] (S,M,L,XL)	9.50
29	Replica Uniform Top - Away [A & Y] (S,M,L,XL)	9.50
30	Baseball Undershirt [A] (S,M,L,XL)	7.95
31	Baseball Undershirt [Y] (S,M,L)	5.95
32	V-Neck Leisure Shirt - Co. Blue [A] (S,M,L,XL)	8.95
33	T-Shirt - Scarlet w/shoulder stripes [A & Y] (S,M,L,XL)	5.95
34	V-Neck Full Length Nitee - Scarlet (S,M,L,XL)	6.95
35	V-Neck Sweater - Maroon [A] (S,M,L,XL)	13.50
36	Hooded Zip Sweatshirt - Col. Blue [A] (S,M,L,XL)	14.95
37	Hooded Zip Sweatshirt - Col. Blue [Y] (S,M,L)	12.95
38	Phillies Phanatic T-Shirt 5 color Phanatic [A & Y] (S,M,L,XL)	5.95
39	Hooded Windbreaker - Scarlet [A] (S,M,L,XL)	14.95
40	Lined Jacket [A] Nylon, Scarlet (S,M,L,XL)	27.95
41	Lined Jacket [Y] Nylon, Scarlet (S,M,L)	24.95
42	Replica Uniform - Away [Youth only] (S,M,L,XL)	44.95
43	Replica Uniform - Home [Youth only]	44.95

Replica uniforms include: shirt & pants, braid, "Phillies P", hat, socks, belt

(C) Official Customized Phillies Souvenirs

48	Phanatic Doll (16" high)	13.95
49	Bean Bag Phanatic Doll (9" high)	6.95
50	Broca-Brella Umbrella Hat	6.95
51	Pewter Mug	12.50
52	Insulated Plastic Tankard	4.95
53	Autographed ball w/holder entire team	4.95
54	Wastebasket	7.95
55	Key Chain	2.25
56	Hook Rug 40" x 44"	110.00
57	Beach Towel	6.95
58	Replica Batting Helmet	3.95
59	Portable Radio (Hat Replica)	17.95
60	Lamp (Hat Replica Base)	15.95
61	Sheaffer Desk Pen & Holder	5.50
62	Executive Glass Ash Tray	4.95
63	Set of Glasses (6) 10½ oz. ea.	19.95
64	Carry-all bag, Scarlet	8.95
65	Stadium Cushion - Scarlet	3.95

(D) Official Publications

70	1979 Yearbook	2.00
71	Baseball—The Phillies Way © 1978	2.00
72	Phanatic Coloring Book	1.00
73	1979 Media Guide	2.50

(E) Custom Designed Phillies Jewelry

76	Calendar Watch, Self-winding, Plated band	69.95
77	Teammate Watch, Fibre Case, Vinyl Strap	23.95
78	Charm - 14 kt. Gold	29.95
79	Stickpin - 14 kt. Gold	44.95

Many of the listed items are on display at the Vet, 200 level concourse at Phillies office and at the Girard Bank (Broad and Chestnut Sts.) ticket office.

All items at phillies world are available by mail order or over the counter at Sixsmith's Sporting Goods. Sixsmith's is located four blocks north of Frankford and Cottman, in Northeast Philadelphia. No sales at the Vet.

To order by mail, send the order form below with check or money order (payable to phillies world), or the appropriate credit card info. Be sure to include item #, quantity and size (where applicable). On clothing - [Y] indicates item is available in youth sizes; [A] adult sizes; [Y & A] youth and adult sizes. Sizes are shown in parenthesis. **No clothing sent by mail can be lettered or numbered.** A complete lettering service is available for all articles of clothing purchased at Sixsmith's. All prices are subject to change without notice. All mail orders are subject to $1.50 handling charge. There is an additional handling charge on all orders shipped outside U.S.A.

MAIL TO: phillies world, Sixsmith's Sporting Goods 7554 Frankford Ave., Phila., PA 19136 (215) 624-3177 7/1/79

Dave Singleton Collection

Official Phillies Equipment

SAME AS THE PHILLIES' PLAYERS USE!

F8 Authentic Away Uniform Top (36-48, $45.95) . . . **F4** Official Phillies Hat (6½ - 7⅝, $15.50) . . . **F2** Fielders' Doubleknit Warmup Jacket (S,M,L,XL, $57.95)* . . . **F7** Authentic Home Uniform Top (36-48, $45.95) . . . **F3** V-Neck Batting Warmup (34-48, $29.95) . . . **F6** Equipment Bag, canvas 22" x 17" ($24.95) . . . **F1** Pitchers' Satin Warmup Jacket (36-48, $57.95)

Uniform tops are available in numbers 10, 14, 19 and 20 only. No names.

Above left: *This ad and an order form was found on a full page of the Phillies "Phan-o-gram," their monthly newsletter for season ticket holders back in the late 1970s. This was the first time authentic Wilson uniform jerseys were offered for purchase by fans. I know, because I coveted getting one, and prior to this the answer was "not available." Notice the price—$45.95 each, with no player names were allowed and the numbers 10,14,19, 20 only (Bowa, Rose, Luzinski, Schmidt). By 1981 the price had jumped to $79, without a player number on back, which now costs extra. The brochure/catalog is at right. It took six weeks for my #10 baby blue jersey to arrive. And when I wore it, back then people would stop me on the street and ask, "Are you Larry Bowa?" That's how unusual it was to actually see an authentic MLB uniform back then. And If owning an actual player jersey was rare, actually wearing it in public was unheard of.*

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2010-and later: New to collecting? You are in luck. Never before have so many team issued and game worn authentic jerseys been available for fans to buy. If you want a real MLB jersey to wear or hang on your wall, you can get one worn by a "common" player usually for far less than the cost of a store bought Authentic lettered with a famous player's name and number. Teams no longer generally reuse and recycle uniforms within their system. Ordering new ones is too easy, and fans have shown a market for buying the old ones for reasonable prices. Couple with that the cost of labor for stripping old names and numbers off of used jerseys to re-use them, and it is simply not worth the teams' bother.

There is a stadium shop at almost every ballpark where fans can buy team issued or game-used jerseys. On eBay, if you stick to reputable dealers who list their merchandise by the hundreds of items on-line every day, you can surely get a good deal. Game used batting jerseys regularly sell for under $60, while many game used jerseys from common players sell for under $150.

But by 2015, some teams began to intentionally order dozens of extra team and player bar-coded "team issued" authentics from Majestic with the sole purpose of selling them at the stadium stores and other affiliated team-operated outlets. This really stretches the concept of "team issued" as this merchandise is being created specifically to be sold as souvenirs. Know what you are buying. Don't mistake team bar-coded merchandise as game used just because it has official looking stickers on it. Massive over-ordering of special events jerseys, like Father's Day and Mother's Day ones caused these to be dumped to discounters and sold for as little as $39. Check holograms and serial numbers against the MLB.com database. If it is not listed, it was probably never issued.

At the same time, "buyer beware" of the explosion of fake Authentic jerseys on eBay and other sites. There is an entire chapter dedicated to this topic in this book. Simply, if the deal appears to be too good to be true, it probably is a fake. I scan the on-line sites regularly, and I would say that perhaps 75% of the jerseys listed there as "authentic" are Asian imported counterfeits. (Notably, there are several reputable vendors who sell team surplus and manufacturer close-outs and their stuff is 100% good.)

Fashion trends have shifted and the rappers are not wearing MLB jerseys like they were in 2009, a lifetime ago. But now when visiting the stadium, nearly everybody in the seats is wearing some kind of team jersey. This is different from even ten years ago when actual player replica jerseys in the stands were relatively rare. My unofficial stadium survey of "authentic jerseys" reflects that three quarters of all of them are fakes too. I attended a Phillies game with a Majestic executive several years back, and began pointing out all the fake Majestic jerseys that walked past. By the third inning he had heard enough of me, bought me a beer and hot dog and politely asked me to shut up.

Unfortunately, he knew what I know—that counterfeiters are like cockroaches… crunch one and another one pops up someplace else. Referring to this book will at least help you avoid making unfortunate mistakes with your hard-earned cash.

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1947

This press publicity photo shows Rawlings' 1947 opening day lineup display of flannel team uniform jerseys, satin and wool team jackets and wool caps. In those days, each team could make its own deal with a manufacturer to supply the team's uniforms, and winning a pro team's business was a real feather in the cap of the company to promote other business.

Many "salesman's samples" were made by the factory to use as highly coveted giveaways to prospective clients or loyal customers. Other than these, the only way to get a team issued jersey was to… make the team.

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Wilson

Keeping you ahead of the game

Wilson Sporting Goods Co.
2233 West Street, River Grove, Illinois 60171
(312) 456-6100; 625-7100

1985 Stock Baseball/Softball Uniforms

by **Wilson**

Master Tailor to the Major Leagues

It's not unlikely that when a pro baseball player suits up, he's putting on a uniform that was made by Wilson. That's because Wilson supplies 17 major league teams with their uniforms—including 11 for both road and home. And that means Wilson really knows how to please the pros.

In the past ten years, seven out of ten World Series Champions have played and won with Wilson uniforms.

In fact, Wilson is proud to have been the exclusive manufacturer of all four playoff teams' uniforms in the 1984 Championship and World Series. This same Championship quality is available in all Wilson stock and special order Baseball and Softball Uniforms.

Wilson provides uniforms to 17 major league clubs. However, the uniforms shown on these pages do not constitute sponsorship or endorsement of Wilson uniforms by the respective organizations. All of the above uniforms are made of VISA™, polyester warp knit.

*1985 Wilson team catalog used its covers to promote the fact that even **your** school or bar-league team could have its uniforms made by the same company that outfitted the pros… quite a selling point.*

(Paul Lukas Collection)

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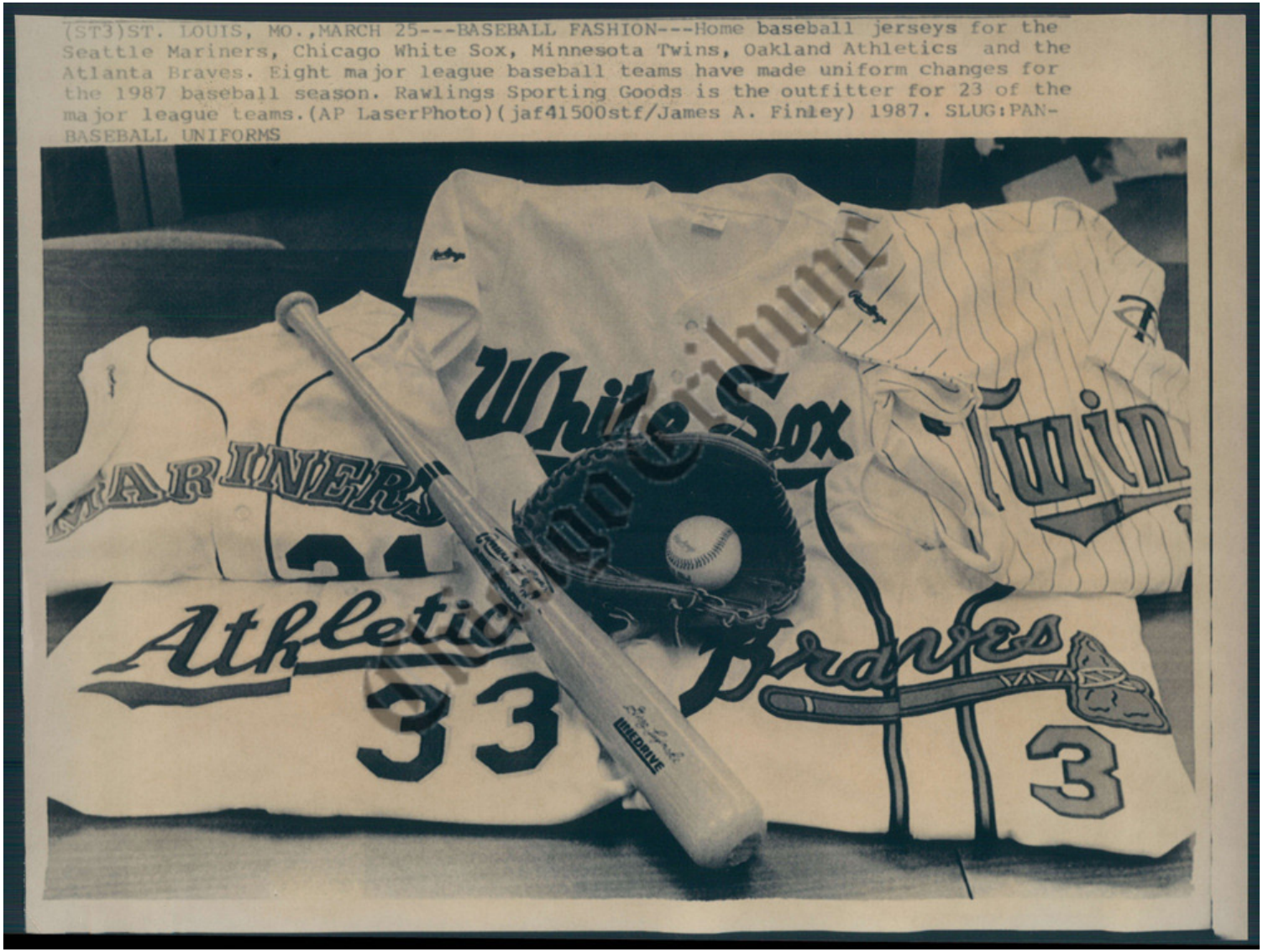
1987



This Rawlings press release photo was surely distributed to the major newspapers in hopes it would be picked up and run as a "news item", generating some good buzz for the St. Louis based company.

Notice the knit jerseys and new team designs showcased for 1987, and note that the Braves uniform has a number on the front, which the version the team actually used on the field did not have. (Chicago Tribune photo)

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(Retail) “Genuine Merchandise” Replica Team Jerseys

While the focus of this guide is On-Field Authentics and Retail Authentics, **Retail Replica jerseys** are the most common licensed jerseys you will find, widely available in stores, on MLB.com, and in team shops. We will digress to provide a brief overview of them on the next few pages.

Historically made by the same company authorized to make the Authentics, these are very good-quality look-alikes, and are generally less than half the price of Retail Authentics. They will always have a different label on the tail (the Jock Tag), usually feature different fabric, different sewing construction, and almost always have the team designs or wordmarks on the front done in a separate patch or single-layer applique that is heat pressed and usually also sewn to the jersey. They are sized as Small-Medium-Large instead of being numerically sized (40-44-48). They lack the special underarm venting panels that game jerseys have. They may also be offered with special colors and trim never used on the field.

This Majestic Cooperstown Collection Astros late 1970s rainbow style jersey is of very high quality, certainly better made than counterfeits sold online with bogus “Authentic Collection” tagging.

Some Official Merchandise/Replica branding tags are shown on this page and the next for reference. And we will note that generally authentic replica-tagged merchandise is not targeted by counterfeiters the way the Authentics are. Surveying eBay and web-based sellers, a very high percentage of merchandise tagged as “Authentic” is counterfeit, while most merchandise tagged as “Replica” or and advertised as such generally is legit! When buying online, consider sticking with reputable retailers or resellers you know.

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Sand-Knit: The First Retail "Authentics"

Presented here almost as a footnote: for a few years in the early 1980s, Sand-Knit had a very limited distribution contract to make reproduction MLB jerseys. These were not widely available, and were mostly advertised to hardcore fans for mail-order sales in Sports Collector Digest. I do not have specific years (though I would guess 1980–1985) or exactly which teams' jerseys they made, but over the years of collecting I have owned a few, including a pullover St. Louis Cardinals home jersey with top-quality chain stitching. These appear for sale on eBay with some regularity.

They carry Sand-Knit "*Official Licensee MLB*" tags. The lettering and patches are indistinguishable from team issued jerseys, and I suspect these were supplied by the same suppliers to the on-field pro-makers. The tailoring on these are often odd; unlike what the player wore on field. They are generally short-waisted with minimal tapering. Team logos/wordmarks were often sewn oddly low on the garment. The colors of the logos and numbers were sometimes the wrong shade. Many have accurate, authentic team numbers but none I have seen have player names (almost surely a contractual restriction involving an agreement with the MLB Players' Union to include these). These were clearly not cheap retail items, and in the scheme of things, not well distributed or promoted, and not very many were made or sold.

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CCM & Ravens Knit: The First Canadian-Made "Authentics" and Replicas:

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, even after Rawlings had established U.S. marketing rights for on-field authentics at retail, Ravens Knit and CCM were licensed by MLB to market MLB replicas in Canada. As these are outside the scope of my research, we will give them but a passing mention here. These appear similar in lettering detail and somewhat odd tailoring to the Sand Knit replicas on the prior page. The fact that different products are sold in Canada is not surprising, import restrictions and tariffs encourage Canadian-made products to be sold north of the border, vs. importing American goods.

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Licensed Replicas/Genuine Merchandise may be sold blank on the back (unnumbered) or sold lettered with player names and numbers. The player lettering may or may not be in the team's authentic font, though today the trend lately seems to be that the team's official fonts are used. This had not always been the case in prior years.

Licensed replica jerseys are an excellent entry to the collecting hobby, and frankly few people other than other readers of this book will ever know the difference between **Replicas** and **Authentics**. Majestic (and earlier Russell) Retail Replica jerseys are of high quality and widely available. New Majestic licensed replica jerseys retailed for a price point of $79.99 to $99.99 in 2015.

Left: *Majestic Genuine Merchandise Phillies jerseys include exact appearing copies of the team's home and road jerseys, as well as "fashion" styles like the stars and stripes version on the far right that the team does not wear.*

Starting in 2014, Majestic Genuine Merchandise got even closer in construction to the Authentics, being sold with Cool Base tagged fabric. Especially in the BP jersey line, they are hard to tell from the real thing. ***Bottom row:*** *Mariners and Astros jerseys have additional sleeve end or placket trim that buyers often prefer when compared to plainer, team-spec Authentics.*

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2015-2019 Majestic Cool Base Replica Jerseys

Beginning with the 2015 Season, Majestic re-branded and relaunched their Cool Base line of Replica jerseys. I will quickly admit to not focusing on this merchandise, but the only changes I really noticed was to the front jock tag and the neck tags. The change to Cool Base fabric had happened the year before in 2014 (previous page).I will comment that the Cool Base fabric used on these replicas is not the same as the fabric used on the authentic on-field jerseys. It is decidedly lighter weight. The MLB Silhouetted Batter neck logo, previously reserved only for on-field and retail Authentics, now appears on these replica jerseys. Majestic says:

COOL & COMFORTABLE

This season, Majestic introduces the brand-new COOL BASE® jersey. Using the same COOL BASE® technology worn by the Major League Players on-field, this new release keeps fans cool and comfortable as they cheer on their favorite team. With an improved fit and breathable, moisture-wicking material, the new COOL BASE® jersey is the best way ever to stay cool when the game heats up.

I am not going to claim any inside knowledge to Majestic's marketing strategy, because I have none. But my intuition tells me that Majestic has worked to blur the lines between the ultra expensive Flex Base™ brand and the somewhat less expensive (but certainly not cheap) replica line. The price of these Cool base replica jerseys jumps to $99 (blank back) to $125 (for player numbered) for 2017. The small number of buyers who want the real thing know what they are looking for and will look hard for the very few places where it is sold. (That's you, folks.)

The replica line, now boasting the formerly exclusive on-field Cool Base tagging selling for half the price, is available in more outlets to people who simply notice the branding and the sewn-on lettering. These people are less likely to notice that the twill is one layer with the other colors all printed on, even with the stitching fake and printed; and that the front numbers (if used by the team) and sleeve patches (if any were used) are absent.

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Counterfeit/Fake Retail Authentic Jerseys

"Counterfeit" is a broad term used to describe *anything that is pretending to be something it is not and is being falsely represented*. So—any one of the four categories just presented also has a counterfeit version*. There is a whole chapter ahead dedicated to counterfeit* ***Game Worn*** *and* ***Team Issued*** *jerseys, ahead.*

But the most common counterfeit that angers and disappoints thousands of bargain hunting buyers each day is the **Counterfeit Retail Authentic.** These jerseys abound in massive numbers, sold mostly by on-line outlets and on sites like eBay. Quite simply, they are cheap copies of the real thing, but with "Authentic" tagging that make them look like expensive branded merchandise when they are rip-offs counterfeited in sweatshops of China and Southeast Asia. On a typical trip to the ballpark these days, surveying people in the stands and concourses nets a fake-to-authentic rate of close to 75%...or three out of four jerseys people are wearing are, say, tagged as "Majestic Authentics" when they are neither Majestic, nor Authentic. *There is an entire chapter on this topic ahead as well*. I can promise if used carefully this guide will help you avoid more than 99% of these fakes when buying.

The proportions aren't quite right, the tags aren't placed in quite the right places, the fonts might be a little off, or the team never wore this exact style jersey: some fakes are really hard to spot.

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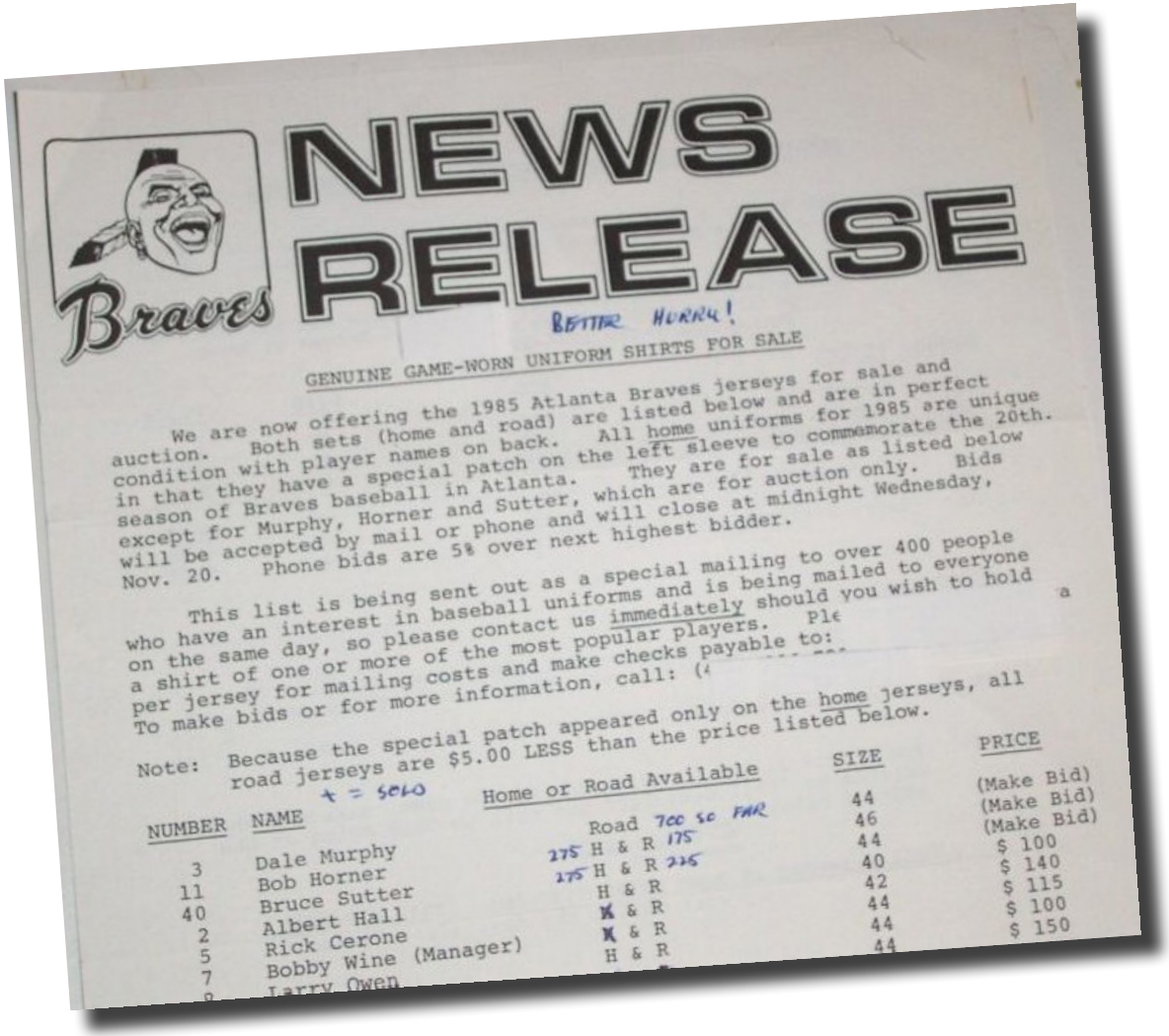
An ultra-brief look back at the early days of MLB jersey collecting

We start our reference history in this volume with 1970, not just because it's a nice round number, but because it represents the very first year that the conversion to double-knit fabrics from the old wool-flannel blends began in Major League Baseball.

The Pirates were the very first team to wear knits on the field (part time), in the middle of the 1970 season and concurrent with their mid-year move to the sparkling new Three Rivers Stadium. The Cardinals followed in 1971, and the 1971 World Series between the Pirates and Orioles was the first all-double knit World Series, with the Orioles switching to the new fabric just in time for the Fall Classic.

By the end of 1972 most teams had made the switch from wool uniforms to polyester fabrics. A few teams waited until 1973: among them the Royals, Yankees and Expos. But by opening day of 1973, every team in MLB had converted 100% to double knits.



Braves

NEWS RELEASE

BETTER HURRY!

GENUINE GAME-WORN UNIFORM SHIRTS FOR SALE

We are now offering the 1985 Atlanta Braves jerseys for sale and auction. Both sets (home and road) are listed below and are in perfect condition with player names on back. All home uniforms for 1985 are unique in that they have a special patch on the left sleeve to commemorate the 20th. season of Braves baseball in Atlanta. They are for sale as listed below except for Murphy, Horner and Sutter, which are for auction only. Bids will be accepted by mail or phone and will close at midnight Wednesday, Nov. 20. Phone bids are 5% over next highest bidder.

This list is being sent out as a special mailing to over 400 people who have an interest in baseball uniforms and is being mailed to everyone on the same day, so please contact us immediately should you wish to hold a shirt of one or more of the most popular players. Ple
per jersey for mailing costs and make checks payable to:
To make bids or for more information, call: (

Note: Because the special patch appeared only on the home jerseys, all road jerseys are $5.00 LESS than the price listed below.
* = SOLD

NUMBER	NAME	Home or Road Available	SIZE	PRICE
3	Dale Murphy	Road 700 SO FAR	44	(Make Bid)
11	Bob Horner	275 H & R 175	46	(Make Bid)
40	Bruce Sutter	275 H & R 225	44	(Make Bid)
2	Albert Hall	H & R	40	$ 100
5	Rick Cerone	* & R	42	$ 140
7	Bobby Wine (Manager)	* & R	44	$ 115
8	Larry Owen	H & R	44	$ 100
			44	$ 150

From my files—this 1985 circular from the Braves to a mailing list of season ticket holders, offering the Braves' game worn 1985 uniforms for sale. Those were the days. Note in the first paragraph how auctions were conducted before the Internet existed.

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It may be hard to fathom in today's world, but professional sports uniforms were not deemed collectible to anyone but true die-hard fanatics even up to the mid-1980s. And, when they were collecting, these die-hards were usually looking for jerseys worn by star-players during record setting or historic events. A Babe Ruth or Lou Gehrig jersey was always highly collectible, but the hundreds of jerseys issued each year to the vast majority of common players were treated just like the rest of the team's inventory by the clubs. After their first season of on-field MLB use, one of several things happened to a team's uniforms:

1. They were re-used by the team a second or even a third year. The team might get a new set of uniforms, and last year's uniforms may be used as a "set 2" for the second games of doubleheaders, day games right after night games the day before, or kept for team spares in case equipment was damaged or lost.
2. They were kept for spring training use in future seasons at the team's spring training site. These jerseys are often identifiable by number changes to very high numbers, above #45 or so that were not generally issued in the regular MLB season. Spring training relegated jerseys might hang around and be used for multiple seasons in that role.
3. They were sent to the minor leagues to be used by the farm team. They often had their numbers and even the team crests stripped off by hand, and the minor league team names and/or player numbers sewn on in their place. Sometimes they were sent to the farm AFTER being used a second or third year in the majors. And after a year or two in the minors, they may have been sent to the next lower minor league club for still more use.
4. They might be sold or gifted to an amateur team, sometimes after the completion of all of the above.

By this time, these uniforms have been worn and washed perhaps hundreds of times. If there is any fabric left, it is threadbare, discolored, shriveled, puckered and mended in a half dozen places. So, had anyone been interested in collecting them when they were pristine, they were certainly not interested in them at this point when they were close to being mere rags.

***Top**: The Montreal Expos used uniforms harder than almost anyone. When the team sold them off they were not really good for much.*
***Bottom:** Three of my most well-worn gamers; the Twins jersey needed to be scrubbed with soapy bleach to get the red dirt out of it, and all numbers had to be replaced. Expos Rapp jersey shows darker cloth where a blank nameplate was sewn over the NOB while it was used in the minors. White Sox road jersey below has had its wordmark restored, but the knit trim is still in original tatters.*

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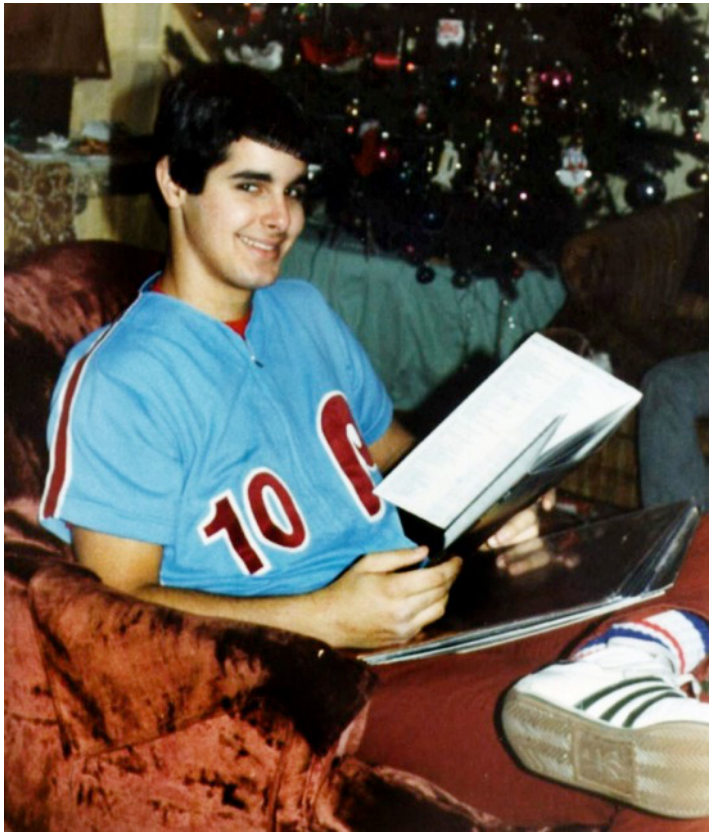
There is another key fact that led to the collectability of game-used jerseys, and that was the change in attitudes about fans actually wearing team garb in the stands, or if they were really odd—elsewhere in public. I can tell you this with great assurance, because I was there. Allow me to relate:

I bought my first authentic jersey in 1979—a store-bought authentic from the Phillies team supplier, for the princely sum of $49 (figure $130 in today's money). It was a baby blue 1978 style road jersey, lettered with Larry Bowa's number, #10. I was just seventeen years old and had saved lawn-cutting money for months to buy this rare treasure. I recall it had to be special ordered and paid in advance from the Phillies only local distributor (Gold Medal Sporting Goods), and it took longer than eight weeks to be delivered to me. When I first held it in my hands, I could not believe my eyes … but here it was made totally to team spec: tailored to a perfect size 42 (no "Small, Medium or Large" here!). it was lined on the inside of the placket with smooth satin, with the correct zipper to close the front, white and maroon trim on the sleeves and down the sides, and with finely cut and sewn twill numbers and letters. I could have gone to heaven.

I wore it to school the very next day…. and was greeted by curious stares everywhere I went. No one, and I mean NO ONE had ever seen a real Phillies jersey except on the back of a player at the stadium. For reference, boys in 1979 wore tight t-shirts and tighter blue jeans to public high school, the unofficial "uniform" that no one dared deviate from. Other guys and teachers wanted to see my jersey, to ask where I got it, and were unbelieving that it was really real, and really mine.



Your author in 1980, wearing the Phillies jersey discussed on this page, along with carefully selected matched maroon corduroy pants. 1980s haircut, striped tube socks and Adidas "Country" shoes complete the look.

© GameWornGuides.com

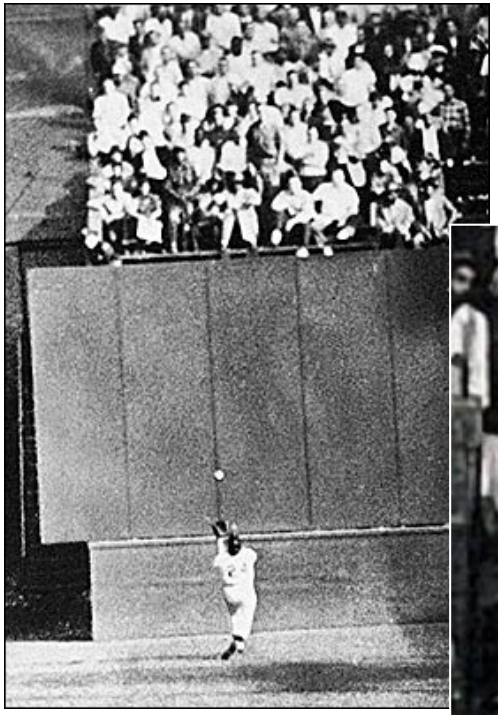
From that one day of celebrity, I wore it occasionally other places: to the movies, when I went into the city… and everywhere it was the same. People just stared. They asked me if I was on my way to play a game… once on the street in Philadelphia, a man ran up to me and asked me if I was Larry Bowa himself. He was serious…

I can't emphasize enough, in those days normal people just did not wear lettered team athletic equipment in public. I was a kid, and so I could get away with it…. But I cannot imagine the balefully disapproving looks I would have gotten had I been a *35-year-old man* wearing such a thing in public… *it was just not done!*

For proof, just look at the photos on the next pages of attendees at the ballpark in the 1950s (from the web) and the late 1970s and after (ones I took myself).

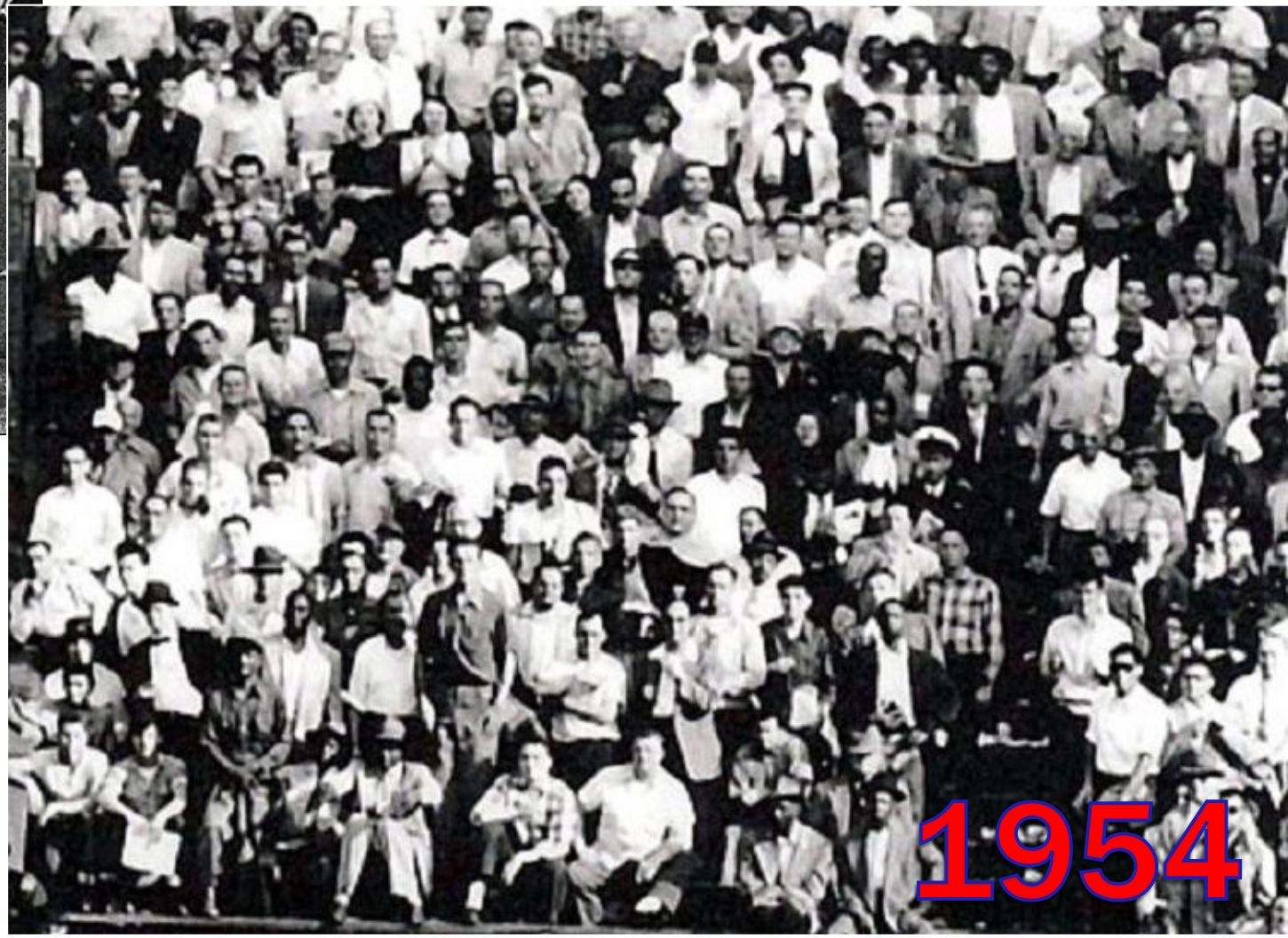
That same authentic team spec 1979 Phillies jersey today hanging in my office, now signed by Larry Bowa. For those of you with sharp eyes, I will beat you to the punch: those sleeve patches don't belong there, I sewed them on myself years ago to "modernize" them, and the "Schmidt" NOB is not authentically done. Back then, they wouldn't sew player names on jerseys purchased from the team's supplier. If you wanted a name you had to do it yourself. This was my self-made "best effort" in the pre-computer graphics days of the early 1980s.

© GameWornGuides.com



Fan Attire at the Ballpark through the years

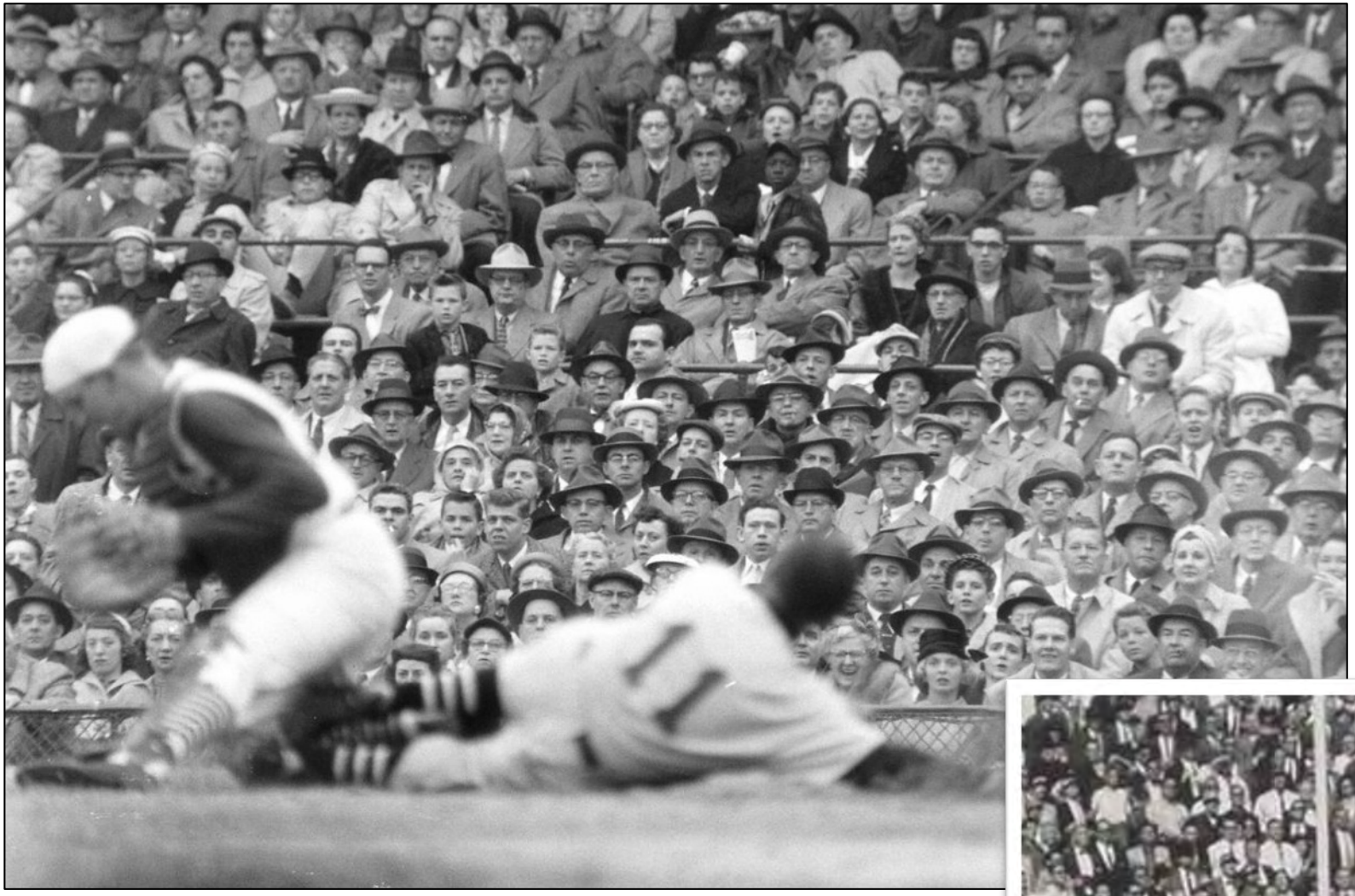
While the rest of this book is devoted to what the players are wearing on the field, let us share a view of what the typical fan has worn to the ballpark through the decades.



Everyone recognizes Willie Mays making "The Catch" in the photo above, from the 1954 World Series.

Zooming in on a sharper copy of that historic image, look at the way the fans in the cheap bleacher seats are dressed. Notice all the collared shirts, neckties and bow ties, and the total absence of baseball caps or in fact *any* team-supporting logoed fan attire. In these days, it was simply not done.

© GameWornGuides.com



In these photos from the early 1950s, count the number of men wearing fedora hats in one, and the number of neckties visible in the other. Notice the unsurprising lack of diversity in the crowd as well.

© GameWornGuides.com

This crowd shot was taken by me at Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium in August 1978. It was "Men's Bucket Hat Day." Other than all the giveaway hats visible (some red, some white), and a few red Phillies caps, notice how there is a complete absence of MLB jerseys which were simply *not available* at that time. In fact, only a few kids–certainly no adults–are wearing team gear at all.

2011

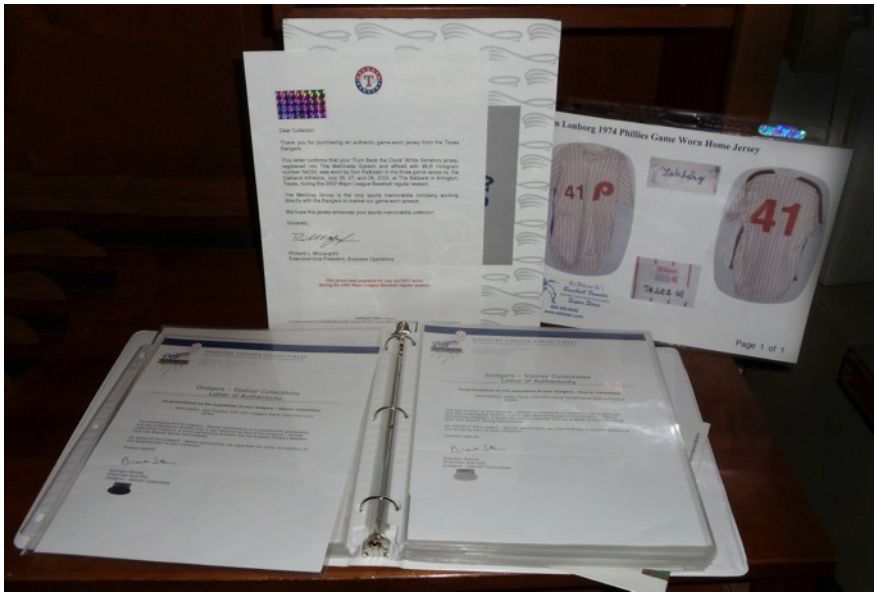
In this random photo snapped by me at Philadelphia's Citizens Bank Park in 2011, notice the number of fans wearing some sort of team-related baseball attire. There is not a single necktie or fedora in sight.

During the 1990s, collecting common game worn or team issued jerseys was either easy, very hard or impossibly difficult, depending on what team you rooted for! Some of the earliest teams to step up and begin to authenticate and sell team equipment were the Rangers, Cubs, Mets and Twins. Through relationships with outside authenticators, or doing it internally by themselves, these teams would retire sets of uniforms and make them available to fans to purchase. On the flip-side, some high-demand teams like the Yankees, Dodgers and Red Sox came late to the party. When early editions of this book were published, game worn jerseys from these three teams were nearly impossible to get, and more than for any other teams, people would send me photos of items they wanted to buy asking me “are these real?”

Then there were the large number of teams in the middle ground—teams that had a dedicated local following but were not hugely popular outside their geographic area, clubs like the Phillies, Mariners, Indians, Pirates, Tigers and Astros. These teams routinely shipped their big-league uniforms to the minors for re-use, sometimes stripping all the lettering from both back (and sometimes the front) to sew new lettering on, a time-consuming highly manual task that is hard to fathom at today’s labor rates.

By the late 1990s, each team generally had a dealer or two who specialized in their team gear, usually rather informally. Knowing who to go to was usually a word-of-mouth exercise. Those of us who wanted this stuff knew who to call: Dick Dobbins or Mike Quick for the Giants, Murf Denny for the White Sox, Ed Dolan for the Phillies, Tom Sharon for the Astros. These dealers usually had typewritten lists of jerseys available that they would Xerox (copied so many times it was barely readable) and send to you in the mail. No photos, only descriptions. The new year’s list usually was the same as the prior year’s, just with many items crossed out and a bunch of new ones typed in at the bottom.

Legitimate dealers like Ball Park Heroes, Kruk Cards, Yankees-Steiner Collectibles, Dodgers-Steiner Collectibles, MeiGray Group (Rangers) grew in prominence through the 1990s, often buying large lots of inventory directly from the teams, As I look through my own collection, I have dozens of Letters of Authenticity from these vendors and many others with whom I have enjoyed doing business.



Letters of authenticity should be stored in a safe place. The value of your game worn item drops dramatically if you can’t find it when you are ready to sell.

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While it is hard for many of us to remember a world before the Internet, it has "only" been since 2005 or so that the majority of commerce in this hobby began to take place there. Besides the aforementioned dealers developing a web presence (some more, some less) one of the best places to buy Game Worn, Team Issued and Authentic Collection jerseys is eBay. I might also offer that this also simultaneously became one of the worst places to buy Game Worn, Team Issued and Authentic Collection jerseys. In the early days of eBay, I would earnestly write letters to sellers of non-authentic merchandise informing them of their "error" in listing something claiming it was something that it was not. These "errors" included selling Minor League issue saying it was MLB; MLB jerseys with changed names and numbers being sold as having been worn by famous players; retail sourced Authentics with claims they were team issued; and replicas being offered claiming that they were Authentics. But for every polite "thank you" I received, I received two nasty letters and four no-replies. It soon became evident to me that many of these were not honest mistakes at all. I stopped writing letters. Let the buyer beware.

And then the Asian counterfeits showed up… with a vengeance. The first sellers were easy to detect. They were shipping from Hong Kong, Singapore and South Korea. But then US-based importers started stocking these rip-offs and shipping them locally. By 2010, the fakes being advertised as "Authentics" on eBay easily outnumbered the real stuff. But by then, a whole new class of buyers had emerged–people who seemingly did not care if an item was a genuine Authentic or not. Some of these fakes were easy to spot…but some were quite well made and even deceptively photographed. I will confess to having been fooled myself, on three or four occasions and each time making mistakes that I have documented here so others might not repeat them.

Since then, in an effort to become an upscale retailing site to compete with Amazon.com *et al*, eBay has made it much more difficult for people to repeatedly get away with selling counterfeit merchandise. In fact, safeguards they have put in place have made it increasingly difficult for honest sellers to use the site as well, as more and more hurdles are put in place. In 2024, eBay actually purchased Goldin Auctions, to me one of the finest and most reputable companies in the memorabilia business. *But* the cockroaches still appear, re-surfacing and selling under a new name until they are shut down yet again, and they move on to yet another electronic storefront name and start over. As of this writing, I would advise anyone using eBay to make all purchases with PayPal. The site's policies are very liberal oriented towards buyers, and if you have been ripped off, eBay will generally refund your money whether the seller agrees to it or not. All the buyer needs do is open an official complaint with eBay.

I have written two complete chapters on these topics: *avoiding counterfeit Authentics* and a *guide to buying game worn or team issued jerseys.* Of course, the safest way to avoid ending up with a fake is to buy directly from MLB.com and the associated MLB auction site. You will pay top dollar, for sure, but will end up with hologrammed goods that will have future value and will keep your blood pressure down.

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Left: *I snapped this photo of the Major League Uniform policy hanging in the tunnel between the dugout and clubhouse at San Diego's Petco Park. I wish it was clearer so we could read it all*

Below: *The lobby of MLB headquarters in New York City featured these thirty headless mannequins standing at attention in full uniform.*

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Key to Team Chapter "Year by Year Summary" Tables

Color changes in the YEAR column indicate a major jersey style change of some kind.

A thin black horizontal line with no color change indicates a minor (but noted) uniform change

A **yellow dot** means this page has added new facts or photos since the last edition with new facts and/or photos. A **green dot** means the jersey style and page is newly included in this Eighth Edition

New York Mets

Year by Year Summary

Mets Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1972	Home White PS	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Wilson
1973	Home White PS	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Wilson
1974	Home White PS	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
1975	Home White PS	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
1976	Home White PS	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	NL Centennial	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	NL Centennial	Goodman
1977	Home White PS	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Goodman
1978	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
1979	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
1980	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
1981	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Mets Disc	-	Rawlings
1982	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Royal Blue	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1983	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1984	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1985	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	25th Anniversary	Goodman
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	25th Anniversary	Goodman
1987	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings

MLB Game Worn Jerseys of the Double-Knit Era (1970-2009)

© William F. Henderson, Fifth Edition

2

Regarding typestyles, there are several common styles and many variants, as well as a raft of team-specific fonts. See our website for more information on jersey lettering.

Where a box is filled in with red type, it means that I am *reasonably sure* of my information but not 100% certain and am still looking for additional evidence.

The small photos on the left represent nearly every variation used in these years, and clicking on any thumbnail will bring you to the page dedicated to that jersey style.

Throughout, I have tried to present photos of game worn jerseys only, preferably complete and unrestored. I prefer "common" jerseys, those issued to regular, non-superstar players because these are the least likely to have been tampered with. In the few cases where I have been unable to find a game worn jersey to use as an example, I have used a reproduction jersey that I believe is sewn correctly. The dates shown in the photo captions are always intended to be the year of the jersey depicted. This is why you will see 1989 baseball cards with captions saying the photo is from 1988, the year the jersey was worn.

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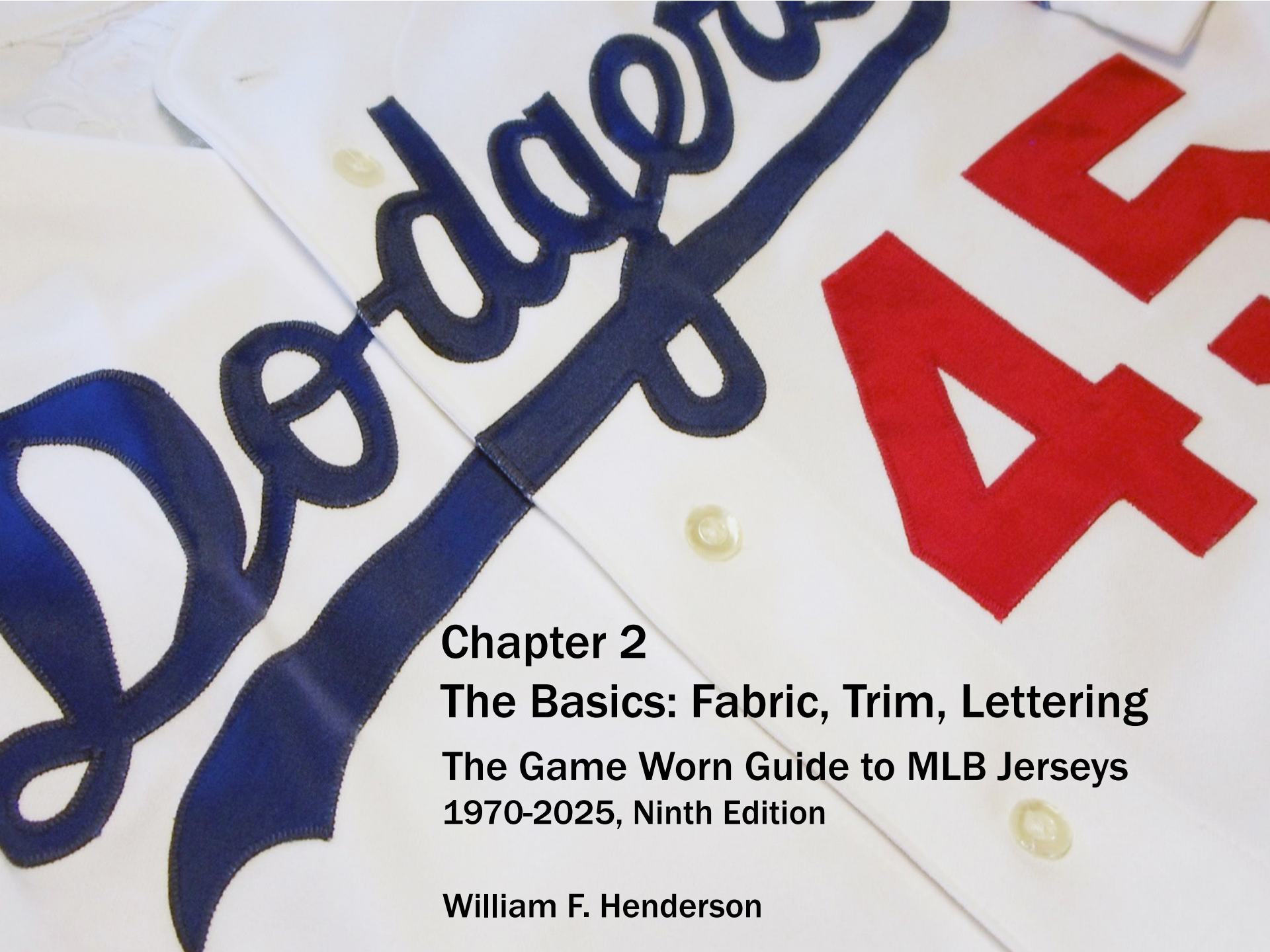

Chapter 2
The Basics: Fabric, Trim, Lettering

The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
1970-2025, Ninth Edition

William F. Henderson

Quick- *what team does he play for?*

The Uniform

u·ni·form (yo¯o'nəfôrm')

adj.

1. Always the same, as in character or degree; unvarying: planks of uniform length.

2. Being the same as or consonant with another or others: rows of uniform brick houses.

n.

A distinctive set of clothing intended to identify the members of a specific group: a police uniform.

In Major League Baseball:

1. In a glance of a single microsecond, tell the viewer what team he is looking at. This is visible through cues like color combinations and the shape of typestyle fonts.

2. In another instant, allow the viewer to know the player by seeing his number (and his name, if it is present)

A team's uniform colors and lettering are very important in establishing, projecting (and protecting) the team's image.

Some teams, like the Dodgers, Yankees and Red Sox, proud of their heritage and tradition, have had few changes of any kind in decades. Anywhere in the world I have visited, children wear these teams' hats and jerseys and know what they represent.

Conversely, some teams seem to use frequent uniform changes to try and reinvent themselves again and again. The Padres, Rangers and Astros are among those teams who change everything seemingly every few years, some all the way down to their team colors. Sure, merchandising is a factor, and people like to buy new stuff. I suppose they are simply trying to find a formula that works for them.

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Overview: Features of the Jersey

Throughout this book we will use a lot of terms when referring to MLB jerseys. Let's define some of them here.

Trim: on placket, at collar, and sleeve ends.

Commemorative patch

Manufacturer's sleeve logo on public display: not allowed prior to 1987. Very specific rules around when they are used and when they are not, all related to contracts and sponsorship.

Team Sleeve Patch –usually the team's secondary logo

Team Wordmark

Team Memorial Patch or Armband- in this case for a departed former player and coach

Player Name on back (or "NOB", sometimes on a nameplate

Placket (sometimes *"plaquet"*) refers to the double layers of fabric that hold the buttons and buttonholes in a shirt.

Manufacturer's label (or "Jock tag"), main manufacturer branding label but hidden from public view when worn. Often has washing instructions incorporated, sometimes the garment size designation.

© GameWornGuides.com

Pullover Jersey

No front numbers, No name on Back (No NOB)

Knit sleeve end/ collar trim

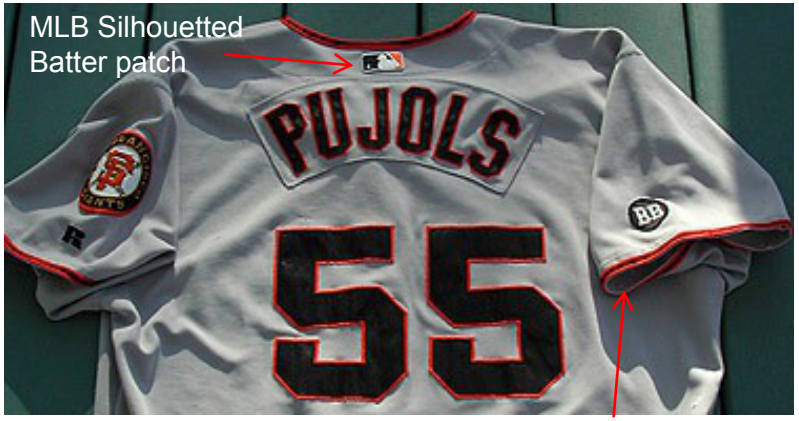
Button Front Jersey

Front Numbers

(Left) Manufacturer's collar tag with team tagging (Below) Jock tagging examples with size, year/set and tailoring notations. Tags are sometimes sewn on the outside tail, other times are hidden inside the garment

(T stands for "tapered")

Above: *Vertical arched* Name on Back, direct sewn.
Below: *Radially arched* NOB on nameplate



ABOVE: (left sleeve) team patch & manufacturer's sleeve logo. (right sleeve) team memorial patch

Knit trim (both on sleeve ends and around collar)

© GameWornGuides.com

Jersey Sleeve Types: Set-in or Raglan

Baseball jerseys are made with two sleeve types: *set-in* and *raglan*. Here are examples of both types. Make a note of what kind your team wears. They are easiest to see when the sleeves are a different color than the rest of the jersey. I have used two prototype Dodgers jerseys as my example.

Set-in sleeves are more common on MLB jerseys. On these, the sleeve is completely separate from the garment and if removed, you would have a vest.

According to Wikipedia*: "A raglan sleeve is a type of sleeve whose distinguishing characteristic is to extend in one piece fully to the collar, leaving a diagonal seam from underarm to collarbone giving the garment a relatively undefined look… It is named after FitzRoy James Henry Somerset, the 1st Baron Raglan who is said to have worn a coat with this style of sleeve after the loss of his arm in the Battle of Waterloo."*

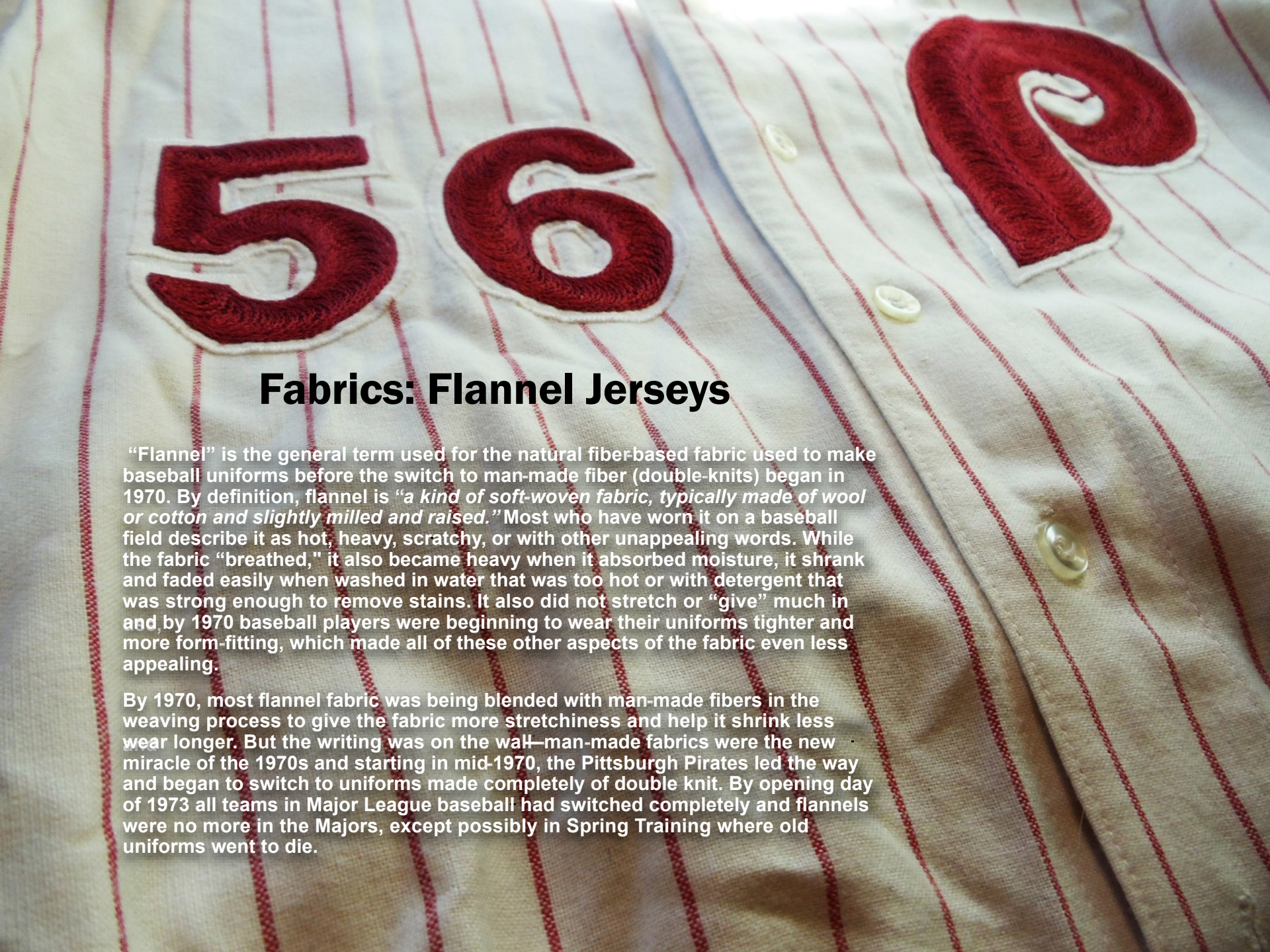
Below, notice that the Yankees insist on the use of Raglan sleeves, making the pinstripes on the sleeves run vertically up the sleeves all the way to the collar. The Mets use set in sleeves which causes a geometrically necessary pinstripe misalignment at the shoulder seam.

Above: example of set-in sleeves, Below: example of Raglan sleeves; here easy to see because of the contrasting colors used. Every jersey uses one type or the other.

Yankees: Raglan

Mets: Set-In

© GameWornGuides.com



Fabrics: Flannel Jerseys

"Flannel" is the general term used for the natural fiber-based fabric used to make baseball uniforms before the switch to man-made fiber (double-knits) began in 1970. By definition, flannel is *"a kind of soft-woven fabric, typically made of wool or cotton and slightly milled and raised."* Most who have worn it on a baseball field describe it as hot, heavy, scratchy, or with other unappealing words. While the fabric "breathed," it also became heavy when it absorbed moisture, it shrank and faded easily when washed in water that was too hot or with detergent that was strong enough to remove stains. It also did not stretch or "give" much in and by 1970 baseball players were beginning to wear their uniforms tighter and more form-fitting, which made all of these other aspects of the fabric even less appealing.

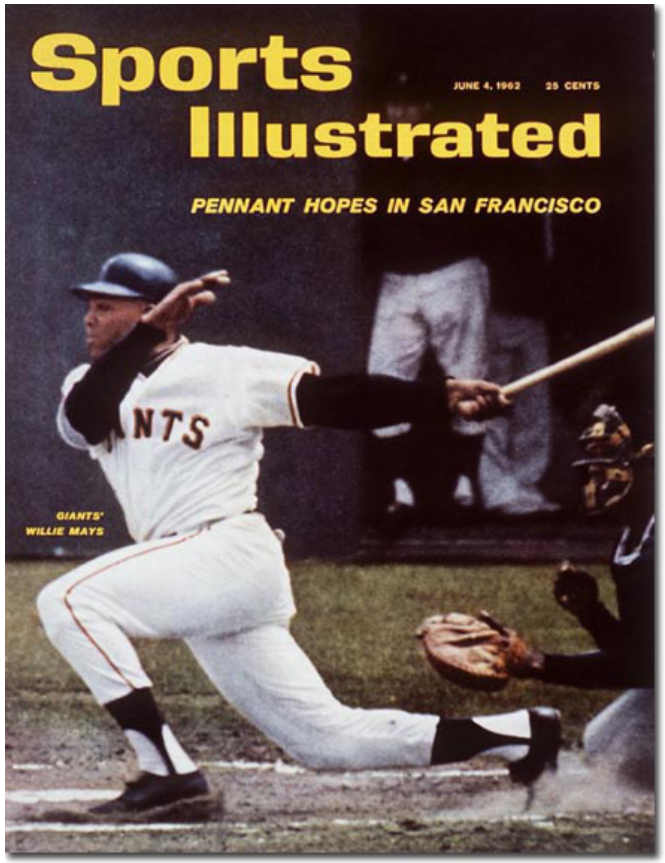
By 1970, most flannel fabric was being blended with man-made fibers in the weaving process to give the fabric more stretchiness and help it shrink less wear longer. But the writing was on the wall—man-made fabrics were the new miracle of the 1970s and starting in mid-1970, the Pittsburgh Pirates led the way and began to switch to uniforms made completely of double knit. By opening day of 1973 all teams in Major League baseball had switched completely and flannels were no more in the Majors, except possibly in Spring Training where old uniforms went to die.

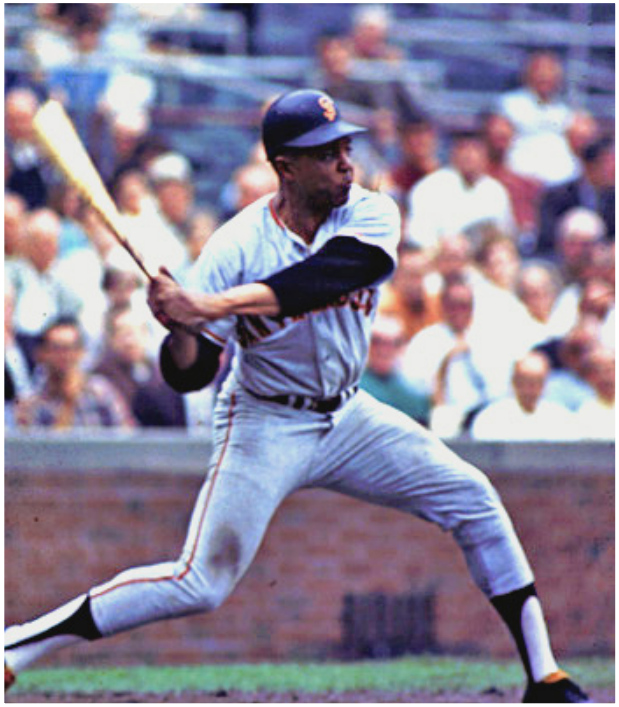
In the hobby, game worn flannels are in a completely different realm of price and collectability. Because they were never made for retail sale to fans, almost the only ones that ever existed were those that were made for and worn by the teams. As we will discuss, used uniforms were almost always passed down from majors to minors and used, washed and washed again until they were nothing more than rags. This, combined with damage from insects and stains/mold/mildew from being stored while damp and it is easy to see why the price of game worn flannels pre 1972 are so high. In 2020 at this writing, MLB flannels in good condition, even those worn by common players, are usually over $1,000 per garment. Famous-name flannels with provenance and authentication are often sold for over $10,000, and sometimes much more.

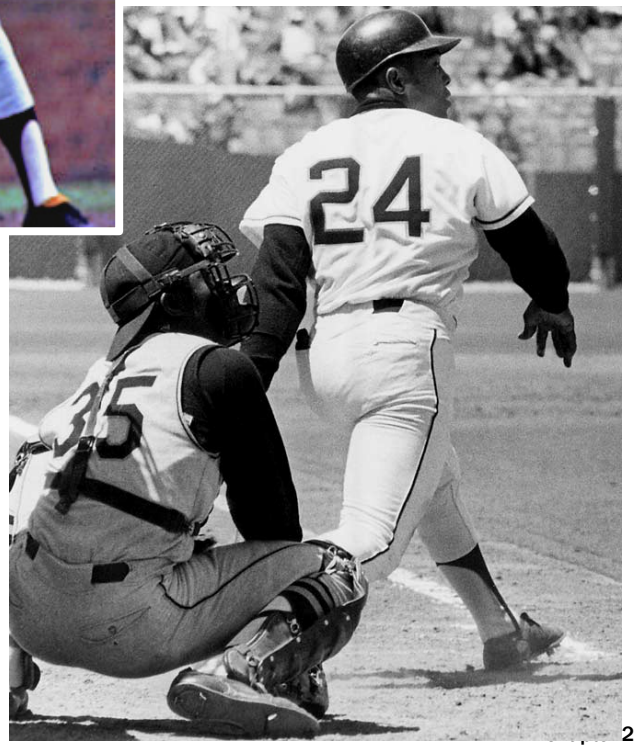
Shown here are pages from the famous Sotheby's Auction of the Barry Halper Collection, which in total sold for nearly $40 Million in 1999. Though there has been controversy over the authenticity of some of the more valuable items, the auction helped set the basis of prices for "common" game worn flannels like those shown on this page, most of which sold for far more than the estimated prices printed in this three volume boxed catalog.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_Halper

“Baggy Flannels?”







When people think of flannel uniforms, used up until 1972 in the Major Leagues, many automatically assume that they were all loose fitting and “baggy." This is not true– by the early 1970s tight fitting tailored uniforms were very much the style. Several period photos of Willie Mays are shown here, as he was among the first to be publicly say that he had his uniforms tailored so he would look better in them.

Author Marty Appel wrote, “Baseball players have worn the form fitting uniforms since Giants teammates Tito Fuentes and Willie Mays took their pants to a San Francisco tailor in the mid ‘60s and had them re-cut. Then when double knit uniforms replaced flannels in 1972-73, making the players look faster and sleeker, we were on our way.” (In the same article penned in the late 1990s he also amusingly wrote: *“I have a feeling we are going to see baggy baseball uniforms again in my lifetime. Or maybe in yours.”)* If he only knew.

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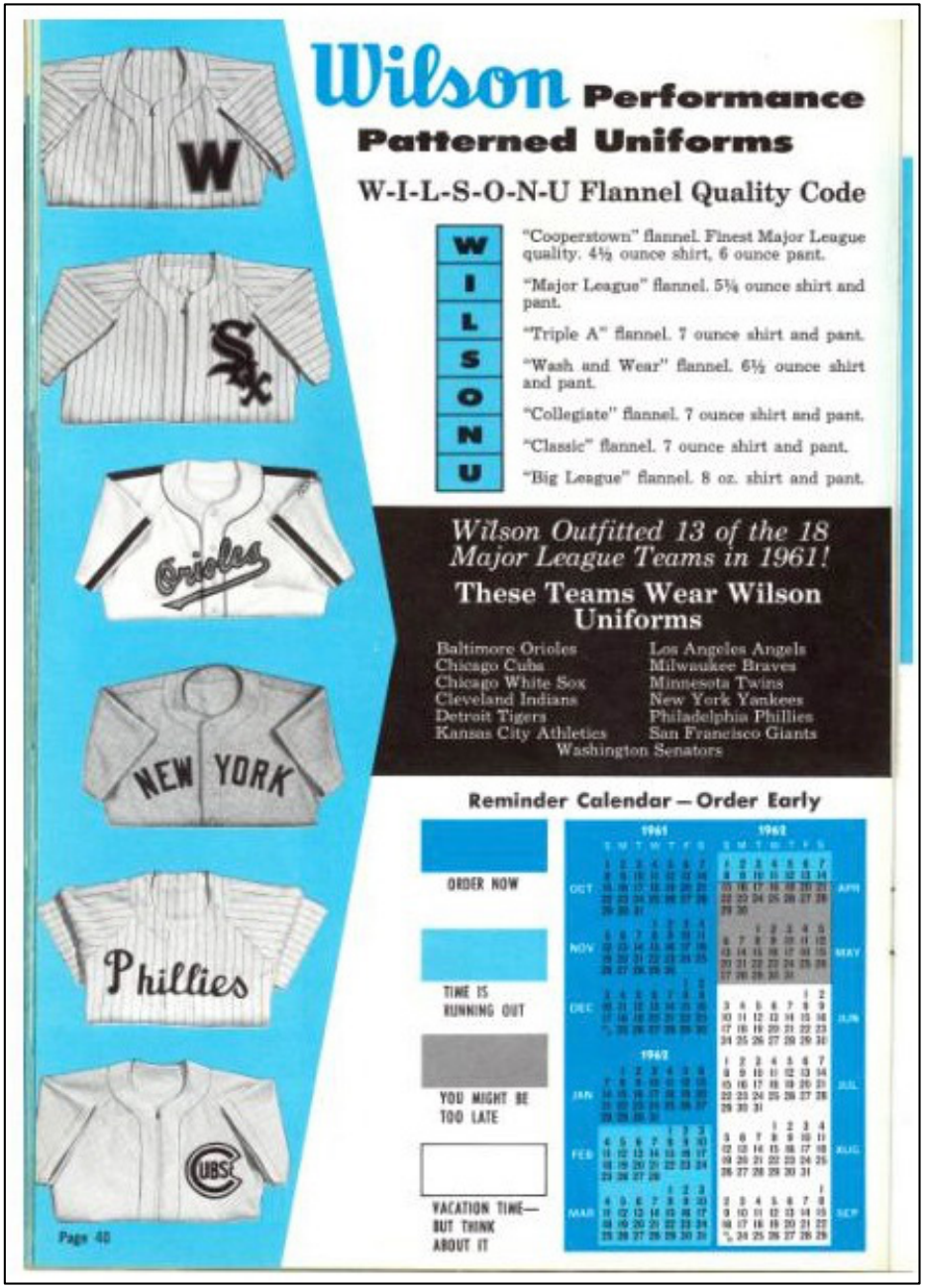

Wilson Performance Patterned Uniforms

W-I-L-S-O-N-U Flannel Quality Code

W "Cooperstown" flannel. Finest Major League quality. 4½ ounce shirt, 6 ounce pant.

I "Major League" flannel. 5¼ ounce shirt and pant.

L "Triple A" flannel. 7 ounce shirt and pant.

S "Wash and Wear" flannel. 6½ ounce shirt and pant.

O "Collegiate" flannel. 7 ounce shirt and pant.

N "Classic" flannel. 7 ounce shirt and pant.

U "Big League" flannel. 8 oz. shirt and pant.

Wilson Outfitted 13 of the 18 Major League Teams in 1961!

These Teams Wear Wilson Uniforms

Baltimore Orioles
Chicago Cubs
Chicago White Sox
Cleveland Indians
Detroit Tigers
Kansas City Athletics
Los Angeles Angels
Milwaukee Braves
Minnesota Twins
New York Yankees
Philadelphia Phillies
San Francisco Giants
Washington Senators

Reminder Calendar—Order Early

ORDER NOW

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

YOU MIGHT BE TOO LATE

VACATION TIME—BUT THINK ABOUT IT

Page 40

Paul Lukas Collection

This 1962 Wilson catalog promotes that 13 of the 18 Major League teams wore Wilson uniforms on the field in 1961. Notice the seven different types of flannel in different weights and blends that could be specified for making team uniforms.

Doubtlessly some of these blends, like the wash and wear kind, had a man-made fiber woven into the cloth. And speaking of “wash and wear," did that mean the other kinds needed to be ironed before use? I would say yes.

Note the reminder calendar for promoting timely team ordering.

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Fabrics: Double Knits

double knit also dou·ble-knit (dŭb′əl-nĭt′) n.
A jersey-like fabric knitted on a machine equipped with two sets of needles so that a double thickness of fabric is produced in which the two sides of the fabric are interlocked.

Double-Knits addressed *almost* all of the downsides of natural fiber flannels. They stretched in use and then stretched back. They were lightweight, could be produced in bright, long-lasting colors, and were not as susceptible to staining, shrinkage and insect damage. They were tough in use, and could be washed with detergents and bleaches that would have destroyed flannels in short order. Their stretchiness also allowed them to be made into pullover uniform jerseys that would have been impossible to create with flannels. Players of the 1970s and 1980s wore their uniforms tight to show off their physiques as this was the new style.

But knits were not perfect. While they didn't absorb sweat, they also did not breathe like natural fibers did, making them very hot. Players always wore natural fiber (cotton based) undershirts between the knit jerseys and their skin for comfort, but the combination of two layers of fabric over hot skin on sweltering days in the sun for a game played in the hottest months of the year was still not a happy prospect.

I believe this Sand-Knit ad first ran in trade publications in 1974

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But man-made fibers were not invented in the 1970s! For example:

Rayon was the very first synthetic fiber used to make clothing in the 1950s, but it was actually developed prior to 1900 and is based on wood pulp and alcohol! It was inexpensive light and flexible and was easily dyed for colorful looks. But its problems were many, including that it tended to wrinkle as easily as linen and that its colors didn't stay true. Perspiration tended to discolor the fabric too easily, and when wet ,it would lose more than half its strength. In period advertising it was mainly promoted as a product use in making colorful, lightweight and sheer women's clothing

Orlon is a fiber that is stretchy and (sometimes combined with natural fibers) best woven into thicker wool-like yarn, and that's why you see it used to make sweaters starting in the late 50s.

While it made its first commercial appearance as bristles in a toothbrush, this is the first consumer advertisement for DuPont Nylon, February 28, 1935. (image courtesy of DuPont archives)

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Nylon is recognized as the strongest available synthetic clothing fiber, widely adopted in the 1960s. However when washing, Nylon tends to pick up colors easily from other fabrics. I once washed a black White Sox jersey with a white Pirates jersey-- both Nylon-- and the Pirates jersey was totally ruined, turned permanently murky gray by the wash water, which shocked me because I always assumed synthetic fabrics were completely colorfast. Stupid me. I also have a pink Dodgers jersey from a similar wash day accident, and no amount of Clorox has been able to fix it. Remember when they used to advertise that detergents had "Bluing for extra whiteness?" this was because in the 60s when Nylon was used as the synthetic fiber of choice, the blue dye in the detergent would adhere to the Nylon, counteracting the other colors it may have picked up. And to the human eye, oddly making something slightly blue makes it appear whiter and cleaner to us.

Some of the earliest Diamond Collection jerseys of 1992-1993 carried this "Intera Fabric/100% Nylon" tag. These jerseys seem to wrinkle more easily than later ones and are more easily stained by improper washing.

The earliest double knit jerseys usually don't have tags on them describing their fiber composition An example– the colorful uniforms worn by the Braves in 1972 have no content tagging on them, and these were known to have shrunk MASSIVELY when washed, which is why the surviving ones look like they were made to fit Little Leaguers. Likely these were made of 100% Nylon. Early Astros sweaters/ warm ups made by Sand Knit were actually tagged as ORLON, and from the ones I have seen, they were definitely inclined to shrink. The White Sox uniforms of the 1976-1981 period, the famous "softball/disco/leisure suit" style that featured with wide floppy collars and were meant to be worn un-tucked, are also examples of uniforms that shank incredibly from washing. I have owned several of these, and can say that especially those made by Capital Ace in Japan have shrunk two sizes or more in washing from their original measurements.

However, by the mid 1980s, the problems with fabric shrinking seemed to have been solved, and as the owner of dozens of game worn jerseys from this period, I can attest that many jerseys that have been worn and washed dozens of times still look and fit almost like brand new.

Though unmarked, this game-worn 1972 Atlanta Braves jersey is likely 100% Nylon and has shrunk more than two full sizes during washing. Originally a size 44 (Large), it is now only 20 inches across, making it effectively a size 40 (Small). It has also shrunk in length to only 24 inches from shoulder to hem! The Braves ordered many sets of these during 1972, eventually attempting to dry-clean new sets to prevent the shrinking. A fire in the dry cleaning plant resulted in many surviving jerseys to be badly stained.

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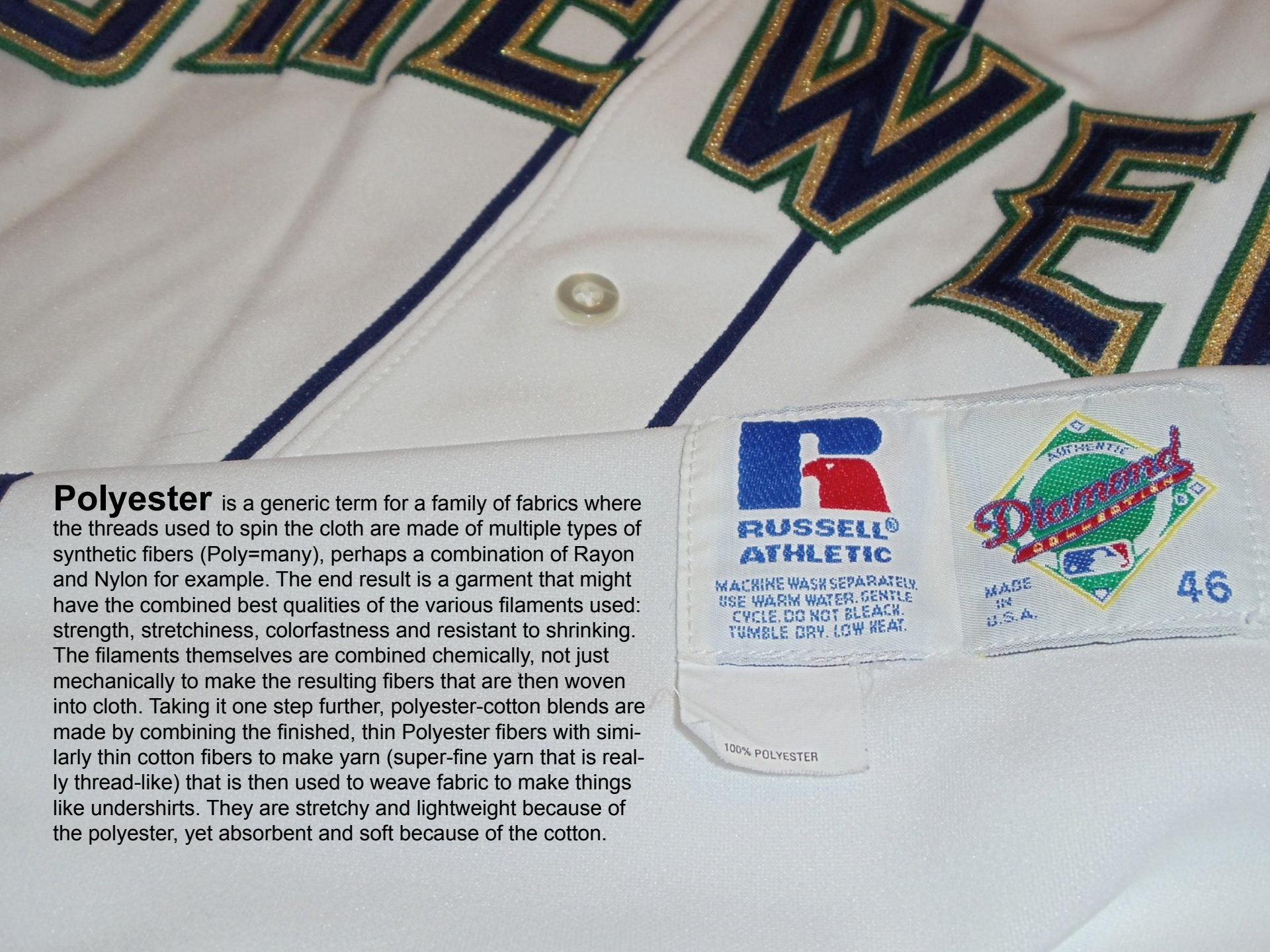

Polyester is a generic term for a family of fabrics where the threads used to spin the cloth are made of multiple types of synthetic fibers (Poly=many), perhaps a combination of Rayon and Nylon for example. The end result is a garment that might have the combined best qualities of the various filaments used: strength, stretchiness, colorfastness and resistant to shrinking. The filaments themselves are combined chemically, not just mechanically to make the resulting fibers that are then woven into cloth. Taking it one step further, polyester-cotton blends are made by combining the finished, thin Polyester fibers with similarly thin cotton fibers to make yarn (super-fine yarn that is really thread-like) that is then used to weave fabric to make things like undershirts. They are stretchy and lightweight because of the polyester, yet absorbent and soft because of the cotton.

Fabrics: Variations on White

An All-Star Game is one of the only times to see these variations on white next to one another.

All six jerseys below could be described as “white." Yet they represent six distinct shades. From left: Toronto Blue Jays 2003 common white; Diamondbacks 1998 home slightly off-white; Phillies 2008 Alternate home cream; Giants 2001 home cream; Mitchell & Ness flannel home jersey replica 1950 A’s; Houston Astros 1993 Road Cream.

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Fabrics: Shades of Gray

From left to right are five distinctly different shades of gray road jerseys:

- The 1994 Rangers jersey at far left is the most neutral shade of gray that is seen most often.
- The Astros 2004 jersey is purplish-tan.
- The Brewers mid 1990s uniforms were decidedly pale green (as are the 1990s Marlins),
- The 2005 Devil Rays' has a purplish tint.
- The Dodgers, at the far right has a bluish cast (same as the Mets).
- Below is how it looks when the wrong color nameplate is used to restore an old jersey.

When it comes to road uniforms, "gray" is a pretty general term used to describe the color of the fabric. It might surprise some to see that there have been many shades of gray used by different teams in the Majors. Here are the main variations for you to see. Never is it more apparent when a wrong shade of gray nameplate is used on a different-colored gray uniform. The best restoration specialty shops keep lots of different shades of both white and gray fabric in stock. Because these fabrics fade over time, from washing and from exposure to the sun, cloth cut from game worn pants is the most common source of matching fabric for properly restoring nameplates on old jerseys.

In recent years, Majestic has taken to standardizing the gray fabric used in road jerseys, so these variations are no longer quite so evident, save for teams that intentionally vary from the standard gray, such as the Diamondbacks starting in 2016. Nike continues this standardization from 2020 onward.

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Fabrics: Shades of Navy Blue

At the far left is the standard Navy-Blue jersey fabric used by many teams over the years on game jerseys and BP jerseys; including the Indians, Twins, 1980s Astros, Braves, Red Sox, Angels and 1990s Mariners. The center two jerseys are Midnight Navy, used by the 1990s Astros, the 1999 and later Mariners and the 2015-2020 Indians. At far right is black, as used by the Orioles, Pirates, White Sox, Diamondbacks and many others. Midnight Navy is so dark that, for some observers, the difference is only discernible when it is laid next to a black jersey for comparison. In the 1990s, the Astros actually used black in their home white and road gray jersey lettering instead of attempting to match the twill lettering to the shade of Navy on their alternate jerseys.

Fabrics: Nylon Mesh

Mesh fabrics addressed the problem of polyester fabric being heavy and hot by taking a direct route: weaving a lightweight but sturdy fabric with thousands of tiny holes per square foot to help the air circulate though. And while other sports, including European football and Japanese Professional Baseball adopted mesh garments like these as game jerseys, in MLB, mesh fabric was used for Batting Practice Jerseys, as a standard from the late 1980s through 2002.

The fabric was tough, lightweight, bright, and colorfast.

Majestic's Moisture-Wicking Tech Fiber Evolution

For all their benefits, double-knit polyester uniforms still retained one major downfall, and that was how hot they were to wear on summer days. By the early 2000s, several companies including Under Armour and Nike were piloting lines of technical fiber moisture wicking fabric garments for athletes that were meant to be worn next to the skin.

Majestic introduced their own technical fabric in 2003 on new batting jerseys that were released for every team simultaneously, the first time that this had been done. When sold at retail, these garments boasted of their new technology. I must admit my own skepticism at the thought of wearing a 100% man-made fiber shirt next to my skin, but these jerseys were actually lightweight and comfortable to wear.

They suffered two drawbacks in use, however. First, they were not very fade resistant. Certain colors, especially reds and blues, faded markedly in the sun. Second, the fabric was extremely susceptible to physical damage. Nearly anything, including rough skin, a fingernail, or the straps from catchers' equipment would cause pulls and runs in the cloth that made it look really ratty and unsightly in short order. This fabric was used exclusively on MLB BP jerseys for four seasons, 2003 through 2006, before being replaced league wide with a new generation of BP fabric for the 2007 season.

Here, from left to right, Nylon mesh fabric of the 1990s, in the middle Majestic's First Generation tech fabric of 2003; at right, Majestic's second generation Cool Base of 2007.

But during the 2005 season Majestic was busy testing a new game jersey fabric that they branded Cool Base. A few teams agreed to test the new jerseys in 2005 in a very limited way and without fanfare.

For 2006, MLB and Majestic unveiled a new line of jerseys constructed of the new Cool Base branded fabric. While still 100% polyester, this new fabric was significantly lighter-weight than traditional double knit game jerseys. Initially it was not meant to replace the standard weight MLB uniform jersey; instead it was designed to provide an alternative for teams to wear when playing on very hot days. When offered the chance to "try one," 29 of the 30 MLB teams adopted it as an alternate jersey choice for 2006.

Full-weight knit

2005 - Cool Base

Upper- Knit
Lower - Cool Base

Only one team did not, perhaps not surprisingly, the Yankees. Recall that the Yankees were among the very last teams to switch from flannel uniforms to double knits back in the early 1970s.

When I first had the chance to see one of these in late 2005, I was afraid that they would look cheap, like T-shirts in the way they hung on a player, instead of like the thick cloth of the uniforms we have grown accustomed to. Having myself lived for a while in Japan and watching many games in Japanese ballparks, I always would notice that the Japanese professional uniforms looked thinner and cheaper than MLB Uniforms, appearing more like MLB mesh BP jerseys from the 1990s. So, I was pleased to note that it was nearly impossible to tell the difference in use.

On the national stage, the Tigers wore Cool Base jerseys during one of the 2006 ALCS playoff games, a real national-exposure tryout, and I had to admit watching on TV, I could not tell the difference.

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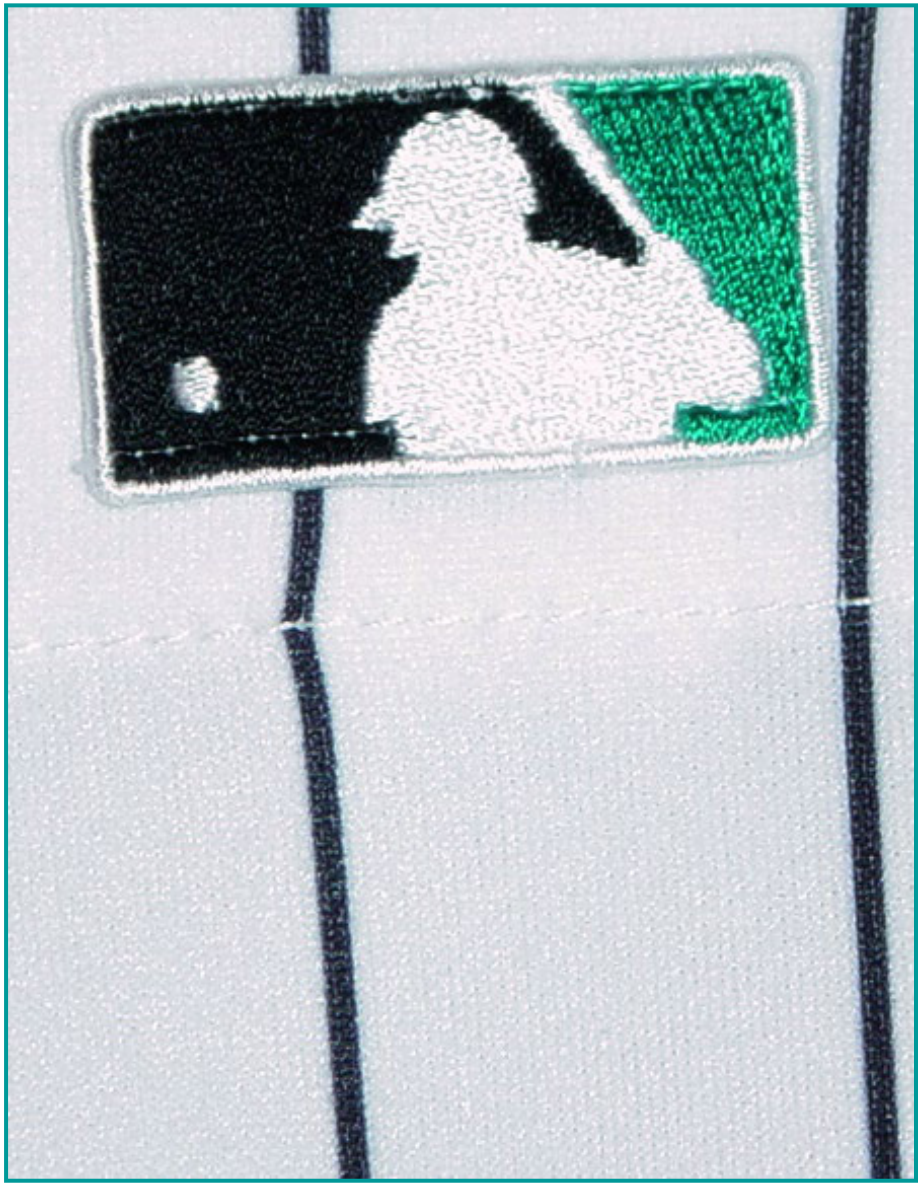

Side by side, close-up photo examples of standard knit and Cool Base Marlins, jerseys both from 2006. Flex Base jersey design (its use starts 2016) still uses this Cool Base fabric.

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Cool Base Game Jersey Characteristics

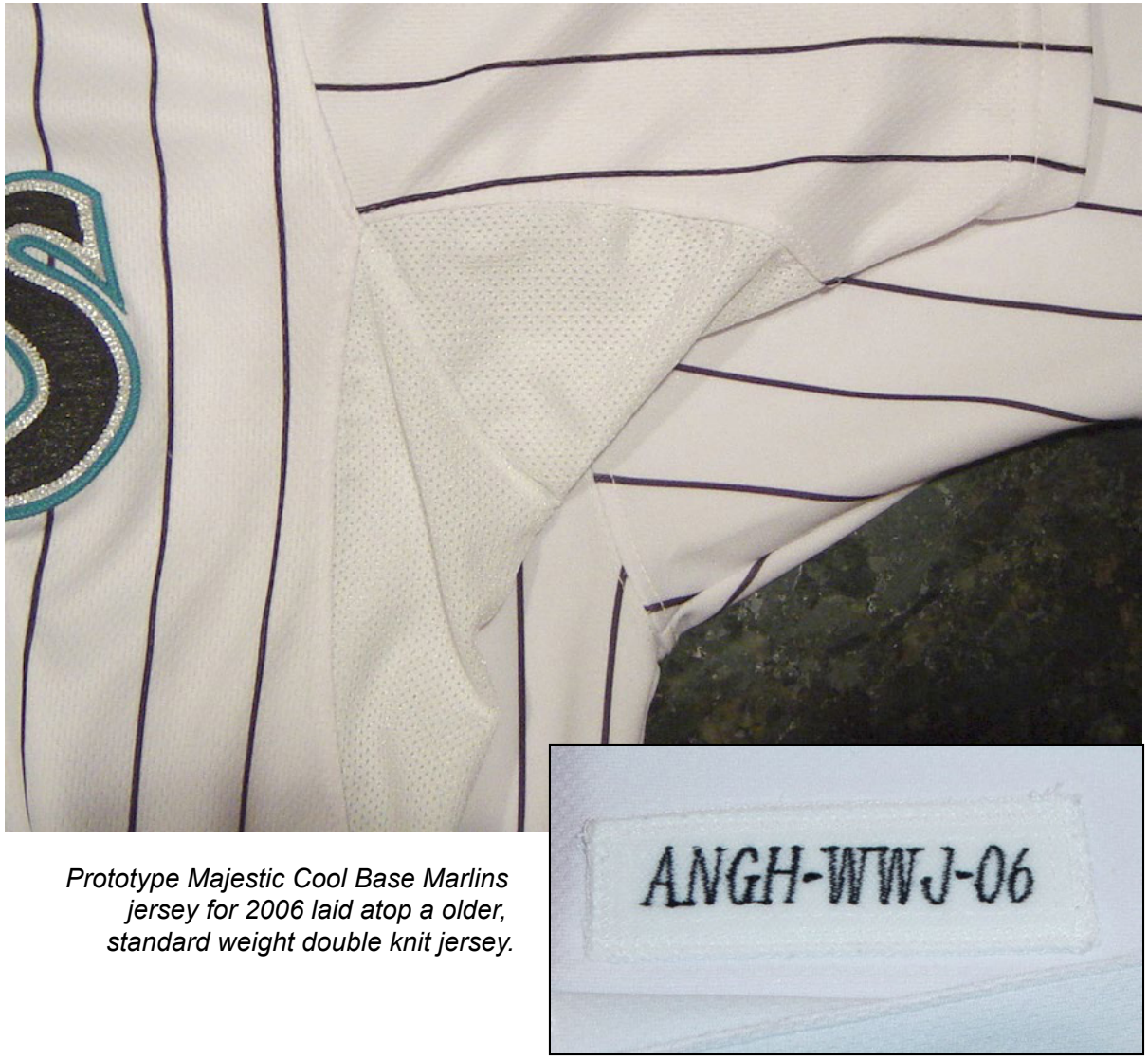
Just picking one up, the difference in its weight is obvious compared to a regular jersey. The fabric is thinner and more shear, but does not look cheap.

Happily, it is not the same moisture wicking fabric as the Majestic 2003-2006 batting jerseys. That fabric, though advertised as more breathable for player comfort, snagged so easily and faded so quickly after even moderate use that they were rather disappointing performers.

The underarms are specially designed, almost fishnet, made of a different fabric than the body of the jersey reminiscent of the old time wool flannel jerseys with their four-gusset breathing holes

The logos and names/numbers are identical to regular game jerseys. The manufacturer tag and size tags look much more like the Majestic BP jerseys though.

In wearing comfort, the difference is remarkable. However they are designed, they do their job quite effectively. While wearing a standard weight pro uniform jersey on a hot day is uncomfortably hot, this jersey feels nearly as comfortable as a cotton T-shirt.



Prototype Majestic Cool Base Marlins jersey for 2006 laid atop a older, standard weight double knit jersey.

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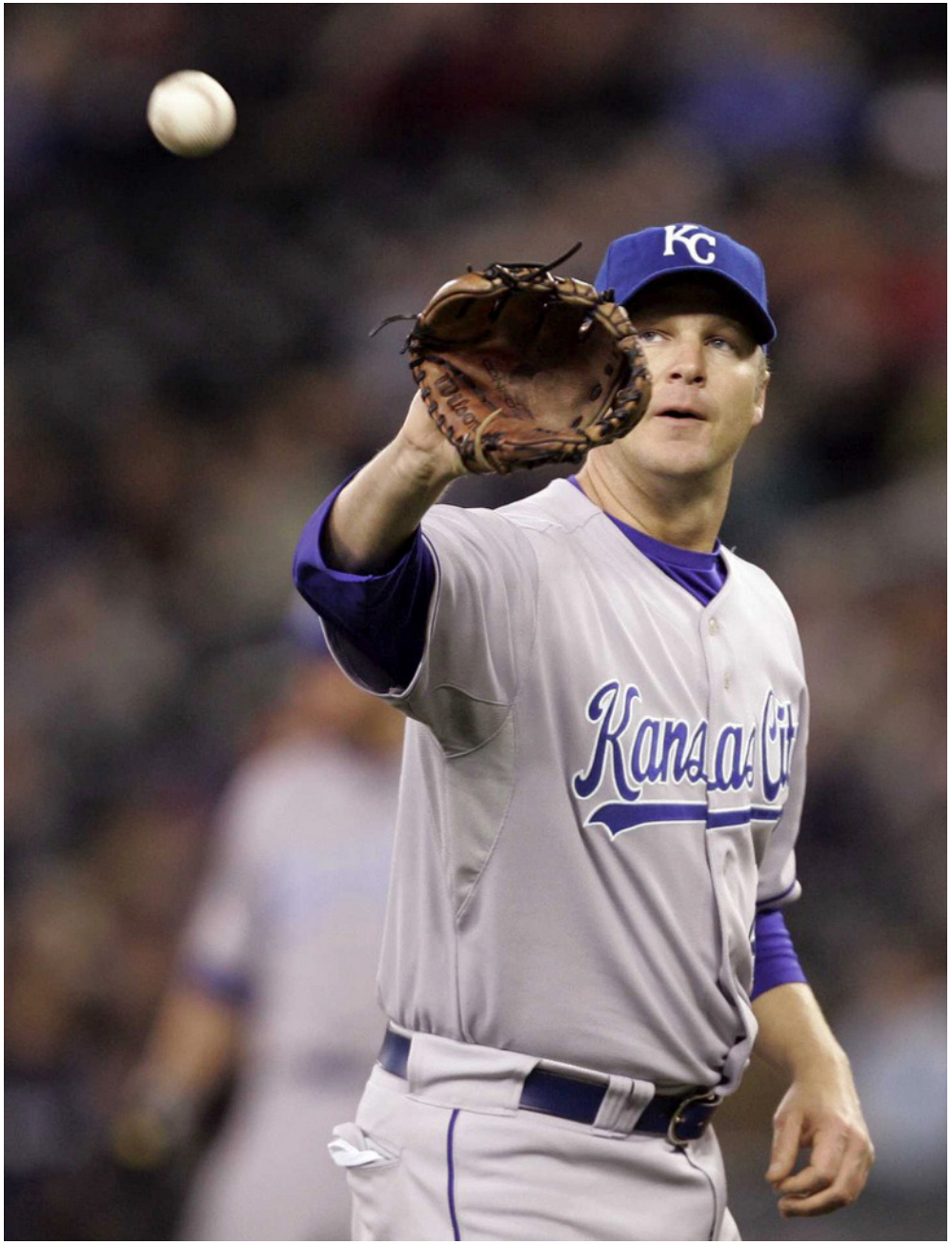
Cool Base is remarkable in several ways. First, it is significantly lighter weight than its knit equivalent. A lettered Cool Base jersey feels like it might weigh as much as 1/3 less than a knit one. Secondly, for as thin and lightweight as they are, they are remarkably opaque. Dark undershirts worn beneath a Cool Base jersey are even less visible through the fabric than they are when compared to a significantly heavier knit jersey.

Some players commented that while Cool Base jerseys are lighter when dry, they feel heavier after absorbing the body's moisture if the player sweats a lot. This is why some players today specify regular weight knit jerseys (if their team offers the choice) and may wear them even if the rest of the team is wearing Cool Base.

Gusseted sewn-in underarm panels are made of a lightweight open mesh fabric that provides additional breathability.



For the teams who had uniforms in both fabrics it seems that in many games, players individually choose the style of jersey they prefer. We have photos that show players wearing a mix of uniform fabrics on the field in the same game.

Picking out whether a player is wearing a Cool Base jersey or not is not very easy. Unless you are up close and can see the texture of the cloth, the best way to tell is by looking at the underarm area, where a different type of mesh-like fabric is sewn in. The underarm inserts are noticeable because the insert's stitching is visible, they are usually slightly lighter in color than the rest of the jersey, and they seem to fade more quickly with repeated wear and washings to become still lighter as the season progresses. For pinstripe jerseys, the inserts are solid color and lack the stripes found on the rest of the garment.

Some detail obsessed fans have noted that the gray Cool Base jerseys sometimes do not exactly match the fabric color of the standard Double Knit pants they are paired with. From this author's point of view, unless they start making Cool Base game pants (they have not yet) this is something we will just have to get over and live with. Further, after looking at thousands upon thousands of game photos, I can attest that often the knit jerseys do not match the knit pants either.

One thing that is certain is that the introduction of Cool Base jerseys mixed with standard Knits generated a flood of additional game worn uniforms into the hobby,

To the hyper-observant, Cool Base jerseys do not always match the color of the knit pants. Of course, our observation is that knit pants sometimes do not match the knit jerseys exactly either.

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Many teams have made a business of rotating gamers into the team memorabilia shop on a regular basis. If one looks at the isolated example of the Indians in 2008 and 2009, with four jersey styles available in both fabrics, and 50 players having been on the roster in each year, that is 400 game worn jerseys at a bare minimum for each year just for roster players. Collectors know that far more team-issued jerseys than this actually exist, as multiple sets of a given style are often ordered in a year to keep players looking good, spares are kept in reserve, and jerseys are made for coaches, manager and bullpen catchers. Add a complete set of team jerseys with the number “42” on back made for Jackie Robinson Day. Sets of jerseys are made for dozens of players who play in Spring Training but who do not make the big club in April. All of this production has driven the prices for commons down to, and below the cost of new store bought name-player jerseys.

In this 2008 photo, player #8 is wearing a Cool-Base jersey (note the mesh panels under the arms) and player #9 is wearing a regular fabric jersey.

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The top two jerseys are made of Cool Base, the bottom two are old style double knit. The presence of the Cool Base underarm panel is the most visible clue.

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Cool Base Underarm Panel Discoloration (2005-2015)

Uneven fading of the underarm panels after many washings is proving to be a point of dissatisfaction among MLB teams, 2005-2015. The Dodgers are one team that had considered asking that the underarm panels be removed and replaced with standard fabric. The 2012-2015 Toronto Blue Jays switched away from the fabric to back to standard weight double knit cloth, they claimed at the request of their players.

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Cool Base Adoption, Year by year, 2006-2009

- **2006:** The first year of Cool Base availability, every team selected one jersey to try in the new fabric, with the exception of the Yankees who refused to play along, and chose none. No teams did a complete switchover of either their main home or road jersey to Cool Base, though a few chose an alternate jersey and made it Cool Base only. Most teams played it safe by simply adding a Cool Base jersey to the mix, usually duplicating one that was also issued in regular knit fabric.
- **2007:** 15 of the 30 teams stay pat with their 2006 jersey mix. 14 add a second Cool Base selection. And the Yankees stay only with full-weight knits.
- **2008**: The big change is underway. Six teams switch completely to Cool Base. Only the Yankees and the Rays (oddly, as they change their look entirely for 2008) use only double knits. The other 22 teams keep a mix of knits and Cool Base jerseys. The Indians are the only team who order up all their many uniform choices for 2008 in *both* Double-Knit *and* Cool Base.
- **2009:** This is the first year where teams begin to drop the old knits from their lineup. Eleven teams go 100% Cool Base, eleven teams have a complete set of uniforms in both Double Knit and Cool Base, and seven teams have a mix of both. Only the Yankees continue to avoid Cool Base entirely (and will until 2014!)

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Majestic Athletic (www.majesticathletic.com) was kind enough to supply complete data of which teams ordered up sets of Cool Base jerseys in each year, 2006-2009. This will be helpful in future years determining the year of issue of untagged jerseys, or helping to detect fakes. In some cases we did not get confirmation of which teams also ordered knit jerseys for those same years. So to fill in the blanks, hours spent poring through Getty Images helped validate whether or not knit jerseys were worn by teams in these styles in each year. In the charts that follow, entries that are noted in **bold green** were deduced by this method of careful examination of game photos. As the march away from knits progresses, it is always possible that a player noted to be wearing a knit jersey might be wearing last year's jersey. I am quick to note that I have not examined photos from every game for every team, and my concluding that there were no knit jerseys issued in this style in a year cannot be considered the absolute answer. I welcome evidence of team-issued knit jerseys that disprove my conclusions. Please send them along.

Key to Data in the Following Tables

BLACK is confirmed data, sourced from Majestic

GREEN indicates that information was gleaned from dated game photos

"?" Indicates that Majestic did not supply data and conclusive photographic proof could not be obtained.

Many thanks to fellow researcher Trevor Williams for his assistance in this section.

Angels		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Vest	**YES**	YES
2007	Home White	**NO**	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Vest	**YES**	YES
	Alternate Red	YES	NO
2008	Home White	**NO**	YES
	Road Gray	**YES**	**YES**
	Alternate Vest	**YES**	YES
	Alternate Red	**NO**	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Vest	YES	YES
	Alternate Red	YES	YES

Astros		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Brick Home	YES	NO
	Alt Brick Road	**YES**	YES
	Alt White Home	YES	NO
2007	Home Pinstripe	**YES**	NO
	Road Gray	**YES**	NO
	Alt Brick Home	**YES**	NO
	Alt Brick Road	**YES**	YES
	Alt White Home	**YES**	NO
2008	Home Pinstripe	**YES**	NO
	Road Gray	**YES**	NO
	Alt Brick Home	**YES**	NO
	Alt Brick Road	**YES**	YES
	Alt White Home	**YES**	NO
2009	Home Pinstripe	**YES**	NO
	Road Gray	**YES**	NO
	Alt Brick Home	**YES**	NO
	Alt Brick Road	**YES**	YES
	Alt White Home	**YES**	NO

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Athletics

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Green	YES	YES
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Green	YES	YES
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alt Green	YES	YES
	Alt Black	YES	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alt Green	YES	YES
	Alt Black	YES	YES

Braves

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home	YES	NO
	Road	YES	NO
	Alt Red	NO	YES
2007	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	NO
	Alt Red	NO	YES
2008	Home	NO	YES
	Road	NO	YES
	Alt Blue Road	NO	YES
	Alt Red Home	NO	YES
2009	Home	NO	YES
	Road	NO	YES
	Alt Blue Road	NO	YES
	Alt Red Home	NO	YES

Brewers

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Navy	NO	YES
	Sunday Alternate	YES	NO
2007	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Navy	NO	YES
	Sunday Alternate	YES	NO
2008	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Navy	NO	YES
	Sunday Alternate	YES	NO
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate Navy	NO	YES
	Sunday Alternate	YES	NO

Cardinals

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES

Cubs

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	NO
	Alt Blue HOME	YES	NO
	Alt Blue ROAD	YES	NO
2007	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	NO
	Alt Blue	YES	YES
2008	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	YES
	Alt Blue	YES	YES
2009	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	YES
	Alt Blue	YES	YES

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Diamondbacks

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White "A" PS	YES	NO
	Road Gray PS vest	YES	NO
	Alt White PS Vest	YES	NO
	Alt Black "Arizona"	YES	YES
2007	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
	Alternate Black	YES	NO
2008	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate Red	NO	YES
	Alternate Black	YES	NO
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate Red	NO	YES
	Alternate Black	NO	YES

Dodgers

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	NO
2007	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	NO
2008	Home	NO	YES
	Road	NO	YES
2009	Home	NO	YES
	Road	NO	YES

Giants

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home Cream	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2007	Home Cream	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2008	Home Cream	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
2009	Home Cream	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES

Indians

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Home Vest	YES	NO
	Alternate Blue	YES	YES
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Home Vest	YES	NO
	Alternate Blue	YES	YES
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alt Home White	YES	YES
	Alternate Blue	YES	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alt Home White	YES	YES
	Alternate Blue	YES	YES

Blue Jays

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Black	YES	YES
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Black	YES	YES
2008	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alt Black	NO	YES
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alt Black	NO	YES

Double Knit detective work: for those Double Knit boxes marked with a green "NO" I invite your skepticism. This designation only means that I was unable to find evidence of the team wearing knit jerseys after searching through dozens of game photos. I focused on cold April days, where players are wearing long sleeved undershirts and teammates in the dugouts are wearing jackets. I assume that if the team had knit jerseys, these would be the type of days that players might wear them. In each case where a green *NO* is listed I was only able to find players wearing Cool Base jerseys, therefore my assumption that knit jerseys must not have been an option and therefore do not likely exist.

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Marlins

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White PS	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt White Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Alt Black	YES	YES
2007	Home White PS	YES	YES (late season)
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt White Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Alt Black	NO	YES
2008	Home White PS	NO	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alt White Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Alt Black	YES	YES
2009	Home White PS	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alt White Pinstripe	NO	YES
	Alt Black	NO	YES

Mets

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White PS	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate White	YES	NO
	Alt Black Home	YES	NO
	Alt Black Road	YES	YES
2007	Home White PS	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate White	YES	YES
	Alt Black Home	YES	NO
	Alt Black Road	NO	YES
2008	Home White PS	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate White	NO	YES
	Alt Black Home	NO	YES
	Alt Black Road	NO	YES
2009	Home White PS	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate White	NO	YES
	Alt Black Home	NO	YES

Mariners

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Navy	YES	NO
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Navy	YES	NO
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Navy	YES	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Navy	YES	YES

Nationals

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Red	YES	NO
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate Red	NO	YES
	Alternate Blue	NO	YES

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Orioles

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Black style2	YES	NO
2007	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Black style2	NO	YES
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alt Black style2	NO	YES
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alt Black style2	NO	YES

Padres

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Tan	YES	NO
	Alt Navy	NO	YES
2007	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Tan	YES	NO
	Alt Navy	NO	YES
	Alt Camouflage	MESH	MESH
2008	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Tan	NO	YES
	Alt Navy	NO	YES
	Alt Camouflage	NO	YES
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Tan	NO	YES
	Alt Navy	NO	YES
	Alt Camouflage	NO	YES

Phillies

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home	YES	YES
	Road	YES	NO
2007	Home	NO	YES
	Road	YES	NO
2008	Home	NO	YES
	Road	NO	YES
	Home Alt	NO	YES
2009	Home	NO	YES
	Road	NO	YES
	Home Alt	NO	YES

Pirates

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White Vest	YES	YES
	Road Gray vest	YES	NO
	Home Alt PS Vest	YES	NO
2007	Home White vest	YES	YES
	Road Gray Vest	YES	NO
	Home Alt PS vest	YES	NO
	Alt Red Vest	YES	NO
2008	Home White Vest	YES	YES
	Road Gray Vest	YES	NO
	Home Alt PS vest	YES	NO
	Alt Red Vest	YES	NO
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Home Alt PS Vest	YES	NO
	Alt Black	NO	YES

Rangers

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home	YES	NO
	Road	YES	NO
	Alt Blue	YES	YES
	Alt White Vest	YES	NO
	Alt Gray Vest	YES	NO
2007	Home	YES	NO
	Road	YES	NO
	Alt Blue	NO	YES
	Alt White Vest	YES	NO
	Alt Gray Vest	YES	NO
2008	Home	YES	NO
	Road	YES	NO
	Alt Blue	NO	YES
	Alt White Vest	YES	NO
	Alt Gray Vest	YES	NO
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alt Blue	NO	YES
	Alt Red	NO	YES

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Rays

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White Vest	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Road Gray Alt Vest	YES	NO
	Alternate Green	NO	YES
2007	Home White Vest	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Road Gray Alt Vest	YES	NO
	Alternate Green	NO	YES
2008	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2009	Home White Vest	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Navy	NO	YES

Red Sox

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
	Alt Road Blue	YES	YES

Reds

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Red (new)	YES	YES
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Red	YES	YES
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Red	NO	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Red	NO	YES

Rockies

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Purple	YES	NO
	Alt Home "CR" Vest	YES	NO
	Alt Black Vest*	?	YES
2007	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Purple	YES	NO
	Alt Home "CR" Vest	?	YES
	Alt Black Vest	?	YES
2008	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Purple	NO	YES
	Alt Home "CR" Vest	NO	YES
	Alt Black Vest	NO	YES
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate Purple	NO	YES
	Alt Home "CR" Vest	NO	YES
	Alt Black Vest	NO	YES

Royals

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Blue	YES	YES
	Alt Black Road	YES	NO
2007	Home White	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alternate Blue	YES	YES
2008	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alternate Blue	YES	YES
	Alt Light Blue	NO	YES
2009	Home White	NO	YES
	Road Gray	NO	YES
	Alternate Blue	NO	YES
	Alt Light Blue	NO	YES

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Tigers

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2007	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2008	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
2009	Home White	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES

Twins

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home	YES	NO
	Alt Home Vest	YES	NO
	Road Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Home Blue Alt	YES	NO
	Road Blue Alt	YES	YES
2007	Home	YES	NO
	Alt Home Vest	YES	NO
	Road Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Home Blue Alt	YES	NO
	Road Blue Alt	NO	YES
2008	Home	NO	YES
	Alt Home Vest	YES	NO
	Road Pinstripe	YES	YES
	Home Blue Alt	YES	NO
	Road Blue Alt	NO	YES?
2009	Home	NO	YES
	Alt Home Vest	NO	YES
	Road Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Home Blue Alt	NO	YES
	Retro Home Alt	YES	NO

White Sox

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home White PS	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Black	YES	YES
	Alt PS Vest	YES	NO
	Alt 1906 Home Cream	YES	NO
2007	Home White PS	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
	Alt Black	YES	YES
	Alt PS Vest	YES	NO
2008	Home White PS	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alt Black	YES	YES
2009	Home White PS	YES	YES
	Road Gray	YES	YES
	Alt Black	YES	YES

Yankees

		Double Knit	Cool Base
2006	Home Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2007	Home Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2008	Home Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO
2009	Home Pinstripe	YES	NO
	Road Gray	YES	NO

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2010 Uniform Fabrications

Club	Cool Base	Regular Poly	Comments
Angels	X	X	
Astros	X	X	
Athletics	X	X	
Blue Jays	X		Except Columbia Retro Jersey - poly
Braves	X		
Brewers	X		Except Pinstripe Retro Jersey - poly
Cardinals	X	X	
Cubs	X	X	
D'Backs	X		
Dodgers	X		
Giants	X	X	
Indians	X	X	
Mariners	X	X	
Marlins	X		
Mets	X		
Nationals	X		
Orioles	X		
Padres	X	X	
Phillies	X		
Pirates	X		Except pinstripe vest - poly
Rangers	X		
Rays	X		
Red Sox	X	X	
Reds	X	X	
Rockies	X		
Royals	X		
Tigers	X	X	
Twins	X	X	
White Sox	X	X	
Yankees		X	

At left are Majestic's team orders for 2010 uniforms. You can see that all teams except the Yankees are using Cool Base, and 15 of the 30 have converted completely. Some continue to order selected styles in the older heavyweight knit. Some players may specify knit jerseys as their personal preference.

I did not collect data from Majestic for 2011. In 2011, I did still see some players wearing old-style knit jerseys mixed in, from time to time. The Yankees had still had not tried Cool Base.

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2012 Uniform Fabrications... and after, through 2015

TEAM	Cool Base	Regular Poly	Comments
Angels	x	x	
Astros	x		
Athletics	x	x	
Blue Jays		x	
Braves	x		
Brewers	x		except alt retro: regular
Cardinals	x	x	
Cubs	x	x	
Diamondbacks	x		
Dodgers	x		
Giants	x	x	except alt orange Cool Base only
Indians	x	x	
Marine rs	x	x	
Marlins	x		
Mets	x		
Nationals	x		
Orioles	x		
Padres	x	x	except digital camo, Cool Base only
Phillies	x		
Pirates	x		
Rangers	x		
Red Sox	x	x	
Rays	x		
Reds	x	x	
Rockies	x		
Royals	x		
Tigers	x	x	
White Sox	x	x	
Twins	x		Home, Alt Navy "Twins", Alt Navy "Minnesota"
Twins		x	Road, Alt Ivory
Yankees		x	

The 2012 Blue Jays have switched back to regular knit fabric, and do not use Cool Base in 2012. By 2012, the Yankees are the only team that had not tried Cool Base.

After 2012, things begin to stabilize, and the use of Cool Base jerseys becomes commonplace for most teams. Majestic's data for 2014 shows that sixteen teams have gone exclusively Cool Base**: Astros, Braves, Brewers (With the exception of their Sunday nostalgia uniform), Diamondbacks, Dodgers, Marlins, Mets Nationals, Orioles, Phillies, Pirates, Rangers, Rays, Rockies, Royals and Twins. The Yankees allow some players to order Cool Base road jerseys (only) starting in 2014.**

Meanwhile, the Yankees *home jerseys* and the Blue Jays (all jerseys) use full weight knits exclusively.

That leaves us with only twelve teams that order a mix of Cool Base and full-weight knit jerseys in all styles. Majestic tells me that on those teams, generally players can decide what they want to wear, and that there are very few, old-school players who specify knit jerseys for their on-field use. Predominately players are switching to Cool Base when they have the choice.

Retail sale jersey configurations match the pro options. If a jersey is available in both full-weight knit or Cool Base, generally retailers will stock the Cool Base models only for simplicity. But in reality, fewer and fewer stores sell Authentic jerseys in lieu of Replicas; mostly authentics are sold in very limited quantities through specialty online vendors (like MLB.com) to a select group of fans who appreciate the difference.

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Majestic/Nike Flex Base Uniform System - 2016-2023

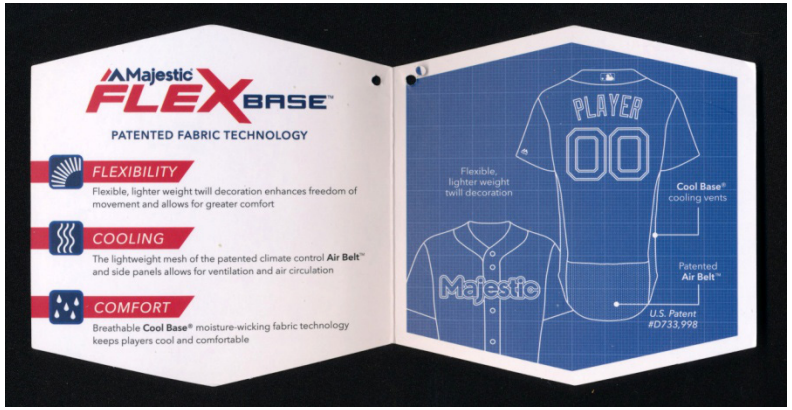
"Flex Base" was Majestic's brand name for on-field game jerseys as well as retail-sale authentics for the 2016 season. The brand name describes the entire jersey, not just the fabric from which it is made. This is the first time in history that all teams in MLB have simultaneously adopted a new uniform fabric and style at the same time without any dissenters or hold-outs.

For a description, let's begin with Majestic's own words from their product sheets:

The New Flex Base jersey is the latest in uniform innovation designed for the modern baseball athlete. Tailored to the exact specifications that players wear during the game, the jersey features advanced lightweight fabrics for Enhanced stretch, moisture wicking, and breathability. Cool Base side panel mesh vents and patented Air Belt technology offer new cooling zones and flexibility.

- *Full or left chest authentic lightweight tackle twill decoration*
- *Cool Base side panel mesh gussets for cooling zones and flexibility*
- *Patented mesh Air Belt for better air flow and less bulk under pant line*
- *MLB center back neck CFX silhouetted batter patch*
- *100% Polyester Mock Mesh*
- *MLB Authentic Collection Apparel locker tag*

Majestic says that the new jerseys were designed with the input of 50 MLB players, and are designed to be lighter, more flexible and more comfortable than ever before.



Flex Base jerseys get the folded blue hang tag above; the white logo in the upper photo at right is actually a thick vinyl applique. Starting in 2016, only Flex Base jerseys get to have the "Authentic Collection" tag.

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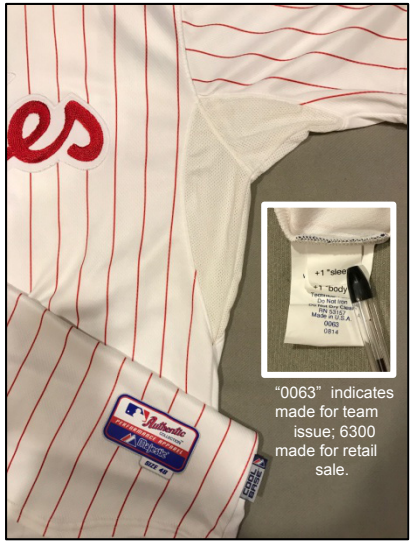
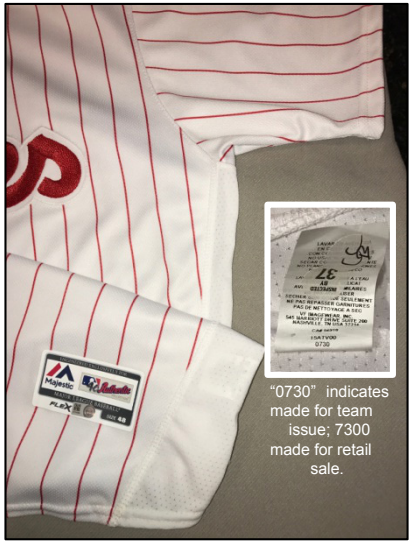
Beside the above facts, there is the following:

- They claim the new style twill lettering will make each jersey 10-20% lighter than before (more on this shortly)
- Note that the fabric itself that makes up the jersey body is still called Cool Base, just like before, and that “Flex Base” is the brand name given to the entire “Uniform System” as they refer to it; including both jersey and pants.
- Mesh ventilation panels are sewn in the length of the sides of the jersey, and the pants are for the first time also made of Cool Base fabric, with ventilation panels sewn inside of the pants legs. The jersey side panels are especially noticeable on pinstriped jerseys, as the side panel is plain and interrupts the stripes.
- They eliminate the troublesome underarm panel that tended to discolor after wash and wear.
- The CFX logo sewn on the back of the neck is a sort of flexible plastic; it is no longer embroidered cloth.
- A new color-keyed per team Majestic sleeve logo is embroidered at the end of the left sleeve. It now includes the word “Majestic” along with a freshened triple-peak logo, and the hidden, embossed “” from before is gone. All teams have Majestic sleeve logos except the Yankees, who maintain that they cannot contractually display one. Yankees jerseys made for retail sale have the Majestic sleeve logo.
- The inside-seam tags that provided evidence to buyers about a jersey’s heritage, whether it was made for retail sale or for the team’s use, are changed. The code number 0730 is used for game ready jerseys, while 7300 is used for retail sale units. This code is now on the back of the tag.
- These jerseys are sold in numeric chest measurements, tailored as small as size 40 and as large as size 60. (retail Authentic jerseys are sold in sizes 40-44-48-52-56-60. However, MLB players can order in-between sizes: 42,46,50,54).





2005-2015 Cool Base (above left) features breathable underarm panels that tended to discolor in use. 2016-2019 Flex Base (above right) has “Cool Base” vented side panels. White perforated side panels disrupts pinstripes on all teams except Yankees who do not have the side panels! Below, Flex Base jersey has a comfort lining inside the collar, earlier Cool Base jersey does not. Inner-seam tag has code that designates if the jersey was made for team issue or retail sale.

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Notably, all teams have adopted the new Flex Base uniforms for 2016, including the Blue Jays, who had stayed with full-weight knit uniforms through 2015; and the Yankees, who never had accepted Cool Base home jerseys for use. The Yankees had been dissatisfied with the detail of the pinstripes as they appeared in Cool Base samples, wanting the pinstripes to have the identical pattern as the older style full-weight knits. Apparently, Majestic has now satisfied the Yankees, as they switched along with everyone else this time, however notably the Yankees pinstriped home jerseys omit the solid-colored, vented side panels that are present on all other teams' jerseys, so that there is no break in the pinstripes. Fashion at the expense of comfort, perhaps.

Prior to 2016, on many teams, if a player desired a full-weight knit jersey instead of a Cool Base one, he could order it that way. It is our understanding that starting with 2016, full-weight knit jerseys are no longer offered as a custom order option for players. I will note that several of the Turn Back the Clock uniforms worn during the 2016 season by some teams were still full -weight knit.

Majestic's Retail Authentic jerseys have all switched to Flex Base as well, and are visually indistinguishable from on-field jerseys. I'd like to spend a few moments discussing this, and offering my own opinions on the tiered branded marketing structure of Majestic Authentic jerseys.

First, make no mistake about it: these jerseys are expensive. On-field Authentic Flex Base jerseys are targeted at a very slim percentage of the fan base: those of us who want to wear the exact jerseys that our players are wearing on the field. They are retail-priced between $200 and $350 (even more for XXL sizes). The price *less reflects* what it costs to make the jersey and more what exclusive-minded buyers will be willing to pay. They are made in limited quantities, and targeted to a special audience who are willing to pay more for features that a common buyer does not value. The higher price adds an air of exclusivity that makes them even more special.

At left, 2005-2015 Cool Base. At Right, 2016-2019 Flex Base. Notice the addition of the vented "Air Belt" tail; the vinyl Silhouetted batter back of neck patch; the revised sleeve logo, still embroidered but now lacking the hidden secreted in the design. It takes a close eye to notice the new lightweight twill design. On the right, the white outline is now sewn on top and is sewn down with two courses of stitches, one on the outside of the line, one on the inside.

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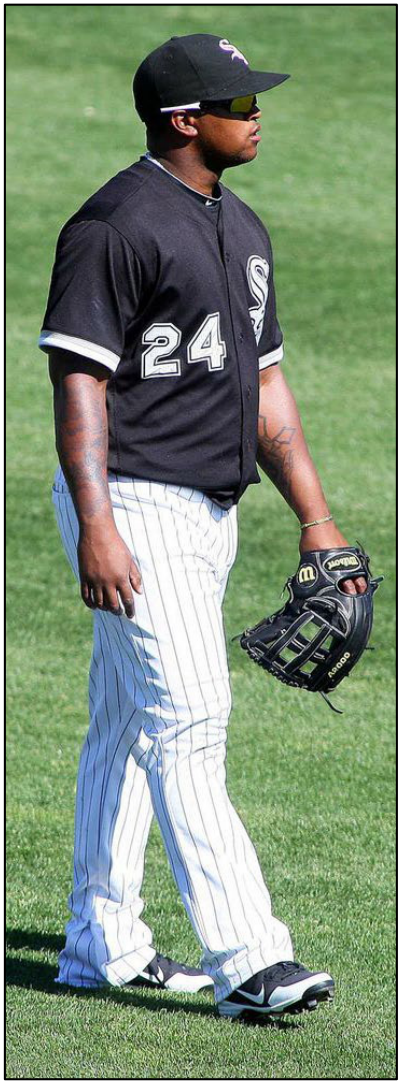
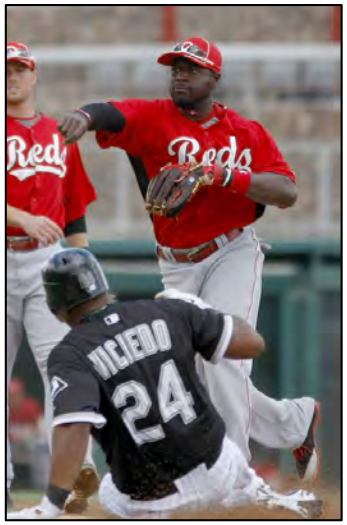
2012: Flex Base Test Jerseys

Bill Henderson Collection





In the competitive marketplace of supplying uniforms for professional sports teams, constant innovation has become a necessity. On-field uniforms not only have to be acceptable as work wear for hundreds of athletes, but they must also represent the vaunted brands of the teams they promote. Making changes to these garments is not a casual business. Rather, new ideas are developed, designed, and tested over a matter of years.

On this page and the next, we can share two examples. These are Majestic Flex Base test jerseys that were game used during the 2012 season, a full four years before the new Majestic Flex Base "uniform system" was introduced league-wide. This jersey features the "Air Belt" mesh tail that was eventually adopted for the final

Continued, next page

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product, as well as heat-pressed mesh logos and numbers that were not ultimately used. The strip tag indicates that this is a test issue, as does the wash tag "063T" code, where the "T" likely also stands for "test." We have seen several other such examples with similar strip tagging. All were "Test A" jerseys. It is unclear if any other versions were tested in this way, but given Majestic's propensity for multiple versions of prototype uniforms, it is possible there are other iterations out there, especially since Majestic said they worked with more than 50 players to design and test this new family of jerseys.

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Dodgers 2012 Flex Base Prototype

This Los Angeles Dodgers jersey is a Flex Base test issue that was made in 2012 for pitcher Clayton Kershaw to use, four years before all MLB teams adopted the Flex Base template. It appears not to have been worn during a game, however, we have seen examples of these test issues that were worn in Spring Training 2012 by other teams. Majestic says that it worked with more than 50 players to test the Flex Base jerseys, so it is likely that many such jerseys were made.

The Flex Base test jersey is similar to the regular issue jersey in many ways. The main difference is that the numbers and lettering are not tackle twill and sewn on; they are heat pressed. Also, the back tail of the jersey has a thinner mesh fabric. The wash code tag in the inside tail reads "063T." There is a strip tag in the collar that reads "22 Kershaw 50 2012 Test A" stitched on. The Dodgers' 50th Anniversary of Dodger Stadium patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2012 Tigers Flex Base Prototype

The Cool Base-tagged jersey is similar to the regular issue jersey in many ways. The main difference is that the numbers and letters are not tackle twill and sewn on. They are heat pressed on (see photo). It has vented mesh side panels and the back tail of the jersey is a sewn on sheer mesh, thinner mesh fabric. The wash code tag in the inside tail reads "063T." There is a strip tag on the tail that reads “24 52 ‘12 Test A" stitched on. That would decode to “player #24, size 52, 2012 Test A”

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New for 2015: Cool Base Replica Jerseys

To make things a little more confusing, Majestic had introduced a line of new Cool Base branded replicas in 2015. Prior to this, "Cool Base" branding had been applied only to the top-of-the-line on-field merchandise, but starting in 2015 it refers also to its retail "replica jersey" line, exclusively so starting in 2016. Frankly, these jerseys are not inexpensive either, coming in at around $100 without a player name and number, and up to $142 with a player's name/number on the back, but even at that, they are still half the price of an on-field Authentic. Here are my observations about the 2015-2019 Cool Base replica jerseys.

- They are not the same fabric as the 2005-2015 on-field Cool Base authentics… they are a breathable fabric, but it is more lightweight and sheer (cheap?) than ever used on an Authentic.
- The team wordmarks and player names/numbers are "Printed Tackle Twill" decoration. That means that all the colors and outlines are printed on a single layer of twill, and all detail including stitch marks are simulated: printed on. This single layer of twill is then sewn to the jersey.
- If your team uses front numbers (or sleeve numbers) these are left off the Cool Base series when you buy a player-lettered jersey.
- They lack the sleeve patches found on Retail Authentic and on-field jerseys. The Majestic sleeve logo is heat pressed, not embroidered.
- They lack the "Air Belt" tail and side venting panels found on the Flex Base authentics.
- These are sold in sizes Small-Medium-Large-XL-2XL-3XL-4XL, not in numeric chest sizes like the Flex Base authentics.

If one shops on the MLB.com fan store, it is very difficult to tell the difference between the two series of jerseys, as they are listed all together. If you don't already know what the difference is, you will probably buy the replica: the description *appears* nearly the same to the uneducated, and yet at half the price! One of the most common questions I am asked at my website and Facebook page is to explain the differences; and why seemingly identical jerseys sell for $140 as a replica, but twice that much as an Authentic. If you have to ask, you probably won't be buying the more expensive jersey.

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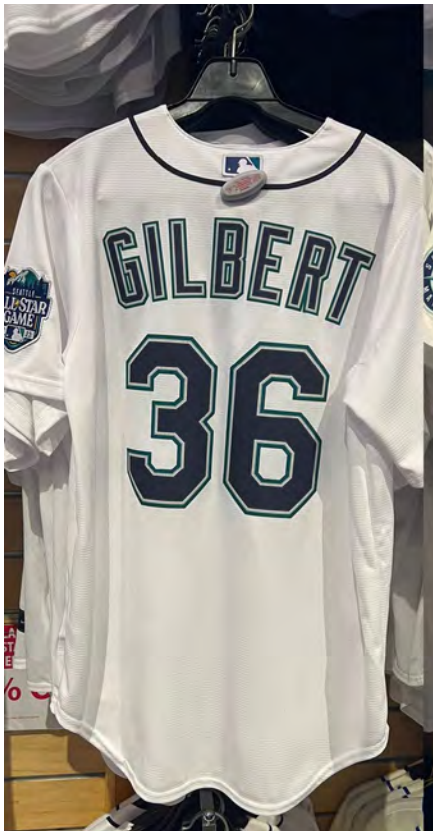
On Field: Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

In December 2016, MLB announced that long-time uniform supplier Majestic would be replaced by Under Armour (in partnership with Fanatics) as the official manufacturer of MLB on-field jerseys for the 2020 season. Only two years later, after a significant drop in company revenue, Under Armour backed out of the deal without producing any MLB jerseys (though some of their prototypes do exist). MLB then turned to sportswear giant Nike to pick up the contract Under Armour could not fulfill. As part of the deal, Fanatics bought out Majestic's manufacturing plant, and began production for MLB jerseys, with Nike branding, for the 2020 season. From 2020-2023, all MLB on-field jerseys were simply Majestic Flex Base jerseys with the Nike logo applied. Over the course of the next few years, Nike worked with MLB to test a new template for on-field use, Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE), which some Kansas City Royals players wore in spring training as early as 2021.

Nike VPE jerseys officially debuted in MLB in the 2023 All-Star Game and became the league-wide standard template for the 2024 season. According to MLB and Nike, Vapor Premier Elite is a "new technology…engineered to improve mobility, moisture management and fit. Vapor Premier Elite's breathable, lightweight, high-performance fabric is made from at least 90% recycled polyester yarns. It also gives the jersey 25% more stretch and allows it to dry 28% faster, with moisture-wicking Dri-Fit ADV technology keeping players cool. Nike body-scanned more than 300 baseball players to find the ideal fit, which is more athletic and form-fitting than previous models."



Aside from the purported performance enhancements, the switch to the new template also caused aesthetic changes that were not necessitated by previous changes to Cool Base or Flex Base templates. These include:

- All "white" jerseys are now a subtle off-white color, much less bright white than Majestic jerseys.
- Narrower front-button plackets that place placket trim (for teams that use it) much closer together than previous designs. It also means that many teams' front lettering changes position, arc, or where script names break across the placket vs. older jerseys. The narrower placket also forces the back-of-neck MLB logo lower on the jersey, which, in turn, requires name on back lettering to shrink and appear in a tighter arch than on previous jerseys.
- All player name and number fonts are a consistent size for all teams: front numbers are 4″ high, back numbers are 8″ high, and NOB lettering is 2.5″

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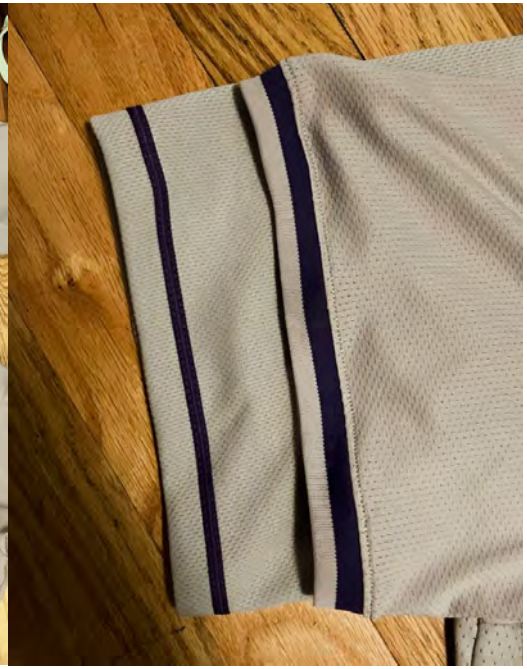
On Field: Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024, continued

high. NOB arch is also rendered in a consistent pattern across all teams, and is much more steeply arc-ed than before, almost exactly in a half-circle like NBA jerseys are laid out.

- Sewn-in trim around neck and sleeve openings that takes the place of previous neck and/or sleeve trim for teams that use it (moving all sleeve-end trim to the very ends of sleeves vs. on or above sleeve hem). Neck trim appears on all non-pinstriped jerseys and is simply rendered in the jersey base color for teams that did not use neck trim.
- The removal of mesh side and bottom-hem panels that Flex Base had used, which had previously interrupted stripe patterns for teams that use pinstriped jerseys.

The drive for lighter and cooler jerseys also brings with it the introduction of perforated/mesh front and back numbers for teams that choose to use it. Early indications show that pinstriped jerseys do not use perforated twill, even if a team with a striped jersey uses it for its solid jerseys. This is likely because the pinstripes showed through the perforations on some Minor League jerseys that used the same



Old above, new below.

Old at left, new at right

template and lettering. Team front lettering and player names remain solid twill. Kiss-cut lettering, which is lighter than layered twill, carries over from Flex Base.

As part of Nike's quest for consistency and simplification, teams are not only generally held to four primary jerseys plus a City Connect style, but many teams adopt a universal NOB and number font (Nike's version of Block) and lettering size regardless of prior team custom. That means formerly unique characteristics like the Dodgers large front numbers and Tigers tall NOB font are eliminated.

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On Field: Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024, continued

Put simply, the transition to the new template was not without complications. As Spring Training began in February 2024, elements of the new design template were soundly criticized by media, fans, and even the players. Major League Baseball, Nike, and Fanatics (which bought out Majestic;s factory and was responsible for manufacturing the jerseys based on Nike's specifications) were put on the defensive about any number of concerns, and their responses were unsatisfactory in the limited cases when they responded at all. The Major League Baseball Players Association even issued a statement of concern, and the uniforms became the talk of the early baseball season, almost more than the game itself.

Typically, when a new uniform design or template is launched, team and leagues jump at the change to garner publicity and explain how wonderful their products are. In the case of Vapor Premier Elite, MLB and Nike sent out a couple of press releases touting that the jerseys were lighter, more flexible, and would enhance performance. They did not, however, explain why they had to change so much of the template to achieve these goals. As such, players and fans were left to wonder why every jersey had change its look to change its level of performance, which amplified the criticism.

When the uniforms began to appear in free agent signing press conferences and in Spring Training, the main concerns were the smaller NOB letters, homogenized number fonts, and the thinner plackets that made team front lettering split awkwardly. Fans complained that the jerseys looked like cheap knockoffs, and players said that they were not what a major league ballplayer would expect to see in his locker.

Next, photos from team media days made the new Nike pants appear to be more transparent and revealing than before, which became another topic of derision (where players had new pants - manufacturing delays led to many teams not receiving new pants, so many players wore recycled pants in Spring Training). That "see-through" critique was excessive, as the new pants were actually the same material as years prior, and the same situation occurred in past years in photos taken under bright studio lighting conditions.

Though the pants were the same material as before, the jerseys were not, and that caused problems with dying the fabric colors to match the pants. Several teams used their road gray jerseys and pants in spring games, where both appeared to be

noticeably different shades of gray. Nike and Fanatics did respond to this issue, saying that they were addressing it and would correct it, though as of the start of the season, the color difference was still apparent.

The change in jersey fabric also led to far more sweat-related color issues, especially on gray jerseys, where parts of jerseys would appear significantly darker once players began to sweat, causing garish multi-colored jerseys over mismatched pants. Nike said it would review this issue as well. Finally, the new jersey fabric, paired with ostensibly lighter lettering twill, made jerseys appear puckered in some of the areas around the letter stitching, adding to the "cheap replica" cries from critics.

To add insult to injury, several teams were unable to wear certain uniform sets at the start of the regular season, because they had still not received matching pants for the jerseys, or in some cases, the jerseys themselves. A week into the regular season, The Athletic reported: "The Twins are missing the pants for their cream 'Twin Cities' uniforms. The Mariners wore home whites Sunday because their cream-colored uniforms aren't in yet. The Cardinals were in road grays Sunday because neither of their Saturday alternates — ivory at home, victory blue on the road — had arrived. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported the club did not expect to have either Saturday uniform 'until June, at the latest,' due to production delays."

Eventually, MLB, Nike, and Fanatics conceded to fan and player outrage and promised changes to the jerseys, to roll out in the 2025 and 2026 seasons. The VPE template would remain for 2025, but several details reverted back to the way they were for 2023 and before.

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Comparison: 2023 Nike Flex Base vs. 2024 Nike Vapor Premier Elite

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

To the casual fan, the difference in Flex Base vs. Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) may not be immediately obvious, especially when the two aren't side-by-side on-field. But when viewed together, the difference are more readily apparent.

- Flex Base white jerseys are a brighter, purer white. VPE is off-white, or cream color.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements are made of a different flat ribbon-like material, and are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now sewn in to the jersey at the seams. This forced changes for trim size on certain jerseys, including these Marlins home jerseys.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which causes lettering that crosses the placket to break differently. Notice the Flex Base break between the "a" and "i" in Miami above vs. the break cutting through the "a" on VPE below.
- The narrower placket, which also runs around the collar, means less space for the MLB logo on the back of the jersey. Rather than shrink it to fit, it is moved below the collar area.
- Flex Base had integrated mesh side and back tail panels, VPE does not.
- Player names are much smaller and steeply arched on VPE, and all teams use the same size names, seemingly following Nike's NBA template.
- Not visible on field, the interior code changes from MQ1H to MQHO on this Marlins example.

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

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2023 Nike Flex Base vs. 2024 Nike Vapor Premier Elite, continued

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Note that other elements of jerseys changed from the 2020-2023 Nike Flex Base to the 2024 Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE).

- Team logo patches, and in some cases sponsor patches, went from traditional embroidery (top) to printed cloth/twill (bottom), occasional with some accent embroidery stitching. This made patches lighter and more flexible, but it also changed some of the colors given differences in thread and ink pigments.
- Front and back numbers were kiss-cut twill in Flex Base (top), but became a lighter version of kiss-cut twill with perforations on the VPE jerseys (bottom). Like the patches, this made numbers slightly lighter and more flexible, but it also made them flimsier - in game action, some numbers appear to fold and drape in exactly the same way as the jerseys, making them look as if they were printed or sublimated rather than sewn.

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2023 Nike Flex Base vs. 2024 Nike Vapor Premier Elite, continued

Top and middle rows: the Nike VPE is at left, Flex Base at right. From the outside, the two fabrics look very close in appearance, but flipping them over, the Nike fabric has a rough, textured wide-weave feel, as some have joked, like “A Bounty paper towel”. Notice the far narrower placket width on the new format, shown also in the placement of the MLB patch on the back of the neck which is now sewn below the placket seam instead of inside the placket border as before. From experience, I can tell you that while all tech fabrics lack strength once there is even a tiny hole or rip, the Nike VPE fabric is prone to rip wide open; any compromise to the weave causes almost certain fabric failure. This is not a durable material. Middle row, note the VPE number “3”next to a Flex base jersey “4” beside it. The new twill is thinner and less shiny and the lettering size is shrunk for 2024. The neck and sleeve trim is different from the traditional style we are accustomed to, (new on bottom) it is now a flat,smooth polyester ribbon The bottom row shows the traditional twill used for lettering on the left in each photo, and the new Nike style twill on the right. The colors are not *exactly* the same as old, but the main difference in each is the sheen, especially evident in the last two photos; as in the final photo a flash is used. The new fabrics are sometimes vinyl backed and are now applied with the same adhesive as used with vinyl lettering.

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Nike Vapor Premier Elite: 2025 Changes

In response to player and fan feedback, MLB, Nike, and Fanatics have made changes to MLB jerseys for 2025 and promise more changes for the 2026 season.

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB, as this style was the most maligned and problematic in 2024. The 2024 VPE jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, and often noticeably mismatched pant color, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. The redundant, jersey-color neck trim used on jerseys without pinstripes is also eliminated from gray jerseys in 2025, though it remains on other jerseys in 2025. Despite the fabric and decoration changes, the overall template is still VPE, so placket size remains smaller than Flex Base, and the MLB logo on the back of the collar remains in its lower position from 2024. Some of these changes also apply to new City Connect jerseys introduced in 2025.

For all other jerseys in 2025, (except carryover City Connect jerseys) the VPE template, fabric, and construction remain the same, but player names and numbers are increased in size, often back to 2023 size, and perforated numbers are eliminated. Several teams who standardized their name and number fonts in 2024 revert to their own custom versions in 2025.

From what we have observed early in the 2025 season, City Connect jerseys that carry over from 2024 or before remain the same as they were in 2024, with smaller player names and perforated numbers. It is likely that Nike had to make concessions in bringing the changes “to market” so to speak, and concentrated on other styles, on which the 2024 changes were more noticeable.

Early inside information as of this writing (July 2025) tells us that the 2026 on-field jerseys will return wholly to the 2023 configuration. The Nike VPE template with its narrow placket and smaller team wordmarks with their often odd splits will be abandoned. The Flex Base template returns,complete with its vented side panels and vented tail. We will need to wait to see if tackle twill will return; though we expect the Nike style flat-finished twill will remain.

Here, Mets 2024 at top and 2025 “retro-revision” at bottom. Top 2024 features smaller front numbers that are a different than traditional, .Numbers front and back are micro-perforated, player names are in a much smaller font and are more steeply arched. Sleeve patches are lighter embroidered versions. In short, the 2025 jerseys apply the 2023 style lettering and patches to the new Nike VPE jersey template with the different fabric and narrower placket.

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Nike "Authentic" and Replica Jersey Marketing Focus to Fans

While Nike might be a clothing manufacturer, above all they are an expert in marketing and branding... and that's why this topic is included. Nike's ability to make money from selling an image is their forte, and in taking over the MLB contract from Majestic, they were ready to go right to work.

Unfortunately, they were interrupted by the global pandemic of 2020, which disrupted the supply chain badly for an extended time, making it hard for manufacturers to obtain raw materials, and difficult to distribute finished goods to buyers. Adding to the upheaval, MLB banned fans from stadiums in 2020 completely, causing a bizarre season of baseball. Nike's planned changes were put on hold, finally blooming onto the field in 2024, at least two years after they were planned.

As an avid industry observer with a long professional career in marketing behind me, I will make these personal observations:

1) **Nike wanted to differentiate itself on the field from Majestic, shaking things up whether the teams and fans wanted these changes or not**. Adding the "Nike Image" to MLB was more than just displaying their swoosh on the jerseys' fronts (hidden on a sleeve end was so passé...) The goal was building a brand that would allow millions of dollars in additional revenue to flow from fans' wallets to Nike's bottom line, and to enrich MLB.

The Phillies Stadium Store at Philadelphia's Citizen Bank Park, photo by Bill Henderson

2) **Nike recognized the loss of licensed revenue from the immense intrusion of counterfeit, unlicensed MLB gear from overseas flooding the market.** Generally fans did not seem to care if what they were buying was the real thing or a Chinese copy, as long as their team's name was on it. Nike surely employs more lawyers than designers, and protecting their brand is their primary focus, and they were prepared to do battle with the counterfeiters, First, they would make their product ever-changing, innovative and harder to copy. But behind the scenes they were ready to fight by raiding illicit operations, seizing and destroying product, and frightening distributors into abandonment.

3) **Nike realized that fans are sensitive to "price points" and created new lines of product that were aimed at these price points.** They realized that only a small segment of customers really cared about buying the actual on-field jerseys, and stopped trying to market these Authentic Collection jerseys at a reasonable price point. The retail price of their new pro line rocketed into the stratosphere, pricing a pro-lettered on-field jersey in the $400-500 range. They instead created their own "Nike Limited" tier of jerseys with intentionally similar tagging that only an expert would notice as different. These cheaper jerseys look almost exactly like the

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The Phillies Stadium Store at Philadelphia's Citizen Bank Park, photos by Bill Henderson

on-field items, but are made of different fabric and are missing details like perforated numbers (2024), and stitched, layered lettering. They also have a feature attractive to fans and that is they are tailored to be worn untucked and are shorter in length. One of the common complaints about the on-field Nike jerseys is how long they are; they look unappealingly like ladies skirts when worn untucked by fans. On the next page is an overview of the three price points of the Nike jersey offerings.

4) Realizing that there was a limited market for selling teams' static home/road/alternate jerseys, Nike was not satisfied with the thought of selling a few extra jerseys to the devoted fan base with the occasional St. Patrick's day green jersey or throwback jerseys worn in a single game. They recognized the failure of the pink and blue Mother's and Father's Day jerseys (and their ilk) for other single-day holidays. Few people purchased the annual Players' Weekend jerseys. Instead, they needed to jazz things up with a major new idea, and this is where the City Connect jersey idea came from; where apparently it had worked for Nike in supplying the NBA where fashion and glitz seemed more important than tradition. Now, in this book we tried to avoid becoming overly controversial and judgmental, but purist would certainly say that this was not something that was on anybody's minds in baseball. Creating special jerseys for every team that somehow "connected them to the city that they were in" seemed to us like a silly idea, after all what was more deeply connected to New York than a Yankees jersey, or a traditional Red Sox jersey in Boston? Nike thought otherwise. In waves they began introducing garishly colored City Connect jerseys that many people shook their heads at with displeased wonder. But the goal was to sell merchandise— a lot of it— to a new generation of fans. Teams wearing City Connect jerseys once a week when they are at home became the standard. Further, the plan was for City Connect jerseys to change on a regular basis to new and fresh designs, every three years. It's hard to see this as anything other than a way to generate revenue from selling merchandise. Purists cringed, but the marketing drumbeat went on. Through 2025 nearly every team had succumbed to City Connect with the exception of the Oakland/Sacramento/Las Vegas A's (owing to their transitional status), and New York Yankees who have steadfastly resisted introducing one of their own. Considering that the Yankees have knuckled under to every other change, including allowing a manufacturers logo on their chest, wearing silly Players' Weekend jerseys, and adding a sponsorship patch to their sleeve, I wonder how long that holdout will last…

On the next few pages, and throughout this book, we will detail the changes to the on-field Nike jersey template for 2024, known pretentiously as Vapor Premier Elite (VPE). It would be an understatement to say that it was poorly received by everyone. It looked and felt cheap, and the players complained about many aspects of the new uniforms. We

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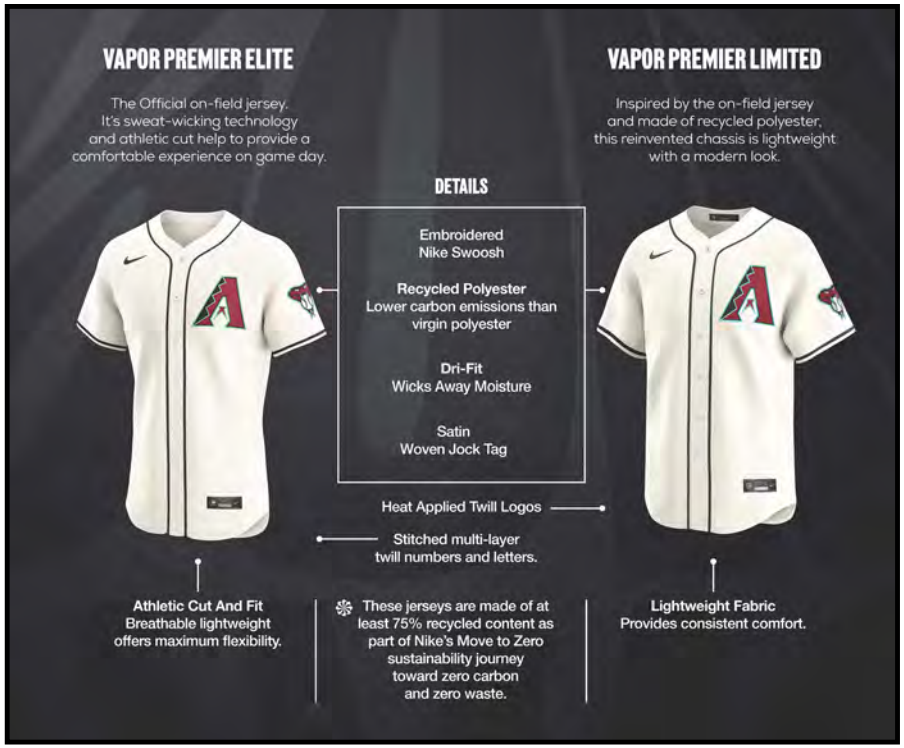
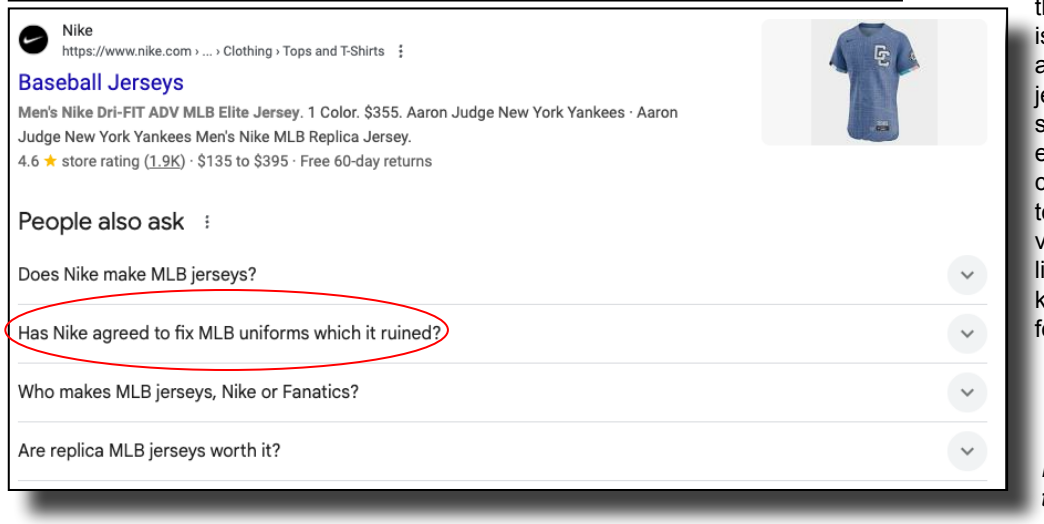


believe that Nike completely underestimated the importance placed by legions of fans on the traditions of major league baseball and by making wholesale changes that they did, they certainly gave themselves a major-league black eye. Reading form all of the forums on-line, the amount of venom and vitriol directed at Nike from fans and players was shocking.

Major-league baseball went back to Nike and demanded changes. Those changes happened quickly, 2025 saw the abandonment of the perforated numbers, and the tiny and steeply arched player names and smaller numbers. Reportedly by 2026 all jerseys will return to the former Majestic-designed Flex Base jersey template. Nike's CEO was fired at the end of 2024, the reason cited in the press was overall damage to the brand that had been caused under his tenure. I'm sure that the reasons go beyond what happened in Major League Baseball but it's hard to imagine that it was not a major contributor to his downfall.

As of 2025, Nike offers three grades/price points for licensed MLB jerseys

Before we begin, this is all somewhat confusing and I believe it is intentionally such. Nike does not clearly distinguish between these offerings on its own sales pages on the MLB.com store website. When searching "*Buy Nike MLB jersey*" on Google, I have found that the search brings the customer automatically to the MIDDLE grade jersey, (confusingly) called the "Limited". From there, the knowledgeable buyer can opt "up" to the "Vapor Elite" on-field authentic (but it takes some real effort to find these, they are almost hidden on the product listings pages and there is certainly no concerted effort to push you towards buying one), and the price-conscious buyer can drop down to the "Replica" jersey which is more easily found. I would suggest that this is the same marketing strategy as employed for expensive watches or elite perfumes, just as with these, there is no attempt to sell the customer on the high-priced and rare product by shamelessly touting its benefits. All the elite product "features" are somewhat vaguely referenced and cost unjustified, and the product is priced like caviar, without apologies. The strategy: "If you know, you know. If you don't know or care, we have something cheaper just for you, don't waste your time, and come right this way..."



I cannot resist sharing this Google search result that I got when today I searched "Nike MLB Jersey" (highlight is mine).

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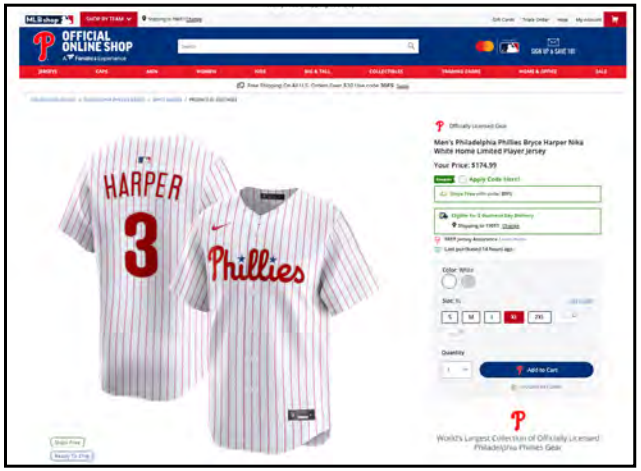

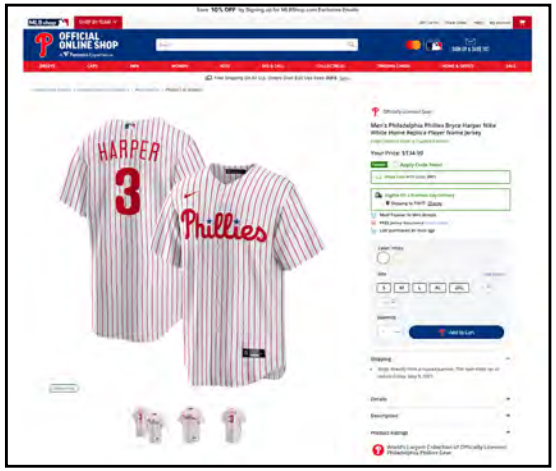

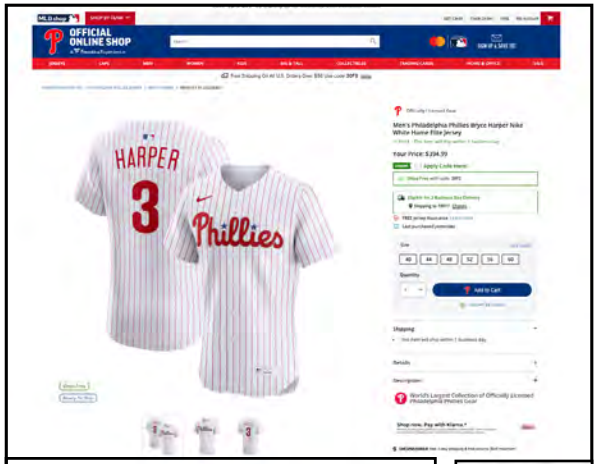

Let's look at these in the same order of priority that Nike markets/promotes them.

"Nike Limited" the medium priced product: - This is the one they expect/hope you will buy. Priced at $179.99, it features lettering that is may be multi layered but has printed on stitching and is generally sewn on with a single course of zig zag thread that is there more for show than anything. Sleeve patches and front numbers (if used by the team) are present. The fabric is not the same as on field, but it is still a tech fabric only slightly thinner. The Nike tag on the front tail and the swoosh on the chest looks almost identical to the on-field jersey. They are tailored shorter to make them better to wear untucked. Make no mistake: this is the primary offering…there are rack and racks of these for sale in the pro shop at the ballpark. To the uneducated (95% of consumers) they recognize no difference at all between what the players wear and these replicas. And they are surely not "cheap": at this price point they are not something that someone would carelessly buy like a T-shirt. People buying this product assume they are getting something special.

"Nike Replica" - Well, if the "Limited" is too pricey for you, we can get you into one of these for just $134.95. Such a bargain. Notably, this is the only

jersey that Nike supplies close-up photo details of the features on the MLB.com website, surely to convince you that it *really is* a high-quality product. Lettering is heat applied with pretend printed on stitching, front numbers and patches if on the on-field jerseys, may be omitted on this product line. Cloth is decidedly thinner. Nike logo is a decal, heat pressed and prominent on the chest. These jerseys are sold at the stadium pro shop, but are also available widely at department stores and other retailers. They are typical "fan jerseys"

"Nike Vapor Elite"- the on-field version for people who *really* want one: Phillies version is priced on-line at $394.99. Even at the ballpark Authentic Shop, you have to go searching for these. They are not out front on display. Most people will choke on the price and turn away. While the details will be covered in the pages that follow, these are aimed at fans who absolutely *must* have what the players wear on the

field and have the funds to buy one.
This is a very small percentage of customers. In some ways they are not ideal to wear as sportswear, notably the dress-like length is something that is unappealing to potential buyers. And as much as fans complain, some people will shell out the 100%+ greater price differential to have something exclusive. Consider, both a Rolex and a Timex tell you what time it is, but only one of them tells people you are special.

One thing we notice is that these Nike photos of all three grades look exactly alike on-line! Notably, they are not selling features as much as they are setting price points. And frankly, this is the way people buying these goods most often make their purchase decisions: Start them in the middle and let them step up or step down to the product that fits their wallet.

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Side By Side, Nike Vapor Elite and Nike Limited

Consider the price differential first--- around $375 for the Vapor Elite (VPE/on field) to $179 for the Limited (top tier replica). Here, a close side by side examination of these two Angels 2022 City Connect jerseys show the differences that might cause you to wonder why one is more than twice the price of the other. In each photo the Vapor Elite is on the left.

Top left and Right: Look first at the differences in the jersey body fabric: they are not the same. Close examination shows the VPE has layered twill that is stitched around its edges. Nike “swoosh” is a thick embroidered and sewn on patch. Limited jersey a twill applique that is heat pressed and treated to an edge stitch that really isn’t for any other purpose than making it appear to be sewn. Below left, Here is an example of the tagging side-by-side. They are almost identical, and it’s not a mistake. Nike is trying to sell the replica jerseys, in fact it’s very hard to get an authentic, and it typically costs three times as much as a replica. Look at the far left of the tag for the only real difference between the two. The writing and the silver bar is embroidered on the authentic jersey, and it’s all printed in silver ink on the replica. On the left, this authentic jersey is a team issue therefore it has a barcode authentication tag from Major League Baseball. Not all VPE authentics will have this tag.

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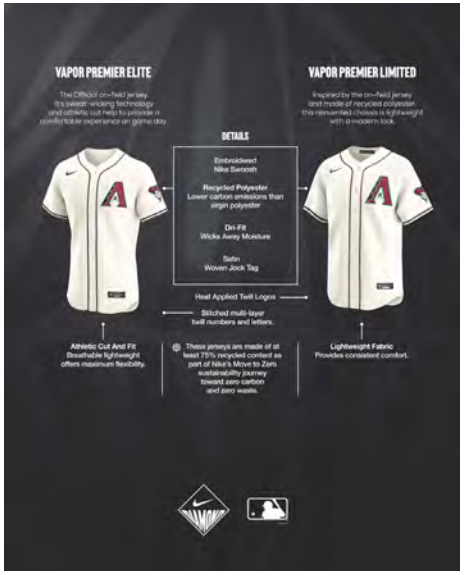
In this picture the replica is on the top. It has a tag stitched in the neck, the VPE authentic one does not.

The VPE authentic on the right has a textured shiny, ribbed neck patch. The one on the right is printed and is flat

The patches are not identical but only slightly different, note that the text on the replica is a little bolder than on the VPE. The replica on the right has the patch heat pressed on only, the authentic has a zigzag stitch around the edge. Patches are one of the things that Nike caught heat for, and on regular issue game jerseys, embroidered patches returned for 2025. City Connect jerseys seem to be in their own orbit and appear mostly stay the same throughout their run.



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The authentic on the right has standard major league jersey style buttons. The replica on the left has white plastic buttons.

The sleeve stripes seem to be very similar on both. They are sublimated into the fabric. The authentic will include sleeve patches; while in the recent past Majestic Replica jersey omitted sleeve patches and front numbers (when used), Nike Limited jerseys include both details. In this case, the Nike Limited jersey is without the sponsorship sleeve patch; it may have been produced before the sponsorship deal was finalized.

The VPE authentic's tag with the style code 0890 on it is found on the right. The replica has a long tag with washing instructions in multiple languages printed on it, on the left.

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Trim: Knit Sleeve Ends and Neck Opening

Nothing in MLB screams “1970s” quite like a tight pullover knit jersey with colorful, super-wide (3”) multi-striped sleeve end trim complimented by banded stretchy knit neck trim. The Pirates’ mid-1970 switch to knit jerseys concurrent with their move to the sparkling new multi-purpose Three Rivers Stadium (another icon of the 1970s) was the first time MLB had seen this look. Triple striped elastic sleeve ends were soon copied by the Baltimore Orioles, the St. Louis Cardinals, the Minnesota Twins and then by nearly half the teams in baseball by the middle of the decade. A few tradition minded teams, like the 1970s Yankees, Tigers and Dodgers, never deviated from their traditional button-front, no trim and no gimmicks looks on home jerseys, but all three have experimented with knit sleeve end trim on their road jerseys.

The added trim gave a place to show contrasting team colors in a bold way especially since the pullover’s removal of the button front placket had eliminated the need for the traditional colorful striped trim many teams used on either sides of the buttonholes.

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By the mid 1980s teams began to return to a more traditional look, some making the knit trim much narrower and more restrained (1983 Giants, 1987 Royals).

Others eliminated it entirely and went back to traditional looks of button fronts and soutache or sewn-on knit trim (1987 Braves) or even went entirely trim-less (1987 Twins).

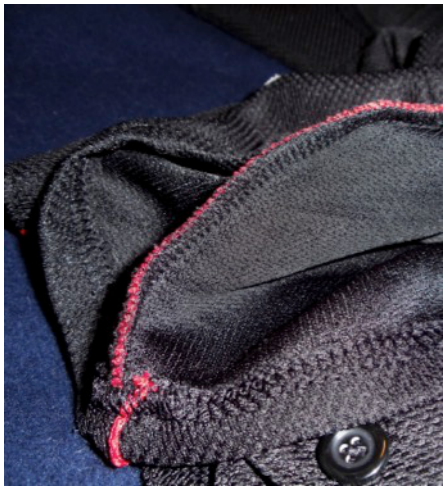
Today, narrow knit sleeve trim remains as a tasteful element for just a few teams, either on home or road jerseys (or both) including the 2015 Phillies, White Sox, Blue Jays and Yankees. It is also used on all teams' versions of the 2014-2016 family of Majestic Batting Jerseys.

(Above) Restrained white/red/white striped knit sleeve end trim has been a part of the Phillies' road jersey since 1992.

(Above) Comparing the 2 ½" sleeve-end knit trim on a 1984 Royals road jersey with the 1" version on the 1988 jersey.

Trim: Piping, Soutache and Sewn-on Knit Trim

The names of the different kinds of trim on jerseys is often misrepresented in common use, and your author will admit a shame-faced role in perpetuating the incorrect use of terms in prior editions of this book. For this edition I have revised my terminology throughout to agree with the community of dressmakers, tailors and seamstresses the world over.



(Top row): Piping. (Bottom Row): Soutache

Piping: In strict sewing terms, piping is a flat or cylindrical braid that is *sewn directly INTO seams* from the back, so that it is visible in a thin line when the sewn fabric is turned right side out. In reality, the use of this technique in MLB jerseys is rare, and "piping" is routinely used incorrectly to describe the thin single color placket trim such as that on the front of a Detroit Tigers home jersey.

An example of piping on a MLB jersey is found in the shoulder seams of the 2003-2006 family of Majestic Batting Practice Jerseys (shown).

True piping cannot be removed from a garment without taking the seams apart.

Soutache: is a special style of single-color cord that is fine silky thread woven around a skinny rope. It is a holdover from the flannel era, and is used into the late 1980s by a very few teams like the Detroit Tigers and Boston Red Sox before it is supplanted by the more durable knit trim that looks nearly the same. . It is less durable than knit trim, and fades and frays in heavy use. It is sewn on top of the fabric, and can be removed by simply carefully cutting the stitching that holds it in place.

Typical soutache fraying on a heavily used Detroit Tigers home jersey

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Sewn-on Knit Trim: This is the flat, single and multi-colored striped knit trim that is so common on most teams' jerseys. It is sewn ON, and can be removed simply by cutting the stitching that holds it in place.* This narrow sewn-on knit trim is in the same family as the wide side stripes sewn on some teams' uniforms, especially down the sides of pants. That's the same stuff, only wider.

Single color red knit trim that mimics the old style soutache, but is more durable

From left to right, 2003 Montreal Expos Turn Back the Clock, 2013 Pittsburgh Pirates black alternate, 1993 Baltimore Orioles, 2013 San Diego Padres blue alternate, 2001 White Sox Sunday Nostalgia Jersey, 1999 Cincinnati Reds Road Vest. All use knit trim, slightly different in configuration and placement.

Trim: Set-in vs. Sewn-on Knit Trim

(Left, top) A Phillies jersey of the 1970s with sewn-on knit trim laid next to one from the 1980s with set-in knit trim. The difference is obvious only from the back. (Above, right) 1980s Mets and Expos with signature wide sewn-in "Racing Stripes"

This last category of trim has been used by relatively few teams. Set-in knit trim defines when the knit side trim is not sewn on top of, but instead is sewn between jersey panels as an integral element of construction. It was used in the early 1980s at the height of the side-racing-stripe period that lasted only a few years. Some examples of set-in knit trim are shown here. Similar to piping, set-in knit trim cannot be removed without taking the jersey completely apart.

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Tackle Twill Lettering

Tackle Twill is a tough, nylon-based fabric originally patented by R. J. Liebe (www.liebe.com) the same company that today still produces the lettering and twills used by many pro and amateur sports teams of every kind. Tackle Twill was originally used to make football pants, thus its name. It has become the standard material for lettering team jerseys beginning during the 1960s, replacing wool-based felt.

Twill is very thin, very strong, resistant to shrinking or fraying, can be produced in many bright colors, and retains its colors even when washed many times. Generally the garment to which it is sewn will fall apart and the stitching that attaches the twill to the garment will fail long before the twill itself wears out.

It is available in dozens of standard colors and patterns like glitter (as used by many teams in the 90s and 2000s and still some today) and glacier (as used by the Mets for many years, it has a repeating "V" pattern woven in).

While today it is normally cut using a computer-driven machine like the *Ioline 300 series*, or more sophisticated laser or water-jet cutting machines, it can also be easily cut with scissors or a matte knife. It is normally adhesive backed, and when several colored layers are cut they are tacked together with a heat press, then the layers usually stitched together prior to sewing the lettering on the jersey with a zigzag stitch.

Twill lettering can also usually be removed if care is taken, allowing team jerseys to be renumbered when necessary.

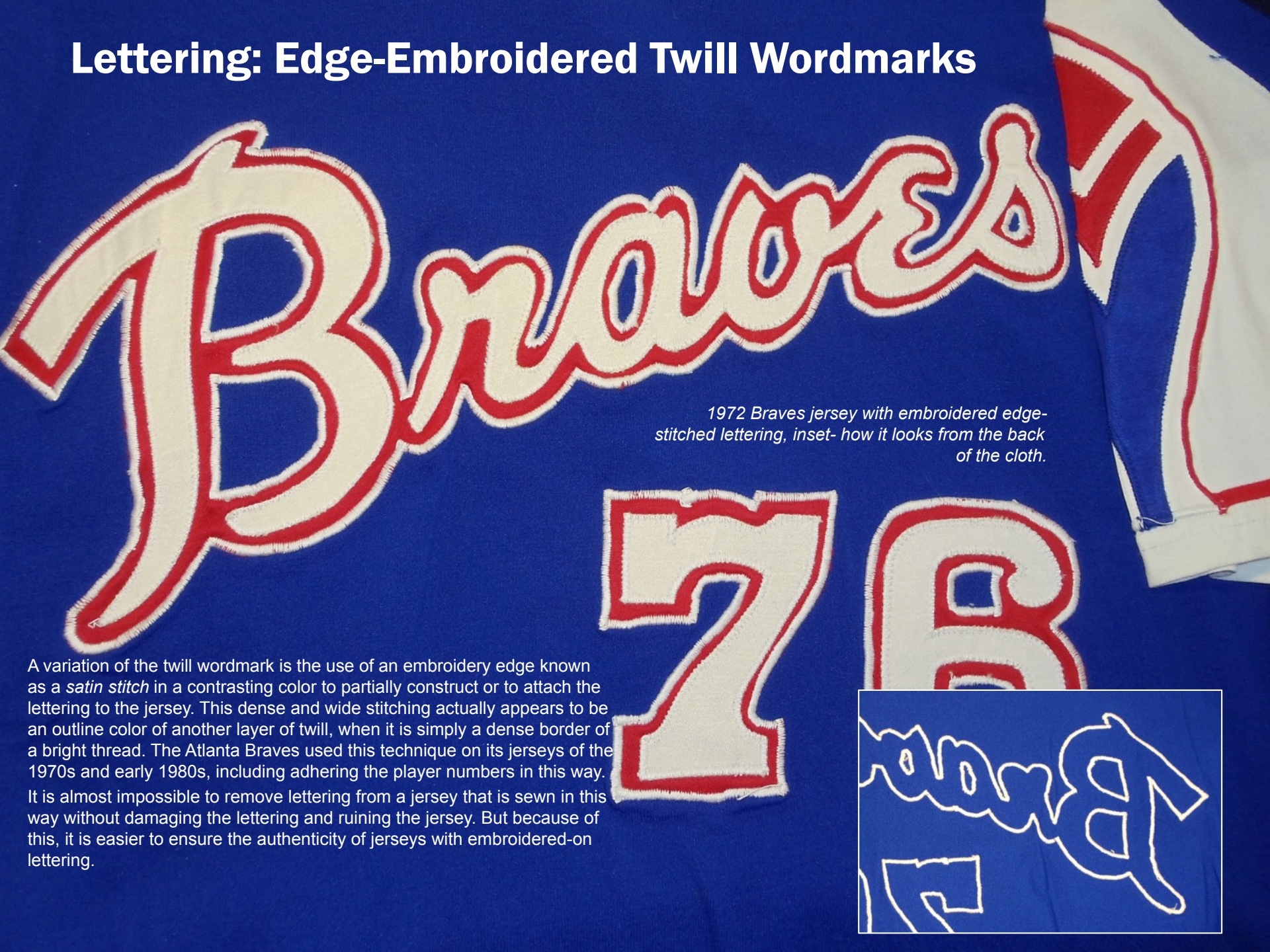
There are 84 different and unique swatches of twill on this sample ring! (Courtesy Liebe/Webster Fabric)

Lettering: Front Wordmark, Layered Twill

There is little that is as important to a team's appearance as its front wordmark. A team's uniform wordmark is its identity: it is the consistent way that the team is identified to the world. One of the most common questions I am asked is along the lines of "What font is the Orioles team logo in? I want to make my softball/fantasy team uniforms like that." The answer is, nearly all team wordmarks are the work of talented graphic artists and are not made using a standard font that can be found on a computer or in a book. There are a few exceptions: notably road jerseys from teams like the Yankees, 1980s Red Sox or the mid-80s Mets, where a "Block" style font almost identical to those used for player name-on-back lettering is used.

Wordmarks are almost always made of layered tackle twill, adhered to the garment first with adhesive, then sewn with a very small zigzag stitch around the edge to the uniform front. Sometimes all the layers are sewn one by one straight through to the jersey, affixing the logo very firmly indeed, allowing it to survive hundreds of requisite washings in its life.

Lettering: Edge-Embroidered Twill Wordmarks



1972 Braves jersey with embroidered edge-stitched lettering, inset- how it looks from the back of the cloth.

A variation of the twill wordmark is the use of an embroidery edge known as a *satin stitch* in a contrasting color to partially construct or to attach the lettering to the jersey. This dense and wide stitching actually appears to be an outline color of another layer of twill, when it is simply a dense border of a bright thread. The Atlanta Braves used this technique on its jerseys of the 1970s and early 1980s, including adhering the player numbers in this way.

It is almost impossible to remove lettering from a jersey that is sewn in this way without damaging the lettering and ruining the jersey. But because of this, it is easier to ensure the authenticity of jerseys with embroidered-on lettering.

Lettering: Chain Stitched Wordmarks

The last type of wordmark uses chain-stitch embroidery, either embroidered directly onto the jersey fabric (like the Cardinals and 2000s Astros) or embroidered first onto twill (or earlier, felt) patches that are then sewn to the jersey (Phillies 1992 and after.)

Chain stitch needlework can be beautiful and rich in appearance, even looking three-dimensional when the depth and thread stitching direction is skillfully varied. However, it is very time consuming to accomplish, and the machines that do the embroidery are very complex and expensive. It takes Majestic more than three times as long to make a Cardinals jersey as it does for any other team. But today's technology is allowing smaller machines powered by simple consumer computers to do what only professional machines could do before. I am surprised at the recent number of Asian knock-off jerseys that have things like sleeve patches and the back-of-the-neck Silhouetted Batter incorrectly direct embroidered to these garments.

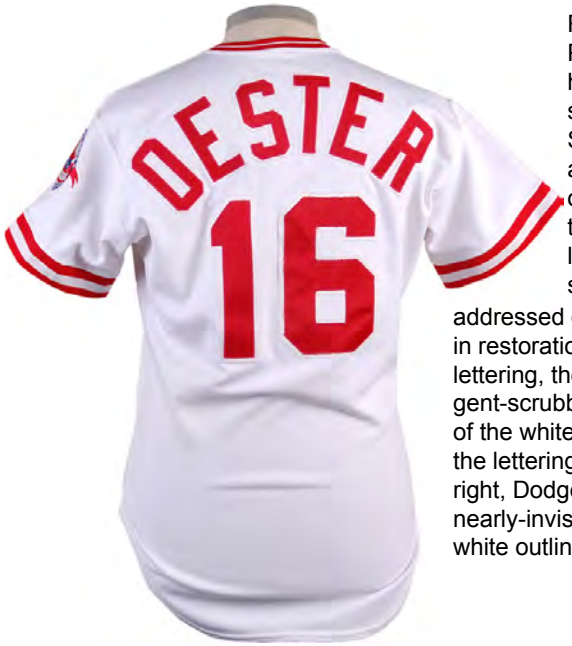
For comparison, 2001 Authentic Astros jersey with layered twill wordmark paired with 2009 model which had switched to chain-stitch. Inset photo shows how the stitching looks from the back of the fabric.

Functional Two Layer “White over White” Lettering

During the 1970s-1990s several teams added a white outline layer beneath the bright colored player name and number lettering that was sewn on their home white uniforms. The white outlines on the white jerseys were all but invisible on the field, and some have wondered why teams like the Reds, Dodgers, and Phillies would have gone to the expensive trouble of adding a seemingly unnecessary complicating and time consuming sewing step to the creation of player uniforms.

The answer was revealed to us when talking to some of our stitcher contacts in MLB. It was actually done to save money in the long run..

The long-standing practice in MLB had always been to strip and re-issue uniforms of traded players to new ones, and to send used uniforms to the minors for more use. For years, the clubhouse workers and local sewing shop operators were faced with the task of stripping the old names and numbers from the jerseys for re-use. But heat, glue, wash detergents and wear almost always caused the colors of the twill numbers to run and stain the nylon fabric of the jerseys, requiring lots of bleach and scrubbing to fade the stains enough to make the jerseys presentable for reuse. As the cost of labor rose, basic economics meant it was actually less expensive for the team to sew an extra boundary layer of white that would prohibit the dye transfer from the colored twill to the jersey and make them easier to strip for reuse. Now you know!



Reds jerseys like Paul Blair’s 1979 home issue often show major staining. Starting in 1985 they added a border layer of white as shown on the Oester jersey at left. Top right, typical staining addressed on Weaver jersey in restoration by removal of the lettering, then aggressive detergent-scrubbing and bleaching of the white fabric, then sewing the lettering back on. Bottom right, Dodgers began adding a nearly-invisible but functional white outline in 1980.

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Lettering: Heat Transfer (and “Screened On”)

Heat-transfer vinyl lettering or direct-screened on lettering is a relatively uncommon on MLB team-used jerseys. It was used briefly in the 1970s and 1980s on Batting Practice jerseys, and by the Houston Astros for their wordmark and star, and then just the star for a while. Heat-transfer player name and number lettering returned briefly on the Majestic BP jerseys of 2007-2010. It looked OK, but teams slowly began returning to twill back lettering, and all had reverted to twill by 2011.

Vinyl lettering is die cut on a Mylar backing, and then heat pressed in place.

Screened lettering (or “Silk Screened”) is done with ink and a squeegee that is dragged across the surface of a screen, depositing a thin layer of ink on the garment, or instead screening the design onto a filmy backing paper that is then flipped over and applied to the garment with a heat press. If you’ve ever gone to a souvenir T-Shirt shop, you know what this is, and I don’t think I need to describe it further.

Interestingly, the very first MLB team batting jerseys are attributed to the 1972 White Sox, who screened red team logos and numbers on white mesh shirts. When Mitchell & Ness recreated these in the 1990s, they used sewn twill, as they believed that buyers would see screened on logos as a cheap substitute for the real thing, and they would not sell!

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Lettering: Single-Layer Printed “Applique” Twill Wordmarks

Single layer printed twill with simulated printed-on stitching

Multi-layer sewn twill with embroidered compass mark

(Far left) 2016 Seattle Mariners home jersey wordmark close-up at left is a Replica, with single layer printed twill. The only course of stitching that is real is the outermost (green) one. All the other stitching is simulated; printed on. (Near left) Authentic jerseys have sewn, multi-layer twill and embroidered appliques. In this case, the silver layer is a metallic twill.

This book does not focus on MLB Replica jerseys, the retail grade merchandise (often called, confusingly “Authentic Replica” and “Authentic Merchandise”) that is approximately half the price and much more commonly sold to the public. A major difference between replica jerseys and on-field models is that all the lettering on Replicas is single-layer twill, with all the colors printed on. Even the color-dividing edge stitching is printed on for simulated realism. The only actual stitching is the outermost layer, where the twill is sewn to the jersey itself. Less material, less labor, less time, less cost.

(Far left, top) Authentic on-field Phillies Jersey uses a chain stitched wordmark. The Retail Replica shown immediately beneath uses single layer, printed applique twill, also shown in the close-up near left.

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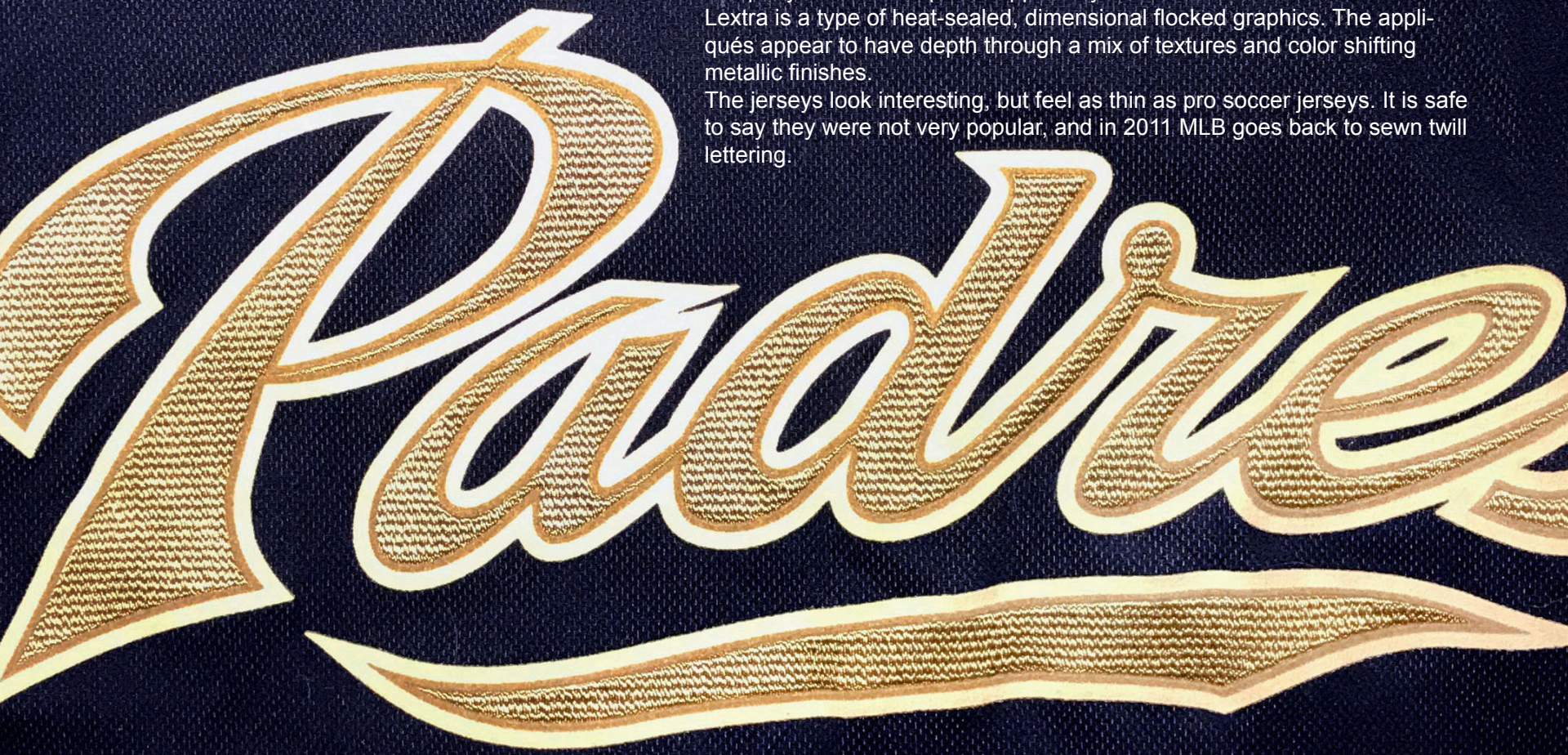
Wordmarks on 2007-2010 BPs

In an effort to make warmup garments as lightweight as possible, the 2007-2010 official MLB Batting Practice jerseys were made of an extremely lightweight tech-fabric. These jerseys are noticeably lighter in weight than prior mesh or the first generation moisture wicking fabrics of the 2003-2006 BP jerseys. Also new, all team wordmarks on the fronts of these jerseys and the lettering on back are made of a synthetic material called Lextra, by the company Fibrelok Corp. It is applied by a method called *Electrotransfer*. Lextra is a type of heat-sealed, dimensional flocked graphics. The appliqués appear to have depth through a mix of textures and color shifting metallic finishes.

The jerseys look interesting, but feel as thin as pro soccer jerseys. It is safe to say they were not very popular, and in 2011 MLB goes back to sewn twill lettering.



Making Team Uniform Lettering the Old Fashioned Way

Today, we have become so accustomed to computers and high-tech automation making everything from pizzas to pool tables that it wouldn't occur to most people to think about how player uniform ornamentation was created in the years before computer automation.

Imagine a set of heavy duty "cookie cutters" with sharp leading edges, meant to be laid on top of a many sheets of twill and then pressed using a hydraulic ram to cut through the layers leaving perfectly formed letters to sew. Or, in smaller operation, these types of dies could be used to cut a single layer of twill by laying them onto the cloth and striking them with a wooden mallet from the rear.

The result are perfectly trimmed, instantly created twill letters created without the need for a fancy laser computer cutter, or even a pair of scissors.

The photos on these two pages are courtesy of Paul Lukas who had the opportunity to visit the Liebe facilities some years ago (www.liebe.com) a company with a long legacy, as the inventor of tackle twill fabric and for creating much of MLB's uniform lettering and other ornamentation.

At right top are the cutters for Wilson Varsity numbers as used on the front of Tigers uniforms (among others). You can see the cutters marked as "4" and whether they are the top or bottom layer. The "Correct-Incorrect" paper in the drawer shows how to distinguish the 6 from a 9.

At bottom are the cutters for the New York Mets front wordmark, in three colors as used on the 1988-1992 road jerseys. Notice how the dies are stored cutting edge facing down in the wood lined case, protecting both the cutting edges and workers' fingertips from damage.

Often, only the main color of the lettering was die-cut, the top layer was adhered to a backing color, then the outlines were cut by hand, and by eye, one letter or digit at a time. One of our contributors who worked for a shop that supplied the Orioles in the 1980s joked that, just looking at Orioles two-color lettered jerseys made his right hand involuntarily cramp up.

Paul Lukas photos, this page and next through the courtesy of R. J. Liebe Company, Chesterfield, MO,

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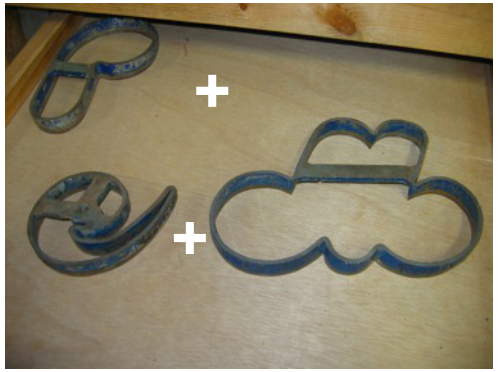
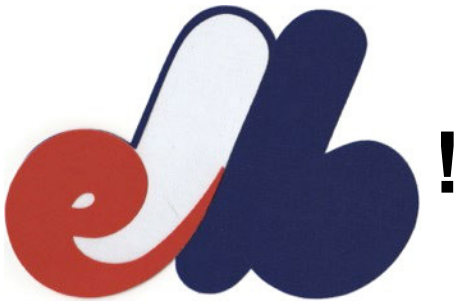
On this page are front wordmark designs and cutting dies that were part of the production of the authentic jerseys of the 1969-1985 Montreal Expos and the 1974 1986 Braves. They are owned by the historic Liebe Company that created and used them, in Chesterfield Missouri, a suburb of St. Louis. Shops that made jerseys in production volumes were very likely to use this old “cookie cutter” method. Making the dies was an expensive job left to a toolmaker, and this was low tech but highly effective way to make many sets of identical lettering for production use.

Shops that do a lot of custom lettering for multiple teams may use exclusively computer-driven cutters. Small shops may even still use paper patterns and a sharp pair of scissors, but this is surely becoming much more rare,

Patsy Elmer of Big Time Jerseys told Paul Lukas: (www.uniwatch.com, October 27, 2010) “I could identify with the White Sox ‘Wild West’ letters looking like they were cut by hand. When we did the old-style Phoenix Suns jerseys (1970s), we used patterns made of paper with tiny holes poked through to create the design of the letter/number. We laid this ‘pattern’ over the fabric and dusted it with a powder, which would fall through the tiny holes to create our cutting line. After we cut them out, they were pressed onto the next color of tackle twill, sewn, and then the second color was hand-cut. It was all done by hand in those days. In fact, my old employer didn’t get an Ioline cutter until just two years ago (2008).”





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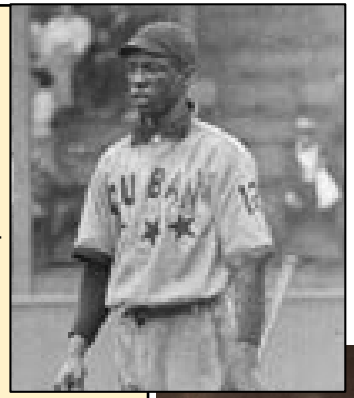
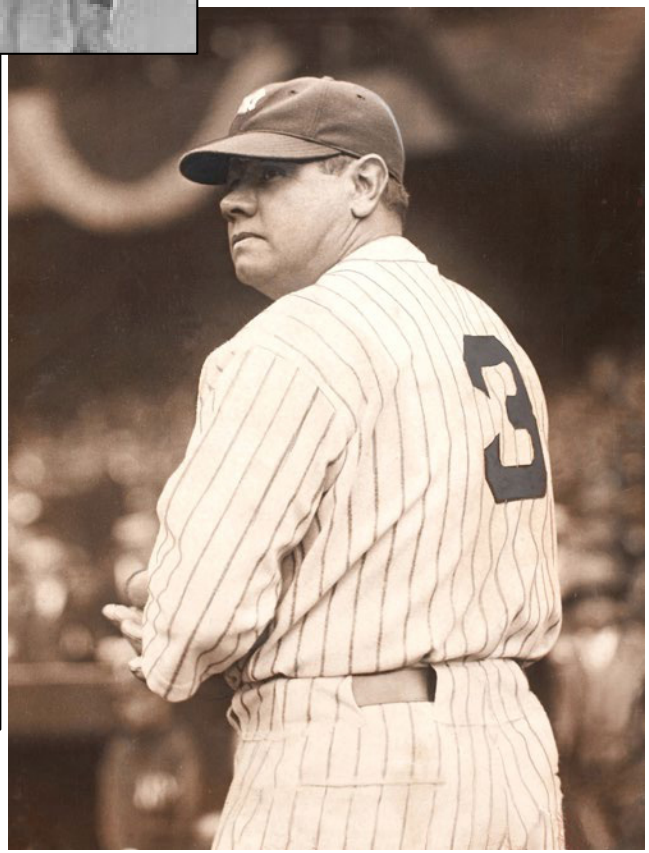
A Short History of Player Jersey Numbers

The below is excepted from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Rumor has it that the uniform number first appeared in the 19th century, but the earliest official record is from 1907, when the Reading Red Roses of the Atlantic League numbered its players' jerseys in an effort to help the fans identify them. While it is unknown if the team ever took the field with numbers, it did mark the beginning of the idea of uniform numbers. The uniform number appeared on the jerseys of the Cuban Stars, a traveling team of the early 1900s, in 1909. In an issue of the Chicago Daily News, star pitcher Jose Mendez is seen wearing the number 12 on his left sleeve.



Left: Jose Mendez of the 1909 Cuban Stars, seen with a uniform number on his left sleeve. Below, Babe Ruth first wears a number for the 1929 New York Yankees, who along with the Cleveland Indians the first teams in baseball to adopt player numbers for the 1929 season.



The first time a Major League team wore numbers was on June 26, 1916. Inspired by football's and hockey's use of numbers, the Cleveland Indians trotted on their home field wearing large numbers on their left sleeves. This "experiment" was tried for a few weeks, again the next season, and then abandoned. In 1923, the St. Louis Cardinals adopted uniform numbers on their sleeves. However, as then-manager Branch Rickey recalled, the Cardinals' players were "subjected to field criticism from the stands and especially from opposing players," so the numbers were removed. At this time, the Indianapolis ABC's of the Negro National League and the San Antonio Bears of the Texas League also tried out numbers.

In 1929, the New York Yankees were planning to start the season with uniform numbers on the back of the jersey. The Indians also planned to wear numbers in this fashion. The Yankees were rained out on opening day, April 16, while the Indians played, making Cleveland the first MLB franchise to wear numbers on the back. The Yankees debuted their numbered jerseys the following day. By the mid-1930s, all MLB teams wore numbers; in 1937 the Philadelphia Athletics finally began wearing numbers on both home and away jerseys, making numbers a universal trait in the MLB. The first MLB game to feature both teams wearing numbers on their jerseys was the game between the Indians and the Yankees on May 13, 1929.

Link for the full article with citations: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uniform_number_(Major_League_Baseball)

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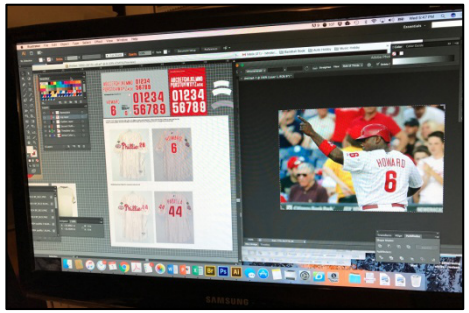
Lettering Game Jerseys: The Traditional Steps

There are six distinct steps in lettering player jerseys

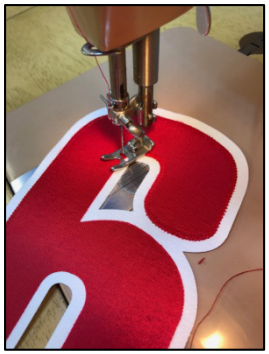


1) Using my own digitized version of the Phillies 1992-2020 player name and number fonts, I created a two-layer pattern in Adobe Illustrator. This is vector art, not an image. The computer can send this design to a cutting machine to cut the two layers simultaneously perfectly from a sandwich of tackle twill. Here, we'll show the colors cut separately for clarity and old-time's sake.

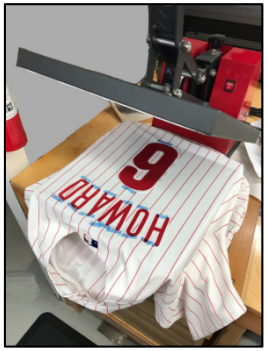
2) Al left, here is the red layer, newly cut on the *Ioline 301*. The larger white outline layer will go on the bottom, with the red layer pressed on top. This is called "Layered Twill," and is the exact way MLB jerseys were made for all the years before 2016. For designs with many outlines (some teams use as many as four layers) this can create a rather thick "sandwich" by the time we are done.

Today, almost this entire process as performed at the factory is automated. But since we are focused on history here, I thought it helpful to go through how this process was performed in the quaint days starting in the late 1980s, and on through today in smaller shops, like mine. Reasonably priced computer automation is available as a valuable assist. Follow along here as we letter a blank 2008 Phillies jersey from my collection.

3) The layers must be pre-heated and flattened, then carefully stacked and aligned, with a good eye and a steady hand. Once perfectly aligned, the industrial heat press activates the adhesive on the back of the twill and fuses the layers together for sewing



4) The two layers of each letter are sewn together before positioning them on the jersey.



5) The sewn-together design is carefully positioned on the jersey and tacked in place with spray glue, a tacky overlay or heat resistant tape and is heat-pressed in place.

6) Back again to the sewing machine, we stitch completely around the edges of every letter.

The finished product!

These three links show computer-driven twill cutting in action. The first two show the older technology knife-blade based cutter; the third shows laser cutting, which is how practically everything is done today.

Kiss Cutting a lightweight twill player name
Layer-Cutting a Team wordmark
Cutting lettering with a laser

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Using the correct patterns

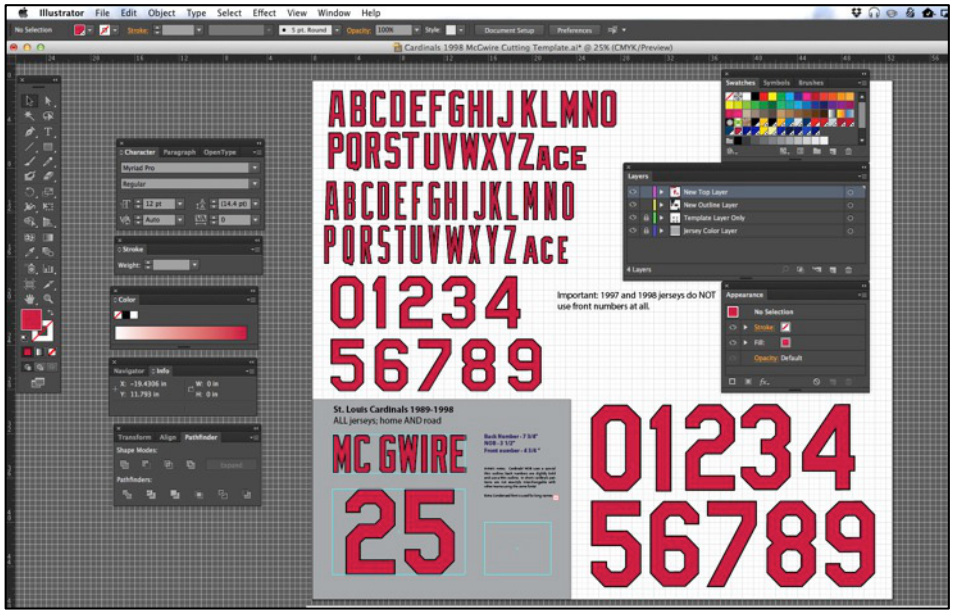
1990s and later: Player jersey numbers and names are cut from tackle twill using team-approved patterns that are very precise and are unique, team to team. For example, several teams that use the same basic lettering font will have variations in the sizes of their lettering, and their own preferences for the exact thicknesses of outlines, and rules as to whether they use a condensed typeface for players with longer names… or not.

The patterns are created and stored in computer vector graphics files (created in a program like Adobe Illustrator) and the computer directly drives a twill cutting machine.

In 2020, Nike has the contract to letter all teams' uniforms, but each team generally has a local lettering shop they use as well. Some teams may use the local shop for last-minute orders only, but at the other extreme, the Mets usually get only their first set of jerseys delivered "lettered" by the factory in March, and then subsequent sets (and memorial patch embroidery, etc.) have been procured locally from their long time vendor **Stitches** of Whitestone, NY.

The layers of lettering are cut from team-standard colors of twill, using the multiple vector layers of the computer pattern. Then, they are heat-pressed together, and if being sewn by hand, the layers are usually stitched together before they are sewn onto the jersey. It is far easier to manage sewing layers of small individual letters and numbers on a sewing machine platen than to manipulate a large clumsy jersey while doing it.

Jerseys that are mass produced for retail sale often have all layers sewn on the jersey, as the whole process is automated. Look at the back of the jersey's fabric to see how many rows and colors of stitching there are.



Above: A screen shot of my vector graphics template for Cardinals lettering 1989-1998 only (yes, the Cardinals lettering is slightly different for other years). The Cardinals version of this common-looking number/ lettering font is slightly bolder than used by other teams and uses a very narrow outline. No other MLB team uses this exact pattern. At left, side-by-side, the new cut lettering matched to a game worn Cardinals jersey from my collection to ensure it matches the original perfectly.
I have recreated hundreds of team and year-specific patterns for use in perfectly lettering Authentic jerseys. Visit my website, http://TheDream.shop for more details.

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Sometimes arched names are laid out on the computer then cut pre-spaced on a tacky backing sheet, then all the letters are pressed onto the jersey for sewing at once. This is far easier than trying to set up a perfect arch with loose individual letters on jersey. But pros can do it either way.

Above is a screen shot of my exact template recreation of the Orioles 1975-1983 orange alternate Rawlings jersey lettering. Though it may be similar to some other teams' patterns, it is unique only to this application!

Prior to sewing, the jersey is fully laid out "virtually" on the computer screen to create a client proof (at right). This helps ensure an error-free end result.

There are literally hundreds of distinct lettering patterns for the 31 MLB teams going back to 1970. If you are having your jerseys lettered, make sure the shop has the exact pattern for your team and year, not just one that is "close"… unless "close enough" is "good enough" for you.

(Bill Henderson graphics layout and pattern, http://TheDream.Shop

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Traditional Layered Tackle Twill Lettering vs. Lightweight Twill (or "Kiss Cut") Lettering

Multi-layered tackle twill, (and before that, layered felt) had been the common way that all jersey wordmarks and player numbers have been created since the beginning of time. As we have illustrated, the widest outline layer is the one on the bottom, and successive smaller layers are laid on top then heat pressed together, then the layers are sewn together. Finally, the completed applique with all its sewn layers is heat pressed to the jersey and sewn with one course of stitches around its edge.

The new method being used by Majestic starting in 2016 changes the technique, so that very narrow letter outlines are cut and then sewn on top of the solid main color. This technique is not actually "new," as it has been used for lightweight soccer jerseys for years, and more recently on NHL and NFL jerseys. Known in the industry as "Kiss Cut," the result is a team name or player number appliqué that uses less layered fabric, and is therefore lighter weight and more pliable than the older layered twill method.

In the past, I have commented on the stiff-cardboard-like wordmark and player numbers found on mid 1990s Marlins jerseys, for example, with their four-color outlines and extra thick (and sharp edged!) metallic twills. There is little doubt that the new method would address this problem. But for most teams that use single color outlines, the difference in weight and flexibility is barely noticeable.

I will make a couple of other observations about the new lettering technology. The first is that it is nearly impossible to cut and sew without highly automated equipment. A computerized "cut" file is created for an automated cutter, a file that contains all the color layers to be cut in a single, layered vector graphics file, nearly identical to a computer file that would drive a pen plotter used to make large engineering drawings.

New for 2016, *Kiss Cut* lightweight twill lettering on all MLB retail Authentic and on-field jerseys. Notice in the bottom photo that the blue outline, formerly the middle layer, is now on top of the "sandwich."

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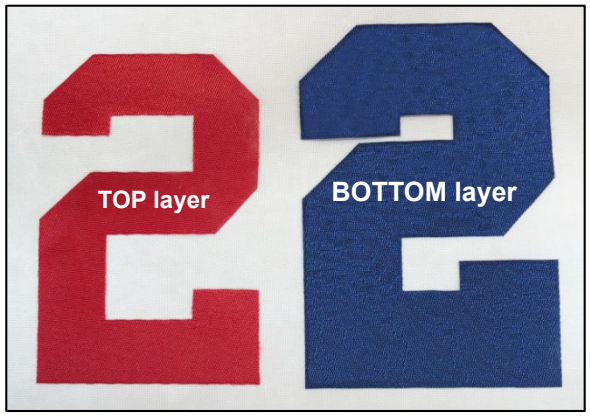
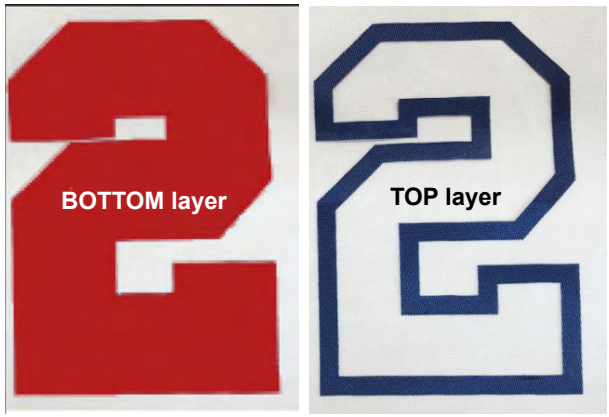
Accomplished by Different Methods; Both End Looking Like the Figure At the Left





For ease in explanation, let's imagine a two-color number to be cut, one that is red with a blue outline.

The operator begins by first laying down the red colored twill on the cutting platen of the cutting machine. The red twill needs to be the type that is coated with heat sensitive adhesive. Next, the blue twill is laid over top the red twill layer. This must be a press-adhesive type of twill, so that it will stick to the red twill below. Now, the cutting machine cuts the inside edge of the number's outline layer with an exact stroke that goes only through the top layer of twill. Then it cuts the outside boundary with enough pressure to cut completely through both layers of the twill.

Standard Layered Twill

At left, the standard layered twill method features each layer's edge sewn to the layers beneath. At right, Kiss Cut allows narrow outlines, like this 1/8" player name letter, to have a single sewn edge. At far right, the ¼" border on the player number requires two courses of stitching.

Lightweight, or "Kiss Cut" Twill

The operator then "weeds" the top layer of blue off the center of the letter exposing the red beneath, and peels the entire two-color letter off the cutting platen. This process has three advantages: First, no manual alignment of layers is required before heat pressing the layers together. Secondly, the resulting twill applique is lighter weight and more flexible. The more colored outlines on numbers the more significant this can be. And finally, and perhaps most importantly, this method can completely eliminate a stitching step for objects with narrow outlines like player names. Less time stitching equals less cost. Truthfully, we think it looks cheap and messy. Will most people care? No, but for the target market buyers of Flex Base authentics, this is a key differentiator that buyers will look for.

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Patterns: Traditional Fonts for Numbers and Names

Prior to 2000 or so, every team had its own variations in the patterns for numbers and alphabets. varied by team, by shop and even by year. In this book you will see frequent references to three basic common, fonts used by teams over the years: (Wilson) Varsity (Athletic) Block and Block with Serifs. In this introductory chapter allow me to offer brief definitions of these three.

Varsity (or Wilson Varsity): This is the "house font" used by Wilson to number team jerseys. And because Wilson has lettered the jerseys for so many teams over the years, it has become a standard and non-copyrighted font that has many variants when recreated by other shops. The red circles highlight the visual trademarks of the Varsity font. Notable are the four-sided inside openings of numbers like 0,6,8,9. The "feet" (or serifs, as they are formally known) on the numerals 1,2,4 and 7. There are diagonal strokes used on the 4,5,6 and 9.

Varsity has a corresponding alphabet, but this is seldom used in baseball, so we will not detail it in this overview. (It is used by the 1994-2004 Expos, but almost no place else)

Block (or Athletic Block): This font description is woefully generic, and is hardly commonly agreed upon by lettering shops. However, it is by far the most widely used player name and number font in MLB. The red circles highlight the visual trademarks of this font. Note the 8-sided inside openings for the numerals 0 and 8, and the multi-sided openings of the 2,3,5,6 and 9 that distinguish it from varsity. Also notice the lack of feet (or serifs) on the 1,2,4,7, and the flat sides (compared to Varsity) on the 4 and 5.

Block with Serifs (or "Full Block" as it is called by some shops) is almost a hybrid cross between Varsity and Block. It has all the features of Block as shown above, plus the extra serifs used on the Varsity 1,2,4 and 7.

The alphabet that goes along with the Block family numbers is shown below and is by far the most common in baseball. It is used in various degrees of compression (Condensed, Extra Condensed) by more than half the teams in baseball.

The Block Alphabet

Varsity (Wilson Varsity)

Block (or Athletic Block)

Block with Serifs (or Full Block)

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Font Patterns: Front Numbers

Many teams have optional front numbers either for design harmony or to make players identifiable from the front. A few teams over the years, notably the 1992-2015 Phillies, the 1971-1975 Chicago White Sox and the 1978-1979 St. Louis Cardinals even had player numbers sewn on their sleeves. Others, like the early 1980s White Sox and the mid-1970s Houston Astros had their front numbers on their pants instead. And though the Colorado Rockies have worn the same home uniform jersey since their inaugural year in 1993 right through this writing in 2025, they added front numbers in 2000. The St. Louis Cardinals dropped front numbers for two years, 1997 and 1998, but brought them back for 1999. And in an odd move, the Oakland A's added front numbers to all uniforms after mid-season 1972, but in a completely different font than used for the back numbers. The front numbers were gone again for the start of the 1973 season.

Above: The Twins added front numbers to their road jerseys in 1973, but their home jerseys stayed without until 1974. Right: The A's odd half-year 1972 front numbers that didn't match the style of the ones on the back. Below: Three teams with sleeve numbers: 1971 White Sox, 1980 Cardinals and 1996 Phillies

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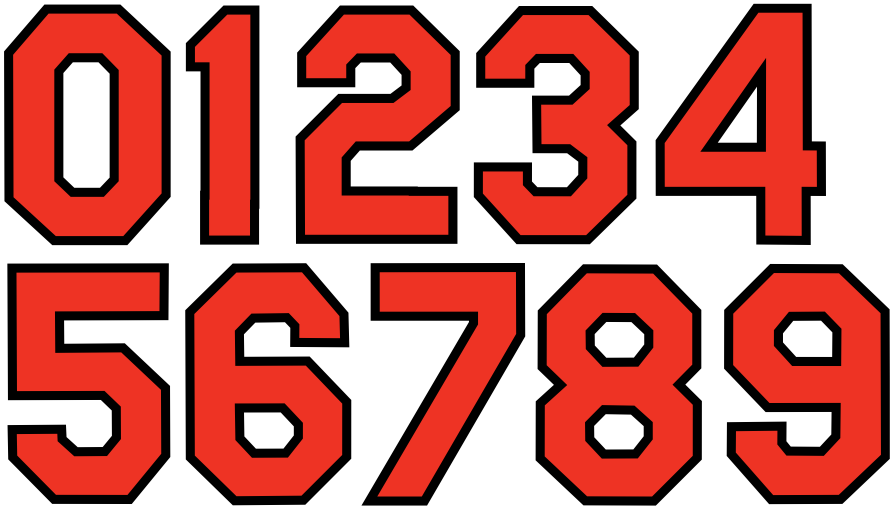
Patterns: Front Number Proportions Compared to Back Numbers

Outside the expert community, a little noted fact is that when they are used, MLB front numbers are different from the back ones: they rarely simply use a proportionally shrunken pattern of the back numbers. They are usually proportioned very differently; shorter and wider, with different proportional width outlines than the back numbers have. Many shops will simply shrink the back number patterns and use them for the fronts, which looks wrong, because it is.

Oddly, MLB does not include the templates for front numbers in its official restricted league-access-only style guides! For direct comparison, here, side by side are front and back numbers (top, bottom) as used by the 1992 Baltimore Orioles, purposely made the same size so you can see how different they actually are from each other.

For the 2024 season, Nike decided none of this was important and made the front numbers for all teams simply 50% reductions of the back numbers, causing them to appear tall and skinny with narrow outlines. This was just one of the things that Nike did that year that annoyed purists. After complaints Nike restored to appearance of front numbers to the traditional model for 2025.



Front Number Font

Back Number Font

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Patterns: Standard Number Font Sizes: Jersey Backs

Back in the days of flannel uniforms, before everything became standardized in MLB, there was not much attention paid to identically numbering all players' uniforms. Photos from the 50s and 60s show an occasional mix of number thicknesses and sizes from player to player on the same team.

As we eased into the start of the double knit era around 1971-1972, there were still mismatches on the field. Often times the road uniforms were numbered differently than the home uniforms. Player names were arched differently from man to man.

By the early 1990s, teams started following more of a formula. Back numbers were generally 8" if a player name on back (NOB) was used, perhaps 9-9 ½" if no NOB was present. Front numbers, if used, were between 4" and 5." However, it became more rare to see differences between players on the same field.

In actual practice, back numbers might vary by ¼-½" or so in size from player to player, if carefully measured. I suppose it depended on who was cutting the numbers on any given day.

For comparison, from left to right, Indians jersey with 6 1/4" numbers, and Tigers jerseys with (in order) 7," 8" and 8 ½" numbers. Top right, sloppily team renumbered 1972 Rangers jersey with one 8" number, and one 7" number

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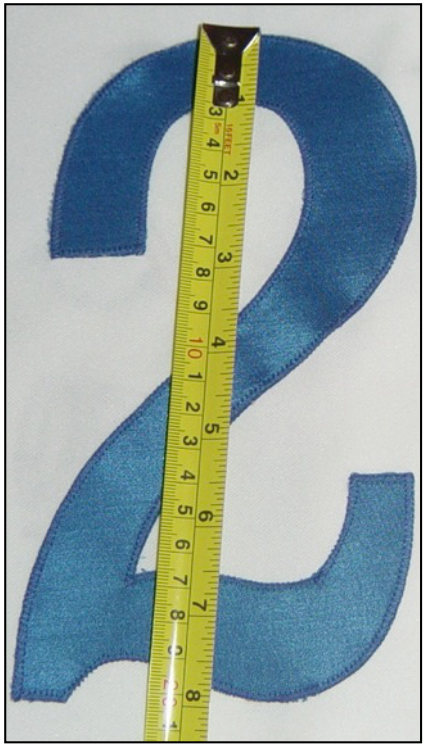
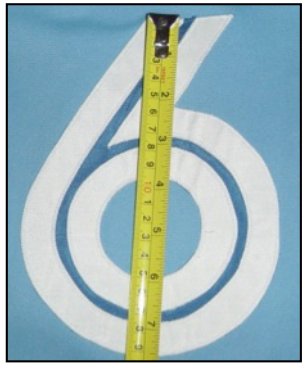
"Standard" Back Numbers are generally between 7 and 8 inches tall. On game worn jerseys in my collection, the most common **total height** of a 2-color number is approximately 7 3/4". For consistency, in this guide, when I specify letter measurements, it will be the top to bottom measurement of the **top (inner-most) layer**. If they exist, outlines add additional height. A couple of teams' early 1970s numbers, like the Cleveland Indians, can be smaller than 7 inches. Keep in mind that over the years and many, many washings jerseys AND lettering shrink, sometimes by ½" or more, in extreme cases.

1986 Expos: 8"



1996 Cardinals: 7 ½" + 1/8" outline all around 7 7/8."



1980 Blue Jays: 7 ½"

1995 Tigers: 8" + ¼" total outline = 8 ½."

1997 Braves: 7 ½" + ¼ outline all around, total height 8."

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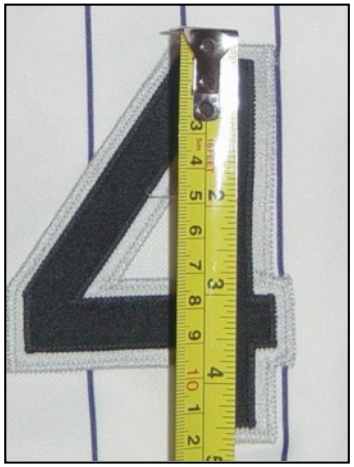
Patterns: Standard Font Sizes, Jersey Fronts

Front Numbers: Between 3 1/2” and 5”. “Normal” sized is around 4 ¼”. In this guide, when I say “Extra Large” or “Extra Bold” front numbers, they are usually bolder, (like the outline alone of a two-color letter) around 4 ¾” tall. Only a few isolated examples are larger.

1995 Tigers 4 ¼”



Examples: 1986 Expos 4” 1983 Twins 4 ¼” 1996 Cardinals 4 5/8” 2003 Rockies 4 ¾”

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Patterns: Outline Thicknesses

More important than the exact size, however, are the relative thicknesses of outlines on the lettering. Even from 50 feet away, a tiny 1/8” difference in an outline thickness can be detected by an untrained eye. Therefore, when restoring game worn or lettering new jerseys, I always look for an example to follow. With outlines, being “off” by 1/16” can make a difference that is noticeable close-up, while back numbers on a single uniform that are ¾” too small may go completely un-noticed unless one has a ruler handy.

Throughout this guide I do not give the specific measurement of outlines in fractions of an inch. By showing many photos, I am hopeful that restorers can do it the way I do… by eye.

There are some tricks. Look at the inside of the A. It is easy to visualize and to adjust the size of this small triangle to get the outline exactly right. Same goes for the inside of the O, B, D,P or R, the crossbar of the G and the complex shapes of the outlines for the M and N.

Errors on game worn jerseys: The Angels jersey at top has a outline on the J that is only 1/16” wider than the other letters, but it is very noticeable. The Outline around the 6 is too thin compared to the standard. The Rangers jersey below uses completely different font weights (Standard vs. condensed) for the E and the R

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Patterns: Block Outlining, Block Bold and Extra Bold Variations

The top row

Shows the effect of adding outlines to the basic letter. From left to right,

#1- Regular width

(as used by the 2000 Dodgers on their backs with an additional white outline),

#2- Regular with a thick outline, as used by the 2004 Rockies,

#3- Slightly bold with a thin outline, as used by the 2004 St. Louis Cardinals,

#4- Regular with two thick outlines, as used by the early 1980s Mariners,

#5- Regular with a thick white outline and an additional thin outline as used by the 1998 Devil Rays

The bottom row

Shows the effect of adding outline layers in the same color as the main type font.

#6 is Regular

#7 is bold: regular plus the width of a regular outline,

#8 is EXTRA BOLD: regular plus the widths of a regular plus thin outlines.

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Drop Shadows

Drop shadows became a popular way in the 1990s to introduce black (the 1990s new hot color) to team uniforms and were added to the numbers and names for several teams, including the Mets and Reds. The effect that these provide is three dimensional, as the eye sees the off-center dark backing layer as depth. However, some teams (like the 2015 Miami Marlins and the mid-2000s Reds on their black BP jerseys) make their drop shadows light colors, which confuses the eye and simply makes the design look disjointed.

Block 3 Color regular (non-3D) Drop Shadow

Block 3 Color 3D or Three-Dimensional Drop Shadow

There is a very subtle distinction between the two types. Look at the circled areas to see the differences. When sewn, the regular drop shadow is constructed of one top layer, then two identical outline layers laid over each other and sewn off-set. In the 3D style, the 3D drop shadow letter has 3 distinctly different layers. The bottom (black) layer is shaped differently to give the 3D effect.

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Player Name on Back- or "NOB"

When considering the long history of MLB, the universality of players with names on their backs is a relatively new phenomenon. As much as we have researched this topic over the years, the "actual rules" seem fairly vague.

The first MLB team to use player names on the backs of players' uniforms were the Chicago White Sox, who added them in 1960 with TV audiences in mind. The St. Louis Cardinals followed in 1962, odd in that the former team is seen as a rule-breaker and a renegade involving many things in baseball, including team uniforms, and the later is one of the most tradition-minded teams of all. The Tigers added names to road jerseys in 1970.

Teams gradually began adding player names to their uniforms through the 1970s, often adding them to road uniforms first, until all teams (except the New York Yankees) were wearing them on their road uniforms by 1992. In 2014, all teams with the exception of the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox had player names on back of their home uniforms. Neither the Yankees nor the Red Sox have ever worn player names on their home uniforms in their history.

1960: the White Sox are the first to add player names to jersey backs

The National League asked teams to sew player names to the back of all road uniform jerseys starting in 1979. If an alternate jersey is to be worn on the road, it too should have a name applied. No such guideline exists in the American League. However- in 2005-2006 the Dodgers omitted names on all uniforms, home and road, ignoring this "Gentleman's Agreement" from 25 years ago. The names returned in 2007, though.

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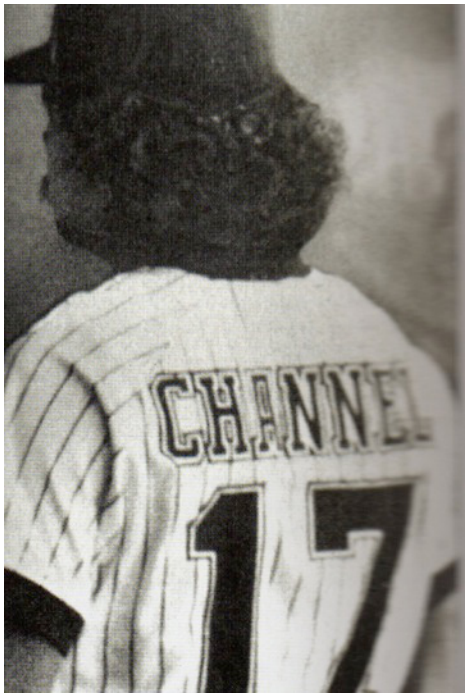
There have been instances where players have worn nicknames on their backs, including the incident in the often told story of Ted Turner, Braves owner and *bon vivant* having pitcher Andy Messersmith wear the word "CHANNEL" above his player number, 17 thus having him be a living advertising billboard for Turner's TV station. MLB was not amused and ordered this stopped, then ruled that any name other than the player's surname being used on a jersey needed to be approved first by MLB.

Several teams have dropped names on back for one or more seasons on their home uniforms, including the Dodgers (who eliminated player NOB on all uniforms 2005-2006), the Chicago Cubs in 2005-2006, and the New York Mets in 1999 only. Players complained, and the names on back returned the following year. The Dodgers' owner Frank McCourt explained the decision was prompted "… by a desire to stress a team approach and not focus on the individual."

An article by Paul Lukas contains much interesting history, called "Where the Jerseys have No Names" originally on ESPN.com. https://www.espn.com/espn/page2/story?page=lukas/041202



(Top left) Andy Messersmith of the 1976 Braves with his soon-banned NOB Uniform jersey. (Top Right) With no fanfare, the Cubs had two unique sets of blue alternate jerseys in 2005-2006. The road jerseys had player names on back, and the home ones did not. (Left) the Mets dropped player names from all home-worn uniforms in 1999, but they returned the next year after players' complaints. Seemed players liked being recognized.

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Ponle Acento: “Put an Accent on it”

Above: A handful of jerseys featuring diacritic marks in players’ last names, along with MLB’s Ponle Acento logo, used to promote the addition of the marks in 2016.

Below: Three game worn jerseys from pioneers of diacritics on MLB uniforms (left to right) César Cedeño’s 1983 Reds road jersey; Tony Peña’s 1981 Pirates home jersey; Álex Treviño’s 1982 Reds home jersey.

There is no denying the impact of Hispanic ballplayers on Major League Baseball. From Lou Castro (born Luis Joaquin Bonifacio Vasquez Castro) the first recognized Latin American MLB player in 1902, to Roberto Clemente, to the stars of today, Hispanic players make up more than a quarter of MLB as of 2016.

In the spirit of recognizing these players and the proper ways to spell their names, Major League Baseball released a memo to clubs in 2016 requesting that teams work proactively with players to include any diacritic/accent marks on jersey backs. Though this process could apply to any player with such marks in his name, MLB and players promoted the drive with the “Ponle Acento” campaign.

Ponle Acento, which means “put an accent on it” in Spanish, brought about a series of updates to player name lettering across the league. Adrián González, one of the earliest supporters of the campaign, added the mark to his jersey and encouraged others, including then-Dodgers teammate Enrique “Kiké” Hernández, to follow suit. Soon, players from teams across the league were updating their jerseys to include the proper diacritics for their names, in what was as much a show of pride as an overdue correction.

Though the campaign expanded the use of diacritic marks widely in 2016, they have appeared on MLB jerseys dating back to the early 1980s with players including César Cedeño, Tony Peña, and Álex Treviño all using a tilde on their jerseys since at least 1981.

Though, as of press time, we have only seen the expanded use of the tilde (ñ), and the acute accent (é, á, í, ó, and ú) on MLB jerseys, as baseball’s impact continues to expand worldwide, it is only a matter of time until other marks make their way to jerseys across the sport.

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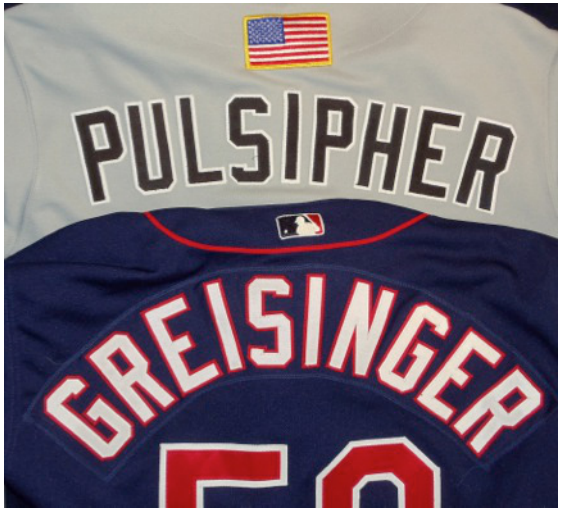
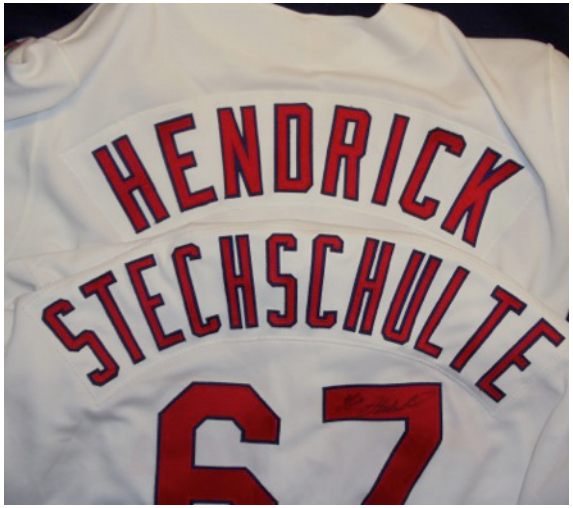
Patterns: Condensed and Extra Condensed Player Name Fonts

Some NOB alphabet fonts have CONDENSED and EXTRA CONDENSED versions to deal with fitting long player names in the limited real estate across a player's shoulders. Some teams use these variations, while others do not, even when they are available.

In some situations, a condensed version of a font is not available, and the team needs to perform clumsy sewing gymnastics to fit it all on using the full-width font.

Many teams' game used jerseys have their player NOBs removed before they get to the hobby. In restoring or recreating period jerseys, it is important to know how the team would have handled the player's name. Finding original news photographs is the best way to be sure. Among the most frequently seen with incorrectly restored NOBs are the 1970s and early 1980s Philadelphia Phillies and Kansas City Royals who used vertical arched names, then stripped them off. Restorers routinely replace these with radially arched names because it is easier to do, or because they are just uninformed.





(Above, left) Many teams like the White Sox and Twins have preferred to use a standard Block NOB font for all names and squeeze it all in by varying the degree of the radial arch, if need be. (Above right), the Cardinals have long used a Condensed version of Block for most names, and an Extra Condensed version for long names. Bottom right, when the font is big and clunky and the player's name is very long, you get…this.

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Patterns: Block Extra Wide and Block Extra-Extra Condensed?

This is a page of two extremes. At left is an example of the Pirates Black Descente (Japanese made) jerseys which oddly featured as many as four different fonts with four degrees of letter width depending on the player name's length. The shortest names of three and four letters received this extra-wide treatment. And at right is what is said to be the longest name in USA professional sports. Eric Stuckenschneider was originally a 1994 draftee of the Los Angeles Dodgers. His 16-letter name is so long that even Extra Condensed lettering is too wide to make it properly fit. So a custom, even more condensed version is used for his jersey. Notice that the outline color is filled in solid on letters like the U, N, H, R and D. Can you imagine if this fellow had played for the 1970s-1980s Cincinnati Reds?

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Patterns: Standard Sizes of Player Names on Back (NOB)

First thing to realize is: *There are no standard sizes for numbers or names.* Patterns are legacy, and many teams use patterns originally made by a local supplier, there are variations from team to team, and sometimes even on the same team from year to year.

Unless otherwise specified, assume the following guidelines hold true:

"Generally" standard Sized Names: Most player names are 3"- 3 ½" tall. The most common size in my collection for a 2-color name is 3 ½" tall- measured from outside color, edge to edge. Every team is different.

1985 White Sox- 3"

2002 Rockies- 3 3/8"

1998 Brewers- 3 ½"

1992 Angels 3 ½"

1985 Cardinals 3 ½"

1997 Atlanta Braves- 2 7/8"

1986 Montreal Expos- 3"

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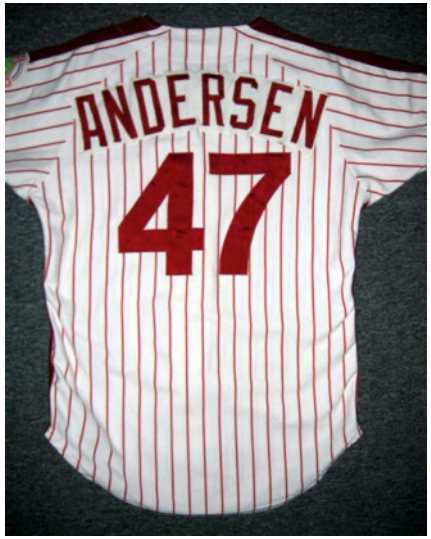
Patterns: Radially Arched vs. Vertical Arched NOB



Both above and below at the left are original jerseys with their vertical arched names on back intact. (The Phillies used nameplates, the Royals did not.) Next to them on the right, both above and below are game worn jerseys incorrectly restored with radially arched names. This is very common, because the skill involved in doing it correctly is not commonplace, as is explained on the next page.

When sewing a name, “Radial Arch” layout is by far the most common, where all the letters are cut from the same pattern, arched in an arc, and sewn. But through the mid-1980s some teams used the classy lettering technique called “Vertical Arch” where every letter is cut uniquely depending on its position on the arch. I’ll explain more on the next two pages, but suffice to say it was a fancy but difficult method of sewing player names. One by one, teams dropped it. The Padres after 1984, Phillies and Twins after 1986, The Royals in 1994. The Braves were the last to use it in 2005, and by the start of the 2006 season it had been abandoned by everyone.

Many game worn jerseys in the hobby have had their original NOBs stripped, and in attempting to restore them, many have been fitted with incorrect radially arched names.

However, even when the whole team had vertical arched names, it was not uncommon for a late call up or a newly acquired player to get a jersey without the vertical arched lettering if the team was in a hurry. Note the photo at top right where Greg Maddux and Chipper Jones of the Braves are on the field together with different style arched names!

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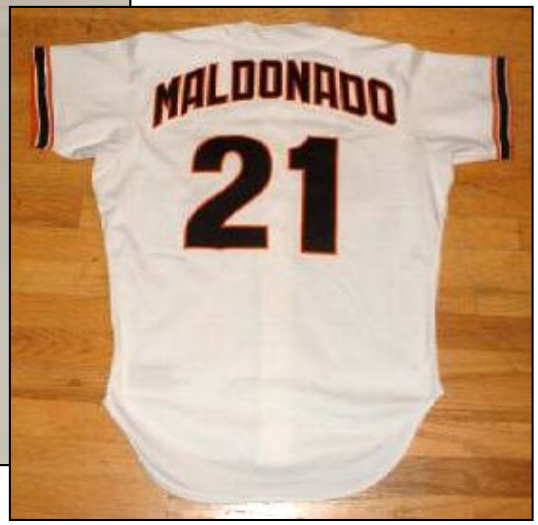
Patterns: The Lost Art of Creating Vertical Arch Player Names

Perhaps you have seen the Vertical Arch effect, but probably did not know it had a name. Simply, the names slant uphill on the left side, are vertically straight in the center, and slant downhill on the right.

This lettering style necessitates that *every letter in the name must be drawn at a different angle*. Back when everything was cut using paper patterns this was a lot of work to do. Today, the effect is more easily obtained with automated computer graphics.

But sadly, by 2006, all MLB teams had abandoned it. The last team to use vertical arch names on game uniforms was the 2005 Atlanta Braves.

Any font can be arched, just like any font can be made italic. All three of these examples are slightly different typefaces, all vertically arched. On the next couple of pages I will show you how it is done.



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I have drawn an ellipse below the player name on this 1984 Phillies jersey of outfielder Gary Matthews. The arc of the ellipse nearly perfectly matches the curve of the name. We will use this example as we move ahead...

Vertical arch is the geometric compliment of Italic print. We all know what italic writing looks like… the bottoms of the letters are flat against the ruled line, and the verticals of the letters slant to the right.

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF AN ITALIC FONT.

Vertical Arch illustrates exactly the opposite concept. The vertical strokes of the letters are vertically straight up and down, and the bottoms and tops of the letters lean to one side or another to follow the arc or an arch. Note the vertical black lines I have drawn on the example at left. You may notice these lines don't perfectly match the letters on the jersey because this real life execution of Vertical Arch is not perfect.. But you get the idea.

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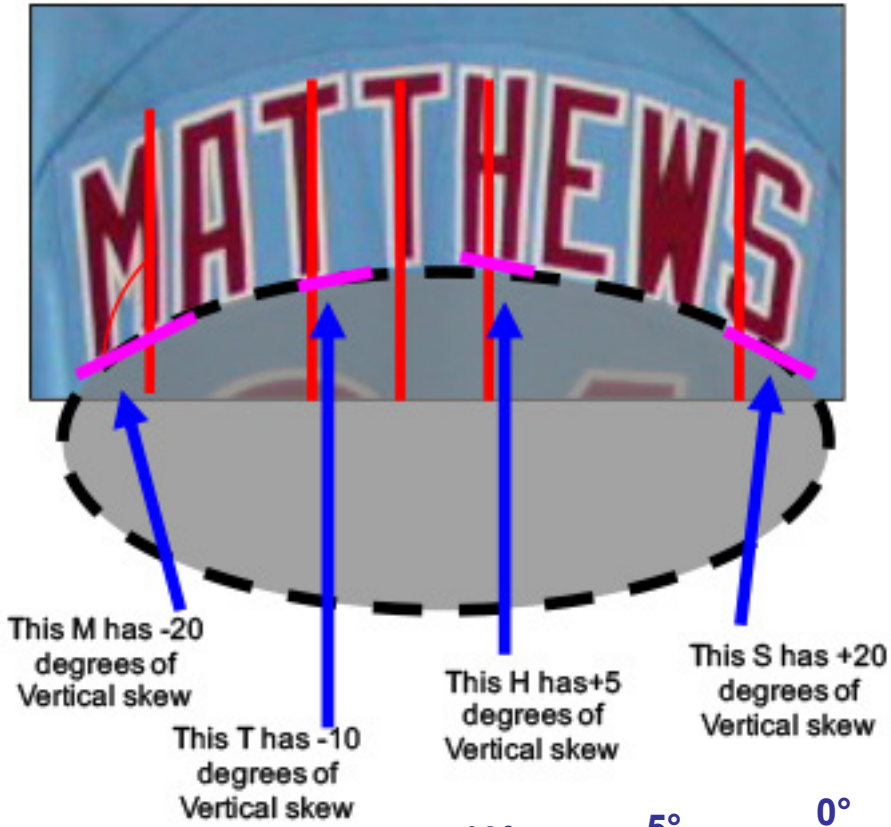
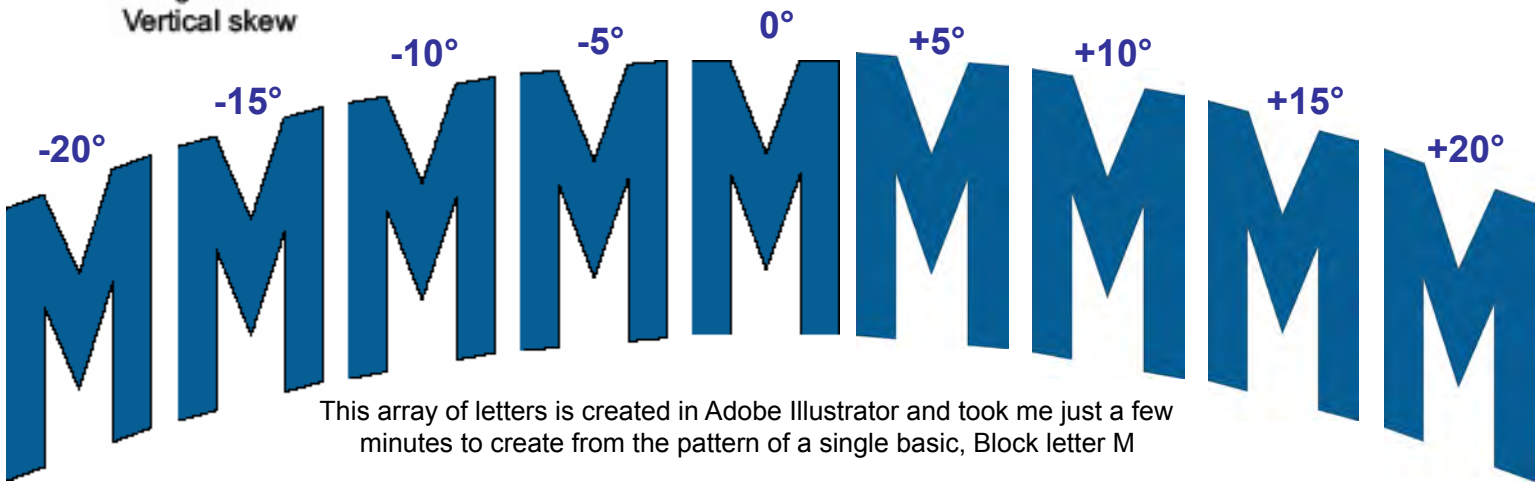


Now, measure the exact angle at the foot of the letter and of a straight line drawn across the ellipse at the letter's bottom (you might recall from high school geometry that this line is called a tangent). These tangents are shown in MAGENTA.

Take each angle and subtract 90 degrees. The resulting number is the amount of vertical angle skew that should be added to that letter.

This can be done one name at a time on a drawing board, by hand. Sometimes, patterns existed for each letter in its straight configuration, then there were different sets of patterns for +5, +10, +15, + 20 and possibly more. Then, letters for the other side of the curve were cut from patterns drawn at -5, -10, -15, -20 and more. That's a lot of patterns!

Today, with computers and graphics software like Adobe Illustrator, this is relatively easy to do. But when the Royals and Phillies and Twins were doing this back in the mid-1970s and early 1980s, you can bet it was being done by hand, and someone very artistically skilled and experienced was doing the layout, hand-drafting every letter, and doing the cutting.



This array of letters is created in Adobe Illustrator and took me just a few minutes to create from the pattern of a single basic, Block letter M

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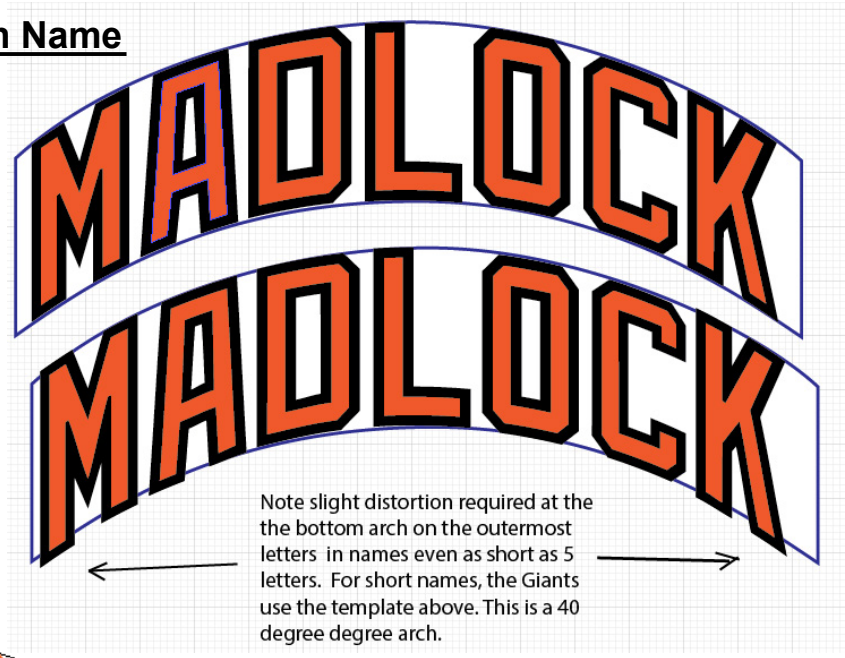
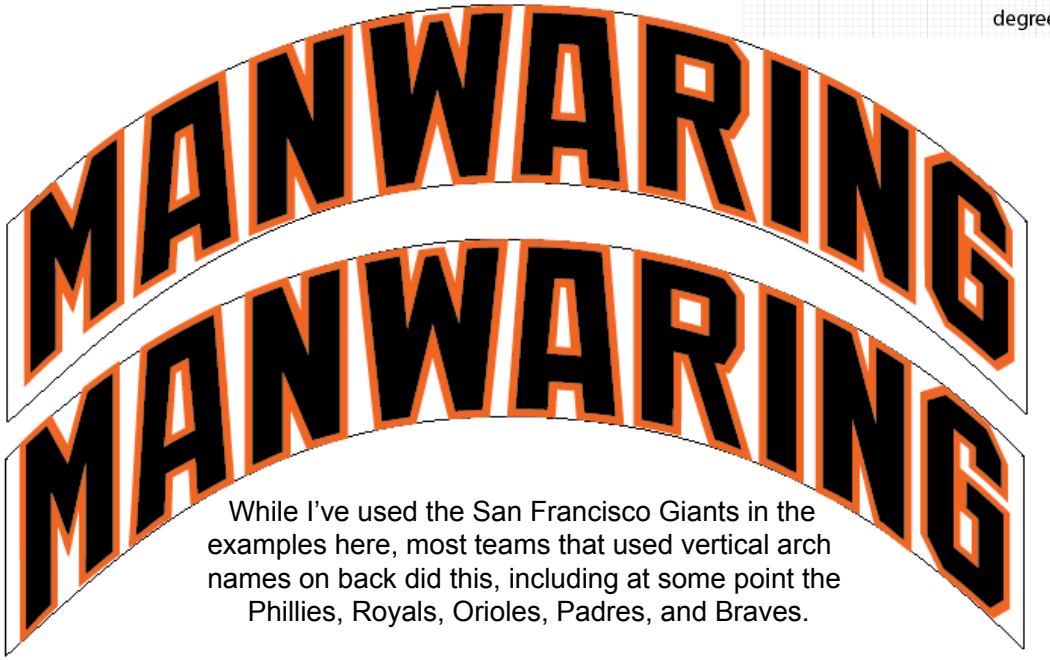
The Final Step in Creating a Vertical Arch Name

There is often an important final step added, apparent in many old-time vertical arch player names-on- back. Most teams that employed this technique also “stretched” the height of the letters at the farthest ends of longer names to give an even more dramatic effect. Clearly, this was a manual process, and to me showed definite personalized artistry in the creation of player jerseys that seems to have fallen away in today’s computer-generated era.

Follow the pictures to see what I mean.



This top example is graphically undistorted at the ends. ”By the Book.” The bottom example is slightly distorted at the ends, the way most teams do it. See how it extends beyond the bounding box?



While I’ve used the San Francisco Giants in the examples here, most teams that used vertical arch names on back did this, including at some point the Phillies, Royals, Orioles, Padres, and Braves.

In both NOB examples shown here, the top player name is graphically undistorted: the letters at the ends of the name are the same height as the letters in the middle.

In the example at left, the black bounding box that surrounds the name is *identical* top and bottom. It is taller at the ends than in the middle .

However, the bottom player name has been distorted/stretched vertically at the ends to fill the box that matches the team template.

The difference is subtle, but most would agree that the bottom examples look better.

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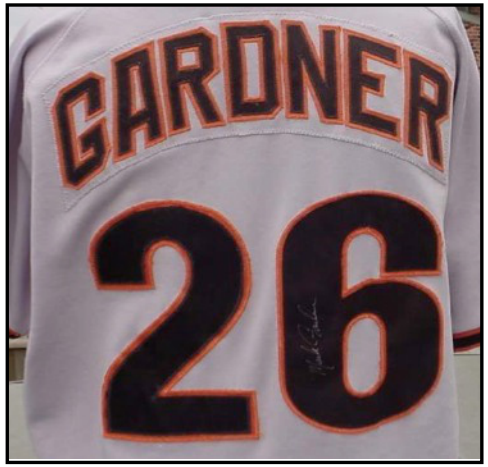
Patterns: Vertical Arch Font Variations



The Phillies used slightly stretched tall variants of fonts we have referred to as “Block Standard “and “Block Condensed” for their vertical arched alphabet. But other teams have used their own variations of Block for Vertical Arched names.

- The 1980s Royals use Rawlings’ Block as the basis for their player name fonts.
- The 1980s Giants version of Block also provides an interesting variation for Vertical Arched names.
- The 1980s Twins versions are both extra narrow and extra tall.

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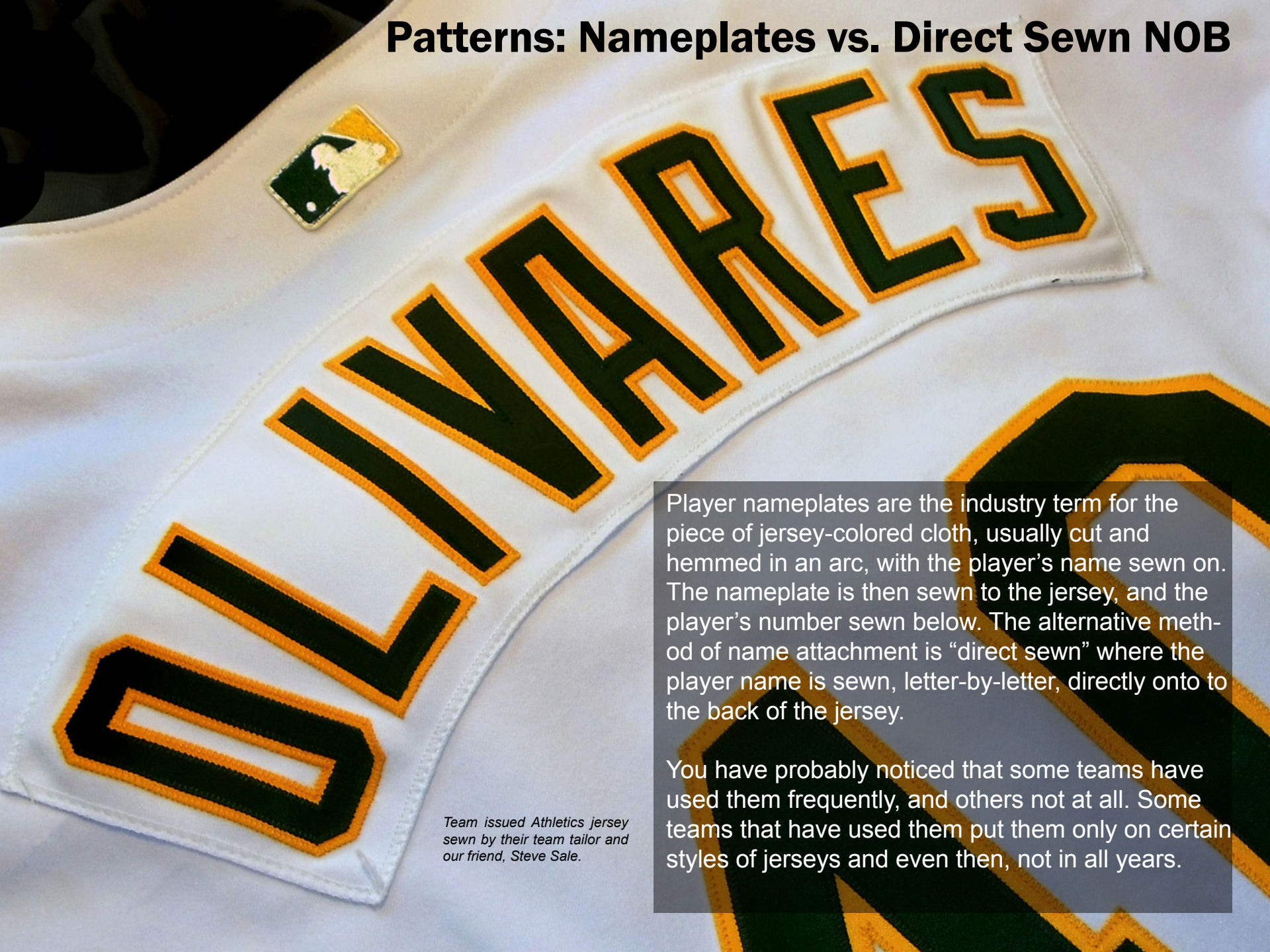
Patterns: Nameplates vs. Direct Sewn NOB



Team issued Athletics jersey sewn by their team tailor and our friend, Steve Sale.

Player nameplates are the industry term for the piece of jersey-colored cloth, usually cut and hemmed in an arc, with the player's name sewn on. The nameplate is then sewn to the jersey, and the player's number sewn below. The alternative method of name attachment is "direct sewn" where the player name is sewn, letter-by-letter, directly onto to the back of the jersey.

You have probably noticed that some teams have used them frequently, and others not at all. Some teams that have used them put them only on certain styles of jerseys and even then, not in all years.

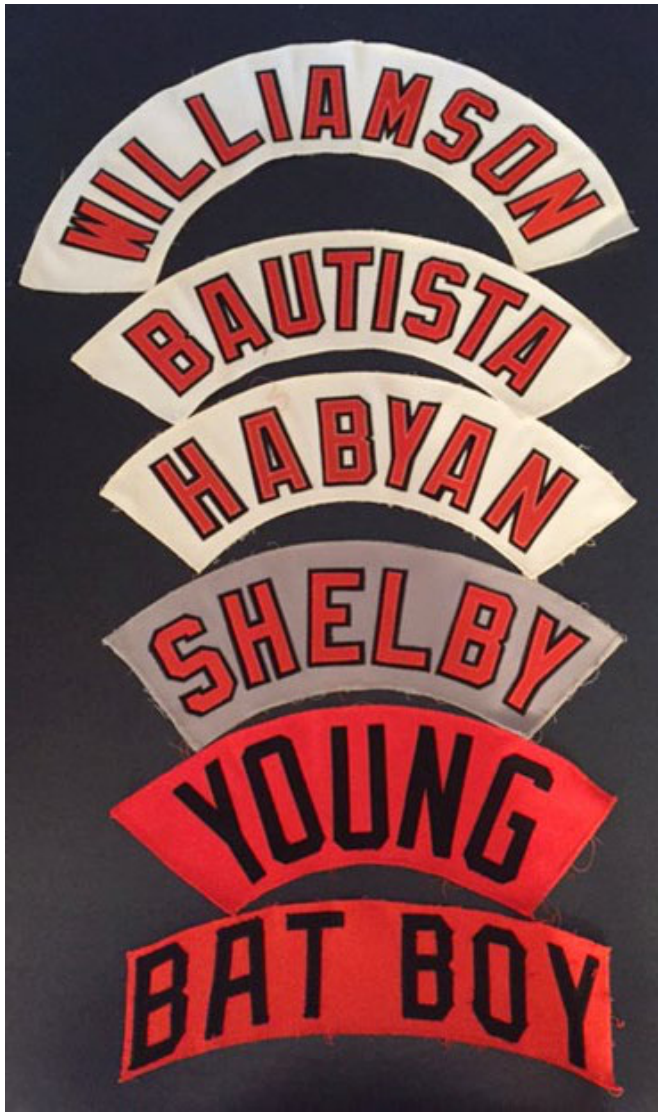
There are several good reasons that teams have used nameplates, but in MLB their use has dwindled markedly as the years passed. In 2018, the only two remaining teams still using them were the Indians and Rays; both stopped using nameplates after the 2018 season. Below are most of the reasons nameplates were used by pro teams:

1.Speed in having new uniforms ready at final roster and at mid-season call up: Sewing a player name takes a long time, and with the number of players on a team and the number of sets of home and away jersey that are needed, it is a big job. (Imagine how pleased the seamstress is when getting a jersey order for Jarrod Saltalamacchia.) Nameplates can be sewn by the team's tailor for every player in March, before a jersey is needed. When the team is chosen for the start of the season, the nameplates for the roster players are pulled and sewn on the jerseys of the players. The unused plates are then shipped north to reside with the equipment manager when the season starts. When a player is called up, the equipment manager can pull a properly sized and possibly arbitrary numbered jersey from the storage closet, and sew on the pre-configured nameplate. Fast and easy, and it can even be done at the stadium.

2.Mid-season equipment change: Jerseys are sometimes damaged or become dirty past the point of utility. Or, a player might request a jersey in the next larger size mid-seaspn. The equipment manager can quickly remove the plate from the old jersey and re-sew it to the new one. Sewing an arched name is a lot of work, and takes many times as long and more skill to do than to apply a player number.

3.End of season re-use of jerseys: When a season ends, jerseys in good condition had often been returned to service the following year. For sure, they were used in spring training the next year. Or, the jerseys are sent to a farm club for use. In either occasion, a quick way to remove a player name is needed, and the nameplate provides the answer. Without nameplates, each player name had to be unsewn letter by letter, stitch by stitch. That is a very time consuming proposition indeed!

4. General ease/speed in sewing: It is far more difficult for any tailor or seamstress to sew the many angles and lines of a player name when that name is affixed to the top-back of the player. Conversely, sewing the player name to a small plate is far easier to handle at the sewing machine. This fact was especially true in the days of the pullover uniform that started in the mid 1970s.. Manipulating a large, turned inside-out jersey on a sewing machine, and trying to sew a player name onto the top of the back shoulders is a very clumsy exercise.



A selection of used and removed Orioles nameplates. Note the different styles of lettering from different years and done by different manufacturers. These details are often missed in jersey restorations.

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Now having said all of this, why didn't every team use nameplates?

The first reason is that many think they look bad. If not sewn of identical material They can often pucker and pull away from the jersey, as the fabrics may shrink at different rates.

Teams like the Dodgers have never used them, believing that the look cheapens the team's image, making players look like temporary employees. Why not just attach them with Velcro?

Pinstriped jerseys are particularly offensive (to many, including your author) with plain white nameplates. The Phillies of the 1970s-1980s used them, and though we were accustomed to them, it just didn't look right. But starting with the 1992 team redesign, even the Phillies conceded and stopped using plates on pinstriped jerseys, though they kept using them on solid color jerseys (road gray and red BP) for another few years.

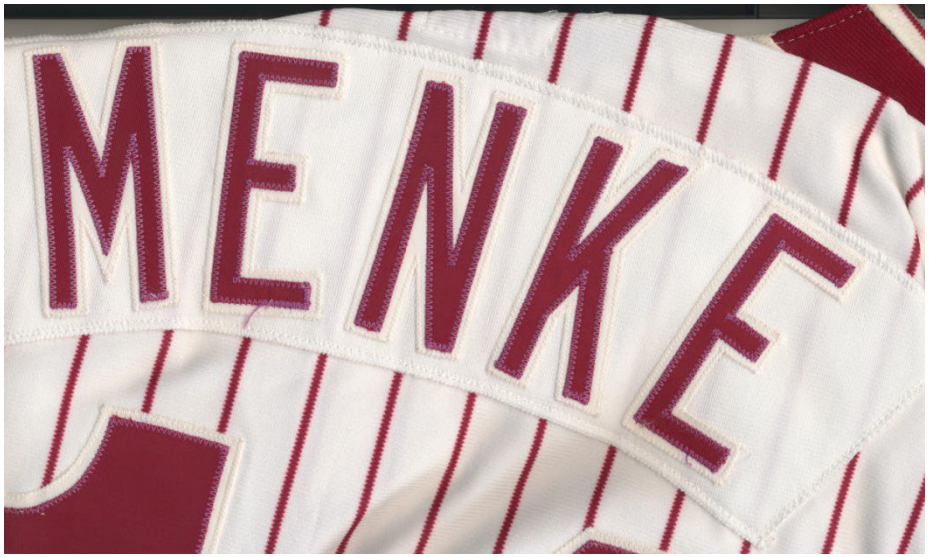
In some cases, if jerseys were never expected to be sent to the minors, they would not have nameplates from the start. A good example of this is when the team's road jerseys have the MLB city name on them. These are less frequently sent to the minors, as they don't work.

By 2019: Nameplates are no longer used in MLB

There are several reasons why: First, team jerseys are sold to fans, sometimes only after being worn a few games. MLB was ridiculously late in realizing that game worn player jerseys had cachet with fans, and now teams often order many sets of uniforms for name players in a season so they can be marketed as game used items in the team store. The days of minor league reuse of old MLB uniforms is long over.

Secondly, automation. While final sewing onto the jersey is still done by a person at a manual machine, all the cutting, pressing and alignment is done by sophisticated equipment. Much of the prep, cutting, preliminary layer-sewing and setup time has been reduced and at the same time the quality has been improved.

In 2018, the two last teams still using nameplates were the Indians and Rays. We must assume that they liked the old-fashioned look. But they too have now abandoned the past, with both teams eliminating them for 2019.



Top: Phillies used rather obvious white nameplates on pinstriped jerseys from 1975 through 1991. Left: Three Pirates late 70s nameplates show that they clearly made by different stitchers in different places. This lack of consistency did not seem to bother teams then. Above, late 1970s Mets home jerseys used a steeply arched nameplate resulting in very low number placement, obvious here since the plate has been removed.

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Perhaps unsurprisingly, the large majority of jerseys that were originally sewn with nameplates no longer have that original nameplate attached. The jerseys were reused, as planned, in the minor leagues or frugally reissued to new MLB players in a second or third year of use. Some teams simply regularly stripped all player names from jerseys before selling the jerseys off to the hobby. As a result, there are a lot of jerseys with restored names on back, and often these are incorrectly done. Here are a few things to know about restored nameplates.

- Check the charts in this book to see if a team/year jersey originally had a nameplate when new. Some jerseys show signs of having blank nameplates sewn over top of an originally direct-sewn NOB
- Check this Guide, as well as with a web search of period news photos, to see the exact style of the original NOB as would have been used when the jersey was new. Many jerseys originally sewn with vertical arched NOB now are restored and lack that detail. Make sure the NOB is exactly the correct font as well. It is a lot easier to get it wrong than right.
- The nameplate should be made of matching jersey color and style of fabric. The Wilson/Rawlings/ Majestic factories kept extra jersey fabric on hand from which they made nameplates. For re-issue, teams often made them from old pants. The fabric should match in color, and absolutely should not be made from twill.
- The edges of the plate should be serged before it is sewn to the jersey. (there are some exceptions, notably the late 1980s Braves sewed raw-edged plates to the jerseys simply using a zig zag stitch.)
- Generally (but not always) nameplates have a backing layer of fabric INTERFACING sewn to them. This is a stiffener that prevents the fabric from puckering or bunching when the nameplate is sewn to the jersey.

Click here to see how a nameplate edge is serged

(Clockwise from top left) 1) Either a double layer of fabric or a piece of stiffening interfacing (brand name *Pelon*) is cut and heat pressed to the back of the nameplate prior to stitching on the lettering to minimize puckering. Note that the nameplate is made from a piece of matching fabric from a donor blank jersey. 2) Lettering is stitched in place and the nameplate is trimmed to size. 3) The edge of the plate is surged to prevent fraying. 4) The finished nameplate. 5) The nameplate sewn to the jersey. I find that a double layer of mesh is needed for a BP Jersey nameplate to prevent seeing the white backing through the holes.

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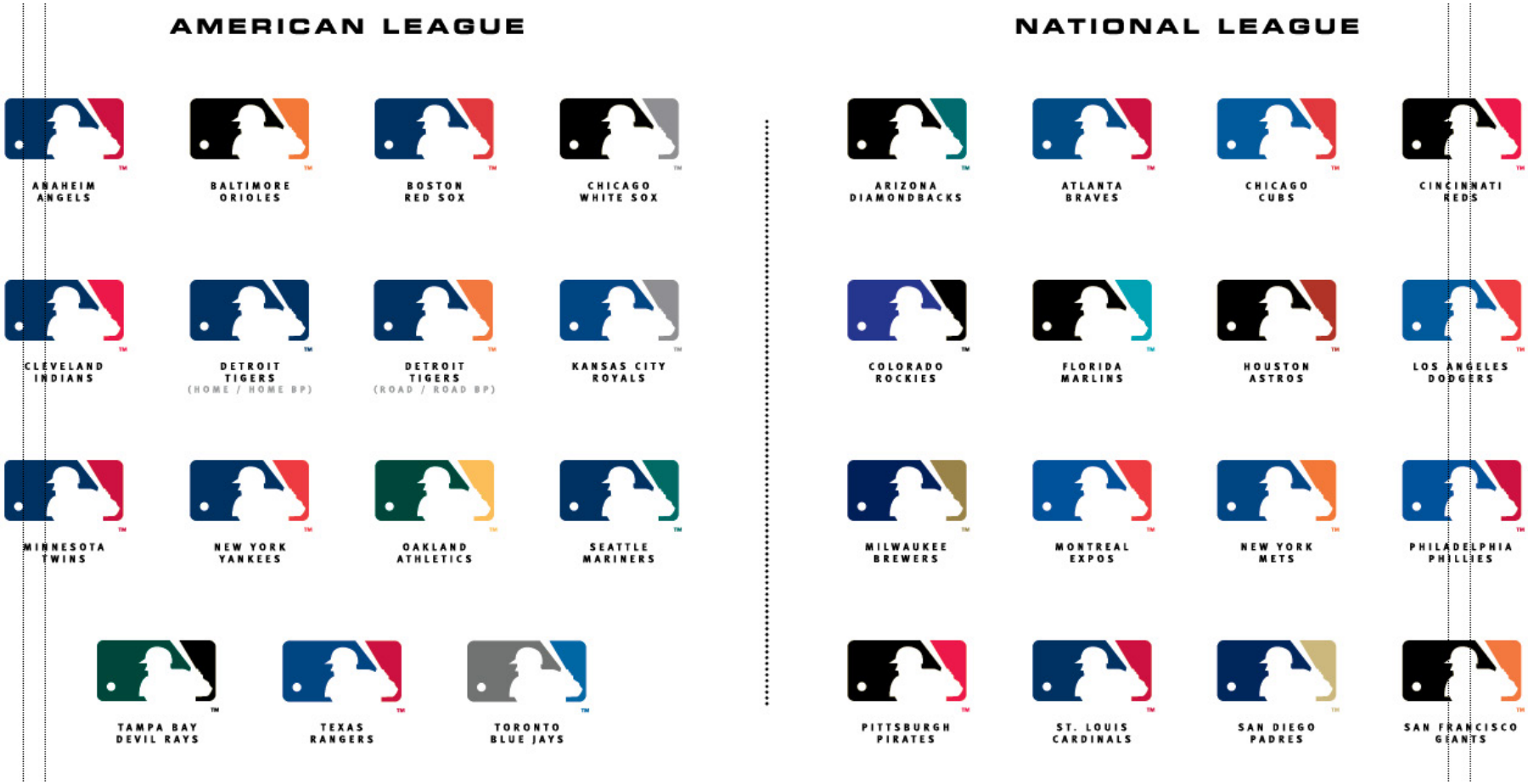
MLB Back Collar "Silhouetted Batter" 2000-2005



New for the 2000 season, all Authentic on-field jerseys were adorned on the center of the back collar with the MLB logo, the "Silhouetted Batter." This feature was added to retail sale authentics as well (and to Cool Base replica grade jerseys in 2015). Each team had the traditionally red, white and blue emblem potentially customized in its own team colors, though 12 of the 30 teams used the logo in its original red/white/blue colors. Official charts showing the emblems as published by MLB are shown on the next pages.

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MLB Back Collar "Silhouetted Batter"
2006-2008

Montreal Expos replaced by Washington Nationals and their new colors, Kansas City Royals change from blue/white/silver to blue/white/gold.

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MLB Back Collar "Silhouetted Batter" 2009-2011

AMERICAN LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE

White Sox swap their light silver for darker gray, Rays switch from black/white/green to navy/white/sky blue;

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MLB Back Collar "Silhouetted Batter" 2012-2014

AMERICAN LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Yankees change from navy/white/red to navy/white/gray; Blue Jays change from gray/white/blue to royal blue/white/navy; Marlins switch colors from black/white/teal to black/white/dark orange; Nationals change from navy/white/gold to red/white/blue

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MLB Back Collar "Silhouetted Batter" 2015-2019

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Astros change to navy/white/orange concurrent with 2013 identity change and their switch to the American League. All else remains the same from 2012 on prior page. The change to Flex-Base uniforms in 2016 also means that these patches change to ChromaFlex plastic emblems from the earlier embroidered cloth ones; see one page ahead.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

* 2017: Rockies change to a different shade of purple that is a mix of more red, less blue:

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MLB Back Collar "Silhouetted Batter" 2020-2025

American League

2024: Angels change to red/white/blue (from blue/white/red)

National League

2020: Padres change to Navy/white/gold
2021: Marlins change to black/white/aqua
2020: Brewers change to Navy/white/gold

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The Migration to Plastic Patches

Since the 1940s, team sleeve patches had been embroidered the traditional way, using a dense matrix of colorful threads on a fabric backing. As automation methods improved and became highly computerized in the 1990s, patches became more common and very detailed. With the 2016 introduction of Flex Base jerseys, every team got its first taste of the new patch style when the back-of-neck Silhouetted Batter changed over to a shiny, flexible and iridescent plastic patch in each team's unique colors.

Two companies are supplying Major League Baseball. One is Fibrelok Technologies, branding their product as "Chromaflex", a high-tech product designed to allow maximum color, reflectiveness and detail. (Recall Fibrelok Technologies was also responsible for the 2007-2010 applique lettering on MLB's BP jerseys.) Also suppling plastic patches to MLB under their brand name "EmbossTech" is The Emblem Source, who for years has made many of MLB's traditional cloth-stitched emblems.

The new patch style is being used more and more frequently from 2016 on, for Spring Training, All-Star and event patches, for single event sleeve patches (like on the sleeves of Players Weekend jerseys) and for Postseason play. So far, teams are not using them for their standard team logo sleeve patches. A flexible vinyl, they are usually zigzag stitched on to jerseys using invisible (clear) nylon thread.

In my editorial opinion, they are distinctive but certainly not traditional. They are shiny, flashy and reflective; some view them as leading-edge, others think they look cheap. MLB is apparently also using them to define exclusivity. Often, but not always, the licensed authentic patches sold separately by MLB or sewn on Authentics offered at the team shop are not the new plastic types, but rather are cloth / embroidered copies of the actual on-field plastic ones. This practice has irritated collectors looking to modify their own authentic jerseys with correct All-Star and postseason patches.

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Individual Teams' "Team Sleeve Patches"

The term "team patches" refers to the standard, non-commemorative patches, usually on the sleeves, that are included on all team uniforms for a given year, or for multiple years.

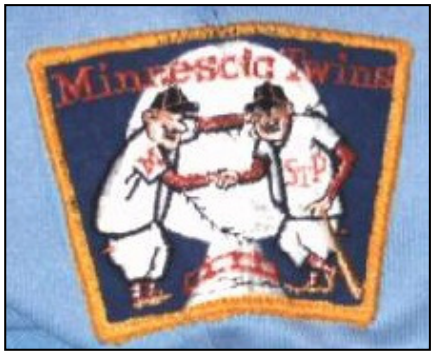
There are hundreds of these patches with many variations. Within this Guide, I have attempted to show all of these patches and their annual changes with each team's detail. Through 2023, these "team patches" were still embroidered cloth. However- once advertising patches started to appear in 2023, some teams either ditched their sleeve patches to make room for advertising ones, or they varied the sleeve the team patch appeared on (player by player) to allow the advertising patch to appear on the more prominently visible sleeve on TV.

2024's patches were cheapened to printed vinyl, and after an outcry embroidered patches returned in 2025.

Cubs team patches- 1997-2015
Notice 3 versions for (in order)
Home, Blue, and Road jerseys

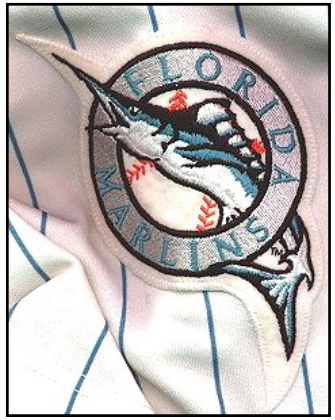
Expos 1992-2004 team patch

Padres 2004-2008 team patch



Minnesota Twins 1972-1986

Brewers 1995-1999



Marlins 1993-2002 team patch

Phillies 1984-1991 team patch

Royals team patch 1970-2001

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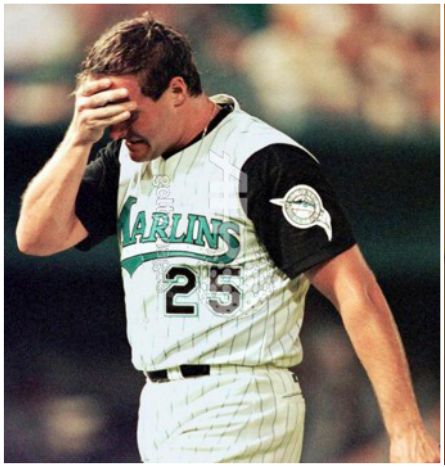
Vest "Sleeve Logos"

When teams began wearing vest jerseys again in the 1990s, Russell and Rawlings added their logos first on the center of the back of the neck of the jersey, and then when the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch took that spot in 2000, all (later adding Majestic) moved the embroidered branding logo to the TOP of the left armhole, an inch or so from the edge. This certainly came about after it was clear that players were often not going to wear the standard team-issued undershirt which bore the manufacturers' logo on its sleeve.

Top right and bottom right: Official team undershirts with team patches and Russell logos. Center: Russell began tagging vests on the back of the collar, (bottom left) then on the shoulder near the left armhole starting in 2000.



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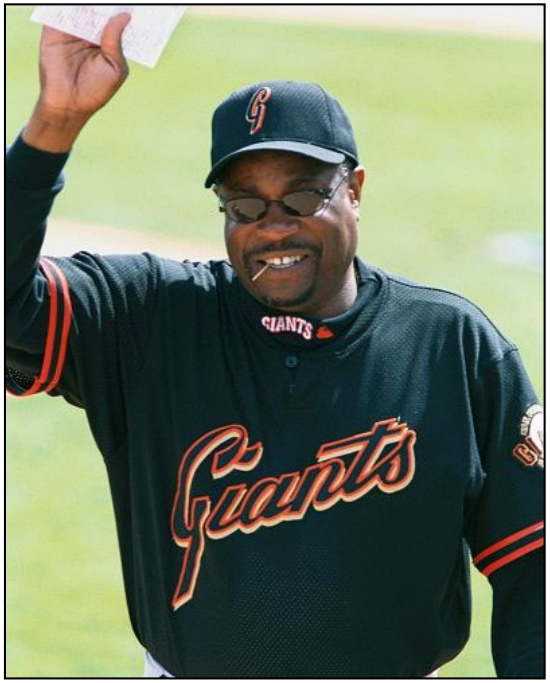
Team Undershirts

Until the early 2000s, most MLB teams did not enforce a policy on what style of shirt players could wear under their uniform jersey. Some teams, like the Cardinals and Yankees have always been very strict about the uniformity of the under-garment, since it shows plainly at the collar and sleeve ends. Other teams have been more lax over the years, allowing players to wear whatever they want underneath. (Interestingly, the MLB rules officially require players to wear the same undershirts.)

By 2000, "*Authentic Collection*" undershirts are available to both teams and fans, emblazoned with the team name and/or logo at the neck. The all-important manufacturer's logo is always sewn on the sleeve in a place it can be seen on TV.

While MLB did not yet force players to wear the official undershirts, starting in the early 2000s, it began to be more strict about what colors players can and cannot wear under their jerseys. Today, many players are choosing to wear non-team logo skin-tight body armor style undershirts.

Clockwise from top: Reds and Pirates wear official undershirts with their vests; team patches sewn to sleeves. Note the Russell R on the Reds' undershirt. Dodgers and Giants official undershirts are shown as well. Bottom left-The Phillies' Pat Burrell nearly always wore a nonstandard black undershirt with his game jersey.



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Amapro Team Undershirts: 1993-1994

The Amapro company of Farmingdale, New York *("Styled for the Pro")* was the first undershirt supplier that was allowed to include the "Diamond Collection" branding in its advertising. This agreement appears to have started in 1992 or 1993, and continued only through about 1994 or 1995. This was at the very dawn of MLB's marketing efforts, and Diamond Collection gear had very limited, spotty distribution. Team-used undershirts generally did not survive the transition to the collector market, and the only game used Amapro undershirts I have seen have been paired with 1993-1994 Marlins vest jerseys. The Reds and Blue Jays' examples shown here still have their retail paper hang-tags attached.

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Russell Team Undershirts

Russell was awarded t he official “Diamond Collection” label for long sleeved undershirts around 1995, and kept it through around 2001. They were offered in both turtleneck and mock-turtleneck styles, some with half-gray bodies and others with full-color bodies. Some had Authentic Collection tagging on the tails, most did not. When Russell lost the exclusive MLB outfitting contract, these were dumped by the ton to the discount outlets.

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Nike Undershirts: 2010-2025

Starting in 2010, Nike undershirts made their appearance. Surely as the result of a complex promotional contract, suddenly formerly team-logoed or plain undershirt collars were replaced nearly universally with a “Swoosh” hovering under the chin of nearly every player. These are quite intentionally clearly visible on every TV close-up, on every scoreboard head shot and in every news photograph. Most wear them, some have resisted.

While many decry the practice often called “Logo Creep," from a business perspective, I recognize that the money that teams gain from these exercises helps pay the unfathomably high salaries owed to Major Leaguer players, taking some of the funding burden off of the ticket buying public. I confess more personal annoyance at paying $45 for a second level seat than I do at seeing a swoosh on a player’s shirt. The Nike contract for supplying logoed player undershirts runs through 2019, and is extended when Nike earns a 10-year contract to produce jerseys, base layers, game day outerwear, and training apparel starting in 2020.

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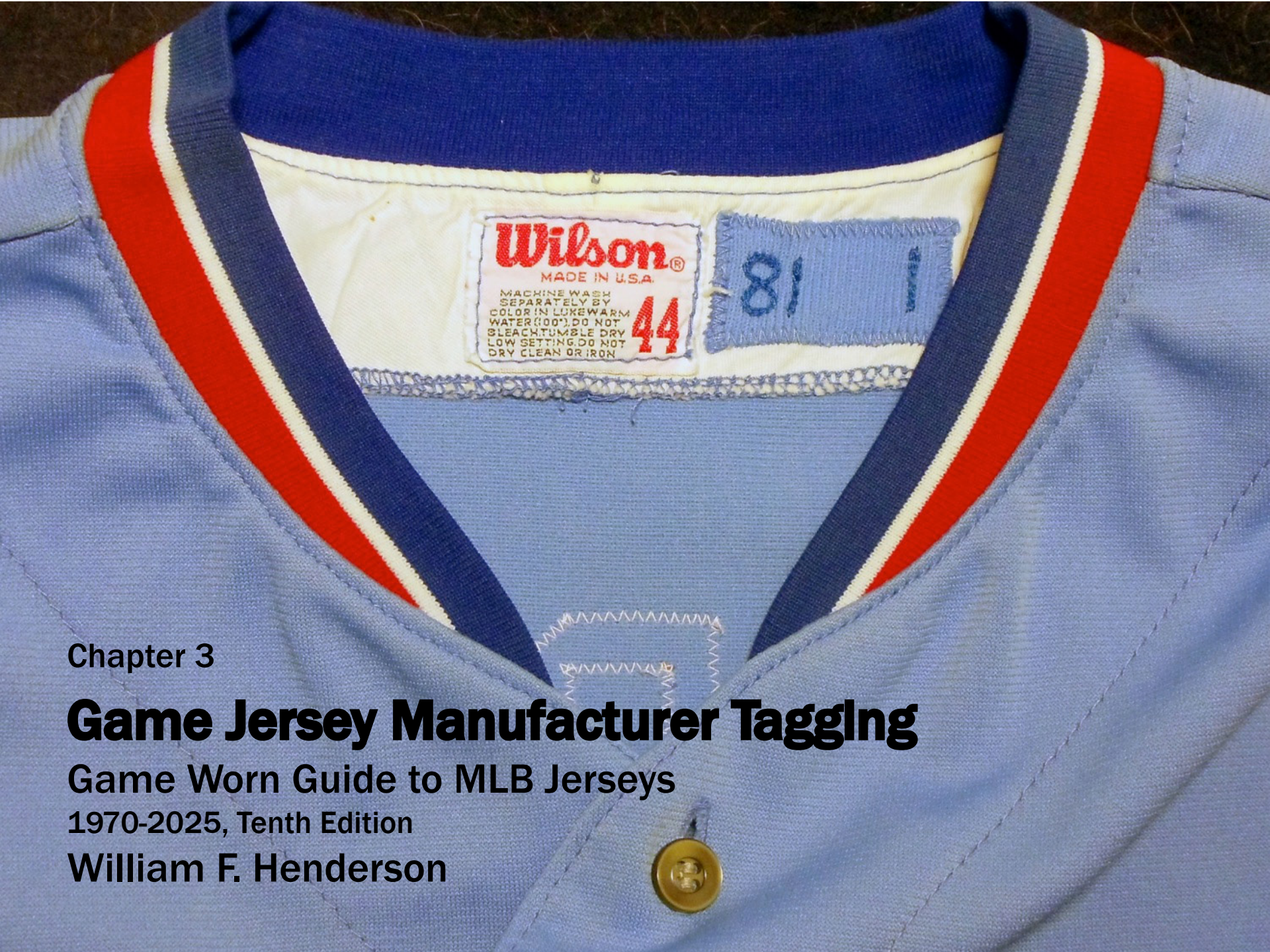

Chapter 3

Game Jersey Manufacturer Tagging

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Intimate secrets are held within manufacturers' garment tags; secrets that can reveal much about a baseball uniform jersey, such as exactly when it was made and whether it was originally made for team use or retail sale.

Sometimes known as "jock tags," these relatively large branding labels are usually found sewn either inside the neck or on the inside or outside of the shirt tail. They are not meant to be seen by the public. What material they are made of, where and how they are sewn onto the jersey, and exactly what they say, all provide clues to a jersey's age and origins.

Outside sleeve logos are designed to be seen by the public and are considered paid advertising. The first game jersey sleeve branding appeared for the 1987 season.

Between 1970-2025, 15 manufacturers have supplied game uniforms that have been worn on the field to the Major Leagues. However, only four of these makers have had permission to display their brand names where the public can see them: Rawlings, Russell, Majestic, and Nike.

In this section, we will take an obsessively close look at manufacturer tags and logos, both hidden and not, and offer a lesson on how they can provide clues on the authenticity of Major League Baseball jerseys.

*This chapter covers **game jerseys** and **Spring Training jerseys from 2016-2025**. Batting practice jersey tagging is covered in Chapter 8.*

In this chapter, we'll start with Nike, the official supplier to MLB since 2020, and work our way backwards through the suppliers who provided game jerseys starting in 1970.

Listed last are the "spot players," companies that have provided game jerseys for Turn Back the Clock games or to specific teams in a small number of seasons.

Consider jersey manufacturers grouped in these general categories:

"Official Supplier to MLB": Since the classification was introduced before the 1987 season, only four companies so far have received this status, and have been allowed by contract to show their sleeve logos on the field of play. These are Rawlings, Russell, Majestic, and Nike.

Unofficial Supplier (but Major Contributor): There are some significant team uniform suppliers who, while they made many on-field uniforms in the period covered by this book, were never afforded the privilege of displaying their company logos for the public to see; Wilson, McAuliffe, Medalist/Sand-Knit, and Goodman & Sons.

Spot Players: Most are best known for being a specialty provider for Turn Back the Clock games, though a few provided regular season game jerseys. These are AIS, Bobcat Athletic, Ebbets Field Flannels, Mitchell & Ness, Spalding, Capital Ace, and Descente.

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Overview of MLB Jersey Manufacturers and Visible Sleeve/Chest Brand Logos

The chart on this page shows the rather specific and complex contractual rules that dictate the display of manufacturer sleeve logos on MLB game jerseys, 1970-2025. No logos are displayed prior to 1986.

The rules are different between 1987 and 2002 for game jerseys and batting practice jerseys, and then team issued/retail versions of each.

Starting 2004, the contracts for all types are awarded to Majestic and things become more consistent throughout.

Since 1987, only Rawlings, Russell Majestic, and Nike have been contractually allowed to display their logos on MLB jersey sleeves. Other makes, like AIS, Wilson, Sand-Knit,McAuliffe, and Goodman have never been permitted to do so. Jerseys with other logos on sleeves advertised as "game worn" are very likely Minor League issues.

A chart like this one covering batting practice jerseys is placed in Chapter 8: Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys.

Years	Team Issued Game Jerseys	Retail Sale "Authentic" Game Jerseys
1986 and Prior NO MLB-wide official supplier	Each team is permitted to make its own individual contracts with jersey manufacturers. Some use multiple vendors at once. No manufacturer logos are allowed on sleeves or in public view.	Sand-Knit has an agreement to sell very nice licensed replica jerseys, nearly identical to team specs. No manufacturer logos are present on sleeve. Each team may also have an arrangement to sell a few team-spec jerseys through specialty retailers. Distribution is very limited, and few are sold.
1987-1991 Rawlings Official Supplier	Rawlings becomes the official supplier of game jerseys to MLB. However, if a team has a current contract with another vendor, it is not required to switch to Rawlings. Those teams that do use Rawlings jerseys display the Rawlings script on the sleeve end. Teams that use non-Rawlings jerseys display plain sleeves. Early issue jerseys from 1986 sometimes feature small sewn-on jersey colored cloth patches with the Rawlings logo embroidered on them. Later jerseys have direct embroidery. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	For those teams that use Rawlings jerseys on the field, Rawlings makes the sleeve-logoed Authentics for retail sale. Other teams may opt for Rawlings-logoed jerseys to be made for retail sale, or may refuse and continue the limited distribution of jerseys made by their own contracted manufacturer, but without any sleeve logos showing at all.
1992-1999 Russell Official Supplier	Russell takes over as official supplier of game jerseys to MLB, and Russell-made jerseys feature the Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end. While most teams switch to Russell for 1992, some do not. Teams that use other manufacturers' jerseys must leave the sleeves plain with no logo. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Russell's contract as the official supplier to MLB gives them exclusivity to all retail game jersey sold in stores, whether the team uses Russell jerseys on the field or not. All retail jerseys (including the Yankees) have the Russell "R' embroidered on the sleeve end.
2000-2002 Co-Official Suppliers, Russell and Rawlings **2003-2004** Co-official suppliers, Russell and Majestic	Russell remains the supplier to most, but not all teams, and those jerseys supplied by Russell to teams on the field still feature the Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end. However, between 20002002, a few teams jump ship to Rawlings, and these teams can display the new oval Rawlings logo on their game jersey sleeves, an R surrounded by an ellipse. In 2003-2004, a few teams switch to Majestic, and these teams can display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Russell remains the supplier to most but not all teams, and those teams sell retail jerseys featuring the Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end. However, from 2000-2002, a few teams jumped ship to Rawlings, and these teams can display the new oval Rawlings logo on their retail authentic jersey sleeves, an R surrounded by an ellipse. In 2003-2004, the teams that have switched to Majestic can display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve of retail authentics..All retail sale jerseys are sleeve logoed by their respective maker, Russell, Rawlings, or Majestic, including the Yankees.
2005-2019 Majestic Official Supplier	Majestic takes over as official supplier of game jerseys to MLB. All teams without exception use Majestic jerseys on the field. All teams except the Yankees display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve end. Yankees' sleeve ends remain plain. Team spec full-weight knit jerseys feature an inside seam tag printed with "0062"; 2005-2015 Cool Base Jerseys "0063"; and 2016-2019 Flex Base "0730".	Majestic takes over as official supplier of retail authentic game jerseys to MLB. All teams without exception have their retail authentics made by Majestic. All teams including the Yankees display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve end. Team spec full-weight knit jerseys feature an inside seam tag printed with "6200"; 2005-2015 Cool Base Jerseys "6300"; and 2016-2019 Flex Base "7300"
2020-2025 Nike Official Supplier	Nike becomes the official supplier of game jerseys to MLB. All teams, without exception, use Nike jerseys on the field. All teams INCLUDING the Yankees display the Nike "Swoosh" logo on the right upper chest.	Nike is now the official supplier of retail authentic game jerseys to MLB. All teams, without exception, have their on-field retail authentics made by Nike. All teams, without exception, display the Nike "Swoosh" logo on the right upper chest.

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Manufacturer Label/“Jock Tag” or “Locker Tag” Placement 1970s-2000s

Front 1970-1986, there were no retail authentics. Teams ordering jerseys could specify exactly where they wanted tagging to be sewn.

Since first made for sale in 1987, retail authentic jerseys have featured the manufacturer’s label sewn to the outside of the left front shirt tail *(top left).*

But still, when made to team specifications for player on-field use between 1987-2005, the team sometimes specified a different location for the tag to be sewn.

This was true up until about 2005, when teams began issuing Cool Base and then Flex Base jerseys (starting 2016), all of which have the jock tag consistently affixed to the outside of the left shirt tail.

Clockwise from top left, outside left shirt tail (the most common location); inside left shirt tail; inside the back of the neck; inside the back shirt tail; and “front and center” either inside or outside the garment.

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Running Changes in Manufacturer Tag Styles, Over Time

In all the detail pages that follow, you might notice considerable overlap in the dates of use of tag variants. I will suggest a reasonable but unverified explanation for this.

Why do manufacturers change tags at all? There are two basic reasons. One is for branding, image, and promotion. When a company changes its logo or colors, it wants that branding to extend to all its collateral, and that certainly includes its product tagging. Branding changes generally cause an immediate tag changeover.

But a second more utilitarian reason is to add or change washing instructions, adding instructions on what detergents to use and how hot the wash water should be. Once the tags are changed, how quickly the new tags replace the old tags in production might be an issue of frugality. Unwilling to dispose of expensive inventory if they can avoid it, businesses will often use up the old stock before switching to the new. I assure you they had given zero thought to the use of how collectors and authenticators might use this data in thirty years' time.

Uniform manufacturers order up tags in huge lots. When they make a change to the tag, like adding a new wash instruction, they will generally continue to use the old tags concurrently until they are used up, possibly mixing in the new style. While it would be nice to have hard and fast rules of start and stop dates for every label variant, this just isn't the way it happened.

Our data is gleaned from our examination of thousands of game worn jerseys. It is easier to determine the introduction date for a new tag style than it is to determine the last time a certain style of tag ever appeared. Why? Well, one can imagine boxes of new-style tags being delivered to the manufacturer, and the workers in the factory being encouraged to use up all the old stock before opening the new boxes. Yet, it is also easy to imagine that new shipments of tags may probably have been stacked on top of the old boxes, and when replenishing the line, workers grabbed the boxes nearest to them, regardless of what they had inside. That's just the way life is.

For some manufacturers, a study of on-field tag use on year-tagged jerseys shows with near certainty the date a new tag first came into use. In many cases, the old and new are used seemingly interchangeably over a period of even a couple of years. In these cases, the breakdown of the phase in/phase out of old and new tags observed might look like this:

	Tag Style A	Tag Style B
1993	100%	0%
1994	90%	10%
1995	67%	33%
1996	10%	90%
1997	0%	100%

Notably, some teams seem to have a much higher percentage of the OLD tags used on player-issued jerseys in a transition year than others; the Red Sox and Twins are good examples. Perhaps these teams just got their orders into Rawlings, Russell, etc., before the others, and therefore they were stitched earlier. Or maybe they were sewn in a different building or place where the stock of old tags had not been exhausted yet.

When examining jerseys offered auction, I have observed that star player jerseys frequently will have the later style tags, and common player game worn jerseys have earlier style tags. My explanation for this is that once the actual SET 1 and SET 2 uniforms have been stitched for the team and have been shipped for opening day, *only then* does the factory take a breather, then get busy making what we call "Salesman's Samples" or extra jerseys for the player or the club to give to good customers, vendors, and to sell to fans. The factories might have made 500 extra year-tagged ("team issue") Cal Ripken jerseys in 1998, or Nolan Ryan jerseys in 1986, from the sheer numbers of them we see at auction. These jerseys were most often manufactured later in the year than the ones actually issued to the player to wear. As an authenticator, I use tag styles as just one of many indicators of the actual manufacturing date and the likelihood of the team issuance of a jersey.

I am always especially alert for jerseys said to be of a certain year with tagging affixed that is likely from a later year. For example, it is not uncommon to find a jersey for a star player claimed to be from 1993 but affixed with tagging that was not used until 1994. While it may be an outright counterfeit, there is also the chance that it was made by the factory in November, making special orders for the player, jerseys for autograph sessions, gifts for friends and good clients, all after the season had finished, and they used tags that were ordered and planned for use the next year.

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Nike: Official Supplier to MLB 2020-2025

Nike is the supplier to all teams in MLB starting with the 2020 season. The Nike Swoosh is stitched (not direct-embroidered) to the upper right chest of every MLB on-field and retail-authentic jersey. Meaning, this is the first time on-field Yankees jerseys will have manufacturer logos visible on them.

The jerseys themselves remain identical to the 2019 Majestic Flex Base pattern through 2023, and the jerseys are made in the same factory by the same people as the 2019 Majestic Flex Base ones. Even the patent number on the inside seam tag is identical to previous. It's the same jersey with Nike branding and tags the only real change.

The tail tag is now a sewn-on black/silver embroidered one, replacing the heat-pressed Majestic tag. The "Authentic Collection" branding remains, but the logo design is different. The white inventory tag with size, set, customization info, and QR code carries over from the Majestic jerseys as well, just with the new Nike branding added. This tag changes some small details of shape, material, and printing for the 2023 season, but remains very similar otherwise.

Team-issued and game worn examples now have an 0890 code on the back of the interior wash tag, replacing the 0730 code from Majestic's era.

At retail, there are some slight differences. First, retail jerseys have neck tagging that is not present in team-spec jerseys, and predictably, the inventory tag under the Nike tail tag is omitted. Interior wash tags have an "8900" code on them, rather than the "7300" code from Majestic jerseys. Nike retail jerseys also carry paper hang tags that include a green hologram sticker as a speed bump for counterfeiters.

Above: All MLB jerseys have the Nike logo on front right chest, replacing the Majestic logo on the left sleeve. Thus, sleeve patches, like those seen on this Brewers example, can now be located closer to sleeve ends.

Right: 2000-2023 laundry tag, same as Majestic Flex Base version, front and back. The only change is the style number for team-issued Nike jerseys is now 0890 vs. 0730 for Majestic.

2000-2022, black Nike embroidered tag at top, white heat-pressed inventory tag at bottom. White tag is carryover from Majestic Flex Base style, with Nike branding added

2023-2024, black Nike embroidered tag at top (same as 2020-2022), white heat-pressed inventory tag at bottom. White tag is shaped differently from previous version, the material of the tag is textured and feels more durable, and the printing, fonts, and spacing on the printed part of the tag is also different.

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Nike: Official Supplier to MLB 2020-2025 Continued

Fun fact, every team has the same color Nike logo on their white and gray jerseys except the Red Sox, who have a red swoosh on the white jersey and a blue one on the gray jersey. With their rebrand in 2023, the Twins join the Red Sox in this odd asymmetry, but with the opposite color pattern for the logos.

For the first time ever, the Yankees display a manufacturer's logo on their jerseys with Nike's MLB takeover in 2020. The Yankees still stand out with their custom, extra inventory tag, located just below the Nike inventory tag. The Yankees-specific tag is a carryover from their Majestic jerseys.

Nike retail authentics, like this Padres jersey, have neck tags not present in team-spec jerseys, and the inventory tag under the Nike tail tag is omitted. Interior wash tags have an "8900" code on them, rather than the "7300" code from Majestic jerseys. Nike retail jerseys also carry paper hang tags that include a hologram to discourage counterfeiters.

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Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024-

The 2024 season brings the introduction of Nike's new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) jersey template to MLB, replacing Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base that was used from 2020-2023. The changeover to VPE was delayed from the original plan, and when it was made, it was controversial, something we elsewhere in the book.

In terms of tail tagging, VPE continues with the 2023 style seen on Flex Base jerseys. Starting in 2025, some jerseys include a white version for the embroidered Nike tag. It is not clear how this choice is made, or if it is a response to a 2024 situation in which black tags showed through players' pants when photographed in certain lighting conditions. So far, we have seen it used mostly on white jerseys, so this could be to make it blend in better with the jersey and not show through white pants. It may also have been done for retail purposes.

Interior wash tags change with VPE, and we have seen examples with one or two tags that include washing instructions. Rather than having style codes on the backs of these tags, there is now a new, separate tag, usually sewn below the wash tags, that carries that info. Team-issued and game worn examples now have an 09B0 code on the back of that tag, replacing the 0890 code from Majestic's era. We have also seen occasional, and inconsistently used 09P0 codes on pullover jerseys, like the Nationals 2024 one-year-only pullover alternate. Some of the team-spec jerseys use it, but others have the standard 09B0 instead. It is likely that the "B" then refers to a button-front jerseys, while "P" is for a pullover.

Retail authentic VPE jerseys have some slight differences. First, retail jerseys have neck tagging that is not present in team-spec jerseys, and predictably, the inventory tag under the Nike tail tag is omitted. Interior style code tags, located under the wash tags, have an "90B0" code on them, rather than the "8900" code from Majestic jerseys. Nike retail jerseys also carry paper hang tags that include a green hologram sticker as a speed bump for counterfeiters.

In response to negative criticism of the 2024 VPE jerseys, Nike will be rolling out changes to the jerseys over the 2025-2026 seasons. The 2025 changes are outlined here, and will report more about the 2026 updates in the next edition.

Top: Tail/jock tags from a 2024 jersey, which carried over from the 2023 Flex Base jerseys.

Bottom: New for 2025, a white version of the Nike tag is used on some jerseys, mostly (but not exclusively) on white home jerseys. The heat-pressed inventory tag changes again for 2025, with corners squared off more than before, and a single "tab" extending from the left side only rather than from both sides.

Top: Size/style codes are now located on a separate interior tag, sewn into the seam beneath wash tags. The "09B0" code (left) is the standard used for team-issued VPE button-front jerseys. The "09P0" (right) is an inconsistently used code for a team-issued VPE pullover.

Bottom: (Left) We have also seen 0P10 codes used on pullovers, like this one from a 2025 Mets alternate blue jersey. (Right) The tag used in a retail authentic jersey will have a 90B0 code. We have not yet seen if a retail pullover has 90P0.

Nike retail authentic VPE jerseys, like this Astros example, have neck tags not present in team-spec jerseys, and the inventory tag under the Nike tail tag is omitted. Interior wash tags have an "90BO" code on them, rather than the "8900" code from Majestic jerseys. Nike retail jerseys also carry paper hang tags that include a hologram to discourage counterfeiters.

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Majestic, Co-Official Supplier to MLB: 2000-2004
Sole Official Supplier to MLB 2005-2019

2000-early 2012 (Rounded M)

Late 2012-2015 (Squared M)

2016-2019 (New Twin Peaks)

In 2000, Majestic begins to supply game uniforms to a handful of MLB teams. By 2005, Majestic has secured the exclusive contract to supply game uniforms to all MLB teams, as well as the right to make all retail spec "authentic" game uniforms sold in stores. In 2015, Majestic renewed this agreement through 2019.

Starting with 2000 and through 2019, all teams using majestic jerseys display the Majestic sleeve logo on game jerseys except the New York Yankees who contractually have bare sleeves.

Majestic "team spec" full-weight knit game jerseys have a white tag sewn inside the side seam with an "0062" on it. "Retail spec" jerseys have a "6200" tag number. Cool Base jerseys have "6300" or "0063" respectively.

Below, typical embroidered game jersey sleeve logos. Majestic game jersey sleeve logos are always single-color and are often keyed to coordinate with the team's colors. Look for the secret hidden debossed ® in the embroidered Majestic sleeve logo, which until recently was a *pretty good assurance* you were getting an authentic Majestic jersey. Then, counterfeiters got wise, and I have seen it on many fakes, 2015 and later.

In 2000, a few teams used small, sewn-on Majestic sleeve logos on some styles of jerseys. This was likely because these teams (the Brewers and Cubs for example) had just switched to Majestic from Russell, and the sewn-on logos were a temporary bridge to the embroidered design.

2000 sewn-on Majestic logo patch (only a few teams, one season only)

Embroidered Majestic sleeve logos with hidden ® symbol

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Majestic Flex Base Visible Marks and Tagging, 2016-2019

Shown here: Minnesota Twins 2016 Alternate jersey, as used in 2016 Spring Training.

At top, the "standard" Silhouetted Batter applique as it usually appears on teams with blue and red in their color palate. Below it, in one of many custom color-keyed combinations as it appears on teams that don't use blue and red.

The embroidered sleeve logo changes to include "Majestic" text, and the secret hidden ® from prior years is gone.

The change to Flex Base authentic jersey construction and branding began in 2016 on all game jerseys as well as the new Spring Training jerseys. The Flex Base tag is a rubberized applique heat pressed to the front left tail, and each tag includes the jersey size printed on it. There is no inside-the-neck tag on either team issued or retail sale versions.

The Majestic "twin peaks" logo is **embroidered** on the left sleeve and is color keyed to the jersey: usually white on dark jerseys, and team-colored on light colored and white jerseys. There is no longer a hidden debossed ® mark in the embroidery.

The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo is sewn on the back collar of all on-field jerseys. It is made of a shiny, rubberized vinyl and has two colors, often keyed to the team's colors. The standard color of the logo is blue/white/red, if not keyed to the team. There is no externally visible difference between team spec and retail spec Flex Base jerseys. The only difference is the code on the inside seam tag (see pages immediately ahead).

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Majestic Cool Base Game Jersey Visible Tagging: 2003-2015

Majestic Authentic Cool Base jersey tagging first appeared on Cool Base batting jerseys of 2003. It included a 3 ¼" x 1 ¾" rectangular tag on the left outside jersey tail, as well as a small 1 ½" x ½" x fabric tab sewn into the side seam. Starting in 2006, similar tags appeared on all authentic retail and on-field Cool Base game jerseys. Note that game jersey jock tags include a small add-on box with the jersey size that the BP jerseys lack. Teams now could now no longer choose a different placement for this jock tag; it was always applied on the left front tail. The tag itself is a rubberized applique, and has simulated stitching around the edges. However it is not stitched on. Many "counterfeit authentic" jerseys have a facsimile of this tag reproduced on a stitched-on cloth patch.

The Majestic "Twin Peaks" logo is embroidered on the left sleeve end of all Majestic Authentic Cool Base game jerseys. It is identical to the one found on full-weight knit jerseys on the prior page, including the hidden ® mark.

Shown here too is the same style Authentic Collection patch on an orange Orioles Alternate jersey which also includes an MLB-hologram authentication. Batting jerseys got their own special tagging starting in 2011, which included the team name and small logo. These can be seen in both the Batting Practice Jerseys chapter, as well as the individual teams' chapters.

Cool Base game jersey jock tags are always heat-pressed to the left front of the tail. Massive numbers of counterfeit jerseys exist where this tag is sewn on. 2005 to early 2012 use the "rounded M" Majestic logo, late 20122015 Cool Base jerseys have a tag with the "sharp" M in Majestic. The bottom tag pictured here also has an MLB on-field authentication hologram, which is covered in the "Is It Game Worn- A Basic Guide to Authentication" chapter.

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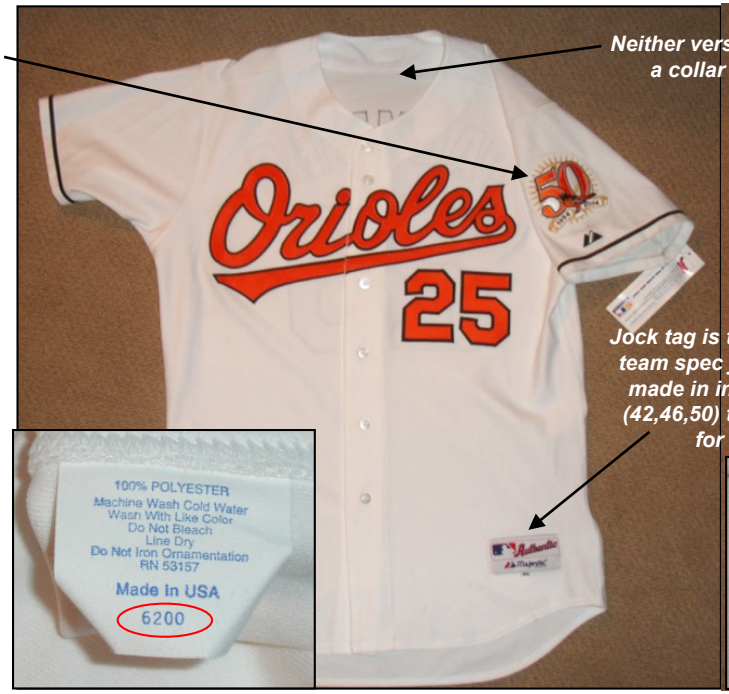
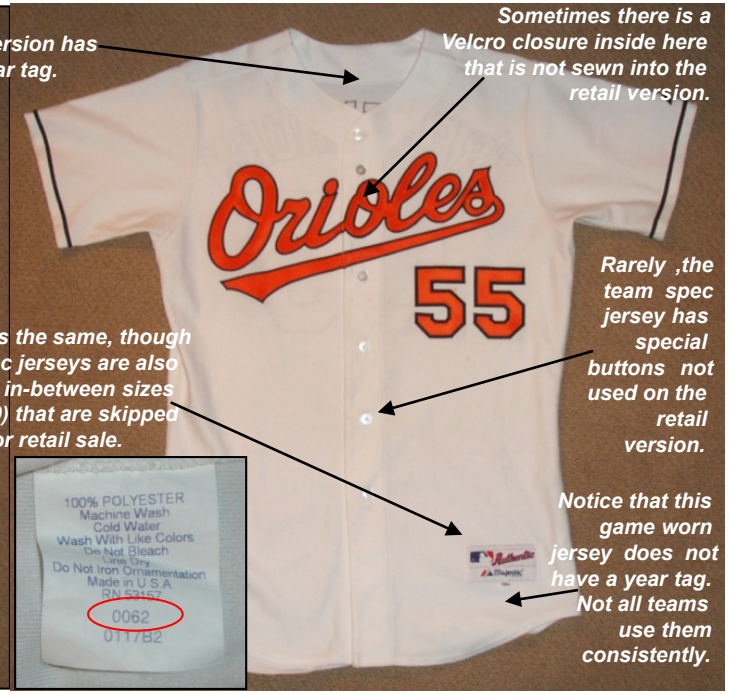
Majestic Game Jerseys: Store Bought vs. Team Spec

Retail jersey may or may not have special anniversary patches sewn on the sleeves. Affixing a one-year memorial patch on a jersey can make it obsolete after its current year, earning it a trip to the discount bin. Jerseys without such a patch may remain as current inventory for a longer time. The decision on including a patch is really up to the retailer.

Retail jerseys will almost never have memorial patches (like this one, below) sewn to them. These are reserved for team issued jerseys only.



Retail spec, full-weight knit example



Team spec version

Neither version has a collar tag.

Sometimes there is a Velcro closure inside here that is not sewn into the retail version.

Jock tag is the same, though team spec jerseys are also made in in-between sizes (42,46,50) that are skipped for retail sale.

Rarely ,the team spec jersey has special buttons not used on the retail version.

Notice that this game worn jersey does not have a year tag. Not all teams use them consistently.

There are not very many differences between Majestic retail spec authentic jerseys and ones made destined for team issue. Majestic is proud to say that jerseys made for the public and those made for the team are made in the same place, by the same people on the same sewing machines.

On this 2005 jersey, note the code on the tag sewn inside the right side seam, visible only when the jersey is turned inside-out. In this time-frame, knit jerseys carry a 0062 designation when they are made for team use, 6200 when they are made for retail sale. Cool Base team spec game jerseys carry an 0063 designation, 6300 when they are made for retail sale. (See information detailing these inside tags a few pages ahead.)

Team spec jersey <u>might</u> have a year tag, and/or special tailoring tags. Retail ones as a rule do not.

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Nike's/Majestic's "Secret" Inside Seam Tag on Game Jerseys

It's nothing more than a tiny tag containing a bunch of cryptic codes, sewn hidden into the side seam at the time of the jersey's construction. It would be very easy to reproduce. But the fact is, only the very well informed would even know to look for it, and even fewer experts would know how to decode what is written on it.

With prior editions, we could suggest with confidence that the presence…or lack… of this tag was your best guarantee. But since then, we have now seen some fakes with these tags in place. Not perfectly identical ones… but seam tagging nonetheless!

Keep in mind we are talking here only about Majestic and Nike jerseys from about 2000 to present, but this is a good start as they represent a large percentage of the jerseys being bought and sold online.

It would be wonderful if I could provide you with a list of all the codes used by Majestic and Nike, but I cannot. Even my contacts at manufacturers were unable to give me a complete list of codes that vary from the "standard set." But I have gone through some of my collection and offer some examples you can trust are real, against which you can compare your jerseys. We can simply say this: If the jersey you want has a tag that looks very much like one of these, it is likely authentic, unless the counterfeiters have gotten wise in a hurry that readers of this book are "on to" them and adjust their fakes accordingly!

Note that, since 2020, Nike has "manufactured" MLB jerseys. In reality, it is their branding on a jersey made by Fanatics, who bought out the Majestic factory to continue production. As such, since nothing has changed in jersey production between Majestic and Nike as of this writing, these tags remain even with the "new on-field manufacturer"

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Common Majestic Inside Seam Tag Codes; Game Jerseys

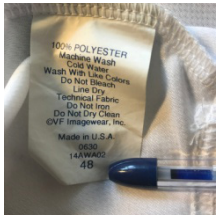
Majestic Game Jerseys	Team Issued	Retail Sale
Full Weight Knit 2000-2017	0062	6200
Full Weight Knit Turn Back the Clock	62TB or TB62	No separate designation
Cool Base 2005-2015	0063 or 0630	6300
Flex Base 2016-2019 (Includes Spring Training jerseys)	0730	7300

These are the most common codes. There are other variations used that are not listed here.

2000-early 2012 **Late 2012-2015** **2016-2019**

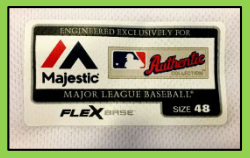
Full-weight knit 2000-2019 Full-weight knit TBTC

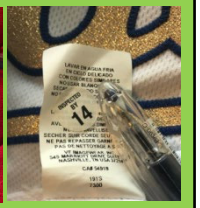
2005-early 2012 **Late 2012-2015**



Cool Base game jersey 2005-2015

Note that on Flex Base jerseys, the style number is on the flip-side of the tag from the size marking.





Flex Base game jersey and Spring Training 2016-2019

(A page similar to this one covering BP jerseys is included in the Batting Practice Jerseys chapter.)

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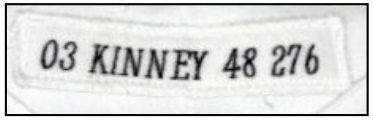
Majestic's Team-Specific Inventory Tagging, Pre-Barcode Tags 2000-2014

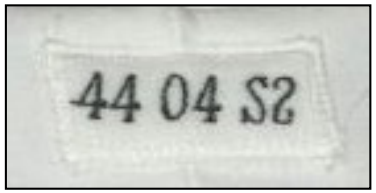
When Majestic won the contract to supply on-field uniforms for all 30 MLB teams for 2005, it also took on the obligation of tailoring and sewing names and numbers on all players' jerseys. Still, all teams always keep a local stitcher "just in case" to do repairs, tailoring, sew mid-season memorial patches and put names and numbers on blank jerseys for last-moment call-ups. And some teams like the Mets use a local stitcher for most/all of their mid-season work, using Majestic only for making the first uniform set of the spring.

In taking over this customization responsibility, Majestic did its best to satisfy each team, and that included sewing coded set tags onto uniforms in the very specific manner and place that each team requested. Some tags were very simple, like the Phillies' requirement for a two-digit year under the bottom button on the shirt tail. Others were far more specific. The Cubs' code contained the player number, the jersey size, the two-digit year, and the set number. Still others, like the Brewers, frequently included the player's last name on the tag. These tags would be sewn in the specific place each team required, and all were unique… inside the back tail, inside the back of the collar, or inside/outside the right or left tail. Some used white fabric, others used a piece of same-colored jersey fabric.

Surely, having every team requiring a different code format and a different method and place to sew their inventory tags was a hassle for Majestic. It seems that Majestic tried to get teams to standardize on a common method if they were willing: a white felt tag, sewn under the jock tag on the front left tail, containing the size, two-digit year and the set number, and with each year, more and more teams adopted this standard.

By 2015, these small embroidered felt tags, custom for each team, had all but disappeared. Teams had switched to the new QC-encoded Mylar tags, shown on the next page.





Above, top to bottom: Phillies, Cubs, Brewers, Braves, Blue Jays. These are examples of Majestic tags, recognizable by their style and the fact that they are sewn on felt. Each team designates the codes used. Beware of faked strip tags on famous-name player jerseys.

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Beginning 2013: Majestic's Team Inventory QC Barcode Tagging

While **team tagging** is covered in Chapter 6 under Authentication, this is a topic that crosses boundaries. Starting in 2013, Majestic began to offer teams standardized QR-coding inventory tags on player jerseys as an alternative to unique individual teams' tagging. In the first couple of years of this effort there were some takers (including Astros, Padres, Cardinals and Mets) and this method become more widely accepted, until it became universal for Flex Base jerseys starting in 2016. These permanently affixed vinyl tags feature a standard square "QR" code in the upper right corner which contains a standard set of data for each jersey. These aid in authentication, because, while not impossible to reproduce by any means, they add yet another hurdle for counterfeiters to jump across to make fake team issued or game worn jerseys.

The example at top left is from a Mets pinstriped home jersey. The basic information contained in the QC barcode is printed in alphanumeric code below. It says that the jersey is #25, in is a size 50 with standard taper added to the waist, the date of issue is 2013, and it is part of the first set of jerseys made by Majestic for team use at the start of the season.

At the top right is a Padres alternate camouflage jersey that is size 48 with standard taper, has a 3" longer body and 1" additional length sleeves, from 2014.

At bottom right is a similar jersey made to team specs – perhaps called "team issued" but it was probably made from the beginning as an extra, destined for retail sale if not needed by the player. Its code simply says "size 46 2014" Now, keep in mind that more data can be stored in the code than is printed on the cryptic line below, including perhaps the NOB information and the color of the jersey. One thing it can not tell you is whether or not the jersey is game worn! That is the job of the MLB Authentication Hologram, and that information is covered in our chapter on **Game Worn Authentication**.

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Here are more examples of Majestic QC code tagging, this time on two similar *Los Mets* jerseys. Tracing the MLB Authentication codes helps us uncover more information here. (At left) EK 656925 (on the hologram) tells us that it was made for the Mets "Team Issued Collection"– in other words, it is his size and could have been made for him to wear, and *he <u>might</u> have even worn it, but no authenticator witnessed him wearing it in a game.* Tagging says #16, size 46, 2013, set 1. Note the inside seam barcode, which is paper and not meant to be permanent, showing additional data about this jersey. These "extra" team tagged jerseys are a money-making proposition for the team, as they know they can always be sold to fans hungry for team issued/tagged merchandise.

At the bottom right is the tag from an identical-appearing Los Mets jersey, except this one is authenticated as game worn by David Wright, July 29, 2014 (hologram EK 656825). Notice that the tag shows different data: Player #5, size 46C (C is for "custom tailoring specification), + 1" body length, minus ½" sleeve length, 2014, set 1.

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Russell Athletic, Official Supplier to MLB: 1992-1999, Co-Official Supplier (with Rawlings) 2000-2004

In 1992, Russell replaces Rawlings and is awarded the contract to be the new official supplier of MLB game jerseys. Most but not all teams switched to Russell jerseys on the field; some teams had prior contracts with other manufacturers and could continue. However, starting in 1992, only Russell's "R" logo can be displayed on the sleeve of game jerseys used on the field. Teams that continued to use competitors' jerseys wore them with their sleeves devoid of manufacturer's logos. In the stores, Russell replaces Rawlings as the retail maker of jerseys for all teams and Russell logos appear on all teams' sleeves. While teams like the Cardinals, Yankees, Braves and White Sox (among others) continued to wear Rawlings or Wilson jerseys on the field, these teams "Authentic Collection" jerseys sold to the public were made by Russell and bore the Russell "R" on their sleeves.Russell loses its exclusivity when Majestic and Rawlings are co-suppliers to MLB from 2000-2002, and Majestic is co-supplier from 2003-2004, providing sleeve-logoed on-field and retail jerseys for a handful of teams.

Early 1992:

When Russell first secured the MLB on-field contract from Rawlings, a brief time passed before the familiar Diamond Collection tagging was adopted. In my years of collecting, I have seen only a small number of these type tags on MLB jerseys; a style which had been used by Russell prior to their MLB contract. Russell continued to use this style tagging for a brief time thereafter on jerseys made for college and other non-MLB teams. Note the early Intera tag on the one at left.

Sleeve Logo: As the "official" provider of MLB jerseys to teams, if the team wore Russell jerseys on the field, they displayed the Russell "R" on the sleeve end. An exception- Yankees sleeves are always bare. The "R" is usually in one-color keyed to the team, but sometimes (and not always!) if the team has both red and blue in its logo, the "R" will be two-colored like the official Russell logo type.

(A) 1992- Most of 1993:

The first Diamond Collection tags. Note the rather flat orientation of the "Diamond" script and the words "Major League Baseball" written in the base path of the logo. The silhouetted batter logo sits in the center of the green "infield."

Both "100% Polyester" and "Intera Fabric" tags are seen on these early Russell jerseys. Only certain teams seemed to have jerseys with the Intera tags. I do not know if there was a different specification to those jerseys with Intera Fabric tags. But they were noted to be 100% Nylon and not "Polyester" (defined as having multiple synthetic fibers, not 100% Nylon). To me, those so marked seem to be a slightly silkier, smoother and lighter fabric that wrinkles more easily. Russell neck tags noting the garment size are a feature of retail-sale jerseys only. Russell jerseys made for the teams' use omit neck tags

1992-1999 jerseys have the R on the right sleeve. In 2000 the R moves to the left sleeve; the same year that the Silhouetted Batter appeared on the back of the neck. All Russell jerseys made in 2000 and later have the R on the left sleeve.

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(B) "4-line washing Instructions" Late 1993-1998: The "Major League Baseball" text disappears, and the "Diamond Collection" script is now slanted at a steeper angle. "Third base" in the green field of the logo disappears, now covered by the script logo, and the Silhouetted Batter logo moves lower, now partly covering the lower white "base path." These are used less and less often 1994-1998 until they disappear from use before 1999.

(C) "5- Line Washing Instructions" 1994-early 2000: Nearly identical to the other style, but the washing instructions change slightly, and now take up five lines instead of four. These first appear in 1994 and are used more and more frequently until they are the only style used by 1999 and were used in along with the style on the next page in 2000 until the stock was depleted.

Note the date-overlap in use of these styles. It would be very nice to be able to say that tagging styles switched over on a certain date, and that all jerseys made after that date used a new style tag. In real-life it doesn't work that way. Unless a major corporate change of ownership or contractual rebranding happens, which would require an immediate switchover, when there are minor changes to logos or washing instructions, to save money old tags are simply used until they are gone. I suspect as new style tags are ordered, the new boxes of tags start to get mixed in with the old ones until gradually, the old tags are depleted. The table below shows my casual, unscientific observation of the use of the Russell tags on these pages on year-tagged on-field MLB jerseys. One notable fact is that on supposed-team-issued star player jerseys offered at auction. More often than not, the NEWER style tag is present. My suspicion is that many of these jerseys are created far after the start of the season or perhaps even after the season has ended, to be used by the player as gifts to friends, for signing events, or by the manufacturer as gifts to loyal customers and vendors.

(D) 2000-2001: The tag is completely redesigned. Russell loses its exclusivity as the only manufacturer allowed to display its logo on field-worn MLB jerseys. The top half of the tag is now a common design that is shared among Russell and other manufacturers of Authentic Collection jerseys, Rawlings and Majestic. These were used into 2001 until the stock was depleted.

(E) 2001-2003: Later in the 2001 season, this new tag replaces the old, and the Registered Trademark symbol (®) moves down to sit next to the word "Athletic" from its earlier position next to the word "Russell."

(F) 2004: In the last year of their contract, the Russell Athletic logo is slightly redesigned with an italic type face and a color modification.

For more information, ESPN News- 2003: Russell loses MLB contract after 2004: http://espn.go.com/sportsbusiness/news/2003/0806/1591412.html

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	Tag Style A	Tag Style B	Tag Style C	Tag Style D	Tag Style E	Tag Style F
1992	almost 100%	0%				
1993	85%	10%	<5%			
1994	0%	95%	<5%			
1995	0%	95%	<5%			
1996	0%	80%	20%			
1997	0%	20%	80%			
1998	0%	5%	95%			
1999	0%	0%	10%	90%		
2000	0%	0%	10%	88%		
2001	0%	0%	0%	80%	20%	
2002-2003	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	
2004	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%

This table documents what I have observed over the years. The near-concurrent use of tag styles B and C for several years is notable, as the only difference between them is a change in the washing instructions. The odd appearance in 2000 of a handful of 1992-1993 tags might simply mean that someone pulled an old dusty box of obsolete tags off the back of some storeroom shelf and put them into production. Significance: beware mostly of claimed-older jerseys with tags that are too new to have been offered in that year. For example, I have encountered famous player jerseys year-tagged as 1998 with manufacturer tagging that did not exist until 1999. While one could cynically assign fraudulent intentions to such an event, it is always possible that the team (or the player) ordered up a bunch of extra year-tagged jerseys after the end of the 1998 season, meaning for them to be used as gifts for friends and associates. This is a common practice.

1994 tagging examples, for your consideration: ***The left grouping of two tags are both from 1994-dated Yankee jerseys****. The Kamieniecki one has the earlier-style four lines of washing instructions. The Paul O'Neil one has the later five-lines.* ***The right-side group of two are from 1994 Red Sox jerseys****. The left tag is from a common player jersey and has the earlier, four-line washing instructions. The right one with the "1994" notation has the later style five lines and is from a purported Roger Clemens jersey. I am always suspicious of any jersey claimed to be from a star player (like O'Neil or Clemens) because the chances of seller fraud are so much greater. Fewer than 5% of the 1994 jerseys documented in my photo archives have the 5-line wash instructions. My guess is that the star player jerseys with the later style tags were made either later in the season or perhaps even after the season had ended. Also note the notably greater wear on the left tag in each set. Take these as my own observations and draw your own conclusions.*

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1992-2004 Russell Game Jerseys: Retail Store Bought vs. Team Spec

Retail version nearly always has a collar tag. Team spec jerseys do not.

Special sleeve patches may be included on both.

Sometimes, but rarely, the team spec jersey has special buttons not used on the retail version.

Jock tag is the same, though team spec jerseys are also made in in-between sizes (42,46,50) that are skipped for retail sale.

Sometimes there is a Velcro closure inside here that is usually not sewn into the retail version.

Tiny "100% Polyester" flag tag is found on most team spec jerseys. Notice that this game worn jersey does not have a year tag. Not all teams use them consistently.

Retail Spec

Team Spec

There are a few small differences between Russell team-spec jerseys compared to ones made for retail sale.

The most common difference is that the retail version usually has a collar tag, and the team spec ones do not. But this is not always the case. Especially after 1999, collar tags were often omitted from retail sale jerseys as well.

The most consistent difference is the presence of a tiny "100% Polyester" fiber tag sewn below the front jock tag on team spec models.

Team spec jersey <u>might</u> have a year tag, and/or special tailoring tags. Retail ones as a rule do not.

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...But Be Careful of End of Style Run Exceptions

All of these jerseys were purchased from discounters, and they are indeed team-spec jerseys, not retail sale models. When styles are discontinued or a manufacturer loses the contract to sell authorized merchandise (as Russell did after 2004) everything that remains in stock is dumped without ceremony to the discounters.
Buyer beware, as both of these jerseys at the top of this page have since been lettered with famous player names and numbers and can easily be passed off as "team issued" or "game worn."

Just remember that the current owner and seller is not necessarily responsible for the deception. As these jerseys are bought and sold, their history often becomes obliterated. Your seller may truly believe that his jersey is game worn because that is what he was told when he bought it. As a buyer, it is your responsibility to make an educated judgment.

(Left) At press time, I found these newly-discontinued Majestic 2014-2016 Mets and Yankees BP jerseys at a retail discounter at the start of the 2017 season. All the ones on the rack I examined had the "on-field" 0380 code on the inside seam tag, not the retail sale 3800 tag! Easy to turn into fake star player "team issued" jerseys for someone with a profit motive and a low standard of ethics.

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Rawlings On-Field Tagging 1970-2002

Rawlings of St. Louis, MO was a major supplier of uniforms to MLB teams since early in the 20th Century. But in 1987, Rawlings made news by being named the first official uniform supplier to Major League Baseball. The award had several immediate impacts:

1. They offered their uniforms to all MLB teams to wear on the field, though if teams already had existing contracts with other makers, these deals were respected. Teams were not required to switch to Rawlings on field uniforms. Three teams (Braves, Blue Jays, and Yankees) stayed exclusively with Wilson in 1987, and several others sourced their uniforms simultaneously from Rawlings and other manufacturers during the entire period of Rawlings' contractual relationship.
2. For the first time, they were authorized to display their company brand on the sleeve of all on-field uniforms they supplied. No other manufacturer was afforded this privilege.
3. Rawlings was authorized to sell retail jerseys for all the MLB teams, all with the Rawlings logo on the sleeves, regardless of whether the team was wearing Rawlings or other-branded uniforms on the field. This was the first time that authentic on-field jerseys were sold to the public, even though distribution was sparse.

1970-1971

This tag style is the same as used toward the end of the flannel era during the 1960s, and these appeared on the very first Rawlings double knit jerseys worn in 1970-1971 by the Cardinals and the Pirates. Washing instructions are provided on a second separate tag sewn near the manufacturer's logo tag.

1972-1984

The classic rectangular "Action Tailored" solid red tag appeared first in 1972 and continued without any changes for fifteen years, through 1984. Washing instructions appear on three lines below the "Mark of a Pro" slogan.

1985-very early 1988

The rectangular "Action Tailored" solid red tag changed very slightly for 1985-1987, with the remaining supplies used up during early 1988. Washing instructions become more specific and now take up four lines below the "Mark of a Pro" slogan. The tag is slightly taller than before, presumably to fit the extra words in.

Uncommon: Late 1986-1987

Of the thousands of jersey photos in my collection, I have come across this style tag only a few times, on a few teams' game worn 1987 jerseys. I have seen a single reasonably verifiable 1986 example.

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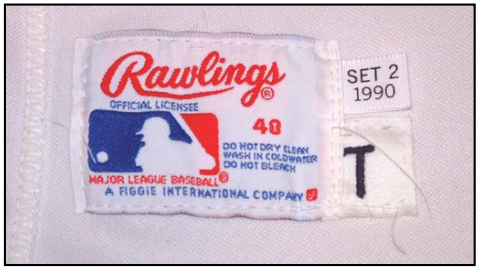
1988 - 1990

The new-look white "A Figgie International Company" tag. Use in 1988 started after the 1987 style red tags were used up. Used on greater than 95% of 1989 jerseys while the tag below phases in, with this tag also appearing on 5% of 1990 jerseys.



Late 1990 - 1991

Tag loses the "Made in USA" and "Do not use in automatic dryer" lines of text. Seen on fewer than 5% of 1989 on-field jerseys, but 95% of 1990 jerseys, and all early 1991 jerseys before a mid-season phase in of the tag style below. *(I suspect this tag was introduced postseason 1989 and found its way onto (mostly) samples of star players made for year-end gifts for special customers.)*

Mid 1991- 1994 The "Action Tailored" red tag returns, but this red tag is larger than the earlier ones. "Figgie International" is no longer mentioned. "Made in the USA" returns and is at the bottom right, under the size. These phase in after the 1991 season starts and seem to appear on the mid-season 1991 TBTC uniforms first.

Late 1994 - 1995 The red tag loses the jersey size, which now moves to a separate sewn-on flag tab. The washing instructions now take up four lines, and "Made in the USA" moves to the bottom and is centered. These are occasionally seen on 1996 year-tagged jerseys, as old stock was used.

Late 1995 - 1999

Most 1995 jerseys have the previous style red tag. The smaller tag below is usually sewn in the collar.

2000 - 2002

Rawlings tags can carry the "Authentic Collection" logo for the first time in these two years, and then Rawlings disappears as a supplier of on-field MLB apparel. Rawlings has not made MLB jerseys since Majestic was awarded the MLB contract in 2004, a sort of sad end to nearly one hundred years of MLB uniform history.

This black Rawlings tag appeared on a few 2002 on-field Turn Back the Clock jerseys made by Rawlings, like those for the Rangers and Blue Jays. It's hard to see, but the Rawlings "R" in an oval is woven into the fabric background pattern in the upper left. It is visible only in bright light and at an angle. Zoom in to see it.

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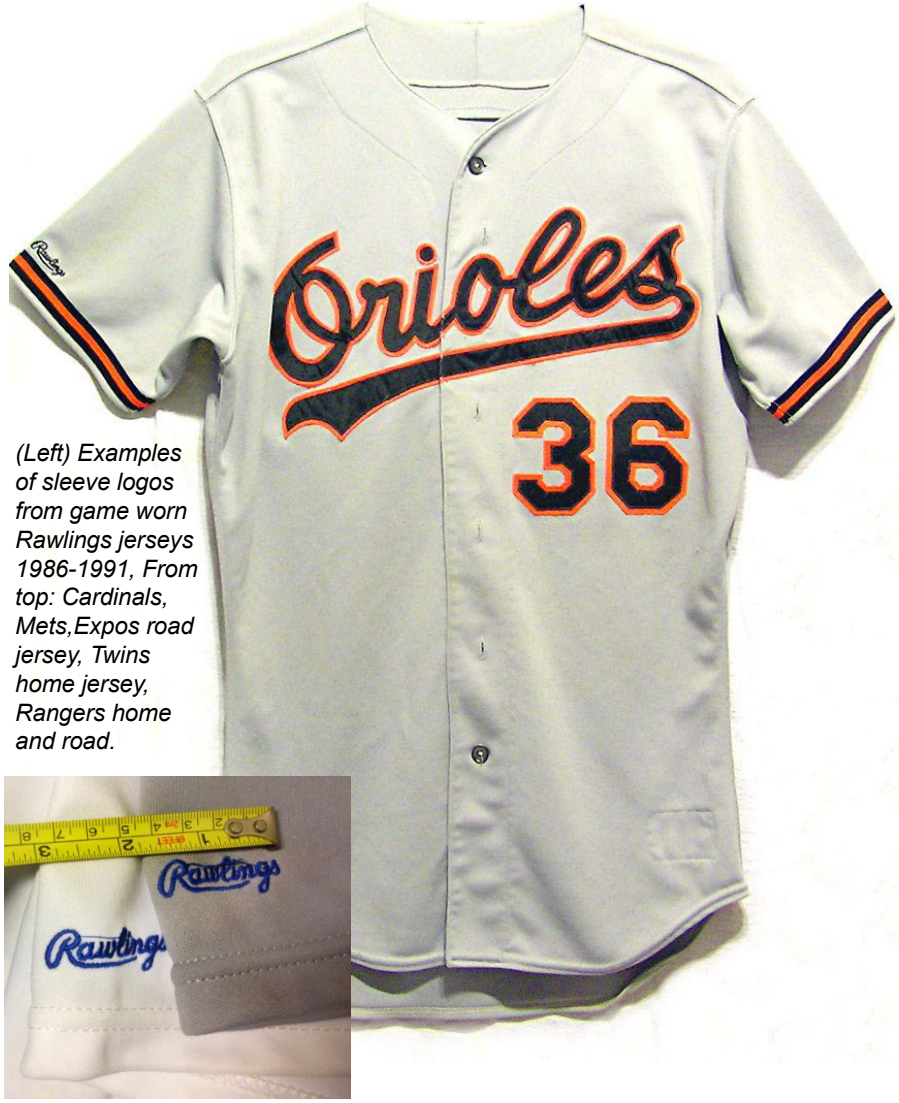
Rawlings Authentic Jersey Sleeve Logos 1987-1991

For the 1987 season, Rawlings won the contract to become the “official supplier” of game jerseys to Major League Baseball, a contract that carried through the end of the 1991 season. Starting in 1987, and continuing through 1991, teams that wore Rawlings jerseys had them adorned with this small, 1 ¾” long embroidered logo on the end of the right sleeve. Some jerseys instead had the logo on a small patch. In many cases, I suspect the small sewn on tags were added to finished goods inventory after the legal approval was granted to include them. In this way, all the old stock was brought up-to-date and used until it was depleted. Note the example on the pinstriped Twins jersey at right.

Not all teams wore Rawlings game jerseys. Those teams with existing contracts with other manufacturers could continue with their current vendors such as Wilson or Sand-Knit. However, these teams wore these jerseys with no visible manufacturers’ logo.

Jerseys with the Rawlings logo glued to the left sleeve are Minor League jerseys.



(Left) Examples of sleeve logos from game worn Rawlings jerseys 1986-1991, From top: Cardinals, Mets,Expos road jersey, Twins home jersey, Rangers home and road.

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Rawlings Authentic Collection Jersey Sleeve Logos 2000-2002

There were no MLB authentic or game worn jerseys with Rawlings sleeve logos made from 1992-1999. Under contract, only Russell was permitted to display its logo on team jersey sleeves between 1992-1999.

But Russell's exclusivity on branding MLB uniform sleeves for the world to see ended in 1999. While Russell still supplied uniforms to most MLB clubs, and still displayed their logo on their sleeves, teams that could make a deal with Rawlings were permitted to display the logo of that maker on their sleeves. A few teams, like the Rangers, Cardinals and Pirates, contracted with Rawlings for their game jerseys and displayed the new Rawlings "R" sleeve logo during these three years only on game jerseys.

Russell also lost *exclusive* rights to making retail jerseys in 2000, so if Rawlings made a team's on-field jerseys, they were entitled to make and logo the retail-sale version of the jersey as well.

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Rawlings *Retail Authentic* Tagging, 1987-2002

1987 Retail: When Rawlings won the right to market pro, on-field jerseys at retail, some jerseys got this hastily concocted papery fabric printed tag *(top)* sewn on the outer left tail instead of the pro red tags. They were poorly attached, sewn on only two sides, and often fell off after a few washings, leaving only the zig-zag attaching thread behind. Others got the standard Rawlings red tag *(bottom)* but stitched on only two sides instead of all four.

1988-1990

1991

Late 1991

1988-1991: The same style tags are used on BOTH on-field jerseys and retail authentics during these years, though the exact cut-off of years of use were less strict since they likely used up all available old stock before changing to a new tag. While team issued spec jerseys have the Rawlings tag sewn all the way around on all four sides, jerseys made for retail sale have the tag sewn on only two sides like the ones above. The cheap, paper-like shirt tail tag at the far left guarantees a store-bought example. If you find a jersey with the tag factory-sewn on only two sides, you have found a retail sale jersey.

1992-1999?

None. While Rawlings contractually continued to make on-field jerseys for several teams, by new rules starting in 1992 they were no longer permitted to make or sell any branded examples to the public at retail. Legally, that right belonged to Russell alone. The lesson: Know what manufacturer(s) made your team's on-field jerseys for each of these years and be educated and aware when someone offers a Russell branded one as "team issued" when it really may be a retail authentic.

Sleeve logo, 2000-2002

2000-2002- Rawlings briefly contractually resumed making on-field jerseys eight teams: The Angels, Diamondbacks, Dodgers, Mets, A's, Pirates, Cardinals and Rangers. As such they could sell only these teams at retail with their sleeve logo and tags in place. Tail jock tags are the same as team issued, and now sewn on all four sides but lacking year or size flag tags. The size tag is in the back of the neck.

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Rawlings Minor League Tagging & Clues

Besides making jerseys for the MLB, Rawlings enjoyed a strong business outfitting baseball's Minor League clubs. Often, MiLB teams used the same designs and patterns as their MLB parent. It is not uncommon to see these advertised for sale as MLB-issued jerseys when they are not. This is not intended to be a full tutorial on Minor League jerseys, but here are a few things to look for:

1) Starting in 1987, Rawlings had the right to embroider their logo on the sleeve end of on-field MLB jerseys they made, and on the sleeves of all "Retail Authentics" 1987-1991 period. The MLB logo was embroidered on the right sleeve, Minor League jerseys had a smaller, glued on Rawlings applique logo on the LEFT sleeve. Below are two Indians jerseys made by Rawlings for years when other manufacturers had the contract to make Indians' on-field jerseys. These jerseys have a small embroidered appliqué glued to their sleeves.

(note the somewhat rare Olin-Crews patch at left, this patch was also worn by Indians MLB and Minor League affiliates in 1993).

2) The specific style of jersey is different than any I have cataloged for the Texas Rangers. The MLB Rangers never wore this attractive blue mesh jersey, but one of their Minor League affiliates did. Note the red tag sewn on only two, not all four sides.

3) The jersey uses screened-on graphics and numbers. There are very few examples of MLB jerseys that use heat pressed lettering, and all are called out in this book. Most of the ones with screened on graphics are Minor League issue.

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Wilson Team Spec Tagging: Late 1960s-1985

Though Wilson has been the supplier of on-field jerseys to many different teams over the years, its licensing agreement has never included permission to display its logo to the public, therefore on MLB jerseys, Wilson tags are always hidden inside the collar or on the shirt tail. Note that Wilson's trademark has never been displayed on the sleeve of any MLB jersey, neither on those worn by players nor on those sold in stores. Wilson does, however, supply jerseys to Minor League clubs as an "official supplier," so there are jerseys advertised as "game worn" with Wilson tags on the sleeves. If advertised as game worn, they are from the Minor Leagues with certainty.

Late 1960s-1973

1974-1977

(Late) 1977-1985

These three styles of Wilson tags shown above, used between 1970-1985, are all sewn in the inside back of the jersey's collar

Features red vertical line and bold stylized red jersey size numbers with small serifs. Washing instructions are short and to the point and take up five lines.

Red line disappears, and jersey size numbers change to a slightly different font (notice the shape of the "4"). More complex washing instructions now take up seven lines.

Tag is slightly shorter and more oblong. The ® symbol moves lower. The red Wilson logo changes slightly: notice that the tail on the "n" is shortened and that the "s" and the "o" are no longer connected. Garment size number font changes slightly again (notice the "foot" or serif on the bottom of the "4").

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Wilson Team Spec Tagging 1986-1999

1986-1988: Wilson tags move to the shirt tail for the first time in 1986 and gain the slogan "Tailored Exclusively for Prestige Teams." Recall that in 1987, Rawlings had been named the "official supplier of game uniforms for Major League Baseball" for the first time. This slogan was a way of Wilson saying: "*We may not be Major League Baseball's official supplier, but obviously this team preferred us and chose us anyway.*"

The Wilson W in a circle logo is stitched in the background in lighter red. For the first time, the size is on a separate flag tag that can be attached to either the right side or the bottom of the larger tag. Small tag also says: "care on reverse."

1986-1997- The tag design and shirt tail placement stay the same, but the tag is now slightly smaller. Size tag is now a smaller square and loses the "care on reverse" wording. Size tag is sewn on the right side of, or below the larger tag,

1998-1999: By 1998, Wilson is the vendor for only a couple of teams, and even then, they are supplying only one style and/or set for those teams. This style tail tag is used only on Braves and White Sox jerseys made during this period.

1988-1994

1995-1997

1998-1999

These styles of Wilson tagging are seen on Blue Jays on-field and retail Authentics 1988-1999. During this period, Wilson makes only select styles for the team. There are no tail tags, only neck tags. The style used 1988-1994 is printed on a vinyl-like fabric, and after a season of use the writing can wear completely away. This tagging also appears on Wilson-made minor league jerseys and is often accompanied there by a sewn Wilson "W" on the sleeve not permitted in MLB.

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Decoding Wilson's Cryptic Date Codes

Shown here is a white mesh jersey that might have been a spring training issue. It has screen printed graphics and a high number on back. It might also have been a minor league jersey. But what is of special interest here is a small tag sewn in the collar that says simply "EP". We've been aware of date tagging that Wilson had used on NFL jerseys. There, they used two alpha characters which refer to the year and month of manufacture. The first letter uses A through K to designate the year, oddly with A meaning year ending in 8, B ending in 9 etc. This pattern repeated every ten years. The second letter was for the month, with O meaning January, P = February, etc, through Z for December. When single characters are used it means the year only, with no month designated.

This jersey is coded as "EP" which would correlate to February 1992, reasonable for this jersey style and the type of Wilson tag used in the collar.

Year Code		Month Code			
A =	1988				
B =	1989	O =	Jan	U =	Jul
C =	1990	P =	Feb	V =	Aug
D =	1991	Q =	Mar	W =	Sep
E =	1992	R =	Apr	X =	Oct
F =	1993	S =	May	Y =	Nov
G =	1994	T =	Jun	Z =	Dec
H =	1995				

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Sand-Knit/Medalist- 1971-1973

Sand-Knit tagging from Braves' 1971 (test)-72-73 jerseys

1973 Brewers

This Wisconsin manufacturer and supplier to the NFL and the NBA first appeared in MLB as the supplier of the Braves' new and very flashy 1971 "test" double knit uniforms while they still were wearing wool flannels almost every day. The Braves adopted Sand-Knit as their uniform manufacturer for 1972-73. Sand-Knit tags almost always appear in two parts, either sewn directly beside each other, or directly above and below each other. One tag (the size tag) has the manufacturer's name and the garment size embroidered on it; the second tag has a specific team designation such as "Designed & Tailored Exclusively for the Milwaukee Brewers." Sand-Knit jerseys made for retail sale lacked this second tag (sometimes referred to as the "Exclusive Sand-Knit" Tag by collectors).

As you will see on the next few pages, Sand-Knit tagging is usually sewn in sets of two different tags together, and there is a great deal of inconsistency. Clearly, changes were made in tagging styles and old stock was used up as new styles were phased in.

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Sand-Knit/Medalist -1974-1975

1974: Brewers jerseys sported these tagging set variations, similar to the Braves 1971-73 tags shown on the prior page. Three versions of Brewers 19741975 tag sets are shown here.

Note lower case "M"

Note no hyphen in "Sand-Knit"

1975: All four manufacturer's tag sets are from 1975 year tagged jerseys, but all are slightly different! Red circles highlight a few differences. Sand-Knit jerseys had a new tag that said: "Medalist Sand-Knit," with a picture of a small gold medal between the words.

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Medalist/Sand-Knit -1976-1979

"Medalist" is now named first on the Sand-Knit tagging and is always started with a capital letter. Tags remain this same style from 1976-1979. One tag is a standard manufacturer tag containing the size designation. The other tag is the "Made exclusively for…" with the MLB team name following. Tags can be sewn either side by side or vertically, one above the other.

Medalist/Sand-Knit -1980

In 1980, Sand-Knit tags change again. Still keeping the critical information spread over two individual tags, both are now sewn almost exclusively side by side. Few exceptions do exist where they are vertically stacked. The word Medalist is now white outlined in black, and on top, and Sand-Knit is bold and stylized, directly below. "Made in USA" is at the bottom of the size tag.

Notice the subtle differences in the two (orange jersey) 1980 Astros tags. I have circled the differences to make them easier to see.

The tag at left is from a retail-sale model, "store bought" authentic Astros jersey from this same time period . Note that the size is designated as "Medium" not, say "Size 42."

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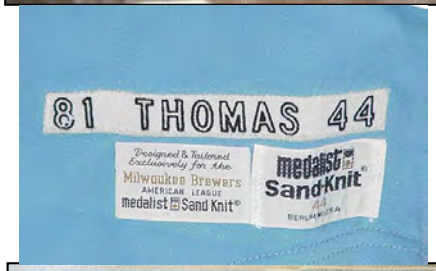
Medalist/Sand-Knit: 1981 through early 1984

For 1981-83, and seen on some 1984 issues, the word “Medalist” is solid black and placed on top. Sand-Knit is black and on bottom. The “Exclusive” tag is usually sewn to the left of the size tag.

Outlined hollow-letter style year and size tags were most likely applied by Sand-Knit at the factory where they were lettered. This style tagging is seen on Astros and White Sox jerseys of this period.



“S” may stand for “short.” “T” usually means tapered.

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Medalist /Sand-Knit, Late 1983 through early 1985

First appearing in late 1983, the tags change very slightly again. The size tag returns almost identically to the 1980 style except at the bottom it now says “Berlin, WI, USA”. The 1980 tags simply say: “Made in USA.” “Medalist” is again no longer capitalized. Each team still gets its own name on the “Exclusive” tag usually sewn immediately to the left.

Sand-Knit/MacGregor, Late 1985 & 1986

Before the end of the 1985 season, the tags drop the word “Medalist” from the size designation tag only. Sand-Knit became the major words on the size tag. “MacGregor Sporting Goods” is added below as the company was acquired in this time frame.

1986 is the final year that Sand-Knit makes game jerseys for any MLB teams.

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Goodman & Sons Jersey Tagging (1970-1992)

Goodman & Sons was a local, family owned business in the Los Angeles area. For many years, they made the uniforms for the local Dodgers and Angels, but also supplied uniforms to the Mets, Astros and a couple of other teams for brief periods. Goodman also made high-quality game worn jackets for many teams.

1975-1984 tags say, “Wash in 120º water”, seen on some early 1985 year tagged jerseys also. Garment size number font is very plain with no serifs.

1985-1992 tags say, “Wash in lukewarm water”. Garment size numbers are in a slightly more ornate type font with small serifs.

1980 Dodgers Only, Goodman – Mizuno Tag. Tag reads *“Manufactured exclusively for W.A. Goodman & Sons by Mizuno Corporation, Osaka Japan.”* Garment size is on tiny additional tag attached to the bottom right of the larger tag. The 1980 Goodman Astros jerseys I have seen do not use this tag.

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McAuliffe Uniform Corp. Tagging (1970-1982)

Tim McAuliffe Inc. was a relatively small business in suburban Boston that got its start as a distributor of hats in the 1930s, then rose to prominence as supplier of Red Sox uniforms in the 1940s.

McAuliffe was a distributor, not a manufacturer, and after owner Tim McAuliffe's death in 1969, manufacturer Stall & Dean acquired the brand and formed the McAuliffe Uniform Company. Uniform supplier to a handful of teams during the flannel era, by the time the double knit era began they served only the A's and Red Sox. They still made caps for a number of teams, and eventually was sold by 1986 and became part of the company known *New Era.*

McAuliffe tagging nearly always consists of four individual tags: Manufacturer's Tag, Garment Size Tag, Washing Instructions Tag, and Year Tag. These four tags can be sewn in any order, and either all together in one place on the garment (as is usually the case with the A's) or split between the collar and the front tail (as is often the case with the Red Sox).

Since McAuliffe never had a broad retail distribution presence, I have presented what I believe to be authentic examples of game worn McAuliffe tagging from 1971 through 1982. A set of 1982 uniforms were made for the A's but were said not to have been used by the team.

Important Note: Operating before the era of "Licensed Team Apparel," McAuliffe willingly made custom orders for individuals of any MLB jersey it manufactured, and even some jerseys for teams it did not supply. These show up on auction sites occasionally. For a long time we believed that there might be a subtle difference in tagging between retail jerseys and ones made for the team, but we have sensed determined that this is not true. This practice makes it difficult to tell what is truly team issued/game worn from what may have been a custom-made individual order.

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Descente (1977-1984)

Known primarily as a leading manufacturer of high quality sportswear and especially cold-weather gear, and based in Japan, they are a major supplier to the Japanese Baseball League. Descente made a cameo appearance in the United States, with only the Pirates (1977 to 1982) and 1981 Orioles using their products here, and in a limited way. Descente made the Pirates' crazy bumblebee pinstripe jerseys in 1977-1979 and their black jerseys starting in 1977, and because of fears that they would be too hot to wear, most were made from mesh, a first in MLB but not uncommon for Japan.

Descente had unique, odd lettering fonts, and one could tell if a player was wearing one of these Descente jerseys simply by looking at the lettering! Notably, on the Pirates black jerseys, there were at least five different widths of alphabet fonts used simultaneously on the field, depending on the length of players' names, perhaps an example of Japanese precision run amok!

(Right) 1982 and 1977 Pirates tagging (black), 1981 Orioles tag; (below) Five different degrees of compression of the Descente alphabet; rather excessive.

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Spalding (1970-1972)

Spalding was a major uniform supplier to teams during the flannel era, including the 1970 Orioles, Mets and Yankees. They appeared only briefly at the start of the double knit era, making uniforms for the Twins, Orioles, Angels and Astros. They were gone from the MLB scene after 1972.

I have heard it reported on several occasions that the Spalding-labeled knits of 1971 and 1972 were made FOR Spalding by an outsourced provider, likely Rawlings. And in examining small stitching details, like chain stitched tagging “handwriting” and the use of common number fonts, I believe that to be true. The Spalding brand was later acquired by Russell in 2002.

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AIS Custom Uniform Company (1995-2015)

AIS is a privately-held and relatively small company based in Huntington Park, CA, founded in 1984. AIS made some sets of uniforms for the Mets from 1995-1999 and has made a significant percentage of MLB's Turn Back the Clock uniforms over the years, specializing in Negro League reproductions.

AIS uniforms are double knit recreations of uniforms that were originally made of flannel.

AIS made very high-quality products for MLB, as well as being a major supplier of uniforms to Minor League Baseball and schools. Because they are not under contract as an "Official Supplier to MLB," contractually they are not permitted to show their logo to the public on game uniforms, and need to keep their tagging hidden on the tail or inside the jersey.

At left, AIS tail tag used up through 1998. Above, tag used 1999-2015. Mets jerseys with the AIS logo on the sleeve are Minor League issues; no MLB Mets jerseys have an AIS logo visible.

https://www.aisathleticuniforms.com/l

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Capital Ace (Japan) (1979-1981)

Almost an afterthought here, Capital Ace is a Japanese uniform manufacturer used in MLB solely by the White Sox for some of their white and blue “Leisure Suit” uniforms of 19791981, in both solid fabric and mesh. 1979 and 1980 issues are flag-tagged, but I have not seen any tagged 1981 examples. In my experience, many authentic game worn examples shrunk massively in use.

How there came to be a Japanese connection here, I still do not know.

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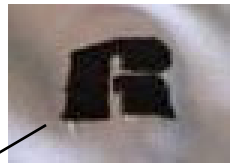
"Turn Back the Clock" MLB Game Jersey Suppliers

As Turn Back the Clock games began to become popular in the early 1990s, three basic rules were established: 1) The "Official Supplier" to the home team had the right of first refusal to make their Turn Back the Clock uniforms. 2) The home team was responsible for ordering and paying for the visiting team's uniforms. 3) Only the league's contracted authorized supplier could display a sleeve logo, If another company made the uniforms they were not permitted to display their branding.

During 1992-1995, the early years of these nostalgia games, official team providers Russell and Rawlings made Turn Back the Clock uniforms and sometimes displayed a sleeve logo (but not always, *perhaps* omitting them at team request for nostalgic authenticity?).

But as time went by in the 1990s, more and more, the nostalgia game business was passed up by the official suppliers and instead went to several makers specializing in team-worn, on-field Turn Back the Clock uniforms: Mitchell & Ness, AIS, and Ebbets Field Flannels. These uniforms always had logo-less, bare sleeves.



(Left) 1992- Russell had been the contracted official supplier to MLB and therefore is entitled to display its logo on game jersey sleeves. This 1992 Phillies TBTC jersey is a good example. (Below left) Likewise, Majestic, as an official MLB supplier in 2003 is entitled to sew its logo on the sleeve of this Cardinals TBTC jersey. (Below, right) The Royals often used AIS to make their Negro League tribute uniforms. The sleeves are bare of a manufacturer's logo per contractual rules.

We will not detail AIS here again, as we covered them just a few pages prior.

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Mitchell & Ness Turn Back the Clock Tagging

Recognized as the originator of the concept of making nostalgia uniforms, and maker of the highest quality cotton and wool flannel replicas, Mitchell & Ness was the first to supply flannels for the early TBTC contests in the 1990s. They broadened to include knit replicas and on-field Negro League reproductions (in cooperation with Ebbets Field Flannels) in a short time.

Mitchell & Ness team-spec TBTC uniforms often, *but not always* include a felt tag embroidered with the scheduled date of the contest. But beware that a few- or a few dozen- extras are made by the company for retail sale, so not every date-tagged example was actually used in a game.

Collectors should note that a huge percentage of the Mitchell & Ness non-game worn jerseys offered for sale on the Internet are sadly overseas-sourced counterfeits.

Some discussion on collector forums suggests that jerseys made for the teams have the felt date tag <u>beneath</u> the jock tag. Retail ones have it to the <u>side</u>. I have no confirmation of this as fact.

Mitchell & Ness tail tagging 1992-1998

Mitchell & Ness tail tagging 1999 and after

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Rawlings Turn Back The Clock Tagging

Rawlings was the first supplier of TBTC uniforms, for the first such contest in 1990 hosted by the Chicago White Sox. They made several teams' uniforms for 1991 contests in their final year of their contract with MLB before Russell took over in 1992, and therefore should then have been allowed to display their script on the sleeve. However, none of the 1990-1991 TBTC uniforms have the Rawlings script on the sleeve. *Perhaps* this was a gracious nod to tradition, since the old uniforms had no advertising on them?

1991

No Rawlings sleeve script is found on this 1997 jersey. Russell is the only company allowed to display their brand mark in 1997.

1995-1999 Rawlings tag

2000 and after Rawlings tag

Rawlings returned as an official supplier to MLB 2000-2002 and is again allowed to display their sleeve logo for this brief time. Examples of neck and jock tags are shown. Rawlings' sleeve logo is on this 2002 jersey because, at that time, Rawlings was an official provider to the Rangers, and therefore contractually they could display it there.

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Ebbets Field Flannels Turn Back the Clock Tagging

Ebbets Field Flannels has been called on by just a few teams over the years, often by those who wanted real flannel uniforms to wear in TBTC contests. However, they have crafted uniforms in double knit as well, such as for the 1997 matchup of the Royals and Mariners wearing 1977 style knits. They have partnered with Mitchell & Ness (by supplying lettering) on some M&N-logoed Turn Back the Clock jerseys.

Ebbets Field Flannels' creations are first rate in quality, with a notable commitment to accuracy when compared to originals. For Turn Back the Clock games, they have made replica flannel Minor League uniforms for the Tampa Bay Rays, Negro Leagues Tribute uniforms for the Orioles and Tigers among others.

At left, the older style manufacturer's label used on this Kansas City Monarchs jersey worn by the Royals in 1995. At right, the Dodgers 2007 road jerseys featuring the newer style label.

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Bobcat Athletic Turn Back the Clock Tagging

Bobcat Athletic of Huntingdon Park, CA was selected by the Dodgers to make uniforms for their first two Turn Back the Clock games in 2011. As is the practice, the hosting team orders the uniforms for the visitors, so it is no surprise that the opponents in both games, the Cubs and Braves, had Bobcat uniforms as well.

Dodgers' tags are hidden inside the back tail, visitor tags are on the outside of the front tail. Following licensing rules, Bobcat is not allowed to display its logo in view. Notably, Majestic supplied the Turn Back the Clock uniforms in this same style for the Dodgers' final three Turn Back the Clock games in 2011, and these indeed did have the Majestic logo visible on the sleeve.

http://bobcatathletic.com/

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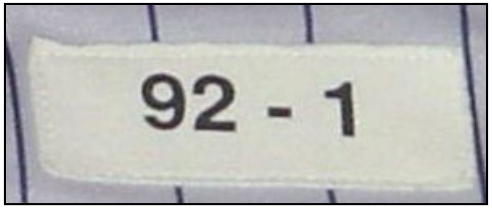
A Fun Quiz: Authenticity Secrets Found in Manufacturers' Brand Tags

As we have seen, in a given year, a different maker may have had the rights to sell "authentic" jerseys in the stores as compared to the manufacturer who actually made the uniforms for the team to wear on the field.

Even when the same manufacturer made both on- and off-field jerseys, they sometimes made slight changes to the tagging, sleeve logos or details between the two types that can show if a jersey started its life on a rack in a retail store instead of in a player's locker.

Each manufacturer's tagging varied from year to year. Even if a jersey has no year tag sewn in (or does have one that someone put in it to fool you) the jock tag can disclose the approximate time frame in which the jersey was manufactured.



(Above) This tag is from a Twins Kirby Puckett road jersey tagged "1992" and claims to be legit, but it just can't be. What is wrong?

Quiz answers are on the next page.

(Above) What clue from the jersey above screams "Bought at The Sports Authority" instead of game worn? (Below) Why can't this Texas Rangers jersey possibly be authentic – and what is a giveaway that it is probably a Minor League issue?

Several clues on the claimed "game used" jersey above set off alarm bells. But the one we will focus on here is the fact that the Rawlings tag at right shows characteristics of jerseys made for retail sale, not ones made for the team to wear. How many other flashing yellow lights can you find?

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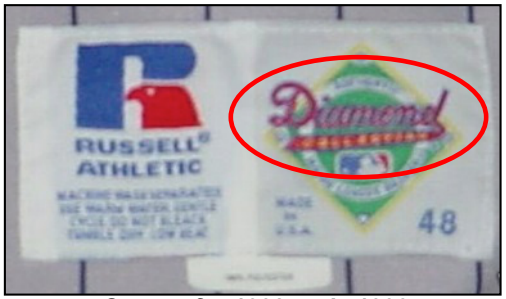
Quiz Answers:

Tag style late 1993 and after



Correct for 1992-early 1993

Twins Jersey: This style of Russell Diamond Collection tag is not used in 1992. It appeared in very, very late 1993. It did not start to become common until 1994.

Royals jersey: The Rawlings tag is sewn on two sides only, indicating a retail sale item. Other "flashing yellow lights" are the incorrect number font for the player numbers and the fact that the year tag style is not the same as any other Royals jersey we have seen.

Yankees jersey: Only Yankees "authentics" made for retail sale ever carried the Russell "R" sleeve logo. The Yankees never wear jerseys on the field displaying a manufacturer's logo.

Rangers "Texas" jersey: Wilson has never been an official sponsor for MLB uniforms, and has therefore never been allowed to display its "W" logo on the sleeve of any garment made for either team use or retail sale. This jersey happens to be a Rangers Minor League issue.

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Chapter 4

MLB Commemorative Uniform Patches

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Commemorative Uniform Patches - Overview

All-MLB; American League; National League; Postseason Play, and All-Star Game

In this chapter we will cover **Memorial patches worn by multiple teams**, commemorating an event, a person or an anniversary are included here.

Not included in this chapter are:

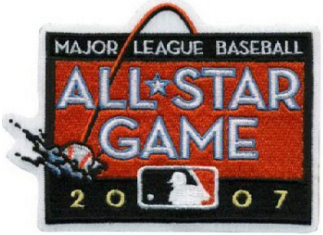
- **Standard team (logo) patches :** These are generally the team's secondary logo on a patch, sewn to the sleeve of many teams' player uniforms. These are included in the section for each individual team and are not covered in this chapter.
- **Individual teams' memorial patches** are included only in the team chapter only, not here.

So, in summary, this chapter includes:

Commemorative patches worn by most or all MLB teams marking an anniversary or event.

Commemorative patches worn by one league only (American or National) for one game or multiple games in a season are included.

Postseason patches as worn by postseason teams are included.
They are also listed in each team's chapter.



All-Star Game patches, which starting in 1978, have had the distinction of being worn by all the players on the hosting club all year long. And beginning in 1988, the individual players invited to join the All-Star team wear the patch on their sleeve during the All-Star Game events. You find All-Star Game patches listed twice: in this chapter, and also in the hosting team's chapters.

Single-day ribbon patches and commemoratives worn by *many or all teams on the same day* are covered here, but those worn by single teams or in one game to mark local events are mostly NOT covered here. They are found instead in those individual teams' chapters.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

1994: 125th Anniversary of Professional Baseball

1994: 27 of 30 Teams wore the version above. The Expos wore the version below.

1994: Reds-only patch above left, with print version below left.

There were no all-MLB memorials from 1970 through 1993, a span of 34 seasons. In 1969 (one year prior to the period chronicled in this volume) all teams had worn a "100th anniversary" (of professional baseball) sleeve patch.

1994 marked he 125th anniversary of professional baseball and it was commemorated with a metallic-gold, red, and blue rendition of the "Silhouetted Batter" logo embroidered on black with the words "125th Anniversary" spelled out beneath it in a tall and ornate type font, also in metallic gold.

- All teams except two wore this patch, and all on their right sleeve.
- The Reds alone wore a special 125th anniversary patch which was a super-miniature team photo of the Reds 1869 squad, embroidered in metallic gold thread over a black background. It made a poor transition to fabric, leaving everyone who viewed it from a distance any further than two feet away wondering what it was, your author included. This patch is super rare today.
- The Expos alone wore a French language version of this patch
- The Pirates did not wear the patch at all, wearing the 1994 MLB All-Star game patch on both their home and road uniforms instead.
- The Indians wore the anniversary patch on their gray road jerseys only, and wore a Jacobs Field commemorative patch instead on their home whites and navy alternates in 1994.
- The Texas Rangers wore the patch on their road jerseys only. Some teams wore the patch on their warm-up BP jerseys as well, though we do not have a definitive list of these.
- Many reproduction 125th patches were made with non-metallic thread, and also marginally larger than the authentic ones.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

1997- Jackie Robinson "*Breaking Barriers*"

1997 was a noteworthy year in Major League Baseball, when a concerted effort began to acknowledge the slow progress during the first part of the century in racially integrating baseball.

The 50th anniversary of the debut of Jackie Robinson on the Brooklyn Dodgers' squad is marked by all teams in professional baseball (including the Minor Leagues) having the opportunity to wear a special patch all year long. In MLB use, the patch came in four slightly different versions, all shown here.

The Indians did not wear the patch at all until after the All-Star break, instead wearing the 1997 All-Star game patch the first half of the season. They then added it to their home whites only. Giants and White Sox wore the patch on their home jerseys only.

Standard version, worn by 27 teams

Dodgers Only

Marlins only, "color keyed" to their uniforms

Expos home only (French)

From Wikipedia: *"In an unprecedented move, Commissioner of Baseball Bud Selig announces on the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson's debut that the number he wore with the Brooklyn Dodgers, number 42, would be unilaterally retired throughout all of Major League Baseball during a mid-game ceremony in a game between the Dodgers and the New York Mets at Shea Stadium. Rachael Robinson, Jackie's widow and President Bill Clinton attend the event as well. The number (could) be worn by players during the anniversary of his Major League debut, and would still be worn by players who started wearing the number before the announcement, most famously the New York Yankees' Mariano Rivera, until he retired after the 2013 season, thus officially retiring number 42, as he was the last player to wear the number 42 jersey on a regular basis."*

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

1997: Interleague Play Patch

1997 was the first year of Interleague Play. It was touted as a major change in tradition for Major League baseball, as for the first time, teams would meet opponents from the opposing league for a few regular games during the season. Prior to this, the only time that the two leagues ever met with one another was in the World Series and the All-Star Game. This patch depicted bald eagles in blue and red, marked “National” and “American," fighting over a baseball in between them. It was offered to all teams to wear during Interleague games. However, it was worn only by the Giants and Rangers, and only during their very first Interleague Series, June 12-13, 1997.

This patch is extremely rare, A small number are in circulation and finding one is quite difficult.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

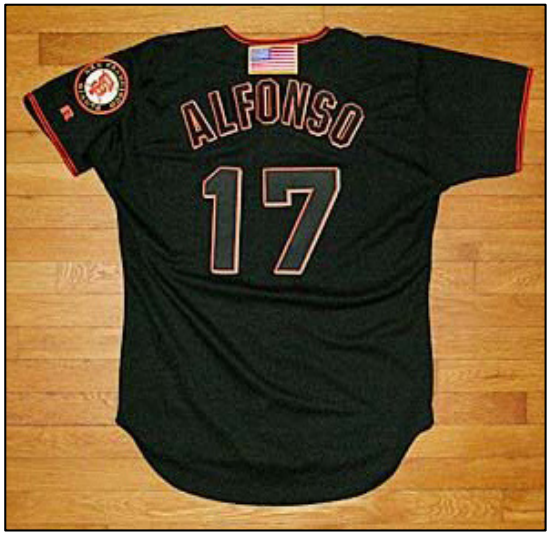
2001: MLB - Wide Commemoration of 9/11

The tragic coordinated terrorist attacks on America on Tuesday, September 11, 2001 shocked this country to its core. Life simply was put on hold after the disaster, and all scheduled MLB games were canceled for the rest of the week. When games resumed the following Monday, every player had an American flag patch sewn on the back of the collar, over top the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch that was there already.

These flag patches were worn through the end of the season, meaning that a great number of game worn jerseys from 2001 were sold with the flags intact.

In 2002, flags were sewn on all caps, leaving the jerseys alone. This article has interesting observations on MLB's commemoration of the events:

https://www.sbnation.com/2011/9/11/2414430/mlb-response-9-11



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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

Mother's Day, Father's Day

Older non-bordered style ribbons at left, and at right, white-bordered ones that have been used since at least 2012. They are each about 2 ½" tall.

Beginning 2006 and annually since then, worn on the chest of every Major Leaguer, Mother's Day pink/Father's' Day blue ribbon patches.

Mother's Day observance is for breast cancer awareness, **Father's Day** is for prostate cancer awareness and is often paired with the theme "Keep Dad in the Game." Many players also wear one-day pink or blue accessories, like wristbands and some use special pink or blue bats.

These small embroidered appliqués are glued in place, and removed after the games. Many game worn uniforms exhibit glue residue from where these have been removed.

In 2016 and 2017, all teams wore special pink- or blue-trimmed jerseys for these days. The actual jerseys worn on field by players have the ribbons applied, but usually ones made for team shop sale, even those advertised as "team issued," do not.

Note that these and other one-day glued on patches were once generally removed from jerseys, and the jerseys used from that point forward with the patch gone. More and more recently these are being left on jerseys and the set is sold to the public.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

July 4, 2009 ALS Commemoration

July 4, 2009: All players on all teams wear this ALS awareness patch. The date of July 4 was selected because it was the 70th anniversary of Lou Gehrig's retirement from baseball, and his famous "Luckiest Man" speech on July 4, 1939 after suffering the progression of the disease which came to bear his name.

The patch was unfortunately poorly applied with adhesive only, many of these simply peeled off and landed on the ground during the games. Generally, patches were removed from jerseys after the game and the uniforms continued to be used for future games.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2011: 10th Anniversary Commemoration of 09/11/01

September 11, 2011: Commemorating the tenth anniversary of the terrorist events of 9-11-2001, and remembering all the lives that were lost that day, all players on all U.S.-based teams wore the American Flag patch affixed over the MLB logo on their jersey back collar. The Blue Jays wore a patch with crossed U.S. and Canadian flags instead (shown in their team chapter).

Generally, the flag patches were temporarily affixed for this single game and then removed after this date, and players continued to wear the same uniforms.

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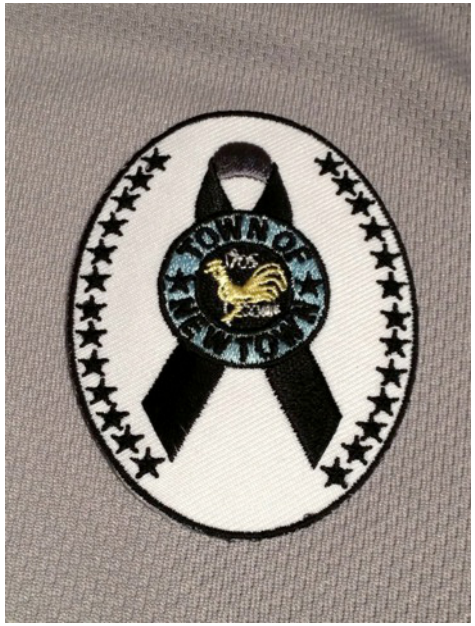
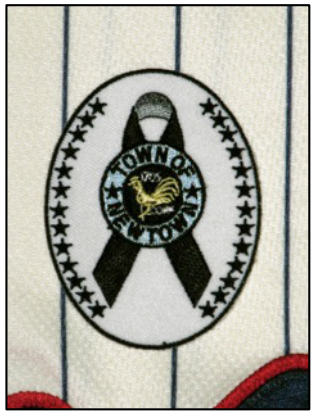
Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2013: Opening Day Newtown Memorial





The patch is adhesive-backed and is applied using heat. Most teams simply removed the patch after the game, though we have seen some game used jerseys for sale with the patch attached.

The 2013 season started with every team in MLB wearing a patch on Opening Day commemorating the tragedy of the Sandy Hook school shooting in Newtown, CT on December 14, 2012 in which 26 children and teachers died. Originally, the patch was to be worn only by the Red Sox and Yankees, the two teams closest to the locale, but after consideration, the commissioner of baseball asked the other 28 clubs to participate in the memorial as well.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2014: ALS/Lou Gehrig 75th Patch, July 4, 2014

July 4, 2014 marked the 75th anniversary of Lou Gehrig's tearful retirement speech from baseball; his career cut short by ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), a central nervous system disease that has come to bear his name. All players in both leagues wore this one-day patch on their chests. MLB donated $300,000 to the ALS Association, funded partly by the auction of player uniforms worn on that day through their website MLB.com. These uniforms were sold with this patch affixed, so there are a significant number of them in the hobby. Collectors should note that the patch was available for purchase separately, so the presence of such a patch on a jersey alone does not assure it was actually worn on the field.

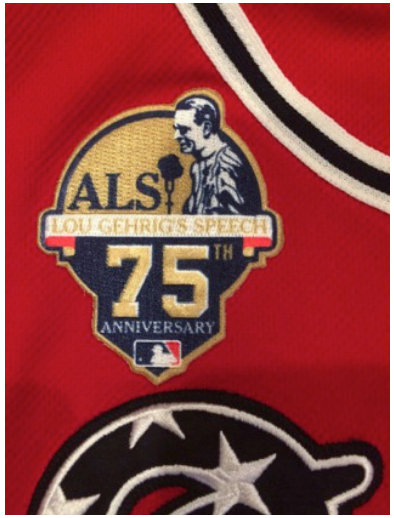
MLB and all 30 clubs to pay tribute to Lou Gehrig

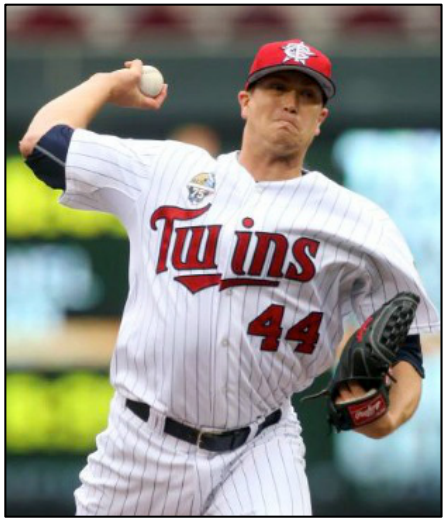
MLB Press Release | June 19, 2014

Major League Baseball and its 30 Clubs will pay special tribute to Hall of Famer Lou Gehrig on the 75th Anniversary of his iconic "Luckiest Man" speech by joining forces with ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) organizations to raise awareness for the disease, otherwise known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Major League Baseball will donate $300,000, collectively, to these organizations that are leading the fight against ALS - ALS Association, ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI), Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and Project A.L.S. - while Clubs playing at home on July 4th will conduct special on-field ceremonies to commemorate the anniversary of the speech and honor the legacy of Gehrig, who passed away on June 2, 1941 at the age of 37.

"When Lou Gehrig delivered his historic farewell speech at Yankee Stadium 75 years ago, he indelibly linked our National Pastime to the fight against the disease that would bear his name," Baseball Commissioner Allan H. (Bud) Selig said. "As the fight continues today, it is our privilege to pay tribute to the Iron Horse's enduring legacy of courage and nobility. In his memory, and for all those who are affected by ALS, Major League Baseball is honored to do its part to advance the cause in the hopes of finding a cure."

As part of this effort, Major League Baseball is unveiling a special commemorative 75th Anniversary patch, which will be worn by all players, managers, coaches and umpires on July 4th. The New York Yankees will be commemorating this initiative on July 2nd. Additionally, a special video will be played in all ballparks featuring one first baseman from each Club reciting a line from Gehrig's speech.





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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2014: National Baseball Hall of Fame's75th Anniversary Commemoration

July 27, 2014: This patch was worn on the jersey fronts of all players (and umpires) for games on that Sunday. It was heat pressed on and not sewn, and most teams removed the patch and continued to use these uniforms. A few clubs may have retired and sold this set of uniforms to fans, but based on the relatively few patched uniforms we have seen for resale, most probably did not.

(inset) The patch commemorated the 100th anniversary of professional baseball in America, It was available to be worn by all teams in both the Majors and Minors all season during 1939. The opening of the Baseball Hall of Fame was another event that was a part of that centennial year.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2024

"Play Ball" Patch: May 14-15, 2016 and June 3-4, 2017

"Play Ball" is an initiative that was kicked off with public events in June 2015 by MLB, designed to promote the sport of baseball, mainly among children. Realizing that fewer children are getting involved in the sport, especially in cities, Play Ball emphasizes that one does need two teams of nine players, fancy equipment, umpires or uniforms to practice the skills needed to enjoy baseball.

MLB players participated in events with children in several cities, and the events were covered by the news media including *Sports Illustrated Kids*. They emphasized playing pitch and catch, Wiffleball, the old rundown game of "Hotbox," home run derby and pickup games with whoever was available to play.

The project also launched a website and a mobile coaching app available online.

For 2016, for the first time, all players on all teams wore a special ChromaFlex patch on their left chest for games on May 14-15, 2016. Some teams sold this set of uniforms through their team stores. The promotion returned for June 3-4, 2017 with a slightly updated patch, adding USA Softball's logo as well.

May 14-15, 2016

June 3-4, 2017

https://www.mlb.com/news/major-league-baseball-and-usa-baseball-launch-play-ball/c-131434948

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

Gold Ribbon Patch for Childhood Cancer, 2016-2024

MLB to go gold for Childhood Cancer Awareness Day

By Mark Newman / MLB.com | September 2nd, 2016

Labor Day Weekend will begin with a purpose.
Major League Baseball announced on Wednesday that it has launched a league-wide effort by dedicating a special Childhood Cancer Awareness Day at all of its ballparks hosting games today -- starting with the potential postseason-preview day game at Wrigley Field between the Giants and Cubs, and followed by a full slate of night games around the Majors.

In partnership with Stand Up To Cancer, MLB has encouraged clubs to support this new initiative in commemoration of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month through a variety of special events. All Major League players, coaches, umpires and grounds-crew members will wear gold-ribbon decals and wristbands to further promote awareness for childhood cancer, which is the leading cause of death by disease in children aged 15 and under in the United States…

"Advocating for the health and well-being of young people affected by this terrible disease is a cause that Major League Baseball and our clubs are proud to support," Commissioner Rob Manfred said. "Through our league-wide effort, we will join Stand Up To Cancer and many organizations dedicated to this fight in a unified demonstration of our sport's commitment to ending childhood cancer."

Worn on September 2, 2016; September 1, 2017; September 1, 2018; September 8, 2019; September 5, 2020; September 1, 2021; September 2, 2022; September 3, 2023; September 1, 2024

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2018-2019: Jackie Robinson Day 42 Patch

April 15, 2018 and April 15, 2019: While all players have worn 42 on Jackie Robinson Day since 2008, a new tribute to Robinson was added to the celebration in 2018. For April 15 games that year and in 2019, all players also wore a new patch with Robinson's 42 over crossed bats and a stylized infield. The CFX patch was worn on the right sleeve of all jerseys on those dates. In 2019, it was worn directly above the MLB150 patch.

Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2019: Major League Baseball 150th Anniversary Patch

Uniform patch to mark 150 years of pro baseball

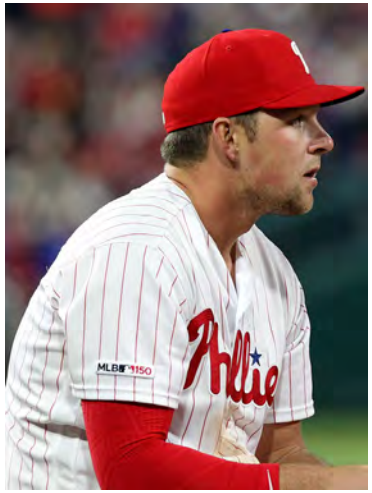
By David Adler, MLB.com, 2/12/19

All 30 Major League teams will wear special "MLB 150" patches on their uniforms for the entire 2019 season in honor of the 150th anniversary of the 1869 Cincinnati Red Stockings, the first openly all-salaried professional baseball team.

Every club will also sport MLB 150 patches on its caps on Opening Day, March 28 -- the first time a league-wide anniversary will be commemorated on caps.

The patch, which will be worn on the right sleeves of jerseys, features "MLB" in blue and "150" in red surrounding the MLB logo.

MLB previously honored the 1869 Red Stockings with commemorative 100thanniversary patches in 1969 and the 125th anniversary season in 1994.



Reds 2019 home and alt red

Reds 2019 road gray

Note: Contrary to the facts in the article shown here, the Reds did not wear this patch, instead, they had their own 150th anniversary patches for the 2019 season (see images far right).

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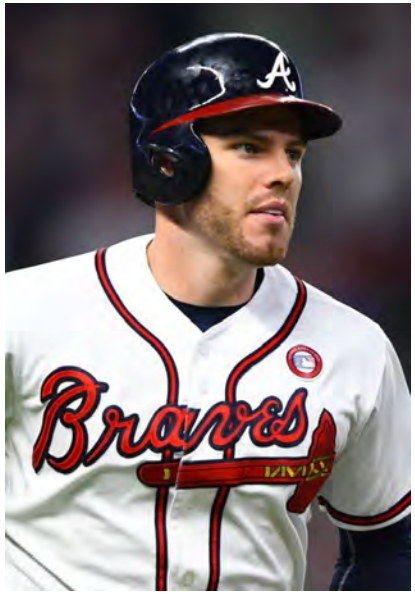
Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2019 and 2021 Armed Forces Day and Independence Day

MLB ends the use of special uniforms for Independence day after 2018, replacing it with a new patch, and adding a similarly styled patch for a new recognition of Armed Forces Day in 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic eliminated these patches in 2020. The patches returned again in 2021, but did appear on the field again in following years.

May 18, 2019 & May 15, 2021

July 4, 2019 & 2021



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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2019 & 2021-2025 Memorial Day "Lest We Forget" Poppy Patch

MLB's league-wide, weekend-long promotions involving special jerseys for Memorial Day after 2018. It is replaced by a new patch, affixed to team's regular season jerseys with adhesive, for one day only in 2019. This new Memorial Day patch features a poppy, with a "Lest We Forget" banner – both traditional symbols of remembrance of those lost in war, which originated in Great Britain after World War I. The COVID-19 pandemic precluded the use of these patches in 2020, but the patch returned in 2021 and after.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2020

July 23-24, 2020: Black Lives Matter/United for Change Patches

MLB Allows Black Lives Matter, Social Justice Jersey Patches

By The Associated Press, July 22, 2020 Major League Baseball players have the option of having a patch with "Black Lives Matter" or "United For Change" on a jersey sleeve on opening day of the pandemic-delayed season…

Jersey patches would go on the left sleeve unless a team has an existing patch there, in which case the new one would go on the right sleeve. The special patches will be used Thursday and Friday.

The initiatives that start Thursday were designed to allow players to show support for social justice generally, and diversity and inclusion in baseball. They were deliberately made flexible, allowing players to make individual decisions.

Players were given the option of wearing one of the patches if they desired. Many players wore both, most often on the left sleeve. These are temporary adhesive patches, so many fell off during games, and some players added patches in-game as well. Note: The Dodgers and Giants were the only teams to play both July 23 and 24, but only wore the patches July 23.

MLB Press Release, July 22, 2020

MLB -- in collaboration with The Players Alliance, individual MLB players and the Players Association -- has provided guidelines that invite players to support social justice and diversity and inclusion in baseball and life. MLB supports the players' need to express themselves, while also recognizing that the way they choose to do so will vary from player to player.

In that spirit, MLB is providing flexibility for players to show their support for social justice that reflects their individual values and personalities. After consulting players for guidance, MLB has offered…a patch, which reads "Black Lives Matter" or "United For Change," that can be affixed to the player's sleeve.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

August 16, 2020: Negro League Centennial Patch

MLB had planned to honor the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Negro Leagues on Saturday, June 27, 2020, when all players, managers, coaches, and umpires were to wear a commemorative patch to mark the occasion. However, given the late start of the 2020 season, the Salute to Negro Leagues game was moved to August 16, 2020.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2020-2022: Jackie Robinson Day Team Color/Font 42 Patch

Braves

Cardinals

Diamondbacks

Dodgers

Marlins

Mets

Nationals

Phillies

Pirates

Rangers

Rays

Red Sox

Rockies

Royals

Yankees

August 28, 2020 (delayed because the season started late), April 15, 2021, and April 15, 2022: After two years of the blue and tan design, MLB changes the annual Jackie Robinson 42 CFX patch to match each team's colors and number fonts. Here are some examples from various teams. No Jackie Robinson Day patch is used in 2023-2025.

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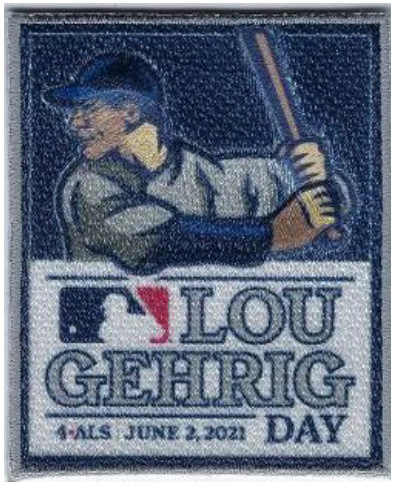
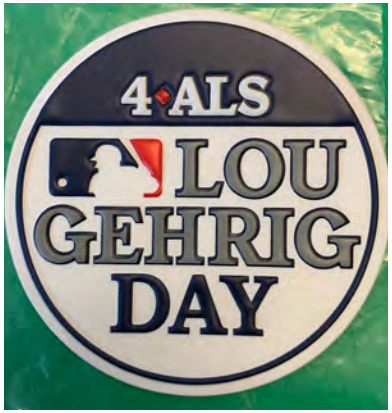
Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2021 and 2022-2023 Lou Gehrig Day Patches



2021



2022-2023

MLB declared June 2 as Lou Gehrig Day throughout baseball in 2021, exactly 80 years after the legend's death. The new annual Gehrig day is marked by on-field patches worn by all uniformed personnel that day. The patch for the inaugural Gehrig Day was rectangular and featured an illustration of the Iron Horse at bat, while the patch for 2022 and subsequent years was round and made of a rubberized material, similar to 3D helmet logos worn by some teams. Both versions are adhesive and meant to be removed after the game.

Patches honoring Gehrig were also worn on the 70th (2010) and 75th (2015) anniversaries of his "Luckiest Man" speech from July 4, 1939. The are listed earlier in this chapter.

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2024-2025 Lou Gehrig Day Patch

2024

Gehrig's retired number disk at Yankee Stadium's Monument Park is shown here, a possible inspiration for the 2024 Lou Gehrig Day patch.

MLB changes its Lou Gehrig day patch for the third time in four years, introducing a simple "4" patch for the 2024 season on June 2. This version of the patch is much easier to see and understand compared to prior years, which were much more detailed and contained text that was difficult to read on television and in game photos.

The patch is similar to Gehrig's retired number at Yankee Stadium's Monument Park, though the "4" is a different font and it lacks the pinstripes of the stadium monument.

Like the last version, the 2024 patch is a textured, rubbery material, and is temporarily affixed with adhesive. Some teams do pull that day's jerseys for sale and auction, so there are examples in the hobby of game used jerseys bearing the patch.

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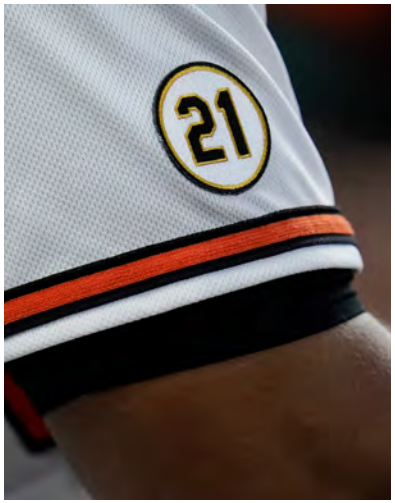
Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2020-2024 Roberto Clemente Day Patch



The standard Clemente Day patch is shown at top, the Roberto Clemente Award Nominee patch is at bottom.

September 9, 2020, September 15, 2021-2024: MLB declares its first official Roberto Clemente Day in 2020, and solidifies September 15 as its annual date in 2021. For that game players have the option to wear a “21” patch in honor of Clemente, while that year’s nominees for the Roberto Clemente Award may wear a patch specific to that honor. In addition, in 2020, all Puerto Rican players were permitted to wear 21 as their uniform number that day, which was extended to all uniformed personnel of Puerto Rican descent in 2021, plus all 2021 Roberto Clemente Award nominees, and the six active players who had received the Roberto Clemente Award to that point. The Pirates, in turn, had their entire team outfitted with number 21 starting in 2020. By 2022, some entire teams had decided to wear 21, along with the patch. Most teams wear the patch on left chest starting 2023 to avoid conflict with advertising patches.

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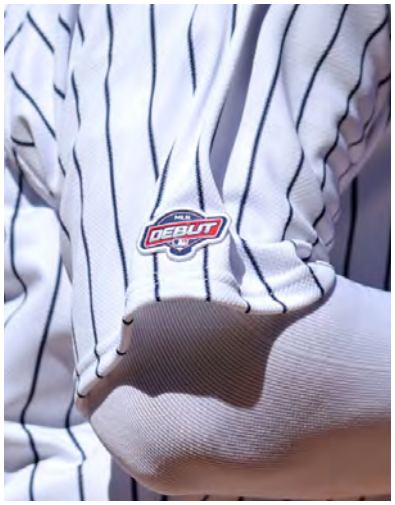
Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2023-2025 MLB Debut Patch



Excerpted from MLB Press Release

Fanatics Collectibles, MLB, MLB Players Inc. unveil first-ever memorabilia patch created specifically for trading cards

"Today, Fanatics Collectibles, the trading cards and collectibles division of Fanatics, and Topps, its cornerstone sports trading card brand, unveiled MLB Debut Patches, the first-ever memorabilia made in partnership with a professional sports league specifically for inclusion on trading cards. Created in partnership with Major League Baseball (MLB) and MLB Players Inc., the business arm of the Major League Baseball Players Association, all players making their MLB debut this season will have the Debut Patch worn on their jersey. After appearing in their first game, the patch will be authenticated under the auspices of the MLB Authentication Program and then placed directly onto their rookie card in a future Topps set.

When a rookie is called up to the Majors for the first time, the Debut Patch will be placed on their jersey. Following the game in which he sees action for the first time, the patch will be removed, secured and authenticated under the auspices of the MLB Authentication Program for inclusion in an upcoming Topps product.

With MLB Debut Patches, fans will be able to collect and connect with the most important moments in players' careers. The first-ever MLB Debut Patches will make an appearance on baseball fields around the country on Opening Day, and throughout the entire MLB season as players make their debuts."

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Commemorative Patches Worn by All Teams in Major League Baseball 1970-2025

2025 Gold MLB Logo Patch for Season Award Winners

Excerpted from MLB Press Release

Gold stars: Ohtani, Judge, Skenes among six who'll wear special MLB uni logo in '25

"Six of baseball's top players are adding a little extra shine this season.

In collaboration with Topps, Fanatics and Nike, MLB is introducing a special Gold MLB logo patch for the 2025 season to celebrate a group of '24 award winners: MVPs Shohei Ohtani and Aaron Judge, Cy Young recipients Chris Sale and Tarik Skubal and Rookie of the Year honorees Paul Skenes and Luis Gil.

These six players will wear the emblem on the back of their jerseys throughout 2025. Following the season, 10 authenticated game-worn patches from each player will be transformed into exclusive autographed Logoman trading cards. The gold patches will also appear on retail versions of each player's jersey.

Ohtani became the first player to sport the embroidery on Saturday, wearing it for the Dodgers' exhibition game against the Yomiuri Giants at the Tokyo Dome. True to form, the superstar slugger crushed a two-run homer in the third inning. The Dodgers and Cubs are in Japan for the Tokyo Series, which will get underway Tuesday, kicking off the 2025 campaign.

The Gold MLB Logo Patch promotion follows the Debut Patch initiative that launched at the beginning of the 2023 season. Those patches, which adorn a player's jersey during his MLB debut, are also authenticated by MLB and utilized in Topps trading cards."

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2023-2025 Advertising Patches

MLB and the MLB Players Association agreed to a new Collective Bargaining Agreement in March 2022 which, for the first time, allowed teams to sell space on jerseys for corporate advertisements. The patches could be a maximum of four inches square, and could appear on either sleeve. By the end of the 2023 season, 16 teams had advertising patches on their jerseys. As of press time (August 2025), 28 of 30 teams had them, the White Sox and Rays being the outliers.

The overall approach to design of patches varied across MLB. Some teams used the same patch across all jerseys, some had different versions for different jerseys, and the Cardinals matched the background of their patches to each of their jersey colors. Some teams used the ad patches on throwbacks, some did not. The Mets, Diamondbacks, and Padres announced patches that differed by the time they reached the field, or were quickly changed once they were first seen on field.

The placement of the patches varied from team to team too. Generally, the location of the patch varied based on whether the player was left handed or right handed. Many teams put the patch on the opposite sleeve from a player's throwing hand, since that side faces the center-field camera while at bat, or is the front-facing sleeve for a pitcher. The Red Sox took a different approach, orienting position players' patches opposite the throwing hand for position players and on the throwing side for pitchers, so that every players' patch faced the center-field camera when the player was in action.

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2023-2025 Advertising Patches Continued

The variable location for ad patches also changed how teams handled their standard uniform patches. For teams with more than one standard sleeve patch, like the Angels, or specific jerseys with two patches like the Padres' camo alternates, teams deleted one existing patch to make room for the ad. Several teams who did not even have ad patches in 2023 still varied their standard team patch locations from player to player, just in case they struck a patch deal during the season.

In some cases where teams had a "directional" sleeve patch, new versions of the patch were created. The Reds' made a second running Mr. Red patch for their home jerseys with Mr. Red facing the opposite direction to ensure he faced forward regardless of which sleeve the patch was on.

And where certain commemorative patches would have appeared on a sleeve opposite a normal patch, like the 2023 All-Star Game patch that would typically have been put on the Mariners' right sleeve opposite the team disc patch, the commemorative patch replaced the typical patch to keep one sleeve open for a sponsor, even where no sponsor yet existed.

Ironically, at the same time Nike had been working hard to reduce the number and variation of each team's jerseys, the ad patches made one element of production harder, leading to occasional errors. Advertising now meant that uniform patch placement was no longer uniform at all.

The Mets debuted one ad patch (top left) but changed to a new patch that was "more Mets" soon after (top, second from left). The Diamondbacks did something similar, wearing a rectangular "Avnet" patch in Spring Training, but moving to one that took on the shape of the sponsor logo for the regular season. A handful of teams used different color patches to stand out better on different jerseys, like the Red Sox MassMutual patches shown above right.

Some teams that did not even wear an ad patch in 2023 still varied the location of their regular patches as if to make room for a future patch, like the Nationals as seen above left. Above center, the Reds' Running Mr. Red patch now comes in two versions so the character is still running forward regardless of which sleeve he is on, an issue created by the variable location of the ad patch. The "reversed" Running Mr. Red, which is worn on the right sleeve, has his Wishbone-C logo on the wrong side of the character's jersey as a result of the change. (Image from uni-watch.com) All of these new patches, in different versions, appearing on variable sleeves, can wreak havoc on manufacturers and clubhouse staff, as seen in Rafael Devers' upside-down ad patch, above right.

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National League Only: Commemorative Patches

1976: National League Centennial Patch

Original patch

1976- **National League Centennial:** worn by all National League teams.

The original patch ***(Above Right)*** has a red border, is 3 3/8" across and always has a hard-to-see raised white "© **1975NL"** between the bottom of the cartoon logo and the dates at bottom. ***(Below Right)*** more commonly seen reproduction souvenir patches often have a white border, are smaller at 3" across, and are missing the raised white writing.

Replica patch

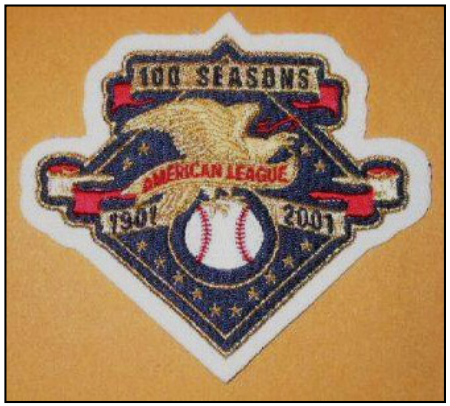
© GameWornGuides.com

American League Only: Commemorative Patches :

2001: American League 100 Seasons Patch

There are two versions of the patch:

"100 Seasons Charter Member" patch worn by Indians, Red Sox, White Sox, Tigers.*



"100 Seasons" patch worn by all the other AL teams.

* The "Charter Member" patch was worn only by original members of the American League that were still playing in their original charter cities.

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Postseason Patches

The first postseason patches worn in MLB were during the 1987 World Series. World Series patches have then been worn annually, with the exception of the 1997 World Series, where both teams (Indians/Marlins) continued to wear the patches they had been wearing during the season (Indians: Jackie Robinson Patch on home whites and All-Star patch on road grays and alternate blues; Marlins, Jackie Robinson on all jerseys).

Patches for earlier playoff rounds were tried in 1995 and 1996, then dropped again until 2013 saw them return.

Usually a team makes up a whole new set of uniforms for its players if it is headed into the postseason. The teams want to look their best on worldwide television, and uniforms worn and washed over 80 times at that point might look shabby. Therefore, it is reasonable to find real game used jerseys from a World Series year for a team and see no sign of the postseason patch on the sleeve.

World Series Matchups 1970-2024

While 1972 was the big change-over year to knits in Major League Baseball, and in 1971 only a few teams had experimented with knits, oddly enough, 1971 was the first *all-double-knit World Series*! The Pirates had first adopted knits in the 1970 season. The Orioles wore knits for the first time during the 1971 season when they wore alternate orange uniform for two games. They then wore new, regular uniform knits for the first time during the 1971 World Series.

1970 World Series 5 Game Series	Cincinnati Reds [2 - 3 in Series Play]	1	**Baltimore Orioles** [2 - 2 in Series Play]	4
1971 World Series 7 Game Series	**Pittsburgh Pirates** [4 - 2 in Series Play]	4	Baltimore Orioles [2 - 3 in Series Play]	3
1972 World Series 7 Game Series	Cincinnati Reds [2 - 4 in Series Play]	3	**Oakland Athletics** [6 - 3 in Series Play]	4
1973 World Series 7 Game Series	New York Mets [1 - 1 in Series Play]	3	**Oakland Athletics** [7 - 3 in Series Play]	4
1974 World Series 5 Game Series	Los Angeles Dodgers [4 - 10 in Series Play]	1	**Oakland Athletics** [8 - 3 in Series Play]	4
1975 World Series 7 Game Series	**Cincinnati Reds** [3 - 4 in Series Play]	4	Boston Red Sox [5 - 3 in Series Play]	3
1976 World Series 4 Game Series	**Cincinnati Reds** [4 - 4 in Series Play]	4	New York Yankees [20 - 10 in Series Play]	0
1977 World Series 6 Game Series	Los Angeles Dodgers [4 - 11 in Series Play]	2	**New York Yankees** [21 - 10 in Series Play]	4
1978 World Series 6 Game Series	Los Angeles Dodgers [4 - 12 in Series Play]	2	**New York Yankees** [22 - 10 in Series Play]	4
1979 World Series 7 Game Series	**Pittsburgh Pirates** [5 - 2 in Series Play]	4	Baltimore Orioles [2 - 4 in Series Play]	3
1980 World Series 6 Game Series	**Philadelphia Phillies** [1 - 2 in Series Play]	4	Kansas City Royals [0 - 1 in Series Play]	2
1981 World Series 6 Game Series	**Los Angeles Dodgers** [5 - 12 in Series Play]	4	New York Yankees [22 - 11 in Series Play]	2
1982 World Series 7 Game Series	**St. Louis Cardinals** [9 - 4 in Series Play]	4	Milwaukee Brewers [0 - 1 in Series Play]	3
1983 World Series 5 Game Series	Philadelphia Phillies [1 - 3 in Series Play]	1	**Baltimore Orioles** [3 - 4 in Series Play]	4
1984 World Series 5 Game Series	San Diego Padres [0 - 1 in Series Play]	1	**Detroit Tigers** [4 - 5 in Series Play]	4
1985 World Series 7 Game Series	St. Louis Cardinals [9 - 5 in Series Play]	3	**Kansas City Royals** [1 - 1 in Series Play]	4
1986 World Series 7 Game Series	**New York Mets** [2 - 1 in Series Play]	4	Boston Red Sox [5 - 4 in Series Play]	3
1987 World Series 7 Game Series	St. Louis Cardinals [9 - 6 in Series Play]	3	**Minnesota Twins** [2 - 3 in Series Play]	4
1988 World Series 5 Game Series	**Los Angeles Dodgers** [6 - 12 in Series Play]	4	Oakland Athletics [8 - 4 in Series Play]	1

1989 World Series 4 Game Series	San Francisco Giants [5 - 11 in Series Play]	0	**Oakland Athletics** [9 - 4 in Series Play]	4
1990 World Series 4 Game Series	**Cincinnati Reds** [5 - 4 in Series Play]	4	Oakland Athletics [9 - 5 in Series Play]	0
1991 World Series 7 Game Series	Atlanta Braves [2 - 3 in Series Play]	3	**Minnesota Twins** [3 - 3 in Series Play]	4
1992 World Series 6 Game Series	Atlanta Braves [2 - 4 in Series Play]	2	**Toronto Blue Jays** [1 - 0 in Series Play]	4
1993 World Series 6 Game Series	Philadelphia Phillies [1 - 4 in Series Play]	2	**Toronto Blue Jays** [2 - 0 in Series Play]	4
1994 World Series x Game Series	No Series (Strike Year) [x - x in Series Play]	–	No Series (Strike Year) [x - x in Series Play]	–
1995 World Series 6 Game Series	**Atlanta Braves** [3 - 4 in Series Play]	4	Cleveland Indians [2 - 2 in Series Play]	2
1996 World Series 6 Game Series	Atlanta Braves [3 - 5 in Series Play]	2	**New York Yankees** [23 - 11 in Series Play]	4
1997 World Series 7 Game Series	**Florida Marlins** [1 - 0 in Series Play]	4	Cleveland Indians [2 - 3 in Series Play]	3
1998 World Series 4 Game Series	San Diego Padres [0 - 2 in Series Play]	0	**New York Yankees** [24 - 11 in Series Play]	4
1999 World Series 4 Game Series	Atlanta Braves [3 - 6 in Series Play]	0	**New York Yankees** [25 - 11 in Series Play]	4
2000 World Series 5 Game Series	New York Mets [2 - 2 in Series Play]	1	**New York Yankees** [26 - 11 in Series Play]	4
2001 World Series 7 Game Series	**Arizona Diamondbacks** [1 - 0 in Series Play]	4	New York Yankees [26 - 12 in Series Play]	3
2002 World Series 7 Game Series	San Francisco Giants [5 - 12 in Series Play]	3	**Anaheim Angels** [1 - 0 in Series Play]	4
2003 World Series 6 Game Series	**Florida Marlins** **[2 - 0 in Series Play]**	4	New York Yankees [26 - 13 in Series Play]	2
2004 World Series 4 Game Series	St. Louis Cardinals [9 - 7 in Series Play]	0	**Boston Red Sox** [6 - 4 in Series Play]	4
2005 World Series 4 Game Series	Houston Astros [0 - 1 in Series Play]	0	**Chicago White Sox** [3 - 2 in Series Play]	4
2006 World Series 5 Game Series	**St. Louis Cardinals** [10 - 7 in Series Play]	4	Detroit Tigers [4 - 6 in Series Play]	1
2007 World Series 4 Game Series	Colorado Rockies [0 - 1 in Series Play]	0	**Boston Red Sox** [7 - 4 in Series Play]	4

2008 World Series 5 Game Series	**Philadelphia Phillies** [2 - 4 in Series Play]	4	Tampa Bay Rays [0 - 1 in Series Play]	1
2009 World Series 6 Game Series	Philadelphia Phillies [2 - 5 in Series Play]	2	**New York Yankees** [27 - 13 in Series Play]	4
2010 World Series 5 Game Series	**San Francisco Giants** [6 - 12 in Series Play]	4	Texas Rangers [0 - 1 in Series Play]	1
2011 World Series 7 Game Series	**St. Louis Cardinals** [11 - 7 in Series Play]	4	Texas Rangers [0 - 2 in Series Play]	3
2012 World Series 4 Game Series	**San Francisco Giants** [7 - 12 in Series Play]	4	Detroit Tigers [4 - 7 in Series Play]	0
2013 World Series 6 Game Series	St. Louis Cardinals [11 - 8 in Series Play]	2	**Boston Red Sox** [8 - 4 in Series Play]	4
2014 World Series 7 Game Series	**San Francisco Giants** [8 - 12 in Series Play]	4	Kansas City Royals [1 - 2 in Series Play]	3
2015 World Series 5 Game Series	New York Mets [2 - 3 in Series Play]	1	**Kansas City Royals** [2 - 2 in Series Play]	4
2016 World Series 7 Game Series	**Chicago Cubs** **[3 - 8 in Series Play]**	4	Cleveland Indians [2 - 4 in Series Play]	3
2017 World Series 7 Game Series	Los Angeles Dodgers [6 - 13 in Series Play]	3	**Houston Astros** **[1 - 1 in Series Play]**	4
2018 World Series 5 Game Series	Los Angeles Dodgers [6 - 14 in Series Play]	1	**Boston Red Sox** **[9 - 4 in Series Play]**	4
2019 World Series 7 Game Series	**Washington Nationals** **[1 - 0 in Series Play]**	4	Houston Astros [1 - 2 in Series Play]	3
2020 World Series 6 Game Series	**Los Angeles Dodgers** **[7 - 14 in Series Play]**	4	Tampa Bay Rays [0 - 2 in Series Play]	2
2021 World Series 6 Game Series	**Atlanta Braves** **[4 - 6 in Series Play]**	4	Houston Astros [1 - 3 in Series Play]	2
2022 World Series 6 Game Series	Philadelphia Phillies [2 - 6 in Series Play]	2	**Houston Astros** **[2 - 3 in Series Play]**	4
2023 World Series 5 Game Series	Arizona Diamondbacks [1 - 1 in Series Play]	1	**Texas Rangers** **[1- 2 in Series Play]**	4
2024 World Series 5 Game Series	**Los Angeles Dodgers** **[8 - 14 in Series Play]**	4	New York Yankees [27 - 14 in Series Play]	1

1987 was the first year teams wore World Series sleeve patches

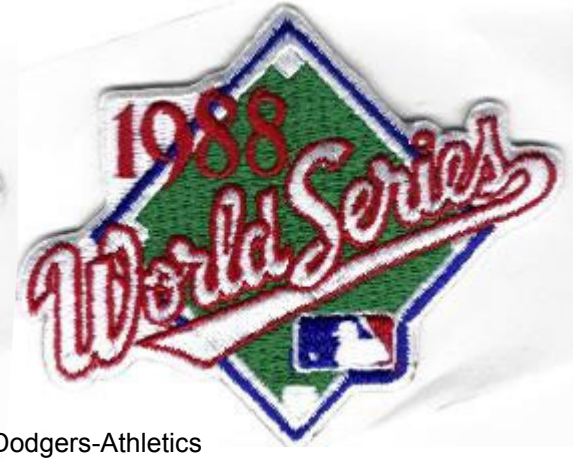
Source: www.baseball-almanac.com

© GameWornGuides.com

World Series Patches 1987-1991

In World Series games prior to 1987, the players did not wear special patches on their uniforms.

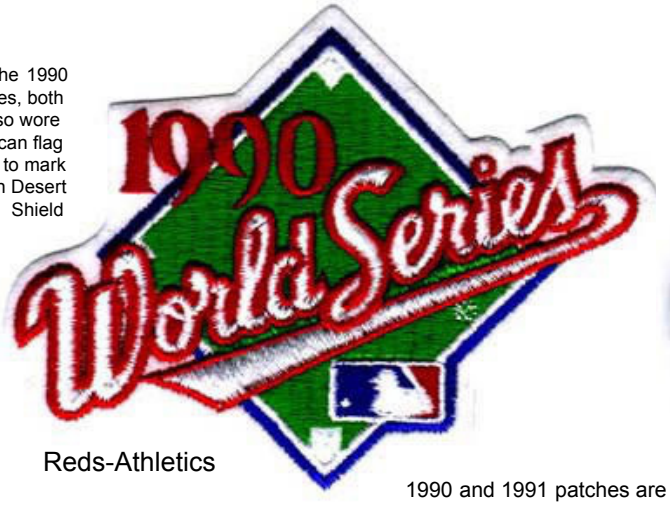
Cardinals-Twins
(The Twins did not wear the patch during the World Series)



Dodgers-Athletics

Giants-Athletics

In the 1990 Series, both teams also wore an American flag patch to mark Operation Desert Shield



Reds-Athletics

Braves-Twins

1990 and 1991 patches are slightly larger than the 1987-1988 ones.

The first style "family" of World Series logos that were worn on players' sleeves are shown here. Notice how the 1989 logo was modified to commemorate the fact that the San Francisco Giants and the Oakland A's were playing each other. This was the year that a major earthquake happened during a Series game, causing damage in the both the cities of San Francisco and Oakland and suspending series play. This World Series that year did not end until after the beginning of November.

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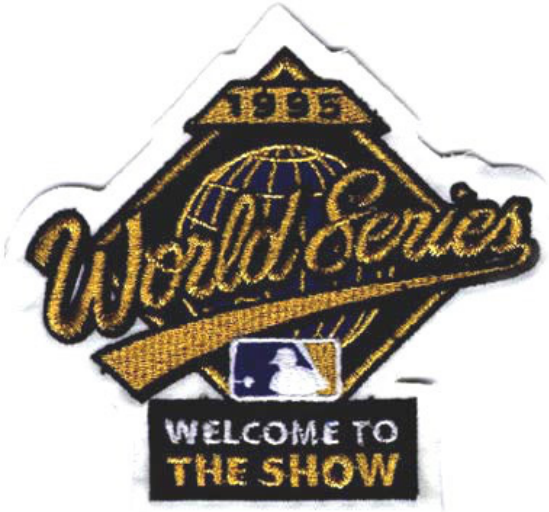
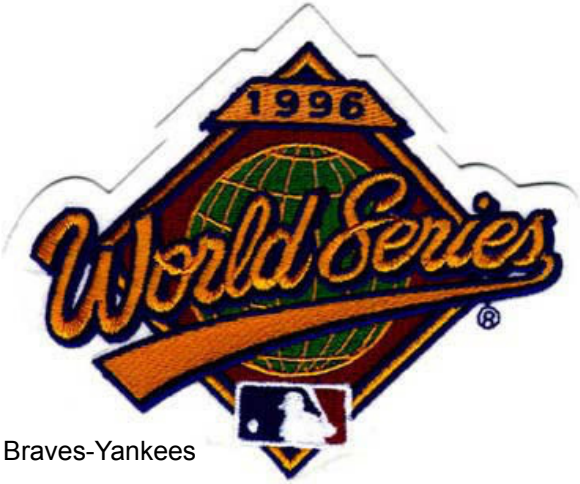
World Series 1992-1997

Braves-Blue Jays

Phillies-Blue Jays



Braves-Indians



Braves-Yankees

Marlins-Indians

This is the second style "family" of World Series logos worn on participants' uniform sleeves. Recall there was no World Series in 1994 due to the Players' strike.

Neither the Marlins nor the Indians wore this patch in the 1997 World Series. Instead, the Indians wore the same patches they had worn for the second half of the 1997 season: the 1997 All-Star Game patch on road and alternate blue, the Jackie Robinson patch on the home whites. The Marlins wore the Jackie Robinson patch in the Series.

Pre-1987 World Series Patches? Nostalgic patches are available from many memorabilia vendors for World Series games going back to the early 1900s. These are artistic recreations of period art, and were not used by the teams.

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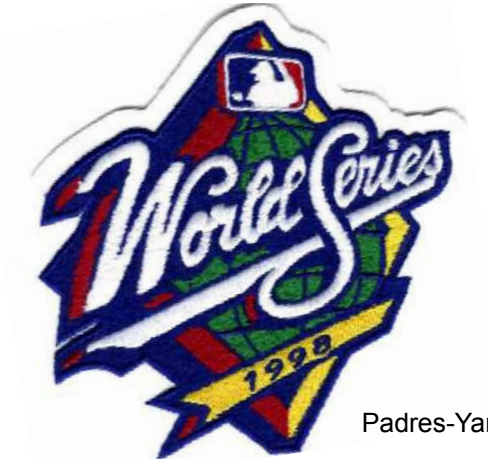
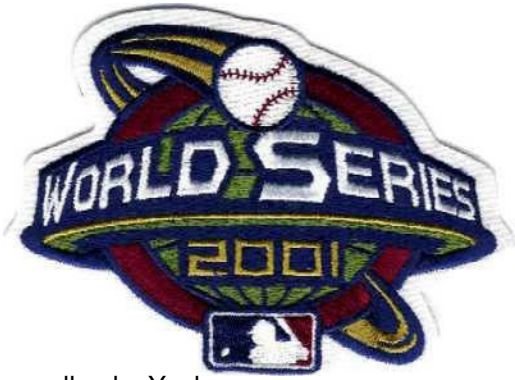
World Series Patches 1998-2003



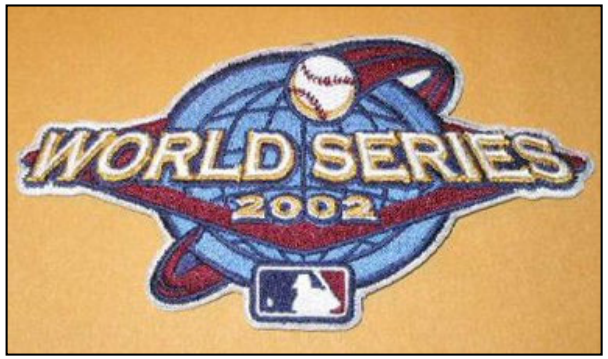
Padres-Yankees

Braves-Yankees

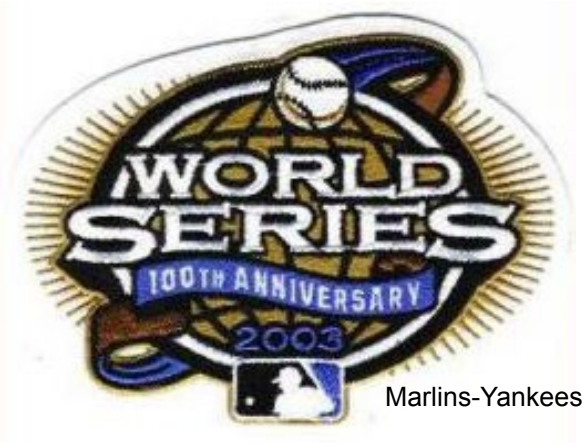
Mets-Yankees



Diamondbacks-Yankees



Giants-Angels



Marlins-Yankees

This group of patches gets a little more artistic and colorful. The related 1998-1999 patches bear some resemblance to the earliest patches. The 20002003 patches feature a baseball circling the globe.

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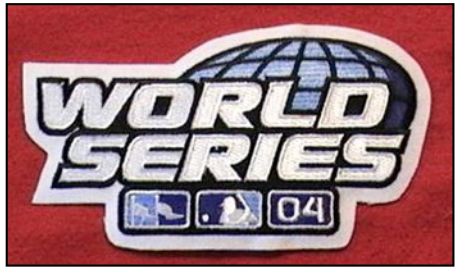
World Series Patches 2004-2011

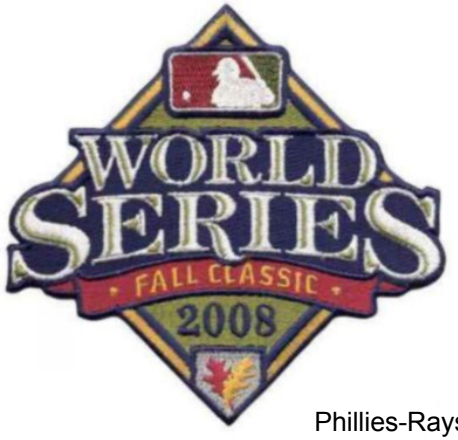


Cardinals-Red Sox

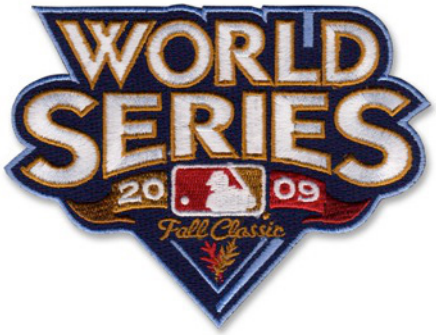
Astros-White Sox

Cardinals-Tigers

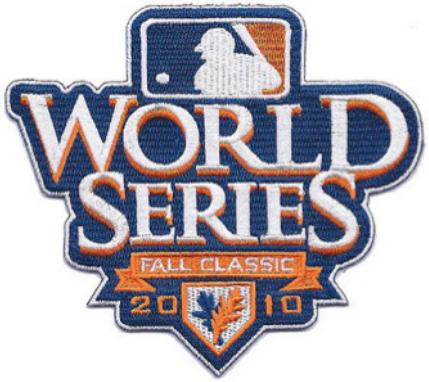
Rockies – Red Sox



Phillies-Rays



Phillies-Yankees



Giants-Rangers

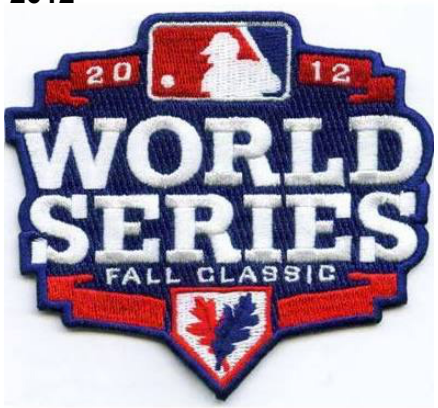
Cardinals-Rangers

The 2004-2007 family of patches have a boxy-angular, graphic look that to me have a family resemblance to logos for something like the *World News Tonight* on television. 2008-2011's patches are more classic in appearance.

© GameWornGuides.com

World Series/Postseason Patches 2012-2016

2012



Giants - Tigers

There are no other "postseason" patches in 2012

2013

Pirates, Reds, Cardinals, Rays, Red Sox, Indians, Braves, Dodgers, Tigers, Athletics

Cardinals - Red Sox

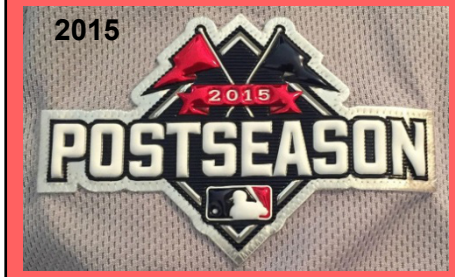
2014

Royals, Athletics, Giants, Pirates, Orioles, Tigers, Nationals, Angels, Dodgers, Cardinals

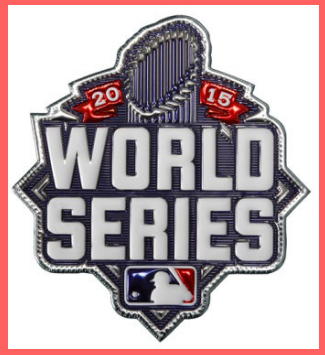
Giants - Royals

Sleeve patches for all teams participating in the postseason return in 2013. If your team was in the postseason in these years and did not advance to the World Series, the team's playoff set of uniforms usually will still have these patches affixed as they make their way to the hobby.

2015



Rangers, Blue Jays, Cubs, Cardinals, Astros, Royals, Mets, Dodgers, Pirates, Yankees



Mets-Royals

2016

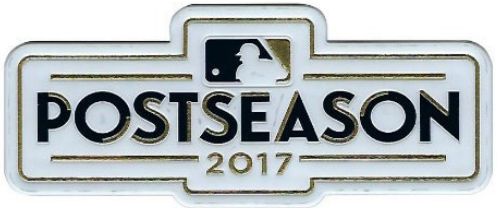
Blue Jays, Orioles, Cubs, Giants, Mets, Indians, Red Sox, Rangers, Dodgers, Nationals

Cubs-Indians

2015-2019 patches are ChromaFlex rubbery plastic patches, similar to the sleeve patches on 2016-2019 Spring Training jerseys.

© GameWornGuides.com

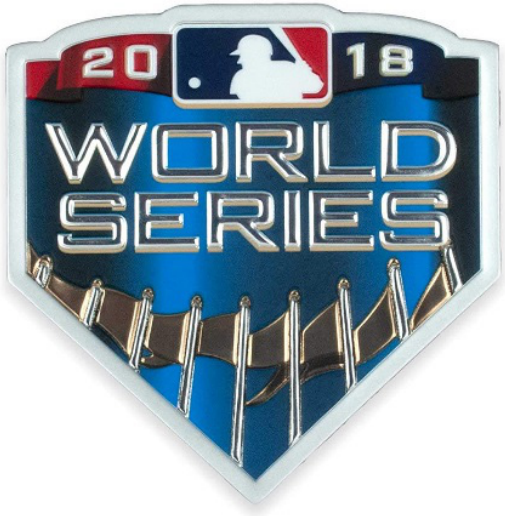
World Series/Postseason Patches 2017-2019



Astros, Cubs, Diamondbacks, Dodgers, Indians, Nationals, Red Sox, Rockies, Twins, Yankees

Astros – Dodgers

Astros, Athletics, Braves, Brewers, Cubs, Dodgers, Indians, Red Sox, Rockies, Yankees



Dodgers – Red Sox

Astros, Athletics, Braves, Brewers, Cardinals, Dodgers, Nationals, Rays, Twins, Yankees

Astros – Nationals

Patches are ChromaFlex (CFX), a rubbery plastic.

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World Series Patches 2020-2022

Starting with the 2020 postseason, MLB no longer had teams wear a special patch for Division Series and League Championship Series games, so only the two teams participating in the World Series would have a special patch for that honor. In 2021, however, global supply chain issues resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic made it logistically impossible to manufacture, distribute, and apply World Series patches for retail use. As such, MLB brass decided not to use a World Series patch on field either, because fans would be unable to get their hands on it. It is an unfortunate, but sadly unsurprising story of the cart leading the horse with MLB uniforms, where what fans will want to wear at home directly influenced what players wore on the field, rather than the other way around.

For the 2022 World Series, the sleeve patch returned to the field in CFX form, though the available retail versions appeared to be limited to traditional embroidery.

Dodgers – Rays

2021 World Series

No World Series Patch worn by either team.

Astros – Braves

Astros – Phillies

Patches are ChromaFlex (CFX), a rubbery plastic.

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World Series Patch 2023-2024

A new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association allowed for a new addition to every team's uniform - an advertising sleeve patch. Not every team had a patch in 2023, but most made provisions for adding one by deleting a sleeve patch if their jerseys had two, or determining the position of a team sleeve patch based on the handedness of the player in preparation for an ad patch. This uniform update meant that the position of the World Series patch, which was typically uniform from year to year, may not be so for 2023. To avoid the issue, starting in 2023, MLB created a smaller version of the patch, and affixed it to the left chest of the teams in the World Series. The 2023 patch was adhesive, and was not sewn on. For 2024, patches were sewn.

Diamondbacks – Rangers

Dodgers – Yankees

Patches are ChromaFlex (CFX), a rubbery plastic.

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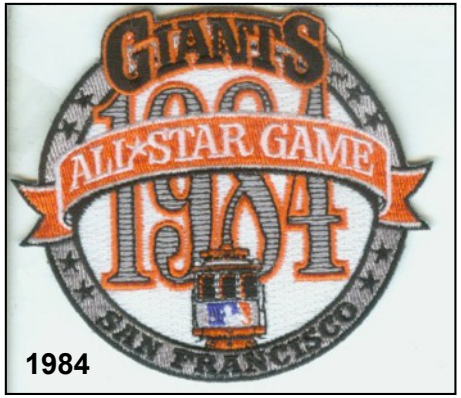
1978-1985 All-Star Game Patches

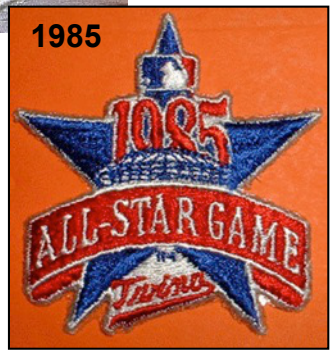
The tradition of the hosting team's players wearing that year's All-Star commemorative patch on their jersey all season long began in 1978, when the Padres hosted the midsummer exhibition.

Starting in 1988, when the All-Star players played in the game, each player wore the All-Star patch on his sleeve for that game only. In many cases, the team makes up a new uniform for the All-Star player with the proper patches sewn on exclusively to be worn at the All-Star Game. Prior to 1988, All-Star Game players did not wear the All-Star patch in the game.

The Mariners adopted the 1979 All-Star patch as their team logo and it remained on their uniforms for the next few years!

1981- The Indians did not wear their All-Star Patch in 1981, nor did players wear it in the All-Star Game that year.





1985- The Twins elected not to wear their All-Star patch that year. It was only seen at the game as a souvenir in 1985

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1986-1996 All-Star Game Patches

1986

1987

1988

1989

1990

1991

1992

1993

1994

1995

1996

Prior to 1988, All-Star patches were worn only by all players on the hosting club during the regular season. But starting with 1988, All Star patches were worn both by the host team all season on their uniforms, *and* by all players, manager and coaches in the All-Star Game for each year.

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1997-2007 All-Star Game Patches

1997 Indians only, worn all season on road and alternate jerseys, and on home jersey up until the All-Star break.

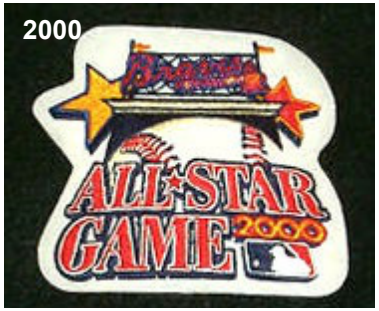
1997 All-Star participants only, but only on their caps. Players wore Jackie Robinson patch on sleeve instead.

After the All-Star game, the Indians removed the All-Star patch from their home white jerseys only, and switched to the Jackie Robinson patch, which they wore through the World Series.

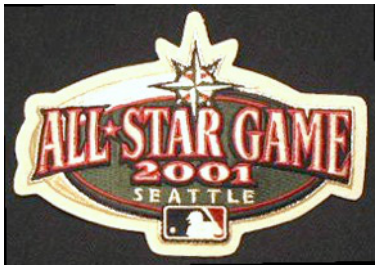
1998

1999

2000



2001



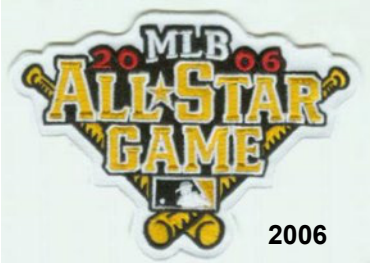
2002

2002: (Left) Patch worn by players in the All-Star game differed from the one that the Brewers' players wore all year (right), eliminating the word "Brewers" and replacing it with "MLB."

2003

2004

2005



2006

2007

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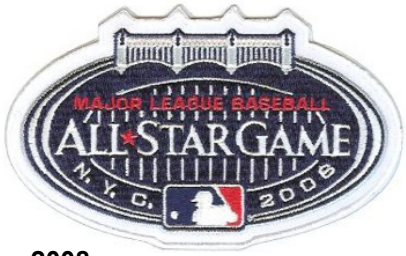
2008-2017 All-Star Game Patches



2008

2009

2010

2011

Repeating what had been done in 2002 by the Brewers, the patch the Diamondbacks wore all season (top) included the small team logo. The one worn by all the players in the actual game (bottom) had the team logo replaced with the letters "MLB."

2012

2013

2014

Logos for the 2014 game displayed at the Twins' home Target Field included a small Twins script that was left off all patches- including the one worn by the Twins all season.

2015

2016

Embroidered version, Padres in-season

ChromaFlex version, All-Star Game only

2017

Embroidered version, Marlins in-season

ChromaFlex version, All-Star Game only

Continuing the theme, each All-Star patch borrows elements from the home team's palate of colors, type-fonts and symbolism. Starting in 2016, host teams wore an embroidered version of the patch on their regular-season jerseys, while players in the All-Star Game wore a ChromaFlex version that day only.

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2018-2020 All-Star Game Patches

2018

Embroidered version, Nationals in-season

ChromaFlex version, All-Star Game only

2019

Embroidered version, Indians in-season

ChromaFlex version, All-Star Game only

Like the 2002 Brewers and 2011 Diamondbacks, the Indians wore a city-specific version of the 2019 All-Star Game logo all season. The “Cleveland” script was replaced with “MLB” for the patch worn in the All-Star Game.

Continuing recent trends, the All-Star Game patches pick up the colors and visual elements of the host teams and cities. Again, the version worn by the host team during the season is embroidered rather than the CFX version worn by players in the All-Star Game.

2020

The 2020 All-Star Game was a casualty of the pandemic-shortened season. The host Dodgers wore this patch on their sleeves in both March and the July resumption of Spring Training but eliminated it in the shortened regular season.
Based on recent history, we can assume that the embroidered patch the Dodgers were to wear in 2020 would have been made in CFX for the All-Star Game, but less certain is if the “LA” logo would have been replaced by “MLB” for the game itself.

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2021-2022 All-Star Game Patches

2021

Embroidered version, Braves
April 1 only

Embroidered version, Rockies
Starting April 21

ChromaFlex version,
All-Star Game only

The Atlanta Braves were to host the 2021 All-Star Game, but the day after their first game of the season on April 1, MLB moved the game to Colorado. MLB said the move was "in response to an election bill signed on Wednesday by Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, which opponents say disproportionately disenfranchised people of color." The patch was covered, then removed, from their jerseys for subsequent games.

2022

Embroidered version, Dodgers

Screened twill version, All-Star Game only

The 2022 All-Star Game patch worn by the Dodgers in season was identical (except for the updated year) to the one they wore in 2020 before the season (and All-Star Game) were shut down by COVID-19.For the first time in many years, the in-game version of the patch differed significantly from the team version. All-Stars wore a black and gold version of the logo, minus the Dodgers' "LA" ligature,which was thickly screened gold ink on a black twill patch.

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2023-2024 All-Star Game Patches

2023

Standard embroidered version, Mariners

Lighter embroidered version with sponsor logo, All-Star Game only

The 2023 All-Star Game patch was worn by the host Seattle Mariners throughout the season in place of their usual team disc patch. The version the team wore was standard embroidery. The patch used in the game included the MasterCard sponsor logo, and was done in a much lighter type of embroidery on a thin, twill background. This style of patch is much lighter than a traditional embroidered version, and it allows for greater detail in design. The 2023 All-Star Game jersey was the first MLB jersey in Nike's Vapor Premiere Elite template, so this type of patch is one of the enhancements that template brings to MLB jerseys.

2024

Standard ChromaFlex Version, Rangers, WORN ON CAP ONLY

Lighter embroidered version with sponsor logo, All-Star Game only. American League version at left, National League at right.

For the first time in many years, the host team, the Texas Rangers, did not wear an All-Star game patch in the regular season in 2024. Given the team's standard team patch on one sleeve and ad patch on the other, the year-long patch was relegated to the team's caps only. Like the 2023 All-Star Game, the patch used in the game included the MasterCard sponsor logo, and was done in a much lighter type of embroidery on a thin, twill background. The 2024 patch was made in two colors to match each jersey.

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2025 All-Star Game Patches

2025

Standard embroidered version, with sponsor logo, All-Star Game only

For 2025, the host team, the Atlanta Braves, did not wear an All-Star game sleeve patch in the regular season. The year-long patch was relegated to the team's caps only. For the game itself, MLB returned to having players wear their own teams' home or road jerseys, for the first time since 2019. Each player wore an embroidered version of the All-Star Game logo with the sponsor logo as well. The patch sleeve varied based on player handedness, and replaced any team ad patch that would normally appear on jerseys.

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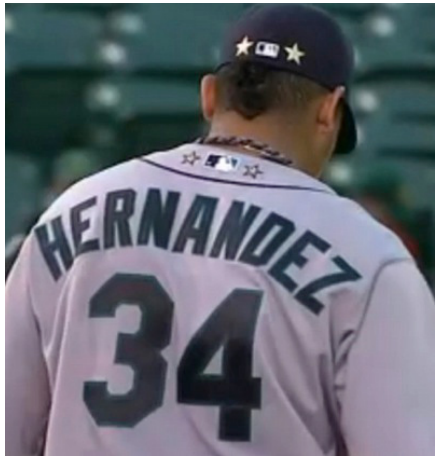
2011-2016 All-Star Game: Collar Stars



07/01/11 11:44 AM ET
All-Stars to wear stars before the big game
By Mark Newman / MLB.com
For the first time, players chosen for the All-Star Game will be distinguished by uniform for regular season games. During the July 4-10 games leading up to the 2011 All-Star break, any players selected for the 82nd Midsummer Classic on July 12 in Phoenix will wear caps and jerseys adorned with stars. Rosters will be announced at noon ET Sunday during the 2011 MLB All-Star Game Selection Show Presented by Taco Bell on TBS.

Two gold stars, outlined with team colors, will be affixed to either side of the MLB silhouetted batter logo on the back of the jersey for all games July 4-10, as well as the back of the cap for all games July 5-10. You will be able to get this look, because during that tribute week, the MLB.com Shop will have those special-star MLB Authentic Collection jerseys from Majestic and caps from New Era.

In addition to the 66 players who are announced Sunday, fans will add the 34th men for each team via the 10th annual All-Star Game Final Vote Sponsored by Sprint. One player from the American League and one from the National League will be chosen from that ballot, which launches at 1 p.m. ET Sunday, and after being announced as winners at 5 p.m. ET on Thursday, they will have their uniforms distinguished with those stars for games through July 10.

Starting July 4, 2011, players who are selected for the 2011 MLB All-Star Game are eligible to wear small stars on their jersey collars, on either side of the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The jersey stars are gold with contrasting color outline specially matched for each team. Caps with plain gold stars without outlines and the 2011 All-Star Game patches for are also provided for the players.

Uni-Watch (my favorite source for all important news items such as this one) had reported that the Yankees and Cardinals refused to apply the stars, that Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw did not want to wear the stars and asked them removed (after removing the stars from his hat by himself), and Orioles representative Matt Wieters, who removed his as a “team gesture” according to manager Buck Showalter. The idea was not repeated in subsequent years, though the stars were still worn for the All-Star Game only through 2016.

Star-less Yankees All-Star Derek Jeter

Indians’ Jersey Stars

(This page also appears in the All-Star Batting Jersey Chapter)

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2011-2016 All-Star Game: Collar Stars

Through 2016, the stars are worn by players in the All-Star game itself. The stars are two-color and are color coded to match each team uniform. These two jerseys were ones actually worn in the All-Star Game. Notice that they have the All-Star patch on the right sleeve

(This page also appears in the All-Star Batting Jersey Chapter)

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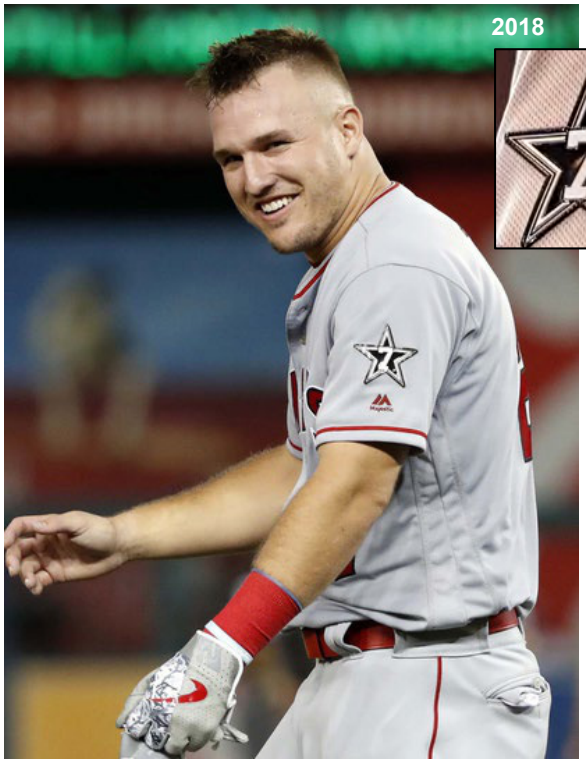
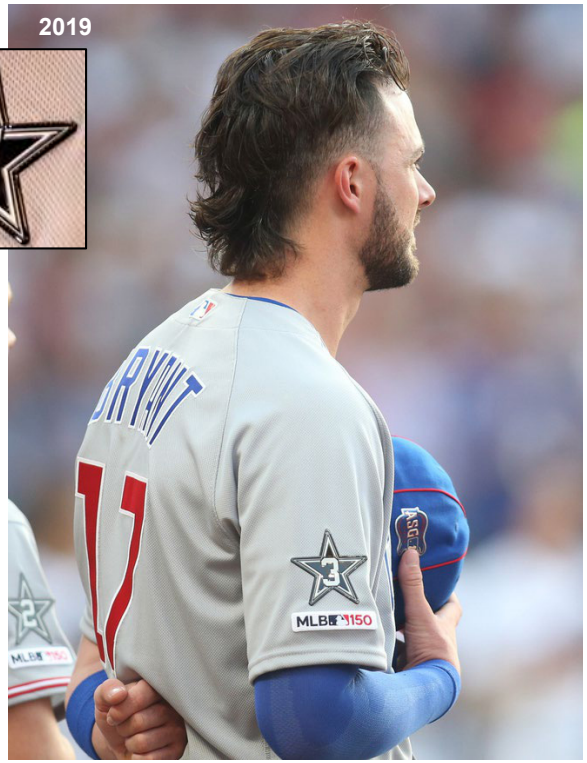
2017-2019, 2022 All-Star Sleeve Patch





Starting in 2017, collar stars give way to a CFX patch, shaped like a star, displaying the number of times a player has appeared in the All-Star game. The patch is black and gold in 2017, then changes to black and sliver for 2018-2019. During the game, it is worn on the left sleeve in 2017-2018, and the right sleeve in 2019. A new type of this patch, with heavy gold print on black twill, appeared on the left sleeve of All-Star jerseys in 2022 as well.

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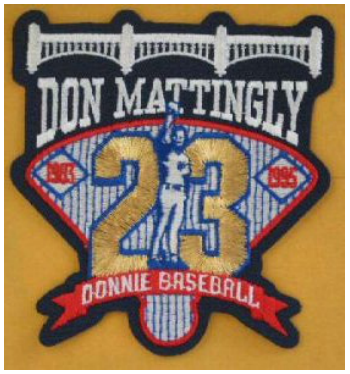
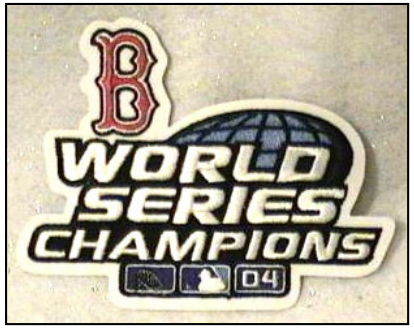
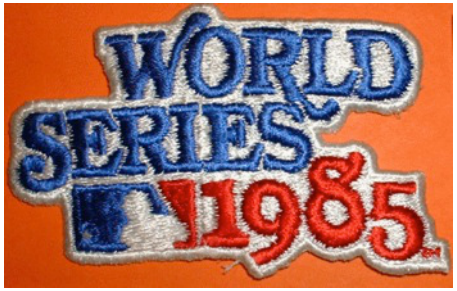
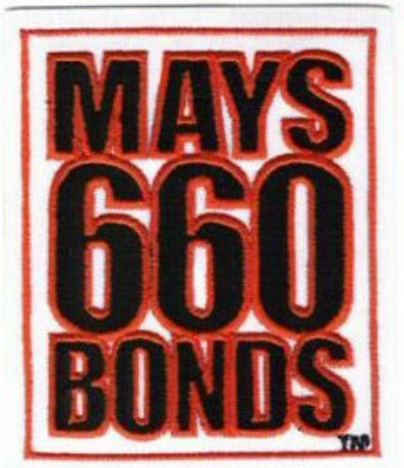
Finally: Licensed Authentic, But Non-Player Worn MLB Patches

Here is a selection of patches that were authorized by MLB, but none of these were worn on player jerseys during games. They are official patches licensed by MLB and marketed as souvenirs by MLB and the teams.









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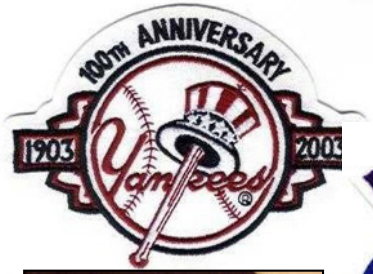
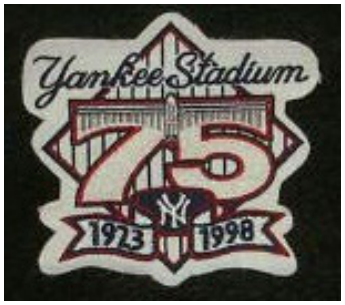
Footnote: Team-Specific Commemorative Patches

So far we have covered patches that are worn by all of baseball, by a single league, or by players participating in the All Star Game or in the Postseason.

However, another category of commemorative patches are those worn on a jersey by a single team. These commemorate an anniversary of something (stadium, a city Bicentennial, a championship), the passing of a beloved player or coach. They might commemorate a special event to be held in their city, like the All-Star Game or World Series.

There are hundreds of these patches. In each of the team chapters that follow, I will try to illustrate them all. Patches used by all teams or an entire league, the All-Star Game and World Series have been shared here and will be repeated in each team's chapter in a separate section near the end.





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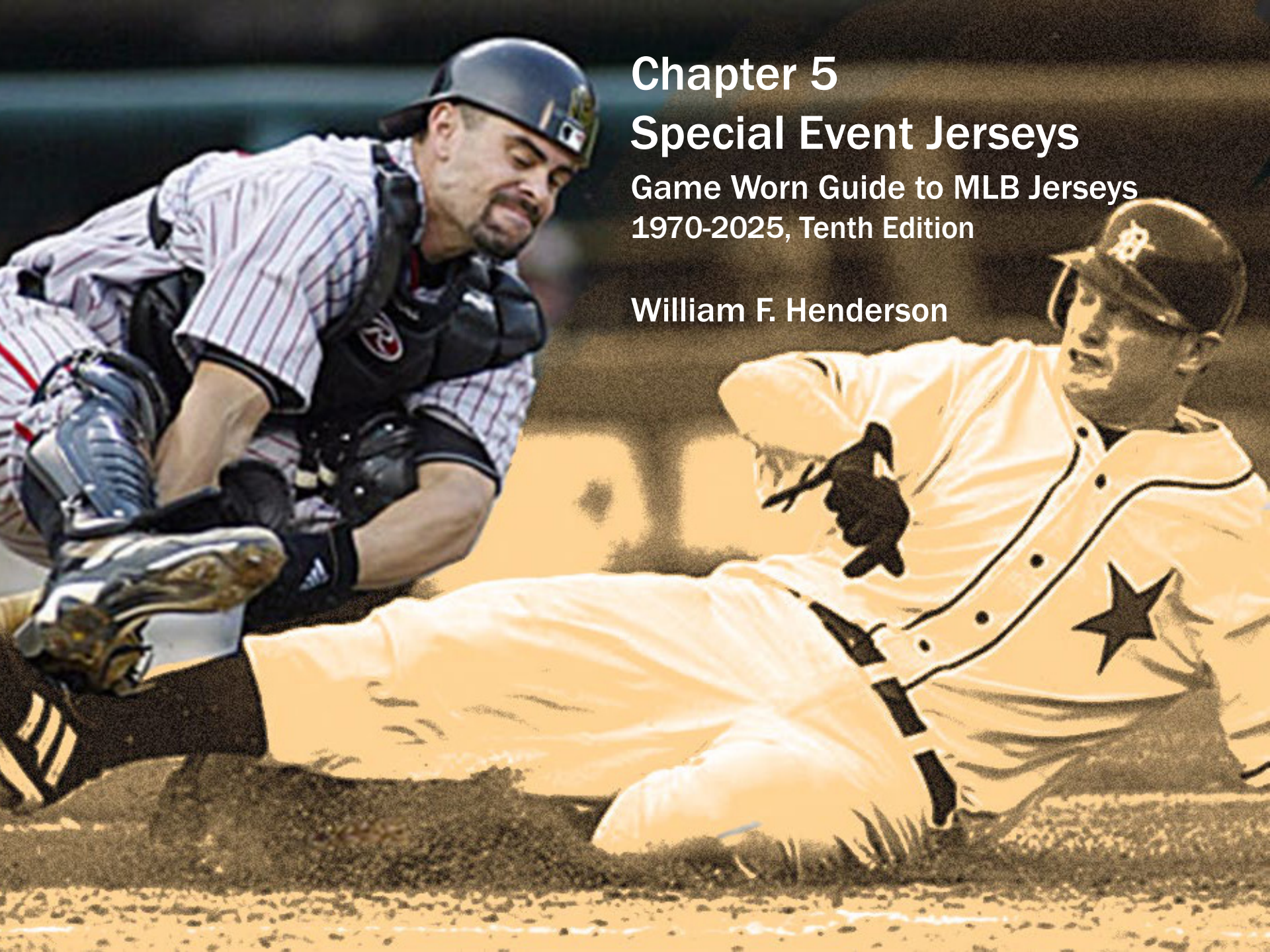


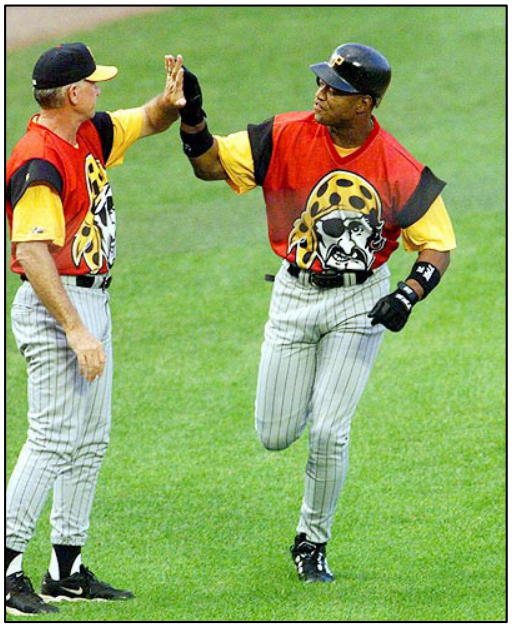
Chapter 5
Special Event Jerseys

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys 1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Special Event Jerseys

Prior to 1990, a Major League team wearing something in a game other than their normal team uniform was simply unheard of. Most teams had a home uniform and a road uniform. A couple of had used a colorful alternate jersey at some point in the 1970s or 1980s; rule-breakers like the A's and the Padres. But in 1990, only the Orioles still had an alternate jersey in their stable.



By 1990, the sport seemed to be returning quickly to its roots, discarding pullovers, colorful road jerseys and alternates, while returning to belted pants and button-front jerseys. Teams were going back to the idea of white jerseys at home, gray on the road.

It was in this environment of nostalgia that the concept of the "Turn Back the Clock" game was born, perhaps unleashing a flood of alternate one-game uniforms in the sport.

In this chapter, we will look at the times when a team wears something other than its usual uniforms, including Turn Back the Clock games, St. Patrick's Day and a few other special uniform days that now have become somewhat commonplace, and have made collecting more accessible for more fans, as nearly all of these one-day uniforms make their way to the hobby.

In this chapter:

Turn Back the Clock (1990-2016)
Turn Ahead the Clock (1998-1999)
Negro League Tributes (1994-2016)
Jackie Robinson Jerseys (2004-2016)
St. Patrick's Day (1978-2017)
Ethnic Appreciation Event Jerseys
Memorial Day Jerseys (2013-2016) Independence Day "Stars and Stripes" Jerseys (2015-2016)
Mother's Day (2016)
Father's Day (2016)
Opening Day "Champs" Jerseys (2005-2016)
Other Miscellaneous Event Jerseys

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Turn Back the Clock Games

While some younger fans may never remember a time when Turn Back the Clock games were not a part of MLB's regular event schedules, 1990 was actually the first year that one was played. The first MLB Turn Back the Clock game was played between the Chicago White Sox and the Milwaukee Brewers.

The occasion was the celebration of the imminent closing of the Sox's longtime home, Comiskey Park, in anticipation of a new stadium opening the next year. The White Sox wore replica copies of their 1917 World Series uniforms, but the Brewers dressed in their normal duds. Ballpark ushers wore old fashioned uniforms, megaphones were used to announce the lineups from the field, the ticket prices were rolled back, including 50-cent tickets for general admission.

The event was so popular that the White Sox (wearers of the most eclectic and constantly changing array of uniforms over the past two decades) brought out a "nostalgia"-based home uniform featuring black pinstripes and a old-fashioned "SOX" chest wordmark, and after a few tryout dates in 1990, it became the team's official home uniform for the next season. And, 30 seasons later in 2020, it remains as the team's official home uniform.

Photo: whitesoxinteractive.com

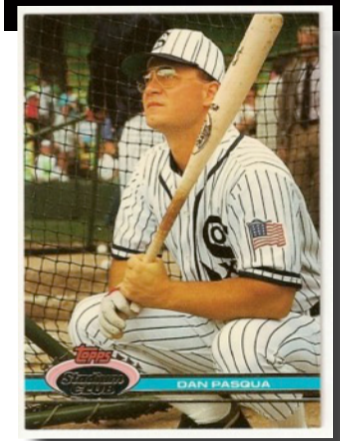
© GameWornGuides.com

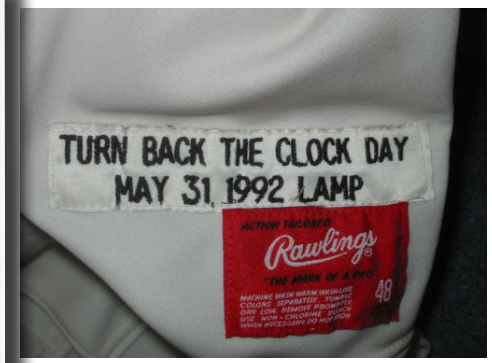
Noting the popularity of the nostalgia concept, a few more teams decided to try it out the next year. In Philadelphia, the Phillies hosted the first such game with both home and road teams playing along. Also hosting “Nostalgia Games” (as they were then called in 1991) were the Giants and Orioles.

In 1992, many more teams included a Nostalgia Game on their schedules. Several teams had more than one in that same season. 1992 participants included the Giants, Indians, Mets, Phillies, Pirates, Reds, Tigers, Angels, Athletics and Cubs.

In standard practice, the home team was responsible for outfitting the visiting club (if they wanted them to play along). That meant doing the historical research, creating the uniform design for the visitors and ordering/paying for the uniforms from the vendor. The uniforms were auctioned at some point after the game, usually to benefit the team’s charity of choice.

Early on, it was decided that the official uniform supplier to MLB would have the right of first refusal to make the uniforms for these events. But, if they decided to “pass” on making the uniforms for the game, the team was free to go to another uniform supplier to have the uniforms made, but that other maker could not display its logo on the garment in a place it could be seen in use. This policy has continued through this writing as of 2025.





Top left: A jersey from the first-ever MLB Turn Back the Clock game in 1990. Top right: 1994 White Sox Turn Back the Clock jersey made by Wilson, meaning that Russell (the official supplier to MLB) must have passed on the opportunity first. Bottom right: Pirates tagging from their first nostalgia game in 1992.

© GameWornGuides.com

In 1991, the official supplier to MLB was Rawlings, and Rawlings made all the "Nostalgia Game" uniforms for the games in 1990 and 1991, though none displayed a Rawlings logo on the sleeve the way that the regular everyday team uniforms did. Russell took over the MLB contract in 1992 and made all the uniforms for the games in that year (a total of 13 teams' uniforms) and none had the Russell "R" on the sleeve. But starting in 1993, when ten teams wore throwback uniforms, Russell made only two of them. Mitchell & Ness made the other eight of them that year, making five out of old-time flannel, and the others in knit.

The number of throwback games continued to increase each year. In 1994, Wilson and Ebbets Field Flannel joined the pack of vendors for these games. In 1995, Victory Athletic made Turn Back the Clock uniforms for the Astros joining the others already mentioned (though this would be their only dance). In 1996, AIS joined the group, and Rawlings in 1997. So, while Russell contractually had the first right for all of these games, during the 1990s, Mitchell & Ness outfitted more participants than any other, with Ebbets Field Flannels coming in second. Russell actually elected to make very few of the uniforms for these games at all. When Mitchell & Ness and Ebbets Field Flannels had made the uniforms, during those early years, they were often made of actual flannel. However, as time went on, this practice changed and most of the replicas became knits by 2000 and after, regardless of what the original uniforms had been made of.

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Negro League Tribute Games

The 1994 season brought a new reason for throwback uniforms, as that was the year that the Kansas City Royals and Detroit Tigers played the first Negro Leagues tribute game, memorializing the shameful time that lasted far too late into the 20th century when professional baseball remained segregated. That series continued in 1995 and 1996, with the New York Yankees joining in. But 1997 was the banner year for nostalgia games, as this was the year that all of baseball (Majors and Minors) celebrated the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in MLB during the 1947 season. In 1997, there were four tribute games involving eight teams, all outfitted in Negro Leagues uniforms. These Negro Leagues tribute games have continued annually in many cities since then, becoming annual events for the Tigers, Royals, Pirates, and Brewers, and occasional events in most other cities.

During the 2000s, for both types of Turn Back the Clock games, AIS grew more and more in prominence and became the vendor of choice for several teams, including the Tigers, Royals and Pirates. Majestic made its first appearance as a uniform supplier in Turn Back the Clock games during 2002, a huge year for these games, with more than 22 teams outfitted. By 2014, Turn Back the Clock games had become a regular feature for most (but not all) teams. Teams without a long history of their own to draw on (like the Padres, Twins, Marlins, Mariners, Rays and Brewers) but who wanted to participate in the fun often wore the uniforms of minor league or even college teams (in the case of the Rays). The result to the hobby has been a huge increase in the variety and quantity of game worn uniforms available for collectors to buy, and ultimately, has made collecting more affordable for everyone. When supply goes up markedly, even with increased demand, prices generally come down.

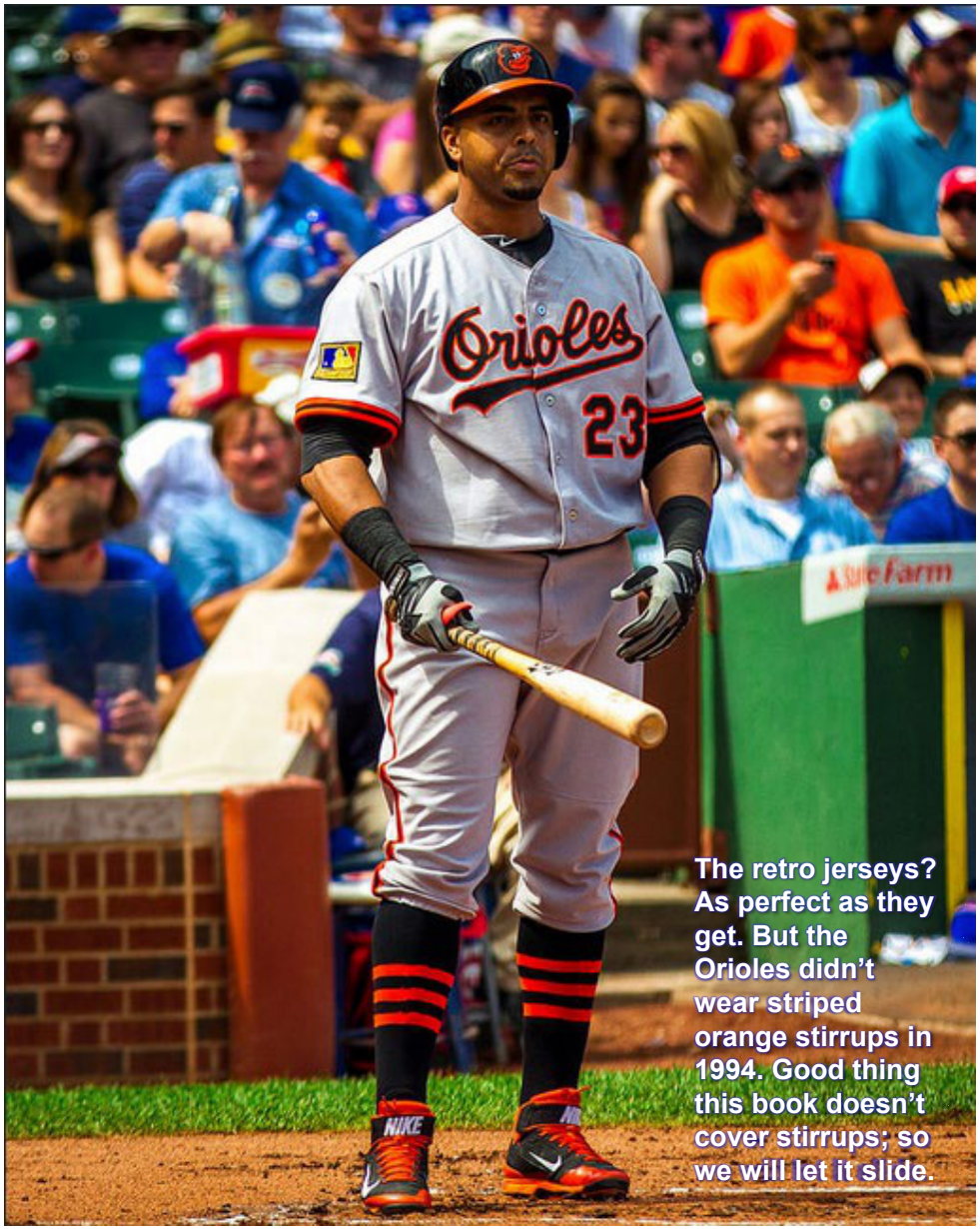
Source photo: MLB.com,

Turn Back the Clock Uniform Authenticity

In this book, we have devoted many pages to individual games and the uniforms of the teams who played in each throwback contest, commenting on the accuracy of each one with great specificity. Most of the time, we have looked for original photos of the uniforms that had been copied to so we could do a factual, historical comparison. So the comments made here are rather “broad brush.”

In general, the earliest Turn Back the Clock games were true labors of love for the teams that hosted them. The uniforms for the first handful of games were crafted with care by Rawlings, and while they were all knit copies of originally flannel uniforms, they were generally tailored to look like the eras they represented. Players wore them properly with high-cuffed pants, colorful stirrups, the right color shoes and accessories. Some teams even had properly-colored and logoed batting helmets made to go along with the old style uniforms and so the overall look was remarkably accurate. When Mitchell & Ness and Ebbets Field Flannels got involved, quality remained high, as both of these companies prided themselves on their recreation of history; accuracy was important to both of them. The manufacturers began to make the first real wool and cotton flannel replicas, so some of these on-field replicas were quite realistic indeed… right down to being itchy and hot like the originals. Likewise, the early Negro League throwbacks were also a labor of love for the historians, sponsors and the manufacturers.

As a historian and a graphic artist, I had begun to collect and document many of the early team player number fonts and team wordmarks. A few teams, notably the Mariners and Astros, contacted me for help in those early days to provide correct artwork so their uniforms would look their best. I also supplied correct period fonts to Mitchell & Ness when they asked for help. And I was proud when I saw my artwork used on the field.



The retro jerseys? As perfect as they get. But the Orioles didn’t wear striped orange stirrups in 1994. Good thing this book doesn’t cover stirrups; so we will let it slide.

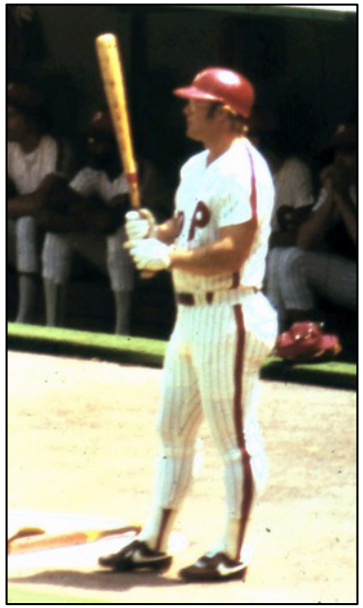
© GameWornGuides.com

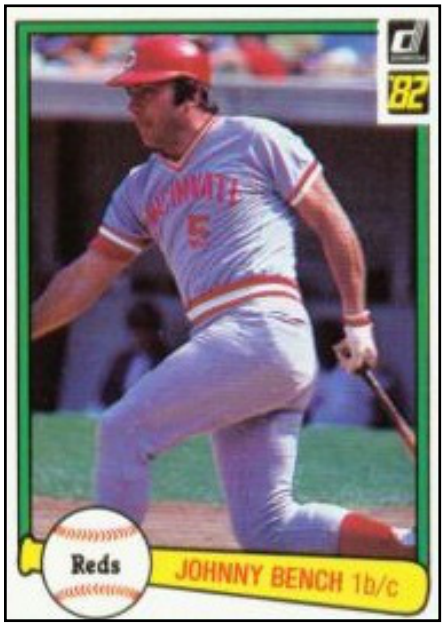
But things started to change in the late 1990s and especially the first decade of the 2000s. As more and more teams wanted to play along, a few things happened. First, the historical accuracy suffered for many games. I have tried to be balanced and fair in my comments, but there were some really poor recreations of some team uniforms during this period that were quite unfortunate. Wordmarks were inaccurate: too small or too large, sewn too low, player numbers and names were in incorrect fonts, sleeves were too long, knit trim on sleeves, neck and sides was disproportioned, and fabric and trim colors were way off; among other indiscretions. I will also comment that (probably) since the home team had the responsibility of ordering and paying for the uniforms of the visitors, it certainly seemed likely that sometimes far less care might have been given to recreating the accuracy of the visitors' suits compared to those of the home team.

August 14, 2007, Cardinals at Brewers. my vote for the worst Turn Back the Clock uniforms ever.

© GameWornGuides.com

But a second thing happened as these games grew more numerous, the players stopped "playing along." As a rule, most were disagreeable to wearing the uniforms anywhere properly tailored to suit the era they were supposed to be representing. More and more they appeared wearing baggy pajama pants with hems dragging in the dirt and covering their shoes, having their jerseys fitted three sizes larger than any player in the era being represented would have worn them, not wearing colored socks or stirrups, and accessorizing with modern cleats, wristbands, gloves, body armor and non-period helmets that, when taken together, made many of these games seem farcical. Some players even hacked off the sleeves of the period uniforms they found uncomfortable. And perhaps I can't fault them: these are a highly paid, select group of men being paid to do an extremely specialized job that few can do, and forcing them to be costumed for our amusement like circus performers while they did these difficult jobs perhaps was not fair. Nevertheless, when I saw photos or TV coverage of some of these games, I just cringed with discomfort at what they looked like.





(Top row)- *In his defense, Ryan Howard (at left) never grew up wearing skin-tight knit uniforms and probably wouldn't be comfortable playing in one just to please the fans. But the 1970s style knits were worn that way, as shown by Schmidt and Luzinski (top center and right). (Bottom row) The original 1975 Indians and Reds never wore their uniforms this baggy, hip-hop style. Notice Johnny Bench in 1982 with his skin-tight uniform at left. Wearing throwback uniforms without wearing them properly looks, well, stupid.*

© GameWornGuides.com

The reaction to these costume-farces in social media among fans was often rather severe. Reading the chatter in the online Uni-Watch blog in the days following these spectacles showed that many purists held passionate opinions about these games… and were annoyed at the commercialization that permeates everything in the multi-million-dollar world of professional sports. While they were probably a minority, they were a vocal one. And, while it would be easy simply to blame the uniform makers, we suspect the fault lay further back down the line. It is highly likely that the authentication research done by the teams' scheduling their home events was sorely lacking, which led to poor specifications for the orders for the games' uniforms, which led to the creation of inaccurate uniforms being delivered. How else could one explain examples where a team wore beautiful throwbacks at home in June and just a month later wore completely inaccurate ones on the road? As a researcher, I can say from experience, it is easy to get things wrong, and difficult to get them right. In scheduling a Turn Back the Clock event, there are a whole long list of things for the team's planning and promotion department to do… and ordering tailored sets of uniforms for the home and road teams is just one of the things on that list. It is safe to say that those planning these dates are probably better at event logistics than historical research.

The messages must have gotten through, because something started to change after the first decade of the new century had passed. Between 2010 and 2014, several teams, including the Angels, Dodgers, Rangers, Astros, and Cubs, held year-long celebrations of their teams' histories which included regularly scheduled Turn Back the Clock games.

Each of these teams did an admirable job of research of not only their own historical uniforms, but also of the uniforms worn by the visitors. The Cubs' year-long celebration of the 100th birthday of their beloved Wrigley Field in 2014 was the most ambitious Turn Back the Clock effort of all time in any sport, with the Cubs and their opponents wearing eight different uniforms from eight different decades in games that season. The execution of this feat by both the Cubs and uniform maker Majestic was nearly faultless, and was surely no accident. The Reds upped the ante in 2019 by staging a staggering 10 throwback games across the season, to wonderful result, with Majestic providing all of the uniforms. Unlike the Cubs in 2014, however, they did not outfit their opposition for these games.

Above: The Cubs' eight throwbacks from 2014 on display. Right: The Reds' 10 throwbacks from 2019 modeled by their players.

© GameWornGuides.com

Above: The 1974 Braves play the 1980 Phillies… in 2003. Below, The 2003 Pirates and Red Sox recreate the 1903 World Series in Pittsburgh

Notice the differences between the original jersey at top and the 1999 Mitchell & Ness Turn Back the Clock version below. The original's team logo is taller, the letters narrower and they are spaced closer together. The front numbers are significantly taller on the original vs. the replica, and are not the exact font, but instead are "something close." The name on back is in Vertical Arch type on the original. Finally, look at the tailored cut of the garment. The TBTC replica has very loose, wide sleeve ends and is much wider than the original at the top. Dave Parker, at 6' 5" and 230 lbs. wore a very big size- but the replica is even larger, to fit a smaller man. This is a fairly representative example of the level of accuracy one will find in many Turn Back the Clock jerseys; some are better and some are worse.

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Collecting Turn Back the Clock Uniforms

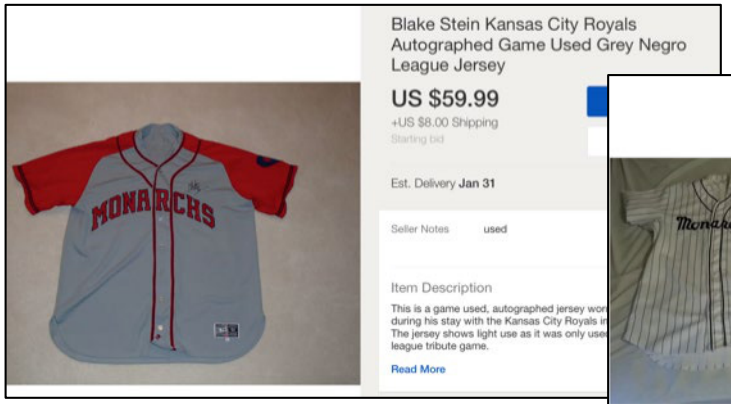
Because nearly all of these game worn uniforms were sold by the teams, or auctioned for charities, there are a large number of these jerseys for sale from dealers and on eBay at all times. Usually, they were originally offered with letters of authenticity, and with luck, those documents would remain with the jerseys as they are resold. Many are autographed as well, and because most were only worn in one game, they are not tattered and torn (though some collectors appreciate that look).

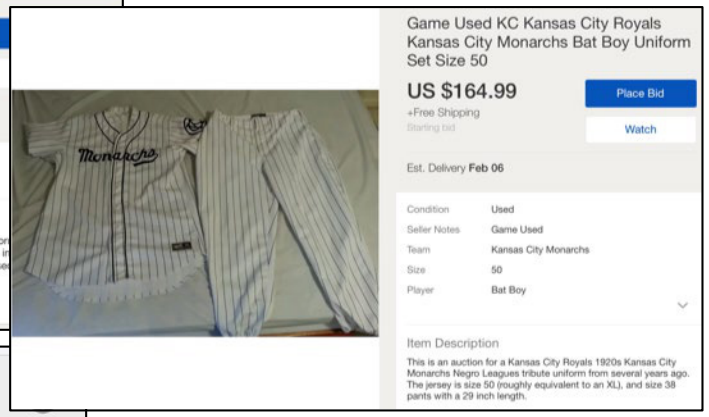
A point of interest is the fact that Majestic, the official supplier of uniforms to MLB, has become very involved in these throwback games, where for many years the participation of Majestic and Russell (the prior official supplier) were spotty and infrequent at best. The participation of the "official" uniform maker means that often limited quantities of jerseys destined for retail sale were also made. While these were often just sold locally (in the participating teams' home cities) or on team websites around the time for the game, enough were made that they show up on the secondary market. And while one would think that the Asian counterfeiters would have better things to do, sadly in many of these cases, imported fakes bearing "Majestic Authentic" tagging have shown up as well.

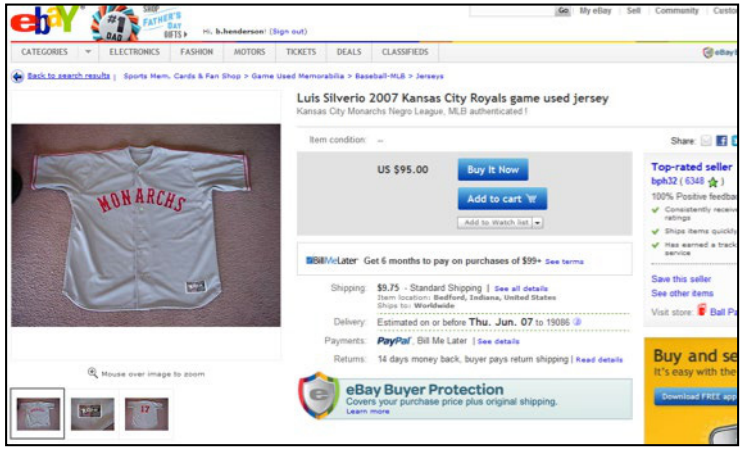
In the cases where the game uniforms were made by other suppliers, like AIS, Rawlings, Mitchell & Ness and Ebbets Field Flannels, availability of team-spec but non-game worn authentics has ranged from spotty (in the case of Mitchell & Ness) to nearly non-existent (all the others). Searching reputable dealers' inventories and eBay is your best bet, but as always, buyer beware.

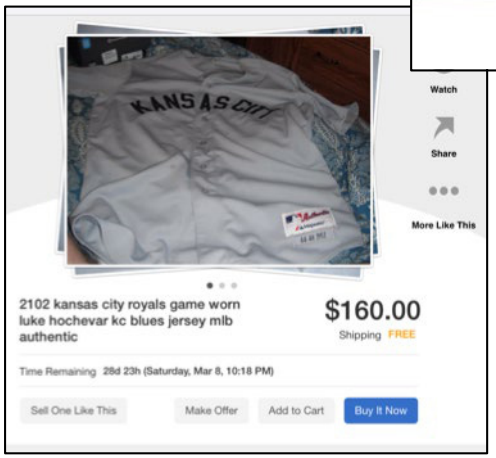
The uniforms from this 2014 game for both teams were auctioned on MLB.com. Photo credit: MLB.com

A selection of KC Royals special throw-back uniforms from reputable sellers– and a couple original vintage jerseys thrown in on the bottom row to show what it might cost to collect the "real thing." The Royals hold many special games, so the uniforms are plentiful for collectors and therefore often reasonably priced. Keep in mind that, unless it says "Buy it Now" for this price, the prices shown are bids in progress. But note directly below, a game worn example for under $100.









Directly above, hologram marked items sold on MLB.com will be the safest buys, but usually the most expensive.

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1998 & 1999 “Turn Ahead The Clock” Games

This promotion was originally the isolated brainchild of the Seattle Mariners, who in 1998 hosted a game with the Kansas City Royals that wondered aloud “what would baseball look like in 2027 (the Mariners’ 50th Anniversary year)?” Apparently what it meant was all sense of good taste and tradition would be ignored as teams would wear garish, un-tucked jerseys with huge logos spread across the entire front. Game time PA announcements and other sideshow activities provided a bizarre glimpse into how we would supposedly be living in the future.

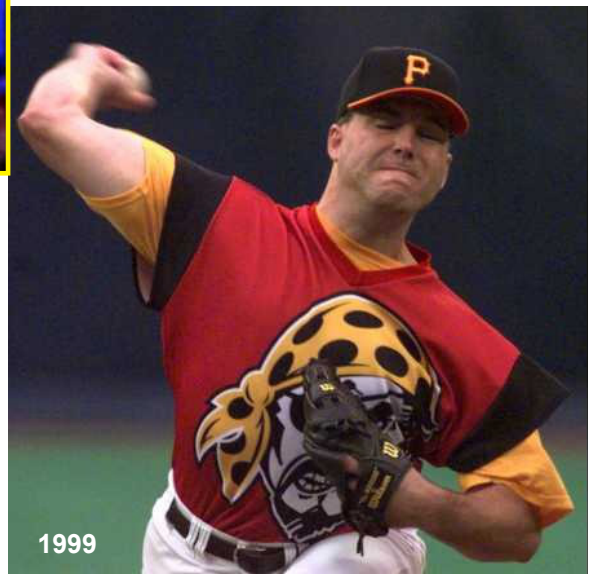
MLB picked up on the idea for 1999, offering the concept to all teams, inviting each team to host a Turn Ahead the Clock day in their city. Century 21 Real Estate (appropriately) sponsored the promotion.

While many teams did hold the event, eight of thirty declined to participate: Chicago Cubs, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Yankees, Texas Rangers, Houston Astros, Toronto Blue Jays, Montreal Expos and Cincinnati Reds. Some teams were ‘lucky’ enough to have two games, home and away-to play in.

This whole thing was very poorly received; especially by the players, who complained about the cartoonish, foolish looking uniforms. Various press accounts of the games across the country were bitingly unkind as well. This is not a theme-day we are likely to see repeated. Probably due to their bizarreness, these have developed a cult following and the uniforms (including the relatively few replicas made for resale) command very high prices. Reportedly, most actual game jerseys were given to the players.

The final scheduled game between the Red Sox and Tigers, two tremendously tradition-oriented teams, was skipped and the special event was never rescheduled. See the Tigers’ chapter for some additional thoughts and insights on this un-played game.

SF Chronicle: Michael Macer



A List of the Turn Ahead The Clock Games Scheduled in 1999

Oakland at Anaheim	June 26	Colorado at St. Louis	July 30
San Diego at San Francisco	July 21	Tampa Bay at Kansas City	Aug. 14
Kansas City at Detroit	July 22	Atlanta at Colorado	Aug. 18
Milwaukee at Florida	July 23	Arizona at Pittsburgh	Aug. 20
Seattle at Minnesota	July 24	Cleveland at Chicago White Sox	Sept. 10
Anaheim at Baltimore	July 25	Philadelphia at Arizona	Sept. 11
Pittsburgh at NY Mets	July 27	Detroit at Boston (not played)	Sept. 18

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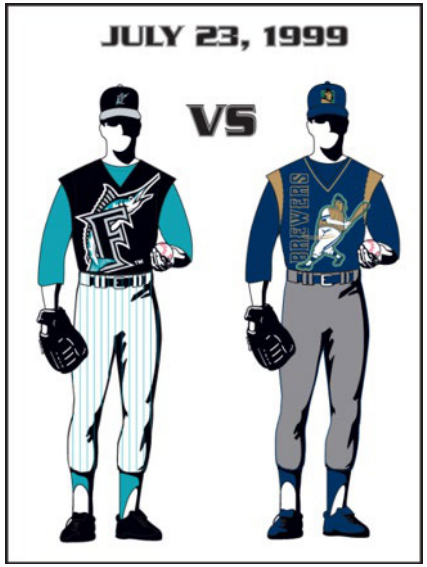
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock, National League



Pictured on this page and the next are the official MLB art proofs for the 14 planned TATC games. Notice that some teams played in two such contests, while eight MLB teams did not participate at all in the promotion.

All of the National League's scheduled games actually took place. See each team's chapter for details on all the uniforms pictured here.

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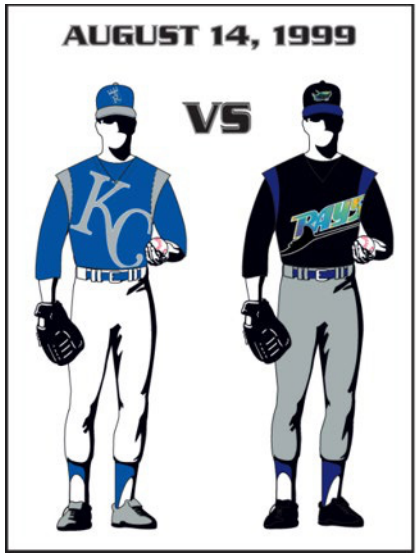
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock, American League

The American League games did not all go off as planned, when the final scheduled game on September 18, 1999 was played in regular uniforms when the special uniforms were not ready in time. I strongly suspect that after the promotion was postponed, the novelty had worn off, the season was near its end, and no one felt the need to continue this silly concept any further. Regarding that game's jerseys: Very few of the Red Sox's jerseys are around; I have never seen a real example of the gray Detroit Tigers one.



The Tigers' road uniform for this un-played game did not look like this model after all. Details in the Tigers chapter.

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More Turn Ahead The Clock Relics

A collection of actual Turn Ahead the Clock game caps, new in their boxes (courtesy Steve Sale), and the original TATC guide for use by the MLB teams in both its printed form and the original CD. Literally all the information contained inside is included in this Guide (courtesy Paul Lukas).

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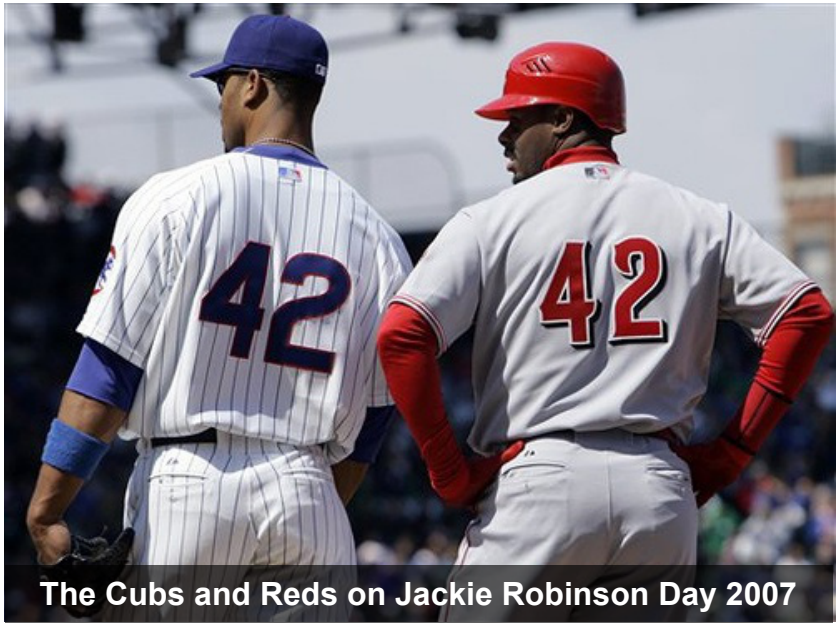
Jackie Robinson Day Jerseys 2007-2017

The Mets lineup on Jackie Robinson Day 2009



The Cubs and Reds on Jackie Robinson Day 2007

The 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking of the MLB color barrier was celebrated the entire year of 1997. In that year, it was decided that Robinson's number 42 would be retired by all MLB teams. All players currently wearing #42 were allowed to continue wearing it, but the number would never again be issued to a new player. Starting after 2004, each April 15 was reserved to celebrate *Jackie Robinson Day* in Major League Baseball.

In 2007, Ken Griffey Jr. asked for permission to wear Jackie Robinson's #42, and commissioner Bud Selig granted his request, and encouraged other players to wear #42 also if they desired. More than 240 players wore the number in 2007, including the entire rosters of seven teams.

In 2008, 330 players wore #42, including the complete roster of nine teams. Starting in 2009, all players on all teams wore Robinson's 42 for the day, marking the first time of the annual league-wide recognition in this way.

During this era of Jackie Robinson Day jerseys, no player name on back is used with the "42" and the back number appears in the team's usual font. The jerseys are otherwise unchanged during these years, including using 42 as a front number for teams that wore them.

For collectors, Jackie Robinson Day means another *full set* of teams' uniforms available to the hobby each year. Most teams sell off Robinson Day jerseys. Figuring about 50 uniformed personnel on each of 30 teams, that is an additional 1,500 game worn uniforms per year sold to the public. Common players' jerseys regularly sell for under $200. This hobby just keeps getting more accessible to the newcomer.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackie_Robinson_Day

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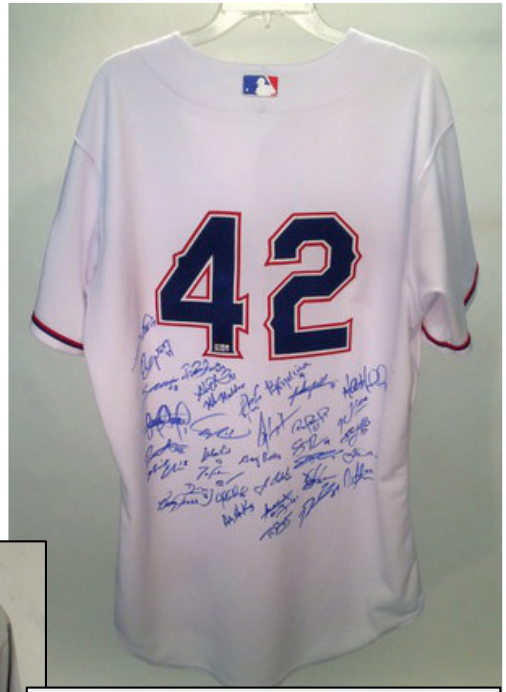

Game worn Jackie Robinson Day jerseys abound for sale from dealers, auction houses and websites, and often for extremely reasonable prices. Consider that for 15 years, all 30 MLB teams have been participating, which has injected *at least 22,500* game worn #42 jerseys into the hobby, many of them with MLB holograms. One fact about these jerseys for the new collector is that, lacking player names, and all with the number 42 on back, the jersey of the third string catcher looks the same as the one worn by the biggest-name superstar. Owning a Jackie Robinson Day jersey is a great way to get into the hobby.

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Jackie Robinson Day Jerseys 2018-2022

Jackie Robinson Day jerseys continue annually with slight modifications from prior years. Starting in 2018, in addition to wearing 42 in their own team's font on the backs of their jerseys (still without a name on back), players also wore a new blue and tan patch with Robinson's 42 over crossed bats and a stylized infield. For 2020-2021, the sleeve patches were redesigned in different versions for each team to match team color and number styles, while each player still wore 42 on their jerseys in team fonts. The jerseys are otherwise unchanged during these years, including using 42 as a front number for teams that wore them.

For the 2022 season, the team-color/style patches continued, but to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Robinson's breaking the color barrier in 1947, every team used a bold, blue "42" on the backs of their jerseys to appear like the numbering the Dodgers used in 1947. This was a nice tribute, but it created occasional jarring mismatches with team jersey colors. For the first time this season, teams that wore front numbers omitted them from the jerseys for the day, keeping the focus on Robinson's 42 in Dodger blue on back.

2018-2019 All Teams

2020-2022 Rays

2020-2022 Red Sox

Left, top and center: In 2018-2019, all teams wore the same "42" sleeve patch, and retained their own jersey fonts for back numbers. Left bottom: Starting in 2020, "42" sleeve patches matched team colors and fonts, see two examples here.

Right top: Teams kept their front numbers for Jackie Robinson Day through 2021.Right bottom: In 2022, all teams used bold, blue "42" on back, and omitted front numbers, as seen in the Pirates example.

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Jackie Robinson Day Jerseys 2023-2025

MLB carried the Jackie Robinson Day tradition on in 2023, but with some minor (and curious) modifications. Holding over from 2022, all teams once again wore a bold, blue “42” on the backs of their jerseys, with no name on back, and no front numbers for any team. However, the “42” patch that had been worn by all teams in some form since 2018 was scrapped. All of that made sense and was consistent across the league. What was harder to explain was the seemingly random disappearance of typical team sleeve patches for some clubs but not others.

Nine out of 23 clubs that would normally have a patch on the jerseys they wore for April 15, 2023 did not have them, while the other 14 did. There seemed to be no pattern as to why these particular teams did not have patches while others did. Of the seven teams that had ad patches by that date, all seven wore them, six with other team patches, and the Padres without. Meanwhile, the Nationals were the only team to keep a memorial patch (though they deleted the team patch), while other teams (like the Cardinals and Giants) did not wear them.

Athletics - No elephant patch

Cardinals - No memorial patch

Giants - No team disc or memorial patch

Nationals - No team disc but memorial patch remains

Orioles - No team disc patch

Padres - No Swinging Friar patch but ad patch remains

Rays - No anniversary patch

Rockies - No team disc patch

Twins - No Minnesota patch

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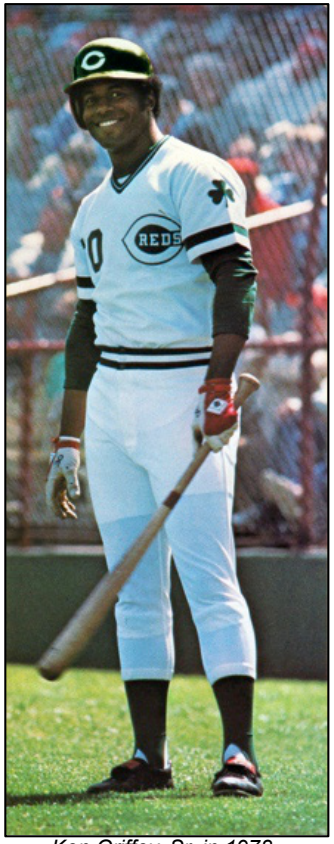
St. Patrick's Day Jerseys

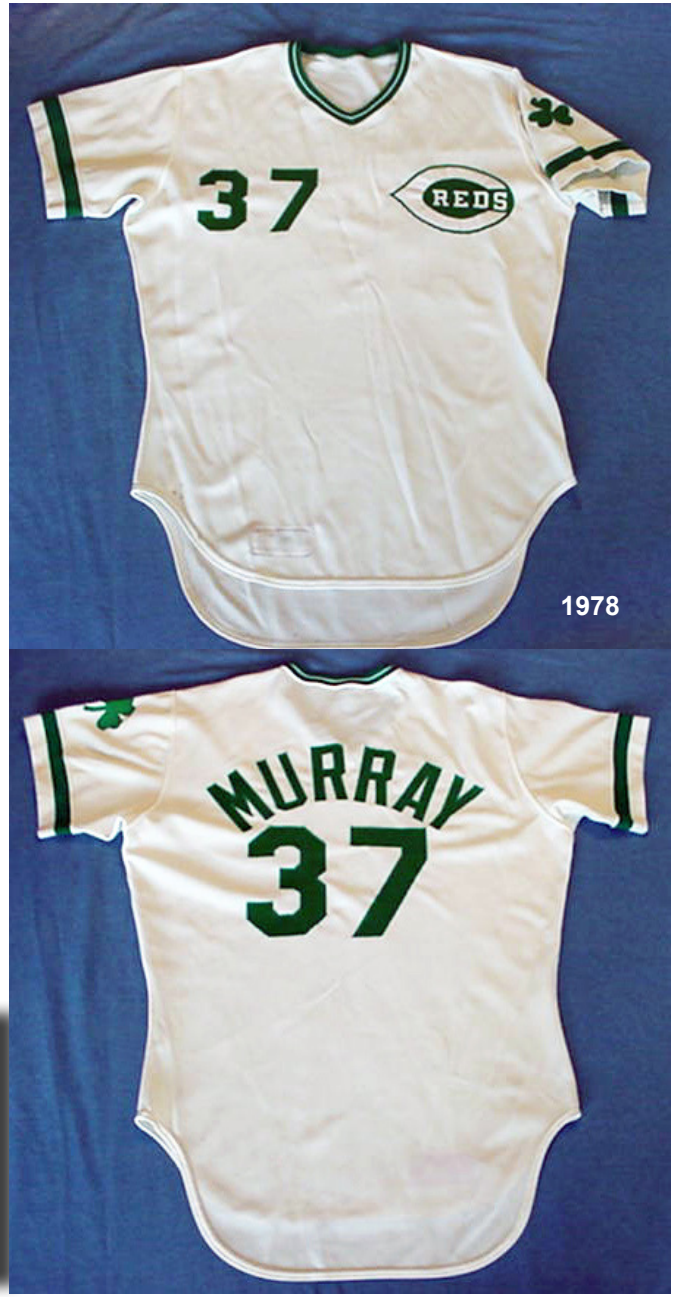
The first team to wear green on St. Patrick's Day was the 1978 Reds (see article on the next page), and since then, a handful of teams has worn special green uniforms on March 17 each year to the delight of fans. Many more teams wear green caps only. Besides being fun and whimsical, it is a nice way to guarantee some welcome, widespread pre-season TV publicity on all the news programs just before the start of a new season.

There are a few things to know about teams' green jerseys. The most important one for collectors to know is that not all teams wear green jerseys and those that do often don't wear them every year. This book contains a fairly accurate inventory of the years individual teams have participated. Some teams almost always participate (the Phillies since 1986 have been rather regular participants) and some teams almost never participate (like the Yankees, who have never worn green on St. Patrick's Day). I mention this here because when going on-line to the retailers, including MLB.com, "authentic-labeled" green St. Patrick's jerseys are almost always now available for every team, whether they wear them or not.

Another thing to know is that these game worn jerseys are among the items sold to fans each year, and as they are Spring Training items often lacking team tagging, a retail one may look very much like a game worn one to the unsuspecting buyer. Where the original green team jerseys of the 1980s were usually the full-weight knit jerseys, over time, they were nearly all batting practice jersey models until the Flex Base template arrived in 2016. A selection of these jerseys through the years is shared on the next pages. As of 2023, no teams wore green for St. Patrick's Day. *The Boston Globe* reported that Nike stopped making the green jerseys.



Ken Griffey, Sr. in 1978



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How St. Patrick's became baseball's holiday

Cincy GM Dick Wagner turned the Reds green in '78

By Tom Singer / MLB.com
03/17/10 12:00 AM ET

Throughout Florida and Arizona, baseball goes green today, and it has nothing to do with recycling or carbon footprints. Green caps, green bases, maybe an occasional green bat donut -and sure and begorrah to all.

But long before St. Patrick's Day became sort of the unofficial holiday of Spring Training, even long before the Majors had their own snakes to cope with -- the Diamondbacks, of course -there was only a former Ice Capades honcho with an eye for hoopla.

Back in 1978, March 17 around Spring Training camps was known simply as ... Friday.

Maybe Cincinnati Reds general manager Dick Wagner was bored after tooling the Big Red Machine into back-to-back World Series winners in 1975 and 1976. Maybe he grew nostalgic for the days when his gimmicks popularized the Ice Capades. Or maybe he just liked pulling a fast one. Whatever it was, months before the Reds departed for their Spring Training camp in Tampa, Wagner had this brilliant thought. Most people struck by ingenuity would be eager to call others and share their idea, but Wagner went the other way: He kept it to himself.

The sole exception was Koch's Sporting Goods, the Reds' longtime outfitter. Wagner had the team's equipment manager, Bernie Stowe, order a roster's worth of green uniforms, with specific instructions of where and when to deliver them, under a veil of airtight secrecy.

"This was not a situation where there was a lot of discussion in our offices during the winter," recalled Jim Ferguson, at the time the Reds' public relations director and one of the first recipients of MLB's Bob Fishel Award for PR excellence. "It was a tightly held secret, perhaps with Wagner alone, plus Stowe, who had to make all the arrangements. It was not out of character for Wagner to have made this a one-man production."

"Wagner was this stern German, but he was always thinking out of the box," said Dennis Tuttle, a Maryland-based sports historian. "A real Jekyll-and-Hyde guy who was always coming up with these cockamamie ideas.

"And this was a real stealth operation. No one is quite sure how they managed to do that."

The fact that the information superhighway had not yet been paved helped. Cincinnati fans and media were far more intrigued by how Tom Seaver's first full season in a Reds uniform would affect their chances of retrieving the title they lost in 1977 than by what kind of uniform Koch's was packing in those Tampa-bound boxes. Spring Training progressed routinely for weeks, manager Sparky Anderson optimistically steering the Big Red Machine through drills and the first half of the Grapefruit League schedule.

On March 17, Al Lopez Field crackled with electricity: The Reds were hosting the team that the previous season had inherited their World Series laurels, the Yankees.

The Reds went through the typical pregame rituals -- batting practice, infield -- in their regular uniforms. Show business as usual. But while the players were on the field, gremlins -- or were they leprechauns? -- were busy in the clubhouse.

After workouts, the Reds dragged their perspiring bodies off the field and retreated to the clubhouse -- closed, uncharacteristically, to the media - took a look and then did a double-take at their lockers ... green uniforms hanging in front of each.

"Did we get traded to Oakland?" catcher Johnny Bench asked.

Shortstop Davey Concepcion squinted at his green No. 13 uniform and said, "I'm not wearing that. I'm Venezuelan, not Irish."

But they all giddily changed into the head-to-toe green.

"Everywhere that was usually red had been changed to green -- the team name, the logo, the player's name on the back, socks, all the trimmings," Tuttle said. "The hats were solid green with a white 'C.'

"Everyone stayed out of sight until game time ..."

... When, lined up single file with Anderson in the lead, the Reds -- er, Greens -- marched out of the clubhouse and onto the field.

"It was a total surprise," recalled Hal McCoy, the Hall of Fame-recognized baseball writer who, in retirement from the Dayton Daily News, still covers the Reds through his blog on the newspaper's Web site. "And it created quite a shock."

Hordes from both the Cincinnati and Tampa media were on hand, having been alerted that they wouldn't want to miss something special, without having a clue of the mysterious goings-on. And when the secret was revealed, reporters and photographers had a field day, starting a news-flash brushfire that continued raging the next day, with national network television coverage.

Bob Hertzel, the Cincinnati Enquirer's cheeky baseball writer, got in the spirit in his coverage of the Reds' 9-2 victory over the Yankees by Irish-izing all the players' names in his game story. Pete O'Rose, Johnny O'Bench, George O'Foster and Joe O'Morgan were all Cincinnati Reds for a day.

For all the attention paid to Wagner's prank, the rest of baseball did not immediately follow suit. The Dodgers began wearing green caps and running green bases in Vero Beach in the early '80s, and the Phillies, Mets and Astros had also gone green before the end of that decade.

From that point on, the tradition quickly spread. Today, three years after Wagner's death, his impulsive idea will be celebrated by players, on diamonds and at concessions stands from Hi Corbett Field to Space Coast Stadium. So the least we can do is raise a toast in Wagner's memory:

May the lilt of Irish laughter
lighten every load.
May the mist of Irish magic
shorten every road...
And may all your friends remember
all the favours you are owed!

Tom Singer *is a reporter for MLB.com. This story was not subject to the approval of Major League Baseball or its clubs.*

Readers: Extracted May 20, 2012,this article is linked from:
https://www.mlb.com/news/how-st-patrick-s-became-baseball-s-holiday

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Examples of on-field worn St. Patrick's Day uniforms, starting from the top left: Mid 1980s Detroit Tigers full-weight knit, this one signed on the back by then owner Tom Monaghan of Domino's Pizza fame; Minnesota Twins mid-80s silk screened mesh jersey with non-official front wordmark that would never be allowed today. Phillies full-weight Wilson green pinstripe knit 1986 jersey of Von Hayes, 1980 Astros jersey with all-screened lettering and bar league caliber sentiment on the back; 1993 Rangers with screened-on lettering, similar vintage White Sox jersey also has screened-on/iron-on logo and numbers. They were made for the one-day smiles, not to last.

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Time marches on: 1989 Phillies green jersey for a road St. Pat's game, Twins before their 2008 game, Mets green included orange-and-green-striped pants for 1990; Red Sox wore white with green lettering in 2009, and green with red-outlined white lettering in 2006; Cardinals green from 2004 and Dodgers in 2011 below.

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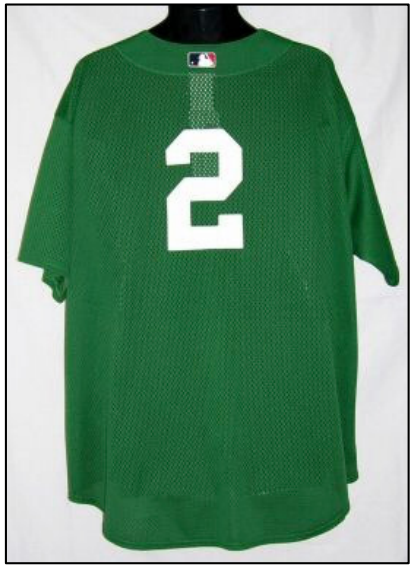

On this page we feature a number of "Authentics" that were never worn on the field. At top left, the Yankees so far have never worn green on the field. The Reds, Brewers and Cubs examples all wear "Authentic Collection" tagging but were not worn by the team.

Bottom row: Mets jersey is a popular Mitchell & Ness reproduction. The two game photos of the Reds and Giants show that in the same year as green jerseys were being marketed on line, the teams wore only green hats on the field.

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Other Ethnic Heritage Appreciation Days

If St. Patrick's Day is a celebration of Irish ethnic heritage, many teams have done their part to ensure that no other ethnicity is left out of the celebratory mood.

While many teams have had promotional days at the ballpark featuring ethnic music and food, (Hispanic Heritage seems to lead the way), it wasn't until 2005 that the San Francisco Giants actually changed their uniform script for the day to reflect the celebration. Now, annually the Giants (*"Gigantes," por favor!*) and several other teams–notably the Mets, Diamondbacks and Brewers–have at least one game every year where they wear special Hispanic uniforms, usually two games.

The Brewers are the all-time kings of ethnic variety. They have worn "Cerveceros" (Beer Brewers) jerseys in no fewer than four colors and styles over the years, but have also worn jerseys in Polish, Italian and German. The Brewers are notable in their willingness to attire the visitors in ethnic attire as well, making for some… unique uniforms for the Pirates, Cardinals, and Diamondbacks, among others. By my count, through 2014, 11 of the 30 teams in MLB had worn special uniforms for these themed games at least once.

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Memorial Day Jerseys

2013

On Memorial Day in 2013, for the first time, all teams in Major League Baseball wore uniforms with camouflage wordmarks and player names/numbers (along with camo caps) in tribute to our men and women of the Armed Forces.

In part, from a 2013 MLB.com press release: "***MLB will commemorate the occasion in grand style, at all 15 home ballparks. Teams and fans will pause to participate in a national moment of remembrance at exactly 3 p.m. ET, punctuating about half of the day's full docket of games, or in moments of silence at later games. Giant flags will unfurl. Players will wear special digital camouflage jerseys and caps licensed by the U.S. Marine Corps, raising awareness and funds for Welcome Back Veterans."***

We will note that before this league-wide commemoration in 2013, both the Pirates and Orioles had held separate camouflage-trimmed Memorial Day events in 2012; the Orioles replacing the wordmark on their home jerseys with camo and turning names and numbers to solid khaki/olive. The Pirates went full-camo jersey for their game. And we will note that a few other teams, most notably the Padres and more recently the Reds and White Sox, had alternate camo uniform days. But the 2013 all-MLB event was the first time this was done on a universal scale. After these game, most teams' jerseys were auctioned off to benefit veterans' charities.

Top: Marlins 2014 use of black jerseys makes the writing semi-readable at best. Bottom left: 2014 Blue Jays are the only team who used Canadian Military camouflage which provided better visibility. Bottom right: Dodgers were at home and wore these monochromatic suits.

See full article: http://m.mlb.com/news/article/48722988/memorial-day-patriotism-on-full-display-across-major-league-baseball

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This whole idea has generated a heated debate, and thanks to the Internet, all can participate. In response to MLB teams' Twitter "tweets" about the upcoming event, fan reactions were mixed. For every message posted that said, *"Support the troops! …Cool, when do these go on sale?"* there seemed to be three that said things like: *"Not what Memorial Day is about. And please stop with the camouflage gear"…"Ridiculous. Memorial Day is not a day to honor vets (that's Vets day), it's to mourn the dead. Armband or a moment of silence would be better"…. "Memorial Day isn't for honoring vets it's for honoring men & woman who DIED while serving in the Armed Forces."*

And it is true, if you look it up, Memorial Day is not for honoring living veterans, though one would not know that they understand that from reading MLB's announcement. To many, this action just rang with a hollow thud of the chance to sell yet more themed gear to the public.

On top of the political sentiment, many expressed the reservation that the uniform tampering was just ugly. For one thing, it made the writing– wordmarks, names and numbers–practically impossible to read for many teams. After all, the sole purpose of camouflage is that *it is designed to be highly invisible,* making it a particularly poor choice when the goal of uniform lettering is to be highly VISIBLE to the people sitting in the seats.

The resulting look was passable for some teams, most notably those who had a dark color outlining the camouflage twill, like the Rangers, Orioles and Braves. But for most teams the result was ridiculously invisible… the Pirates, for example, with camo lettering outlined with yellow on a gray background? The Padres with camo lettering outlined in white on gray?

Starting at the top: Phillies 2013 Memorial Day jersey worn by first baseman Ryan Howard with its nearly invisible lettering. Below, Baltimore Orioles' gray jersey benefits from the fact that the lettering is outlined in black. At the left, note the USMC logo hidden in the cap fabric, causing wisecracking Uni-Watch.com to ask if this counts as an advertising logo.

© GameWornGuides.com

https://www.thestar.com/sports/baseball/2014/05/26/blue_jays_don_canadian_forces_cadpat_camouflage_to_celebrate_us_memorial_day.html

So it was perhaps surprising that the promotion was repeated for 2014 and 2015 without modification to the twill colors. Clearly, somebody must have thought it was a good idea. “MLB Honors Ultimate Sacrifice With Butt-Ugly Jerseys” said the headline of Uni-Watch, which made me smile.

However, in both 2014 and 2015, a few of the most invisibly-lettered teams modified a colored-body alternate jersey instead (Angels, Rockies, Royals) to provide at least some greater visibility.

2014

2104 is a repeat of 2013’s uniform design. Some home teams in 2013 are on the road in 2014, and some teams choose to apply the camouflage treatment to an alternate jersey instead; so there are a number of new jerseys. For 2014, the Toronto Blue Jays are allowed a twill color exception, and instead of desert sand camouflage, they alone use a greener themed design called CADPAT (Canadian Disruptive Pattern). It is not an exact copy of the official Canadian military pattern, as use of this pattern on any civilian garment is against Canadian law. Its darker contrast makes it far easier to see on the field than the Americans’ sandy tan camouflage. (see link at the top of this page)

2015

The 2015 Memorial Day jerseys featured one small change; the Silhouetted Batter back-of-the-neck logo patch was changed to one that is white and two shades of tan (show images), compared to 2013-2014, where the regular team-color patch was used.

The Blue Jays continue to use their own different Canadian military camouflage pattern.

(Above) New for 2015, universal color-keyed camouflage-style Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck is added, replacing prior “standard” team specific color-keyed versions.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016

The Memorial Day event is repeated for 2016, and while the all-team camouflage jersey lettering theme continued, several changes were made. Political anxiety aside, I would deem most of these as graphical improvements over the 2013-2015 designs.

First, all jerseys were now of Flex Base construction and labeling. Adding to the uniqueness of these jerseys, and perhaps unifying the design more completely, the following changes are made:

- All teams have their primary team logo and player numbers colors replaced by an MLB-licensed woodland-pattern camouflage twill that includes shades of green, tan and brown.
- All camo lettering and team wordmarks are outlined in black for higher visibility than before.
- All outlining is simplified. Teams (like the Marlins) that have multiple-color outlines and drop shadows on their normal game jerseys simplify this outlining so that black is the only visible color.

2016

Courtesy SportsLogos.net

© GameWornGuides.com

2017-2018

The Memorial Day event is repeated, and extended over several days, for May 27-29, 2017 and May 26-28, 2018, with both years adopting the same style. Gone is the camo pattern on numbering and lettering, with a new approach across all teams:

- All teams have their primary team logo and player numbers colors replaced by olive green/black lettering (in some cases, just olive green for teams with only one layer of twill). For some teams, this means their multi-layer twill is reduced to just two colors.
- Player names are exclusively black.
- All team jersey trim, regardless of its normal color, is changed to black.
- Because the promotion stretches over several days, some teams have both home and road versions in the same year, though less so in 2018 than 2017.
- A few teams use alternate jerseys in 2018, creating a shocking color clash.
- The back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment.
- A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve. The Blue Jays do not wear this patch.
- The Majestic sleeve logo is embroidered in black for all teams.
- As with other Flex Base game jerseys, the lettering is sewn in the Kiss Cut style compared to the old layered twill approach. (See the Flex Base pages in Chapter 2 for more detail.)

2017 Courtesy SportsLogos.net

2018 Courtesy SportsLogos.net

Above: The five-star patch representing the branches of the U.S. Armed Services. Left: The back-of-collar MLB logo in its new colors.

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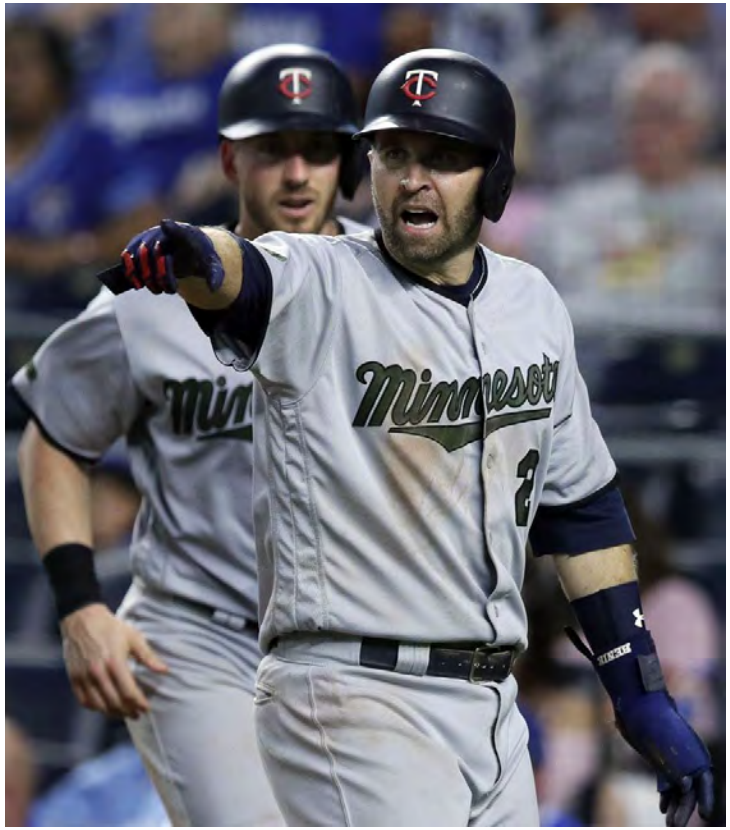

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Independence Day Jerseys – Starting 2015

MLB first began to mark U.S. Independence Day in 2002 by applying small American flags on all players' caps. This was the year following the terrorist events of 2001, when in remembrance, all players had worn American flags sewn to their uniform jersey collars for the final month of the season. For Independence Day 2008, the cap flags were dropped, and all teams wore blue caps with stars-and-stripes-adorned team logos. In 2009, this was repeated except this time with red caps. All of this was OK for many teams, but for the Rockies, Athletics, Pirates and a few others who lacked blue or red in their color palate, it looked odd.

White caps were used in 2010, with either red or blue brims, again with a star-spangled team logo on the cap's front. In 2011, all caps had a white front panel, and then a red or blue brim and cap body. In 2012, the caps were standard team colors but oddly featured camouflage team logos which just looked muddy from a distance. The use of camouflage on Independence Day caused Paul Lukas to quip sarcastically in his ESPN column of July 2, 2013 "Makes sense -- after all, camouflage is what the founding Fathers wore when they signed the Declaration of Independence. No, wait, camouflage is what the colonists wore when they fought the British during the Revolutionary War. OK, so there's actually no good reason to wear camouflage on July 4, unless you think camouflage is an all-purpose symbol of patriotism."

With all teams wearing special camouflage-themed jerseys for Memorial Day starting 2013 and 2014, it was no surprise that MLB upped the ante and added special jerseys league-wide to go with the annual parade of Independence Day hats starting in 2015. As a side note, interestingly, the Washington Nationals had announced a special stars and stripes themed jersey as a part of their standard uniform set to be worn on "special occasions" for 2009, as did the Atlanta Braves in 2014; and of course, Independence Day was one of these days these teams wore them. Now the rest of baseball would follow suit.

Here, 2015 Stars and Stripes jersey details are featured; the first year of special jerseys for all teams. Clockwise from top left, Angels jersey looks pretty good considering that red and dark blue are already the Angels colors. Other teams didn't look so normal. Special Silhouette Batter patch on the back of every team's collar There were two stars and stripes twill patterns offered, and both are shown here.

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2015 Independence Day

29 of the 30 MLB teams wore special Stars and Stripes jerseys on July 4, 2015. Only the Toronto Blue Jays wore their usual jerseys (though adorned for the day with an American Flag on the right sleeve). The 2015 jerseys for all teams followed a general theme. They were all Cool Base construction (except for the Yankees who were at home, and had full-weight knits).

All jerseys had a U.S. flag patch sewn to the right sleeve. The team wordmark on the jersey front was made of a special patterned twill that featured EITHER a blue field with sublimated large white stars outlined in red, and a larger number of light blue stars sprinkled throughout, OR one with the colors reversed with red as the primary color. The wordmark was then simply outlined in the opposite contrasting color. Teams with multiple-colors of outlining on their usual uniforms were treated to a simplification in design, as the additional outlining layers were eliminated on these jerseys.

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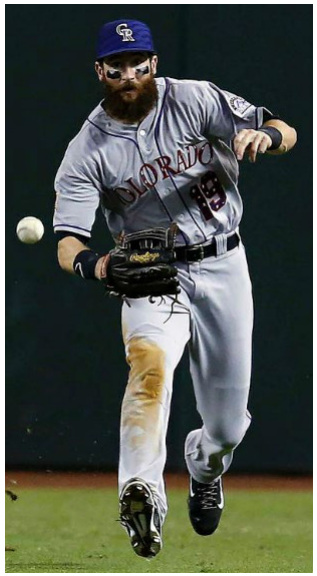
2015 Independence Day, continued

- Player numbers used the same patterned twill, and like the team wordmark, were treated to a single color, contrasting outline. Player names (when used) were single color, red or dark blue.
- The MLB "Silhouetted Batter" collar-back logo was replaced for all teams with a stars-and-stripes version.
- All team patches and trim were untouched; they remained in the same colors as the team's normal jerseys.

Overall, the look of the jerseys league wide was acceptable. The bold white stars on a colored field were visible from more than a few feet away, and if one could get past teams like the Rockies, Diamondbacks and Athletics wearing colors that are not in their team palate, everything was OK. I'll admit to being a fan of bold and simple, so to me, the simplification of multiple outlining that was executed for some teams made their uniforms look cleaner.
And what of the Nationals and Braves, both of whom already had their own special stars and stripes jerseys in their uniform closet "just for" this occasion? To get the maximum marketing payoff from this event, both teams were prohibited from wearing these uniforms, and were issued different stars and stripes jerseys to match the rest of the league.



Note that while every jersey has the USA flag on the right sleeve, other sleeve team sleeve patches in 2015 are unchanged from normal colors.

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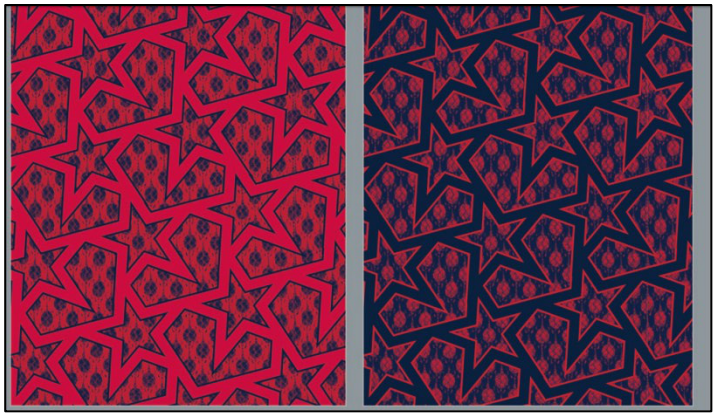
2016 Independence Day

The event was repeated, and while the every-team stars-and-stripes lettering theme continued, several changes occurred. First, all jerseys were now of Flex Base construction and labeling. Adding to the uniqueness of these jerseys, and perhaps unifying the design more completely, the following changes are made:

- The twill pattern is changed to a much more complex graphic incorporating repeating either blue or red interlocking stars drawn with very fine lines over a contrasting red or blue background. From more than a few inches away, the stars become invisible. There are so many stars that from even a short distance, they simply blend into a random looking mottled purple-hued pattern. Then, because the lines that make up the pattern are so light in stroke and low contrast that from any more than a few feet away, the entire pattern becomes nearly invisible, and it simply looks blotchy and washed-out.
- Player numbers front and back use the same patterned twill.
- An American flag patch is sewn to the right sleeve.
- All outlining is simplified. Teams (like the Marlins) that have multiple-color outlines and drop shadows on their normal game jerseys simplify this outlining.



The two available twill patterns for 2016 are shown top left. This year, all team patches are newly color keyed in shades of red and blue with white. The American flag remains as before on the right sleeve. A new vinyl stars and stripes Silhouetted Batter patch is sewn to the back if the collar. Majestic sleeve logos are keyed in white, navy or red.

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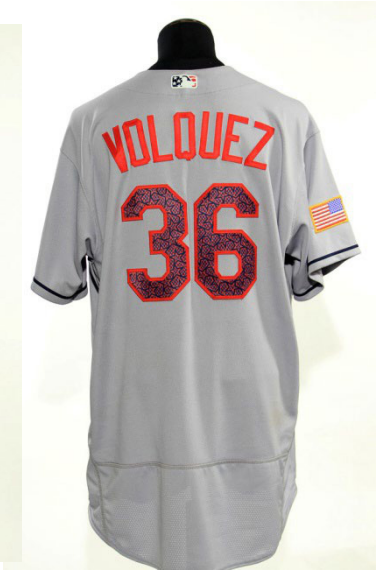
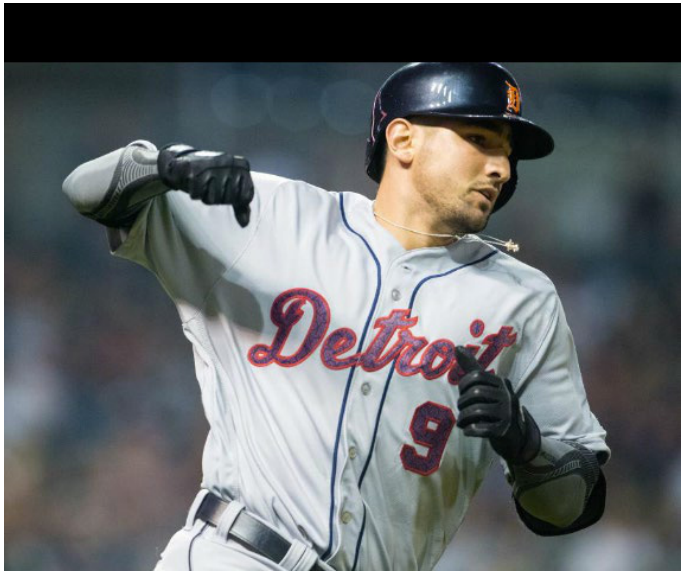
2016 Independence Day, Continued

Courtesy Sportslogos.net





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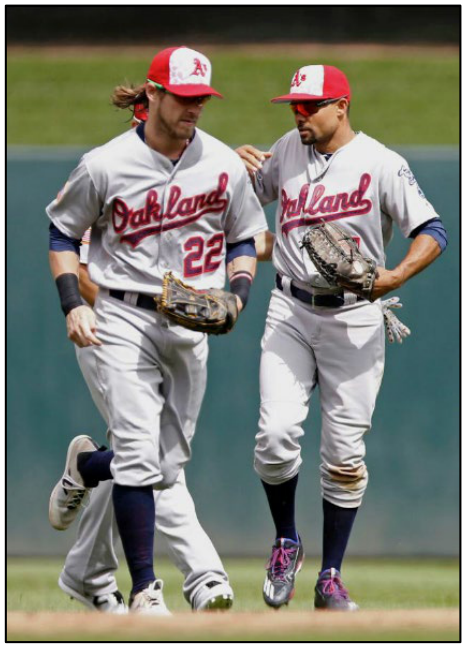
2016 Independence Day, Continued



Player names on back (if any) are sewn in one-color, either red or blue, again making them more visible.

Jersey trim (if any) is changed to red or navy blue, replacing the individual team color-keyed trim that is normally used.

Sleeve patches (if any) are either sewn or embroidered in red, white and blue to harmonize with the design.

The back-of-the-neck Silhouetted Batter tag is now the thick rubberized type, in a stars and stripes red/white/blue pattern.

The Majestic sleeve logo is embroidered in red, white, or blue for all teams

As with other 2016 Flex Base game jerseys, the lettering is sewn in the new kiss cut lightweight style compared to the old layered twill approach. (See the Flex Base pages in Chapter 2 for more detail.)

Special matching American flag themed caps are worn.

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2017-2018 Independence Day

The 2017-2018 Independence Day jerseys, shown at right, are effectively the same concept as 2016, with a two colors of a new stars-and-stripes twill pattern available to teams. A major change is that all four types of “Special Event” jerseys will be worn for multiple games. In 2017, the Independence Day jerseys will be used July 1-4, which means many teams will have two versions of this jerseys, as their scheduled games will be both at home and on the road. Thus, there will be 51 versions of this jersey in 2017, not just 30. The 2018 version runs from July 2-4, which results in 30 versions, based on the schedule. In both years, the Blue Jays wear their normal blue alternate with a Canadian flag patch on the left sleeve and an American flag patch on the right (July 3-4, 2017 and July 4, 2018).

Otherwise, the jerseys follow much the same pattern as the 2016 versions, including:

- The twill pattern again features multiple stars, but this time, also includes subtle stripes that are very difficult to see, even up close.
- Player numbers front and back use the same patterned twill.
- An American flag patch is sewn to the right sleeve.
- All outlining is simplified. Teams (like the Marlins) that have multiple-color outlines and drop shadows on their normal game jerseys simplify this outlining.
- Player names on back (if any) are sewn in one-color, either red or blue.
- Jersey trim (if any) is changed to red or navy blue, replacing the individual team color-keyed trim that is normally used.
- Sleeve patches (if any) are either sewn or embroidered in red, white and blue to harmonize with the design.
- The back-of-the-neck Silhouetted Batter tag is the thick rubberized type, in a stars and stripes red/white/blue pattern.

2017

Courtesy SportsLogos.net

2018

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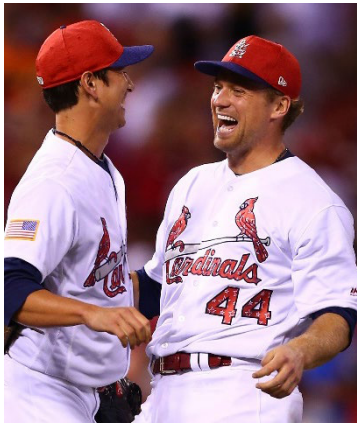

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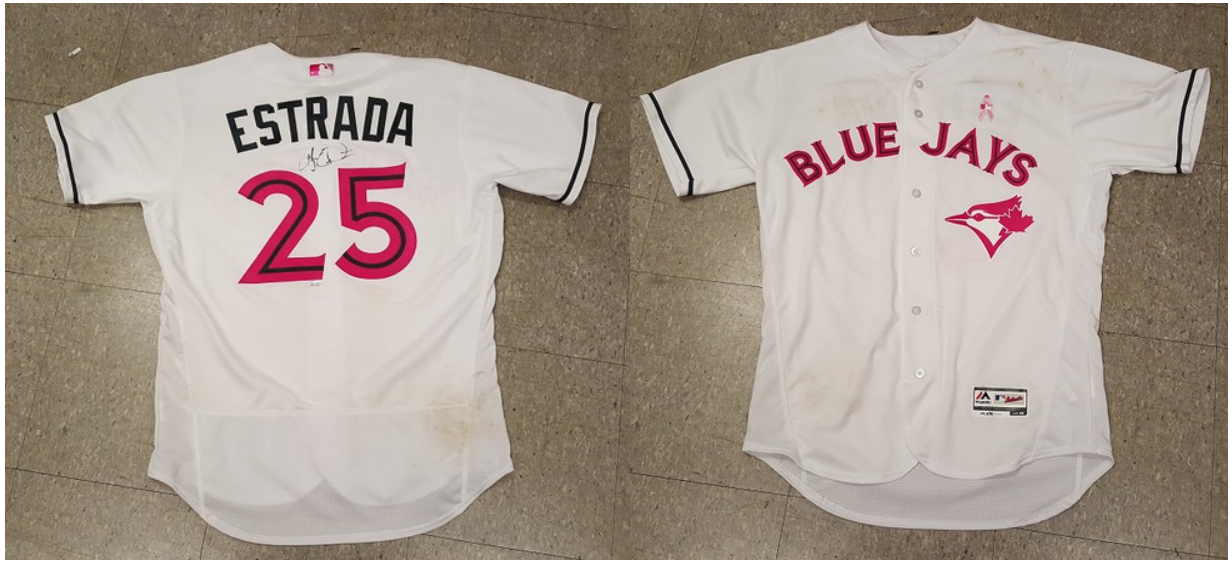
Mother's Day Jerseys 2016-2017

From 2006-2015 and 2018-2019, all teams wore a simple, small pink ribbon applique on the upper left chest in honor of Mother's Day Sunday. But for May 8, 2016 and May 13-14, 2017, all teams wore special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day. These games were promoted with the tagline "MLB Honors Mother's Day by Going Pink-Going to Bat Against Breast Cancer." All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the Flex Base rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Notably, these jerseys also have the normal primary team color on the wordmark and player numbers replaced with bright pink twill.

Besides this change, the following uniform alterations are made:

- The MLB-logo, pink folded ribbon applique is glued on the front upper chest.
- The small Majestic left-sleeve-end logo is embroidered in pink.
- The back-of-the-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch has its colors switched to dark pink/light pink/white.

The concept of special pink and blue jerseys for Mother's/Father's Day is dropped after two years, likely because these generated little interest among collectors, selling for giveaway prices on auction sites.



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- Most teams' trim is switched to charcoal gray replacing the normal team color, though some use pink (Diamondbacks, Dodgers, Tigers, Twins, Nationals) or white (Padres).
- For most teams, the player name on back is sewn in one-color charcoal gray, and is in a special tall, light-stroke version of block that is seen on many teams' jerseys on the special Memorial Day/ Mother's Day/Father's day/Independence Day jerseys only. Some teams have pink lettering for player names (Diamondbacks, Dodgers, Tigers) or white (Padres).
- If any, team sleeve patch is rendered in shades of pink, gray, and white.
- Many players also wore accompanying pink socks, shoes, undershirts, batting gloves, and wristbands to intensify the look. All baseballs that day were stitched with pink thread, and many players used pink bats. All game worn jerseys were tagged, and many were auctioned on MLB.com with the proceeds benefiting breast cancer research.

2016

Courtesy Sportslogos.net

All team jerseys feature pink wordmarks, most with simplified charcoal-colored outlining, pink player numbers, pink ribbon applique on front chest, pink Silhouetted Batter patch on collar back, pink Majestic logo on the end of the left sleeve, and if the team has a sleeve patch, they are recreated in multi-shaded pink. Names on back are generally in charcoal gray.

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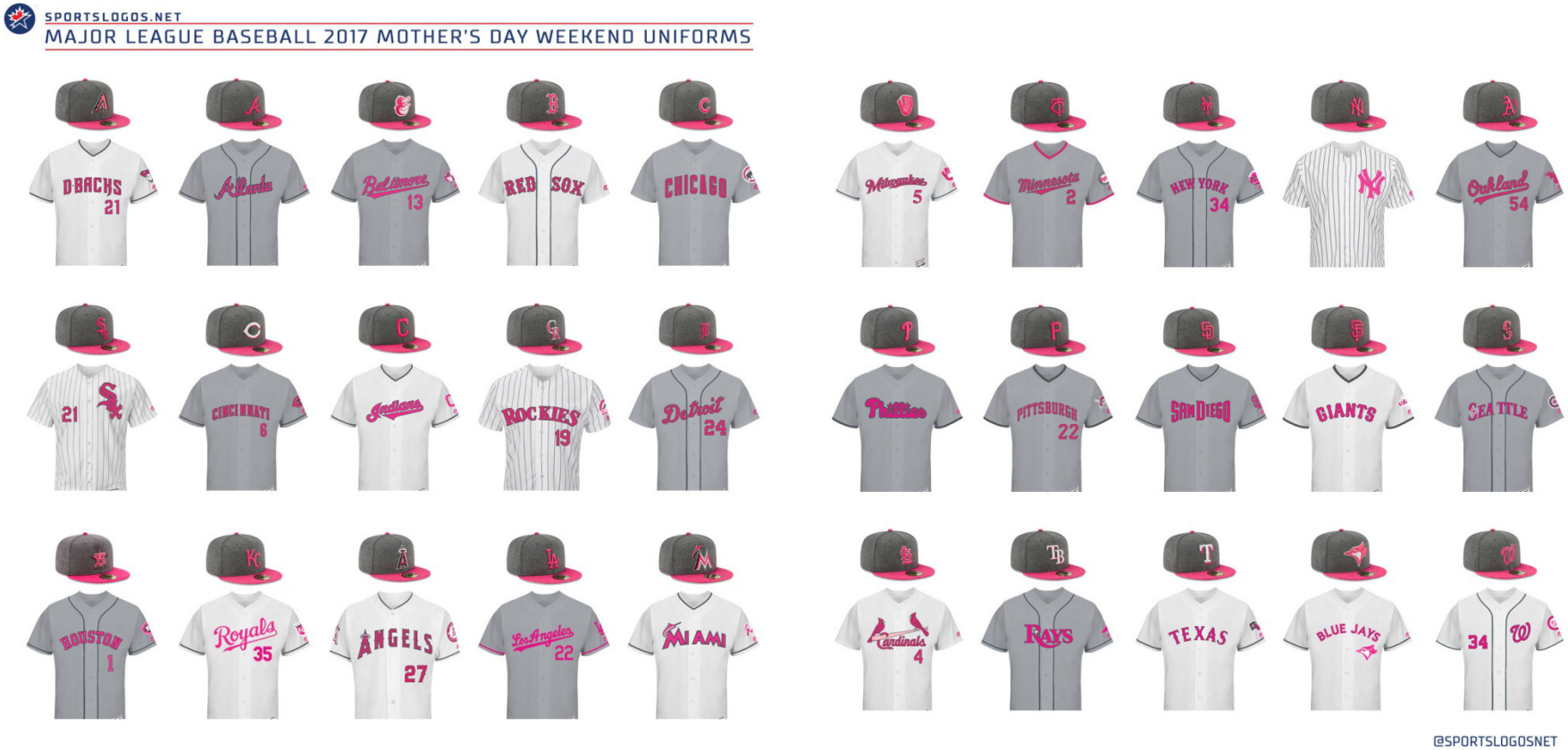
2017 Mother's Day

The 2017 Mother's Day jerseys, shown below, are the same as 2016, with pink replacing the main color of teams' twill. The major change is that all four types of "Special Event" jerseys were worn for multiple games in 2017, with Mother's Day observed May 13-14. Unlike Memorial Day and Independence Day promotions, all teams played in a single location over the 2017 Mother's Day span, so there were no instances of teams wearing more than one jersey for this promotion.



Courtesy SportsLogos.net

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Father's Day Jerseys 2016-2017

From 2006-2015 and 2018-2019, all teams wore a small blue ribbon applique on the upper left chest in honor of Father's Day Sunday. However, on June 19, 2916 and June 17-18, 2017, all teams in MLB wore special uniforms Father's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the Flex Base rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Notably, these jerseys also have the normal primary team color on the wordmark and player numbers replaced with light blue twill.

One odd exception is the San Francisco Giants, who keep their primary orange color for team lettering.

Besides this change, the following alterations are made:

- The MLB-logo, light blue folded ribbon applique is glued on the front upper chest.
- On white and gray jerseys, the small Majestic left sleeve-end is embroidered in light blue (on colored jerseys , it is left white).
- The back-of-the-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch has its colors switched to royal blue/light blue/white.

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2016

- If necessary, jersey trim for most teams is switched to charcoal gray replacing the normal trim color. The Diamondbacks, Royals, and Giants use light blue trim, while the Padres use white trim on their blue camo jerseys.
- On most white and gray jerseys, as well as the Angels red jerseys, the player name on back is sewn in one-color charcoal gray. The Diamondbacks, Royals, and Giants use light blue name lettering, while the Padres use white name lettering on their blue camo jerseys.
- The team sleeve patch(es) have their colors altered and are rendered in royal blue, light blue and white.
- Special charcoal caps with light blue/white logos were a part of the uniform. Many players also wore accompanying light blue socks, undershirts, batting gloves, wristbands and shoes to intensify the look. All baseballs that day were stitched with light blue thread, and many players used light blue bats. All game worn jerseys were authenticated by MLB, and many were auctioned on MLB.com to benefit men's cancer research charities.
- The Angels and Padres used alternates for 2016 Father's Day, all other teams used either home or road jerseys.

Courtesy Sportslogos.net

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On this page: Teams that bent the rules slightly for Father's Day 2016. The Angels' red jersey, the Padres in Sunday Camo, and the Giants who refused to wear a blue wordmark…some say because they preferred to not look like the rival Dodgers.

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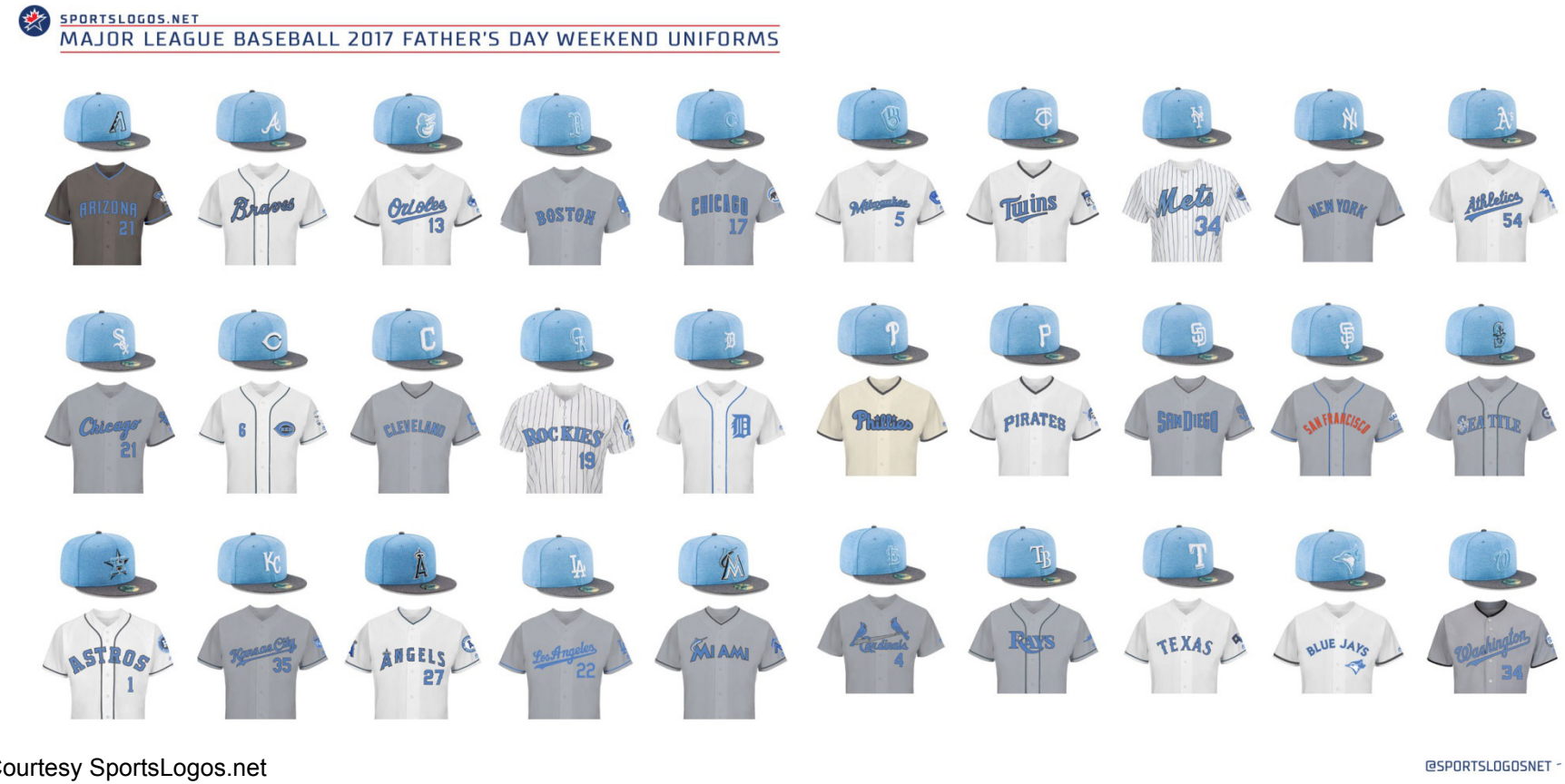
2017 Father's Day

The 2017 Father's Day jerseys, shown below, are the same as 2016, with light blue replacing the main color of teams' twill (see 2016 entry for more specific details). The major change is that all four types of "Special Event" jerseys were worn for multiple games in 2017. Unlike Memorial Day and Independence Day promotions, all teams played in a single location over the 2017 Father's Day span, so there were no instances of teams wearing more than one jersey for this promotion.



Courtesy SportsLogos.net

The concept of special pink and blue jerseys for Mother's/Father's Day is dropped after just two years, likely because these generated little interest among collectors, selling for giveaway prices on auction sites.

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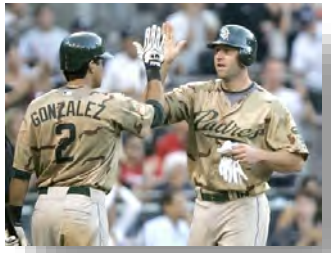
Camouflage MLB Jerseys

All MLB teams wore camo-trimmed jerseys for Memorial Day from 2013-2016, and olive-green lettering in 2017-2018, as a salute to the Armed Forces. But military design elements on MLB jerseys, especially in the form of camouflage, can trace its roots to the Padres in 1996.

Back in 1996, it was a real news item when the San Diego Padres wore camouflage-patterned jerseys for a single day to salute the city's large and transient military population, a group often well-represented in the stands at the stadium. The Padres continued this event once-annually through 2005, and starting in 2006, the Padres designated the camo jersey as an official alternate, wearing the camo jerseys often, on Sundays and other holidays. The camo changed styles over the years (woodland, desert, digital) and, in 2016, the Padres added a second, blue version in honor of San Diego's large U.S. Navy presence. The blue is replaced by a green-hued camo, to join the brown version, with the team's rebranding for 2020.



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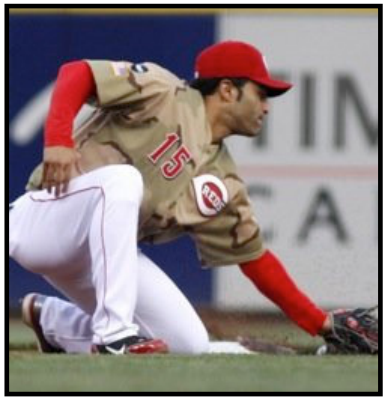
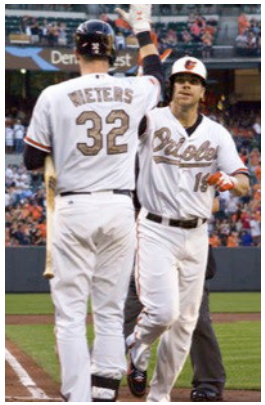
Camouflage MLB Jerseys, Continued

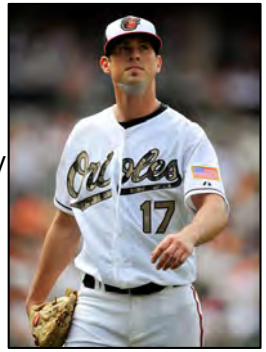
Other teams followed in their footsteps to various degrees. In 2008, the Reds and White Sox introduced camo jerseys and wore them for a single game. Later, the Reds and Mets add camo jerseys as regular rotating alternates; the Mets for 2014-2015, and the Reds for 2014-2017. The Pirates donned camo jerseys for two games per year in 2012 and 2013, before adding a full-time camo alternate to their uniform choices for 20152017. Several other teams had one-off promo games with military-influenced designs, using camo twill for the top layer of one of their usual jerseys (like the 2013-2016 Memorial Day designs) including the Angels, Cubs, Orioles, Pirates, Rays, Rockies, White Sox, and of all teams, the Yankees.

As of this writing, 2017 was the last season any team aside from the Padres carried a camo alternate in their wardrobe, though the Reds and Pirates have continued their military focus including a special jersey with olive green lettering from 2018-2020, these identical to league-wide Memorial Day jerseys.

Camo and other military influence on MLB jerseys has waxed and waned since 1996, starting with the Padres, moving to all of them, and back down to the Padres alone. Still, MLB and all 30 teams continue to support the military through fundraising and on-field recognition – even if not with full-out uniform tributes.







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“Opening Day” Champs Jerseys

In recent years, it seems to have become an acceptable (and even an expected) celebration event for the team that had won the prior year’s World Series to wear special uniforms for the first game or the first series of the new season. The tradition began with the Boston Red Sox on opening day of the 2005 season, after the Red Sox had won their first World Series Championship since 1918 (a span of 86 years) and had unbelievably come back from a four games to none deficit (against the hated Yankees) to force and then win a seventh game of the league Championship Series and win the pennant. They then became a team of destiny that swept the Cardinals four straight games in the World Series to take the crown. Providence seemed on their side, and perhaps they earned the opportunity to gloat a little.

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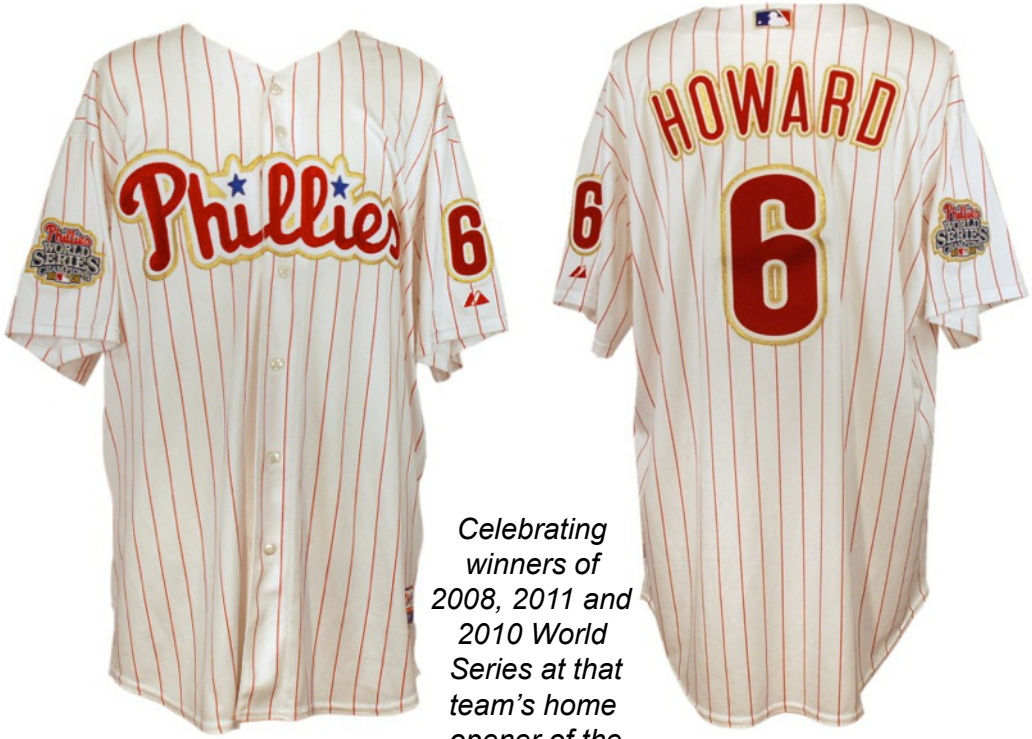
For their April 11, 2005 home opener ring ceremony, the Red Sox wore their home white uniforms modified with metallic gold outlining around the team wordmark and the player number on back, with a special “2004 World Series Champions” patch. Aside from the patch, it was a subtle touch…unless someone told you it was there, you might have missed it. By game time, the team switched to normal home uniforms, though the patch was present, but only for that day.

The Chicago White Sox won the 2005 Series after having last won the crown in 1917- two years longer than even the Red Sox had waited! Apparently, the White Sox were considering a similar celebration, as we have photographs of a gold-trimmed White Sox jersey prototype, but perhaps humility got the best of them, because they were never worn for the celebration that followed opening day of 2006.

But the die had been cast. Since the Red Sox started the trend in 2005, all but three World Series winners wore special uniforms for either the opening game or opening series of the next season. The holdouts in that period were the 2006 White Sox (who prototyped the look but opted against wearing it) and the stoic Yankees of 2009 (who also never wear “World Series Champs” patches either), and oddly, the 2008 Red Sox.



Celebrating winners of 2008, 2011 and 2010 World Series at that team’s home opener of the following year.

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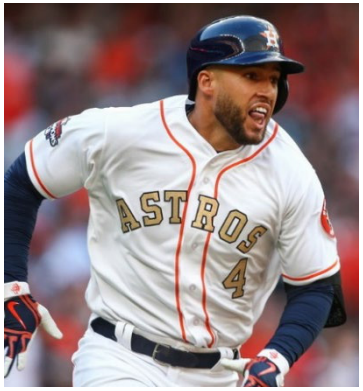

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City Connect Jerseys 2021-2025

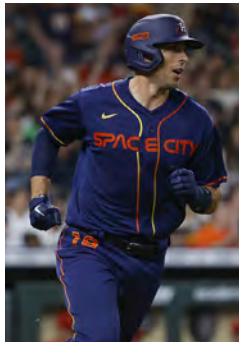
As a uniform manufacturer, Nike had made its mark on every major American professional sport, and many collegiate sports as well. Its entry to MLB in 2020 was reasonably quiet, partially because of the COVID-shortened season, and partially because it bought out the factory that had produced Majestic's jerseys and simply re-tagged them with Nike branding for the 2020 season. In 2021, however, Nike moved aggressively to create another of its trademark, league-wide "programs" to create special alternate uniforms for every team in the league - the City Connect program.

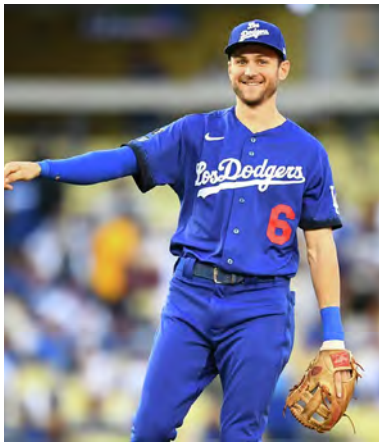
According to a press release from Nike and MLB, City Connect "was created to celebrate the bond between each Club and its city. This uniform series explores the personality, values and customs that make each community and their residents unique. Nike and MLB Clubs partnered to design jerseys inspired by their cities to celebrate new baseball traditions and invite more fans into the game of baseball."

What they don't say, was that the program is also a perfect way to add more styles to a team's identity that are less about baseball and tradition and more about the city the team is from - which, it seems, would make the jerseys and caps more marketable to people who don't care about the sport, but want to represent their cities. In much the same way that Yankees, White Sox, and Dodgers caps have become cultural icons beyond the field, City Connect was a league-wide attempt to make every team have its own cultural moment, regardless if it was contrived.

This point was made clearer by the marketing campaign for each design, which used "local creatives and cultural influencers" as models for the designs in addition to players. From each jersey's introduction, it was shown as being something that cool, hip, young people wore, not just a uniform for a sport that has lost ground to countless other entertainment vehicles. And because style is always changing, the original plan was for each team to wear a City Connect design for just three years before getting a whole new look on field, and in stores.

And, in many ways, it worked. The styles became popular and visible throughout the ballpark. Sales soared for most of the designs, even as traditionalist balked at styles that were far more related to a place and its iconography and storytelling than they were for the team that wore them. Like Nike's





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City Connect Jerseys Continued

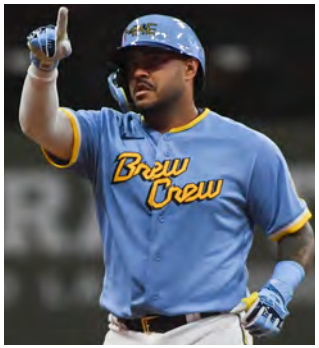
uniform churns for other leagues, the City Connect uniforms got tons of press on launch, received polarizing reviews, and were unavoidable on-field, with some teams wearing them weekly at home, and, of course, replicas were in all the stores.

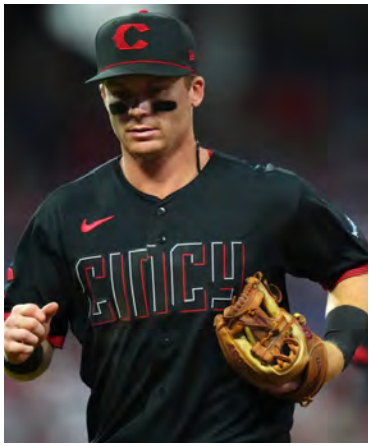
By the end of the 2023 season, 20 of the 30 MLB teams had a City Connect uniform, with eight of the remaining 10 slated to get them in 2024. The original three-year cycle was extended to four years to start, with the original seven teams who debuted uniforms in 2021 to keep them through the 2024 season. Last we heard, those teams will be refreshing their City Connect uniforms for 2025, except for the Dodgers, who announced they would use a new design in 2024.

Each team took a very different approach to designing their jerseys in collaboration with MLB and Nike. Some were hyper-focused on a local event (such as the Red Sox with the Boston Marathon), others focused on baseball tradition in their area (Royals), while others leaned more toward cultural and geographic history and trends. Even though they are called "City" Connect, several teams reached out more broadly into their region or even states for inspiration.

One element of City Connect that also had an impact on teams was its role in Nike's so-called "4+1 rule" in which teams were allowed to have four jerseys in their rotation with the City Connect being the "+1." This was part of Nike's drive to simplify the variations across the league (which was also seen in the standardization of many teams' player name and number fonts for the 2024 season). As such, teams that had more than four jerseys before had to whittle their selection down to four at most. And though 4+1=5, in this case, teams had no choice but to use the City Connect as their fifth jersey, so some teams had to eliminate jerseys they might not otherwise had deleted. This included some special jerseys like green St. Patrick's Day uniforms, and even some traditional gray road jerseys (like the Rays).

Overall, the long-term impact of City Connect remains to be seen. Clearly, the program has been a hit at retail, which has become an increasingly important element, and sometimes now the driver, of what teams wear and do on-field. But seeing how these types of league-wide uniform programs have caught on and stuck around in other major leagues, courtesy of Nike, it is unlikely that this program will disappear any time soon.





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Other Miscellaneous Special Jersey Days

Just in the past few years, for when a patch is just not enough, teams have found multiple reasons to wear "special" uniforms other than those we have covered in detail. We won't show them all here, but will provide a selection. The complete, unabridged details appear in the sections for each team.

In conclusion- what do I think of all these "special uniforms?" Well, some people think it is harmless fun, and it makes the hobby more accessible to more people by adding hundreds of game-worn jerseys to the collectors' pool. But I can't help but think it dilutes and cheapens it as well. There is something about a *"uniform"* that dares you not to mess with it, and the great proliferation of special uniform days has singlehandedly added more than 250 pages to this book since its 2012, and 250 more *just two years later* in its 2015 edition. As a collector, I have given up on ever hoping to own all the different jerseys worn by my favorite team. There are just too many to aspire to, and unless I win the Power Ball lottery, I just don't have the resources.

Indians August 10, 2007 "Larry Doby Day," Reds July 5-6, 2008 "Red, White & Blue Weekend," Reds 2008 Opening Day salute to Joe Nuxhall, Brewers 2011 "Gold Out" day, which invented this jersey.

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White Sox annual "Halfway to St. Patrick's Day" in September of each year; Yankees July 13, 2013 Military Salute day was the first time that the Yankees ever voluntarily messed with their iconic uniform without outside involvement. Red Sox wore green-lettered jerseys for Earth Day, April 22, 2009, and #6 jerseys for Johnny Pesky's memorial August 21, 2012.

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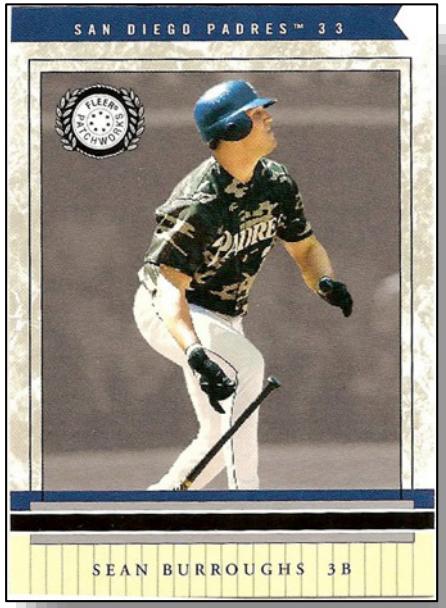

Red Sox 2008 wore green on June 20 to celebrate the Boston Celtics' championship. Pirates have worn camo jerseys at home for Military-related events several times including in 2014 for "Military Appreciation Day." They hardly originated the trend, which the Padres started back in 1996. Orioles wore stars and stripes wordmark for the birthday of the Star-Spangled Banner on September 14, 2014. Blue Jays wear red jerseys annually for Canada Day on July 5, then added Canada Baseball day starting in 2013. Orioles wore camo on Military Appreciation Day 2012.

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A Footnote:

In this book: Classifying Jerseys as "Special Event" or "Team Alternate"?

This sounds like a very fine point, but it is included here to answer a reader question that comes my way occasionally. In this book, jerseys are categorized in their team chapters *following the way that their teams have registered them with the league.* Sometimes, teams register a special event jersey as a team alternate with MLB. I am told that the distinction appears to be that, once a jersey is approved as a full-fledged alternate, the team does not need to notify the league and request special permission for each time they wear it.

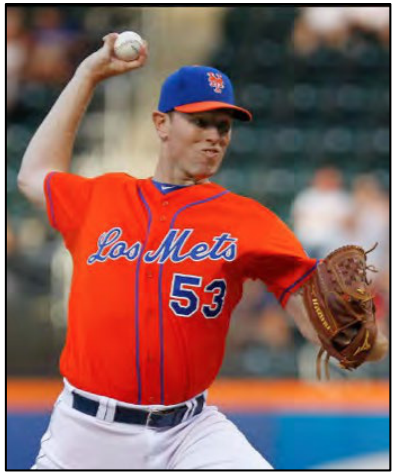
Here is an example: the Padres began wearing camouflage jerseys at home occasionally each season starting in 1996. But not until seven years later in 2004 did the team register its camouflage jersey as an alternate jersey, pre-approved by the league to wear whenever they chose. And, in recent years, the Padres have chosen to wear the camo jersey in every Sunday home game.

Conversely, in 2015 and 2016, the Padres wore throwback jerseys every Thursday home game throughout the season, yet never registered these jerseys as official alternates, treating them each time as "event" jerseys. Therefore, you'll find these jerseys in the Special Events section. On the other hand, the Pirates have worn Sunday throwback jerseys 2014-2017, and list them as official "team alternates" and therefore you'll find them listed with the alternate jerseys.

The same is true with ethnic heritage jerseys worn by the Reds, Mets and a few other teams. In some years and by some teams, these jerseys have been registered with the league as full-fledged alternates; in other years they have been treated by the league as single-game alternates.

In this book, we follow MLB's uniform designation for any given year. If the jersey is listed as a team alternate, it will be found in the "Home, Road and Alternate" section. Otherwise, that jersey will be found in the "Special Events" section.

As an illustration, (above) the Reds wore this camouflage jersey July 5, 2008. It was not submitted by the team to MLB as an official "alternate jersey," therefore it would be found in this book's "Special Events" section. The Mets camouflage jersey of 2014-2015 was listed as an alternate, therefore it will be found listed with the other home/road/alternate jerseys. (Below) The Mets wear these "special event" Hispanic jerseys multiple times annually without counting it as a team alternate, but the Reds count their jerseys as an official team "alternate." For the sake of consistency, each jersey will be listed in this book the same way the team classifies it with MLB.



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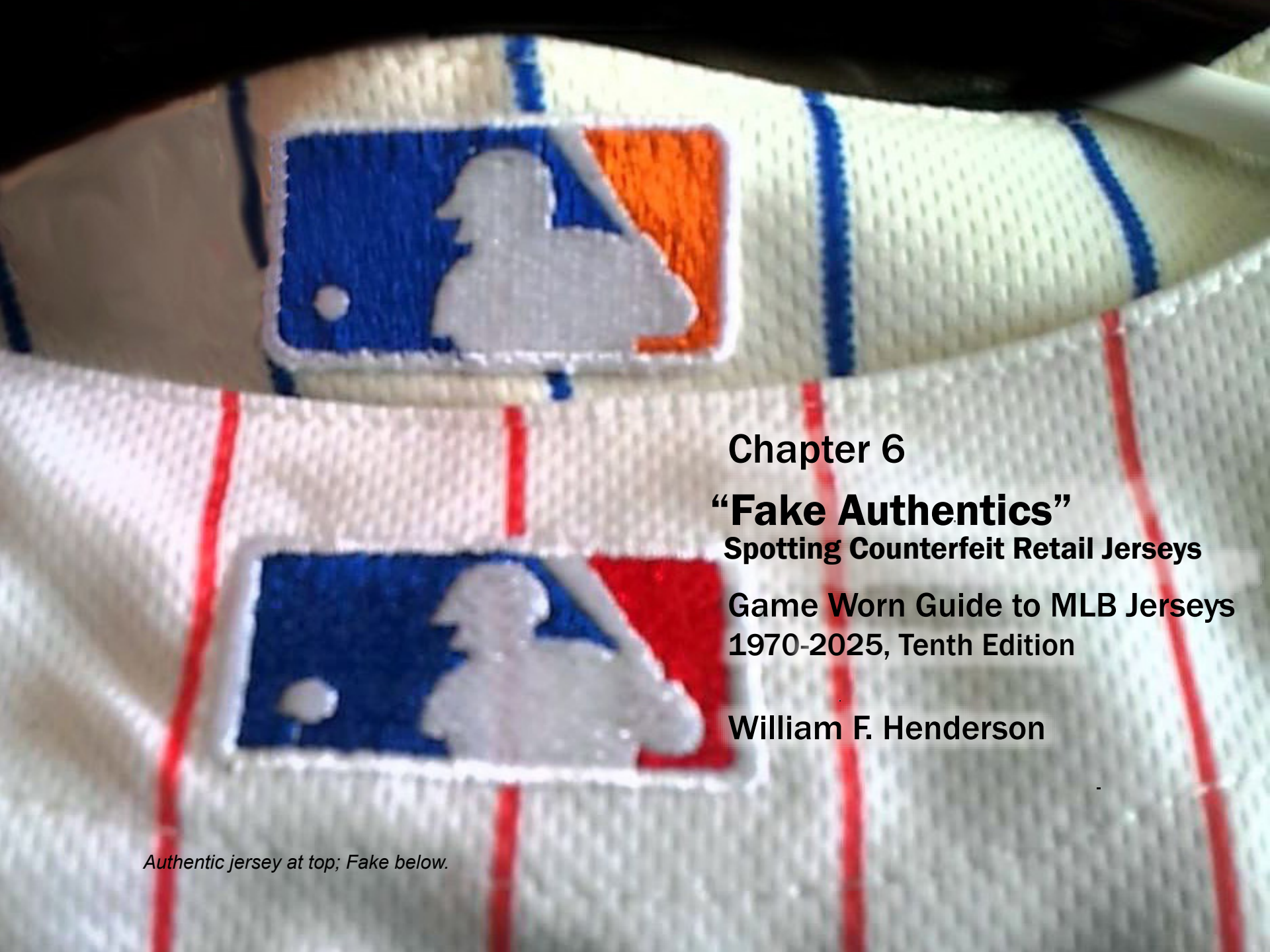

Chapter 6

"Fake Authentics"

Spotting Counterfeit Retail Jerseys

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Authentic jersey at top; Fake below.

Oxymoron: “Fake Authentics”

au·then·tic ôˈTHen(t)ik/

adjective

1. of undisputed origin; genuine.

Few of us are fortunate to be financially well-off enough to allow us to hunt big-name game worn jerseys. And if we want to wear authentic jerseys with the names and numbers of well-known players, we need to be satisfied with the store-bought kind. No apologies needed; after all, there are only so many game worn jerseys to go around. And given the prices asked and paid for choice examples, few of these are purchased for wearing anyway.

This chapter addresses the oxymoronic concept of Counterfeit Authentics: store-bought (or, more usually, Internet-sourced) jerseys that purport to be authentic like those worn on the field, but are actually sweatshop-sewn fakes designed to defraud buyers, legitimate manufacturers, and even the MLB players whose names they bear.

Fashionable luxury clothing and accessories have been targeted by counterfeiters for generations. Making and selling fake Gucci handbags, Rolex wristwatches, Calvin Klein denims, Nike backpacks, Izod tennis shirts, and Ralph Lauren polos is a multi-billion dollar business centered mostly in places like Korea, Thailand, and China, where copyrights and trademarks are generally not institutionally respected, and blatant manufacturing of bogus merchandise is not policed, or might even be encouraged, by local authorities.

Sure, now and again you will read of the government seizure and destruction of fantasy Rolexes, a trailer-load of fake DVDs, or boxcars of pirated software, but these seizures represent only the tip of an iceberg.

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My business career has taken me to many of the counties of Asia, including China, Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, and Japan.

Occasionally stopping into street-side or back-alley markets, I first began to see examples of bogus Mitchell & Ness throwback baseball and basketball jerseys in the early 2000s. This was easy to understand, I reasoned. These authentic garments were incredibly expensive, and rather hard to get, because of limited distribution. By conscious choice, Mitchell & Ness had chosen to limit its distribution to a handful of legitimate outlets; when their wares became all the rage for rappers (and *wannabe* rappers) around 2001, it came as no surprise to see the knockoffs appearing in the back alleys of Asia at less than half the price of the real deal.

But I recall the sick feeling I got in 2004 when I saw my first Majestic “Fake Authentics" on a trip to Singapore. They were proudly displayed in racks in an open-air market; I had to hold them to see for sure. The front shirttail “Authentic Collection” tags were identical to those in high-end U.S. stores, but to my educated eye, these jerseys were obviously not the real deal. They were made from noticeably cheaper cloth, with sleeve trim slightly too wide, team logos close but not quite exact, and player names and numbers sewn in puckered twill in the wrong fonts, and easily a half-inch larger than regulation. They were all there: Yankees, Cardinals, Astros, Phillies, Cubs, Mariners, Red Sox, Braves. Tagged at about $50 U.S. each, haggling could certainly get them for less. I was disgusted, but moved on -- glad that what I was seeing was 9,600 miles from home.

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Associated Press: A German customs officer overlooks the shredding of fake designer branded shoes in Hamburg, northern Germany, on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2006. German customs officers have seized what they said could be the world's largest haul of counterfeit goods, including nearly 1 million pairs of 'knock-off' Nike sneakers. The customs department in the northern port of Hamburg said it had confiscated a total of 117 shipping containers filled with fake goods since the end of August. The equivalent amount of genuine branded goods would be worth about Euros 383 million (U.S. $490 million), it said in a statement. The goods included 101 containers loaded with 945,384 pairs of counterfeit Nike sneakers, and 10 more containers with about 105,000 pairs of fake Adidas and Puma sports shoes. Also impounded were 76,760 fake watches and 1,454 toys.(AP Photo/Kai-Uwe Knoth)

Jump ahead to 2009:

These Asian fakes had flooded eBay and off-Main-Street retailers all over the United States. A search for “Authentic Phillies jersey” on eBay returned 139 results. Of these, two-thirds were certainly fake. Most, but not all, sellers were U.S.-based, indicating that mass quantities of these garments had reached our shores. They are not being shipped here one at a time from Korea anymore. Some of these sellers also boasted retail shops, showing photos of these wares hanging in their U.S. store windows. My inquiries to these shopkeepers about why they were selling fakes were mostly answered with polite surprise: The sellers told me that they bought these jerseys from their regular, reputable suppliers of sportswear, and could I please tell them how I knew they were fakes?

Being realistic, surely not all of these sellers were surprised by my insinuations. But the fact that an overwhelming majority of them had positive feedback from their on-line buyers was troubling to me. Their customers were clearly satisfied with what they bought at the price they paid.

I do not expect this trend will stop anytime soon. As long as the real thing goes for more than $150 apiece, and as long wearing them makes a statement to someone, the fakes will continue to spread.

Because you are reading this book, you care about the authenticity of your MLB gear. Perhaps I can help you avoid getting taken. On the next few pages, I will provide you with visual clues about what to look for, to decide if the purchase you are contemplating is a bargain or a bust.

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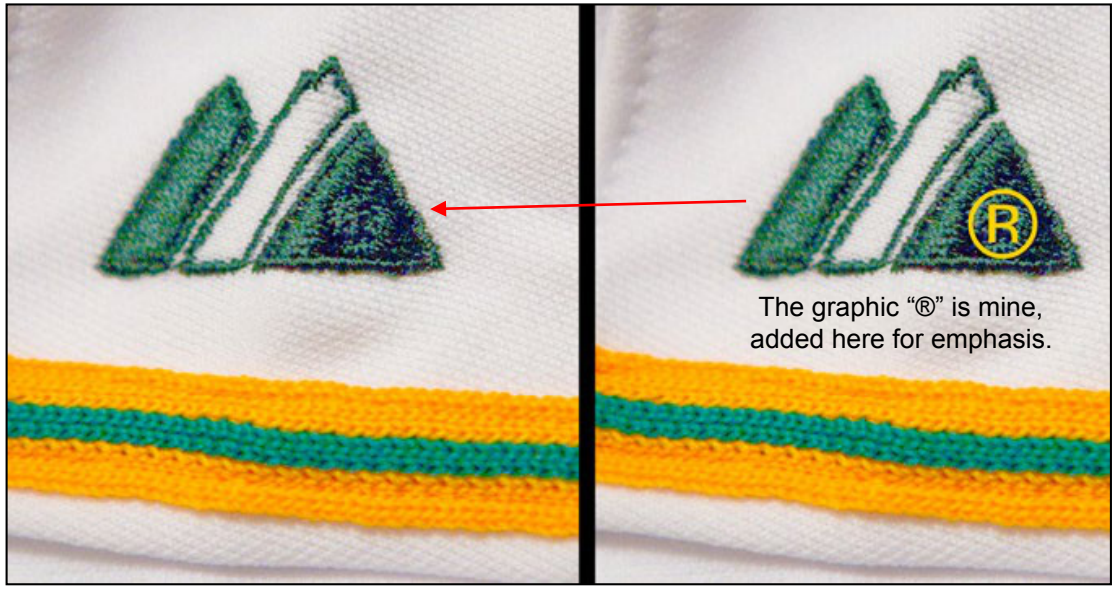
Clues: Look for the “Hidden” ® in the Majestic Sleeve Logo, 2000-2015

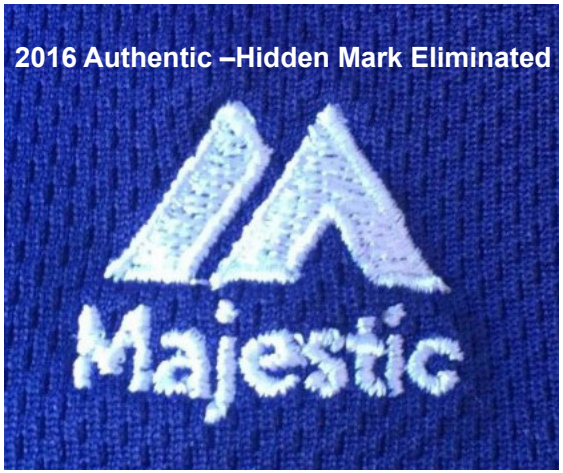


Majestic has hidden a small, embossed ® symbol embroidered within the “Twin Peaks” sleeve-end logo on every game jersey from 2002, and some BP jerseys (2000 and later). It is so faint that it is almost impossible to see in a photo, but it becomes more apparent when you can view the embroidery from different angles.

Bottom left: An example of a sleeve logo on a fake jersey from around 2005. It lacks the embossed symbol.

Not surprisingly, the counterfeiters got wise to this and took action. I have seen several counterfeit jerseys during 2016 with the symbol there (bottom center).

Beginning in 2016, with the launch of Flex Base game jerseys, the secret mark has disappeared from the new-style logo (below, bottom right).



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Clues: Look for the “Clumsy” Silhouetted Batter

At right: Blue pinstripe is authentic. Red pinstripe is a fake. Look at batter’s misshapen head. In this close-up, notice how closely the counterfeiters have duplicated the look of the Cool Base fabric weave.

In 2000, MLB began sewing a small embroidered, team-color-keyed “Silhouetted Batter” MLB logo patch on the center of the back collar of all on-field jerseys and retail authentics. That patch changed to a rubbery ChromaFlex one for the 2016 season.

Makers of counterfeits generally don’t get this detail perfect, though it takes a sharp eye to note the differences. The real MLB patch is sewn on. The fakes often, but not always, have this detail direct embroidered.

Two things to look for: I notice that the fakes’ white border corners are too sharp. The real patch has more rounded corners. The batter himself is often misshapen in some way -- especially in the hat brim, nose, and elbows.

Grouping at left: Top row three are as phony as $3 bills. Bottom row three are all from authentic jerseys. Bottom center is a 2016 ChromaFlex emblem from a new-for-2016 Flex Base jersey.

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Clues: Paper Hang-Tags

Unfortunately, the presence of paper hang-tags on a jersey offered for sale don’t prove it is real. These paper tags are easily reproduced, or even may be the actual tags, stolen by the counterfeiters from the legitimate printers.

There are a few things to look for, though:

The MLB “Players” black fold tag should be on any jersey sold pre-lettered with a player name and should not be on any jersey sold with no name on back.

The diamond-shaped white “Authentic Merchandise” tag should generally NOT be on an Authentic jersey. These tags are meant to be on the lower-graded “replica” jerseys, but counterfeiters insist on including them on jerseys being represented as Authentics.

Majestic generally attaches most or all the paper tags to the jersey sleeve end. The fakers often attach them to the collar.

When you buy Flex Base jerseys, the paper hang-tag should have a rubberized applique glued to the cover. In the fakes we have seen so far, this detail seems to have been overlooked.

The fake jersey at right has the Authentic Collection tag ***and*** the Genuine Merchandise hang-tags. Both don’t belong. They are also attached to the collar; Majestic generally attaches them to the end of the left sleeve.

Below are paper tags from a legitimate jersey. *Those same tags appear on the counterfeit at right -- holograms and all. Why? Because millions of these tags are stolen, acquired through the “back door.”*

The 2016-2019 Flex Base authentic foldout hang- tag (below) features a rubbery 3D-embossed ChromaFlex applique glued to the paperboard. At least so far, the Flex Base fakes we have seen lack this rubbery tag, on the fakes it is simply printed on.

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Clues: Look for Trim Details

Fake-makers are often careless about the exactness of jersey trim. They generally use what they can find, rather than making their own perfect trim patterns and widths. Here are two examples where the trim gives the fake away. At right, the Tigers fake has placket trim that is twice as wide as normal.

At bottom, a rather well-made but bogus Orioles jersey has mismatched elements from various years' jerseys and is true to none. Double-thick black knit ribbon trim down the front and around the collar, when it does not belong on a jersey with orange script; the style bird patch on sleeve is from an earlier year; Majestic sleeve logo is too high on sleeve, but team logo and patches seem correct; name and number on back are the right colors but completely the wrong font.

Both jerseys feature accurate (and likely pilfered) Majestic jock tags on the tails, size flags, and paper hang-tags.

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Clues: "Jock Tag" or Locker Tag

At left: *Commonly seen fake jock tag on a rip-off of a 2005-2015 Cool Base jersey . These tags should never be sewn on; real ones are heat-applied, like the example at right. On these real tags (oddly), facsimile stitching is printed on the edges.* ***Below:*** The full-weight game jersey tag on the far left is real, for comparison. The poorly executed size flag tags on the other two give them away as fakes. Sometimes the Majestic tags are identical to those sewn on real Authentics; these are not. Note the different proportions on the Silhouetted Batter logo.

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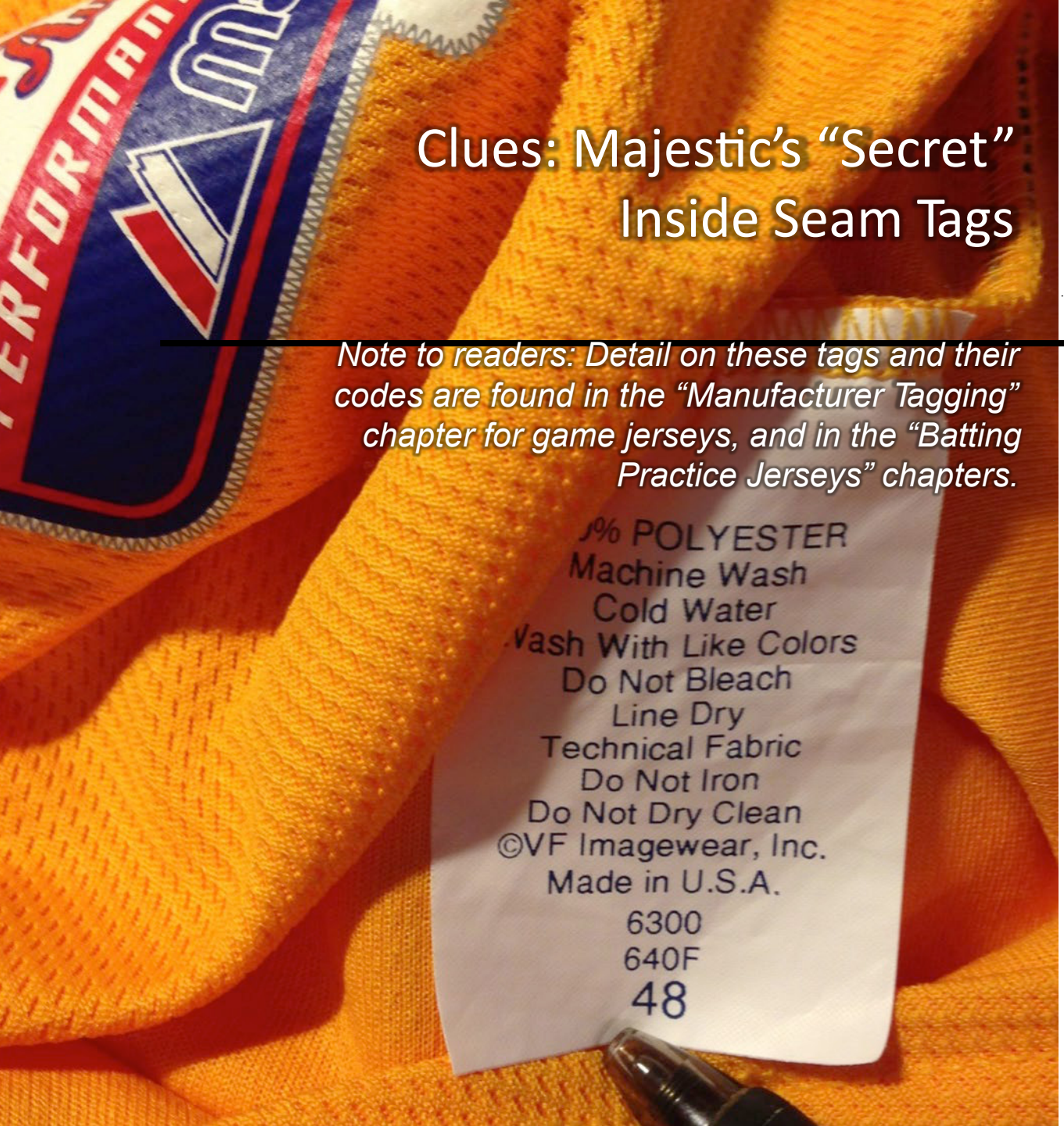
Clues: Majestic’s “Secret” Inside Seam Tags

Note to readers: Detail on these tags and their codes are found in the “Manufacturer Tagging” chapter for game jerseys, and in the “Batting Practice Jerseys” chapters.



It’s nothing more than a tiny Mylar tag containing a bunch of cryptic codes, sewn hidden into the side seam at the time of the jersey’s construction. It would be easy to reproduce. But the fact is, only the well informed would even know to look for it. And even fewer experts would know how to decode what is printed on it.

In prior editions, we could suggest with confidence that the presence (or lack) of this tag was your best guarantee. But since then, we have seen some fakes with these tags in place. Not identical ones -- but seam tagging nonetheless!

We are talking only about Majestic jerseys from about 2000 to present, but this is a good start -- they represent a large percentage of the jerseys being bought and sold on-line.

It would be wonderful if I could provide you with a list of all the codes used by Majestic, but I cannot. Even my contacts at Majestic were unable to give me a complete list of codes that vary from the “standard set." But I have gone through some of my collection, and offer some examples you can trust are real, to which you can compare your jerseys.

We can simply say this: if the jersey you want has a tag that looks much like one of these, it is likely authentic -unless the counterfeiters have gotten wise in a hurry that readers of this book are “onto” them, and adjust their fakes accordingly!

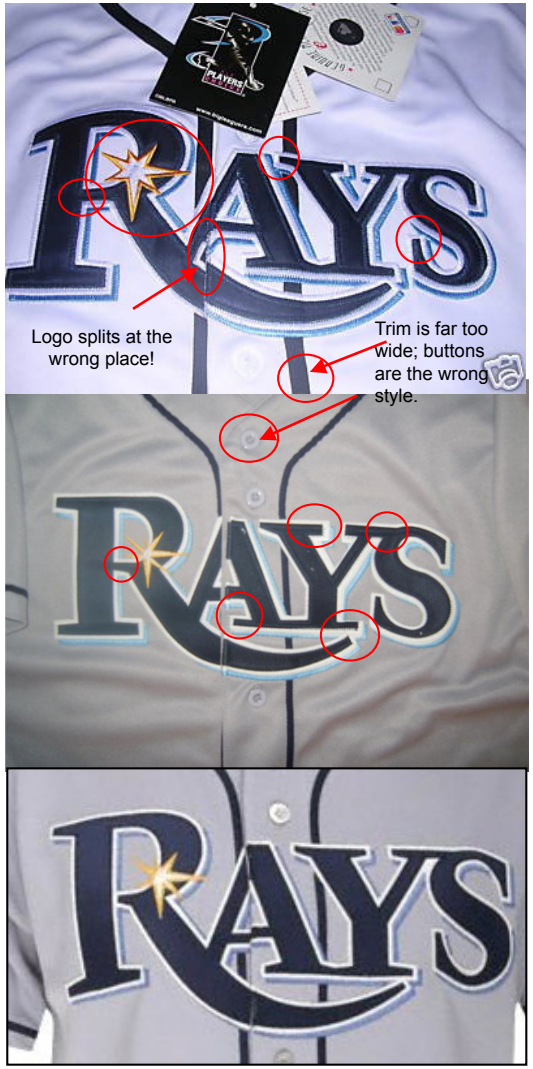
Clues: The Devil Is In the Details

Authentic jersey at top in blue box; counterfeit one shown immediately below.

In early 2009, fake Tampa Bay Rays jerseys abounded on eBay. Suddenly popular because of the team’s unexpected ascendancy into the 2008 World Series, their counterfeit merchandise made a quick appearance on the global market. Before, there had been little interest in the team outside of Tampa. In a quick survey of offerings at on-line auction sites at that time, probably 95% of all “Authentics” listed were blatant fakes.

Fake patch above, Authentic one below.

A variety of sins betray the too two jerseys as fakes: trim that is missing or too wide; slightly incorrect team logos; a badly copied sleeve patch; a missing MLB logo on the back of the neck; and incorrect type styles for player name and numbers that are too large or too small. In this age of digital perfection, these fakes are easy to spot. However, some fakes can fool even well-trained eyes.



The only real jersey in this set of three is the one is at the bottom. ***Small points of difference are circled on the above fakes.***

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This counterfeit Rays jersey is missing the navy knit trim band that is supposed to be around the back of the collar and at the sleeve ends (see inset). The jersey fabric looks cheap and thin; the player name is in the wrong font, is not sewn on a nameplate, and from its pucker and sheen, is probably made from substandard twill.

I wonder who really signed it?

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Online, it Looked Good. Then it Arrived in the Mail

Mitchell & Ness catalog depiction

The clues are there, but only obvious with the fake laid next to a game worn jersey. Pictures do not do justice to the size of this counterfeit Mitchell & Ness jersey, with its 60-inch chest, and lettering fully 30% larger than is correct. Notice the missing **star** detail in the team script; I did not, until it was too late! Tiny thumbnail borrowed from the M&N website at bottom right sure *looks* like the jersey I thought I was buying.

I hate to admit it, but in 2002 I took the bait when I bought this counterfeit jersey on eBay -- fooled thinking I was getting the real thing. I was guilty of the same wishful thinking that I warn readers against in this chapter. Here is the story:

I had been looking for a Mitchell & Ness 1976 Rangers jersey for some time, and when this one appeared for sale on eBay, listed by a seller with perfect feedback, I hoped beyond reason that I had found one. It looked properly shaped: not too short and wide, like many imports. The logo looked right, and I noticed that the jersey back used the proper Varsity name font -- a detail I never thought would be found on a counterfeit jersey. It was also not under priced; its “Buy it Now” price was around $80, which is reasonable for a pre-worn M&N jersey. The tags looked legit; it was listed as an XL; and I bit. I bought it using “Buy it Now” from my smartphone.

When it arrived a few days later, the first thing I noticed was its enormous size, big enough to fit a giant, with a size 60 chest; nearly long enough to touch my knees. True, it was not mis-proportioned: *everything* on it was 30% too big. The length, width, numbers, name, and front script were all comically bigger than a real M&N jersey. Then I noticed two things that I had missed seeing on my tiny Blackberry screen: it was a V-neck, not a three-button neck as I imagined it was. And the small white star was missing from the “R” in Rangers. I noticed neither of these things in my haste to snap up this bargain. The sleeve patch was completely wrong, though I could not see that fact in the photos I used to make my buying decision.

The Mitchell & Ness tag on the tail looks perfectly authentic, as if it had been swiped from a real jersey, though the “1976” year tag looks a little fishy under close inspection.

This is a high-quality fake, but it is a rip-off nonetheless. I contacted the seller and asked if he knew its history, and he professed that he bought it for himself from eBay, assumed it was real, and sold it -only because it was too big for him to wear. I believe him when he said he had paid nearly twice the price for what he sold it to me.

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2004: Fooling Well-trained Eyes...

I found this Cubs jersey on a trip to Singapore in 2004, and although the fabric looked slightly shiny and felt a little too lightweight, I could not pass it up for the price (less than $50). Not until I got it home and laid it next to a known authentic Cubs jersey did I see how many details were wrong, and I became sure that this was indeed a fake. It turns out this was the first Majestic fake I ever knowingly saw. Its quality is actually quite good -- far better than the majority of examples pictured in this chapter. But it is a ripoff nonetheless.

(Left) Fake sleeve patch is too small; the "C" is twill and not embroidered like the real one. Notice details that do not match. (Right) Top back collar logo is close but not exactly like the real one pictured just beneath. (Below) Majestic sleeve logo is missing the secret hidden ® inside the mountain

Final proof that the shirt is not made by Majestic is that it is missing the inside seam style code tag that all U.S.-made Majestic Authentics have.

Below: (Left) Majestic jock tag is so close to the real thing that it may actually be a real Majestic tag misappropriated for the purpose. (Center) Notice the detail differences between the two team crests.

Pinstripes on the fake are 1" apart. On the real Cubs jersey they are 1 ¼" apart

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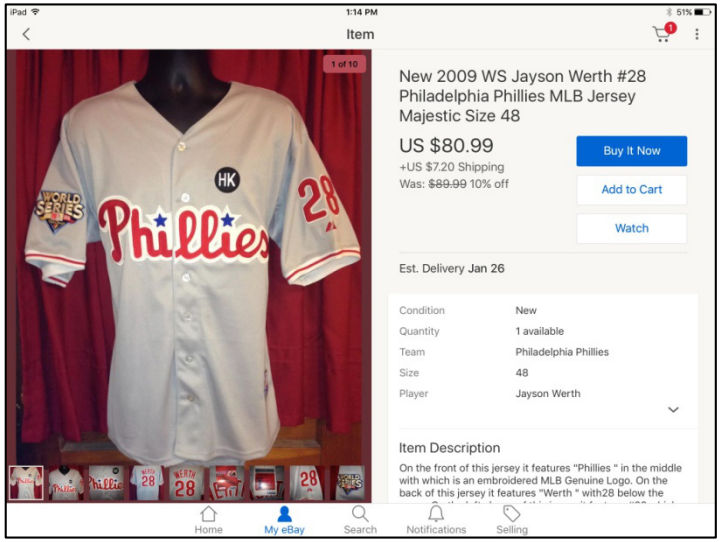
2009 Phillies Cool Base Counterfeit



Counterfeiters often target high-demand, hot-selling items like star player team jerseys from teams that were in the World Series. Computerized sewing machines make this effort easier than it has ever been.

Some impressive details here that would fool most people. On the plus side, the wordmark is indeed chain-stitched like the authentic one, and though not perfect, it is close. The Majestic sleeve M even appears to have the hidden “®” embroidered into it. The paper hang-tags look good, but they always do. And the World Series “patch” looks perfect, except that it is likely direct embroidered and not sewn on as it is supposed to be. On the ”fake” side are the player name and numbers, both of which are close but not exact. But the two biggest tip-offs that this is not real are the screaming fake sewn-on “Authentic Collection” jock tag on the tail (it is supposed to be heat pressed) and the tight, thick, machine-made embroidery style (satin) stitch used to sew the lettering to the jersey. Actual authentics of this vintage use a small zigzag stitch (compare above).

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2012's New Marlins Style Hits the Market

This Internet find was offered with photos that were not the best, but it looked great on a cell phone, and was too good to pass up.

When it arrived, the buyer laid it next to an authentic, and the forgery was apparent: wordmark too small; single-color NOB; sewn-on fake jock tag; direct-embroidered team wordmarks, and Silhouetted Batter instead of sewn on. But notice the high quality of the Cool Base-like cloth. Seller was an individual (not a dealer) who claimed he did not know; eBay refunded buyer's purchase with PayPal after proof was presented.

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2012: This Orioles Jersey is a Convincing Fake

Whoever is making these Cool Base counterfeits did a booming business. These garments flooded the market in 2012. I see them worn at the ballpark and sold on eBay. They offer clues to their rip-off heritage, but probably 99% of all buyers have no clue that they are not the real thing.

Clues: Front wordmark nearly perfect, and surely lifted from original team art file. Both sleeve adornments are direct embroidered, unlike the real jersey’s sewn patches. Same with the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. Majestic sleeve logo lacks the hidden trademark embossing. Majestic shirttail jock tag is sewn cloth vs. applied rubberized decal, but Cool Base outside side seam logo tag is quite convincing. Inside seam tag exists, but does not show proper Majestic codes. Player name and number lettering is not exact. Jersey body is a tiny bit too short. Underarm Cool Base panel is quite convincing indeed. **Conclusion?** Not a badly made jersey, just a fake one. My idle guess is that fakes outsell authentic merchandise 3 to 1.

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2016: A Convincing Flex Base Fake

It was only a matter of a few months from the launch of Majestic’s new Flex Base jersey line that the first fakes started to appear for sale on the Internet.

I have not bought any of these; my desire to do research on this topic doesn’t go that far. But I’ll share the photos that were posted for everyone to see, and you be the judge. Would you be fooled? Most would.

The Majestic front tail tag looks real, because it probably is. Stealing manufacturer tagging is among the easiest things to do for a counterfeiter. Authentic Cubs 2016 Stars & Stripes jersey.

Inside blue box has less-bold team wordmark; twill pattern has blue shading inside the stars; American flag has no white space between ends of stripes and the gold border; Majestic sleeve end logo is blue, not red.

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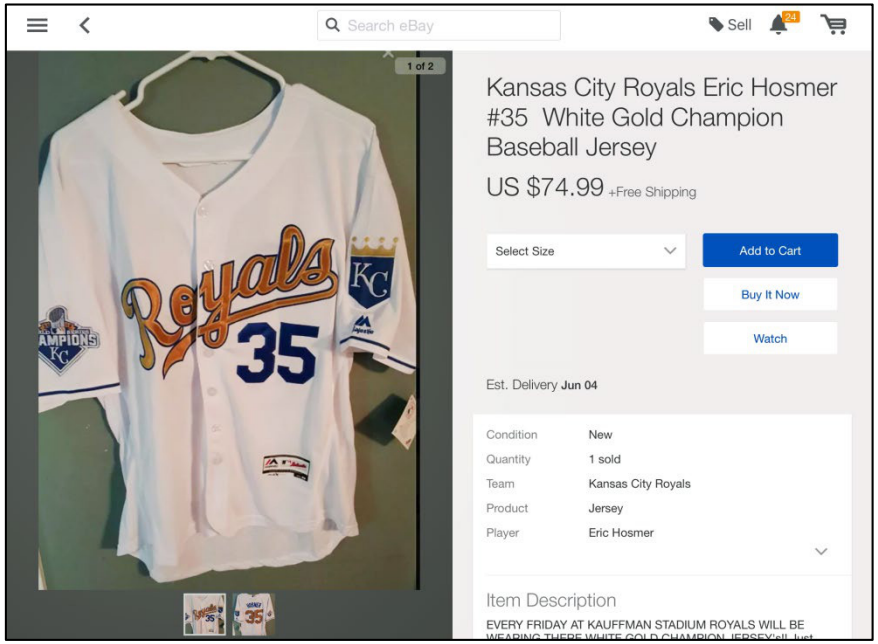
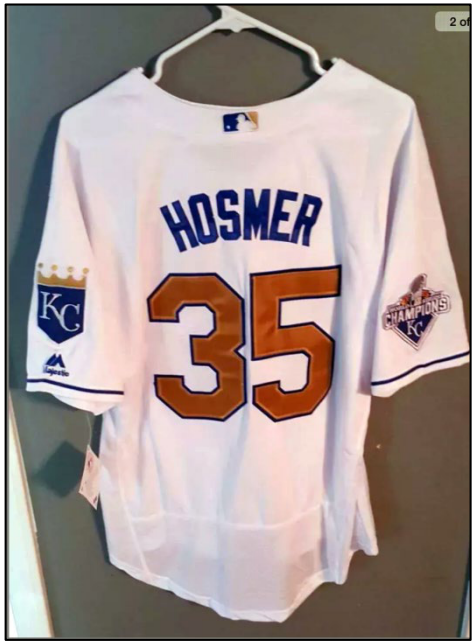
2016: Less convincing, but still good enough to fool many ...





Both offered on eBay. **Top:** Giants fake has incorrectly proportioned and sized lettering; direct-embroidered sleeve patch (instead of sewn-on patch). Blue sleeve hang-tag lacks the Majestic Flex Base rubber patch glued to its cover. Inside shows signs of white gauze backing residue these guys use to sew on the names. Embroidered “autograph” is the final gilding of the lily. **Left:** Royals special ring ceremony jersey has all of the above font errors, plus the clue that this seller had many listings for similar current-model desirable jerseys. When you see current products that list for more than $300 being sold for $74.99, you don’t have to think very hard to know they are fakes.

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2016: This Fake Initially Fooled Me

Even monkeys occasionally fall from trees, says the Japanese proverb. I fell for this one, buying it on eBay from a private seller with good feedback, who claimed that it didn’t fit him. Perhaps lulled by the fact that the price wasn’t unduly cheap, I assumed I was getting a good deal, and snapped it up with “Buy It Now” at a fair price. Not until I received it did I question its authenticity, and *even then* I really had to examine it closely. What did I see? The secret “® *was present in the Majestic sleeve logo!* I had to check twice to make sure, but you can see from the photo that it is there. The front jock tag looked authentic, as did the small size flag tag, which is often a giveaway.

But there were a number of things wrong.

As is often strangely the case on fakes, the front jock tag was sewn too high up. The bottom hem of the jersey was rounded, not flat and straight across as it is on the actual jersey (it’s meant to be worn untucked).

The fabric didn’t feel right; it was too thin. The number on back was slightly too large; the arch of the front wordmark was too steep. The Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck was clumsy fake issue, and the inside of the jersey showed that the lettering had been sewn on using the gauzy interfacing often found on Asian-sourced fakes.

Most telling was the lack of an inside seam tag that should be present on every Majestic Authentic (detailed earlier in this chapter). Luckily the seller agreed to take it back and refunded my money, and I was only “out” return shipping. If he hadn’t agreed, *since I had purchased with PayPal*, I have learned eBay would have refunded my money anyway. They are sensitive to people selling suspected counterfeit merchandise on their site.

I don’t like being a monkey, but I fell for this one.

Bottom left: this is an actual Majestic Authentic

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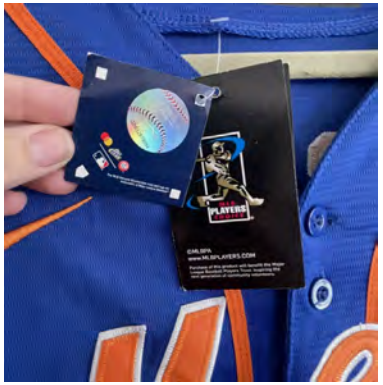
2025: Nike-Branded Fakes

In updating this chapter for the latest edition of the book, I spent a few minutes searching eBay for authentic Nike jerseys from several teams. The results shown on this page come from just five minutes of browsing. While I could claim that I selected only the most outrageously bad listings, the truth is that some of these fakes are being offered for over $400—with shocking audacity.

Every jersey pictured is clearly fake: the lettering is wrong, the fabric is incorrect, the fonts don't match, the sizing is off, and even the tagging is in the wrong place. You name it—it's wrong.

These are the obvious fakes. But I'd wager that many of the jerseys that look acceptable at first glance are also suspect. I won't be buying any to confirm it.

My advice today is the same as it has always been: stick with reputable U.S.-based sellers you know and trust. If you catch a seller offering even one blatant fake, be wary of everything else they're selling.



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A Rouge's Gallery of Really Bad Fakes

These fakes are the worst of the worst -- and probably are more amusing than helpful to show, because these would not fool an average fifth grader. However, all of these found buyers in online auctions.

Note the pin-stripes below that look like they are printed on in Magic Marker. Few dealers of import rip-offs let you see good close-ups of the merchandise, nor will they answer questions about tagging if they know what they are selling is counterfeit. And believe me, they know.

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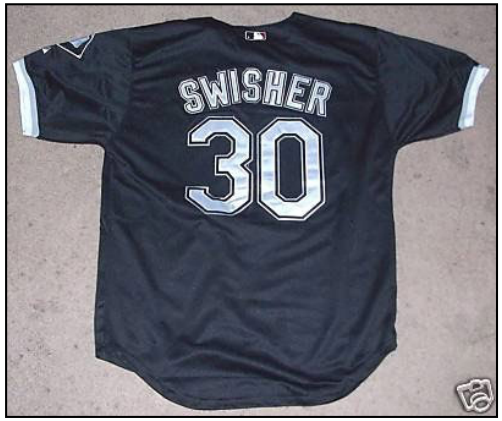

Bogus Dodgers jerseys have a team logo incorrectly outlined in white; numbers that are the wrong font; and the jersey is generally misshapen in size. Jock tag is sewn too high. **Above:** Mets and Mariners fakes have direct-embroidered and far-too-large 1997 Jackie Robinson patches. Mets “M” is sewn crooked. White Sox jersey is misshapen and has wrong fonts for player name and numbers.

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Few counterfeits have this many things wrong.
This one seems to have them all.

Fakes found on eBay, all listed as authentic jerseys.

Left: From eBay, this “authentic” garment features a veritable carnival of clues that it is a fake -- yet someone bought it, and people have left positive feedback for the seller. Most fakes are not this easy to spot. Note inclusion of “MLB Authentic” paper tag as well as the black tag that indicates that a player name is used with permission of MLB Players’ Association.

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Only the jersey at the bottom left is authentic. Note the poor proportions of the fakes, as well as the twill logo with incorrect white outlining, compared to the CHAIN-STITCHED logo on the real one. The player numbers are also inexact renditions of the originals.

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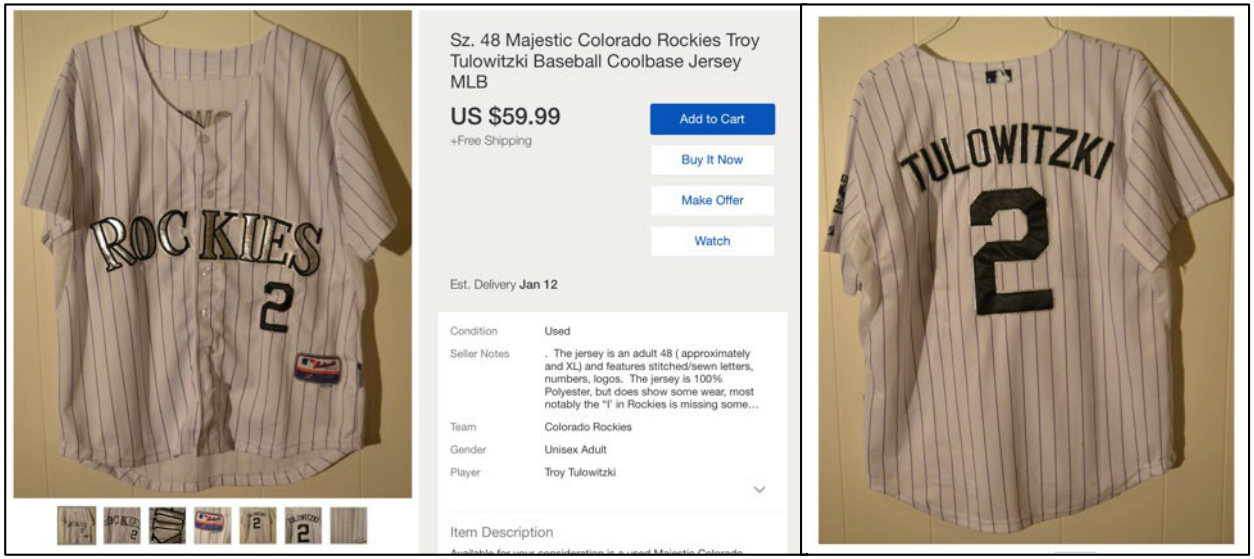
More fakes: Some pretty good, some not. **Top left:** Phillies jersey might fool many if the “4” wasn’t so “off.” **Top right:** Orioles camouflage jersey’s name and numbers are wrong; otherwise, might fool anyone. Reds jersey with huge front numbers is a dead giveaway. Phillies Turn Back the Clock jersey with too-large logo and player numbers. **Bottom left:** One of the most ridiculous fakes I’ve ever seen. I wonder if it sold? Close-up of rip-off Majestic tag at right.



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Fake Mitchell & Ness, but with "Correct" Tagging

I'd bet the Cooperstown Collection tag and the Mitchell & Ness collar/size tags were stolen/ acquired from the original supplier of the tags. This jersey was being sold by an individual, not a dealer. People often buy these online, realize they have been duped, then try to sell them again to the next sucker to recoup their expense. *You don't need to be that sucker.*

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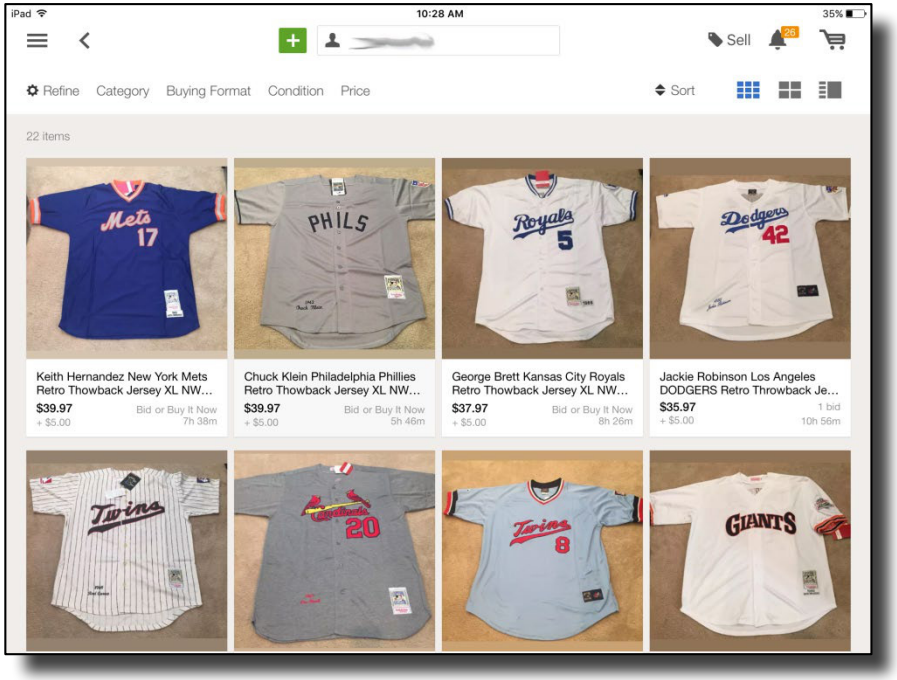
How to Buy Safely on eBay

(and avoid being taken)



Above: eBay seller offering more than 20 styles of fake Mitchell & Ness and Majestic Cooperstown Collection jerseys. **Below:** There are other clues: no M&N Astros jerseys had an orange wordmark AND shooting star. Depending on the style, one would have been navy.

eBay is one of the best places to find deals on authentic and game worn jerseys. It is also one the places to find tons of jerseys that are misrepresented rip-offs and fakes. *The authenticity of any jersey not sold by a legitimate retailer (like mlb.com) should be suspect to you*. This is where you will pay top price for your garment, but you can be assured you are buying the real thing. But care needs to be taken with retailers, too. I asked stores that were selling fakes where they obtained them, and their answer was “we get all our jerseys directly from Majestic,” so either they are lying or quite misinformed.

Manufacturers would like to see everyone buy jerseys exclusively through their authorized retailers, but the reality is, many of us like to look for bargains and scour the Internet for deals.

eBay’s marketplace has provided a real opportunity for the savvy buyer; but some people are afraid to buy Authentics on eBay because they have been burned, or because they are afraid they *will* get burned. I suspect because of this buyer fear, I have been able to repeatedly find great bargains on eBay to fill holes in my collection.

Throughout this chapter, I have provided clues about things to look for when you shop on-line for Authentic jerseys. The hard part is applying all that knowledge when you are faced what looks like a great deal with a crazy-low “Buy It Now” price attached to it. Let me offer some suggestions of ways to shop safely on eBay:

1) Know who you are buying from. Buy from eBay vendors with extensive positive feedback ratings, and a reasonably long history. “Pop-up” sellers come and go. Dumping the old account and setting up a new account is the fastest way to obliterate inconveniently bad feedback they have accumulated. Look at the other merchandise they sell. If it is from the Far East (China, Korea, Thailand), you should wonder about the source of their MLB jerseys. If that seller has even a few negative comments that claim they are selling fakes, it is safe to assume that they are. I am amazed at the number of eBay sellers with rafts of positive feedback who obviously deal in counterfeits. *Most of their buyers do not know or care like you will.*

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2) Insist on seeing the item you are buying. You cannot hold it and touch it, so beware that what you receive might not be what you saw in photos. If you are buying on the Web from a site like eBay, be sure you are looking at the item you are buying. Sellers often use stock photos cribbed from the official MLB.com or Majestic Web sites.

3) View it on a full-size screen: Be super careful buying anything after just looking at its photos on a handheld device such as a smartphone! I should know better, and I have been surprised when something I bought arrived not looking like I thought it should. Then I checked and found that, had I viewed the item on my desktop PC's screen, I would have definitely seen things that I missed on my phone's tiny screen.

4) In general, do not count on photos of the any of the tags for clues. The Majestic cloth jock tags on the tail are probably the most accurate thing on the garment. A friend in the garment business told me that an ongoing apparel industry concern is that the people who legitimately make their tags may have unscrupulous employees who might work late at night, making thousands of extra tags that are sold out the back door to counterfeiters. Same with the paper hang- tags that are attached to the retail garment, proclaiming them as "Authentic" or "Players Choice." Paper tags are ridiculously easy to replicate, and you will find them on almost every counterfeit.

There is one exception where examining tags is worthwhile: Check to see if the tiny size flag tags on full-weight (non-Cool Base) jerseys are identical to known authentics. This is a minute detail, and few counterfeiters bother to duplicate these tags. Most people would never, ever notice.

Above: A stock Majestic catalog photo, cribbed from the Web and often used by sellers of fakes. Make sure you are seeing a photo of the garment you are buying! Paper hang-tags are not a good clue, nor (often) are cloth locker tags

Below: What important clues are hiding unseen in that tiny screen image? Avoid buying anything solely from what you *think* you can see on a tiny handheld display.

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5) Does the deal look too good to be true? Be sensibly critical of the price. Sometimes, private individuals selling parts of their collections will offer jerseys for sale with bargain prices, to move them out. But when a seller is offering quantities of new, current style, famous-player lettered jerseys for prices significantly below list, someone is doing something inappropriate:

a) **The team has recently dropped the style of jersey.** For example, in spring 2009, quite a few white, gray, and red alternate Pittsburgh Pirates authentic vest jerseys were on the market, selling for low prices, and this situation went only for a couple of months. The Pirates had dropped these styles for 2009, moving back to sleeved jerseys. This glut of low-priced items were true *authentics* that were being cleared out of manufacturer and wholesaler stockrooms to make room for new, current merchandise. However, do not assume that suddenly all such items for sale at bargain prices are really authentics and not fakes; one still needs to be careful.

b) **A legitimate dealer has acquired a large quantity of game worn non-famous-name player jerseys (commons), and is clearing out inventory.**

c) **A popular famous-name player has been traded.** Again in spring 2009, Reds jerseys with "Griffey" on the back were being disposed of in the discount bins for the same reason as above. The manufacturer knows they will never sell them all at full price, so they dump them all at once, to just move them out.

d) **A manufacturer has lost its contract to sell authentic merchandise.** These are rare but big events. In the MLB world, this happened in the 2003-2005 time frame, when Majestic took over as the exclusive maker of MLB jerseys, and in 2019 when Nike took over from Majestic. For a time, the market was flooded with thousands of Authentic Collection jerseys that manufacturers and wholesalers dumped from stock.

e) **A manufacturer has unacceptable overstock** and is willing to dump it for reduced prices to help their cash flow. This is never one to count on, and unless you have insider information, you would probably never know it was happening; but this is why select outlets have had real Mitchell & Ness MLB (and other team jerseys) for sale, almost always in sizes XXL and above. M&N misjudged the end of the hip-hop fashion craze for oversized sports throwback jerseys, and ended up with massive overstocks, shortly after they were acquired by Reebok. *Take care.* This means only that a small percentage of the many bazillions of M&N jerseys that were for sale at low prices were real and not fakes. One needs to know where to look, and that is where many buyers are duped.

6) Ask questions. If you are suspicious about authenticity, ask questions and wait for the answers. Ask about the inside seam tag. Get a photo of it, if possible

7) Always buy using PayPal to protect yourself and DO NOT use PayPal Friends and Family! Sensitive to the fact that their site is an easy outlet for the sellers of counterfeit merchandise of all types (not just MLB jerseys), eBay will almost always generate a refund if you open a complaint and tell them that you suspect the item you bought is counterfeit, REGARDLESS of what the seller says. If necessary, use photos and examples from this book to back up your claims.

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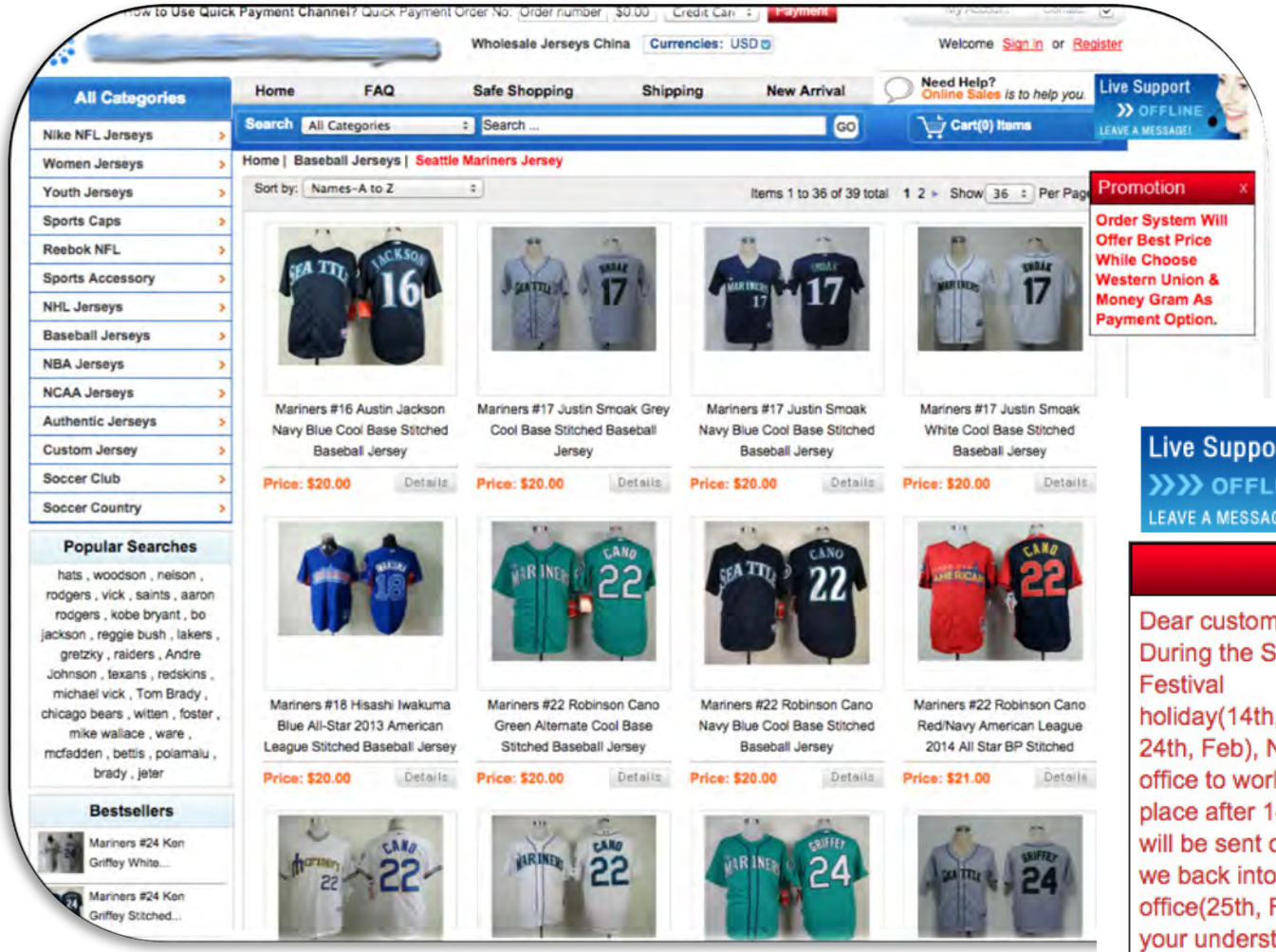
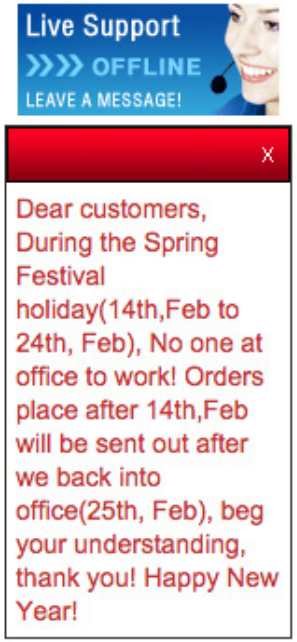
Web Sites That Shamelessly Sell Fakes





I have intentionally obliterated the URL of this Web page, but as of this writing, it still is operation and appears to be open for business. I am sure you can find it on-line if you look for it, as well as three new ones that have probably appeared during the past six months. Everything they sell here is unlicensed and surely fake, and proudly so. They have football, basketball, baseball, soccer, hockey, college sports, World Cup … it's all here. Credit cards and Western Union money transfer accepted. (Gotta love the "Dear Customers" message.)

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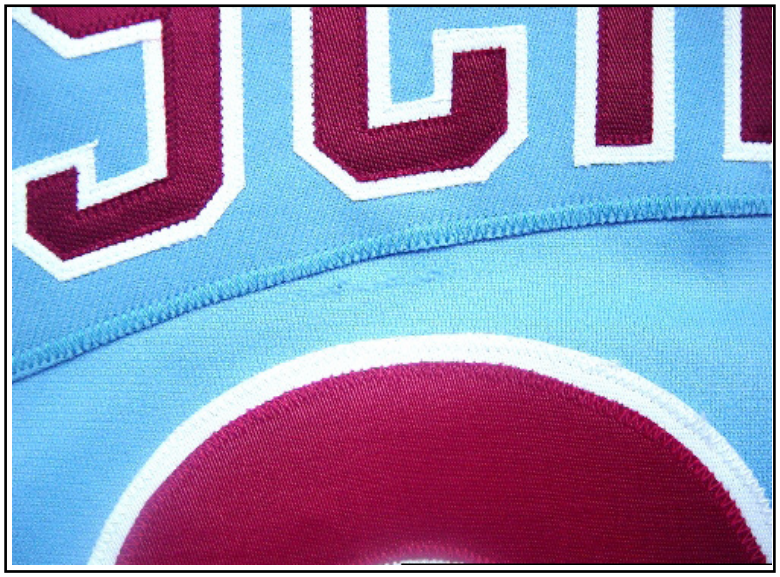
“Why Doesn’t Somebody Stop It?”

There are two main reasons this counterfeiting continues:

1. ***A large percentage of potential buyers don’t know or care:*** When I have approached people wearing obvious fakes at the ballpark, the response I usually get is a glare, a shrug, and a reply: “The price was right," or “Looks OK to me.” The data seems to bear this out, because when looking at typical feedback ratings for eBay sellers who deal in bogus merchandise, their buyer ratings are usually quite good. And the complaints that are logged generally are related to the unexpected high cost and/or time for shipping – because these often come directly from the Far East, and it seems that some buyers don’t realize they are not buying from a local vendor until after they get the invoice.
2. ***It is frightfully expensive for manufacturers to pursue, and almost impossible to stop:*** One industry executive I know likened this to hunting rats with a BB gun at a garbage dump. You could easily spend every minute of your time, every dollar of resources, and never make a dent in the population -- but you could certainly waste every bit of your ammunition. Sometimes a major bust can be made that is publicized (like the photo of fake shoes being seized and destroyed a few pages back), the fact is, there are too many sweatshops doing this in too many places, and they keep moving and multiplying. As long as there is a market for counterfeit goods (see #1 above), they will continue to proliferate.

Instead, the preferred solution in this game of Guerrilla warfare is a commercial one:

3. ***Make the product harder to copy:*** The simple addition of custom team-by-team jock tags on BP jerseys starting in 2011 was one such move. Using laser-perforated numbers on Authentics in 2024 was another attempt. Not impossible, but perhaps more trouble, cost, and time than some might want to expend.
4. ***Change the product frequently to make it less profitable to copy:*** Changing all team BP jerseys for 2014, and announcing simultaneously that all BP jerseys would be now change on three-year cycles, puts the counterfeiters on notice that their product will have a limited shelf life before it is obsolete. Again, not eliminating the problem, but adding a financial hurdle that may dissuade some from stealing here, and perhaps having them turn their attention to easier money –like handbags, silk scarves, or DVD movies.



Chapter 7

Is it Game Worn?

A Basic Overview to Authenticating Game Worn and Team Issued MLB Jerseys

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

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“Is it Game Worn?”

A Basic Overview to Authenticating Game Worn and Team Issued MLB Jerseys

Introduction: Starting in 2001, MLB began a long-overdue authentication program, designed to cement the provenance of game used items, marking them with hologram stickers, serial numbers, and logging these numbers into a fan-accessible database. Today, if someone claims a recent year regular season or postseason big-name jersey is game used and it lacks a hologram, you would have every right to be suspicious. According to MLB, it has authenticators at every game all season long to authenticate items as soon as they are taken from the field and moved into the realm of sale as a collectible.

However, the progress of MLB Authentication’s introduction in 2001, to the claim of “having authenticators at every game” did not happen quickly. In the early years of the program, authenticators were present only at key events: World Series games, All-Star games and regular season potential record breaking events. It has really only been in the past few years that a significant number of common players’ game worn jerseys have been hologrammed and registered.

Now, according to our team sources, at points during the season and certainly when the season is over, MLB Authenticators sweep through a clubhouse and tag everything that will find its way into the collector hobby. Jerseys that were never issued to a player but remain in team inventory are tagged and listed in the database as, say, “2018 end of season collection,” meaning that they were among the jerseys gathered up when the clubhouse was cleaned out at season’s end. Insiders tell me that it is entirely possible that some jerseys listed as “team issued” are actually “game worn” simply because an authenticator didn’t record what games they were used in, and therefore simply listed them as “team issued.”

I encourage you to visit the MLB Authentication website to read the latest on this program, see examples of hologram stickers, and visit the database for each team. Also, note that there are two kinds of MLB holograms: one style that is simply used to show that an item is “Authorized Merchandise” (i.e. not a fake made in China), and the ones we are talking about here, serialized, that show that an item was team-issued or game used.

So when did authenticators start attending every game and tagging everything destined for sale to the public? I can find no firm information on this topic, and every indication is that it started to happen very gradually starting around 2005. I will also note that I have acquired many jerseys for my personal collection that came from various MLB team “garage sales” and Fan-Fest events, or that I have personally fished out of giant bins of clearly game-worn jerseys in Spring Training, and these are not hologrammed. For me, this matters little. I know where they came from, and I prefer “commons” to the jerseys of star players. I buy them to display and to wear, not for their resale value. So, realistically, it doesn’t matter much to me whether the jersey of a bullpen middle reliever or second-string infielder is authenticated and hologrammed, because I am not treating these as investments. But you can bet that I would think twice before paying big money for a star’s jersey that was not authenticated.

So, in conclusion, while holograms can be faked, and clearly, not every jersey advertised as game-worn or team-issued is hologrammed, the MLB Authentication Program has removed some of the riffraff from the hobby.

Setting the Standard

“The Major League Baseball Authentication Program is the most comprehensive league-wide memorabilia authentication initiative in professional sports. Since its launch in 2001, it has become the industry standard for autographed and game used sports memorabilia authentication. Designed to distinguish officially authenticated MLB memorabilia from other items on the market, the program offers an objective third party authentication system that guarantees genuine memorabilia for all MLB fans.” (From MLB.com)

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The most common question I am asked is "How can I tell if a 'game worn' jersey is real?" This is a tough question with a vague answer—because usually, you can't know for sure. However, let me share with you some of the techniques I use to try to verify the authenticity of double knit era baseball jerseys.

While the only way to be absolutely sure if a jersey was game worn by a player is to watch him play in it then have him take it off and give it to you after the game, there are some ways to tell if the jersey is likely not game worn. (Notice I avoid words like "definitely," "always," and "certain," because there are always exceptions.) At the end of this chapter, I will relate one.

While there are some consistencies, through the late 2010s, every team had unique differences in whom they get their jerseys from, how they are sewn, how they are tagged (if at all), how they are used and reused, and how they find their way into the hobby.

The Story of a Phillies Mike Schmidt Jersey

Before we start drilling into the tiny facts and small details, let's start with a story that shows how complex this whole topic can be. I bought the jersey pictured here as a "Phillies Game Worn Jersey" from a reputable seller with whom I enjoy doing business. It is (now) a Mike Schmidt jersey, and it is Phillies team-issued and possibly is Phillies game-worn — but it is not "Mike Schmidt Phillies Game Worn."

I knew this up front and paid an agreeable price for it. The seller knows this, because he told me before I bought it. And if I ever sell it, the new buyer will know—because I will tell him. But the chances are very good that somewhere down the line, this story will become disconnected from the jersey, and it will be represented as "Mike Schmidt Phillies Game Worn" to a future unsuspecting buyer.

There is a difference between:

"Mike Schmidt Game Worn Jersey," "Mike Schmidt, Phillies Game Worn Jersey," and "Mike Schmidt Jersey, Phillies Team Issued." They do not necessarily mean the same thing! What is the difference? In today's market, it could easily be a difference of $10,000, if someone was willing to purchase it as "Schmidt Game Worn."

This particular jersey is year and set tagged (1986 Set 1) in the identical tagging style (and is likely original) as the Phillies used. The seller told me that the jersey was originally number 45. A light table examination shows that this is true.

The team did not issue number 45 during the regular season in 1986, a fact I verified by checking all my Phillies record sources for 1986. At some point, the "45" was removed, and Mike Schmidt's #20 was added to both the front and back. "SCHMIDT" was sewn absolutely correctly and beautifully on a serged nameplate of the same Phillies baby blue fabric in exactly the same shade. It is a size 44, which is reasonable for Schmidt to have worn. The final touch is the name "Schmidt," chain-stitched in embroidery script, was sewn into the inside collar of the jersey, which was the team's method of identifying the jersey as Schmidt's for the equipment manager when pulled from the washing machine inside out, or if it was sitting folded on a table.

The jersey shows reasonable wear, and all the letters and numbers are

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correct. The Phillies "P" logo on the front and the front numbers exhibit the same amount of wear, which means they both could be original, or they both could have been replaced together to conceal any differences in wear. (Further inspection reveals they were most likely replaced together. Notice the identical thread and stitching used on both the logo and numbers.) However, significantly, the patch on the sleeve shows more fading and wear than would be expected given the bright quality of the rest of the lettering on the garment, another tip-off that other lettering/logos may have been replaced. While there are no visible signs of the old numbers being removed from the jersey and new ones sewn on, nor any marks—such as glue, snags, holes, or pulls—or signs of ghosting or fading around where the old numbers would have been, there is a small frayed line that shows where a nameplate was removed and a replacement re-sewn. While this is a sign for caution, it is not an automatic sign of a fake. Teams, as a matter of practice, nearly always removed nameplates at the end of the season.

Even to an experienced eye, this jersey might appear legitimate. But having seen as many Phillies uniforms as I have over the years, I can recognize that the script "handwriting" on the chain-stitched name tag inside the collar is noticeably incorrect when compared with other Phillies jerseys of this era. See the photos of accurate and authentic Phillies collar name tagging for reference. Someone here went to a lot of trouble to make this look like a game worn Schmidt jersey. Adding a chain-stitched embroidered name tag to the collar was unlikely to be an afterthought. What I have is most likely a Phillies team issued 1986 jersey that may or may not have ever been used by a player in a game. All of this is merely "interesting"—unless you were someone who paid $10,000 for it, believing you were getting something it is not.

For the Authenticator: The Lure of "The Commons"

A "common" is a collector's term for items of lower value, lacking star appeal, or greater availability in the hobby at reasonable prices. For me as a collector of game worn jerseys, commons are a gold mine of information, and I seek them out extensively to use as a point of reference in my research.

Simply put, commons are much more likely to be unaltered, original, and "not messed with" from their original state, serving as a valuable reference point when trying to judge the authenticity of the supposedly game worn jerseys of star players. Unfortunately, many jerseys advertised as having belonged to star players and offered at high prices started life as commons before someone innocently (or not so innocently) altered them.

Transforming a common into something that is more pleasing to its owner is not a crime! The ethical gray area emerges when a transformed item is later represented as something that it is not, in an effort to inflate the value of the item.

Jerseys claimed as belonging to famous-name players are the ones most likely to be counterfeited. After all, counterfeiters rarely bother with $1 or $5 bills, they start with the $20s. A game used Phillies 1986 jersey issued to pitcher Joe Schlobodnik, called up from Triple-A on September 1, who pitched 3 innings in the big leagues probably has a retail value in the hobby less than a clean, blank jersey from the same era. Except, perhaps, to Joe's mom and dad.

The financial incentive to turn the $50 Schlobodnik jersey into a $10,000 Schmidt, with nothing more than some fabric and a sewing machine, is very tempting to certain "entrepreneurs." This is one reason why as a collector, I am more confident buying the Schlobodnik jersey than any jersey with a name you would recognize. The Schlobodnik one is more likely to be the real McCoy, because no one would likely ever bother to try to counterfeit one (except maybe Joe's mom, if she were dishonest and handy with the Singer).

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If I ever bothered to add up all the “game-worn” Barry Bonds, Mark McGwire, Nolan Ryan, and Cal Ripken jerseys I’ve seen on eBay alone, one would assume that these players must have changed clothes every inning in order to supply the hobby.

Letters of Authenticity

Let’s start with a basic premise: star player jerseys and jerseys claimed to have been worn for a specific historic event are worth far more than others. Assurance that these items are “real” is far more financially important to collectors than jerseys of common players. Let’s assume we are talking about star player jerseys in the text that follows.

Some Letters of Authenticity are valid and enhance the value of the item they represent. But others are useless. The ones that are truly reprehensible are those fabricated by an owner with a laptop, printer and a good imagination. But far more common are letters crafted by auction companies who are also the ones selling the jersey. Beware when a fictitious company—say, “Blue Chip Auctions”—lists a star player’s jersey with their own letter of authenticity, using phrases like “this was presented to us as game-used,” while the document focuses more time describing the player’s career and accomplishments rather than describing the characteristics of the jersey and EXACTLY why they consider it to be authentic. In my opinion, there can be a distinct conflict of interest in creating a letter of authenticity for an item you’re selling yourself.

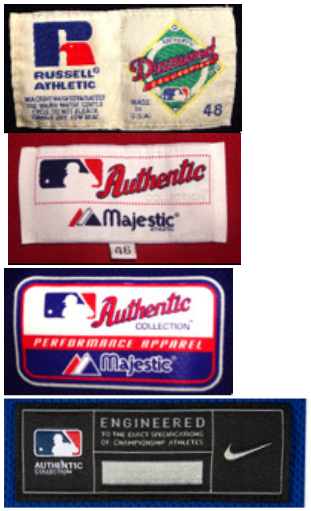
Unfortunately, even perfectly legitimate seller-created Letters of Authenticity saying “I personally saw Steve Garvey wear and sign this jersey” might have no financial weight to the next buyer. If you are buying the jersey to make yourself happy, don’t worry about this. But if you are using the Letter of Authenticity as a way to ensure the value of your item, be careful. Know who you are buying from, their reputation and the market reputation of their certificate. Do your homework.

I recently saw a jersey—one I strongly doubted was authentic—listed on eBay, complete with an official looking Letter of Authenticity supposedly signed by a named expert (who may well have signed it, believing this jersey was indeed authentic). The jersey was of a famous player, and was claimed to have been worn during a historic event. The jersey had an official looking hologram sticker affixed to it. However, the jersey was shown to be year-tagged by the team, and I know for a fact that this team did not year-tag its jerseys at the time represented in the auction. To me, this is a clear case of gilding the lily, and I do not believe it was authentic. Before you spend (or “invest”) a lot of money in something so intangible, do not allow yourself to be rushed. Consider paying an expert for an appraisal and get an expert second opinion. Insist that the seller sell with the stipulation that you can get an independent authentication done in a reasonable amount of time, say, 30 days.

Another thing to watch out for is the copied letter of authenticity, either on paper or as a computer image, with no direct linkage to the item in hand. That is, a credible letter is presented saying that the jersey is authentic, signed by a reputable independent expert you trust. But the jersey that it is paired with is *not the same one that the authenticator had certified.* Insist on a original, hand signed certificate with matching holograms/serial numbers or at least clear photo evidence that the jersey in hand is the one written about. (Editor’s note: This is exactly why the many Letters of Opinion included in this book are purposely shown as unsigned images.)

What is “Authentic”?

Let’s start with the basics. Ever since baseball team jerseys have been made for retail sale starting generally in 1987, there have been several “grades” of them manufactured. We’ll assume you already know the difference between a replica-grade jersey and an “authentic.” If not, this information is covered in an earlier chapter.



Authentic” jerseys—such as those labeled Diamond Collection, Authentic Collection, or Nike Vapor Premier Elite—are designed to replicate the jerseys worn on the field. They have sewn on or embroidered team graphics. The correct trim on the sleeves, front, and neck identical to team worn jerseys. They include the team sleeve patches, and sometimes have year-specific commemorative patches sewn on them as well. If player numbered, the lettering is sewn on in layers of tackle twill (with very few exceptions, all authentic jerseys have sewn-on layered twill names and numbers). Generally starting with 1992 they are manufacturer brand-tagged as “authentic.” (There are exceptions). During the 1990s, the brand name “Diamond Collection” was used to tag authentic style jerseys. “Authentic Collection” branding followed in the 2000s.

But before that, at the dawn of the double-knit era in 1970, the world of marketing and merchandising was completely different than we live in today. Unless you knew someone on the inside of the team, it was highly unlikely you’d own a jersey identical to what the players wore. During the 1970s, “Authentic” on-field jerseys were simply not manufactured for sale to the public. Starting in the late 70s, some teams’ most avid fans could sometimes get a team spec jersey through the team’s local partner. These jerseys were not originally intended for mass sale to the public. They were not branded in any way as part of an “Authentic Collection,” “Diamond Collection,” or anything overtly commercial. They simply carried the same

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Wilson or Rawlings sewn-in brand and size tags as the uniforms the players wore. I recall seeing the availability of authentic, new, Wilson Phillies jerseys offered through Phillies sponsor Gold Medal Sporting Goods around 1977. Delivered plain, with no player name or number affixed, one could be special ordered for $49, a considerable sum at the time. Lettering was $25 extra and took an additional month or more. Names on the back were available, but were sewn in non-original looking maroon single-color block lettering, no Vertical Arch available (more on this lettering technique in the "Basics" chapter.) Also, when searching for a Dodgers uniform jersey at the same time, my calls and letters to the team revealed that none were available. Replica t-shirts and jackets were sold, but for a real uniform, you I was told by the Dodgers' Merchandise shop you had to be a player—or know somebody who could pull strings, a concept that escaped me at age 16. I had to settle for a Dodgers t-shirt, which I wore every time it came out of the wash until it finally became a dust rag.

From around 1982–1986, Sand-Knit held a contract to produce jerseys that—while not on-field authentic—closely resembled the real thing. They featured sewn-on team crests and sleeve patches, but the sizing, tailoring, sleeve trim, and colors were usually slightly "off." Yet, these were about the closest you could get to on-field...until 1987.

Rawlings won the MLB contract in 1987 to become the official uniform provider to the league, though not all teams were required to use them. Their contract allowed them for the first time to begin discretely advertising by sewing its name in tiny script on the sleeve ends. ("Advertising on ballplayers' sleeves!" lamented my father. "Where will it stop?") Their contract also allowed Rawlings to market authentically crested MLB game jerseys to the public, *even for teams that did not wear Rawlings uniforms on the field.* For example, in 1987 and later, the Yankees, Braves, White Sox, and several other teams did not use Rawlings jerseys on the field, but Rawlings was allowed to market "authentics" with the Rawlings branding on the sleeve, while genuine on-field jerseys for these teams made by other companies had no visible branding on their sleeves.

While still not widely marketed, specialty catalogs and team shops now made these available to dedicated fans who really wanted a "real one" and were willing to pay the high prices demanded, usually $90 to $140. "Authentic" jerseys became a little more common. Batting practice jerseys first came into use in the late 1970s for many teams, and made a far more affordable entry into buying an "authentic" jersey for a devoted fan. Team-spec BP jerseys were often sold only through team souvenir or merchandising shops for around $50-$75 still a high ticket item back then. These were sold under license by Majestic, Rawlings, and starting in 1992, by Russell.

When Russell won the MLB contract for making and merchandising player uniforms in 1992, things loosened up considerably. These jerseys were now adorned with a fancy "Diamond Collection" logo tag on the shirttail, and were produced for sale in team stores, specialty sporting goods stores, and catalogs. While they were never available in the mainstream, meaning you did not find them on the rack in Kmart or even at Macy's, they were available to people who really wanted them and were willing to seek them out. At twice the price of the lower-quality 'Team Licensed' or 'Authentic Merchandise' jerseys—and nearly indistinguishable to the average observer—these jerseys were never meant for widespread public sale. They were made for people who simply needed to have a "real one like the players wear"; people like me.

While it is implied that these "Authentics" are the same as the team issued jerseys, and often they are identical, I can tell you that this is not always so. Some "authentics" made for retail sale are not the same quality as the team issued jerseys, especially true for batting practice jerseys. There is sometimes a difference in fabric quality or weight, stitching quality, and even logo construction. For example, store-bought "Authentic" 2003–2006 Majestic Phillies batting jerseys featured the team logo on the front in two-layer red and white tackle twill. Nice enough, but the actual team-issued jerseys have the Phillies logo crafted in chain stitched red embroidery over white twill. There is a significant difference in appearance. I have in my collection many examples of both store bought and team issued mesh BPs of the 1980s and 1990s. Especially common with Majestic jerseys, the team issued or game worn ones are often made of a noticeably heavier fabric and have the manufacturer logo embroidered on the sleeve instead of being heat pressed like on store bought ones. The difference in fabric weight is often immediately noticeable just by picking one up.

"Team Issued" is a general term that means that the jersey was manufactured to team specifications, delivered to the team, and intended for game use. Often, these jerseys have a year tag sewn into them from the factory, again to the team's specifications. These jerseys may be sent in bulk to the team, to the local shop the team uses to do their name/number sewing, or may be kept in the sewing room at the manufacturer, if the team uses the manufacturer as the source of their jersey customization (Majestic, and later Nike) with their contracts for sewing most teams' names and numbers on the team issued jerseys. The teams order and receive most jerseys from them overnight, ready to wear on the field. The team may order some extra blank jerseys in a variety of sizes to handle mid-season call-ups, trades or to be used in case of a player's uniform being damaged or lost. These jerseys might already have a year tag sewn in them from the factory, and tagging details might vary slightly.

Not all team issued jerseys are team or year tagged! In my observation, during the 1990s and early 2000s, fewer teams bothered to sew year tags into their jerseys. For example, during the 1990s, The Giants, Dodgers, Phillies, and Expos all stopped year-tagging their jerseys for a time.

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Probably fewer than 10% of batting practice jerseys are ever year tagged by teams.

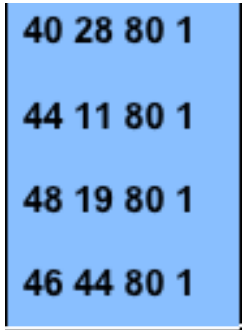
At the end of the year, unused year-tagged jerseys may be held and used next year, recycled to the minor leagues, or sold off as dead stock, where they end up in the hands of dealers and collectors.

Team Tagging

Team tagging is often the most important indicator of authenticity. There is no way I can impart all of my knowledge of what to look for in a few paragraphs, but I will give an overview.

Year and set tags are sometimes sewn in on small white tabs and attached to the manufacturer's label, and/or sometimes are sewn on strip-tags in team "code" onto small pieces of uniform cloth, which are then sewn onto the jersey. Starting in the mid 2010s they may be printed on heat-applied permanent vinyl tags with QR codes glued permanently onto the tails. These tags are used both by the manufacturer to ensure correct customization and later by the team for inventory management. Here is how it works for many teams.

1. Before the start of the season, the equipment manager needs to determine how many uniforms he needs to order. Since uniforms must be ready by Opening Day, the equipment manager must make reasonable guesses—usually during spring training—about who will be on the roster. He makes a list of all the possible opening day players, along with their complete measurements and special tailoring requirements (like 2" longer jersey length, or longer sleeves). He makes sure he has an accurate list of who is wearing which numbers, and double checks how names are spelled. (He takes measurements for all the uniform pants and team hats too, but we will skip them here). See the sample orders on the next pages.
2. He then sends the list to the team's contracted uniform provider (Rawlings, Wilson, Majestic, Russell, Nike, etc.) The manufacturer often assigns an ad hoc code to this list of numbers: Size, Player Number, Year, Set Number. There seems to be little consistency to how these codes are assigned, from team to team and even year to year. In fact this inconsistency is helpful to the researcher when doing an authentication. These tags are generally created in a long strip and then cut apart for use. See examples on the pages ahead.
3. Now, from a huge pile of home jerseys the manufacturer's sewing shop selects a size 40 jersey, cuts the first tag off the strip and sews the tag inside the shirt tail, outside the shirt tail, inside the neck or wherever. If the team uses the tiny player name tags, he will sew the player's name in too. Next he finds a size 44, snips off the second tag and sews it in. Two sets are made for each player. This process continues until all home jerseys are complete. Then it is repeated for road jerseys, using a matching set of tags—possibly embroidered on road-jersey-colored fabric.



4. When the jersey lettering is to be done, workers go to the bins of enormous pile of precut tackle twill numbers. If they are two-color numbers, the two colors of the number are usually already sewn together. Now, the worker simply has to look at the tag sewn in the jersey to know what numbers to pick from the bins. The worker applies and heat-presses them to the jersey—front and back. The same is done with names that are direct sewn to the jersey without nameplates. When player nameplates were used, these were sewn as well. Names are sewn on blank nameplates from another list, or by referencing the small name tag already sewn in the jersey as a guide. Eventually, the nameplates will be matched to the jerseys and the final sewing will be done. Then, they go into another big pile and are carted off to the worker with the sewing machine who then stitches all the numbers on.
5. Once stitched and quality-checked, the uniforms are returned to the team and issued to players.

This process works very well because these inventory tags cannot get lost or misplaced since they are sewn permanently into the shirt tail. These small cryptic tags are a "work order" that follows the blank uniform from start to finish in the process. Imagine the nightmare of a paper work order for every shirt that absolutely must stay with it all through the process. For sure, these papers would become separated from the jerseys, would end up in the bottom of a box, or on the floor; becoming misplaced then lost, and there would be major confusion resulting in the wrong numbers and names being sewn on the wrong size jerseys. There would be hell to pay when Willie McCovey finds a tiny size 38 jersey with two inch shorter sleeves hanging in his locker on opening day.

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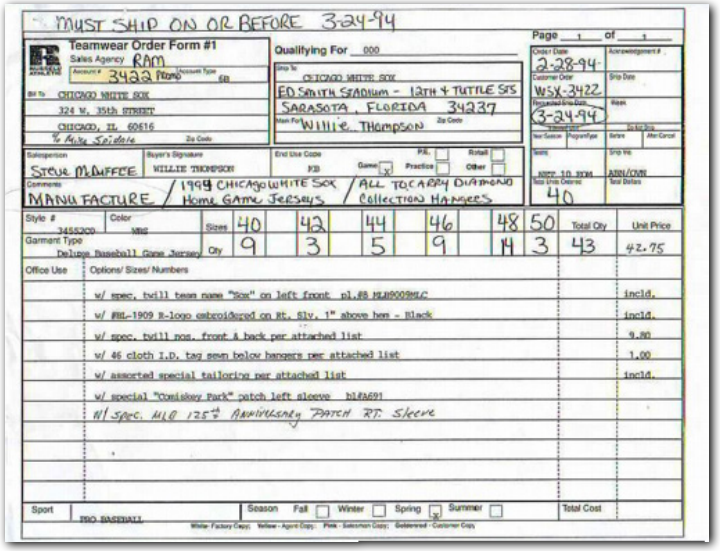

MUST SHIP ON OR BEFORE 3-24-94

Teamwear Order Form #1
Sales Agency RAM
Account # 3422 Mono
Qualifying For 000
Ship To: CHICAGO WHITE SOX, ED SMITH STADIUM - 12TH & TUTTLE STS, SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34237
Attn For: Willie Thompson
Bill To: CHICAGO WHITE SOX, 324 W. 35th STREET, CHICAGO, IL 60616, % Alex Spidale
Page 1 of 1
Order Date 2-28-94
Customer Order WSX-3422
Requested Ship Date 3-24-94
Salesperson STEVE MOFFEE
Buyer's Signature WILLIE THOMPSON
End Use Code PB
Ship Via ANN/OVN
Total Units Ordered 40
Comments MANUFACTURE / 1994 CHICAGO WHITE SOX Home Game JERSEYS / ALL TO CARRY DIAMOND COLLECTION HANGERS

Style #	Color	Sizes	40	42	44	46	48	50	Total Qty	Unit Price
34552CO	MNS	Qty	9	3	5	9	14	3	43	42.75

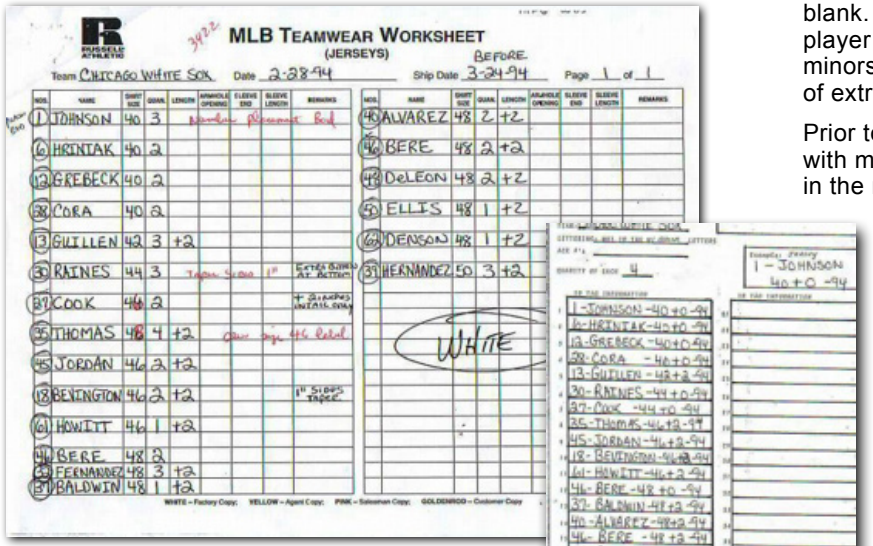
Garment Type: Deluxe Baseball Game Jersey

Office Use	Options/ Sizes/ Numbers	
	w/ spec. twill team name "Sox" on left front pl.#8 MLB9009MLC	incld.
	w/ #RL-1909 R-logo embroidered on Rt. Slv. 1" above hem - Black	incld.
	w/ spec. twill nos. front & back per attached list	9.80
	w/ 46 cloth I.D. tag sewn below hangers per attached list	1.00
	w/ assorted special tailoring per attached list	incld.
	w/ special "Comiskey Park" patch left sleeve bl#A691	
	W/ spec. MLB 125th Anniversary Patch RT. Sleeve	

Sport: PRO BASEBALL
Season: Fall ☐ Winter ☐ Spring ☒ Summer ☐
Total Cost
White-Factory Copy; Yellow-Agent Copy; Pink-Salesman Copy; Goldenrod-Customer Copy

From my files: Copies of the actual orders from the White Sox to uniform maker Russell Athletic for their home uniforms, dated 1994. Just a couple things to notice:

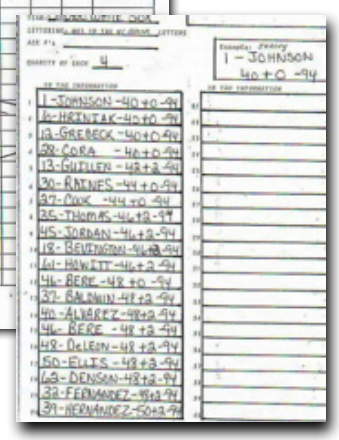
- Looking at the "ship before" date, it is clear that the White Sox did not have their 1994 uniforms in Spring Training. And, with the Sox' home opener on April 4 in Chicago, the timing is pretty tight.
- Notice that the uniforms are to be shipped to the Sox at their Spring Training address.
- Notice the order specifies that the Russell logo be sewn on the sleeve, the Comiskey Park Patch to be sewn on the left sleeve, and the penciled in addition to sew the MLB 125th patch on the right sleeve
- Check out the team price per jersey -- $42.75!


MLB TEAMWEAR WORKSHEET (JERSEYS)
Team CHICAGO WHITE SOX Date 2-28-94 Ship Date 3-24-94 Page 1 of 1

NOS.	NAME	SHIRT SIZE	GUAR.	LENGTH	ARMHOLE OPENING	SLEEVE END	SLEEVE LENGTH	REMARKS
1	JOHNSON	40	3					Number Placement Red
6	HRINIAK	40	2					
13	GREBECK	40	2					
58	CORA	40	2					
13	GUILLEN	42	3	+2				
30	RAINES	44	3					Taper Sides 1"
37	COOK	44	2					+ Sleeves Install Only
35	THOMAS	46	4	+2				Our Sig. 46 Patch
45	JORDAN	46	3	+2				
18	BEVINGTON	46	2	+2				1" Sides Taper
61	HOWITT	46	1	+2				
46	BERE	48	2					
38	FERNANDEZ	48	3	+2				
31	BALDWIN	48	1	+2				
40	ALVAREZ	48	2	+2				
46	BERE	48	2	+2				
48	DeLEON	48	2	+2				
50	ELLIS	48	1	+2				
69	DENSON	48	1	+2				
38	HERNANDEZ	50	3	+2				

WHITE

WHITE – Factory Copy; YELLOW – Agent Copy; PINK – Salesman Copy; GOLDENROD – Customer Copy


Example: Jersey 1 - JOHNSON 40 +0 -94
1-JOHNSON-40+0-94
6-HRINIAK-40+0-94
13-GREBECK-40+0-94
58-CORA-40+0-94
13-GUILLEN-42+2-94
30-RAINES-44+0-94
37-COOK-44+0-94
35-THOMAS-46+2-94
45-JORDAN-46+2-94
18-BEVINGTON-46+2-94
61-HOWITT-46+2-94
46-BERE-48+0-94
31-BALDWIN-48+2-94
40-ALVAREZ-48+2-94
46-BERE-48+2-94
48-DeLEON-48+2-94
50-ELLIS-48+2-94
69-DENSON-48+2-94
38-FERNANDEZ-48+2-94
31-FERNANDEZ-50+2-94

When the initial uniform order is processed—depending on the team's equipment manager's instructions—the manufacturer might make a number of extra jerseys in assorted sizes to supply to mid-season call-ups, trade acquisitions, or to have spares on hand in the event of a jersey being lost or damaged. Sometimes the jerseys are supplied numbered with un-issued roster numbers. Sometimes they are blank. And recently we have seen surplus jerseys pre-lettered with potential call-up player names, but no numbers (i.e., they were in Spring Training and went to the minors but were expected to be called up in September). The teams often get a box of extra, loose numbers and player name alphabet letters to use if needed.

Prior to the 2010s, all teams depended heavily on local sewing shops to help them with mid-season changes and season-end jersey stripping and re-lettering for use in the next year's Spring Training. Every team had a local shop they relied on. Their shop also assisted visiting teams with emergency requests when needed. But more recently, rapid automation, overnight delivery, and "just in time" ordering has decreased the dependence on the local stitcher as former vendor Majestic and current supplier Nike typically turn around an order in fewer than two days.

In a pinch, the equipment manager often keeps an old sewing machine in the back room to make emergency repairs or sew on a number or a patch if needed.

Without question, the most time-consuming—and therefore most expensive—part of producing a player jersey is stitching the name and number. It has always been done by hand, by real people at a sewing machine. And at least for now, Nike still sews numbers and names by hand on its on-field, player-issued authentic uniforms, with people using manual sewing machines. Retail jerseys have switched to mostly automatic

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Left to right from top: 1988 Brewers Doug Mirabella with "T" for tapered tailoring, Phillies hand embroidered size 46 1977 set 1, Twins computer generated tag, #47, 1986, set 2; Mets size 40, #28 1980 set 1; Blue Jays computer-embroidered tag #4 1988 Set #2, Twins Navy alternate #16 2003 Set 1; Baby Blue Rangers hand embroidered #24 1979; White Sox computer embroidered #41 size 48, 2000; White Sox Black 1999 Set 1 Bradford, note size 46 and 2" extra length tagging Mets Alternate Black jersey tagging applied by Rawlings at the Factory, White Sox 1985 size 46 for coach Art Kusnyer

machine-sewn lettering, or worse, hard, glued-on lettering with imitation stitching on the edges that's merely decorative (I call this "*stadium lettering*" as it is usually what you get when you go the authentic team shop at the stadium, and they customize a jersey on the spot for you. No one is going to sit there and spend 30 minutes stitching a jersey; rather they use lettering that has stitching around its edges to make it look real. This lettering is quite simply impossible to remove, if you were wondering). If you have ever seen a jersey with paper shards or cheesecloth on the inside backing up the numbers, you've likely seen a jersey sewn by machine automation. Machines usually simultaneously sew both colors of the two color letters directly to the jersey (look inside and you see two colors of thread showing through). The ones with the stadium lettering appear stitched, but when you look inside you will see no stitching at all. Conversely, "hand sewn" team issued authentic jerseys usually have the numbers layers sewn together first and then sewn to the jersey only by the outside layer.

Even when the old-fashioned work method described above is used, in the mid 1990s to the early 2000s, a computer in the sewing shop's back office spits out the embroidered team tags from a small embroidery machine connected to the computer, all neat and clean. Starting in the 1990s, teams began to skip the embroidery all together and used flimsy (and frankly ugly) Mylar-paper tags printed on consumer-grade printers with writing that faded out after dozens of washings; and finally by the mid 2010s, computer printer tags with QR codes replaced them all.

Murky Waters: The emergence of Team Authentic Shop jerseys. It took an awfully long time, but MLB finally realized in the early 2000s that fans would pay good money for jerseys that were team issued with team tagging. By 2025, every MLB stadium has one of these shops where fans can visit, online and in person, and purchase jerseys made for the players. What you will find there are jerseys for players both famous and not; jerseys for bench players and coaches, jerseys from last year's September minor league call-ups to the big league squad, and jerseys made for minor leaguers who never even made the 40-man roster. Each jersey has a QR code and (usually) a hologram that references it back to the MLB Authentics database. That code may confirm that the jersey was game worn, or its may simply say that the jersey was ordered by the team for the player with no mention of use (the typical and accepted definition of the term "Team Issued"). In my experience, the vast majority of the jerseys on the racks at stadiums fall into the category of surplus jerseys made for well-known players but not worn, and jerseys made for lesser known players that are possibly worn. A random sampling of data from the MLB database shows them listed as team issued without any reference to dates worn. These jerseys typically sell in the $150–$450 range, depending on the player.

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The Authentics Concession Shop at Phillies' Citizens Bank Park, May 2025

MLB's official online auction site (https://auctions.mlb.com/) is designed to reach a broader audience than those who might visit a stadium store, and here you will find a wide variety of products, ranging from non–game-worn autographed replicas to tagged "game-used" jerseys with usage dates—some still visibly dirty. These are offered with starting prices that can be staggeringly high, and sometimes go unsold at their initial asking starting bids. While they are expensive, these come with database-backed authentication that helps establish their authenticity and value.

Finally, MLB has a few select third-party vendors to whom they dump overstock at the end of a season, almost always lettered for little-known players and minor leaguers who never made the big league squad; and these show up on eBay at crazy low prices. I'll avoid listing these here because the information can go stale quickly, but if you follow my Facebook blog I frequently mention and link to these dealers.

Things to Look for When Evaluating a Team-Issued Jersey's Authenticity

Let's start with some very simple basics.

Lining inside collar/placket: 1970s and 1980s team issued jerseys sometimes have additional satin or cotton lining sewn inside the collar or placket of the garment. The natural fabric makes the jersey more comfortable to wear for the player. This is sometimes excluded on jerseys not issued to the team.

Type of buttons: If you look really closely, you might find that a game worn jersey uses different buttons than the store bought one. Some later model Majestic BP jerseys feature four-hole buttons on team-issued equipment, while two-hole buttons are often used on store-bought versions. Team jerseys may use special fancy buttons (the ones on this White Sox jersey are a purplish mother of pearl compared my store-bought one which uses plain white buttons).

Velcro closures: In years past, some teams used a Velcro strip between the second and third buttons from the top of the jersey (an element that is now standard on Nike VPE jerseys). There is an extra wide gap between these buttons because this is where the logo is sewn on the front. The Velcro helps hold the jersey closed to give it a neater appearance. While the teams on the field sometimes use Velcro, it is rarely included on jerseys made for retail sale. Why? Few if any people would notice and leaving it off the store bought jersey saves money for the manufacturer. (I have a Twins game worn home jersey from the mid 90s that has Velcro in the space between EVERY button. All I can figure is that this player had a phobia about his underwear being seen—and took every possible precaution.

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Is there a manufacturer logo on the sleeve?

At left: Game-worn 1995 Cardinals jersey made by Rawlings, with no manufacturer logo on the sleeve. Just below: Retail "Authentic" Cardinals jersey from the same period, made by Russell, with its logo sewn onto the sleeve.

Bottom left and right: Braves game-worn jersey by Wilson with no sleeve logo. That year, all retail-sold versions had the Russell "R" on the sleeve. Yankees store-bought "Authentic" shown with Russell sleeve logo—while actual game-worn Yankees jerseys (through 2019) never displayed a manufacturer's logo.

This is all legal stuff and deals with the wonderful world of business contracts and advertising. While Russell may have been the "Official Supplier of Major League Authentic Jerseys" for several years, individual teams often had their own contracts with different manufacturers that apparently superseded the MLB one. For example, the Cardinals had long used Rawlings jerseys. During the 1990s while Russell made the ones in the store, the team wore Rawlings jerseys on the field. To "compromise" (I am sure that the lawyers argued about this for months) the Cardinals' on-field jerseys in those years had ***no*** manufacturer designation sewn on the sleeves. Likewise, the Braves had a contract with Wilson during this period, and had no logos on the sleeves of their gamers (example shown bottom left). The Yankees' on-field jerseys never showed uniform manufacturer logos of any kind on their sleeves until 2020, but store bought jerseys (example shown below) had manufacturer logos on them. This information may help you determine if what you are buying could possibly have been game worn or not. First step: using the rest of this reference manual, identify approximately which year your jersey is from. This will help you determine how likely it is that your item came from the team and not from a retail store. When evaluating game jerseys, it helps to divide the double-knit era into four general time periods:

1) **1970–1977 (or so):** Authentics are ***not*** marketed. If you find a team-spec jersey from this period it likely came from the team's overstock, was game-worn, a salesman's sample, a minor league or Spring Training issue, or was one of very, very few that was made by the team's official supplier that found its way into the public market. This often happened through team channels (a.k.a. knowing somebody who knows somebody who can get a jersey for someone's kid as a special gift).

2) **1978 (or so)–1986**: Authentic model team jerseys were sold through very limited channels, such as a team store or a local retailer with a special sponsorship connection to the team.

3) **1987–1996 (or so):** "Authentics" were sporadically marketed through specialty outlets. You would not typically find a store selling them in many shopping malls, but with diligent searching, you could likely fine an outlet in your area.

4) **1997 (or so) through present:** Authentics are ***aggressively*** marketed. Garments tagged "Authentic" are available from many web-based retailers, mail-order catalogs, and specialty stores. However, cheaper "Replicas" are far more abundant and still cost about half the price of an authentic.

What does this mean? It means that while hardly common, there are far more 1987 Rawlings Dodgers jerseys floating

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around, ones that could have been originally purchased at the specialty sports store, than there are Goodman Dodgers jerseys floating around from the pre-1987 era. Meanwhile, thousands and thousands of team-spec 2005 Dodgers jerseys were sold to the public during the year. Hundreds of Goodman jerseys at best were made each year prior to 1987, none for retail sale.

The tables that follow highlight in fine detail the facts surrounding sleeve logo use for game and batting jerseys. Using this tool you can spot a store-bought jersey modified to appear game worn, or a minor league jersey "upgraded" to major league status by its owner. Zoom in on your screen for a closer look.

Overview of MLB Game Jersey Manufacturers and Visible Sleeve Brand Logos

The chart on this page shows the rather specific and complex contractual rules that dictate the display of manufacturer sleeve logos on MLB game jerseys, 1970–2025. No logos are displayed prior to 1986.

The rules are different between 1987 and 2002 for game jerseys and batting practice jerseys, and then team issued/ retail versions of each.

Starting 2004, the contracts for all types are awarded to Majestic and things become more consistent. Nike takes over from Majestic for 2020.

Years	Team-Issued Game Jerseys	Retail Sale "Authentic" Game Jerseys
1986 and Prior NO MLB-wide official supplier	Each team is permitted to make its own individual contracts with jersey manufacturers. Some use multiple vendors at once. No manufacturer logos are allowed on sleeves or in public view.	Sand-Knit has an agreement to sell very nice licensed replica jerseys, nearly identical to team specs. No manufacturer logos are present on sleeve. Each team may also have an arrangement to sell a few team-spec jerseys through specialty retailers. Distribution is very limited, and few are sold.
1987-1991 Rawlings Official Supplier	Rawlings becomes the official supplier of game jerseys to MLB. However, if a team has a current contract with another vendor, it is not required to switch to Rawlings. Those teams that do use Rawlings jerseys display the Rawlings script on the sleeve end. Teams that use non-Rawlings jerseys display plain sleeves. Early issue jerseys from 1986 sometimes feature small sewn-on jersey -colored cloth patches with the Rawlings logo embroidered on them. Later jerseys have direct embroidery. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	For those teams that use Rawlings jerseys on the field, Rawlings makes the sleeve-logoed Authentics for retail sale. Other teams may opt for Rawlings-logoed jerseys to be made for retail sale, or may refuse and continue the limited distribution of jerseys made by their own contracted manufacturer, but without any sleeve logos showing at all.
1992-1999 Russell Official Supplier	Russell takes over as official supplier of game jerseys to MLB, and Russell-made jerseys feature the Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end. While most teams switch to Russell for 1992, some do not. Teams that use other manufacturers' jerseys must have plain sleeves, with no logo. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Russell's contract as the official supplier to MLB gives them exclusivity to all retail game jersey sold in stores, whether the team uses Russell jerseys on the field or not. All retail jerseys (including the Yankees) have the Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end.
2000-2002 Co-Official Suppliers, Russell and Rawlings **2003-2004** Co-official suppli-ers, Russell and Majestic	Russell remains the supplier to most, but not all teams, and those jerseys supplied by Russell to teams on the field still feature the Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end. However, between 2000 and 2002, a few teams jump ship to Rawlings, and these teams can display the new oval Rawlings logo on their game jersey sleeves, an R surrounded by an ellipse. In 2003-2004, a few teams switch to Majestic, and these teams can display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Russell remains the supplier to most but not all teams, and those teams sell retail jerseys featuring the Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end. However, from 2000-2002, a few teams jumped ship to Rawlings, and these teams can display the new oval Rawlings logo on their retail authentic jersey sleeves, an R surrounded by an ellipse. In 2003-2004, the teams that have switched to Majestic can display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve of retail authentics. All retail-sale jerseys display sleeve logos from their respective manufacturers—Russell, Rawlings, or Majestic—including the Yankees.
2005-2019 Majestic Official Supplier	Majestic takes over as official supplier of game jerseys to MLB. All teams without exception use Majestic jerseys on the field. All teams except the Yankees display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve end. Yankees' sleeve ends remain plain. Team-spec full-weight knit jerseys feature an inside seam tag printed with "0062"; 2005-2015 Cool Base Jerseys "0063"; and 2016-2019 Flex Base "0730".	Majestic takes over as official supplier of retail authentic game jerseys to MLB. All teams without exception have their retail authentics made by Majestic. All teams including the Yankees display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve end. Team -spec full-weight knit jerseys feature an inside seam tag printed with "6200"; 2005-2015 Cool Base Jerseys "6300"; and 2016-2019 Flex Base "7300"
2020-2025 Nike Official Supplier	Nike becomes the official supplier of game jerseys to MLB. All teams, without exception, use Nike jerseys on the field. All teams, ***including*** the Yankees, display the Nike "Swoosh" logo on the right upper chest.	Nike is now the official supplier of retail authentic game jerseys to MLB. All teams, without exception, have their on-field retail authentics made by Nike. All teams, without exception, display the Nike "Swoosh" logo on the right upper chest.

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Overview of MLB Batting Practice Jersey Manufacturers and Visible Sleeve Brand Logos

Years	Team Issued Batting Practice Jerseys	Retail Sale Authentic Batting Practice Jerseys
1986 and Prior	Every team is permitted to make their own individual contracts with jersey manufacturers, and some do with several at once. No manufacturer logos are visible on sleeves.	No blanket MLB contract governing retail sale is apparent. Few such jerseys are sold. Each team may make some of the official vendor's jerseys available through specialty retailers, Sand-Knit makes some in reproduction for retail, but distribution is strictly limited. No logos are visible on sleeves.
1987-1991	Rawlings supplies BP jerseys to some teams, and those have the Rawlings script embroidered at the sleeve end. (Some jerseys have the Rawlings logo embroidered on a jersey-cloth colored tag that is then sewn to the sleeve.) Majestic is named a co-official supplier of MLB warm-up gear (only) and teams who use Majestic BP jerseys may have the Majestic logo embroidered on the sleeve end. All other brands of BP jerseys (Sand-Knit, Wilson, Goodman and Sons) have no visible logos. Exception: Yankees jerseys consistently have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Same rules as team-issued BP jerseys. However, Majestic BP jerseys made for retail sale usually have a rubbery heat-pressed logo on the sleeve instead of an embroidered one like the team-issued version.
1992-2002	Russell and Majestic share as co-on-field official suppliers of Batting Practice Jerseys on a team-by-team basis. Both makers are entitled to embroider their logo on the sleeve end of jerseys they supply. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Russell and Majestic share as co-retail official suppliers of Batting Practice Jerseys on a team-by-team basis. Both makers are entitled to put their logo on the sleeve end of jerseys they make. Russell embroiders theirs just like the on-field ones, but Majestic uses a heat transfer logo on theirs. All teams, including Yankees, display sleeve logos. From experience, retail-spec jerseys may use a lighter-weight and slightly cheaper grade of mesh fabric than the team-issued BP jerseys, though this is not called out anywhere.
2003-2004	Majestic becomes exclusive supplier to MLB and makes all BP Jerseys for on field use. All teams, including the Yankees, display sleeve logos. Team-issued BP jerseys have embroidered Majestic sleeve logo, and jerseys are numerically sized (e.g., 44, 42, 48, 52).	Majestic is the exclusive maker of all BP Jerseys for on-field use and for retail sale, and all teams, including the Yankees, display sleeve logos. Team issued BP jerseys have heat-pressed Majestic sleeve logo and jerseys are sized as SM, MED, LG, etc.
2005-2019	Majestic continues as exclusive official supplier of on-field BP jerseys to MLB. All teams display the Majestic "M" on sleeve ends. Team-spec jerseys include an inside seam tag with a numeric code starting with zero (e.g., 0006, 0068, 0065, 0380) printed on it. The Majestic sleeve logo is identical on both team-issued and retail garments.	Majestic continues as official exclusive supplier of on-field BP jerseys to MLB. All teams display the Majestic "M" on sleeve ends. Retail-spec jerseys feature an inside seam tag with a numeric code starting with a number other than zero (e.g., 6000, 6800, 6500, 3800). The Majestic sleeve logo is the same style for both team-issued and retail garments.
2020 and after	Nike is the exclusive provider of BP jerseys; their logo is visibly displayed on them	Nike is the exclusive provider of BP jerseys; their logo is visibly displayed on them

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Left: *The Phillies BP jersey on the left is team issued. Notice the embroidered Majestic logo, 4-hole buttons and the chain stitched embroidered team logos. The Royals Authentic BP jersey on the right was made for retail sale. It is a thinner cloth, has a heat pressed Majestic logo and 2-hole buttons.*

Type of sleeve logo used: On BP Jerseys of the 1990s and pre-2007, the retail version often used a heat-pressed logo, while the game worn versions used sewn on, embroidered logos. 2007 and later BPs all used heat-pressed sleeve logos. The Phillies BP jersey (top left) is team-issued. Notice the embroidered Majestic logo, four-hole buttons and the chain stitched embroidered team logos. The Royals BP on the right is an authentic made for retail sale. It is a thinner cloth, has a heat pressed Majestic logo, and two-hole buttons

Thickness of fabric: Batting practice jerseys often vary significantly in fabric weight and feel. Team issue models can be noticeably heavier.

In-between sizes: While authentic jerseys made for retail sale were usually in sizes 36, 40, 44, 48 and 52 only, jerseys made for the teams were also available in "in-between sizes" of 38, 42, 46, 50, 54 and 56. I have even seen a size 41, 43, and a 45! These sizes refer to the size of the wearer's chest, in inches, when a tape measure is wrapped around the torso directly under the arms. Therefore, when laid flat, a size 44 jersey is typically 22 inches across the front, from underarm to underarm.

Presence and location of the size (and other) tags: Game worn jerseys sometimes place the size tag differently than retail versions. Most commonly, the size tag is deleted from the collar where it is found in the retail sale jersey, and moved to the shirt tail. These jerseys typically have different laundry tags inside too, with different stock numbers. For example, Majestic jerseys of the 2000–2007 era that are made to team spec may have a cloth tag sewn inside one of the side seams with the tiny number "0062" printed on it (likewise, BP jerseys made to team specs may have a small "0006" tag sewn in). Majestic game jerseys that are made for retail sale often have a similar tag, instead with the tiny code "6200" printed on it. The presence of a "0062" tag does not promise a game worn or even "team issued" jersey, though many sellers would like you to believe it as so. It is simply a style spec number used by Majestic to specify that this jersey is exactly the same in detail as one that would be made for use by the team. From the quantities of these I have seen for sale on the market, quite a few "0062" style jerseys that were manufactured specifically for the retail channel. On the other hand, I cannot say that I have ever seen a "6200" jersey that I could validate as game worn. Perhaps it is safe to say that if a jersey has a "6200" tag inside it is probably not game worn. However anything can happen, and often does. I never say never.

Above: *These two "Authentic Collection" Milwaukee Brewers jerseys appear identical, however, the one on the top is team Issued and has an "0062" tag inside. The one on the bottom came from a retail store and has a "6200" tag inside.*

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"Game worn" jerseys: A game worn jersey is a team issued jersey that was issued to a player and presumably worn during a game. I would include as "game worn" uniforms used by coaches, although arguably the coaches never picked up a bat or threw a pitch. Sometimes, game worn jerseys are manufacturer tailored. This may mean that they are constructed with custom specifications at the factory (extra length, shorter length, longer or shorter sleeves). Jerseys that are manufactured to player specifications are usually tagged as such from the factory. Most common are jerseys that are tapered to make them extra narrow in the waist so that the player does not have extra material bunched up at the waist. Some tapered jerseys are marked with a "T" sewn alongside the other standard team tagging.

Specific player worn: Jerseys that are claimed to have been worn by a specific player. These are the hardest to verify as authentic. Occasionally, additional local custom tailoring is added if the factory-issued jersey still doesn't fit to the player's satisfaction. It might be sent to the local tailor for additional alterations. Generally, uniforms that are altered like this are not marked as such by the tailor or seamstress. They are simply altered "on the fly."

As the owner of many game-worn jerseys, and attempting to wear each of them at one time or another, I have experienced all sorts of player-specific tailoring. This 1985 Rangers jersey is a size 48 with +2" extra length. You can see how it is tapered radically in at the waist. Unfortunately, more of us collectors are tapered radically OUT at the waist.

This #28 Bryn Smith Expos jersey is tailored very tightly at the neck, and was likely altered that way to meet the player's preferences, though I cannot imagine why.

There are other signs to look for to determine if a jersey could possibly be "player worn." First, consult the team's roster for that season to verify the player's presence. You can get the information going back far in time at www.baseball-almanac.com. This may not help you in the following instances:

- Your player was released or traded after Spring Training, or was kept as a "non-roster" player. This is very, very common and is the reason why you will find team-spec jerseys (often with high numbers!) lettered for players with names you have never heard of, who never appear on any major league roster.

The equipment manager has to make sure that everyone who might be on the team's opening day roster has a uniform ready for his use, and that means ordering a lot of uniforms that never get used by anybody, finding their way into the hobby at very reasonable prices.

- Your player changed numbers at some point during the season.
- Your player was on the roster but never appeared in a game.
- Your player was a coach and therefore not listed on the active roster.

There are an incredible number of pitchers called up by some teams in many years. Looking at a full year roster for your team may show that there were 30 or more pitchers used at one time or another during the year. (A personal note: I like to look for the jerseys of pitchers. They usually are in far better condition, since pitchers spend more time on the bench, do not spend much time sliding on their bellies, they are often bigger people, and many prefer looser fitting jerseys. Few pitchers ask for tapered waist jerseys.)

Other Sources to look for information on your player are:

- Wikipedia, which is the only site that reliably provides the numbers for coaches' jerseys as well. Enter, for example "Wiki 1976 Baltimore Orioles" to see a table that includes all players and coaches.
- Official team websites (some include all-time rosters).
- Fan websites (some fans keep better records than the teams—check out www.ultimatemets.com).
- Vintage team programs, yearbooks, and news photos.
- Baseball cards (including searches on eBay (or other online retail sites).
- SABR Society of American Baseball Research (www.SABR.org)
- Baseball Hall of Fame website (www.baseballhalloffame.org)
- Search on Google on your player's name, both on text and for photos. You might be surprised and find something!

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Once you have found your player on the Major League roster, take this simple reality check:

Check Player's Listed Size and Weight: (baseball-almanac.com) Is it reasonable to assume that the player wore the specific size jersey you have? Can you find other game-worn jerseys for this player that are the same or different sizes? (As an aside for me, it is oddly comforting to see a player's jersey size grow as he ages. A size 40 rookie becomes a size 44 veteran, and then a size 48 coach, just like the rest of us!)

Locate a Comparable Example: If you have a 1978 Reds jersey, conduct a Google search for "Reds 1978 jersey auction" to find comparisons.. You might find another jersey issued to a player from the same year and you can compare the details.

Other Terms, Facts, and Finding Secret Clues

Name on Back ("NOB"): Should there be one? Was there one there at one time that has been removed? If not, was there room for one? The Reds jersey (top right) is claimed to be Johnny Bench game worn. However, the Reds used names on the back of all jerseys in this era, and this one not only has none, and further, there is no room for one! Because I do not believe any of their minor league clubs used a road jersey with "Cincinnati" sewn on the front, it is most likely a surplus or sample jersey being sold as "authentic game worn."

Nameplates: Teams use nameplates mostly because it makes it easier to alter a jersey for later use. Removing a nameplate is much easier than removing a player name, letter by letter, if the jersey is to be reused. Some teams, like the Athletics, used nameplates exclusively for many years. Others, like the Dodgers and Cubs, never used them. During the 1990s, the Phillies used nameplates on their road jerseys, but not their home ones. I suspect white nameplates on pinstriped jerseys were avoided for aesthetic reasons. The solid gray of the road jerseys makes them a more acceptable candidate for nameplates.

Set Tagging: Most times, team issued jerseys have a set tag of some sort of "Set" number in them. This practice dates back to when teams typically had only one home and one road uniform style (today that is the exception rather than the rule). Often, each roster player was issued two sets of home and two sets of road uniforms for a season. "Set 2" uniforms might have been used in the second game of double headers, in day games after night games, or if the Set 1 uniform was in need of repair.

Spring Training and "Next Year" Reissuing: At least through the early 2000s, the set of prior year uniforms were kept for use in the following year's spring training. In some cases jerseys were kept and reissued or used as spares by the big league club the following year if they had gone unused or remained in good condition. The Angels jersey (at right) is tagged

1989, but the ghost of the removed NOB shows the name of a player who did not appear for the Angels in 1990. (Note: The "Desert Storm" American Flag patch was not worn this way by the MLB club. I suspect this was later reissued in the minor leagues where the flag was added.) When researching a jersey, I will also look at the team's roster for the next year (or two) to see if it's possible that a player was reissued an older jersey that had been sitting in the team"s supply closet.

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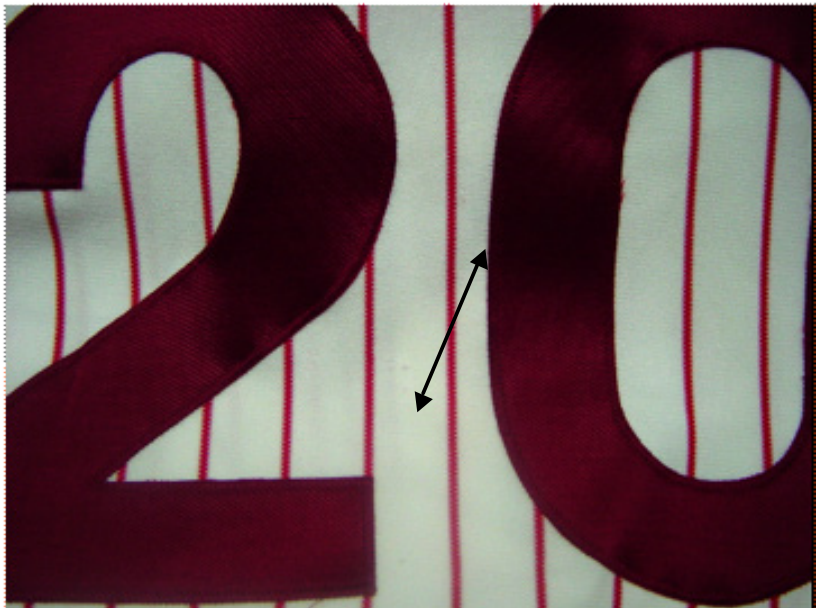
"Number Change" vs. "Team Number Change": Team number change means that, while in the possession of the team, the number was changed on a jersey for some particular reason. Maybe your team just traded for Rickey Henderson, and he demands to wear number 24. If Joe Schlobodnik happens to be the current #24, he is likely to have his uniform number suddenly changed to accommodate Rickey. In another case, the jersey is renumbered by the team for the use of another player, or when the jersey is reassigned to the minors. It may or may not be important to you if your jersey had its number changed by the team or by a later owner. Just be aware that numbers can be easily changed, and often the changes cannot be detected, even by experienced authenticators. Ways to detect a number change: Numbers are sewn on, but usually they are glued as well. A spray adhesive is often applied by the tailor to temporarily affix the numbers to the jersey prior to sewing. Over the years this adhesive may lose its grip, or may become tighter and brittle. I suspect the type of adhesive, the amount used, and the age of the glue all have a part to play in determining whether or not the glue leaves marks.

- Signs of ghosting: Discoloration, fading, glue, pulls, holes, blurred pinstripes.
- Inspect the jersey at an angle for signs of 'piling,' where threads bunch or pull away from the surface.



- Examine it on a light table: A very effective method. With light coming from below, sometimes it is possible to see small pinholes or thin spots where apart of a layer of the fabric ripped away, stuck to the old number when it was removed.
- If a single-digit number replaced a double-digit one, or vice versa, it is often easier to see the ghosts of what had been there before.

It is difficult to see in photos, but in the "20" (bottom left), there is a slight fraying in a diagonal line between the two numerals. This jersey was previously #4, a single digit that would have been between the two numbers now on the jersey; a numeral with a diagonal stroke. When you think about it, there are only 10 numerals that could be used, so use your detective skills to to deduce which of the 10 digits it might have been!

Look at it under different types of light: Try natural sunlight, standard fluorescent bulbs, grow lights, black light, or mercury vapor light. (Mercury vapor lights are yellowish and are sometimes used in streetlights or exterior security lighting outside your neighborhood convenience store.) All of these types of lights have different color wavelength characteristics. Slight fading or discoloration of the fabric around the old numbers may be visible under one type of light more than another.

Font details: Are the numbers the correct style and size? Are all numbers made of the same fabric? Are the outlines correct on two-color numbers? Is the stitching the same style? The same relative age/wear as the stitching on the logo? Is the stitching the same?

One tricky detail to watch out for is if team crests and names/numbers made of exactly the same fabric and stitched using the same thread and stitching style. Why? Because if they are identical it *could mean* that they were replaced together (as in the Mike Schmidt jersey example at the start of this section). The jersey logos are typically sewn at the factory, while names and numbers are often added elsewhere and not by the same machine. Why would anyone do this? Because, if the team logo is tackle twill and is faded, the goal of creating a convincing fake might be easier if both logo and name are replaced at the same time, with the exact same type and color of fabric. I always admire the integrity of sellers who tell potential buyers about number changes. It's a detail easily overlooked or deliberately ignored — but one that can significantly affect a jersey's value.

Missing patches: If you know what year your jersey is supposed to be from, look for evidence that the correct patches for that year were sewn onto the sleeves. Removed patches typically leave a faint outline or "ghost."

Incorrect patches: While patches are often removed from jerseys before they are sold off, and the jersey may be "restored" before being offered for sale again, be alert for patches that do not belong. While there could be some legitimate reason the wrong patch is sewn on a sleeve, it could be a sign of a problem. Here are two examples along with supporting evidence

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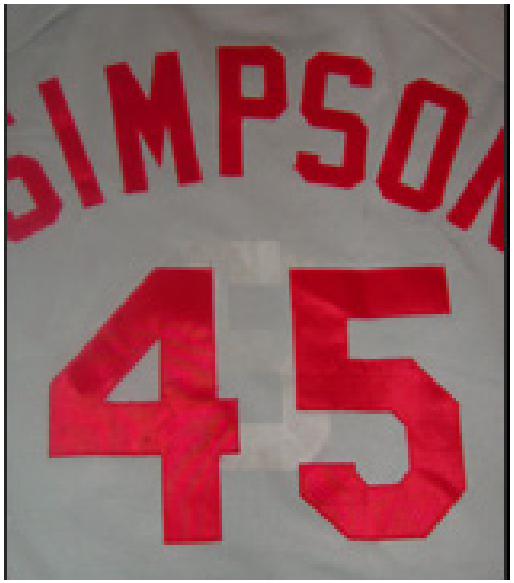
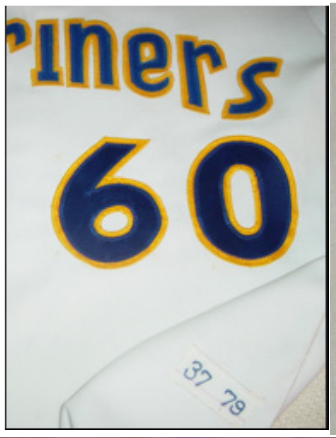
of number changes: The Reds road jersey at right used to be number 5. The old number left behind a large glue residue when removed. This was claimed to be a team number change, but this is doubtful, as #5 in 1972 belonged to Johnny Bench! At right, the team tagging on this 1979 Mariners jersey reveals that it was originally #37, belonging to pitcher Rich Hinton. It was changed to #60 and used in spring training or sent to the minors. Careful examination of the back shows ghosting where the original #3 was removed as well as evidence of the vertical stroke from the 'H' in Hinton, still faintly visible below the nameplate added to cover damage from prior lettering removal.





I have seen Diamondbacks jerseys advertised as "game worn" with the patch shown on the near right sewn onto the sleeve. This patch was used only on jerseys made for retail sale. The patch the right of it is the actual team-worn 1998 Inaugural Season patch that should be on all game worn jerseys.

The claimed game worn Astros jersey to the right has the 1996 35th Anniversary patch on the sleeve. However, the team didn't introduce that style of road jersey until 1997.

Team Tagging: Removed or "Restored"?

This is one that we unfortunately see a lot. There are few legitimate reasons to justify the removal of team tagging. As we have established already, team tagging's main purpose was to serve as a work order when the uniform was created at the factory. Some teams use it as an inventory control mechanism once the uniform enters regular use. When a uniform is reissued to another player, even having its name or number changed, the team tagging that was sewn on the uniform when it was originally created is almost never touched. When uniforms are decommissioned and sent to the minor leagues, there is *no legitimate reason* for a minor league team to alter or remove the major league tagging. After all, it is unseen when worn, and with the amount of legitimate sewing and repairs that the team needs to do on its uniforms, no one is likely to take the time to remove hidden tags from collars and shirt tails! Even when equipment is disposed of and sold to the hobby, these cryptic tags are largely ignored and left in place.

Is this to say that every jersey with missing or "restored" team tagging is a fake? Well, no. There is really only one potentially believable reason that original team tagging may have been removed at some point: The jersey has received so much wear that the thread failed on the tagging, even partially, causing a future wearer to tear it off completely. This was especially common when the tag was located in the neck and became irritating.

What I am saying is that, if you are buying a jersey that has altered or removed team tagging, beware. *In most cases, tagging is altered to*

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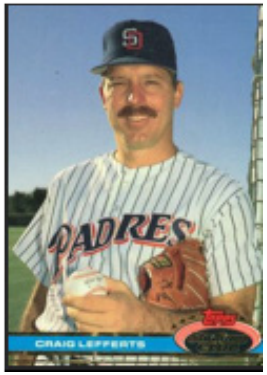
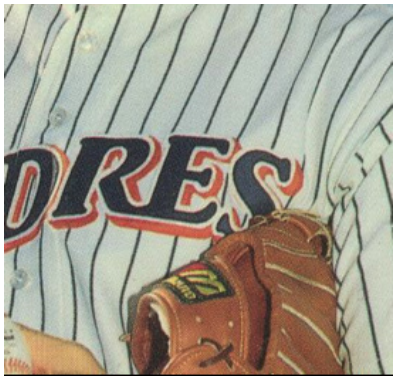
represent the jersey as something it is not. The current seller may be innocent, as the alterations may have been made before he acquired the piece. Scars from removed tagging should be seen as a red flag — not as exciting evidence of a rarity.

The Technique of Photo Matching



While an entire book could be written on the topic, I'll briefly address the essentials here. Photo matching is an authentication technique that is best employed when the jersey has a pattern on it, such as pinstripes. In this method, the garment is compared to period news photographs, team photos, or baseball cards picturing the player. The placement of buttons, buttonholes, team logos, player numbers, and names are compared carefully. Because no two pinstriped garments are likely to have identical stripe placement, these comparisons can provide strong evidence that a jersey was worn by the player. To be convincingly conclusive, there should be multiple points of match in a single photo, or by using multiple photos from the same event.



This common 1991 Padres jersey, borrowed from eBay, is an excellent example of a likely photo match. The seller had acquired the jersey from the Padres at an annual "Garage Sale" run by the team, and took the trouble to match the jersey to a 1991 baseball card showing the player wearing the same jersey. Note the position of the logo, and where it intersects the pinstripes at each letter. It would be difficult to deny that this is the very same uniform!

In a much higher stakes auction by Sotheby's, this 1927 Yankees jersey belonging to Lou Gehrig has been carefully photo-matched to a period news photo showing Gehrig wearing it. Notice the alignment of the stripes at the double collar, and the exact position of the top button. Such evidence can affect a rare jersey's value by tens (or even hundreds) of thousands of dollars.

Only a very few companies have the skills and proper media licenses to access multitudes of available media sources (news photos, video) to do this work properly. Photo matching is incredibly time consuming to do and the time investment is the same regardless of whether a match is ultimately found. Therefore, it generally makes financial sense to first employ all of the other methods of authentication described in this chapter before attempting to do a photo match.

Finally, "faking" a photo match is unfortunately possible, and with the emergence of AI photo manipulation techniques, has become easier to do than ever before.

Major League Jerseys Recycled to the Minors

Through at least the 1990s, nearly every MLB team recycled its uniforms through the minor leagues after being used for one or two seasons in the majors. Used uniforms were seen as no more than dirty laundry, and since very few people were interested in these items as collectibles at the time, most were recycled mercilessly. Just try to find a nice, game worn mid-80s Twins powder blue road jersey that is not bleached several shades lighter by the sun, and permanently stained with ground-in dirt across the front, with numbers and letters held on by the thinnest whisper of brittle red thread bleached nearly white. The Twins, for one, certainly got their money's worth out of their equipment. Often the names of the original owner on the back would be simply covered over by a blank nameplate while the jersey was in minor league use.

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These jerseys show clear evidence of a hard second life in the minors. The Pirates jersey at top was originally #44, and with the original player name removed (leaving visible stitch holes), and the number changed. The jersey at the bottom started life as a 1979 Mariners road jersey, and when it was sent to the minors, the player name was removed and the "Seattle" crest was ignobly stripped and replaced and replaced with the minor league club's city name. Which may help explain why so few original 1979 Mariners jerseys are found in the hobby today.

Uniforms Made for, and Used by, the Minor Leagues

It is common for major league teams to have at least one minor league team with the same name as the parent club. The Bluefield Orioles, Richmond Braves, Clearwater and Reading Phillies, Midland Angels, and Charlotte Rangers are all examples. While some of these clubs have used "hand me downs" from the big league club, many receive equipment made specifically for them. Sometimes their equipment looks exactly like the big league club's, other times there are subtle differences in trim, manufacturer, number placement or the use of names on back.

I would never even attempt to try to document all the minor league clubs here and how their jerseys differ from the major league affiliate, but here are some things to watch out for.

1. No names on back: Still today, few minor league clubs use names on back, while most major league clubs do. Major league uniforms passed down to the minors may have names removed or covered up. Jerseys made without names on back usually have the numbers sewn higher on the back as no room is left for the player name.
2. Different design of the road jersey: Many major league clubs use their city name on their road jerseys, making them unfit for use by the minor league club. These differences are especially noticeable on road jerseys. The Indians' and Braves' minor league jerseys shown later provide good examples. The big club's road jerseys in this era had the script of the team's city on the front. The minor league jersey has the team name.
3. Differences in manufacturer: The minor league club may have their equipment sewn by a different supplier. Knowing which manufacturer supplied jerseys to the major league club that year will help with identification.
4. Differences in trim and details: Details such as sleeve ends, collar trim, or placket styling may differ from the major league version. It is tough to notice, unless you have a MLB jersey to compare it to.
5. Lack of team tagging, Minor league jerseys are rarely tagged with set numbers or year indicators, and they are never (yes, never) tagged with player names. The personnel rotation there is far too fluid, and uniforms are used and reissued with great regularity. Trying to determine if a MLB player wore a certain minor league jersey is one of the toughest things to do successfully.

Bowen Field in Bluefield, West Virginia, Home of the Bluefield Orioles of the Appalachian League.

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Left: *Rawlings Orioles major league road jersey from the mid-1990s.*

Below: *Minor league Bluefield Orioles road jersey from the same era, also made by Rawlings. Note the differences in sleeve ends and the use of black knit trim on the minor league jersey. The minor league jersey also lacks a name on back, with numbers sewn so high that no space remains for one.*

"Salesman's Samples"

Salesman's samples are jerseys that appear completely authentic, usually with year and set tags sewn in. They typically have player names and numbers sewn on, appearing ready for on-field use.

In the early 2000s I lived in Tokyo, Japan. Once while traveling, I visited a small neighborhood sporting goods shop in a small town. When the owner learned that I collected baseball jerseys, he went into his back room and proudly returned with about six Rawlings team-sewn uniforms, Dodgers (Koufax), Cardinals (McGwire), Diamondbacks (Randy Johnson), and a few more. All were completely and accurately lettered, numbered, year and set tagged. He explained to me that because he was such a big Rawlings dealer in Japan, Rawlings sent these to him as gifts.

Thus, the origin of the "Salesman's Samples" you often see mentioned. They are extras sewn at the factory just for this purpose to give something for display or of value to a loyal dealer or customer. Manufacturers may also create samples when trying to win a contract back from a competitor. Majestic may have the current team contract, but Rawlings may make up a bunch of current-year-tagged samples with players' names and numbers on them to show a team their quality when they are trying to win the team's business. This explains why you may encounter year-tagged jerseys made by a manufacturer other than the one who produced the game-used versions.

Quality Control: "People Make Mistakes" This example is a classic, and I have borrowed it unaltered from Paul Lukas' Uni-Watch column, August 20, 2007. In this column he was quoting our editor, Rick Subrizio, a former Red Sox employee:

"Longtime Red Sox switchboard operator Helen Robinson used to do a lot of last-minute sewing work for the team. She was an expert seamstress, and she'd do emergency repairs, numbering, and patches, all by hand, while sitting behind the switchboard and answering calls.

Anyhow, one day in 2001, I walked by her desk, where she was sewing the American League 100th anniversary patch on to Sun-woo Kim's jersey (I don't remember if he had been recalled from Pawtucket or just acquired), and I noticed that she had put the patch on the wrong

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More Examples of Minor League Jerseys

Minor League Jerseys: *(Top Row)* Texas Wilson-made Rangers minor league jersey. Note lining inside collar, team markings inside shirt tail. But, compare to Major League version at top right. Notice it is made by Russell, has red trim on the sleeve ends. On the back of the Minor League jersey there is no room for a number. *(Middle Row)* Braves and Indians minor league jerseys. Notice road colors.. But home team graphics (compared to the major league issue). Phillies minor league road jersey is made by a different manufacture than the big club, has slightly different sleeve end trim, and has no room on the back for a player name, always on Phillies major league uniforms. *(Bottom)* Pirates Minor League jersey features major-league style team tagging with set numbers, but slightly wrong number font and no room on back for a name, which all Pirates jerseys had in this year.

sleeve - it was on the left instead of the right.

When I mentioned it to her, she said "It isn't wrong - it is on the sleeve opposite the [Russell] sleeve logo." It seems that Kim was issued an older jersey from a year or two earlier, when the Russell logo was on the right sleeve rather than the left, so Helen was thrown off by the logo and had placed the patch on the wrong sleeve. She wasn't too happy about it (she was a stickler for detail too and very proud of her work), but it was getting close to game time, and she didn't have time to fix it before the first pitch, so she sent it down to the clubhouse as it was.

I don't know how long Kim wore the jersey with the patch on the wrong side, but I found this photo of him from August 15th of that year, so he appeared in at least one game with the patch error."

Strong Potential for Mischief

Presented here for your inspection (next page) is a 1991 Yankees team-issued jersey. It looks authentic — because it is. It even comes with a Steiner letter of authenticity, duly serialized and with a Steiner hologram affixed to the jock tag. This very nice, legitimate jersey sold at online auction for a bargain price — under $125. No problem so far.

The problem arises only if someone decides to enhance the jersey by adding Don Mattingly's or Bernie Williams' number to the back. The letter might be altered or conveniently 'lost,' and the hologram either ignored (who checks?) or removed altogether. Like the Mike Schmidt jersey on the first page of this chapter, it changes hands once, twice, and along the way it somehow becomes represented as a game-worn Don Mattingly 1991 Yankees jersey. At that point, it becomes a potential crime scene. For every 10 bargain hunters out there, perhaps nine are honest collectors while one might have a serious and illegitimate profit motive on his mind. Only so much can be done to avoid being misled. Before paying investment-grade money for anything, do all the research you can. Check the hologram number, verify the letter with Steiner

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and have it verified as real and untampered with. This is easy for me to say, but hard for many collectors to do; bargains are hard to pass up.

But... Is It Game-Worn?

We return to the question we started with. If one goes back to the years prior to 1987, when the only pro-model team jerseys produced were made for the team, and each player was issued just two sets each season; the jersey is the right size for the player it was numbered for, and it either still wears its team tagging and original numbers or at least the light table shows the ghosts of its original ones, and it shows a season's worth of wear, one might be reasonably certain that it was game-worn.

But starting with 1987 when pro-model jerseys were first offered to the public, certainty begins to diminish. We still look for all the same characteristics as before, but the possibility exists more strongly that something of potentially great value has been created from thin air.

Case in point: Score Board was a company founded by Ken Goldin, who contracted with star MLB players to sign properly prepared "team-issued" style jerseys complete with team tagging. During 1989 and 1990 especially, lucrative deals were signed with many players, including Nolan Ryan, Mike Schmidt and Roger Clemens. While in some cases the tagging on the Score Board jerseys was not in the exact location compared to team-issued jerseys (on the tail instead of the neck, for example, player-specific tailoring was omitted that would have been on an actual game jersey; otherwise they appeared identical. Let's be clear: the world of collecting game-used memorabilia in 1989 was far different than it became 20 years later… then it was a quaint curiosity, practiced for fun by a relatively small number of people. There was no intent to commit fraud, or even to deceive. It was lucrative fun, no more, no less.

My work as an authenticator has introduced me to people who've been around the game decades longer than I have; insiders who were associates and business managers to the stars of the game. They have told me how certain players, many before the advent of authentication programs, were eager to capitalize on their stardom by ordering dozens of extra jerseys and then autographed them, labeling them "game-worn" in the inscription — even if they were worn once, or not at all. Common too, were players who signed dozens of loose numbers that were then afterwards applied to team-issue extras and represented as game-worn merchandise. It made them some extra money… and it made people happy. What harm was being done?

Today, when I am authenticating jerseys from this period of time that lack provenance, I have a long list of additional criteria that I use to try to determine if a jersey is reasonably "game worn." But in many cases, especially with star players who may have purposely worn a jersey for a game or two before selling it as memorabilia, the best we can say is that a jersey is properly team-prepared and shows "appropriate wear" consistent with the player and the era.

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Finally: Anything is Possible

Remember that I try to avoid the words "never" and "always" as much as I can? Here's a little story that explains why. For several years, I visited a small shop in West Chester, Pennsylvania to get my jerseys lettered. The shop was located at the dead end of a street behind a McDonald's. This was the local shop where the Phillies went to have their emergency mid-season call-up players team jerseys lettered for many years. Someone tipped me off that they were there, and I dropped in to see if they would letter a few jerseys for me. This place looked like it had not been straightened up in 15 years. A very small, square woman peered at me from behind a desk piled high with papers. She didn't seem particularly pleased to see me but agreed to letter my jerseys. I had to pay in advance, though she agreed to take a check.

They did nice work, but dropping in unexpectedly might provide the bonus of seeing her chewing out the sewing ladies for coming back late from lunch or making personal phone calls. Her name was Anna, and she was obviously not starstruck about the fact that the Major League players wore her handiwork. I tried to make small talk, but she seemed suspicious of me and rarely answered my questions with more than a word or two. She complained that the Phillies were cheap and never gave her enough time to get work done. Her real love was for the Philadelphia Flyers, whose team jerseys she sewed as well.

One day, though, she told me a story that was priceless. I will share it with you.

Mark McGwire was traded from the Oakland Athletics to the St. Louis Cardinals late on July 31, 1997. It was a surprise trade that made headlines all over the country. McGwire joined the Cardinals, as they were playing the Phillies in Philadelphia. The local TV news showed McGwire walking through the Philadelphia airport on Friday, August 1, still wearing an A's warm up jacket and carrying an Athletics equipment bag. Apparently, he went right from the airport to Veterans Stadium to join the Cardinals in batting practice.

I remember because I was at the Vet that night, awed by watching McGwire take batting practice. He is shown here wearing a red Cardinals windbreaker over his undershirt early that night. It was a good game for me; the Phillies won 4-1, and an unspectacular game for McGwire who went 0-for-3. I did not think much about it after that until the following Monday when I went to pick up a jersey I had left to be lettered from Anna. I apologized because I had planned to come Friday, but could not get there in time because I left to go to the ballgame.

"Just as well," she grumped. "I wouldn't have been done anyway. The Phillies called with another one of their rush orders and we were crazy over here." It seems that with McGwire coming in to join the Cardinals that afternoon, somebody had to find a uniform for him to wear. And, since the Cards were in Philadelphia and not at home, it was Anna who got the call from the Phillies. "Where the heck was I supposed to find a Cardinals road jersey around here?" she gestured at the piles of junk. Apparently late in the day someone found one, possibly from the Cardinals' locker room, but possibly at the local shopping mall. It was rushed by the Phillies to Anna, and she lettered it with McGwire's name and number 25 as the courier waited impatiently, motor running. As soon as she finished, it was rushed back to McGwire at the ballpark, about an hour from Anna's shop. It probably got to him just before the first pitch. The photo below is surely McGwire on that very night in Philadelphia, or on one of the two nights after. That's clearly the Vet he's hitting in. Notice the Jackie Robinson "Breaking Barriers" patch on his sleeve, worn only in 1997. And after this final road trip in August, the Cardinals never returned to Philadelphia in 1997. Remember, Rawlings made the Cardinals game jerseys so the contract said that the Rawlings logos could not be shown on their uniforms, and Russell had the contract for all the ones sold at the shopping mall. Looking as closely as I can, I wonder if that Jackie Robinson patch is sewn slightly lower than usual — possibly covering the Russell 'R' that would have been on the sleeve of a store bought shirt. Of course, this is just speculation — and who else would care besides me?

Oh yes, someone else might care, that guy in 30 years selling a gray Cardinals jersey he swears on the bible was the one Mark McGwire wore his first week with the Cardinals. The experts will laugh, convinced he's a fraud. After all, this jersey is obviously store bought. And the Jackie Robinson patch is sewn over the manufacturer's logo on the sleeve and certainly every expert knows that Rawlings made the Cardinals jerseys in 1997, not Russell!

Only you and I might know better. Like I said, anything is possible. That is why I never say "never."

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Addendum: An Even Deeper Dive into My Authentication Methodology

Whether you are new to collecting, or a seasoned expert, the discipline surrounding MLB jersey authentication can seem like a confusing, arbitrary process. I want to pull back the curtain a bit on how I perform my evaluations, so that we can have a shared understanding of what you can expect from me.

Mine is a professional service, a skill not unlike that of a doctor, lawyer or a CPA. I've been studying facts and evidence for decades on this topic, and I purposely limit myself to a very narrow discipline: I evaluate the authenticity of MLB jerseys. I don't evaluate bats or helmets. I don't do basketball or football, Player jerseys is what I have written books about, and I have amassed hundreds of thousands of exemplar photos, including news photos and pictures I have taken here myself, as part of the many hundreds of authentications I have performed in the past ten years.

My reputation is the most important thing to me; it is quite likely why you might reach out to me for assistance; Because of my reputation, people purchasing items I have authenticated value my word. I am keenly aware that any opinion I render is for all intents and purposes "forever", once I have rendered it in writing.

The Process

When evaluating any jersey, I look first at all the basics: Did the player play for the team in the year that the jersey was issued? Is it a professional model and the right style and a reasonable size for the player? Is it made by the on-field supplier of record for that team and that year? Does it have the proper numbers/name/nameplate and patches for the year it was claimed to have been used?

Passing these tests I dig deeper: Is team tagging present, and does it match exemplars from my library? Are the fonts used to letter the jersey exactly to team specifications? Are the elements properly placed on the jersey to match team spec? I next do a light table examination of every jersey to look for any signs of name or number changes or to look for repairs or alterations. I measure the jersey to see if it is actually sized the way the tags and tailoring say it should be. (It is not unheard of for the tags and the jersey to not match on star player jerseys)

Passing these tests, we go deeper still. I will research my library of other jerseys for this player that I have authenticated myself. I will do a thorough search of other jerseys for this player that have been auctioned previously, and review the specifications of these, noting if they are accompanied by independent authentications and who did them. I look for special tailoring that the player commonly requests, and check to see if it is present on the jersey I am evaluating. I look to see if that particular item has been auctioned before; for star/HOF player jerseys that answer is often "yes"; they have a documented auction history.

Finally, while I do not myself offer photo matching as a service, as part of an authentication I carefully examine every published media image I can find of that player in the year of issue to see what I can learn. Sometimes I find what might be a photo match in the making—and if I do, I am glad to inform the consigner so he/she can consider having this additional service performed by a qualified and licensed provider.

"Game Worn" vs "Team Issue"

Starting in 1987, on-field specification MLB jerseys were first offered to the public to purchase through retail channels. Prior to then, any pro-jersey blank made to on-field specifications had to come somehow through the "back door" of the makers; while some teams sold a few jerseys through specialty outlets prior to then, there was no overarching contract to sell or pro-letter these jerseys for sale to the public. Rawlings' deal with MLB starting with the 1987 season changed all that, along with their script logo being embroidered on the sleeve ends of all the MLB jersey they provided to for on-field use, anyone with a real desire to own a MLB-on-field-spec jersey could buy one. This is why the industry makes a distinction noting pre and post 1987 jerseys.

Even still, there are still secrets that help me identify pro jerseys that were sold at retail vs. those issued to the teams, and I look for these clues in my evaluations to try to determine a jersey's origin. But as the years went on, and the collector market boomed, things became even more complex. By the late 1990s Many teams (and star players!), recognizing the revenue potential of team-issued and game-worn gear began aggressively manufacturing and marketing on-field spec, player customized and team tagged jerseys to fans. Notably, the

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Mariners, Cubs, Rangers, Mets, Athletics and others began making multiple extra sets of jerseys for star players, and even everyday players destined to be sold as collectibles. Some teams rotated jerseys through the locker room, with players actually wearing them once or twice before they went to the "team shop", while other jerseys went straight to the racks as was the plan. Some teams lettered surplus jerseys as "Set 3, Set 4, Set E, Set F" but most simply tagged them as set 1 or 2, making them indistinguishable from other jerseys that were made for use that year.

The MLB authentication program began in 2001, hologramming specific collectible items, but it took nearly a decade for them to start to tag all jerseys sent to the clubhouse. The process is not perfect; I have examined some jerseys that are listed in the MLB authentication database system as only "team issued" that have then been photo matched to game use!

To net this out: For jerseys issued 1987 and after, there is a much higher bar to clear before I can declare them as "game used" after my evaluation. A jersey issued by the team and made for collector purchase, yet never worn by the player, can be run through the washing machine 50 times to make it look aged and feel softer, fraying the edges of the lettering a bid and fading the bright colors. Likewise, one issued by the team and worn twice by the player will still look crisp and new. This is why, without some further provenance for me to evaluate, my conclusion on many star player jerseys, 1987 and later are "pro model jersey, appropriate lettered and tagged and showing use".

Game Worn/Team Issued Case in Point:

Ichiro Suzuki joined the Seattle Mariners in 2001 as one of the most celebrated rookies in MLB history (taking nothing away from Jackie Robinson or Ken Griffey, Jr.) Already a superstar in Japan, he earned Rookie of the Year and American League MVP honors in his first MLB season, helping the Mariners to an amazing 116 wins and a trip into the postseason.

There are a great number of rookie-year Ichiro Mariners jerseys that have been offered for sale and sold at auction over the years. By 2001 the Mariners had become quite good at marketing their team issued/game worn gear. Additionally, Ichiro had his own agreement with his own marketing company to offer his certified and autographed jerseys for sale. An auction survey of a dozen 2001 Ichiro jerseys with team tagging that appear identical show that these have sold from over $50,000 (autographed and with player provenance, and accompanied by a MEARS A10 authentication, their highest grade), to less than $1500, appearing the same but without the autograph or the provenance. A spread of $48,500 for an identical appearing item? It's all about proof. That's what the collector hobby is all about, I am afraid. Items are worth what people are willing to pay for them.

Ichiro-obsessed collectors likely know more about the player's habits than any single professional authenticator does. Deeply superstitious, Ichiro did not like to change uniforms, and in many seasons wore the same home/road/alternate jersey for the entire season (backed up by photo matching). One source claims a complete "Ichiro jersey audit" documenting a finite number of known jerseys worn by the player in some seasons he played.

This is why provenance is so important to any authentication, but especially for star player items. As an authenticator, imagine if I casually agreed that the Ichiro jersey I held in hand was "game worn" when the people who have inventoried everything he wore that year know more than any normal human being does, and have already accounted for every jersey he wore in every game.

Conclusion

I have a great deal of experience, and that experience has taught me not to overstep my knowledge. My reputation is vitally important to both of us: you want any item for which I offer my opinion to hold its value through the years, regardless of changes in the weather. My commitment to you is to be always thorough, careful and professional, looking for the truth and offering facts that back up my conclusions. And as a professional, I am aware that unfortunately not every item I evaluate can be certified as bona-fide game worn, but just as a good lawyer still will not win every case, or a doctor be able to cure every patient. I promise to always do my best for you.

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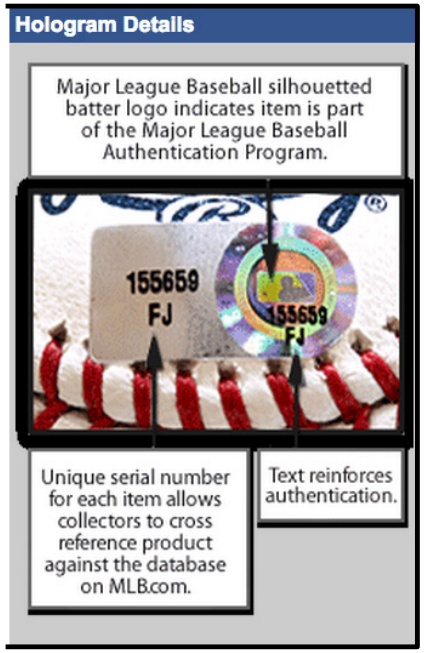
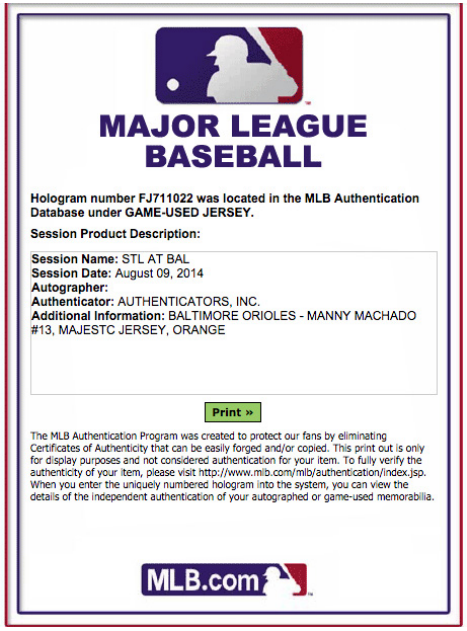
Addendum: Examples from the MLB Authentication Program

The MLB Authentication Program was in its very early years when I wrote the first version of the text in this chapter back in 2004. On the introductory page of this section, I discussed the basics of the program and noted that not all authentic MLB items are tagged, despite what the website would lead you to believe. Many common player items from "Fan Fests," especially jerseys of non-roster players and certainly most items from Spring Training often lack holograms or database registration. However, when you are considering a tagged item, here are some basic examples of the MLB Authentication system and how it works.

Here is the Majestic Authentic Collection patch on a random MLB hologram authenticated Orioles jersey I found on a web auction site, listed by a private seller. I visited the MLB Authentication website, entering the complete code from the tamper-resistant hologram affixed to the orange tag, into the web site which produced the certificate shown at bottom right. The beauty of this simple system is that the registration certificate is retained by MLB as a digital record and never physically accompanies the jersey with the hologram. This prevents both unintentional loss of the form, as well as intentional fraud committed by changing the certificate.





MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Hologram number FJ711022 was located in the MLB Authentication Database under GAME-USED JERSEY.

Session Product Description:

Session Name: STL AT BAL
Session Date: August 09, 2014
Autographer:
Authenticator: AUTHENTICATORS, INC.
Additional Information: BALTIMORE ORIOLES - MANNY MACHADO #13, MAJESTC JERSEY, ORANGE

Print »

The MLB Authentication Program was created to protect our fans by eliminating Certificates of Authenticity that can be easily forged and/or copied. This print out is only for display purposes and not considered authentication for your item. To fully verify the authenticity of your item, please visit http://www.mlb.com/mlb/authentication/index.jsp. When you enter the uniquely numbered hologram into the system, you can view the details of the independent authentication of your autographed or game-used memorabilia.

MLB.com

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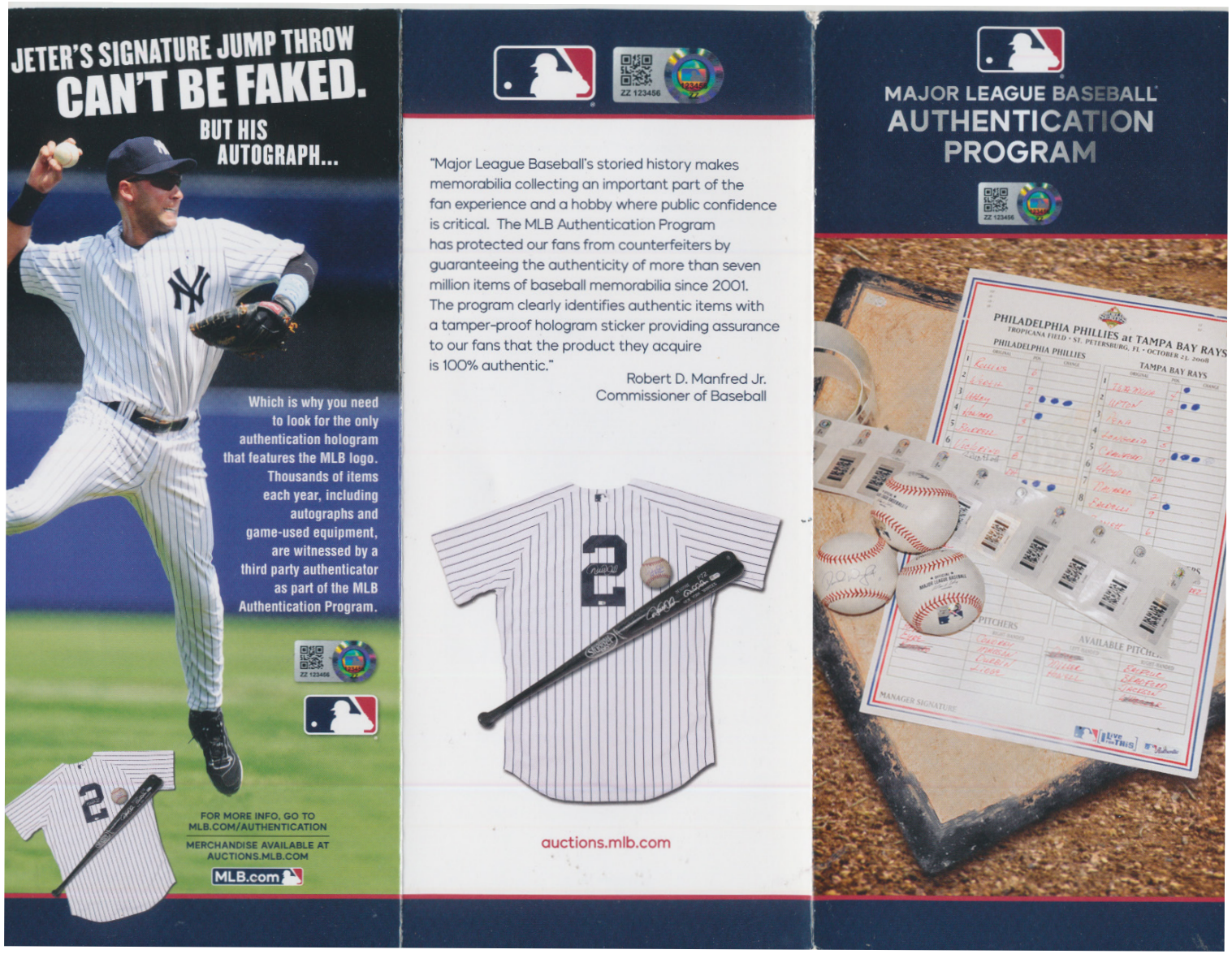

Attachment: The MLB Authentication Program Brochure, 2025

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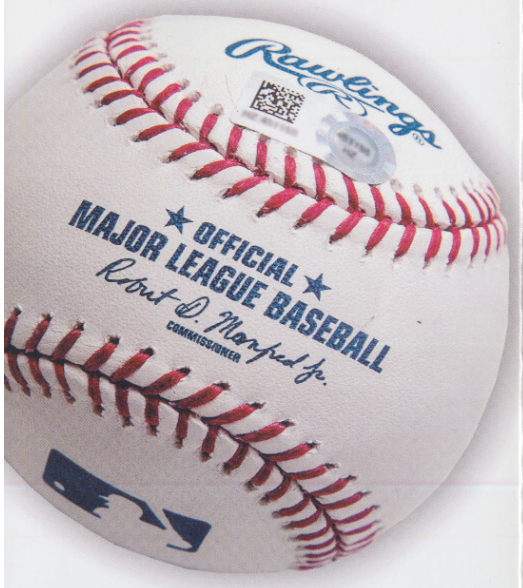
INTRODUCTION

The Major League Baseball Authentication Program is the most comprehensive league-wide memorabilia authentication initiative in professional sports. Since its launch in 2001, it has become the industry standard for autographed and game-used sports memorabilia authentication.

Designed to distinguish officially authenticated MLB memorabilia from other items on the market, the program offers an objective third-party authentication system that guarantees genuine memorabilia for all MLB fans.

MLB Authenticated Product



AUTHENTICATION

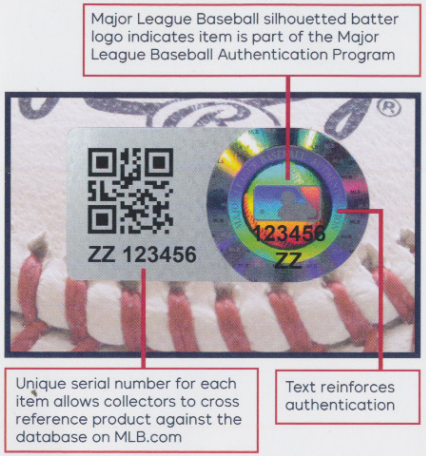
Major League Baseball Properties schedules third party authenticators from Authenticators, Inc. for every MLB game. Only those items that an authenticator actually witnesses being signed and/or used in a game may be eligible for authentication under the MLB Authentication Program.

Once witnessed, items receive a tamper-proof hologram created by OpSec, U.S. with a unique alpha-numeric combination to easily identify its authenticity.

TRACKING THE ITEM

Authenticated items are offered to key retail partners of Major League Baseball Properties or on MLB.com. Fans can easily distinguish officially authenticated MLB memorabilia from other items by locating the official, authentication hologram.

AUTHENTICATION HOLOGRAM UP CLOSE



POSTING ON MLB.com

Once fans receive their authenticated piece of memorabilia, they can trace the unique serial number on MLB.com/authentication.

This convenient reference database enables fans to easily identify all of the details surrounding their new item. Since its inception in 2001, the Major League Baseball Authentication Program is responsible for authenticating over 8 million items, allowing fans to ensure their memorabilia is a 100% genuine piece of their favorite pastime. It's easy to get the real goods – just check for the official seal of authentication.

Merchandise Available at Auctions.MLB.com

MLB.com

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Attachment: The MLB Authentication Program Brochure, 2025

Chapter 8

Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Summary: This table details the basic characteristics of both Team Issued and Retail Authentic Batting Practice Jerseys through 2020, and provides quick differentiation of the two types. Much more detail is found on the pages that follow.

Years	Team Issued Batting Practice Jerseys	Retail Sale Authentic Batting Practice Jerseys
1986 and Prior	Every team is permitted to make their own individual contracts with jersey manufacturers, and some do with several at once. No manufacturer logos are visible on sleeves.	No blanket MLB contract governing retail sale is apparent. Few such jerseys are sold. Each team may make some of the official vendor's jerseys available through specialty retailers, Sand Knit makes some in reproduction for retail, but distribution is strictly limited. No logos are visible on sleeves.
1987-1991	Rawlings supplies BP jerseys to some teams, and those have the Rawlings script embroidered at the sleeve end. (some jerseys have the Rawlings logo embroidered on a jersey-cloth tag that is then sewn to the sleeve.) Majestic is named a co-official supplier of MLB warm-up gear (only) and teams who use Majestic BP jerseys may have the Majestic logo embroidered on the sleeve end. All other brands of BP jerseys (Sand- Knit, Wilson, Goodman) have no visible logos. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Same rules as team-issued BP jerseys. However, Majestic BP jerseys made for retail sale usually have a rubbery heat-pressed logo on the sleeve instead of an embroidered one like the team-issued ones do.
1992-2002	Russell and Majestic share as co-on-field official suppliers of Batting Practice Jerseys on a team-by-team basis. Both makers are entitled to embroider their logo on the sleeve end of jerseys they supply. Exception: Yankees jerseys always have plain sleeves with no logos showing.	Russell and Majestic share as co-retail official suppliers of Batting Practice Jerseys on a team-by-team basis. Both makers are entitled to put their logo on the sleeve end of jerseys they make. Russell embroiders theirs just like the on-field ones; but Majestic uses a heat transfer logo on theirs. All teams, including Yankees, have sleeve logo. From experience, retail spec jerseys may use a lighter-weight and slightly cheaper grade of mesh fabric than the team-issued BP jerseys, though this is not called out anywhere
2003-2004	Majestic becomes exclusive supplier to MLB and makes all BP Jerseys for on field use. All teams, including the Yankees, display sleeve logos. Team-issued BP jerseys have embroidered Majestic sleeve logo, and jerseys are numerically sized (44,48,52)	Majestic is the exclusive maker of all BP Jerseys for on field use and for retail sale, and all teams, including the Yankees, display sleeve logos. Team issued BP jerseys have heat-pressed Majestic sleeve logo and jerseys are sized as SM, MED, LG, etc.
2005-2019	Majestic continues as exclusive official supplier of on- field BP jerseys to MLB. All teams display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve end. Team spec jerseys feature an inside seam tag with a code that starts with a zero. (example: "0006," "0068", "0065", "0380") printed on it. Majestic sleeve logo is the same style for both team issued and retail sale garments.	Majestic continues as official exclusive supplier of on- field BP jerseys to MLB. All teams display the Majestic "M" on the sleeve end. Retail spec jerseys feature an inside seam tag with a code that starts with a number other than zero. (example: "6000", "6800", "6500" or "3800") printed on it. Majestic sleeve logo is the same style for both team issued and retail sale garments.
2020 and after	Nike is the exclusive provider of BP jerseys; their logo is visibly displayed on them	Nike is the exclusive provider of BP jerseys; their logo is visibly displayed on them

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Batting Practice Jerseys

Baseball always had been a frugal, grass-roots sport, heavy on tradition and administered mostly by crusty former players. Management was charged with putting a good team on the field and winning, not with looking pretty while practicing, and was certainly not interested in wasting money on silly things. The very idea of teams needing special fancy outfits to wear during Spring Training workouts would have been at the very bottom of the list of anyone in charge, when the task at hand was evaluating new talent, honing rusty skills and preparing for the new season. Going further, the idea of marketing special team-sponsored warm-up gear for adults to wear would have been positively laughable to anyone in Major League Baseball in the 1970s and earlier, had anyone even dared to suggest it. Even things we take for granted today, T-shirts with team logos on them were made only for small children to wear. Teenage boys or men (or, just imagine, women) wearing team gear? Why, *people just didn't do that in those days.*

In the 1960s and 1970s, teams wore their regular-issue uniforms during practice. In Spring Training, they usually wore the prior year's uniforms, patched and repaired. Teams often kept separate sets of Spring Training uniforms that were used for several years. This became very apparent during the 1972-1975 period, when baseball cards showing players at Spring Training had them dressed in old-fashioned flannels, even though the team had moved to wearing flashy double knits on the field once the season had begun. Or they showed the Spring Training players wearing jerseys with no names on back even though the club wore player names during the season—clearly a separate set of uniforms.

The first use of look-alike MLB uniform designs on consumer sportswear actually started with Majestic of Easton, PA, in the 1960s. At this time, Majestic was a tiny, local, family owned company whose main business was making uniforms for Little League teams. Kids' teams began to ask for Majestic to make them uniforms with the names and logos of MLB franchises on them, and so Majestic did, gaining permission from MLB for the practice. MLB figured that there was no harm in the practice and that this might help turn more kids into fans, but figured that the interest in licensing big-league club uniform logos stopped with preteen children and always would.

Top: The 1971 Chicago White Sox are credited with having the first Batting Practice jerseys issued to players for pregame warm-ups. They were white mesh and featured screened-on logos and numbers. They were not marketed to fans. Who would have wanted one? Left and Below: Photos from Spring Training workouts and games are indistinguishable from any other during the season, unless one sees palm trees in the background. And baseball cards generally had photos taken in Spring Training, and unless the background betrayed the location, no one was the wiser.

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By the mid 70s, teams started hosting stadium t-shirt give away days for preteen fans. A lookalike replica of the team uniform printed on a cheap t-shirt was often supplied with a packet of iron-on letters so that Mom could put a name on the back when the family got home. But still, the thought of adults wanting to wear MLB gear of any kind seemed unthinkably childish in the 1970s.

But by the very late 1970s, MLB team T-shirts in kids and adult sizes did start to become available, though you'd be hard pressed to find anything but those for the home team in any city.

Mid-1970s through about 1982: The Early Years

In a prior chapter I showed photos of crowds at the ballpark in decades before the 1990s, and notable is the complete absence of team-logoed apparel. As a high school kid in the late 1970s, I longed for T-shirts for some far away MLB teams like the Dodgers and the A's, but not even these were not available—unless one had the good fortune to go to Los Angeles and Oakland and visit the stadium gift shops.

But this started changing during the mid-1970s. Some teams began wearing brightly colored warm-up jerseys as a part of their pregame warm-ups. The White Sox were surely the first in 1972, and the Padres had bright yellow BP jerseys by 1975. While team uniforms were usually white or gray, the "Batting Practice" tops (as they came to be called) were usually made of colorful fabric in the team's primary hue and lettered with white or other team colors outlined in white.

Avid young fans (like me) began asking where these jerseys could be purchased, and so teams began making them available in limited quantities though specialty retailers so that crazies (like your author) could buy one to wear it to the game. They were not cheap—at $29.99 unlettered on the back in 1978 is $113 in 2015 money! But I bought one, and proudly wore it. Again, it was a conversation topic among my friends… everyone wanted to know how I got it, and when they asked how much it was, eyebrows were raised. There were not going to be many casual buyers at that price!

Top: Pictured here is the first style BP Jersey worn by the Phillies in 1978. Notice the quaintness of the front team wordmark, looking like it was drawn freehand from someone's memory. The numbers on the back are "stock" Varsity style ones, not in the Phillies attractive special uniform font. These were purely utilitarian—designed to keep the players cool in warm-ups and allow them to put on clean, dry game jerseys for the start of the actual game. Middle: Pete Rose was an early advocate of BP jerseys and wore his any chance he got. Here are photos from the 1979 AllStar game in Seattle, showing Rose in his "BP," joking with the traditionally dressed Lou Brock and Carl Yastrzemski. Bottom: The 1979 National League All-Star squad. Notice only the Phillies players...and Dave Winfield of the Padres... wearing their brightly colored BP jerseys.

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The earliest BP jerseys up through the early 1980s were an odd lot; some were a sheer lightweight, solid knit fabric with twill lettering sewn on like the Phillies. Others, like the Minnesota Twins, Oakland A's, San Francisco Giants and Atlanta Braves, used mesh jerseys, some with silk-screened/ printed logos, lettering and numbers instead of sewn-on designs. At the other end of the spectrum, the Dodgers were among those who avoided BP jerseys, preferring always to be seen in game uniforms, a custom they followed until 1995 when they became the last team in MLB to adopt a team batting jersey.

This page: A collection of the earliest MLB Batting Practice jerseys, all from 1982 and before. Note that many have screened-on lettering

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1983-1985 : Spreading to all teams, and used for the first time by some in Spring Training

By the mid-1980s, most teams had adopted wearing pregame Batting Practice warm-up jerseys, and some clubs began to use the team BP jersey as a Spring Training game uniform. However most still continued to wear the prior year's game uniforms during Spring Training games.

Batting jerseys of the 1980s are usually made of a mesh, polyester fabric. However, some teams (the A's, Braves, and Phillies among them) wore BP jerseys made of a thinner-than-usual solid fabric. But now, all ornamentation (lettering front and back) was sewn-on tackle twill and not screen-printed.

Even if the team's game jerseys featured player names on back, or had a special type font for numbers, batting jerseys often used different, plain (Varsity or Block) numbers (80s Phillies and Mariners for instance). 1980s BP jerseys rarely had player names on back or displayed any patches on the sleeves. Frankly, all of this made it much easier to re-use these jerseys from year to year without needing to alter them. During this time, the teams' *official batting practice jersey* remained a limited edition and rather expensive fan souvenir. They were definitely not widely available and only die-hards bought them.

Teams were free to order from the vendor of their choice, but no manufacturer brands could be visible on the garments, prior to a rule change in 1986.

An array of Batting Practice jerseys from about 1983-1985. Many fans (including your author) were introduced to these through photos on baseball cards, since many teams had taken to wearing these exclusively in Spring Training where most card photos are taken. I recall wondering if some teams had new uniforms that I hadn't heard about!

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Alternate "Zip-Neck" Warmup jerseys

Beginning around 1983 some teams also used an alternate style of batting jersey they sometimes issued to players. It is of a pullover design with a short zipper at the neck. They were somewhat of a cross between a jacket and a jersey. Early examples were made by Roman Sport, Majestic, Starter and Sand Knit.

They are made with a jacket-type ribbed and striped knit collar and sleeves, with either a plain or ribbed elastic banded bottom The first generation was a sort of nylon twill material, then in the late 80s or early 90s they were generally made of mesh fabric. A few teams, like the White Sox and Padres, seemed to prefer this style and used it as a stand-issue warm-up. Teams could letter the backs with player names and numbers, or leave them blank like jackets.

A few teams kept using this style into the mid 1990s, but they always seemed impractical to me. Short-waisted with stretch knit trim at the waist, they would ride up and stay up whenever the wearer raised his arms, like, well—baseball players do.

Majestic branded theirs *The Gamewarmer* and briefly offered them available for retail sale. They retailed for about $70 and were almost impossible to find in stores. Never popular, they scream "1980s" and today they can be found occasionally on auction sites for fairly low prices.

While nearly every team used this style at one point or another, very few used it as their main BP jersey; the White Sox being a notable exception as they preferred these. Teams could number/letter them on back, or not, as they wished. Many found these uncomfortable to wear. I suspect they were designed more to "look good" than to be comfortable, a bad combination for active sportswear.

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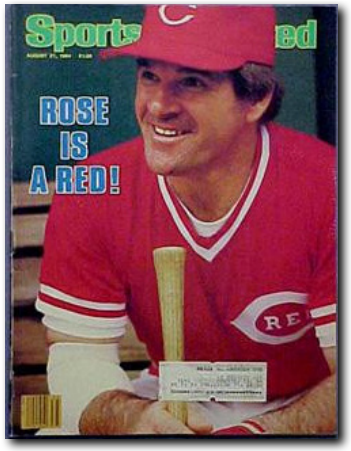
1986-1991 - Visible Branding, and BP Jerseys become the de facto Spring Training Uniform

By around 1986, things started to change, and this became immediately apparent to anyone who collected baseball cards! Now, nearly all teams were wearing these warm-ups exclusively in Spring Training, and so all the baseball cards, with photos which were usually taken in the spring, began to picture all players wearing these instead brightly colored jerseys instead of regular team uniforms.

By the late 80s, some teams had gotten fancier with their batting practice jerseys, including creating different home and road versions, adding names on the backs and sewing the regular uniform's special patches on the sleeves if they had one. Most of these BP jerseys were tight-fitting nylon mesh jerseys with elasticized knit sleeve ends and knit V-Necks.

Not surprisingly, it was around this time that teams increased marketing their BP jerseys to the public to wear as trendy sportswear. Visible manufacturer branding was allowed on MLB jerseys for the first time in 1986, and Rawlings and Majestic had the contract 1986 through 1991, but BPs were also made by other companies (like Sand Knit) who contractually could not display their brand marks.

The fact that these shirts were colorful, lightweight, less costly, sported fancy logos and could be worn minus the numbers and names made them attractive sellers. But they were really still "specialty" items, meaning they were comparatively expensive and intended for a more elite audience of fans than would-be buyers of team t-shirts. They started to become available at more stores, but were still limited to high-end sporting goods shops or team shops in big cities. And while game jerseys were usually numerical-measurement sized (size 42,44, etc.) BP Jerseys were usually sized as Small, Medium, Large and X-Large like t-shirts were.



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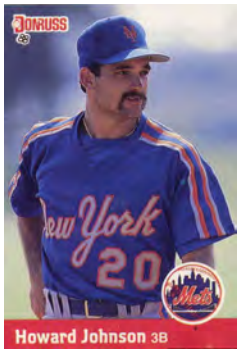

There are many ways that teams' batting practice jerseys are different from one another: some have numbers on front, some on back only. Some have team patches on the sleeves while others do not. Some use player names on back, while most do not. Manufacturers' "Jock Tags" are sometimes sewn on the outside and sometimes are hidden inside the shirt tail. Some are team tagged with player names, numbers or with the year of issue, but most are not.

But let's look some of the similar elements of this class of BP Jerseys: 99% are of mesh construction, and sewn on twill lettering has become the norm. If made by Majestic or Rawlings (only), they have the maker's brand name embroidered on the sleeve for all to see—a first. They are all colorful, with the jersey body being one of the team's main colors; there are very few whites or grays to be found (though there are a few). The design of the jersey is very much "up to the team"—there is no dictated method of construction or trim. They are sold as Small, Medium, Large or Extra Large, they are not numerically sized, and to our knowledge, they were not individually tailored for players (of, if they were, tailoring is not noted on any special tagging).

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1992-2002 The Diamond Collection / Authentic Collection (Majestic and Russell, shared)

This is when the real marketing began, as full lines of brightly colored BP jerseys were released and tagged on the tail as “Official Diamond Collection” and then “Authentic Collection” by Russell and Majestic. They began to appear in sporting goods stores and through MLB team catalogs everywhere as affordable on-field authentic fan gear. They were less expensive, more readily available, more widely distributed and much more wearable as sportswear by fans than heavy game jerseys in their plain whites and grays. While most BP jerseys were still made of a standard mesh, some were Micro mesh (also known as pinpoint mesh), and very few others were made of a sort of shiny, sheer, solid fabric.

Teams again had much latitude in design, though all were pullover V-Necks. Some have sleeve end and collar trim, some do not. More BP jerseys with player name on back appear, and some of these used mesh nameplates. Russell embroiders its capital “R” on the right sleeve; usually in white; while Majestic embroiders its triple-peaks logo, usually with one of the peaks color-keyed to one of the team’s colors. Some teams team-tag, but most do not.

For 2000, all jerseys in the Diamond Collection, including the BP jerseys, get a new MLB Silhouetted Batter patch embroidered in team-select colors sewn to the back of the neck.

Now, when attending games, it was starting to become obvious that fans were eagerly buying and wearing these team-authentic garments. Surveying the seats at a MLB game began to reveal a sea of team colors.

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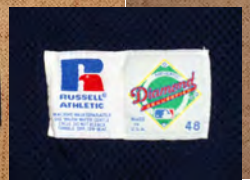

Here are more examples of 1992-2002 Diamond Collection/ Authentic Collection BPs. On this page, *(Top Left)* 1998 Pirates BP displays the team patch on the left sleeve. Some teams use them, some do not. (*Top Right*) 2000 Toronto Blue Jays jersey exhibits the first appearance of the MLB "Silhouetted Batter" logo, which was added to all teams' Authentic Collection jerseys, including the BP jerseys, that year. (*Middle Row*) Rangers jersey style is button-front. During this period, teams had the freedom to decide what style of jersey they wanted to wear.

(Bottom row) Notice the special tailoring tag under the neck tag on Derek Bell's jersey, one that I picked up from the Astros at a team sale. Heavyweight mesh jersey has name on a nameplate. I can guess why this one went into the "reject bin": Bell specified a jersey with a 3" longer body, and this one was made instead with 3" longer sleeves!

Even when not team year tagged, the style of the maker's jock tag and other characteristics, like whether player name on back is used, can help pinpoint the year each one was made. See the sections on team tagging and the individual teams' detail pages for more information.

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Reading the Style: Majestic 1990s-2002 Batting Practice Jersey, Mesh Fabric

- Tough, heavyweight, fade resistant nylon mesh fabric.
- All teams have their own style of button front or pullover, no standardization among teams.
- All one-color design, no side panels or different fabric inserts
- Trim as defined by each team, including style of sleeve ends and neck opening.
- All lettering sewn on
- Team issue style are numerically sized, (44, 48) with tiny size flag under jock tag. Buttons have 4 holes. Retail jerseys are often sized as SM, MED, LG, etc. Buttons may have 2 holes.
- MLB Silhouetted batter neck patch (starting 2000) is a separately embroidered patch and sewn on.
- Embroidered Majestic logo on sleeve. (Retail models may have decal instead.)
- Majestic tail tag is a sewn, embroidered cloth patch.
  In the case of the Phillies, wordmark on retail sale jerseys is often layered twill and not chain stitched. Buttons may have two holes instead of four. The

Majestic sleeve logo may be iron-on instead of embroidered.

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Majestic Batting Practice Jersey Tagging, Mid-1970s-2002*

We are devoting some space here to show Majestic Batting Practice jersey tagging from the beginning of their appearance in MLB through 2002. During this period, Majestic did not make game jerseys, only the warm-ups. So while the BP tagging used by Russell, Rawlings, Wilson and Sand Knit on their BP Jerseys is covered in detail in the "Game Jersey Tagging" chapter, we will cover the Majestic tagging here.

Late 1970s through 1985

This tag on top is used on the shirt tail outside front from 1978 or so through about 1985. It has the text "Bangor PA" on it.

The tag below is generally sewn in the garment's neck.

On game worn jerseys during this period there is no visible Majestic logo tag on the sleeve as it was not permitted by MLB rules.

1986 through 1992

This is the second Majestic style shirt tail tag, used from about 1986 through 1993. "Bangor PA" disappears from the tag and for the first time, the mountain logo appears.

Majestic Retail Sale BP Jerseys, Late 1980s through 1992

This heat-applied logo is found on many store-bought Majestic warm up jerseys. This one is typical, where the rubberized letters start falling off after repeated washings.

1986-1992 continued

(Top) This is the accompanying tag found sewn in the jersey neck.

(Middle 3 photos) For game worn jerseys during this period, Majestic displays its small embroidered script logo on the sleeve end for some teams; others have blank sleeves. I am certain that this was dictated by team endorsement contracts and was no accident.

(Bottom) Retail Majestic BP jerseys during this period have a similar logo on the sleeve, and it is often a heat transferred appliqué instead of embroidery. This decal is also on the front slash pockets of the mid-80s alternate BP jerseys featured throughout this Guide.

* Russell, Rawlings and Sand Knit all tag their BP jerseys similarly to the game jerseys made in the same year, therefore, see the section of this book on Game Jersey tagging for that information; it will not be repeated here.

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1992-1999: “Diamond Collection”

2000-2002: “Authentic Collection”

In 1992, the “Diamond Collection” tag appears for the very first time, distinctly branding team on-field gear differently from fan sportswear Majestic has the on-field contract for some, but not all, MLB teams. Russell has the contract to make all retail versions of BPs to be sold in specialty stores from about 1992-1996.

After 1996, if Majestic makes the team’s on field BP jerseys, they probably also make the retail-sale ones as well.

By 1996, regardless if the BP jersey is made by Majestic or Russell, the Diamond Collection logo on the left side of the 2-part tag is always the same, and the garment’s manufacturer puts its logo at the right. Majestic makes relatively few teams’ BP jerseys during this time, the majority are made by Russell. But Majestic team spec apparel is nearly always “sized” (like 48, 52), while retail sale items are sold as SM/MED/LG/XL. Russell “sizes” all of it merchandise with numeric sizes.

Majestic-made team issued jerseys of this period are often noticeably heavier in cloth construction and seem better made, with embroidered Majestic triple-peaks sleeve logos. Majestic retail sale spec BP jerseys versions are often noticeably thinner and cheaper and have heat-pressed decal logos on the sleeves.

By comparison, Russell retail-sale BPs feel like they are made of the same weight fabric as game used versions, and the Russell sleeve R is always embroidered, regardless if made for the pros or the store.

1992 through 1995

This style tag is sewn in the collar of some BP jerseys in1992

This tag is sewn on either the outside tail of BP jerseys or inside the collar starting in 1993 and into 1994

This slightly wider collar tag is used 1994-1995.

This shirt tail tag is from a 1992 – 1994 style game worn Orioles jersey

Around 1992 the embroidered Majestic “mountain” logo make its appearance on the end of the left sleeve. The logo is custom colored to compliment the team colors of the jersey it adorns. Above, from left to right these logos are from the sleeves of mid-1990s game worn Brewers, Mets, Orioles and Pirates BP jerseys

1996 through 1999

(Below) Team issued style embroidered sleeve logo at left, store bought heat pressed decal at right.

2000 through 2002

(Below) Team issued style embroidered sleeve logo at left, store bought heat pressed decal at right.

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2003-2006 Majestic standardizes all BP jerseys and introduces the first "Tech Fabric"

For 2003, Majestic wins the entire BP jersey contract and becomes the sole maker for both on-field and in store. And, for the first time, MLB releases a standard line of similarly constructed and redesigned/standardized batting jerseys for all MLB teams at once. These new BP jerseys were made of an early moisture wicking fabric that we have discussed previously in the section on fabrics, one that is claimed to help draw moisture away from the body. It is the first iteration of Majestic's Cool-Base fabric design.

The construction of these jerseys is all the same, team to team. They incorporate underarm/sleeve gussets that are a different type of fabric and generally (though not always) a different color than the rest of the jersey. All team wordmarks and player name and number lettering are sewn on, layered tackle twill, just like game jerseys.

However, the new fabric is extremely susceptible to pulls, piling and fading in the sun. Just brushing one's fingernails across the jersey can cause significant and noticeable damage. With sun-faded sleeves often further discolored from washing, many game worn jerseys of this style look very ratty as a result. Dealers who specialized in game worn merchandise reported that buyers were often unhappy with their purchases of this game worn gear, and it was not uncommon to see dealers advertising the rough condition of the garments, albeit in often glowing terms of "jersey displays well with outstanding heavy game use," when they might have better said, "jersey has excessive fabric pulls, piling and fading, and you really wouldn't want to wear it anyplace."

Top row: Braves jersey is an example that shows the contrasting color sleeve bands. All jerseys in this style are constructed the same way, but some, like the Reds' black road and red home red on the bottom row, do not use a contrasting color. (Middle row, left) A close-up of a game-worn green A's jersey shows the fabric damage that is typical on these after even moderate use. All lettering is sewn tackle twill, and nameplates are used at team option.

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Reading the Style: Majestic 2003-2006 Batting Practice Jersey, First Generation Tech Fabric

- Moisture wicking tech fabric, soft and comfortable but is easily damaged by fabric pulls and fades in use.
- Button-up front.
- Underarm banding panels are a different, more breathable fabric and may be a contrasting color (here, they are simply red).
- Sewn-in piping, usually in a contrasting color across sleeve tops from end of sleeve to neck opening.
- All lettering sewn on.
- Team issued jerseys are numerically sized, (44, 48) with tiny size flag tag on lower left side seam. Buttons have 4 holes. Retail jerseys are sized as SM, MED, LG, etc. Buttons may have 2 holes.
- MLB Silhouetted batter neck patch is a separately embroidered patch and sewn on.
- Embroidered Majestic logo on sleeve.
- Majestic tail tag is rubberized decal.

In the case of the Phillies, the wordmark on retail jerseys is often layered twill and not chain stitched. Buttons may have two holes instead of four. Majestic sleeve logo may be iron-on instead of embroidered.

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2007-2010 - Majestic Cool Base Pullovers

2007 brings another complete and simultaneous redesign of the batting practice jerseys for every team. They are all pullovers with one button at the neck. The new jerseys are made of a silky knit fabric Majestic also dubs Cool Base, though they are lighter weight than the game jerseys introduced for 2006 that also carry that fabric name. The new jerseys look good on TV, and are very lightweight so as to be comfortable to wear in very hot weather.

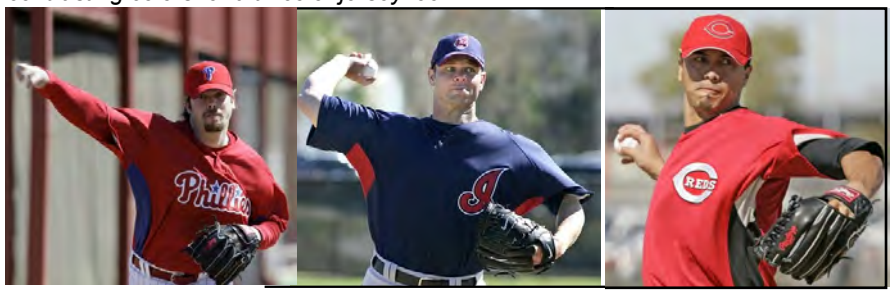
A common feature of all the new jerseys is the stretchy side panels. The panels can be solid color contrasting with the rest of the jersey, or a two-tone contrasting panel with the two colors joining in a sort of a V a few inches underneath the armpits. As seen in the photos on this page, the configuration of the side panels allows them to be completely body colored (like the Angels), only slightly highlighted with a second, lighter color that goes halfway up the side (like the Yankees), fully highlighted with a second color from top to bottom (like the Phillies and Royals), or highlighted with two additional different colors (like the Pirates and Reds). Some teams specify different home and road versions of the jerseys. The Phillies opt for a road blue BP for the first time in their history, while teams like the Yankees, Blue Jays and Padres have road versions that have the side panel color keyed to their road pants.

These are far more durable and far less susceptible to pulls and fabric damage, but they still have problems. Early jerseys of this style suffer from extreme sun fading, especially red-colored ones. Changes are made to the fabric, and this issue is improved upon somewhat in 2008 and later. The MLB silhouetted batter is embroidered on a small patch that is then sewn back of the neck.

Also new, all team logos and many player names/numbers are newly applied by a method called Electrotransfer in a material called Lextra, which is a type of heat-transfered, dimensional flocked graphics. The appliqués appear to have depth through a mix of textures and metallic finishes. Some fans gripe about “cheap iron on lettering,” and teams in spring training find that they can’t use their normal outlets and methods to have jerseys lettered on the spot, needing to depend on Majestic to ship them already lettered.

The jock tag for 2007-2010 is a rubberized appliqué designating the jersey as a part of the Authentic Collection. When the fakes from the far east began to appear, most could be instantly identified because they lacked this high-tech tag, usually featuring a sewn on tag that looked similar but was immediately recognizable as fake.

Side panels had two individual segments that could be varied by team to change the look of the jersey. The Angels chose solid red for no contrast; Yankees display one panel jersey color, one panel contrasting; Phillies have full-side contrasting color, and Pirates, Mets and Reds are among a small group who display side panels in two contrasting colors for a tri-color jersey look.



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Reading the Style: Majestic 2007-2010 Batting Practice Jersey, Second Generation Tech Fabric

- Moisture wicking tech fabric, very smooth and sheer, does not damage easily with fabric pulls, but very susceptible to fabric fading from the sun in early versions.
- One-button, pull-over design for all teams.
- Side panels are mesh/spandex and may be the same color as the jersey body, but can also have as many as two different contrasting colors.
- No sewn-on trim or piping.
- All lettering, front and back, is heat-pressed appliqués.
- Team issued style are numerically sized, (44, 48) with tiny size flag tag on lower left side seam. Retail jerseys are sized as SM, MED, LG, etc.
- MLB Silhouetted batter neck patch is a separately embroidered patch and sewn on.
- Heat-applied Majestic logo on sleeve for all styles, team issued and retail.
- Majestic tail tag is rubberized decal

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2011-2013 Cool Base Button Front Jerseys

All teams change simultaneously to new button-front Cool Base jerseys; and the side stripe shape configurations and color combinations change as well. The Lextra/heat transfer front wordmarks and flocked “iron on” player names and numbers are abandoned as teams return to twill lettering once again. Side panels can be either body-colored or one contrasting color; two-toned side panels with different colors from the jersey body are no longer used (with the exception of the Astros, who have a special, multi-striped “Tequila Sunrise” rainbow side panel, reminiscent of their uniforms of the late 1970s and 1980s).

New for 2011 is a top yoke (the panel across the shoulders above the back numbers and player name) that can be a contrasting color like the side panels. Some teams like the Orioles, Indians and Mariners embrace this flashy new feature.

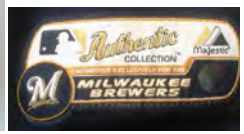
The MLB silhouetted batter is sewn to the back of the neck (not direct embroidered) in the team’s colors. Most knock-off fakes we have seen have the Silhouetted Batter direct embroidered onto the garment. The “jock tag” on the bottom of the front left shirt tail is a new style for

2011. It is cloth and sewn on, with a different tag for every team, displaying the “Authentic Collection” logo, incorporating the team logo, team colors, and including a “washable security hologram” as Majestic calls it in their catalogs and advertising.

It seems very likely that rather than trying to chase the Asian counterfeiters, Majestic has decided that changing the jerseys every few years and creating harder-to-duplicate tagging will challenge them to hit a moving target.

Majestic begins a cycle of threeyear refreshes of the all MLB BP jerseys. All are button fronts.

Note examples of all three styles available to the teams. Mets shows an example of same-color side panels. Brewers shows single-color contrasting side panels, and Tigers shows contrasting color back yoke and side panels as well. The two-tone side panel option disappears. All teams have custom logos and color-keyed jock tags, certainly to help thwart the counterfeiters.



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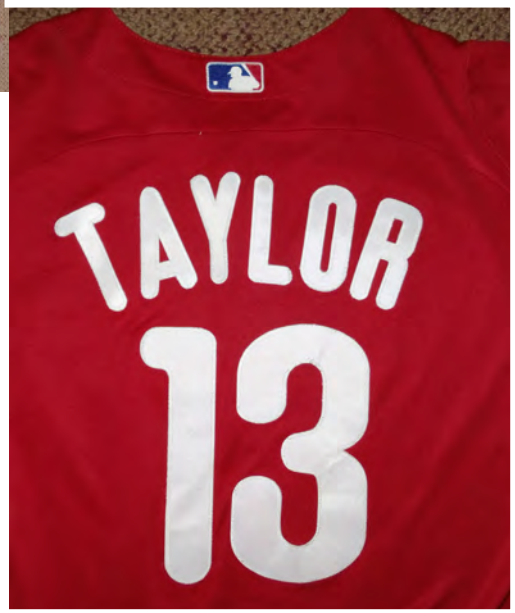
Reading the Style: Majestic 2011-2013 Batting Practice Jersey, Third Generation Tech Fabric

- Moisture wicking tech fabric, soft and comfortable, seems less affected by fading or pulls.
- Full button-up front.
- Underarm panels are a mesh Spandex that run the length of the side of the jersey, including under the sleeves. They may be the same color as the jersey body or a single contrasting color.
- Ends of sleeves are usually trimmed in the same color as the side panels.
- All back lettering is sewn on, teams switch back to twill front wordmarks.
- Team issued style is numerically sized, (44, 48) with tiny size flag tag on lower left side seam under “Cool Base” flag tag. Retail jerseys are sized as SM, MED, LG, etc.
- MLB Silhouetted batter neck patch is a separately embroidered patch and sewn on.
- Heat applied Majestic logo on sleeve.
- Majestic tail tag is embroidered specially for each team, and has a small hologram.



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2014-2016 Cool Base Button Fronts

Majestic does a complete refresh of all teams' BP jerseys and says that they will continue to change team BP jerseys in three-year cycles, promising that the newfor-2014 styles will exist unchanged through the 2016 season.

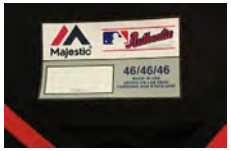
The jerseys remain a button-front design, but the side panels change shape again. Now, instead of going all the way to the jersey's bottom hem, the contrasting color side panels still cover the under-sleeve but now stop mid-waist, with the jersey body color picking up and continuing to the bottom hem (again, with the exception of the Houston Astros, whose jersey retains its rainbow side panel from under the sleeve all the way to the bottom hem).

Every team has the opportunity to change their jersey front design, and some do, while some teams jerseys hardly change design at all from the prior version. A few teams change from a full front wordmark to a smaller left chest one (Brewers, Royals, Marlins, Rockies and Indians), and the Pirates switch in the other direction—from a left-chest design to a full team name across the front

Neck opening and sleeve ends are newly capped with stretchy knit trim, in the same color as the jersey, but with a single, narrow contrasting color band running through the middle. Only the Blue Jays omit a contrasting color band, as their knit trim is solid blue.

The option of having the back yoke panel a contrasting color goes away, but an even more flashy option emerges. Now the back of the jersey and the front of the jersey can be contrasting colors! The Indians, Braves, Nationals, Rays and Rockies all opt for this dual-color design. Some teams opt for home and away versions; others who previously used this option switch back to a single jersey. The Brewers and White Sox both have alternate "nostalgia" themed BP jerseys.

The front jock tag changes in 2014, again with a different one tag for each team, incorporating team logos and colors, both to look attractive on the store rack and again certainly to make counterfeiting more difficult. The MLB silhouetted batter is on a gel-coated vinyl tag adhered to the back of the neck (not direct embroidered) in the team's colors. Jerseys are lettered in "new lightweight stretch tackle twill," as defined in Majestic's catalog. The Majestic sleeve "M" changes to a new style that is reflected on the neck and jock tag as well.



The 2014 all-team refresh allowed for a unique new feature, in that the front and back of the garment could be different colors. Several teams used the redesign cycle to change the style and placement of the wordmark on their jerseys. Again, every team receives their own custom jock tag on the front tail, probably done more to foil the counterfeiters than any other reason. Tigers, Astros team-tag their BP jerseys, but many teams do not.

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Reading the Style: Majestic 2014-2016 Batting Practice Jersey, Ribbed Mesh Tech Fabric

- Moisture wicking tech fabric that has a vertical ribbed pattern, while back of jersey is a mesh pattern.
- Full button-up front.
- Full side panels are a mesh Spandex that are usually in a contrasting color on upper part of the side, including under the sleeves.
- Ends of sleeves and neck opening have stretchy knit trim usually with a contrasting color strip in the middle. All lettering is sewn on.
- All models are numerically sized, (44, 48) with a heat pressed tag inside the jersey neck.
- MLB Silhouetted batter neck patch is thick plastic emblem, same as on team jackets.
- Heat applied “new-look” Majestic logo on sleeve. Majestic neck tag as well.
- Majestic tail tag is an embroidered patch, custom for each team, with no hologram.

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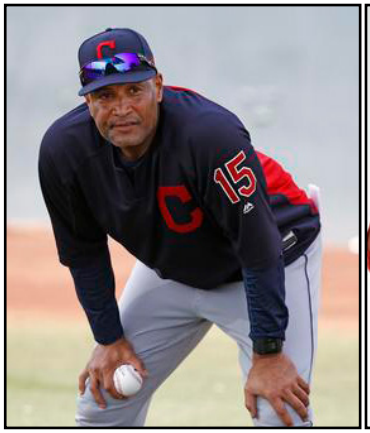
2017-2019 Batting Practice Jerseys

2017 represents a major rethinking in the form and function of MLB Batting Practice jerseys. As we have covered in this space, the team BP had become the game jersey of choice for most teams in Spring Training. That all changed in 2016 when Majestic and MLB introduced a line of Spring Training game jerseys that were based on the new-for-2016 Flex Base template.

The 2017 Batting Practice jerseys are somewhat of a departure for this style of garment, dating back some 40 years from its original purpose. Introduced in the mid-1970s and adopted by most teams in the very early 1980s, these (mostly) mesh jerseys were designed to be lightweight and colorful, worn by players in pregame warmups. This kept players cool, and their uniforms clean and presentable for the start of the actual game.

Batting Practice jerseys became a favorite fan item because of their bright colors and lower price to purchase. General fan availability of BP jerseys preceded the ability of actual game-style jerseys for most teams by several years.

But things began to change on the field. More and more often, players would take batting practice in sweatshirts or the garment known as a “Cage Jacket”—a loose fitting, team-logoed nylon garment with ¾ sleeves and no player name or number on them. Perhaps the players preferred them, but they never caught on with fans as a desirable item to own. Fans also complained that they could not tell the players apart on the field when they were wearing these jackets, which had no names or numbers.



The images on this page show several examples of sleeve numbers done in the team style.

The Nationals BP jersey uses a very attractive alternate logo that has been floating around on prototypes for years. Most teams use their secondary logo/cap logo sewn to the left chest. Bottom left: notice how the jerseys are meant to be worn untucked, satisfying the players.

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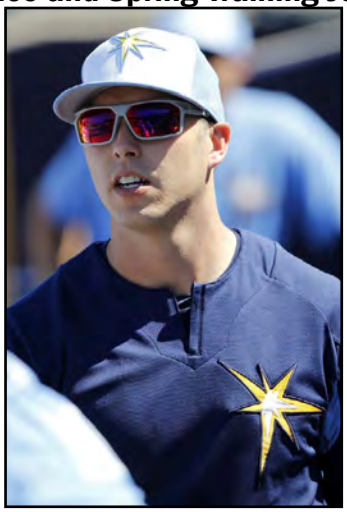
So, for 2017, ready for the next three-year cycle of BP jersey design, Majestic introduced a new line of Cool Base batting practice jerseys for every team that featured the following characteristics:

- Most noticeably, they are a ¾ sleeve design that some players seem to like, yet others hate, extending to just below the elbow.
- They are colorful, all with underarm inserts in a contrasting color, some teams with the jersey back in that same contrasting color as well.
- They are meant to be worn loose and untucked, perhaps one of the greatest player criticisms of the earlier BP style, that were tucked in like game jerseys.
- All have a very short zipper at the neck
- Many teams use a left chest logo on these jerseys instead of a full chest wordmark, commonly the same logo that you'd find on the team cap.
- Player numbers are sewn to the left sleeve only for most teams, in the same general font and colors style as you'd find on team game jersey. The Majestic logo is applied to the sleeve, just below the numbers, midway up the sleeve.
- The backs are blank for most teams: no numbers, no player names. The Silhouetted Batter logo is sewn to the back of the collar, in team-specific colors.
- They have a new style Cool Base locker tag on the left front tail, always visible since these are meant to be worn untucked.
- Most teams have only one style, but a few (Red Sox, Tigers, Yankees, White Sox, Brewers) have a second alternate or road version as well.
- These jerseys have not been popular across the board. Some teams used them only briefly, and teams that have used them every year have seen players hack the sleeves off or choose to wear something else.



Notable: Altered, custom shortened sleeves on Mets

#53 above. Royals are wearing memorial patch on the BP sleeve. Bottom row: interesting to see that the team wordmark on

the BP jersey front is in regular, layered twill (vs. the new for 2016 "lightweight twill" explained in "The basics" chapter). Player sleeve number is new lightweight, kiss-cut twill.

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2019 Batting Practice Hooded Pullover

Starting in 2019, many teams and players transition away from the 3/4 sleeve, pullover BP jerseys introduced in 2017. Team insiders report that many players despised the style - specifically the longer sleeves - and opted to cut their sleeves shorter or have them tailored to be shorter. Over time, it seems many teams just abandoned the style entirely.

The 2019 entry is less a jersey and more of a sweatshirt. Officially called the "Batting Practice Waffle Quarter-Zip Pullover Jacket" by Majestic, it is intended as a cooler weather warmup shirt, though it features a "tear-away, mid-sleeve seam...for optimal customization." The seam allows the sleeves to be removed - permanently - but easily and cleanly vs. the rough hack jobs some players used on the 3/4 sleeve tops. Photos show many players exercising that option, as well as removing the hood somewhat less cleanly.

The right sleeve features the MLB logo with the Majestic logo on the left, while the front left chest has an embroidered team logo patch, balanced by the player number (in team fonts and colors) on the right chest in kiss-cut twill. These are intended to be worn untucked, like the 3/4 sleeve jerseys, but do not have any exterior tagging. Instead, the Majestic tag is inside the neck.

Despite the hood being a "selling feature" of these pullovers, some players still took the scissors to them and removed them, as seen at left. One presumes the hood isn't often desirable during summertime athletic pursuits.

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2020 Batting Practice One-Button Pullover

For Nike's first year as MLB uniform supplier, the company introduces a new pregame top they call the "Short Sleeve Hot Pullover Jacket." Normally, we do not include jackets or other similar items here, but because some teams offer this to their players with uniform numbers on the sleeves, we are documenting it as a BP variant this edition.

Similar to a traditional cage jacket, this pullover is in a lightweight fabric, with a one-snap placket at the neck, and features a drawstring at the elastic waist to tighten the bottom (it seems unlikely any players would use this feature), and a full-width pocket on front that has zippers at either side. In terms of styling, so far, it seems that most teams have only one color, though at least the Yankees and Red Sox have two colors available, though it is unclear if both will be used in season. The team logo is called a "woven fabric applique." It is difficult to tell if the sleeve numbers are sewn-on or a similar application to the logos. For most teams, each sleeve-end is ringed with a contrasting color, as is the back half of the collar. The Angels seem to be the exception, using red throughout, a tradition they have maintained when adopting other BP templates.

While most teams have contrasting colors on sleeves and neck panels, the Angels' pullover (far left) is all red. Teams varied on if they added sleeve numbers or had players wear them blank.

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2020 Batting Practice One-Button Pullover continued

Here are some early looks at what passes for a BP “jersey” in 2020 - the Nike Short Sleeve Hot Pullover Jacket. This is a retail version of the item, and there is no player number on the sleeve, though it appears that the Red Sox did not opt for this customization for onfield use in 2020.

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Phasing Out: Batting Practice Jerseys after 2020

As noted earlier, BP jerseys have been moving away from the typical concept of "jerseys" since 2017. Since pro players were more likely to use other items of clothing in BP, such as t-shirts and sweatshirts, the use of traditionally styled jerseys in BP waned over the years. Further, with the vast number of team-issued clothing choices each player had for pregame warmups, the idea of a "uniform" for BP fell by the wayside.

Though Majestic and Nike had created items similar to t-shirts and sweatshirts meant for BP (and retail sales) over the late 2010s, and even included player numbers on some of them, these items were not widely accepted by players, and likely, not terribly successful at retail. Put simply, there's no uniformity to BP clothing anymore, and what's available has strayed further from being defined as a jersey for many years.

As of the 10th edition in 2025, we will no longer track the different items that pass for "BP jerseys" in these pages.

Unless MLB and teams come back to a more traditional approach, using some form of jersey for pregame warmups, the lack of uniformity and new approach to materials and cut for pregame clothing means that BP jerseys are effectively a thing of the past.

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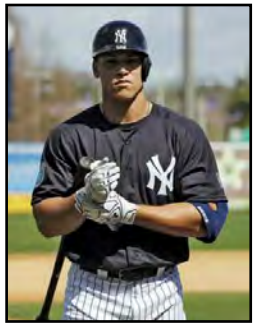
2016 Spring Training Jerseys

For the first time in 2016, MLB announces special Spring Training jerseys for all teams. These colorful Majestic Flex Base jerseys represented a new exclusive marketing opportunity for MLB (which is the nice way of saying new merchandise to sell to an avid fan base).

These jerseys come in four basic "flavors," all with special touches:

1. Use of one of the team's existing alternate jerseys. (Mets)
2. Creating a new alternate jersey that was introduced for that season. (Phillies)
3. Creating a jersey with a look similar to the team's existing 2016 Batting Practice jersey(s), but using the new Flex Base template. (Yankees)
4. A new jersey, created especially for Spring Training use and not worn during the regular season (Rays)

The Spring Training jerseys are all made with new, 2016 Flex Base construction and with the Flex Base heat-pressed logo tagging on the left front tail, a thick rubberized and color coded Silhouetted Batter logo applied the back of the neck; special "Air Belt" shirttail and ventilated side panels, as well as mesh ventilation panels inside the collar and placket.



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They also have two other features that make them unique:

- A large, rubber-like right sleeve patch shaped like an Interstate Highway sign incorporating the silhouetted batter, the year 2016 and with the bold letters "FL" or "AZ" in white, depending on which location that team has its Spring Training camp. These style appliqués had been referred to as ChromaFlex through 2015, and for 2016 are called EmbossTech.
- The main color of player numbers and player NOB in special, color-keyed patterned twill with Spring Training symbols and "AZ – FL Spring Training 2016" sublimated into the fabric. This twill is licensed only to MLB/Majestic and has not been made available for purchase to any jersey customizers not affiliated with the club's official outfitters. In short, if you have a blank one and want it customized after the fact, you are out of luck.

Most of these player jerseys were sold through team stores and the MLB Auctions website at the conclusion of Spring Training. New, unworn ones were available during 2016 for purchase through MLB.com and team stores, both customized with star player names/ numbers (using the proper patterned twill) or as blank jerseys without name/ number.

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2017 Spring Training Jerseys

Spring Training jerseys in 2017 were nearly the same for all teams as they were in 2016, except for a few details. For 2017, a new twill pattern is used (shown here as the page background) with "2017" sublimated into the design.

- All teams use much simpler, one-color, white patterned twill for player numbers (and player names, if used).
- Slightly revised sleeve patches are used, and while still the Interstate Highway shield sign, the Florida patch background is changed to light blue, the Arizona patch's is changed to copper.

I can only guess that the change to the back lettering was made for the sake of simplicity and reducing cost. As colorful as the 2016 version of the jerseys were, they had to have been more complicated to produce in volume for Majestic. Consider:

1. The need to create and stock the special patterned twill in many colors to match the top color of all the different MLB clubs. They needed to make it in red, blue, white, yellow and black and keep sufficient quantities of all of this on hand.
2. Most teams have at least two-color names and numbers, many have three-color or more. Simplifying to one-color white lettering must make life much easier.

Notable; the Mets are one of a small handful of teams with two-color front numbers and one color back numbers, which some think looks odd. The Tigers' Spring Training jersey uses a different "D" on the front than game jerseys, using the style as worn on the team's caps. The Cardinals are one of the few teams that uses the patterned Spring Training twill on its front numbers as well.

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3. The very large number of players and coaches there are in Spring Training. We are not talking 40-man roster here; every person invited to Spring Training needs a jersey. That means needing literally hundreds of jerseys per team. Last-minute invitees need jerseys that Majestic likely must turn around overnight (at worst). Sewing up the new style is many times easier than the old ones.

Some readers have commented that they think the new style looks cheap, especially in the cases of teams that have multi-colored front numbers but now must use plain white back numbers/ names. But I am sure the decision on the part of Majestic/MLB was well thought-out and was strictly a financial one. Player-lettered Spring Training jerseys are not a popular retail sale item, and all the team issued and game worn Spring Training jerseys are sold off at the end of the spring; I suspect they will all find homes regardless of the compromised style of the back lettering.

Game action photos show the new 2017 sleeve shield patches and single-color white patterned numbers on back. On this page, items to note include the Red Sox (center row right) who utilize their regular season red home alternate jersey but with player names on back for Spring Training. NOB is not used during the regular season. The Marlins (center row left) have greatly simplified back numbers compared to their 3D, three-color regular season lettering. The Rays, (top row right) continue to use nameplates, one of only two teams in MLB to do so (the other is the Indians). (Bottom row left) The Blue Jays' attractive split number font is a casualty of the design standard, as the splits are eliminated for Spring Training.

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2018 Spring Training Jerseys

The 2018 version of Spring Training jerseys continues largely unchanged.

- The one-color player name and number twill returns for 2018 with “2018” and other designs printed on. All teams wear white twill again, except for the Giants (orange printed twill) and the Cubs (red printed twill).
- The Spring Training sleeve patches are updated to a home plate shaped design. The Florida patch’s background is blue, while the Arizona patch background is red.

The majority of teams again use their regular-season alternate jerseys as a base for Spring Training, while others have special jerseys for the spring, which are occasionally used as batting practice jerseys as well. The Royals also introduce new jerseys for Spring Training in 2018.

In 2018, the Royals (top left) with a new jersey in 2018, and the Rays (top right) are two of the teams that wear jerseys in Spring Training that are not one of their regular season alternates. The Giants (bottom left) and Cubs (bottom right) break 2017’s trend of all-white back lettering to adopt team colors - still with printed patterns - in 2018.

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2019 Spring Training Jerseys

Spring Training jerseys in 2019 change in small doses yet again. Gone, now, is the single-color printed twill for back lettering, replaced by the typical style and colors that teams wear on their alternate uniforms with no printed patterns at all. This means the return of multi-layer twill for most teams, all rendered here in lightweight, kiss-cut twill.

Once again, the majority of teams wear one (or in the Twins' case, two) of their regular season alternates, with the addition of the Spring Training patch. The patches are again updated, remaining in the shape of home plate, but reducing in complexity. The Florida teams wear a light blue and white "FLA" patch while Arizona teams get a deep red and white "ARZ."

The Marlins (top left), Angels (top center), Reds (top right), and Nationals (bottom right) all introduce new Spring Training jerseys for 2019, which they do not wear in-game during the regular season. The Marlins do wear theirs in batting practice without the Spring Training patch. The Phillies (bottom left) wear their red alternate for the spring, even though it was deleted from their regular season uniform rotation at the end of 2018. The return of team-colored back lettering looks much more elegant for some teams, like the Blue Jays and much less so for others, like the Diamondbacks (bottom center). Note, also, that the Blue Jays are one of a few teams that remove player names from the back of their regular season alternates for the spring, while others, like the Red Sox and Giants, add them.

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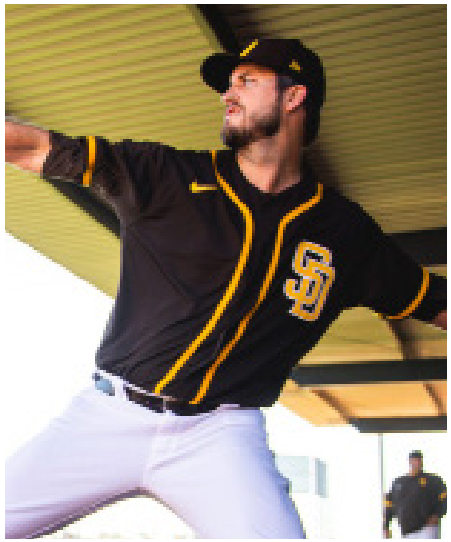
2020 Spring Training Jerseys

For the pandemic-shortened Spring Training in 2020, standard team back lettering remains while special Spring Training patches disappear, leaving many teams wearing the exact same alternate jersey in the spring as they wear in the regular season. The new year also brings the first look at Nike's version of MLB jerseys, which for now at least, are just the Majestic Flex Base template with Nike branding and tags.

Though a few teams have long worn their home jerseys for certain Spring Training games (Tigers and Yankees, for instance) the Brewers wear both their new home and alternate jerseys Spring Training workouts, giving fans a chance to enjoy the new styles.



For 2020, the Rangers (top left), Padres (top center), and Reds (top right) all have new Spring Training jerseys that are not intended for regular season use. The Reds jersey is their third Spring Training design in as many years. The Diamondbacks (bottom left) debut their new regular season red alternate in spring 2020, while the Brewers (bottom center and right) feature their new home and alternate jerseys during the spring.

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Phasing Out: Spring Training Jerseys after 2020

After their first season of manufacturing MLB jerseys in 2020, Nike begins to make its own mark across the league, as it has with other pro sports leagues in the past. One element that impacted Spring Training jerseys was Nike's drive to simplify the number of jerseys each team had to choose from. The so-called "4+1 rule" indicated that teams could have four jerseys in regular rotation plus their Nike City Connect style. This meant that unique jerseys that were used only for Spring Training began to be phased out in favor of using one or more standard team jerseys in the spring.

Some modifications were allowed, like the Red Sox using names on back in the spring but not in-season for their Red jerseys, or the opposite for the Blue Jays, who do not use NOBs in the spring. And some teams with fewer than four standard jerseys, like the Yankees and Tigers, started to count their previous Spring Training blue jerseys as alternates in the MLB Style Guide, even though they were only used in spring. As a result of Nike's involvement with MLB jerseys, Spring Training and BP jerseys were all but eliminated by the 2024 season. As such, we will no longer catalog them as separate jerseys after this edition of the guide.

Above: The Red Sox (left) use their regular home alternate in Spring Training, but add a name on back. The Tigers (center) and Yankees (right) each have only two regular season jerseys, so they are permitted to keep their blue Spring Training jerseys as "alternates," even though they are only used in spring.

Below: The Rangers eliminated their Spring Training-only jersey (left) after 2022, replacing it with their normal blue alternate (second from left) in spring 2023. The Mariners did the same with their light blue Spring Training jersey (second from right), which was replaced with their usual teal alternate (right) for spring 2023.

2022

2023

2022

2023

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Oddball: 2012 (2014) BP Jersey Prototype

In the competitive world of on-field and retail athletic wear, manufacturers must always look ahead. As we have seen across the industry, teams and suppliers often work years in advance to design, prototype, and test new materials, construction, and branding. Here is one such example. It is a prototype, made in 2012 (one season after the last new design was unveiled), of a BP jersey style that was ultimately released in 2014. It carries typical prototype tagging reading "0380-MAJ-D1-1-2012" where "0380" is the style code for the jersey, "MAJ" is Majestic, "D1-1" indicates the first prototype, and "2012" the year. This style jersey was eventually used across MLB from 2014-2016, so there are some changes from the final here. Foremost among them is the jock tag, that includes the "Authentic Collection" branding, showing this was intended for on-field use, as does the 0380 team-spec code. The jock tag itself, however, is a completely different design than what the 2014-2016 jerseys had. It is likely that the "MAJ" on the prototype tag indicates that this was an internal sample made just for Majestic, and possibly MLB brass, before any teams got to see it. Usually this space would have a team code rather than the manufacturer name. Ultimately, all teams adopted this manufacturing template, and three teams' BP jerseys used this same color scheme, the Cardinals, the Twins road BP, and the Red Sox home BP.

Above, though all teams used this manufacturing template for 2014-2016 BP jerseys, the Cardinals, Twins, and Red Sox all used this exact same color scheme as well, including the red jersey back (using a back panel that matched the contrast color rather than the front of the jersey was also an option with this generation of BP jerseys.)

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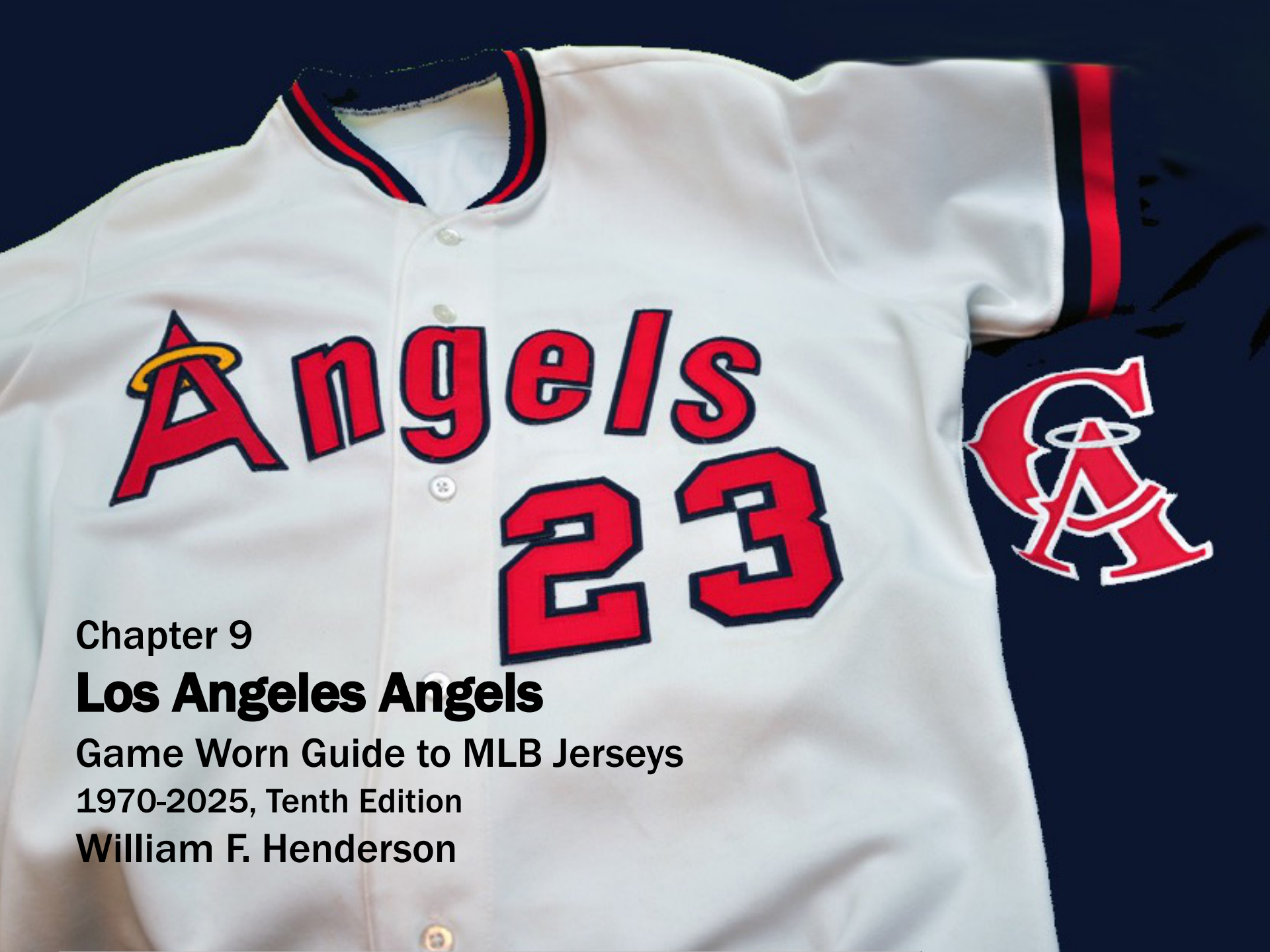

Chapter 9

Los Angeles Angels

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Angels Uniform History Notes

- The Angels joined the American League as an expansion team in 1961, taking their name from the earlier Pacific Coast League team of the same name. Sharing the Los Angeles market with the Dodgers, the team has always had an uneasy peace with naming its home location. They were briefly known as the Los Angeles Angels, and even shared Dodger Stadium from 1962 to 1965.
- In 1966, the team moves out of Dodger Stadium and takes up residence in the L.A. suburb of Anaheim, and adopts the name “California Angels.” The State of California logo patch first appears on uniform sleeves in 1970.
- In the years between 1970 and 1988, the Angels used several uniform manufacturers (and probably several different shops) to do their lettering. Clues in dated photos show that uniforms were probably recycled from year to year, and little emphasis was placed on consistency.
- Even though the basic jersey design remains the same for 20 years (1973–1992), there are small year-to-year changes in such things as sleeve patches, fonts, and inclusion of player names on the back. I have highlighted them all on the pages that follow.
- The 1973–1981 period represents a seemingly arbitrary year-to-year application of putting player names on the back of jerseys. In 1973–1975, the team uses player NOBs only at home, eschews them entirely in 1976–1977 and 1979–1980, and uses them for both home and road in 1978—but oddly sewn in a straight line similar to the A’s of the era. In 1981, NOBs are finally made a permanent fixture, applied in vertically arch style until 1987, when they become radially arched.
- Some non-1978 jerseys feature names sewn straight across the back. This *can* be a sign of a name being added to a jersey that originally had none, and therefore had the numbers originally sewn too far up on the back to allow for a normal curve of the name.
- From the 1970s through the mid-1980s, the Angels frequently reused game jerseys across multiple seasons and player assignments, often stripping names and altering numbers. These practices, along with multiple uniform vendors lacking consistent tagging, created many year-to-year inconsistencies in lettering, fonts, and stitching patterns that make precise dating of surviving jerseys a challenge.
- By 1989, everything seems to smooth out. The Angels still switch vendors more frequently than some, but variations seen on the field are far fewer.
- 1993 ushers in a corporate atmosphere of professionalism. Uniforms are lettered consistently, and old uniforms seem to seldom be reissued to new players.
- In 1995, the team introduces its first ever alternate jersey, a solid navy blue button down that would undergo multiple iterations (four different unique styles) before being phased out after 2001.
- 1997 brings us the “Disney Era,” as the Walt Disney Company buys the Angels and remakes their image from top to bottom. Uniforms are colorful and nontraditional, to the chagrin of many in the baseball organization.
- 2002 brings a traditional redesign, including the use of “Anaheim” as a front wordmark (road jerseys) for the first time, and 2003 sees Disney’s sale of the team.
- The 2002–2025 period represents an incredibly stable and consistent period for the team’s overall look, augmented during the period by an alternate home vest and an alternate red jersey.
- In 2004, “Anaheim” is removed from road jerseys and replaced with “Angels." In 2005, the team changes names again, to become “The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim” as part of a general rebranding strategy by new ownership to expand the team’s fan base.
- In 2011, their 50th Anniversary is recognized by making the halo gold on the “A” of all uniforms and BP jerseys for that year only.
- The Angels debuted their City Connect uniform in 2022 — a design inspired by Southern California beach culture. The jersey features a cream body with red and navy surf-style graphics, including a stylized “Angels” chest script and wave-themed sleeve stripes.
- In 2024, an alternate home nostalgia jersey is introduced based on the popular 1970s pullover style used frequently for Turn Back the Clock games, complete with McAuliffe-style number font. It is one of the first pullovers to use the new Nike VPE jersey template.
- The Angels’ uniform history reflects frequent transitions—whether in name, style, color palette, or ownership influence—yet across six decades, they have maintained certain signature elements like the haloed “A” and red as a primary color. Their wardrobe shifts often mirrored broader trends in MLB aesthetics, with more stability from 2002 onward under a consistent red-themed identity.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Angels Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	-	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Spalding
	Road Gray Flannel	-	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	McAuliffe
1971	Home White Flannel	Res Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings/McAuliffe
	Road Gray Flannel	Res Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	McAuliffe
1972	Home White	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
1973	Home White	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	-	State of CA Logo	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
1974	Home White	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	-	State of CA Logo/Black Stripe**	-	Goodman
	Road Gray	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo/Black Stripe**	-	Rawlings
1975	Home White	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Goodman
	Road Gray	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	No	No	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
1976	Home White	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
1977	Home White	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Goodman
	Road Gray	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
1978	Home White	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	1 color block straight line	No	State of CA Logo/Black Armband***	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	1 color block straight line	No	State of CA Logo/Black Armband***	-	Rawlings

* Because Angels jerseys in this period were so often recycled, some have evidence of NOB yet are year-tagged for years when no NOB was used. Prior to 1987, no manufacturer's logo appeared in public view when the jersey was worn, so many instances occur where the Angels reuse old uniforms—sometimes they are several years old. Starting in 1987, when Rawlings logos were embroidered on the sleeves for all to see, it became obvious when jerseys had been reissued, because they lacked sleeve logos. By 1989, all the game photos of uniforms seem to have Rawlings logos visible, indicating that the older uniforms had been finally retired.
** Black stripe for Bruce Heinbechner worn only in Spring Training./***Black armband for Lyman Bostock worn after Sept. 23.

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Angels Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1979	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Rawlings
1980	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	No	-	State of CA Logo	-	Goodman
1981	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Goodman
1982	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Goodman
1983	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Goodman
1984	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	-	Goodman
1985	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	Angels 25th Anniv	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	State of CA Logo	Angels 25th Anniv	Goodman
1986	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	Angels Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings**/Goodman
1987	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	All Star Game	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	All Star Game	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	DJ Memorial*	Russell
	Road Gray	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Goodman Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Angels Disc	DJ Memorial*	Russell

* DJ" memorial worn after 4/23/92
** Rawlings jersey set may have been team-unused samples. See page for more detail.

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Angels Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1993	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Block Cond or XCond 2 color	Yes	"C-A" Logo	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond or XCond 3 color	Yes	"C-A" Logo	-	Russell
1994	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Block Cond or XCond 2 color	Yes	"C-A" Logo/Reese Mem*	MLB 125th Anniv	Russlll
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond or XCond 3 color	Yes	"C-A" Logo/Reese Mem*	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Block Cond or XCond 2 color	Yes	"C-A" Logo	Angels 35th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond or XCond 3 color	Yes	"C-A" Logo	Angels 35th Anniv	Russell
	Alternate Navy	No	Varsity 2 color	Block Cond or ExCond 2 color	Yes	"Angels" word logo	Angels 35th Anniv	Russell
1996	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Block Cond or XCond 2 color	No	"C-A" Logo	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond or XCond 3 color	No	"C-A" Logo	-	Wilson
	Alternate Navy	No	Varsity 2 color	Block Cond or ExCond 2 color	No	"Angels" word logo	-	Wilson
1997	Home White	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	Jackie Robinson	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	Jackie Robinson	Rawlings
	Alternate Navy	Rt sleeve Disney 2 clr	Disney 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	(Player's Number)	Russell
1998	Home White	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Navy	Rt sleeve Disney 2 clr	Disney 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	(Player's Number)	Russell
1999	Home White	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	Gene Autry Memorial	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	Gene Autry Memorial	Rawlings
	Alternate Navy	Rt sleeve Disney 2 clr	Disney 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	(Player's Number)	Russell
2000	Home White	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	Angels 40th Anniv	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	Angels 40th Anniv	Rawlings
	Alternate Navy	Rt sleeve Disney 2 clr	Disney 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	(Player's Number)	Rawlings
2001	Home White	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	AL 100th Anniv	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Disney 2 color	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	AL 100th Anniv	Rawlings
	Alternate Navy	No	Disney 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Anaheim "A" Logo	AL 100th Anniv	Rawlings

Angels insider baseball purists reacted negatively to the team's 1997 overhaul of the Angels' uniforms, and after five years wearing the "Periwinkle Blue Costumes," management conceded a change. One of the architects of the new uniform style for 2002 recalls the impact that attending a mid-1970s Cincinnati Reds game had made on him, where looking across the fans in the stands one could see only a sea of red, uninterrupted by any other color. The new look for the Angels, therefore, was to be *red*. Except for some lettering highlights in navy and gray, caps, lettering and undershirts were all to be red. Disney sold the team a year later, and it is notable that when the team celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2011 with many throwback games, the "Periwinkle costume" era was ignored.

* #50 Jimmy Reese memorial worn after 7/13/94 and in spring 1995.

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Angels Game Jerseys

Gold halo for 2011 only

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2002	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
2003	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2004	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2005	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Preston rt sleeve, Adenhart 34 lft chest **	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Preston rt sleeve, Adenhart 34 lft chest **	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Preston rt sleeve, Adenhart 34 lft chest **	Majestic
2010	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	2010 All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	2010 All Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate Vest	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	2010 All Star Game	Majestic
2011	Home White*	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	50th Anniversary	Gold Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray*	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	50th Anniversary	Gold Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red*	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	50th Anniversary	Gold Halo "A" Patch	Majestic

* All 2011 team jerseys feature a gold halo embroidered on the "A" in "Angels" in honor of team's 50th anniversary. The halo is normally silver, and returns to silver for 2012.

** Adenhart 34 patch added after April 10.

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Angels Game Jerseys

For 2012: Elimination of 2011 gold halos on front "A" and sleeve patch; resumption of 2010's styles, except Alternate Home Vest which is discontinued.

2016- Change to Flex Base™

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2012	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
2013	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/LEW Left chest*	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/LEW Left chest*	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/LEW Left chest*	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
2014	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
2015	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
2016	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
2017	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/Left Chest: Don Baylor Patch**	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/Left Chest: Don Baylor Patch**	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/Left Chest: Don Baylor Patch**	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
2018	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Majestic
2019	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/Left Chest: Tyler Skaggs Patch starting July 3***	Silver Halo "A" Patch / MLB 150th	Majestic
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/Left Chest: Tyler Skaggs Patch starting July 3***	Silver Halo "A" Patch / MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc/Left Chest: Tyler Skaggs Patch starting July 3***	Silver Halo "A" Patch / MLB 150th	Majestic
2020	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Nike
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Nike
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo "A" Patch	Nike

* LEW patch added May 31.
** Don Baylor patch added August 11.
*** Black circle with white "45" worn July 2 only, "Skaggs 45" patch on July 3 for rest of season

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Angels Game Jerseys

These three styles continue from previous years

2022-2025

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Name-plate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo “A” Patch	Nike
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo “A” Patch	Nike
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo “A” Patch	Nike
2022	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo “A” Patch	Nike
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo “A” Patch	Nike
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	1961 Angels Disc	Silver Halo “A” Patch	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	Block Cond 1 color	No		LA Angels Disc	Nike
2023	Home White	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Angels font 2 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 4 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	FBM Ad patch‡	LA Angels Disc‡	Nike
2024	Home White	Angels font 4 color (perf?)	Angels font 2 color (perf?)	Nike block 2 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Angels font 4 color (no perf)	Angels font 2 color (no perf)	Nike block 2 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color (perf)	Angels font 3 color (perf)	Nike block 3 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia	McAuliffe 2 color (perf)	McAuliffe 2 color (perf)	Nike block 2 color	No	State of CA Patch^	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	Nike block 1 color	No	FBM Ad patch‡	LA Angels Disc‡	Nike
2025	Home White	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Red	Angels font 4 color	Angels font 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Silver Halo “A” Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia	McAuliffe 2 color	McAuliffe 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	State of CA Patch‡	FBM Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	Nike block 1 color	No	FBM Ad patch‡	LA Angels Disc‡	Nike

‡ Patch placement varies based on player handedness

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Home, Road, and Alternate Jerseys

The Angels in Flannel

The Los Angeles Angels were established as an American League expansion franchise in 1961. The final two years of Angels flannels were 1970–1971. 1970's jerseys, both home and road, remained in the team's original style used since their first year in the league in 1961. For 1971, a new, more modern style was unveiled, using trendy lower case letters, and floating a halo above the "A". Not all the 1971 jerseys were new-issue, however; some were 1970 year tagged jerseys stripped of their lettering front and back, and re-stitched in the new style. This practice reflected the era: with inexpensive labor and jerseys valued by teams as reusable assets, it made economic sense to remove old lettering and apply new. Collectability was not even a consideration; after all, who outside of the team wanted these old baseball jerseys? Don't be surprised to see 1971-style jerseys with 1970 team tagging. These recycled jerseys lived on at least another year, to be used in spring training of 1972 before they were retired, the team switching to the new double knits.

Above: *1970 tagging on a 1971-lettered jersey indicates it was stripped and re-done by the team, a common practice back in the day.*

Author's Note: We have extensively revised the 1970–1986 data and detail pages for the Angels for this 10th edition. After collecting hundreds of additional photos and re-reviewing published news photos, we have been able to come to better conclusions about what manufacturers made team uniforms in each year, and when names on back were worn…or not. This is a nice way of saying that some of the information presented previously was incorrect. The confusion had come from several distinct places: 1) Inaccurate dates attributed to published news photos. While we expect some dates to be inaccurate in our media sources, the great majority of the dates that accompanied published Angels photos were not right. 2) The lack of team tagging on jerseys made by Goodman, and then taking at face value the claim to the years the jerseys were worn as described in their auction listings. 3) The fact that the team re-used uniforms from year to year, making it a common occurrence for prior years' jerseys to be reissued and re-worn in later years. These circumstances had caused us to conclude incorrectly that names were worn in years they were not (and vice versa) and that multiple manufacturers made the team's home or road jerseys in any given year when in fact they had been supplied by a single vendor.

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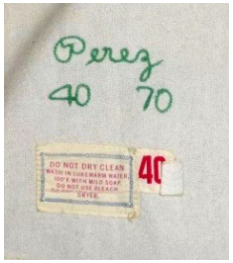
1970 Home

Stephen Kraljic Collection



The 1970 home jerseys were practically indistinguishable from the first-year flannels from nine years prior in 1961. “ANGELS” in the ornate baseball-traditional Tuscan font was mildly arched across the font in hybrid-style red felt over navy blue tackle twill. Red/blue back numbers in the McAuliffe/“Red Sox” font with player names in red/blue in Rawlings name alphabet (also felt over twill). Navy/red/navy 3/8” uniform braid trimmed the collar and sleeve openings. The new team secondary logo, the State of California patch with the gold halo ringing the top of the state, made its first appearance in 1970, sewn to the left sleeve.

The usual two sets of home uniforms for 1970 were made for the team, but labeled by two different manufacturers. One set was made by long-time provider Spalding and the other was made by Rawlings. My belief is that regardless of the tagging, both the uniform sets were manufactured by Rawlings as they are identical down to the player name and jersey size chain stitch embroidery on the tail, and the wash instruction tagging. A long-time provider of uniforms to Major League baseball, Spalding was only two years away from exiting this business entirely. I have observed a fair number of 1970 and earlier jerseys that have been converted into 1971 jerseys by stripping and replacing the front team wordmark. While unthinkable by today’s standards, such practices were routine in 1970.

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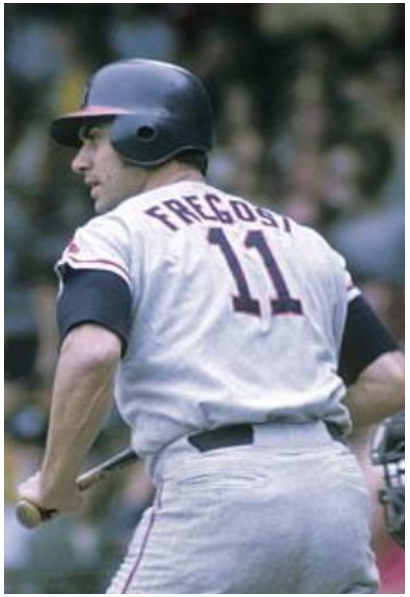
1970 Home, continued

Examples tagged 1970 BUT missing player names on back, typical as these were sent to the minor leagues for re-use after their MLB service was through.

1970 Road

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The word "Angels" has appeared on the team's road uniforms since 1965, when they moved to Anaheim and dropped the "Los Angeles" affiliation, becoming the "California Angels." 1970 was the sixth year of this style of road jersey. The gray road flannels were made exclusively by McAuliffe, using their own very slightly different patterns for the team front crest, notably using letters that were slightly taller and narrower than those used on the home jerseys. Trim on these was the reverse of the home jerseys, red/navy/red. Lettering colors were also reversed, with navy felt sewn over red tackle twill, a hybrid combination that was used by several teams at the end of the flannel era. Similar colored and layered McAuliffe/Red Sox font numbers were used on the back with player names.



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1971 Home

For 1971, the team changed its logo and wordmark script to a new, “mod” design featuring a lower case team name arched on front in red/navy. While the jerseys were still the old-fashioned flannels, trimmed with the same with navy/red/navy braid around the collar and sleeve openings, the red/navy lettering was now all in tackle twill. A red/navy halo floated above the letter “A.” Front numbers in the McAuliffe font were added, though they were a taller and narrower variant to the numbers used on back. The haloed State of California patch remained on the left sleeve, with player names on back in the same color as the numbers.

1971 home jerseys were made exclusively by Rawlings. Some 1971 jerseys carry 1970 team tagging, as they were stripped and repurposed for the new season.

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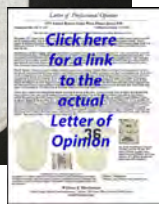
1971 Road

Stephen Krajjic Collection



The 1971 road gray flannel mirrored the new look of the home jersey, incorporating the new team script with halo, yet with the lettering colors reversed to navy/red, also changed to all tackle twill, abandoning felt. Trim around the sleeve ends and neck opening is the same as in 1970—red/navy/red. The haloed State of California patch remained on the left sleeve, with player names on back in the same color as the numbers.

1971 road jerseys were made exclusively by McAuliffe. Some 1971 jerseys carry 1970 team tagging, as these were stripped and repurposed for the new season.

Nearly all examples in the hobby have names on back missing or restored, as these were all stripped and sent to the minors.

Right: *Note two different sized back numbers typical of a jersey reissued to another player and a number swap done in the clubhouse.*

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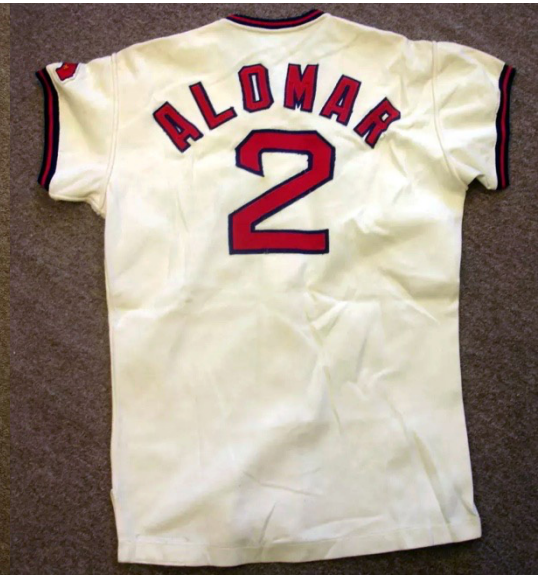
1972 Home



Joining 80% of the teams in MLB, the Angels switched to double-knit uniforms for the 1972 season. While a handful of teams had switched in 1971, and several more held on for another year until 1973, the conversion away from old flannels was well underway.

The Angels' button-front 1972 home jerseys were made exclusively by Rawlings, and appear almost identical to their 1971 home suits. The trim has changed though, with sewn-in, 1" wide knit trim in navy/red/navy at the neck and the sleeve ends, replacing the older 3/8" sewn-on braid. Names on back continued, arched above the back numbers in the same colors: red/navy. 1972 jerseys have flat bottom hems, a design used only that year.

© GameWornGuides.com

1972 Road

Road gray jerseys also changed to knits, and the new sewn-in wider knit sleeve and neck trim is the same navy/red/navy as the home jerseys. The team crest on front is the same design as 1971 (though not the identical pattern: the lettering is slightly taller and narrower) and is now red/white. Front and back numbers and names are in the same colors. 1972 jerseys have flat bottom hems, a design used only that year.

Bottom left: *The great majority of these jerseys that exist in the hobby have had their player names on back removed, like the example shown.*

Typical of jerseys from 1972 — missing player name on back after reissue in the minor leagues.

Stephen Kraljic Collection

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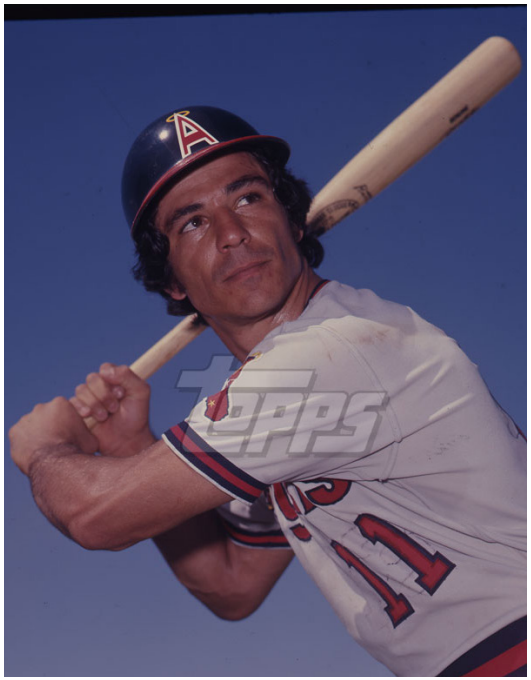
1973-1986 Angels Knit Pullovers

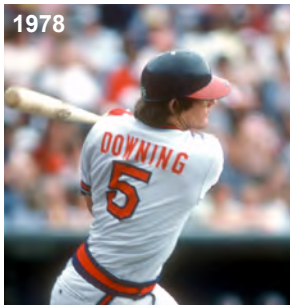
For the 1973 season, the Angels changed to a classic pullover jersey design that they would use for the next 16 years. While to the casual observer they might all appear identical, there are actually year-to-year detail changes that we will note. Tracking the Angels' jersey variations during this period is a real challenge, for several reasons:

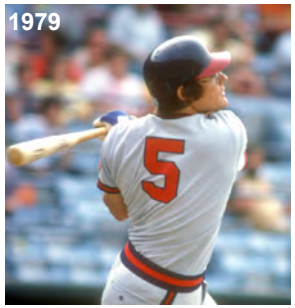
- The team used four vendors during this period, McAuliffe, Rawlings, Goodman and Sons (a local Los Angeles area provider who also supplied the cross-town Dodgers), and Wilson.
- Not all suppliers year-tagged the team's jerseys, making it very difficult to tell the original year of issue of jerseys in our exemplar library, now decades later.
- The team repeatedly wavered on whether to include player names on jerseys, resulting in multiple year-to-year flip-flops, and years when names were on home jerseys but not road ones.
- Frugally, jerseys were re-issued frequently, and it was not unusual to see uniforms from different makers and years on the field at the same time.

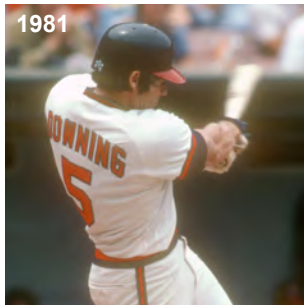
On the pages that follow, we will detail the changes by year from 1973–1986. It is important to remember when looking at jerseys that are being offered today and are claimed to have been from a specific year, their observed details may not match this reference. This is because many jersey were stripped of names and numbers and re-used in a second or even third season. Goodman jerseys especially are hard to date because they have no year or set tagging.



Above left: *Player #48 at right, wearing a jersey with different number fonts on the front from the other players; as this photo was from 1973 all should be Goodman jerseys. Things like that were common in the 1970s and didn't seem to matter to teams.* ***Above right****: Bobby Valentine wearing #11 but if you look closely, you can see that his jersey was a reissue, with the clear glue outlines of the former numbers visible underneath.* ***Below****, the Angels seemingly could not decide if they wanted player names on back or not and what fonts to use... in sequence, these represent 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1981, Details are on the pages that follow.*







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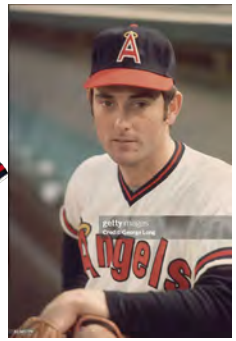
1973 Home

1973

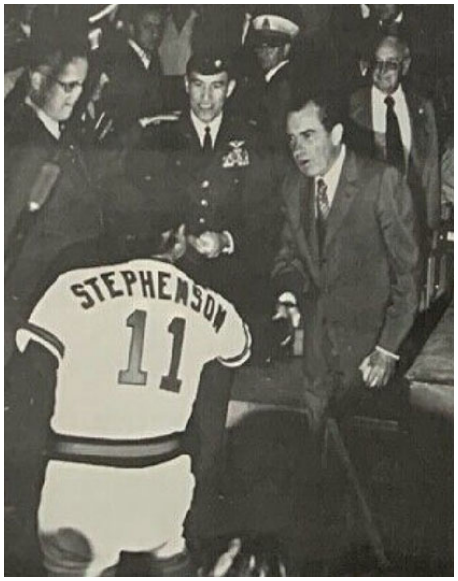


Jason Gudvi Collection

The front team crest evolves to add a bold capital A with a gold/navy halo encircling its top, a brilliant design. All lettering is otherwise red/navy. Sewn-on navy/red/navy sleeve trim rings the end of the sleeves, stitched on top of the sleeve ends. V-neck trim appears in the same color pattern. McAuliffe/Red Sox-style front numbers continue on the left side. The team's secondary logo, the haloed State of California patch, is sewn to the left sleeve. Names on back are used, though today it is extremely uncommon to find any with the original name on back still in place; all were removed subsequent to sending them to the minor leagues.

We strongly believe all home jerseys in 1973 were supplied by exclusively by McAuliffe.

1973



Stephen Kraljic Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1973-1977 Road

1973

Nearly Identical to the same-era home jerseys, except for the gray body color and the fact that there are no player names on back. Rawlings is the exclusive provider of road jerseys in these years. McAuliffe/Red Sox-style numbers on front and back. On front, the Rawlings version of the player numbers are shorter and more square than the home Goodman jerseys. These jerseys were used and reused in spring training and surely the minor leagues. In many cases the gray nylon fabric has been bleached almost pinkish-white and may easily be mistaken for home white jerseys.

1976

1975

Below: *The #58 jersey is Rawlings year tagged 1973, but it has clearly been re-numbered with discarded take-off numbers from a Goodman jersey. Notice the unequal sizes and uneven placement, and the taller narrow front font vs. the square Rawlings front number style.*

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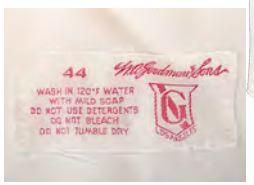
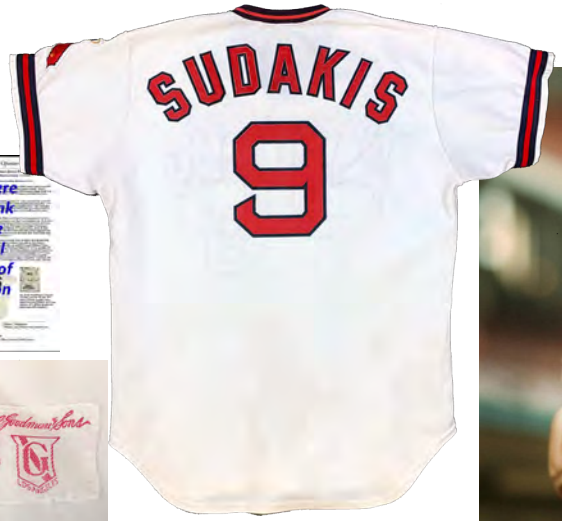
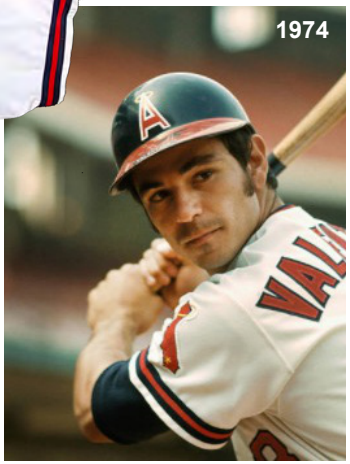
1974-1975 Home

1975



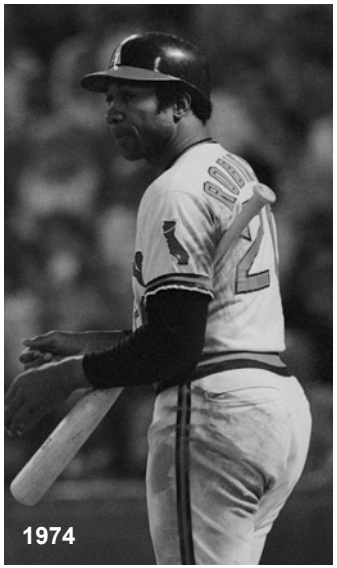




Stephen Kraljic Collection

Goodman and Sons takes over home uniforms for 1974. All lettering is otherwise red/navy. Team crest is the same as McAuliffe's 1973 version, but number and name fonts change slightly to Goodman's variants. Player names are slightly larger and bolder. Sewn-on navy/red/navy sleeve trim rings the end of the sleeves, stitched on top of the sleeve ends. V-neck trim appears in the same color pattern. The team's secondary logo, the haloed State of California patch, is sewn to the left sleeve. Today it is extremely uncommon to find any with the original name on back still in place; all were removed subsequent to sending them to the minor leagues. In fact, as of this writing I have still not found one with its original player name intact.

We believe new-issue home jerseys 1974–1975 are supplied exclusively by Goodman.



Top left: *Typical, this 1975 Angels jersey had been sent to the minor leagues and had its name on back stripped and the player number changed. I had the opportunity to restore it, and the document showing the transformation is linked here.*

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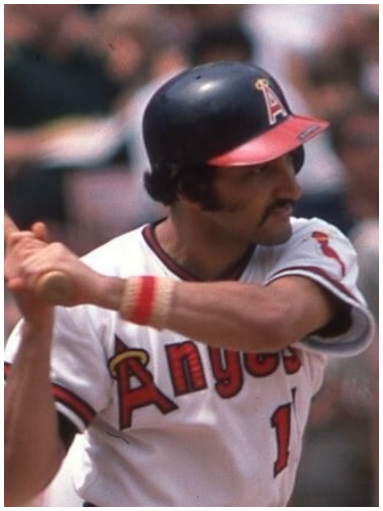
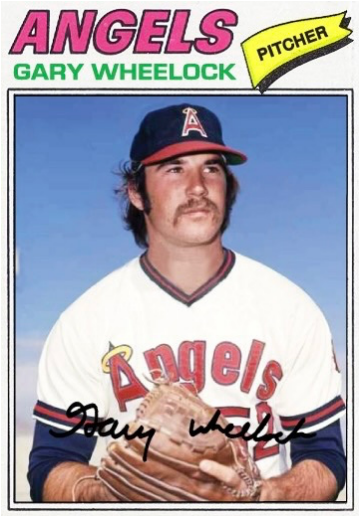
1976 Home





Continuing the ping-pong game, Rawlings takes over making home jerseys for 1976, and for that year makes both home and road uniforms for the team. Player names on back disappear again. Higher-up back number placement since there are no names on back. Rawlings jerseys are year/set tagged. Note the “square” shaped front numbers compared to the taller, narrower Goodman ones.

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1977 Home

Goodman took over and supplied the Angels' 1977 home uniforms; they were essentially identical to the Goodman home jerseys of 1974 and 1975 EXCEPT they were again without player name on back for 1977. Since Goodman does not year or set tag their jerseys, identify original 1977 issues by no NOB and the higher number placement on back, 6" from the collar. Goodman's front numbers continue to be taller and narrower than the Rawlings version of the same font. Nolan Ryan played for the Angels 1972–1979, and by 1974 developed a preference for Goodman jerseys, and for the rest of his career with two other teams (Astros, Rangers) would reportedly only wear Goodman jerseys, though that claim has since been rendered false in recent years.

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1978 Home/Road

All of 1978's jerseys, home and road, are provided by Rawlings. Except for the color of the jersey fabric, the styles are identical. The only change from prior years is the addition of one-color red names on back, sewn in a straight line without any arch. Back numbers are sewn two inches lower to accommodate the names.

1978: (not shown) Black armband for teammate Lyman Bostock worn after 9/23/78 for final week of the season.

© GameWornGuides.com

1979-1980 Home

1979

1980

Angels' home and road jerseys retain an identical appearance to each other, save for the color of the jersey body fabric. 1979–1980 home jerseys are now made exclusively by Wilson, and are year tagged.

There are two notable changes for 1979: with the change to Wilson as the vendor, the sleeve trim, previously "sewn on", wrapped around the fabric end of the sleeve, is now "sewn in"- it becomes an integral part of the sleeve end as an added-on stretchy band sewn onto the end of the shirt sleeve. Secondly, the player number font changes to a variant of Wilson Varsity, similar to that used by the Braves, Tigers, and Yankees, but the Angels' version is slightly bolder than those. In 1979–1980, there are no player names used. The State of California patch remains on the left sleeve, but it is a slightly different version than that used earlier, now with a larger, bolder yellow star and a less-detailed "coastline" of the state edge.

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1979 Road

All trim and lettering changes described on the prior page for the 1979 home jerseys also apply to the 1979 road jerseys. The road jerseys in this year are made exclusively by Rawlings and are year and set tagged. No names on back are used. The State of California patch remains on the left sleeve, but the new version of this patch is slightly different than that used earlier, with a larger, bolder yellow star and a less-detailed "coastline" of the state edge. Back numbers use the Wilson Varsity font, numbers are placed high up on the back, leaving no room for player names.

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1980 Road

Practically indistinguishable from the 1979 Rawlings road jerseys, the 1980 road issues fall back to Goodman. One notable quirk observable in multiple period news photos, the back numbers on the 1980 road jerseys (only) are noticeably lower than normal on jerseys without names. I don't know if this was a purposeful change, or simply a stitcher's arbitrary choice, nor do I know if all jerseys have this characteristic. It almost seems as if the numbers were sewn lower to allow names, and the plans changed.

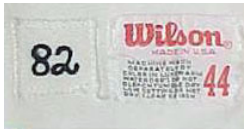
As before, Goodman jerseys lack year or set tagging. No names on back are used. The State of California patch remains on the left sleeve, but the new 1979 and later version of this patch is slightly different than that used earlier, with a larger, bolder yellow star and a less-detailed "coastline" of the state edge. While Goodman uses the Wilson-Varsity font, their version is almost cartoonishly exaggerated; especially on the front numbers, pumped-up fatter and bolder. Such was the pre-digital era of pattern sharing between manufacturers.

© GameWornGuides.com

1981-1985 Home

Made exclusively by Wilson in these years, they are the same as the 1980 Wilson home jerseys, but a distinctive vertically-arched name on back is added. Each player name was beautifully hand-rendered by an artist at the Wilson factory, resulting in subtle variations that made every jersey unique. Artistically, the letters at the ends of longer names—especially—are slightly taller than those in the middle. And notably, players acquired mid-season or late season call-ups might have jerseys with non-vertically arched names on back, as these were probably sourced from the team's local stitcher and not the Rawlings factory.

1985 jerseys have a small but colorful 25th season commemorative disk patch sewn to the right sleeve.



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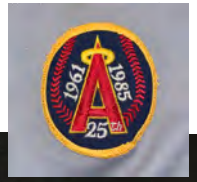
1981-1985 Road

1985



1983–
1984

1985

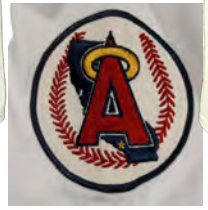
Bill Henderson Collection

Angels road gray jerseys 1981–1985 were made exclusively by Goodman. These jerseys share all the characteristics of the Wilson home jerseys shown on the prior page. As before, the Goodman variant of the player numbers, especially on the front, remains a fatter almost cartoonish variant on the Wilson version. Player names on back are vertically arched, very similar to the Wilson version on the home jerseys of the same period.

1985 jerseys have a small but colorful 25th season commemorative disk patch sewn to the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Home



Wilson was the exclusive provider of 1986 home jerseys. All lettering remains the same as 1985, including the vertically arched player name on back. The only change is to the team sleeve patch, reflecting the team's new secondary logo: a round white patch bordered with blue that incorporates the A with halo, the State of California and the stitches of a baseball.

© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Road

1986 road gray jerseys were identical to those worn in 1985, with the sole exception of a new team sleeve disk patch replacing the State of California patch that had been used since 1970. It appears that both Rawlings and Goodman each made a set of 1986 road gray jerseys. I have multiple examples in my photo library made by Goodman, lacking any year/set identification, but featuring the new-style sleeve disk and a vertically arched name on back. 1986 was the only year for this specific combination.

Oddly, the Rawlings examples—year-tagged for 1986 and properly lacking the embroidered Rawlings sleeve logo introduced in 1987—appear crisp and new, and are notably lettered for common players (making it unlikely they were produced as counterfeits). They have radially arched (non-vertical) names on back—a change that did not occur on-field for the Angels until the following year. Searchable period news photos of the Angels are notoriously misdated, but I doubt that the team wore a mix of name-on-back styles on the field at the same time all year. It's possible the Rawlings set was created and then rejected by the team in favor of a Goodman contract—after which they were disposed of and entered the hobby as game-used jerseys. I would welcome any assistance with this question. More research is required.

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1987 Home/Road

Beginning in 1987, Rawlings was awarded the MLB contract to be the official uniform supplier for all teams. While not all clubs participated, the Angels did. That season, the Angels switched to Rawlings as their supplier for all uniforms—home and road. For the first time, the Rawlings script logo appeared on all on-field jerseys, positioned at the end of the right sleeve. For 1987 only, the script was directly embroidered onto the jersey sleeve, approximately one inch above the knit sleeve-end trim.

Our archives contain several documented examples of call-up players and coaches wearing likely unissued or reissued Goodman jerseys after 1986—noticeable for lacking the Rawlings sleeve logo.

The only notable change to the 1987 jerseys is that names on back switch from a vertical arch to a radial arch—still in red/navy. Rawlings jerseys are flag tagged with year and set.

© GameWornGuides.com

1988 Home/Road

Only minor changes are made to the home and road jerseys in 1988. The styles remain identical to each other, except for the color of the fabric.. Rawlings is the sole supplier.

For 1988 there are two subtle changes:

First, the Rawlings logo is moved a couple of inches lower and is now embroidered into the red center stripe of the sleeve-end trim, rather than positioned above it as in 1987.

Also, player nameplates are introduced, making it easier to strip the jerseys for reassignment to the minor leagues.

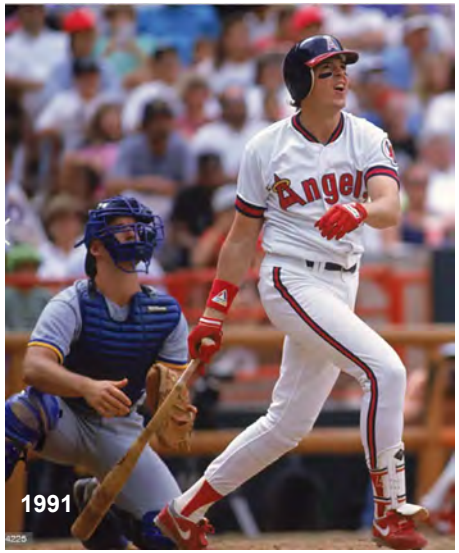
© GameWornGuides.com

1989-1991 Home

1990

Bill Henderson Collection

Following the style trend in MLB, the Angels abandon pullover jerseys and switch to button-front ones for 1989. Aside from this change, all other elements remain identical to the 1988 jerseys. Rawlings continues as the exclusive supplier of all Angels jerseys. 1The 1989 jerseys feature the MLB All-Star Game patch on the right sleeve. All lettering is two-color red/navy, and player names are on nameplates. Angels disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve. Navy/red/navy knit trim is sewn-in at the neck and sleeve ends. The Rawlings script logo is embroidered into the sleeve-end trim on the right sleeve. 1991 jerseys do not appear to have year or set tagging on them.



1991

1989

1991

Desiree Gelfond Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

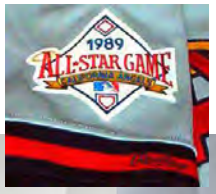
1989-1991 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

Note the original upside-down "8" on the back of this game jersey.

1990

The road jerseys from these years are identical to the home versions described on the previous page, except for the gray jersey fabric.. Player nameplates are used. 1991 jerseys are not year or set tagged.



1989

1991

Desiree Gelfond Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1992 Home/Road

In 1992, Russell became the official uniform supplier for MLB. While teams were not required to use them, the Angels did—for both home and road jerseys. The Russell "R" logo, embroidered into the red stripe of the right sleeve trim, is the only visible change. The Angels also wore a "DJ" memorial patch on the right sleeve of both home and road jerseys in honor of deceased teammate Deron Johnson. Nameplates continue to be used.

Since 1992 was the final year of this jersey style, all Russell-tagged examples can confidently be attributed to that season. As before, the only difference between home and road suits is the color of the body fabric.

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1993-1996 Home

1995

This retro-inspired early-1960s redesign was short-lived. No numbers on front. Names and numbers are rendered in two-color red/navy.Name on back usually in Block Condensed font. Long names in Block Extra Condensed. Numbers in Varsity font; nameplates used on 1993–1995 Russell jerseys, but not 1996 Wilson versions.

1993

1994–1996

Subtle white outline added

Above left: *In 1993 only, front team lettering is two-color red/navy and slightly condensed in width.*

Above: *1994–1996, a white outline is added to the lettering.*

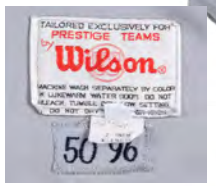
Right: *The 1996 jersey is made by Wilson and omits the Russell "R" logo on the right sleeve.*

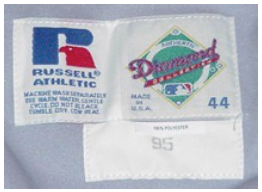
1996

© GameWornGuides.com

1993-1996 Road

1994





1996

Three-color team lettering rendered in navy/red/white. A new retro 'CA' logo patch added to the left sleeve. No numbers on front. Three-color navy/red/white number on back in Varsity. NOB is also three-color, in Block Condensed or Extra Condensed, depending on length. Russell manufactured the jerseys from 1993–1995, with Wilson taking over in 1996. Nameplates used 1993–1995 only, dropped by Wilson in 1996. Note the Block Extra Condensed three-color name on the top left example. The bottom middle example uses Block Condensed—even though the name is slightly longer—further illustrating that there were likely no hard-and-fast rules to follow in the guidebook.

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1995-1996 Alternate

Button-front navy jersey, features the interlocking 'CA' logo on the left chest, with narrow white knit trim along the front, around the collar, and at the sleeve ends. The 1995 version, made by Russell, includes an anniversary patch on the sleeve. In 1996, 'ANGELS' lettering is spelled out on the left sleeve and embroidered directly onto the fabric—not applied as a patch. Russell retail sale models used sleeve embroidery on a sewn-on patch. Back name and Varsity number are two-color red/white. NOB is Block Condensed or Extra Condensed, depending on the length of the player's name. Nameplates used on 1995 Russell jerseys, but not on 1996 Wilson ones.

Below: *Aaron Ledesma was acquired by the Angels before the 1996 season but spent the entire year in the minor leagues. His jersey has no year or set tag. It may have been worn in Spring Training as it shows signs of use.*

Bill Henderson Collection

Below: *Jerseys made as blank extras before the start of the season sometimes carry only a two-digit year tag.*

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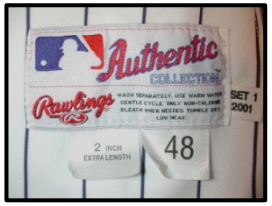
1997-2001 Home

2000

Bill Henderson Collection

1999



Right: *This 2000 team-issued jersey features a straight-tail hem, tailored to suit the wearer's specifications.*

2000

The Walt Disney Company bought the Angels in 1997 and immediately changed the team's name to the 'Anaheim Angels,' Anaheim being the territorial home of both the team and Disneyland. Disney completely redesigned the team's uniforms in an unmistakable 'Mickey Mouse' style.

A custom "Disney" number font is used. Both the home whites and road grays share the same number color scheme: front numbers are two-color navy/light blue; back numbers are three-color red/white/navy with a 3D drop shadow. Player names are in Block font, two-color navy/white, and sewn directly to the jersey, no nameplates.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997-2001 Road

1997

1999

2000

The 'Disney' road jersey is nearly identical to the home version, except that the jersey body is gray with navy pinstripes.

Both the home white and road gray pin-striped jerseys use the same number color combinations: front numbers are two-color navy/light blue; back numbers are three-color red/white/navy with a 3D drop shadow.

Player names are in Block font, two-color navy/white, and sewn directly to the jersey, no nameplate.

1999

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 Alternate

Bill Henderson Collection

July 2, 1997: Worn only once, for the Angels' first interleague game against the Dodgers, this alternate jersey was immediately retired. Word circulated that the players hated the design and refused to wear it again, with some comparing the look to softball uniforms. Fans also remember the game for a major brawl involving Tony Phillips.

The jersey features a two-color number (navy/white) on the right sleeve. Back number and player name are rendered in two-color white/periwinkle blue — a custom Angels shade developed by Liebe/Webster fabric. Notably, this alternate jersey was worn without the Jackie Robinson patch found on other 1997 jerseys.

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1998-1999 Alternate

Navy blue jersey features periwinkle blue knit trim on the front, collar, and sleeve ends. A two-color number (white/light blue) appears on the right sleeve. The back number is three-color red/white/light blue with a 3D drop shadow. The name on back in Block font, in two-color white/periwinkle blue.

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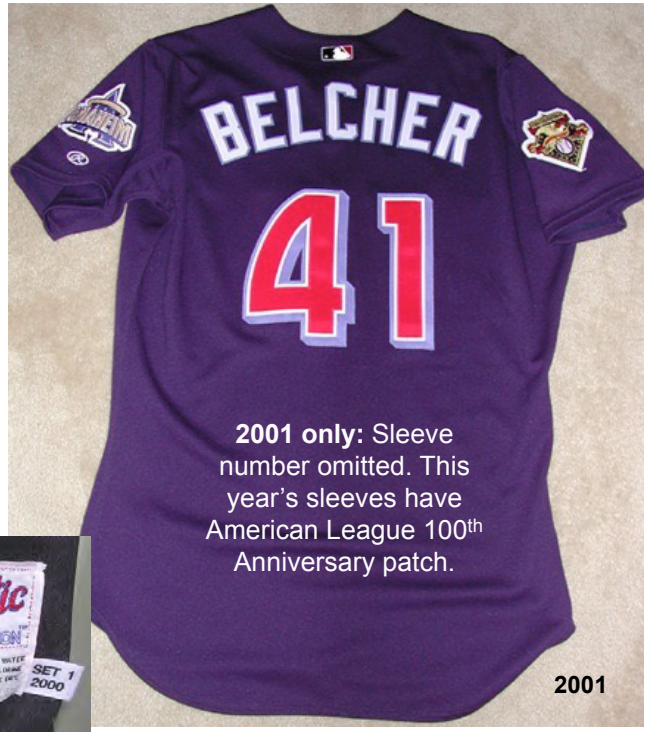
2000-2001 Alternate

Steve Kraljic Collection

2000



2001 only: Sleeve number omitted. This year's sleeves have American League 100th Anniversary patch.

2001

2000

The plain navy jersey eliminates all knit trim. The full 'Angels' wordmark replaces the solitary 'A' used on previous alternate jerseys. A two-color number (white/light blue) appears on the right sleeve in 2000. In 2001, the sleeve number is replaced with the American League 100th Anniversary patch.

Back numbers in three-color red/white/periwinkle blue with a 3D drop shadow. The name on back is in standard block font, also in two-color white/periwinkle blue. Notably, the periwinkle twill — a purplish tint — is inconsistently applied, especially on retail authentic jerseys, where it is often substituted with the more common Columbia blue.

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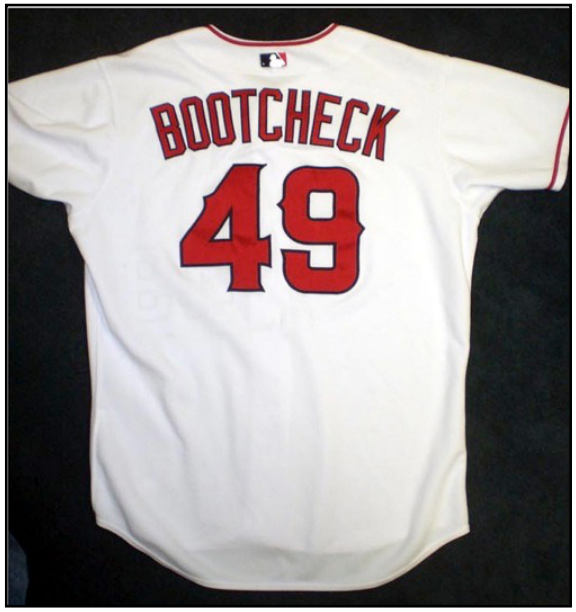
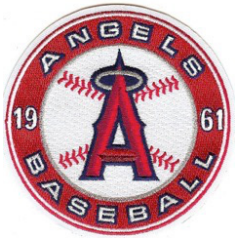
2002-2010, 2012-2023 Home (not 2011)





Left sleeve 2009–2010, and 2012–2022

Right sleeve 2012–2022, alternating sleeve 2023

The wordmark introduced in 2002 features a red/navy/white/gray drop shadow, which remains in use through 2015. In 2016, the drop shadow is modified into a 3D effect (see later page for details). A new custom Angels font is used for the red/navy front and back numbers only. Names on back are in regular Block font, red/navy, with no nameplates used. The left-sleeve team disc patch debuts in 2009 and is removed after the 2022 season. The 'A' patch with the silver halo appears on the right sleeve from 2012 to 2022, then alternates sleeve placement in 2023 to accommodate the addition of an ad patch.

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2002-2010, 2012-2023 Home (not 2011), continued

2015

2017

2020

Note the change in style code from ANH1 on the Majestic Flex Base jerseys (2016–2019) to AN11 on the Nike version of Flex Base (2020–2023)

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2002-2010 Alternate Home Vest

The vest is lettered identically to the home white style shown on the previous pages. A new, custom Angels font is used for the numbers only, which appear on both the front and back. Names and numbers are two-color red/navy. Player names are in a Block Condensed font and are applied directly to the jersey—no nameplates are used. Narrow red knit trim encircles the neck and sleeve openings; vests are worn with red undershirts.

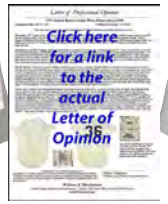
2008

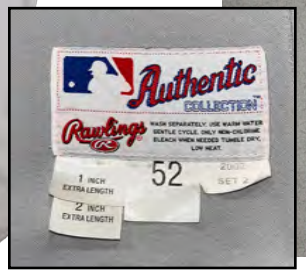
2002

© GameWornGuides.com

2002-2003 Road

2002





2002

'ANAHEIM' wordmark used only during these two seasons. It features a red/navy/white color scheme. A custom Angels font is used for the front and back numbers. There are no sleeve patches. Names and numbers in two-color red/navy and do not follow the three-color design of the wordmark. Player names on the back are in regular Block font, applied directly to the jersey—no nameplates were used. Team-issued 2002 jerseys may be found with World Series patch sewn on right sleeve.

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2004-2010, 2012-2023 Road (not 2011)

- Road jersey changes to the Angels wordmark, replacing the earlier Anaheim wordmark. This reflected the owners' goal of rebranding the team as the 'Los Angeles Angels'—a move that generated protests from the Anaheim City Council.
- Everything else remains the same as 2002–2003. Names and numbers are two-color red/navy and do not follow the three-color design of the 'Angels' wordmark!
- Names on the back are regular Block or Block Condensed; no nameplates used.

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2004-2010, 2012-2023 Road (not 2011), continued

2015

2016

2021

Note the change in style code from ANR2 on the Majestic Flex Base jerseys (2016–2019) to AN22 on the Nike version of Flex Base (2020–2023)

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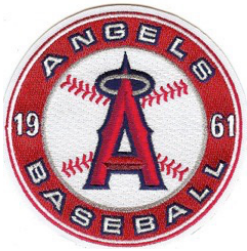
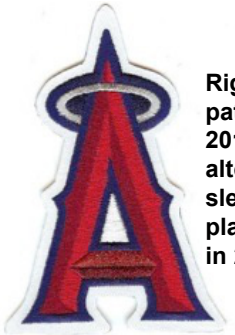
2007-2010, 2012-2023 Alternate (not 2011)

The Angels add an alternate red jersey for 2007. The team name lettering is four-color red/navy/white/gray drop shadow from 2002–2015. In 2016, the drop shadow is modified to become a 3D drop shadow (see later page for details).

Player names are a simpler three-color red/navy/white, lacking the drop shadow. No nameplates are used. Sleeve-ends and collars are adorned with a thin white/gray/white knit trim braid.



Left sleeve patch 2009–2010, and 2012–2022



Right sleeve patch 2012–2022; alternates sleeve placement in 2023

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2007-2010, 2012-2023 Alternate (not 2011), continued

2014

2019

2022

Note the change in style code from ANA3 on the Majestic Flex Base jerseys (2016–2019) to AN33 on the Nike version of Flex Base (2020–2023)

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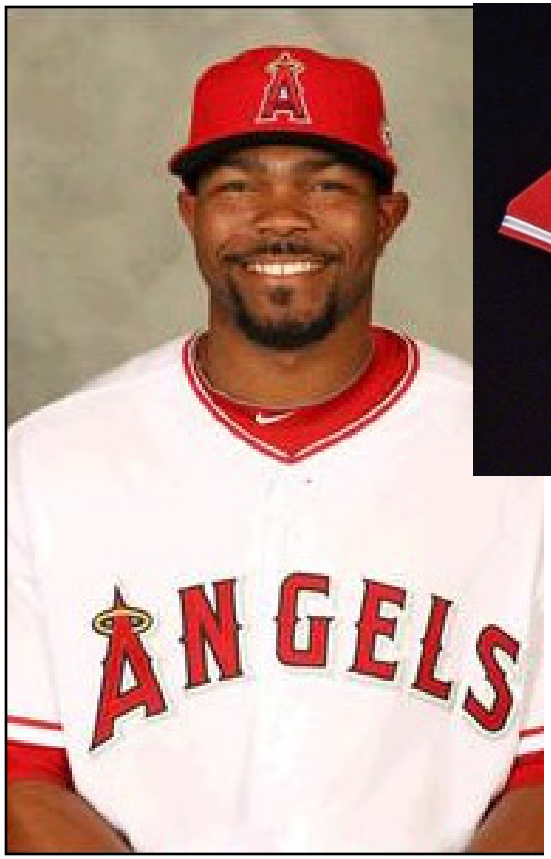
2011 Angels 50th Anniversary Jerseys: Home, Road, and Alternate



Left: **The special 2011 gold-trimmed emblems and the standard ones are shown side by side.**

To mark the team's 50th anniversary, the Angels made a very subtle change to their game (and batting practice) jerseys that most fans would never notice unless it was pointed out: The halo on the "A" in "Angels" was changed to gold for the year. Honestly, if someone had asked me, I would've said the halo was always gold. I remember it being gold for many years – it was from 1973 through 1992. t was changed to silver in 1993, dropped entirely as a uniform element from 1997 to 2001, then returned in silver from 2002 through 2010. It again returns to silver for 2012 and after. The sleeve patch was also changed for 2011 to feature the gold halo.

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2011 Angels 50th Anniversary Jerseys, continued

Worn on Jackie Robinson Day (April 15, 2011), this 2011 road gray jersey features number 42 sewn high on the back and no player name, in keeping with MLB's tradition of honoring Robinson league-wide.

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2016 Team Change: Flex Base Jersey Construction/Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made from Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. The MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2016: Subtle Shadow Change

With the league-wide switch to Flex Base and its component kiss-cut lettering in 2016, the Angels subtly changed the drop shadows on both their home and alternate jerseys.

From the inception of this uniform set, the gray drop shadow on the team's wordmark had been a standard drop shadow. However, starting in 2016, the shadow became less pronounced and morphed into a 3D drop shadow.

On both jerseys, the shadow was a very subtle element to begin with, and it became even more subdued with this change. It is possible that the switch to kiss-cut lettering prompted this modification, as the artwork in the team's official style guide—unchanged since its creation in 2002—oddly depicted a 3D shadow all along.

Aside from the wordmark, the red jersey's front and back numbers—which also feature a drop shadow—have used the 3D style consistently throughout the run, including the 2020 switch to Nike

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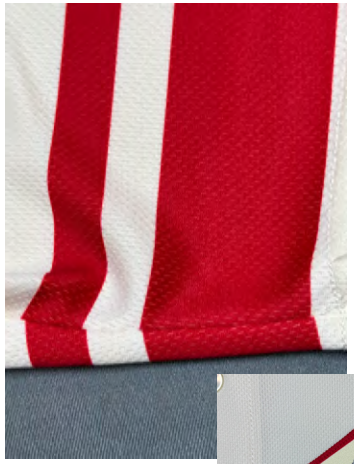
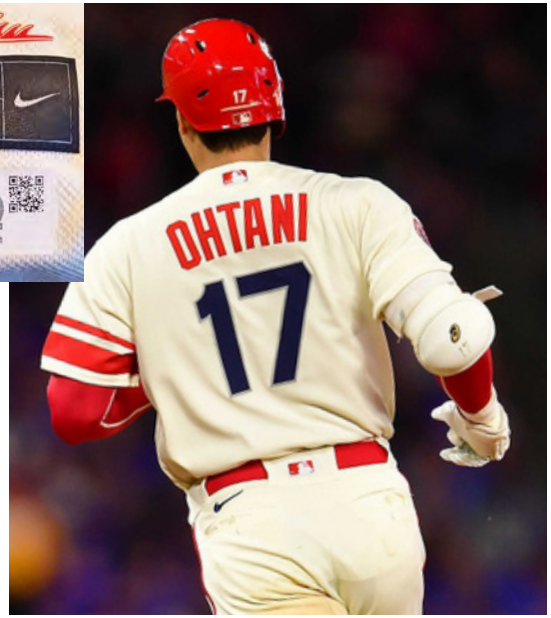
2022-2023 City Connect

Patch is printed on cloth, not embroidered as was traditional.

The Angels dive into the City Connect program in 2022 with a Southern California/surf-inspired set with lots of "storytelling" elements to wade through. The cream Flex Base jersey has red team script on front (inspired by vintage surfboard lettering), with a sweeping underscore capped off with a surfboard "fish tail" and two, left-sleeve-only fabric-sublimated red stripes (based on vintage surfboard striping). The blue/gray front and back uniform numbers are styled after numbers seen on California lifeguard towers, and the diamond around the front number is "inspired by various local vintage surfboard brands." Cresting the Nike tag on the hem is a surfboard graphic with the Angels halo. And to sink the whole surfing metaphor, the right sleeve patch is an homage to vintage California railroad signs...for some reason. Nevertheless, the patch marks the first time the Angels have used "Los Angeles" on a uniform since adopting the city name in 2005. In 2023, the team adds their advertising patch to the left sleeve.





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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly – a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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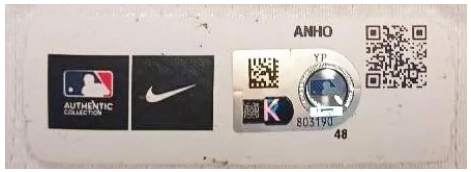
2024 Home



The 2024 version of the Angels home jersey introuces several subtle updates, some brought on by the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, and some to address consistency issues, which may or may not have come from Nike's general desire for simplification. The most obvious change is the neck and sleeve-end trim changing from knit trim that was sewn on to the jersey to trim sewn into the seams at the end of the sleeves and neck opening. This modification results in a much wider red section than the previous knit red braiding. As with all other teams, the Angels' numbering and lettering were scaled down to accommodate the new template. In addition, the team added a 3D drop shadow to the front number, aligning it stylistically with the team name lettering. Additionally, the MLB logo at the back of the collar changes from blue/white/red to red/white/blue for 2024. It is unclear if the Angels opted for perforated numbering, so further research is required.

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2024 Road

The 2024 version of the Angels road jersey mirrors the home jersey, featuring a number of small updates, some brought on by the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, and some to address consistency issues, which may or may not have come from Nike's general desire for simplification. Like the home, the most obvious change is the neck and sleeve-end trim changing from knit trim that was sewn on to the jersey to trim sewn into the seams at the end of the sleeves and neck opening. This change results in a much wider red section than before. As with all other teams, the Angels' numbering and lettering were scaled down to accommodate the new template. In addition, a white outline was added to the front number, along with a gray 3D drop shadow applied to both the "Angels" wordmark and the front number for consistency. However, the shadow is nearly invisible against the gray jersey body. Further, the MLB logo on the back of the collar changes from blue/white/red to red/white/blue for 2024. The team does not use perforated numbers on this jersey.

Above: *The new gray 3D drop shadow on the front lettering and numbers is barely visible even up close, and disappears entirely from a distance. It's hard to understand the rationale for this addition—particularly in an era when Nike emphasizes simplification and uniformity.*

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2024 Alternate Red

Continuing the trend of the team's other jerseys, the 2024 version of the Angels alternate jersey has lots of little changes, some brought on by the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, and some to address consistency issues, which may or may not have come from Nike's general desire for simplification. The most obvious change is the neck and sleeve-end trim changing from knit trim that was sewn on to the jersey to trim sewn into the seams at the end of the sleeves and neck opening. This update made the trim much wider than the previous knit braiding. As with all other teams, the Angels' numbering and lettering was scaled down to accommodate the new template. The team also removed the gray 3D drop shadow from the back number. Further, the MLB logo on the back of the collar changes from blue/white/red to red/white/blue for 2024. The Angels opted for perforated numbering on this style in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Home Nostalgia

The Angels continue to embrace their uniform history, as reflected in the many throwbacks they've used over the years. For 2024, they've added a historically inspired alternate jersey to their repertoire—one of the first Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) pullover styles to appear in MLB. Worn at home during "Throwback Week" (July 25–August 1), the jersey aligns with the team's 1973–1978 home design. Of those, only the 1973–1975 and 1978 versions featured player names on the back, so this 2024 edition most closely recalls those specific years. The jersey is a white pullover with blue/red/blue trim around the sleeves and neck. As with all jerseys using the VPE template, the trim is sewn into the seams rather than applied on top of the fabric. One unique detail is the V-neck notch—an unusual shape (perhaps better called a "Y-neck"?)—which is accentuated by the trim. Like the originals, the front and back numbering are in a McAuliffe-style font, however, the front numbers here are simply scaled-down back numbers, where the originals were a slightly different iteration of the font. A State of California patch appears on the sleeve. While the original jersey had the patch on the left sleeve, the 2024 version varies in placement, appearing opposite the side where the advertising patch is located. Numbers on this style are perforated.

Below: *An original version of this style from 1975, shown for comparison with the 2024 updated version. Note the "notch" in the V-neck—part of Nike's VPE pullover template—which the original lacks. In addition to modern updates like the ad patch and MLB logo, another key difference is the use of a smaller version of the McAuliffe back-number font for front numbers in 2024, instead of the distinct front-number font used in 1975—most noticeable on the number 3.*

Original 1975

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2024-2025 City Connect

The 2024 version of the Angels City Connect jersey transfers the 2022–2023 elements over to Nike's new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. With the change comes the standard updates made to all other jerseys to fit into the new jersey base. Here, that includes the small sewn-in collar material around the neck opening, smaller player name lettering, perforated numbers on back, and the MLB logo appearing lower than before. The team uses perforated numbers on this style. Otherwise, the look is comparable to the two prior seasons. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, so this version remains the same for that season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve-end trim remains sewn in, carried over from 2024. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels. Note also the use of the white Nike jock tag on front, one of a handful of uses of this new tag, which was typically black, and showed through white pants easily.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or "Air Belt" back panel). Also, unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Red

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve-end trim is still sewn in, carried over from 2024. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels.

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2025 Alternate Home Nostalgia

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve-end trim is still sewn in, carried over from 2024. The Angels do move away from one of the trademark elements of a VPE pullover in 2025, deleting the odd notch in the collar in favor of a more traditional V-neck. Note also the use of the white Nike jocktag on front, one of a handful of uses of this new tag, which was typically black, and showed through white pants easily.

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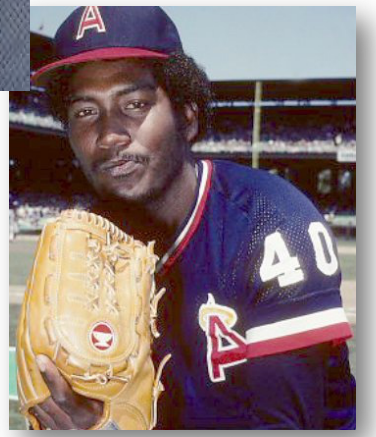
Spring Training and Batting Practice Jerseys

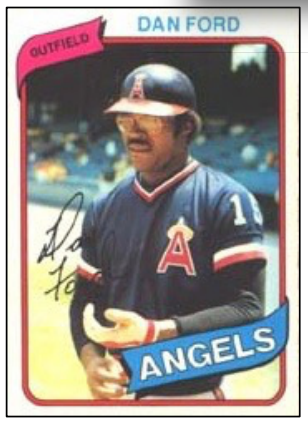
1979-1982 Batting Practice

1983

Steve Kraljic Collection



1981



1979

Blue mesh jersey with blue/white/red neck and sleeve-end trim. A simple “A” with halo appears on the left chest. Wilson and Roman Sport are makers of record.

Varsity-style numbers appear on the left sleeve only; the back of this jersey style is blank.

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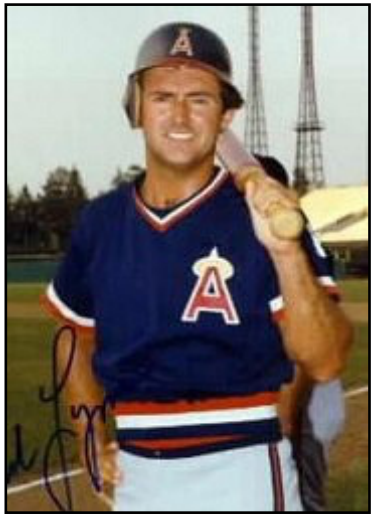
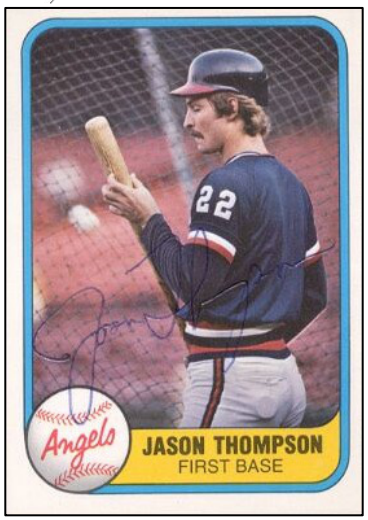
1979-1983 Alternate Batting Practice





Blue mesh with blue/red/white collar, sleeve end, and waist trim, made by Goodman, Sand-Knit, and Wilson. Goodman example ***(above)*** has the State of California logo on sleeve; Wilson ***(top left)*** and Sand-Knit ***(top right)*** versions do not. Simple "A" with halo sewn on the left chest, except on Sand-Knit models, where it is screened on.

The back of this jersey style is blank. Numbers appear on the left sleeve only. Varsity-style numbers are used on the Wilson and Sand-Knit jerseys, while the Goodman version features McAuliffe (Red Sox–style) numerals.

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Early–Mid 1980s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Roman Sport made these zip–neck batting practice jerseys for several teams in the early–to–mid 1980s. These feature wide, elasticized trim at the waist, neck, and sleeve ends. The “Angels” wordmark is straight across, without an arc. These are made of solid fabric and are not player-numbered—arguably closer to a jacket than a traditional batting practice jersey.

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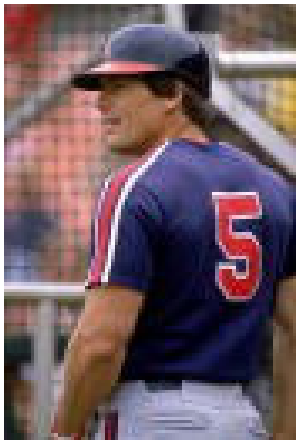
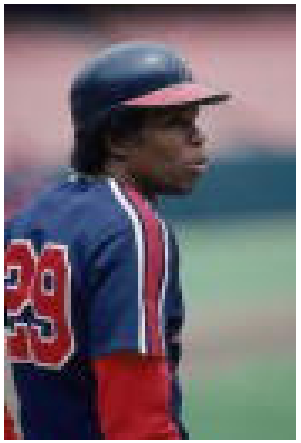
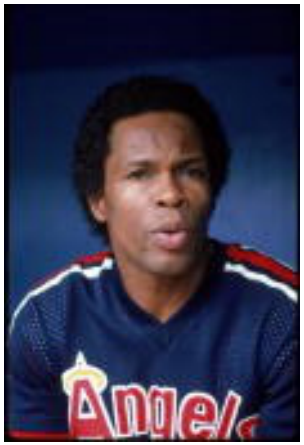
1983-1990 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Bill Henderson Collection







- Navy blue V-neck mesh pull-over, made by Majestic and Rawlings.
- Majestic Varsity numbers on back only; two-color red/white.
- Wide racing stripe trim on shoulders.
- No names on back.
- Rawlings jerseys are often tagged; Majestic ones do not seem to be.

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1990-1992 Home Batting Practice

1990: Flag on sleeve for Operation Desert Shield.

Bill Henderson Collection

- White mesh, button-front batting practice jersey is nearly identical to the white game jersey. Navy/red/navy knit collar and sleeve end trim.
- Two-color red/navt Varsity numbers on front and back.
- No names on back.

© GameWornGuides.com

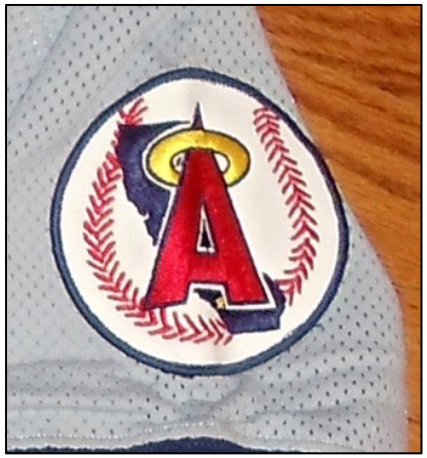
1990-1992 Road Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Bill Henderson Collection

- Gray mesh button-front jersey matches the road game jersey.
- Two-color red/navy Varsity numbers on front and back.
- No names on back.

Top left: *The Rawlings jersey lacks a sleeve patch.* ***Bottom left:*** *The Russell version includes a sleeve patch.*



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1993-1996 Batting Practice

1994

1995

1996

1996

1993

These button-front BP jerseys were issued from 1993 to 1996 by both Majestic and Russell. Sleeve patch applications vary by year. For back numbers, Russell used a Varsity font, while Majestic used its own version, sometimes referred to as Majestic-Varsity. Note the larger numbers on the 1994 Russell jersey..

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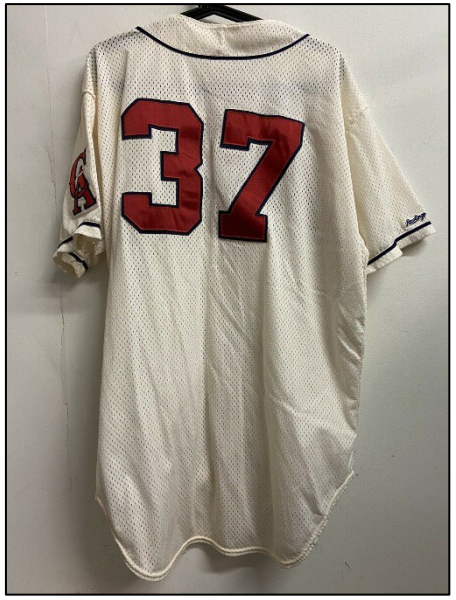
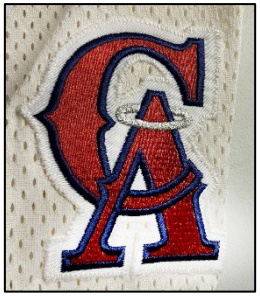
1993-1995 Home Batting Practice/Spring Training

Steve Kraljic Collection

We believe this style of mesh jersey, along with the companion gray version shown on the next page, was used exclusively in Spring Training as a game jersey. We are still searching for photographic evidence of them in use. These Russell jerseys are nearly identical to standard game jerseys, except they are made of mesh fabric and lack player names on the back. Varsity-style numbers on back only, red/navy, with front lettering red/navy/white.





Some have year tags; others do not. They may have been used in 1993 or 1994 as well, but all year-tagged examples we've seen are from 1995. The top jersey is made by Russell; the bottom one is by Rawlings and features a 1992–1994–style Rawlings red tag that includes the size.

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1993-1995 Road Batting Practice/Spring Training

Bill Henderson Collection

We believe these were used in only Spring Training as game jerseys, and we are still searching for photographic evidence of them in use. These jerseys are nearly identical to game jerseys, except they are made of mesh fabric, and have no names on back. Varsity-style numbers on back only in navy/red/white, —the same color scheme as the front lettering. The jerseys were made by Russell and possibly Rawlings. Some have year tags; others do not. While they may have been used in 1993 or 1994, the only year-tagged examples we have seen—all made by Russell—are from 1995. Note the original “6” and the less-faded “4,” which appears to have been applied over the ghost of an earlier “7.” This suggests that the jersey was likely used in more than one season.

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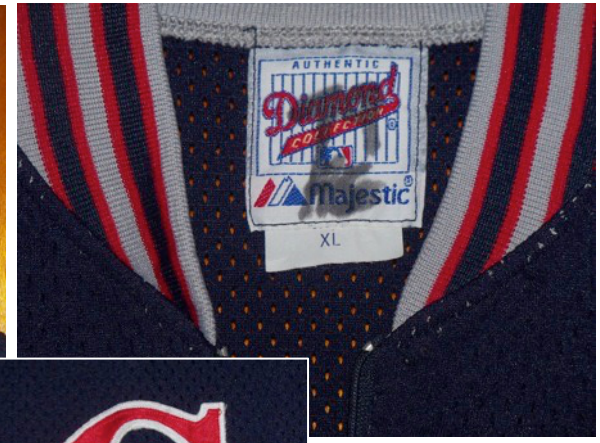
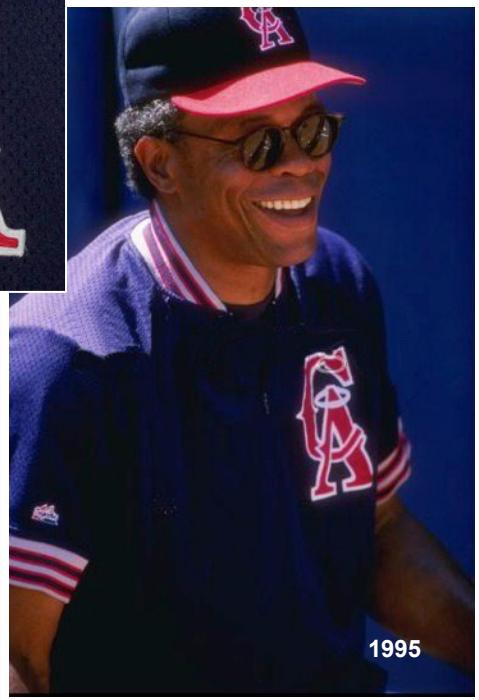
1995-1996 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck



Majestic produced this zip–neck *Gamewarmer* pullover for the Angels, as they did for most other MLB teams in the mid-1990s. It saw only occasional use. Note the complex, multi-colored sleeve-end and neck trim, as well as the embroidered, three–color Majestic “Twin Peaks” logo on the sleeve. These appear to have been worn without player numbers.



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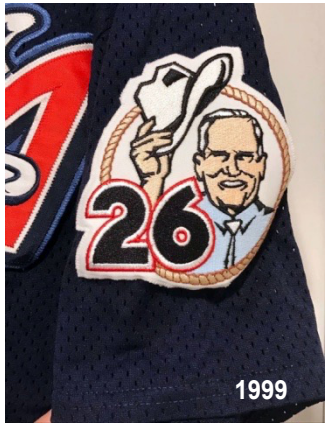
1997-1999 Batting Practice



The Angels' switch to Disney-designed uniforms in 1997 also brought a change to their batting practice jerseys.

These were two-button, navy mesh pullovers made by Majestic. The first version featured the new Angels custom number font, but without the new stylized "A-with-wings" logo on the left chest.. Player numbers were rendered in the drop shadow used on game uniforms. The numbers were two–color: white with a "Periwinkle Blue" outline—a shade that became derisively synonymous with these uniforms and a source of disdain among long-time Angels purists. The 1997 Jackie Robinson patch was not worn on BP tops. However, the 1999 Gene Autry memorial patch was worn during both Spring Training and the regular season.

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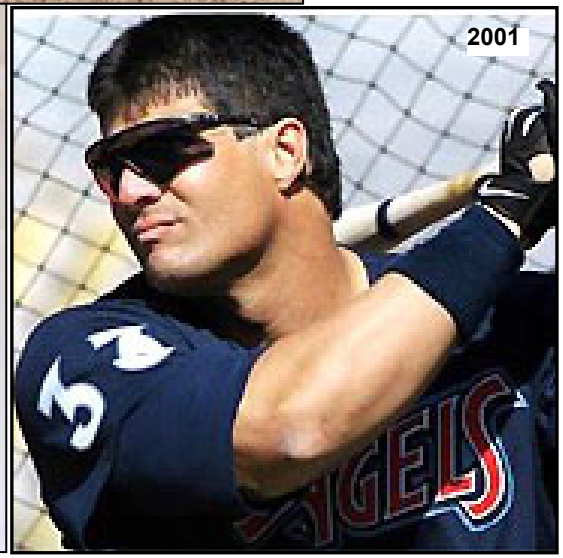
2000-2001 Batting Practice

"Disney style" front wordmark; button-front navy mesh.

Two-color numbers on sleeve and back: white/"Periwinkle Blue". Uses the custom Angels "Disney" font, without drop shadow.

The numbers on these BP jerseys are simpler than those on the game jerseys. No player names on back.



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2002 Batting Practice

One-year use only. Two-button pullover design made of red mesh fabric. Numbers appear on the back only, with no player names. Three–color numbers in the custom Angels font red/navy/white.

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2003-2006 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Made from softer, non-mesh, early moisture-wicking fabric with a two-button neck. These jerseys faded badly in the sun and were prone to snags and pulls. Player number colors changed from the previous year to white/red/navy, in custom Angels number style.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

MLB redesigns all batting practice jerseys for every team in 2007, changing to a thin Cool Base fabric with contrasting color side panels—for every team ***except*** the Angels. Determined not to introduce a secondary fabric color into their uniform design (they wanted RED, RED, and nothing else), the Angels managed to avoid the new trend. Their updated jerseys looked nearly identical to the previous versions!

One-button neck. Flock appliqué (not sewn tackle twill) lettering. Three-color white/red/navy custom Angels font numbers on the back only. Player names not used. ***Top left:*** *These jerseys faded badly in the sun, as shown.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Batting Practice

Jersey changes to a full button-front design. Otherwise, it looks like the 2010 jersey, but with a one-year-only gold halo on the front and the 50th Anniversary commemorative patch on the left sleeve.

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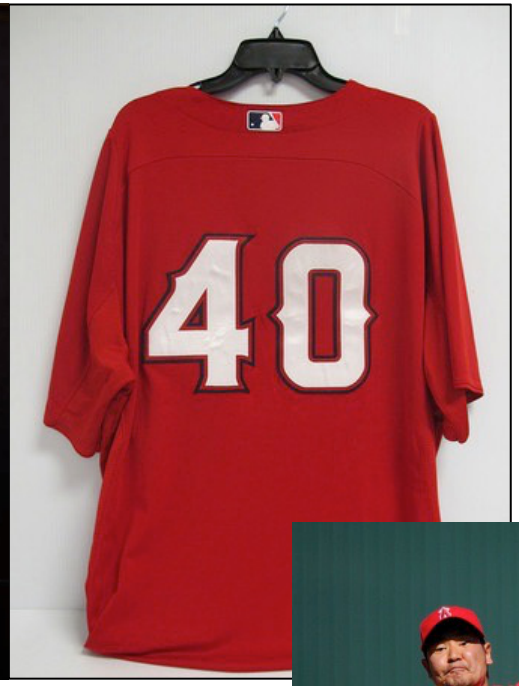
2012-2013 Batting Practice



The full button-front Cool Base batting practice jersey returns for 2012, minus the 2011 commemorative sleeve patch and with the halo restored to its usual silver color.

Numbers on back are three-color twill: white/red/navy.

No player names used on BP jerseys.

Left: *Jock tag reads "Angels Baseball," unlike other teams, which list both city and team name. The Angels were in a long negotiation with the city of Los Angeles over naming rights, and the team name was in flux.*

Left: *A prototype 2012 jersey features a tag that says "Los Angeles Angels." This version was not used.*

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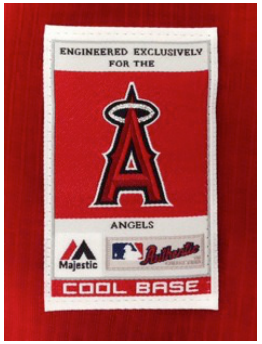
2014-2016 Batting Practice



Batting practice jerseys were redesigned for all MLB teams in 2014. There is little noticeable difference between the Angels' 2013 and 2014 batting practice jerseys. The Angels were one of the only teams to retain solid-color jerseys, lacking the contrasting color side panels used by most other clubs. Note the red/navy/red knit trim on the collar and sleeve ends, and the new-style team tag on the lower front tail. Numbers on the back remain in white/red/navy. No player names were used.

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2016 Spring Training

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

For the first time, in 2016 MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended for workouts and preseason games. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for all teams.

The Angels use their regular season red alternate, minus the player name on back, as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are red patterned twill/blue/white/gray 3D drop shadow. Front numbers are standard red/blue/white/gray 3D drop shadow. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the left sleeve in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" to represent where the Angels spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017, with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same special twill, single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Angels again use their regular season red alternate, minus the player name on back, as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are standard red/blue/white/gray 3D drop shadow, as used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve, in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Angels hold Spring Training.

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2017-2020 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are void of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made from Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys.

Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Angels jersey is red with red back and underarm gussets, very similar to their simple BP jerseys of years past. The haloed “A” logo appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. While the MLB Style Guide shows these being worn with numbers on the sleeves, in practice the Angels wore them blank, without player identification.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all back lettering using each team's regular fonts, simplified using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns.

The Angels use their regular season red alternate minus the player name on back as their base. The back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are standard red/blue/white/gray 3D drop shadow, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the left sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past few years and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns.

The Angels use a different jersey from years prior, with their cap logo on front left chest and right sleeve, carrying a new CFX patch on the left sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The back numbers are red/blue/white/gray 3D drop shadow. White/gray/white knit ribbon trim encircles the neck opening and just above both sleeve ends.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular season alternates.

For 2020, the Angels use their spring training jersey from the year before, with their cap logo on the left chest and sleeve, with red/blue/white/gray 3D drop shadow back numbers. The sleeve patch adorns the right sleeve from 2020–2022, in 2023, it alternates sleeves based on the presence of an ad patch. White/gray/white knit trim encircles the neck opening and appears just above both sleeve ends.

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Special Events Jerseys

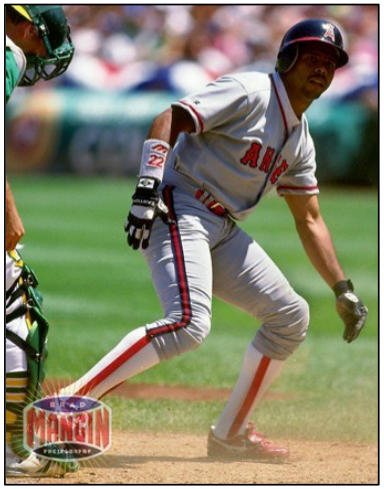
1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1968

August 16, 1992: Replicas of the 1968 Angels uniform are rendered in double knit by Russell, for a Turn Back the Clock road game in Oakland.

Although the jersey is made from double knit material, all lettering and numbers are made from two-layer sewn felt.

Sadly, as far as authenticity goes, these are just plain wrong. Back numbers were originally done in McAuliffe/Red Sox font, and colors of all lettering are reversed.

Left: *Actual 1968 road jersey. .*



Game photos. Brad Mangin Photography.

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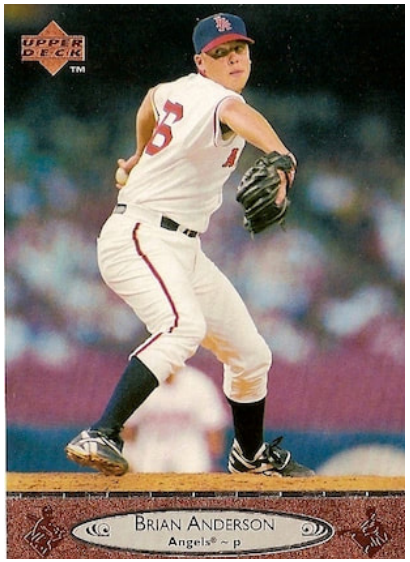
1995 Turn Back the Clock to 1961

Signed game jersey of Rod Carew, who was a coach on the 1995 team.



August 26, 1995: The Baltimore Orioles visited Anaheim and played the Angels in a Turn Back the Clock game commemorating the 45th anniversary of the Angels' first game (also played against the Orioles in 1961, but in Baltimore).

Mitchell & Ness made the flannel uniforms for both teams in typical true-to-history style, using correct fonts and colors. However, the neck trim is not an exact replica of the original *(**Right:** actual 1962 jersey).*

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1998 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

Steve Kraljic Collection

June 26, 1998: The Angels wore reasonably accurate reproductions of their 1978 road uniforms, created by Mitchell & Ness. While the originals were tightly tailored, these reproductions were much baggier. The Angels played the Padres in San Diego, who wore poor versions of their own 1978 brown/gold uniforms. One notable error on the Angels' jerseys: the name on back was not faithful to the original—it should have been solid red and positioned in a straight line across the back.

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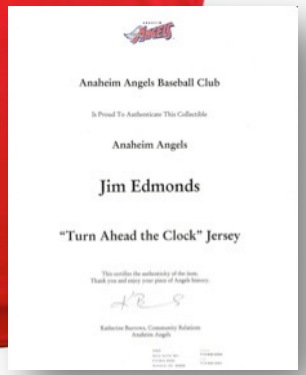
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock (Home)



Anaheim Angels Baseball Club

Is Proud To Authenticate This Collectible

Anaheim Angels

Jim Edmonds

"Turn Ahead the Clock" Jersey

- **June 26, 1999:** The Angels hosted the Oakland Athletics for this "Turn Ahead the Clock" game.
- Replicas of this jersey style—presumably produced for fan sales in 1999—have frequently surfaced on online auction sites in the years since. Their abundance suggests that many were manufactured for retail resale.

These few lines were found in the *LA Daily News*, June 27, 1999:

Saturday's game was billed as "Turn ahead the clock night" at Edison Field. Both teams wore futuristic uniforms, supposedly representing the year 2021.

The Angels wore bright red jerseys with the new logo taking up the entire front of the jersey. Said one Angels player: "All we need are red bottoms and we have the perfect pair of pajamas."

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock (Road)

Bill Henderson Collection

Left, center: *Actual game worn Joe Maddon jersey.*

Near Left: *Perfectly lettered reproduction by Patsy Elmer of Big Time Jerseys.*

- Navy 1999 Turn Ahead the Clock jersey was worn only once—on July 25th in Baltimore.
- Features an unusual OCR-style font (Optical/Magnetic Character Reader – reminiscent of the numbers printed on bank checks). Strictly 1970s technology, it was presumably chosen here to suggest a “futuristic” look.
- Names on back are laid out vertically in metallic silver/red twill.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Steve Kraljic Collection

In 2002, the Angels dress in their 1982 home uniforms, reproduced here by Rawlings. Names on back should be in vertical arch to be faithful to the originals. Nameplate use is also inaccurate.

Angels played the Athletics in these uniforms on July 23–25, 2002. The A's wore their 1972-style gold uniforms.

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1971

May 15, 2008: The Angels faced the Chicago White Sox, who wore their standard uniforms, in a Turn Back the Clock game. Majestic produced near-exact replicas of the Angels' red-haloed 1971 flannel uniforms, now rendered in double knit fabric. The jerseys featured the distinctive lowercase "a" and used McAuliffe/Red Sox-style font for both front and back numbers. True to the originals, the front numbers were lighter in stroke weight than the back numbers.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1995

June 5, 2010: The Angels visited Seattle for a Turn Back the Clock game celebrating the 1995 season. Both teams wore throwback uniforms: the Mariners in teal and the Angels in near-perfect recreations of their 1995 road jerseys, produced by Majestic. The Angels' jerseys included the distinctive 35th Anniversary sleeve patch worn only during the 1995 season.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Turn Back the Clock: Angels' 50th Anniversary Celebration "Flashback Fridays"

In 2011, 13 Friday home games were designated as "Flashback Fridays," during which the Angels wore throwback uniforms representing various decades of team history. These games were part of a season-long celebration marking the franchise's 50th anniversary.

Uniforms from the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s were worn for these games—shown here from left to right—with the team's then-current uniform appearing at far right.

Road teams did not play along in this concept; they wore their regular uniforms in these games.

Notably absent from the series were the "Periwinkle Blue" Disney-era Angels uniforms of the late 1990s and early 2000s. I doubt the omission was an oversight.

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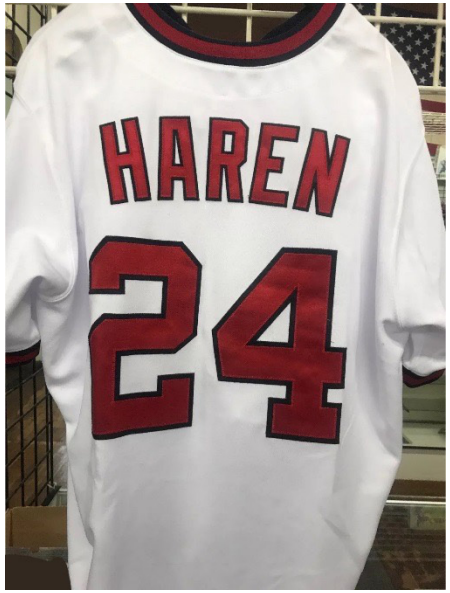
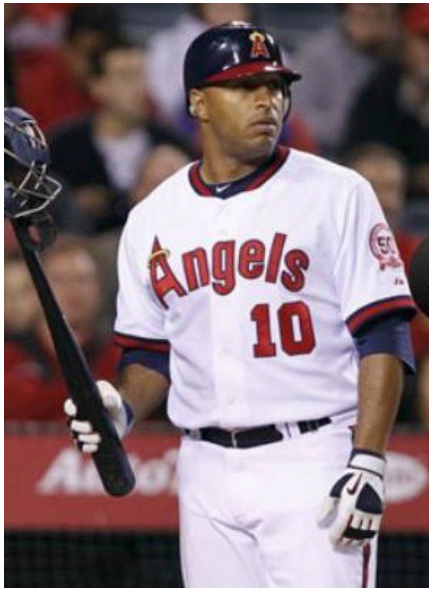
2011 Turn Back the Clock: “Flashback Fridays” to the 1980s





Button-front style like this was worn 1989 to 1992, but the overall uniform “look” was worn 1973 to 1992. So, I guess we can count this as a flashback to the 1980s.

Majestic knit replicas are excellent reproductions of the original design.

Player names and numbers use the correct fonts. While the originals featured nameplates, these do not—still, I’d rate the accuracy a 99 out of 100.

The 50th Anniversary patch appears on the left sleeve, which forces the State of California patch (originally worn on the left) to be incorrectly placed on the right sleeve.

Worn on three dates:

- **Jays vs. Angels 4/8/2011**
- **Red Sox vs. Angels 4/22/2011**
- **Indians vs. Angels 5/6/2011**

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2011 Turn Back the Clock: “Flashback Fridays” to the 1960s

Worn on four dates:

- **Braves vs. Angels – 5/20/2011**
- **Yankees vs. Angels – 6/3/2011**
- **Royals vs. Angels – 6/10/2011**
- **Dodgers vs. Angels – 7/3/2011**
- Majestic full knit replicas are excellent reproductions of the original 1960s uniforms.
- Jerseys feature McAuliffe/Red Sox–style numbers on the back, with no player names—true to the style of the era.
- The 50th Anniversary patch appears on the left sleeve, forcing the LA patch (originally worn on the left) to be incorrectly placed on the right sleeve.

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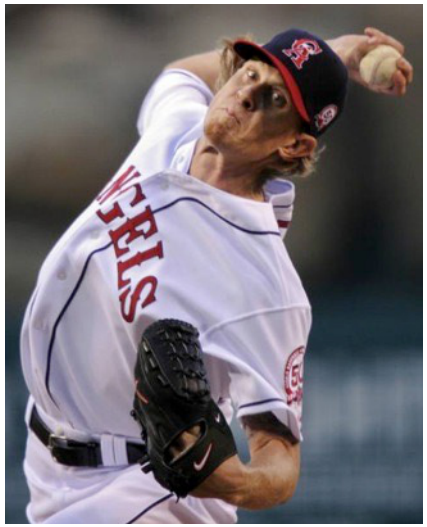
2011 Turn Back the Clock "Flashback Fridays" to the 1990s

Worn on three dates:

- **Mariners vs. Angels – 7/8/2011**
- **Mariners vs. Angels – 8/5/2011**
- **Orioles vs. Angels – 8/19/2011**

Near-identical reproductions of the 1993–1996 home jerseys by Majestic. The absence of a white outline on the front lettering makes them most closely resemble the 1993 version. The "CA" patch appears on the opposite sleeve from its original 1990s placement, as the 50th Anniversary patch occupies the left sleeve.



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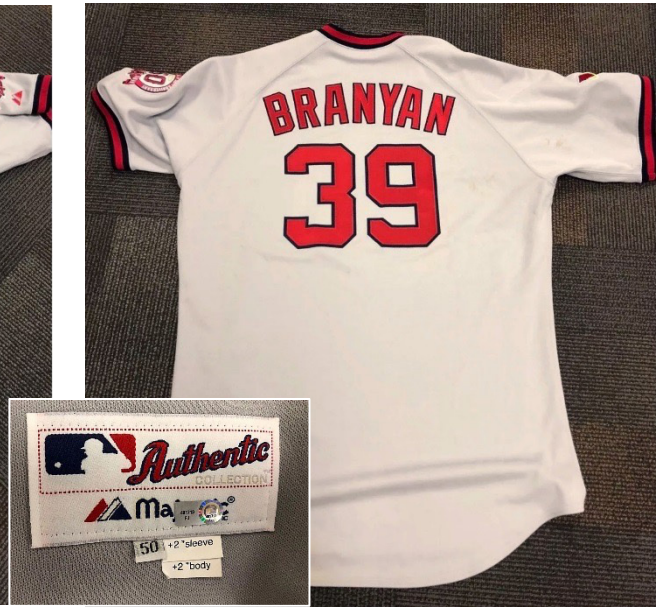
2011 Turn Back the Clock the the 1980s



Gray pullover jerseys in this style were originally worn by the Angels, 1973–1988.

July 17, 2011: This game in Oakland was billed as an "80s throwback" game. The home team A's wore white "OAKLAND" uniforms originally used from 1983–1986.

As part of their season-long anniversary celebration, the Angels wore a uniform very similar to those they used during the 1980s.

To be fully accurate, the player names should have been vertically arched, as they were from 1981–1986. Additionally, the front numbers are slightly undersized.

The 50th Anniversary patch appears on the left sleeve, causing the State of California patch to be (incorrectly) sewn on the right. On the original jerseys, this patch was worn on the left.

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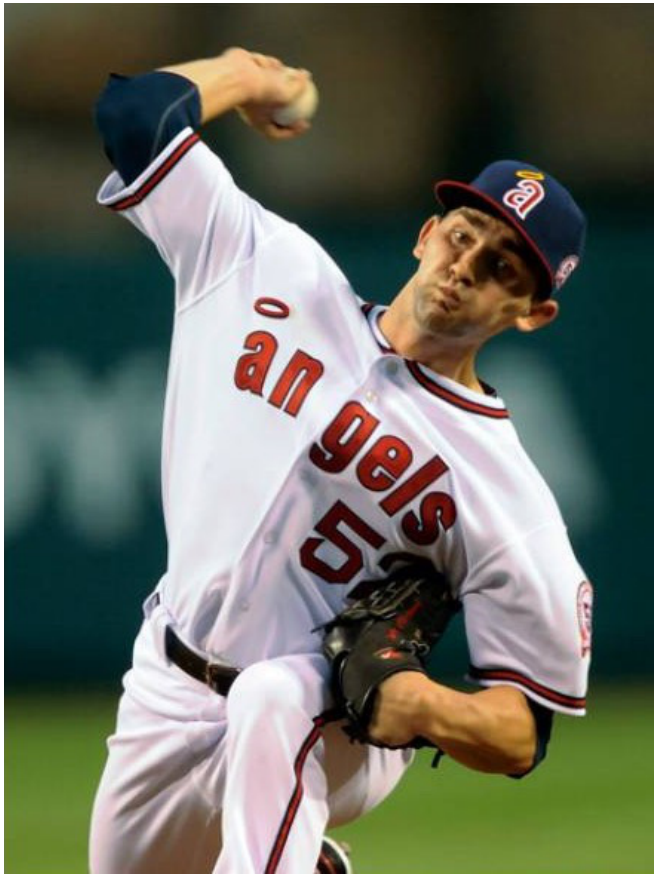
2011 Turn Back the Clock: "Flashback Fridays" to the 1970s



Top left: *On retail sale jersey note that the patches are sewn on the opposite sleeves compared to the team-issued versions worn on the field.*

Worn on three dates:
- **Twins vs. Angels – 9/2/2011**
- **Yankees vs. Angels – 9/9/2011**
- **Athletics vs. Angels – 9/23/2011**

- Majestic's full-knit replicas are excellent reproductions of the original 1971–1972 design.
- Red Sox–style numbers appear on the back and front in a thinner font; player names are applied directly (no nameplates).
- 50th Anniversary patch on the left sleeve, causing the State of California patch to be (incorrectly) sewn on the right sleeve. The original had this patch on the left.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1972

May 12, 2012: As part of their 40th birthday celebration, the Rangers invited the Angels to a Turn Back the Clock game.

Majestic produced outstanding replicas of the Angels' 1972 road uniforms. The fonts used for the wordmarks, player names, and numbers are spot-on.

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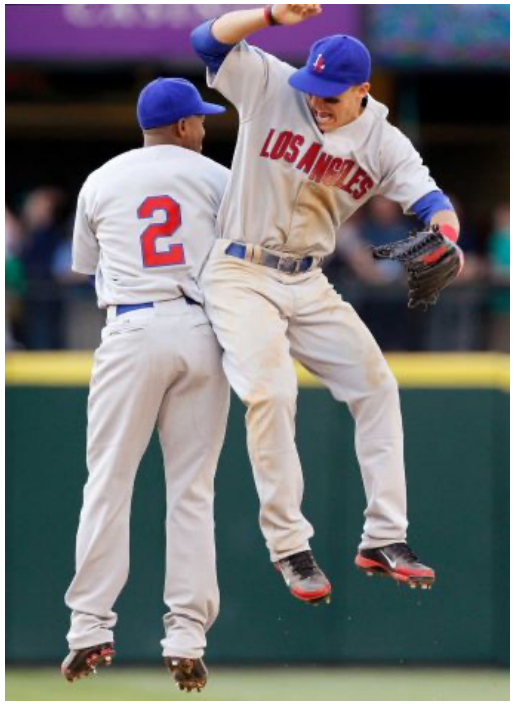
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL Los Angeles Angels



May 26, 2012: Turn Back the Clock game found the Seattle Mariners hosting the Angels in a game recreating the 1955 Pacific Coast League Championship Series.

The Angels wore Majestic knit replicas of the 1955 PCL Los Angeles Angels road uniforms—gray with navy/red lettering front and back. Player numbers appeared in Varsity font. The "LA" logo on the caps was similar to the style long associated with the Dodgers, making for an interesting twist.

Callaspo Slam Slays King Felix, Angels Avenge '55 PCL Series

by Rev Halofan on May 26, 2012
www.halosheaven.com

Wearing 1955 PCL Championship Series uniforms of the LA Angels and the Washington Rainiers, the Angels played the Mariners in a Saturday afternoon throwback affair. Pinch hitting in the 6th inning, Alberto Callaspo seemed to channel the ghost of LA Angel great Steve Bilko in hammering a grand slam off of King Felix Hernandez to turn a 2-1 score favoring the Rainiers into a 5-2 Angels lead that would not be relinquished. The 1955 Rainiers beat the LA Angels for the PCL Championship but 57 years later revenge was a dish served cold and on national television.

The Angels came from behind late for the second game in a row, won their fifth straight game and beat the pitcher who dominated the Rangers on Monday. Ernesto Frieri got the save and along with Jordan Walden and Scott Downs pitched scoreless bullpen mastery. The great Mike Scioscia teams have relied on shut-down bullpens and the blueprint seemed as fresh as the blue LA Angels helmets the team wore to great amusement of everyone but fans of the Chavez Ravine pseudo-Raiders.

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2013 Armed Services Day

May 18, 2013: The Angels hosted a day to honor members of the armed services, and the team wore white home jerseys with all adornments featuring desert camouflage twill. All outlining is the same as the team's regular home jerseys; the red top layer of the front wordmark, player numbers, and player name have been replaced with camo twill. Sleeve patches are unchanged from standard.

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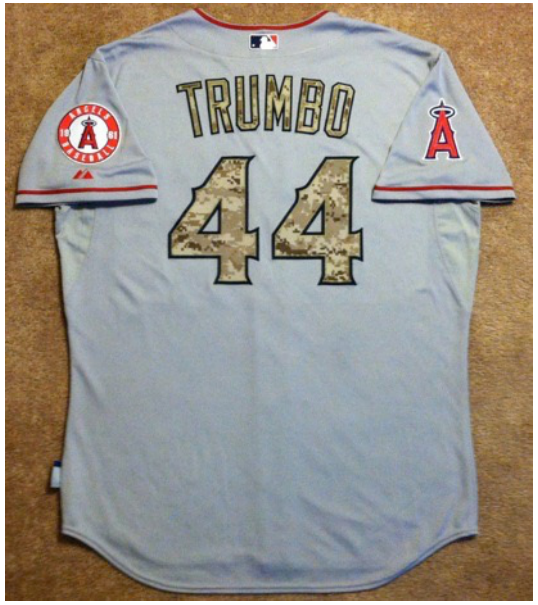
2013 Memorial Day



May 27, 2013: The Angels visited the Dodgers for Memorial Day. Like all MLB teams, they wore camouflage-accented jerseys. Their gray road jerseys had the red top layer of all lettering (wordmark, player numbers, and name) replaced with desert camouflage twill. Sleeve patches remained unchanged from standard.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

July 27, 2013: While visiting the Oakland Athletics, the Angels reprised their road uniforms from 1969, made by Majestic. These jerseys are made from full-weight polyester, not Cool Base fabric, and included the MLB 100th Anniversary patch on the left sleeve, just as all MLB teams wore in 1969.

The A's and Red Sox use the same McAuliffe/Red Sox font on their home jerseys. These Angels jerseys are good-quality reproductions of the originals.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Turn Back the Clock to the 1980s

August 16, 2013: The Angels hosted a Turn Back the Clock Weekend. On this Friday, they wore excellent replicas of their 1989–1992 uniforms—identical in style to those seen during several 2011 “Flashback Fridays,” though without the 50th Anniversary sleeve patch added that year. Player names and numbers matched the original 1989–1992 font. The visiting Astros, who seemingly never miss an opportunity to wear their garish older uniforms, id not participate and wore their standard uniforms instead. The decision may not have been theirs, however, as the home team traditionally covers the cost of the visitors’ throwback gear, and it’s possible the Angels simply didn’t offer.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to the Early 1960s

Saturday, August 17, 2013: The Angels turned the clock back even further, wearing replicas of their 1962 uniforms—once again against the Astros, who wore their regular uniforms. These throwbacks closely resemble the ones worn on four occasions in 2011 during the team's "Throwback Thursday" promotion, minus the 50th Anniversary sleeve patch added that year. Back numbers are rendered in the McAuliffe/Red Sox font, similar to what the Angels used in the early 1960s.

September 5, 2013: These same uniforms were worn a second time, in a home game against the Tampa Bay Rays, who dressed in their normal navy alternates.

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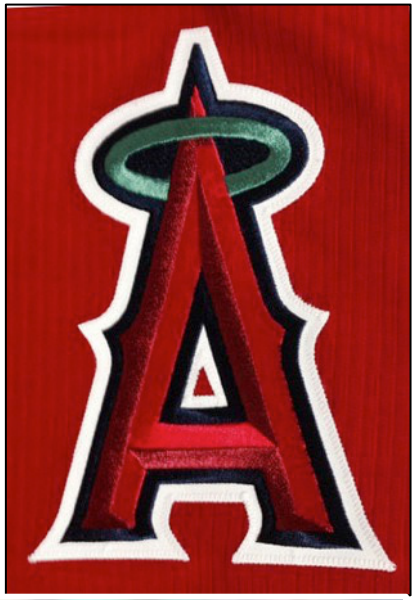
2014 St. Patrick's Day



The Angels celebrated St. Patrick's Day during Spring Training for the first time in our records. Their commemoration was humorous in its subtlety: the only differences from the team's normal spring batting practice jersey were the addition of a green shamrock on the left sleeve and a change in the halo on the wordmark from silver to green.

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2014 Armed Services Day/Memorial Day

May 17 and May 26, 2014: Worn on Armed Services Day and again at home for Memorial Day, the Angels used their red alternate jersey as a canvas for camouflage. The top layer of all player names and numbers and of the team wordmark is changed to desert camouflage twill. Sleeve patches remain unchanged from normal, and all outlining on adornment is the same as normal.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

August 29, 2014: At home against the A's, the Angels held a Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s game. They wore Majestic full-weight polyester replicas of their 1973–1978 jerseys, complete with proper McAuliffe/Red Sox-style numbers on the front and back—though the version of the font used on the front is not an exact match to the original.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1965

Steve Kraljic Collection

April 18, 2015: For a game in Houston, the Angels wore 1965 throwback road gray knit uniforms, featuring blue/red twill lettering on the front and back. Made by Majestic, the jerseys are faithful reproductions of the originals, featuring period-accurate McAuliffe-style numbers (slightly smaller than in 1965). They are nearly identical to the 1969 throwbacks worn in 2013, except for the absence of the MLB 100th Anniversary patch and the addition of the anachronistic MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back of the collar.

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2015 Memorial Day

Repeating the look worn on Armed Services Day and Memorial Day, 2014, the Angels use their red alternate jersey for Memorial Day 2015. Once again, the top layer of all player names, numbers, and the team wordmark is desert camouflage; the rest of the jersey remains the same as usual. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white, rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. All uniforms are lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue—regardless of the team's normal color palette. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar.

The Angels wear their road gray jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. Player names on back are in blue. Two-layer twill replaces the usual three-color front lettering on the jerseys. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016 Special Batting Practice — Anaheim Ducks

The Angels held a “Ducks Night” on August 16 to honor their hometown hockey team, in response to a similar “Angels Night” hosted by the Ducks earlier that year. During batting practice only, Angels players donned cream-colored batting practice jerseys featuring an Angels/Ducks mashup logo on the front, with an Angels “Halo A” on the left sleeve and a Ducks logo on the right. The jerseys had no names on the back (consistent with the Angels’ regular BP jerseys), and player numbers were rendered in red/white/dark blue using the Angels’ special font. The jerseys were auctioned off for charity after the game.

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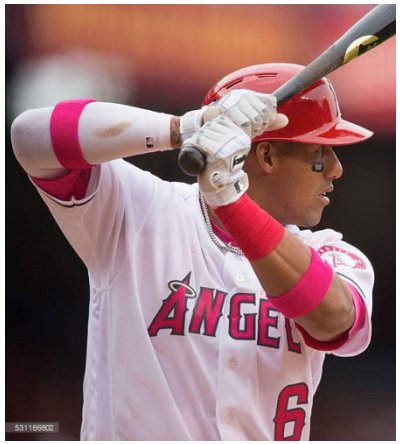
Read the full story on MLB's Mothers Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Mother's Day



May 8, 2016 and May 13–14, 2017: All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized tag applied to the front-left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days). The Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink, and the back-of-the-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Angels wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray; front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally red, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Memorial Day

May 30, 2016: Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in previous years.

The Angels apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys. The front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from the usual red.

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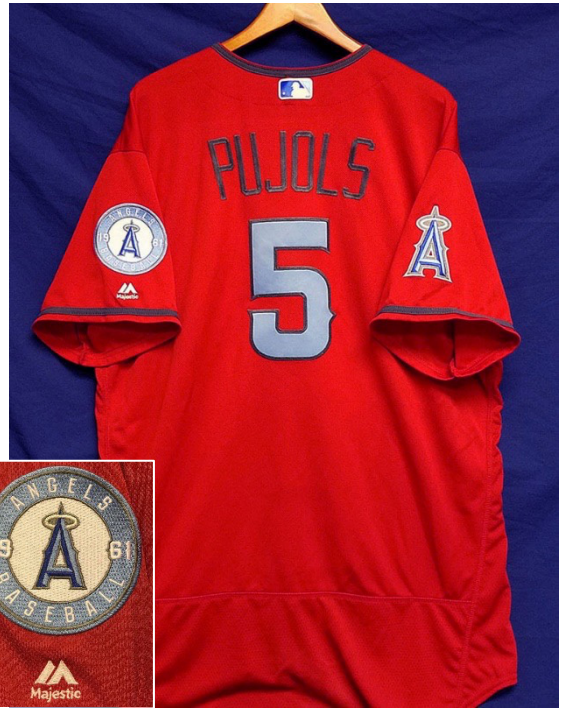
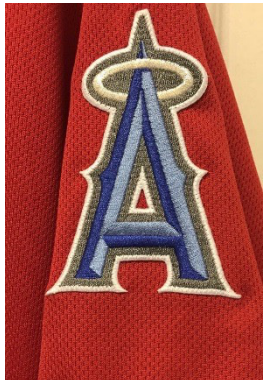
2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Fathers Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.





June 19, 2016: For the first time, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days). The back-of-the-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Angels wear their alternate red jerseys with the typical four-color front logo lettering reduced to light blue with dark gray outlines, with no drop shadows. Player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray; front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray, without any of the usual drop shadows. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally white/gray/white, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Angels are on the road and wear their alternate red jerseys. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill, and the Angels select the blue twill version with red outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with a gray player name on back. Unlike most teams, whose front logo lettering is simplified to two colors for this game, the Angels' typical four-color front lettering becomes three-color—this time with blue star twill/red/gray, with no drop shadow layer. The front and back numbers, however, are reduced to two colors from the typical four. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016: team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors. In an odd move, the left-sleeve 1961 Angles disc disappears, and is replaced by the right-sleeve silver halo-A patch, which moves to the left sleeve to make way for the flag. All jersey trim, normally white/gray/white, becomes single-color blue.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1973-1975

July 15–16, and 20, 2016: On consecutive days against the White Sox, and again on July 20 vs. the Rangers, the Angels wore replicas of their 1973–1975 home uniforms. These white pullovers feature the classic "Halo A" Angels script in two-color twill on the front, with red/blue McAuliffe-style numbers on both front and back, and red/blue names directly sewn on the back. These are fairly faithful reproductions of the originals, though the number proportions on the front differ slightly from those used in the 1970s.

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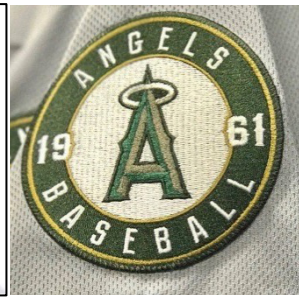
2017 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single color black.

The Angels apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017.



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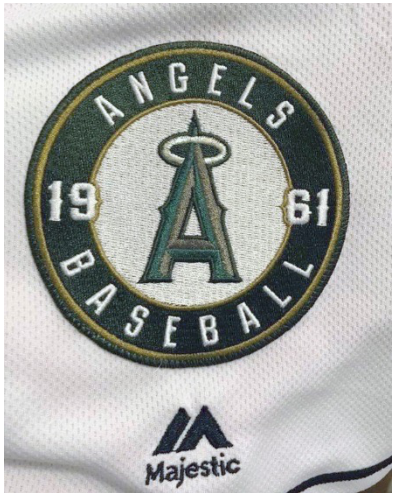
2017 Memorial Day (Home)



The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black.

The Angels apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17-18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch.

The Angels wear home white with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. Their player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally red, becomes dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 1-2, 2017, the Angels wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 3–4, 2017, the Angels wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

Reaching back 40 years to the days of pullovers, the Angels wore 1977 road throwbacks on July 8, 2017. These Majestic Cool Base jerseys are a fair approximation of the originals — featuring red/blue front and back numbers in McAuliffe/Red Sox font, the “Angels” logo in matching colors on the front, and no names on the back. The front wordmark is close, if a little smaller than the 1977 set, and back numbers also appear smaller than they used to be – more scaled to a jersey with a name on back, which this jersey, appropriately, lacks. A haloed State of California patch is sewn on the left sleeve (with a thicker white border than in 1977), positioned above the anachronistic Majestic logo. While the neck and sleeve trim colors are accurate, the overall proportions differ from the originals.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood.

Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Angels wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features a tightly spaced and straight-across version of their normally arched home-and-road wordmark, here rendered in red/blue/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2017 Special Batting Practice — Anaheim Ducks

The Angels continued their annual tradition of saluting their crosstown neighbors, the Anaheim Ducks, with a special pregame jersey worn on September 19, 2017. The jersey uses a Majestic Flex Base template in black with red side panels. Red/black/red braid outlines the neck opening and sleeve ends. The Ducks' logo is sewn on the right sleeve, the Angels' logo on the left, and a mash-up Ducks/Angels patch appears on the front left chest. Numbers on the back are rendered in red/white/gold using the Angels' custom font, and the jerseys do not feature player names. These jerseys were auctioned off after the game.

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2018 Memorial Day

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve.

The Angels apply this style to their red alternate jerseys on May 26–28, 2018. The effect of the olive on bright red is disharmonious and makes for an unpleasant combo.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the lettering - red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 2-4, 2018, the Angels wear their alternate red jerseys with red patterned twill/ blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. While most teams simplify their jersey trim to one color, the Angels retain their white/gray/white braid near the sleeve ends.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1981-1984

The Angels threw back to their pullover era again on August 27–28, 2018, this time representing the 1981–1984 home jerseys, featuring that period's Varsity-style lettering and the State of California patch. These Majestic Cool Base V-neck pullovers are close in spirit, if not in exact detail. All red/blue lettering is correct, and the front logo is similar to the original, but the front numbers are much less bold than those from the early 1980s. The names on back are radially arched, though they should be vertically arched. The State of California patch on the left sleeve is accurate in design, but features a much thicker border than the original from 35 years prior. On the positive side, the blue/red/blue trim around the neck and jersey edges closely replicates the first incarnation of these classic Angels threads.

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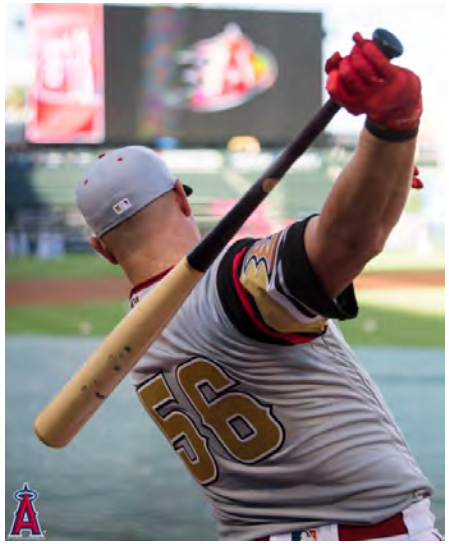
2018 Special Batting Practice — Anaheim Ducks

On September 14, 2018, the Angels again honor their crosstown neighbors, the Anaheim Ducks, with a special pregame jersey. The template is a Majestic Flex Base, presented in gray with black sleeves featuring gray/black/white/gold/black/red stripes—mimicking the striping patterns found on the Ducks' own jerseys. Red/black/red braid encircles the neck opening. The Ducks' logo appears on the right sleeve, the Angels logo is on the left sleeve, and a mash-up Ducks/Angels logo patch is placed on the front left chest. Numbers on the back are rendered in gold/white/black in the Angels' custom font, with no player names. These jerseys are auctioned off after the game.



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July 12, 2019: All Players Wear “Skaggs #45”

On July 12, 2019, in their first home game since the death of pitcher Tyler Skaggs, the Angels honored his memory by all wearing his name and number during a game against the Mariners. According to the team, the red jerseys were Skaggs’ favorite. That night, the Angels’ pitchers combined for a no-hitter—the first combined no-no thrown in Anaheim since July 13, 1991, the day Skaggs was born. After the game, players removed their jerseys and placed them on the mound, which was emblazoned with Skaggs’ #45 for the game.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

The Angels love to throw back to their pullovers, and did so again on August 16–17, 2019—this time with a 1970s look. This version, featuring McAuliffe/Red Sox-style numbers and block lettering on the back, resembles uniforms from either 1973–1975 or 1978. Like their other recent turn-back-the-clock jerseys, this Majestic Cool Base version is decently executed overall but lacks some finer details. For instance, the front number font does not match the variant used in the 1970s (a common issue with these throwbacks), and the blue/red/blue sleeve trim is much too narrow compared to the originals. This version also includes the Tyler Skaggs “45” memorial patch stitched on the left chest

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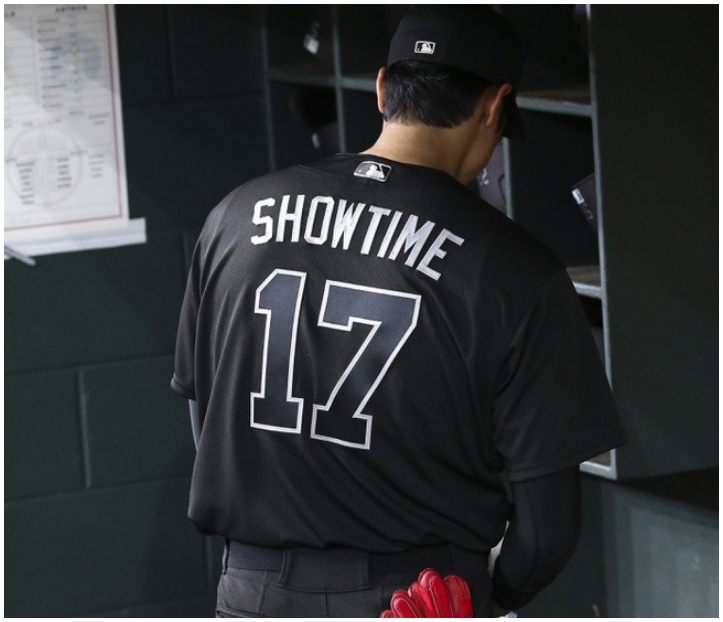
2019 Players Weekend



The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys.

The Angels wear a black version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back Varsity numbers rendered in black/gray and the player’s nickname in gray on the back.

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2019 Special Batting Practice — Anaheim Ducks

On September 13, 2019, the Angels again honored their crosstown neighbors, the Anaheim Ducks, with a special pregame jersey. The template was a Majestic Flex Base, in white with black raglan sleeves and diagonal side stripes, mimicking the striping patterns on the Ducks' own jerseys. Gold/red/gold braid encircled the sleeves and neck opening. The Ducks' logo appeared on the right sleeve, the Angels logo on the left, and a mash-up Ducks/Angels logo patch was placed on the front left chest. Numbers on the back were in red/black/gold in the Angels' custom font, with no names appearing on back. These jerseys were auctioned off after the game.

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2021 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

The late 1970s Angels pullovers returned once again on August 30–31, 2021, but this incarnation was the first from Nike. Like the 2019 version of this same jersey—then made by Majestic—this edition features McAuliffe/Red Sox numbers and Block names on back. And just like those, this entry is made of Cool Base fabric, without the Flex Base side panels or ventilated back tail. Overall, it is another well-executed throwback, but again lacks some of the same finer details as its predecessors. For instance, the front number font is not the same variant as was used in the 1970s (a frequent issue with these throwbacks), and the blue/red/blue sleeve trim is much too narrow compared to the originals. Finally, the name on back should be vertically arched, but is radially arched here. New since 2019 is the anachronistic MLB logo on the back of the neck, and of course, the Nike logo on the chest.

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2021 Little League Classic

Held on August 22, 2021, the Little League Classic saw the Angels take on the Cleveland Indians in Williamsport, PA, home of the Little League World Series. In this first-ever Little League Classic between two AL teams, the Indians and Angels wore special uniforms honoring the Little League regions their teams represented—West Region, in the Angels' case.

The Angels' Cool Base pullover featured red sleeves, a blue V-neck opening, and a red/blue/red "sash" insert sewn diagonally across the front. The "West" lettering was rendered in red/white drop-shadow twill. Front and back numbers were red/blue in the Angels' font, while player names on the back appeared in a rounded, condensed blue font.

The team's Halo-A logo was placed as a patch on the front right chest, pushing the Nike logo to the left chest position.

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2023 Turn Back the Clock to 1989-1992

The Angels featured throwbacks to their first post-pullover style from 1988–1992 on July 21 and 22 for games against the Pirates. However, since the 1989 version had the All-Star Game patch, and the 1992 version had the DJ memorial for Deron Johnson, it may be more accurate to say that this throwback reflects the 1990–1991 version. At first glance, these are reasonably faithful to the originals, with red/navy lettering throughout—though the dimensions of most of the lettering differ slightly from those on the original jerseys. Navy/red/navy knit trim is sewn-in at the neck and sleeve openings, and while the band sizes differed on the original neck and sleeve trims, they are identical here—a compromise between the two historical approaches. The original jerseys used nameplates for player names, which are not included on this version. Inexplicably, the State of California patch appears on the sleeve, despite having last been used on team jerseys in 1985. By 1989—the year this throwback is supposed to represent—the patch in use was the team's disc logo. The Nike logo, MLB logo, and sponsor patch are, of course, new additions for 2023.

An original jersey from 1990, showing some of the subtle—and not-so-subtle—differences.

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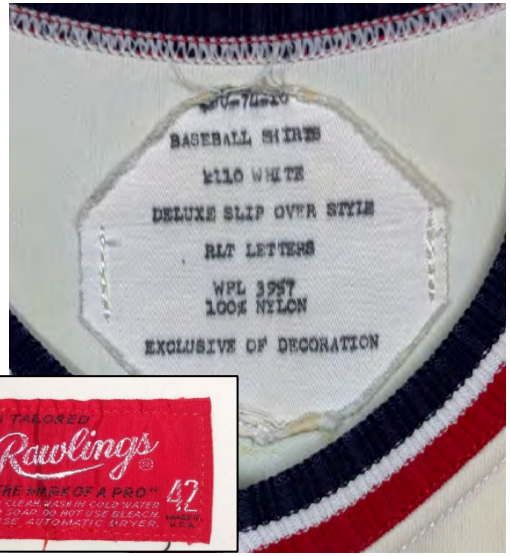
Prototypes and Oddballs

1972 Prototype Home?

It is possible that this is a MLB Angels prototype jersey; then again, it could be nothing significant at all. Here are the conflicting facts:

- The style of the front lettering on this specimen mimics the style used on the Angels' home uniforms until 1970.
- Therefore, it is reasonable that this might have been a sample design for the Angels' first double knit uniform—maybe in 1971?
- However, still in flannel, the Angels had changed their team "look" completely for 1971, abandoning the old McAuliffe/Red Sox-style Angels on the front, replacing it with a modern and stylish wordmark pictured at the front of this chapter, with all lowercase letters and a halo floating atop the "A."
- Further confusing things, the Rawlings tag used on the tail is a style that did not come into use until 1972. Lacking this, we might have assumed this to be a 1971 prototype knit.
- And it seems odd that the team would have created a prototype double-knit jersey in an old-style design after they had just modernized their look.
- The large diamond-shaped tag inside the back collar is similar to ones we have seen before on prototypes, but again we cannot be sure. This uniform may simply have been made for the local beer league.
- *Interestingly: Since the Seventh Edition, I had found another one of these for sale, also with the numeral 9 on the back, and this time in size 42* ***(pictured here at right).***

Steve Kraljic Collection



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1973 Prototype Road?

I believe this is a prototype 1973 Angels jersey made for the team in 1972 by McAuliffe. However, given McAuliffe's practices, it could have been a one-off jersey made for a fan.

The "Halo A" front design was not used by the team until 1973, yet this jersey carries a 1972 year tag.

Jersey front numbers appeared in both 1972 and 1973, but this one has none.

Unknown Batting Practice/ Possible Prototype

This jersey design is reminiscent of styles worn in the early 1980s. We've never seen a photo of a player wearing this style, but pre-game photos from that period are uncommon. Judging from the visible wear and wash tag, someone clearly wore and enjoyed this jersey over the years.It may be a prototype, or perhaps it originated in the minor leagues. We share it here for your consideration

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1978: A Fan's Home Jersey (That Actually Made the Field)

Security at MLB ballparks isn't what it used to be...and by that, I mean it is much better now. Here we have a jersey that Angels Fan Kevin Barney purchased from Goodman and Sons in 1978. Instead of wearing it or framing it, Barney brought it to the ballpark, talked his way into the Angels locker room, and presented it to none other than Nolan Ryan to wear in a game. And miraculously, Ryan actually did it. In a letter he wrote when the jersey went up for auction at Lelands in 2024, Barney tells the rest of the story...

"In 1978 I went to the jersey manufacturer of the California Angels, W.A. Goodman & Sons, to see if they could make me a Nolan Ryan jersey. They created the jersey to all the California Angels specifications except for the patch on the left sleeve because of a copyright infringement. Instead, they stitched on a similar sleeve patch as a substitute that also displayed the State of California. However, this one had a rectangular gold border around it that spelled out "Angels". After acquiring the jersey, I had the idea of going to a game with my video camera to see if I could get into the locker room and present it to Nolan himself. On April 13 of 1978, I went to Angel Stadium holding the jersey on a hanger. I informed the clubhouse guard of what I was trying to do and shockingly enough, he let me in. With my video camera running, I saw Nolan at his locker and walked on over to let him know how big of a fan I was. As you can imagine, he was confused as to how I got into the clubhouse and laughed when I told him the guard just let me in. Considering he was the starting pitcher that day, I asked if he would be able to wear my jersey during the game. Nolan again laughed and said if I could get back down into the clubhouse after the game he'd wear my jersey today. My accompanying photographs and video show our clubhouse interaction and him wearing my jersey during that game. I got down to the clubhouse again after the game where he returned the jersey, signed it for me and it's been in my personal collection ever since."

Above: *Photos of Ryan wearing this fan jersey in a game on April 13, 1978. Right: A detail of the wrong team patch Goodman and Sons applied to the jersey. The fan's video from his experience meeting Ryan and convincing him to wear the jersey is on YouTube at https://youtu.be/3qrjwMJUk2w*

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1986 Unknown McAuliffe Batting Practice

Several readers brought this auction jersey to my attention, asking, “What is it?” As far as I know, the Angels never wore a jersey like this. It has McAuliffe 1986 tagging but uses number fonts that the Angels stopped using after 1978. The knit neck and sleeve end trim in white/gray/red is not something that I—or any of my fellow Angels collectors—have ever seen before.

By 1986, McAuliffe was at the end of its existence. Seeing anything with a McAuliffe 1986 tag on it is a rarity, and I would hesitate to call it a prototype. It could have been a minor league issue, or sample. Or it could be a total phantom. We have learned that McAuliffe would sew almost anything custom for paying customers, and sew team tagging on it (like this) on request, so this could have been a custom commission by a retail customer.

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1992-1993 Prototype Turn Back the Clock Vest?

Stephen Kraljic Collection

This gray vest carries early Russell Diamond Collection tagging, from 1992 or 1993. The Angels played their first Turn Back the Clock game in 1992, highlighted several pages back. We noted the jerseys had incorrect red lettering outlined with blue, when the originals had blue/red, and incorrect Varsity-style numbers—also in the incorrect red/blue color combination. The lettering on this jersey is 2-layer felt, red/navy blue.

The MLB Angels never wore vests during the 1962–1969 period. So if this is a prototype for that 1992 Turn Back the Clock jersey, it showcases a trifecta of inaccuracies.

Far left: *This style Diamond Collection tag with the nearly flat "Diamond" word script in the logo was used only during 1992 and 1993;*

Near left: *The same is true with the Intera Fabric tag (1992–1993 use).*

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1997 Design that *Almost* Made it Onto the Field ...

- This design nearly made it to production in 1997. The Angels had even released it as its official team specs to licensees before changing their minds and issuing new, revised pages in their place. I left the color swatches at the bottom so you can see how many colors were part of this original uniform combination.
- It would have been nice to see the vertical arched player names on back used, but they were replaced by vanilla Block Standard in actual use.
- The three-toned shoulder stripes (red and two shades of blue) were dropped, as was the navy-pinstriped alternate uniform top. The batting practice jersey design was used exactly as you see it here.
- Thanks to baseball historian and friend Donovan Moore for sharing this information.

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1997 (1999?) Prototypes

Spotted on eBay, these jerseys were listed as *"Angels 1999 Prototype Jerseys"* by their seller, who offered no reason for believing they were from that year. Perhaps the team was still fiddling with the design two years after its 1997 release, but these jerseys feature vertically arched, custom-font, two-color player names—just like the ones shown on the artwork from the previous page—and use rather plain (though not exactly Block Standard or Varsity Standard) numbers in place of the fancy ones that were actually adopted.

As is the custom with prototypes, it carries the numeral "5" and the NOB of "PLAYER."

I'd put my money on these being from 1997.

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1997-2001 Oddball Bat Boy Vests

Pictured here are four different 1997–2001 Angels home vests made up for bat boys. It is unclear if these were used with the big-league team, but all were made by Gunther's Athletic, which was located in Anaheim at the time. Angels home jerseys of this era were faux vests—pinstriped jerseys with set-in blue sleeves—the team did not wear actual vests on the field. We suspect, however, that sourcing these jerseys in youth sizes may have been difficult (note that the top left jersey is a men's size 30–32, and the top right is 26–28—both much smaller than typical MLB player jerseys). A local supplier like Gunther's likely wouldn't have had stock youth pinstriped jerseys with blue sleeves, so these may have been created to solve that problem. Sleeves aside, the front and back lettering are pro-quality and match the Angels' on-field jerseys perfectly.

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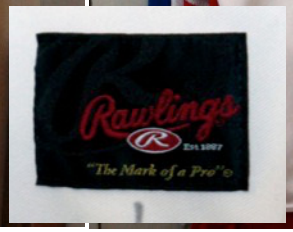
2002 Turn Back the Clock Oddballs



Normally when I see something like this promoted as "game used" I simply ignore it and move on without a second thought. The number font is not correct and is unlike the other jerseys from this game that we showed some pages back. I suggest that the only "game" this jersey is from is one being played in someone's mind!

But wait! Those game photos show pitcher Scott Shields pitching in that game—with the same incorrect numbers. Our conclusion? Both of these players were called up in June, and probably the uniforms for this July game had been ordered already. Likely these were lettered by the team's local tailor using standard numbers that they had on hand. Anyway, who would notice? Well, we did.

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Oops.

- New call-up outfielder Adam Riggs took the field against the Detroit Tigers on August 16, 2003, wearing his new Angels uniform … with a spelling mistake on the front. Apparently, no one noticed before the game, but it was not long before Fox TV highlighted the gaffe for the world to see.
- Manager Mike Scioscia suggested, "To welcome the community spirit, it looks like we had some kindergarteners come in and do some sewing and some spelling for us.“
- Riggs threw the shirt in the wash after the game, and never saw it again. MLB.com suggests it was probably “burned” by the Angels clubhouse staff, who should have caught the error and were embarrassed by the incident.
- From the photos at right, obviously Fox Sports and *Sports Illustrated* had a little fun with this at the Angels’ expense.

FOX Sports; Photo Source: www.MLB.com

Sports Illustrated

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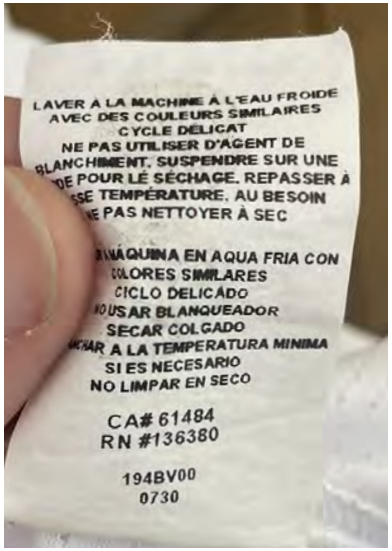
2020 Nike Sample Home (Modified)



Above: *Residue from the former "PLAYER" and "20" lettering is visible under the current name and number.*

Though Nike's 2020 entry into MLB jerseys resulted only in the rebranding and relabeling of Majestic's previous Flex Base jersey template, it appears that Nike still produced sample jerseys for team inspection. Here is one such example, made up for the Angels.

Note that this jersey originally had "PLAYER" as the name on back with "20" as the front and back numbers, signifying the year it was to be used. These are common signifies of a sample jersey, but they have been changed by a fan to make this a Mike Trout jersey. Residue under the 7 and NOB are still visible from the jersey's original state.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few other details that remain. First, it is size 46, a common sample size. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "ANG-HJ-D1-2-2020" indicating it is version 2 (D1-2) of an Angels (ANG) home jersey (HJ). We have seen others of these jerseys, all with "D1-1" so this is the first time we have come across a second version. It could mean that multiple copies of this one jersey were made, or that the team was considering some sort of change, but this second version represented their current jersey, which they kept. It is possible such samples were made for all of the teams jerseys, but any such examples have yet to turn up.

Outwardly, this home white jersey appears just as it did on the field in 2020, a testament to the fact the team did not make any changes for that season. However, there are still some small details in this sample that were updated before the full run of 2020 jerseys went into production. First, a heat-pressed neck tag which was not used in on-field jerseys. Next, an interior heat-pressed tag, almost twice as tall as the ones used by Majestic before and Nike after, appears inside the placket with the sample coding. This location was used by Majestic for team tagging, but Nike versions moved these tags below the jock tags on the lower front of the jerseys.

Finally, the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag is the same used for Majestic's version of the Flex Base template. By the time these jerseys were released in 2020, the product code had been updated to "0890" to reflect the new Nike jerseys, even though nothing had really changed.

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2024 Nike Sample Spring Training

Harrison Katapodis/dormroomjerseys on eBay

In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the one shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. But this Angels Spring Training version is something of an exception because the Angels scrapped this jersey design for Spring Training 2024 in favor of using their regular red alternates. Thus, this phantom is an example of what might have been...

Like all VPE jerseys, neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it. The back numbers on this sample are also perforated, which was not an element of the earlier version.

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads “ANGELS ALT2 JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT”, with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of “regular fit” was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use “bucket sizing” on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike’s 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the “DD4912-611” text on the front tag means. It is likely they are internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered. The handwritten “4” on the tag could mean that other iterations exist.

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Commemorative Patches

Angels Patches

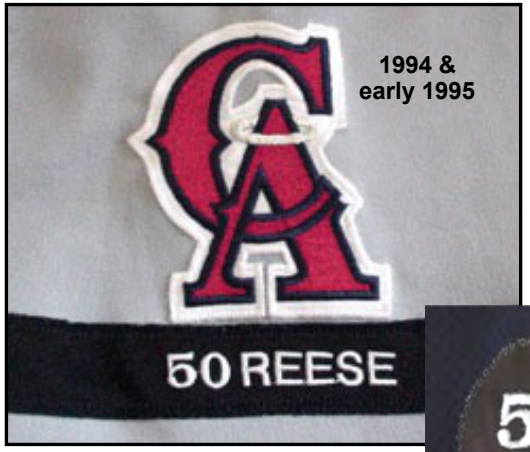
1974
Spring
Training

1985

1989

- 1974: Black slanted stripe on sleeve worn in Spring Training for death of minor leaguer Bruce Heinbechner, killed March 10 in a car accident in Spring Training.
- 1978: (not shown) Black armband for Lyman Bostock after 9/23/78.
- 1985: 25th Anniversary.
- 1989: All-Star Game
- 1992: "DJ" Deron Johnson memorial after 4/23/92
- 1994: #50 Jimmy Reese memorial (after 7/13/94 and in spring 1995).

1992

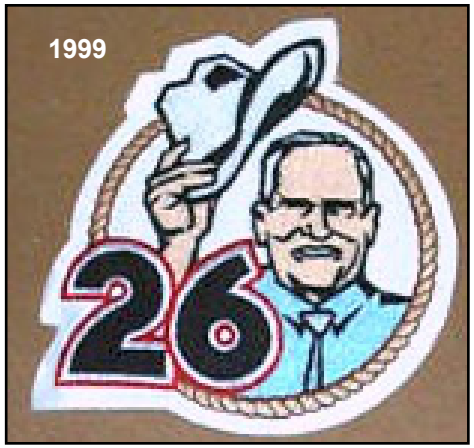


1994 &
early 1995

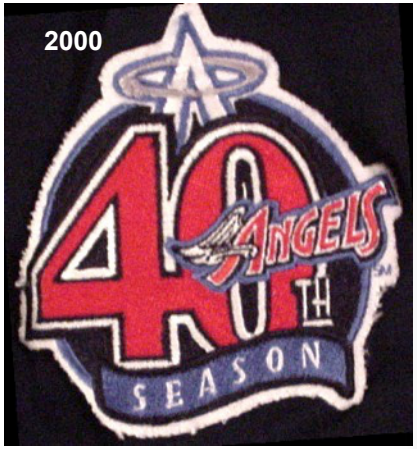
Used on
BP

© GameWornGuides.com

1995



1999



2000

2010

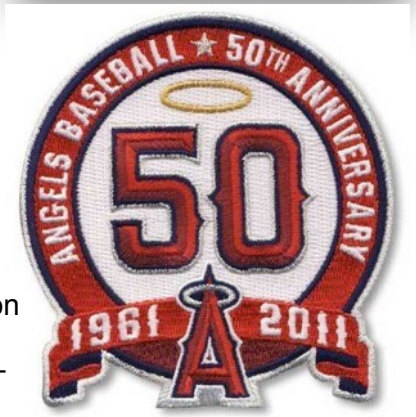
2009

2009

2010

2009

- 1995: 35th Anniversary.
- 1999: 26/Gene Autry memorial.
- 2000: 40th anniversary.
- 2009: Preston black diamond memorial on right sleeve for Preston Gomez, all season.
- 2009: Adenhart 34 memorial disc worn on left jersey memorial for pitcher Nick Adenhart after April 10.
- 2010: All-Star Game patch.
- 2011: 50th Anniversary, worn on all jerseys, including throwbacks and BP.



2011

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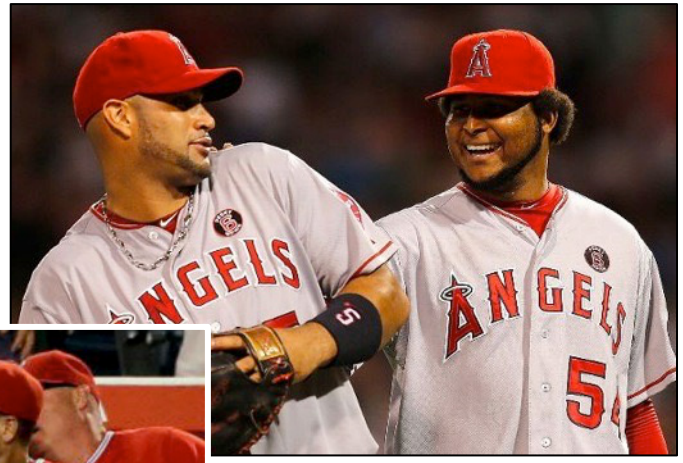
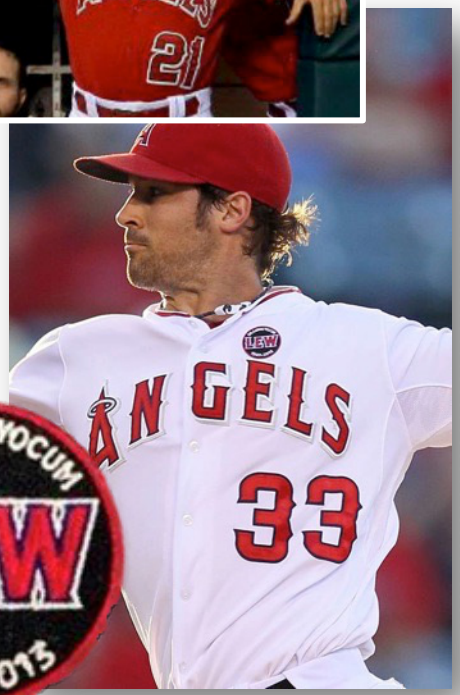
August 21, 2012



August 12, 2014



2013: May 31 to end of season

July 2–4, 2013, BP only

- 2012: While visiting Boston, the Angels joined the Red Sox in tribute to Johnny Pesky by wearing their own tribute patch for a single day on August 21. This was the same day all Red Sox players wore Pesky's #6 for the game.
- 2013: Beginning May 31, "LEW" Patch memorializing the passing of longtime team orthopedist Dr. Lewis Yocum, worn left chest of all game jerseys.
- 2013, July 2–4: Angels wear the Stan Musial memorial patch of the visiting Cardinals on BP jerseys only.
- 2014: Fregosi/11 patch worn for a single day on the Angels' red jerseys, August 12, by the Angels and the visiting Phillies. Both teams had longtime relationships with the former player and manager. Some were surprised that the Angels only commemorated this with a one-day event, six months after his death.

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June 14, 2016

- 2016: After suffering a major heart attack, former Angels star Rod Carew teamed with the American Heart Association and MLB to promote heart checkups. On June 14, the Angels wore Angels-logoed “Heart of 29” patches on their left chests.
- 2017: Don Baylor memorial patch, on left chest, starting August 11
- 2019, July 2: Black “45” circle patch for Tyler Skaggs, who passed away July 1, worn on left chest
- 2019, starting July 3: Red/white/blue Tyler Skaggs memorial patch, left chest, worn rest of season
- 2022, May 9–11; 2023, May 20; 2024, May 25; and 2025, May 23–25: Green Mental Health Awareness Month ribbon.

2017, starting August 11

July 2, 2019

2019, starting July 3

May 9–11, 2022
May 20, 2023
May 25, 2024
May 23–25, 2025

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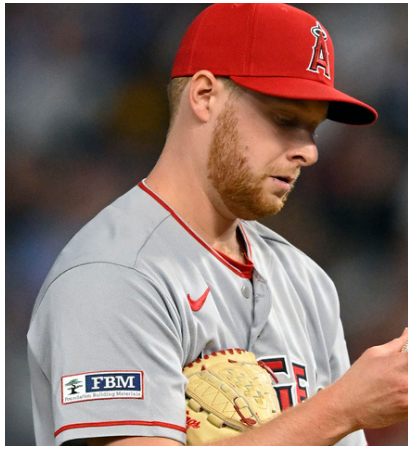
2023-2025 Angels Advertising Patches



With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Angels struck a sponsor patch deal with Foundation Building Materials, a construction supply company. The patches first appeared in Spring Training 2023.

The patch is white with a red border, with a white “FBM” in a blue field to the right of a cypress tree. The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player, except on the City Connect jersey, where it always resides on the left sleeve.

To accommodate the new patches, the Angels eliminated the team disc patch from their jerseys prior to the 2023 season.

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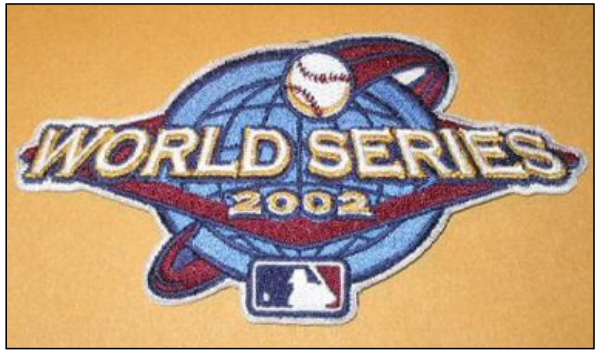
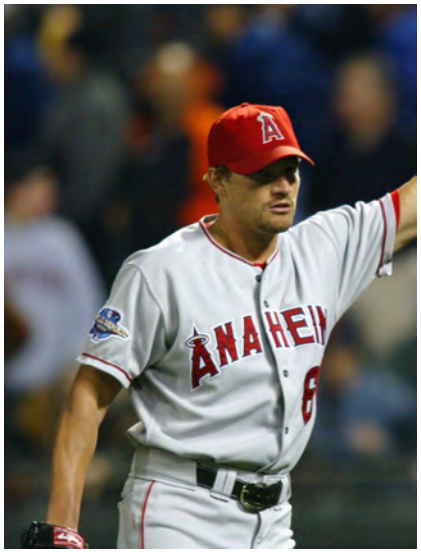
Angels Postseason Patches



2002 World Series
(right sleeve)



2014 AL Division Series
(left sleeve, replacing team disc)

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Jim Spencer 1970 California Angels Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 28, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0328J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made seven button home jersey of infielder Jim Spencer of the 1970 California Angels. Cream-colored lightweight flannel-blend body with old-style nylon uniform braid in Navy/red/Navy banding the sleeve ends and sewn tight to the edge around the collar. "ANGELS" in the team's Tiffany Font arched across both panels of the front in red over Navy felt; the red felt is straight-stitched to the navy bottom layer; the navy outline edge is tightly zig zag stitched to the jersey. On back is the player number "9" in the Angels correct font, one that we know as the McAuliffe or "Red Sox" font. The embroidered patch of the state of California with a gold star approximating the location of Los Angeles and a gold halo at its top left is stitched to the right sleeve. Four gusseted holes are sewn into diamond-shaped panels in the armpit seam of each sleeve. Size 44 would be appropriate for the 6' 2", 195 lb. Player. Wilson was the exclusive provider of 1970 Angels home jerseys.

Jim Spencer appeared in 146 games for the 1970 Angels as their starting first baseman, batting .274 in 511 at bats with 11 home runs. in 1970 he led the American League with 1,212 putouts at first and a .995 fielding percentage to win the Gold Glove award. He enjoyed a fifteen year MLB career, opening his first seven season with the Angels starting in 1968. He then went on to play for the Rangers, White Sox, Yankees and Athletics before his retirement in 1982.

Restoration Performed: As presented to me, the jersey was complete with the exception of the removal of its player name on back. The light table revealed the ghost-impression of SPENCER, the player who wore number 9 in 1971. The Angels routinely removed player names from its sets of team jerseys at the end of the season so they could be reused in either spring training the next year or sent to the minors. Finding one with its original player name on back would be extremely rare. Many 1970 Angels jerseys were completely stripped on the fronts to become 1971 issues, which carried a completely different team wordmark. This one somehow

Continued, overleaf

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escaped that fate. With strict adherence to the surviving ghosts for both letter shape and placement, I cut new name-on-back lettering using the correct Rawlings font and stitched it in place.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings Red tag in the style used during the 1960s and through the 1971 season is stitched to the inside of the back collar. There are no stitching marks visible from the outside back of the collar, indicating that the tag was sewn there prior to the placket being sewn colored at the time the jersey was made, as is correct. On the lower outside left front tail is hand chain stitch embroidery in bright green, matching exemplars, "Spencer 44 70" (the player last name, size 44 1970). Centered beneath that is a rectangular linen tag bordered with blue and with six lines of wash instructions printed in red. Pinch-sewn under the right of that tag is a white flag tab with "SET 1 #8P 1970" printed on it in Navy Blue.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in exceptional condition. While it shows some puckering of the fabric behind the back number and around the sleeve ends and winkling and some staining of the wash instructions tail tag, showing use and washing, it is in beautifully preserved condition. The team lettering on the front is near perfect— so much so that I had to look at it very closely to determine if it was original or replacement. I have concluded that it is original to the garment. The jersey is undamaged by staining,

tears or insect-holes so common of flannels. This is the finest original-condition 1970 Angels jersey I have had the privilege to examine.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent and is all original, with the exception of the professionally restored player name on back with lettering identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jim Spencer of the 1970 California Angels.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Eddie Fisher 1970 California Angels Game Worn Road Jersey

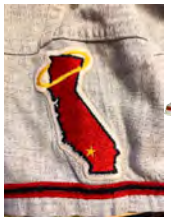
Examination Date: March 28, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0328J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: McAuliffe-tagged seven button road gray jersey of pitcher Eddie Fisher of the 1970 California Angels. Heather-gray with a slight blue tint-colored lightweight flannel-blend body with old-style nylon uniform braid in Navy/red/Navy banding the sleeve ends and sewn tight to the edge around the collar. "ANGELS" in the team's Tiffany Font arched across both panels of the front in Navy felt over red twill, a hybrid lettering technique used by only a few teams late in the flannel jersey era. The Navy felt lettering is straight-stitched to the red bottom layer; the red outline edge is tightly zig-zag stitched to the jersey. On back is the player number "24" in the Angels correct font, one that we know as the McAuliffe or "Red Sox" font. It is also felt over twill. The embroidered patch of the state of California with a gold star approximating the location of Los Angeles and a gold halo at its top left is stitched to the right sleeve. Four gusseted holes are sewn into diamond-shaped panels in the armpit seam of each sleeve. Size 46 would be appropriate for the 6' 3", 200 lb. Player. McAuliffe was the exclusive provider of 1970 Angels road jerseys.

Eddie Fisher was known as a knuckleball pitcher, and appeared in 67 games for the 1970 Angels, mostly as a reliever, and compiled a 3-3 record in 130.1 innings pitched with 74 strike outs and a 3.04 ERA. In his 15-year MLB career he played for seven teams and was an All-Star in 1965.

Restoration Performed: As presented to me, the jersey was complete with the exception of the removal of its player name on back. The light table revealed the very faint ghost-impression of FISHER, the player who wore number 24 in 1970. The Angels routinely removed player names from its sets of team jerseys at the end of the season so they could be reused in either spring training the next year or sent to the minors. Finding one with its original player name on back would be extremely rare. Many 1970 Angels jerseys were completely stripped on the fronts to become 1971 issues, which carried a completely different team wordmark. This one



Continued, overleaf

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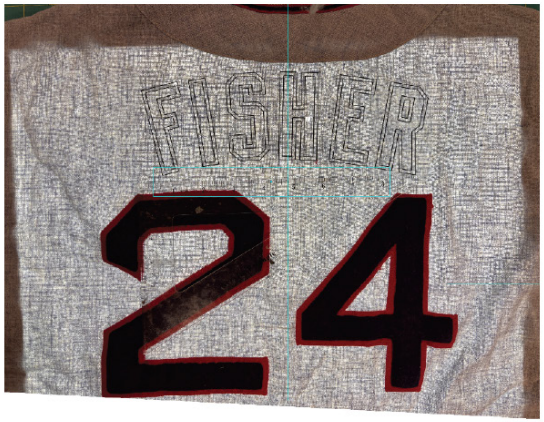
somehow escaped that fate. With strict adherence to the surviving ghosts for both letter shape and placement, I cut new name-on-back lettering using the correct McAuliffe font and stitched it in place.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: McAuliffe's set of three clustered tags are stitched to the outside of the front left tail. The McAuliffe manufacturer tag is on top, and below are a blue tag with "70" for the two-digit year, and a white tag with "46" for the jersey size. Centered beneath that is a rectangular white felt tag with "E. Fisher" hand chain stitched in dark blue thread in the familiar handwriting of the factory stitcher. These match exemplars. The stitching has failed on the top and left side of this tag leaving it partly detached, typical of felt tagging after a season of use.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition. It shows some puckering of the fabric behind the back number and around the sleeve ends and winkling and some staining of the tail tagging, as well as some abrasion to the felt's surface showing normal use and washing; it is in beautifully preserved condition. The jersey is undamaged by staining, tears or insect-holes so common of flannels.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent and is all original, with the exception of the professionally restored player name on back with lettering identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Eddie Fisher of the 1970 California Angels.



Name on back ghosts were very faint, but notice the holes at several "corners" of the letters showing where the letters had been roughly removed. The font is McAuliffe's, different from the Rawlings home-jersey style.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Document of Restoration

California Angels 1971 Road Jersey #8 O'Brien

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Team tagged California Angels 1971 O'Brien road gray flannel jersey. The name on back had been removed and is to be restored to original.

Work Performed: Using the light table I was able to clearly see the ghost outlines of the removed letters on back. Using these images, my historic font library, and consulting period photos in my exemplar database, I recreated the player name on back in the correct font and colors. The new twill lettering was lightly media blasted to make it better match the organically worn originals, and was stitched in place using appropriately faded thread color and stitching size to match the rest of the jersey. This document shows the methodology of the name on back replacement.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator

Evaluation of the light table ghost images are seen on the reverse of this page.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Mel Queen California Angels 1972 Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 7, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1007J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Size 44 Rawlings six-button jersey (currently measures as a size 38!), flat-bottom hemmed with side vents, California Angels road jersey of relief pitcher Mel Queen. 1972's One-year design, "Angels" arched on the front in red outlined with small halo atop the lower case "A" in Angels. #45 number lettering in the same colors, front and back sewn-in Navy/red/Navy 1/2" trim at the neck, and sewn-in 3/4" sleeve end trim in the same colors. Name on back has been removed and is still missing. The embroidered team patch of the state of California with a gold star approximating the location of Los Angeles and a gold halo at its top left is stitched to the left sleeve. The original size of the jersey is reasonable for the player, listed at 6' 01" and 197 lbs, but it has clearly shrunk from over-use.

Pitcher Mel Queen had an interesting career. He enjoyed a nine-year playing stint in MLB, starting in 1966 with the Reds as an infielder, then an outfielder, switching to pitcher before being traded to the Angels in 1970. His final season was 1972. He appeared in 17 games for the Angels in short relief, earning no decisions with a 4.32 ERA in 31 innings pitched.

Following his retirement as a player from baseball, he left the game for a decade, managing a friend's restaurant. But in In 1986, Queen was hired by the Toronto Blue Jays, where he would play a significant role in the development of the homegrown players during their 11 straight winning seasons. He started as a coach, was promoted as their farm director in 1990 and served as their major league pitching coach from 1996 through 1999. During his four seasons in that role, two Toronto hurlers won three consecutive Cy Young Awards as the top pitcher in the American League — Pat Hentgen in 1996 and Roger Clemens in the 1997 and 1998 seasons. However, one of his major achievements came in 2000, when the Blue Jays again coaxed him out of retirement to help revive the sagging career of Roy Halladay, by then a 23-year-old pitcher. Queen met Halladay in Dunedin, Florida, where the Jays had sent their once-promising hurler after his ERA had soared to 10.64 in the major leagues, at which he ran a virtual boot camp for Halladay, rebuilding his delivery, teaching him new grips for his pitches and helping him develop a new mental approach. In 2009, then

Continued, overleaf

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Above: Light table analysis shows the photo-enhanced ghosts of the "6" that originally was in the second position, as well as very faint ghosts of the central letters in "QUEEN" that had been sewn in a straight line above the number. Below: the inside stitching reveals that the "4s" were original, with mostly failing thread, while the "5s" are replacements that are almost certainly taken off of another used jersey and then straight stitched in place. In restoring the jersey, the absolute minimum was re-stitched to simply prevent the lettering from falling off without adding too much. Notice how the small halo over the A was originally sewn with two colors of thread directly to the shirt.

Toronto's general manager J. P. Ricciardi brought Queen out of retirement yet again to serve as a senior advisor, working on special assignments with minor league pitchers, retaining that position for the rest of his life. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The red Rawlings "Mark of a Pro" tag showing he size as 44, a style newly used for 1972 is stitched inside the back left hem next to the side vent, pinch-sewn under the tag's bottom right edge is a white flag tab marked SET 1 #8P 1972. This matches exemplars from our library.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation of this jersey shows signs that the second number in the set originally was a "6". The only ghost visible of the name on back, long ago removed, is two "Es" right in the center. Typically center-placed letters on a jersey are slightly more visible than the other letters, owing to the heat/pressure that is used to apply the lettering overtop the thicker, raised front placket. Queen wore #46 for the 1972 Angels. While the jersey now wears #45; the stitching inside clearly shows that the second digit was replaced with a "5" that was probably taken off another jersey while in the minor leagues, sloppily sewn with a straight stitch. The 5s on both front and back are slightly larger than the "4s" that are next to them, however there is a great deal of puckering behind both numbers indicating that the jersey was used and washed extensively in this configuration.

All of the lettering is faded, stained, edge-frayed, shrunken and extensively puckered and burnished. There is notable puckering behind all of the lettering that remains attached, since the twill lettering typically shrinks more aggressively than the knit jersey it is sewn to. The buttons appear to be the original set, and while slightly threadbare in spots, the original California sleeve patch is intact.

The numbers, especially the leading "4s" were very loose when the jersey was received for evaluation. The same was true of the front team wordmark. The owner had originally wanted to restore the player name and number, but desiring to preserve as much that was original as possible, decided against the effort because we would not have been able to closely match the patina and fraying/wear compared to the original sewn elements. Instead, we decided to leave it be, documenting what we can see, while tacking down the loose elements only as necessary to keep them from falling off completely, and slightly improve the appearance. 1972 Angels jerseys in original condition are a rarity in the hobby, as so many were simply used-up to the point of destruction in the minor leagues.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair to poor but very original condition, appearing as it did when last used in the Angels' minor leagues. The front team crest is all original, the numbers "4" front and back are original while the "5s" are minor league replacements. The name on back has been removed and no attempt was made to restore it. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Mel Queen of the 1972 California Angels.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Nolan Ryan California Angels 1973 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: August 1, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0801J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Size 44, McAuliffe-made first-year style white California Angels pullover jersey of Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan. "Angels" arched on the front in red outlined with Navy, a gold /Navy halo atop the "A" in Angels. Player name and number lettering in the same colors, front and back Sewn-in Navy/red/Navy V-neck, and sewn-on 1 1/2" sleeve end trim in the same colors. The embroidered team patch of the state of California with a gold star approximating the location of Los Angeles with a gold halo at its top left is straight-stitched to the left sleeve. The size of the jersey matches exemplars as worn by Ryan at this point in his career, and is reasonable for the player at 6' 2" 195 lbs. The player numbers are in the McAuliffe font as used specifically by the Angels in the early 1970s. The player name on back is a very narrow and condensed block font that is specific to McAuliffe in this time. Generally, when player names on back are stitched, numbers are sewn 8 inches from the collar. The early 1970s McAuliffe Angels jerseys stitched the numbers only 6 inches from the collar and then fit the names very tightly above them in a very shallow, almost flat arch. This spacing and placement was similar to the Oakland Athletics jerseys of the time, made by the same manufacturer.

Nolan Ryan had a brilliant, 27-year Hall of Fame career. 1973 was the seventh year of his MLB service, and his second with the Angels after five years with the Mets. He appeared in 41 games, compiling a 21 and 16 record, with a 2.87 ERA. 1973 was his first 20-win game season. Ryan threw a no-hitter against the Kansas City Royals on May 15, 1973. He threw a second no-hitter on July 15 against the Detroit Tigers, where he struck out 17 batters – the most in a recorded no-hitter. Ryan set his first major record when he struck out 383 batters in one season, beating Sandy Koufax's old mark by one. Ryan threw a record seven no-hitters during his major league career, three more than any other pitcher. In 1999, he was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: McAuliffe supplied the Angels with home jerseys in 1973. The clustered set of (4) manufacturer tags are sewn on the outside center of the front tail; 1973 blue-bordered year tag, un-bordered McAuliffe manufacturer tag, wash instructions, and centered below these three is the size tag, "44". There was no specific player or team tagging beyond this. The tagging generally matches exemplars, McAuliffe had a habit of not sewing the tags in exactly the same configuration on every shirt.

Continued, overleaf

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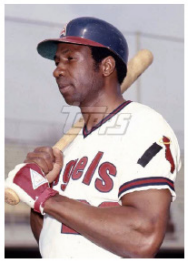
Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original and untampered with. Looking closely at the stitching on the inside, we can see that all stitching is identical on both the front wordmark and the player customization indicating to me that everything was stitched at the same time on the same sewing machine. There is consistent and minor puckering of the fabric beneath all of the stitched on twill lettering. The jersey shows clear signs of honest use with yellowing of the fabric, puckering of the trim and lettering caused by hot water washing. The red top layer of the twill, shows puckering and wear marks where it has abraded against other fabric in use and in the wash. There is fading of the attaching thread, as well as numerous dirt splatter stains across the front. The right sleeve, and on the rear tail. There is ground-in dirt on the front above the wordmark.

In spring training of 1974, the Angels wore a black ribbon on their left sleeves for just a few weeks, commemorating death of minor leaguer Bruce Heinbechner, killed March 10 in a car accident. Because the 1973 uniforms were worn in 1974 spring training, I looked for evidence of this memorial having been there, and it is— barely visible to the naked eye with a partial outline of dirt splatters. When enhanced with ultraviolet light, it shows up more clearly as the spot beneath the ribbon protected from dirt shows up just slightly brighter than the surrounding fabric.

Additional Observations: This jersey was presented to us without provenance. Our exemplar library of team tagged 1973 Angels home jerseys is rather scanty: in our archives we have a total of six. And somewhat surprisingly four of the six are Ryan examples almost identical to this one, then one for a batboy, and just one for a common player, with its name on back missing (typical) and showing much more extensive wear. The lack of 1973 Angels jerseys ever appearing in auctions in the subsequent fifty years is most likely a testament to their wholesale transition to the minor leagues, subsequent overuse and eventual destruction. My assumption is, as a bona fide star, it appears that Nolan Ryan's jerseys were purposely saved and spared the normal process of minor league re-issue. Regarding the other four Ryan examples in our library— all have small differences in lettering and tagging that distinguish them from each other and from this example. Also, I cannot evaluate a 1970s Mcauliffe-made jersey without making the observation that back in those days, that company would make a jersey for any fan who requested it, complete with team year tagging stitched on it. I mention this only to say that I have looked for characteristics that I would expect to see in a souvenir jersey, and I believe that this one shows use and wear that would identify it as a game jersey.

At left, inside view of the stitching shows that the style and frequency of stitch between the wordmark and the player numbers is identical. Puckering beneath the numbers indicates hot water washing. Below, ultraviolet photo-enhanced evidence of the presence of the removed sleeve memorial.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, original condition: all player lettering and the front team crest are original, The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging and shows appropriate wear. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Nolan Ryan of the 1973 California Angels (and in 1974 spring training).

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

John Stephenson California Angels 1973 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 20, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0120J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Size 42 (marked and measured), McAuliffe-made first-year-style white California Angels pullover jersey; "Angels" arched on the front in red outlined with Navy, with a gold /Navy halo atop the "A" in Angels. Player number lettering in the same colors, front and back Sewn-in Navy/red/Navy V-neck, and sewn-on 1 1/2" sleeve end trim in the same colors. The original embroidered team patch of the state of California with a gold star and with a gold halo is zig-zag stitched to the left sleeve. The original player numbers on both the front left and centered on the back are in the McAuliffe font as used specifically by the Angels in 1973. catcher John Stevenson wore #11 on the 1973 Angels. The size of the jersey is reasonable for the player at 5' 11" 180 lbs. A light table evaluation reveals that the name "Stephenson" had once been on the back. 1973 was Stephenson's final year in a ten year MLB career. That year, he appeared in 60 games as an occasional starter and a pinch hitter, and batted .246 with one home run. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Restoration performed: As is typical for the team and the era, this jersey had its name on back removed. Jerseys were stripped of their player names at the end of the season as they were sent to the minor leagues for further use. The player name on back is a very narrow and condensed block font that is specific to McAuliffe in this time. Generally, when player names on back are used, numbers are sewn 8 inches from the collar. The early 1970s McAuliffe Angels jerseys stitched the numbers only 6 inches from the collar and then fit the names very tightly above them in a very shallow arch. This spacing and placement was similar to the Oakland Athletics jerseys of the time, made by the same manufacturer. I recreated the name on back using the McAuliffe 1973 font and noted that it matched the ghosts on the jersey exactly. The cut lettering was media blasted to age it and make it better match the patina of the extremely worn original number fabric, and was stitched it in place with suitably faded thread to match original. The team name and player number lettering had their edge-stitching touched up only as necessary to prevent them from detaching further from the garment.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: McAuliffe supplied the Angels with home jerseys in 1973. The clustered set of (3) manufacturer tags are sewn on the inside center of the back tail; 1973 blue-bordered year tag, un-bordered white McAuliffe manufacturer tag, and centered below these two is the size tag, "42". On this jersey their standard red-lettered 7-lined wash instructions tag is sewn off to the right near the side vent. There was no specific player or team tagging beyond this. The tagging set generally matches exemplars, McAuliffe had a habit of not sewing the tags in exactly the same configuration on every shirt.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey clearly has experienced extensive use as the team crest and player numbers are very worn and the stitching around the edges is extremely loose and missing in many spots. The jersey body has extensively worn/ been washed to a grayish ivory color, and the numbers are severely puckered on top of the knit fabric they are stitched onto. A light table examination shows that all lettering is original and untampered with. There is consistent and minor puckering of the fabric beneath all of the stitched on twill lettering. The sleeve end trim is severely shrunken and puckered caused by hot water washing. The red top layer of the twill, shows puckering and wear marks where it has abraded against other fabric in use and in the wash.

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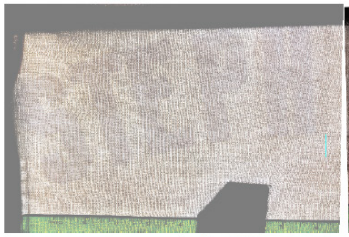
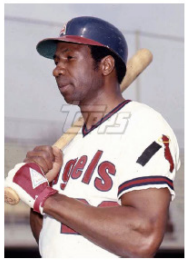
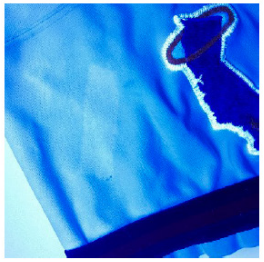
Additional Observations: In spring training of 1974, the Angels wore a black ribbon on their left sleeves for just a few weeks, commemorating death of minor leaguer Bruce Heinbechner, killed March 10 in a spring training car accident. Because the 1973 uniforms were worn in 1974 spring training, I looked for evidence of this memorial having been there, and it is— invisible to the naked eye but when enhanced with ultraviolet light, it shows up more clearly as the spot beneath the ribbon protected from dirt shows up just slightly brighter than the surrounding fabric. (Photo provided). Stevenson retired after the 1973 season, and there was no #11 issued on the 1974 Angels 40-man roster. We do not have a record of who might have worn it in 1974 spring training.

At far left, the jersey as received missing its name on back. On the right, April 6, 1973 President Richard Nixon traveled to his home state of California to throw out the first pitch at the Angels/Royals game in Anaheim. Stephenson was the starting catcher in that game according to Baseball Almanac. Given that players were generally issued two sets of home uniforms each season, there is a 50% chance that Stephenson is wearing this jersey here, in that photo.



At left, enhanced photo of the jersey back on the light table shows the position of the original name on back. Below, ultraviolet photo-enhanced evidence of the presence of the removed sleeve memorial.Bottom left, Frank Robinson in 1974 spring training wearing the memorial strip.





Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair original condition: player number lettering and the front team crest are original, the name on back has been restored to match original appearance. The jersey has no other alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging and shows appropriate wear. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by John Stevenson of the 1973 California Angels, and then by another player in 1974 spring training, given the presence of the ghost of the sleeve memorial.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bill Sudakis California Angels 1975 (Final Season) Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 29, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0329J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Size 44 Goodman and Sons white California Angels pullover jersey of utility infielder and catcher Bill Sudakis. Angels arched on the front in red outlined with Navy, a gold /Navy halo atop the "A" in Angels. Player name and number lettering in the same colors, front and back Sewn-in Navy/red/Navy V-neck, and sewn-on 1 1/2" sleeve end trim in the same colors. The embroidered team patch of the state of California with a gold star approximating the location of Los Angeles and a gold halo at its top left is stitched to the left sleeve. The size of the jersey is reasonable for the player, listed at 6' 01" and 190 lbs.

Bill Sudakis spent a short time with the Angels, appearing in just 30 games in 1975 mostly as a pinch hitter before being released in late June. He was picked up by the Indians where he appeared in just twenty more games that season, but after 1975 he did not play in the major leagues again. In an eight-year career that started with the Dodgers, he played for a total of six teams, hitting a career .234 in 1548 at bats with 59 career home runs. (*Baseball Almanac*)

Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey wore #58 and was without any player name on back. The light table clearly revealed the ghost-impression of its former name on back , "Sudakis" and the ghost image of the number 9 centered on the back. The Angels routinely removed player names, and sometimes player numbers from its sets of team jerseys at the end of the season so they could be reused in either spring training the next year or sent to the minors. Finding one with its original player name on back would be extremely rare.

I stripped the numbers front and back, and using the Goodman 1975 fonts as a basis, matched them to the ghosts of the original name and numbers on this jersey. Clearly the jersey spent a greater percentage of its life in the minors than its single partial-season in the majors, and there was a significant jersey fabric color difference beneath the old numbers once they were removed; the fabric beneath was cleaner and white, while the rest of the jersey had taken on a pinkish/purplish cast from repeated hot water washing with other red and blue colored garments. I was able to spot-bleach the garment and then launder it, which evened out the color and whitened the jersey noticeably. After cutting new lettering that both matched the team's Goodman pattern and the ghost outlines visible on the jersey, I media-blasted and organically dyed the replacement lettering to simulate the same degree of use as the original front crest. I sewed all lettering with matching bleached-colored thread.

Continued, overleaf

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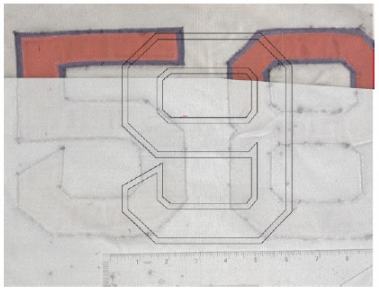
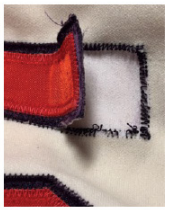
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Angels switched off and on using Goodman as their team supplier of home jerseys throughout the 1970s. While Goodman did not year-tag the team's jerseys, they were the supplier of record for 1975, the only year that Sudakis played for the Angels.

Wear & Repairs: As professionally restored, this jersey presents nicely and shows good use, most of it from the minor leagues. It is free of rips or holes, and is now an even cream-color. The trim is still bright and intact. The original team crest is bleached from detergents so it is not as dark or vibrantly colored as it was when new, but it is in very good condition. While the player numbers and the name on back have been restored, care was taken to match the patina of the front team crest by aging the new fabric and using matching bleached colors of thread.





Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, professionally restored condition: the front team crest is all original, and the player name and numbers have been properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bill Sudakis of the 1975 California Angels.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tommy John 1983-1984 California Angels Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: California Angels #25 Tommy John pullover full-weight Goodman-made gray knit jersey. Goodman was the sole supplier of Angels road jerseys during these years. 1 1/2" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn-in sleeve end trim and 1" similarly colored V-neck trim. Size 46, which is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. "Angels" in red and midnight blue tackle twill arched across the front, a gold halo encircles the top of the "A" in Angels. The team's secondary logo patch, red/blue State of California with a yellow halo and star is sewn on the left sleeve. All player-specific lettering is unoriginal and has been replaced. On the left chest below the team wordmark is John's number 25. It is sewn using Wilson varsity font in red/Navy. On back, player number "25" in Wilson Varsity font in the same colors, Name on back above, in the same two colors, incorrectly radially arched using a non vertical-arched block font. The original would have been vertically arched.

John was a midseason 1982 acquisition of the Angels. He wore #35 for the balance of that season, then switched to #25 for 1983-1985. In 1985 the team wore an anniversary patch on the right sleeve, and there is no trace of that patch ever having been sewn there. Therefore, we can narrow the use of this jersey to 1983-1984. This jersey shows signs of multiple number changes, as it was almost certainly stripped of its name/numbers and sent to the minor leagues for a second life. The numbers on both front and back are replacements of different ages and the numbers in each pair are not matched to each other, each of slightly different sizes, outline width, stitching detail and degree of wash/wear. The name on back is improperly restored, as the MLB Angels of these years wore vertical arched player names and this one is radial arched Block lettering. The letters also do not match each other in terms of age or stitching style/color. It is clear that there was never another name on back as there are no shadows, (Angels' minor leagues did not use player name on back). Importantly there are scant traces visible of the vertical arched name letters that had been there. While 99% of the ghosts are covered by the new incorrect lettering, enough shadow is visible to judge that the original NOB was vertically arched.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The white rectangular Goodman and Sons rectangular style locker tag showing the size as 46 is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for the period. There is no other tagging at all on the jersey, typical of Angels Goodman jerseys. As mentioned, there are clear signs on the light table of multiple re-numberings of the jersey, and the name on back is an inexact style replacement.

Light table images with visible ghost marks highlighted in red.

Conclusion: The scant evidence of the prior vertical arched name on back is the single most significant clue that this jersey had been issued to Tommy John before being reissued in the minor leagues. Without removal of all the player lettering, it is impossible to determine the chronology of use with different numbers affixed to it. Its size is correct for John to have worn. In my opinion, this jersey, while inexactly restored, was Tommy John's Angels road jersey in either 1983 or 1984.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bob Boone 1985 California Angels Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0613J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: California Angels #8 Bob Boone pullover full-weight Goodman-made gray knit jersey. Goodman was the sole supplier of Angels road jerseys during the 1980-1986. 1 1/2" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn-in sleeve end trim and 1" similarly colored V-neck trim. Size 45, which is an odd in-between size rarely ever seen, but reasonable to fit the player at this stage of his career. (He wore size 44 earlier in his career and size 46 by 1987). "Angels" in red and midnight blue tackle twill arched across the front, a gold halo encircles the top of the "A" in Angels. The team's secondary logo patch, red/blue State of California with a yellow halo and star is sewn on the left sleeve. The Angels' 25th Anniversary patch is stitched to the right sleeve, used only in 1985. On the left chest below the team wordmark is Boone's number 8. It is sewn using the Angels' variant of Wilson varsity font in red/Navy. On back, player number "8" in Angels modified Wilson Varsity font in the same colors, Name on back above, in the same two colors, direct sewn (no nameplate) and vertical arched as is correct. Notably- the "8" on back is sewn upside down, a sewing room error, and while this is not proof of an absolute photo match, see the game photo I found of Boone in 1985 in a road jersey with an upside down back number. It may be the same jersey.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The white rectangular Goodman and Sons rectangular style locker tag showing the size as 45 is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct use through very early 1985. There is no other tagging at all on the jersey, typical of Angels Goodman jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight but slightly bleached from washing, except the stitching holding the sleeve patch on which is very loose, typical from the abrasion with the player's arm during repeated throwing. The lettering shows puckering and burnishing from wear and washing, the jersey fabric beneath the back numbers is slightly puckered from shrinking in the wash more than the number sewn on top of it.

Above right, Boone batting in 1985 wearing a road jersey (possibly this one) with the back number upside down. Below: wearing a home jersey with the number properly sewn.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging and its original sleeve patch. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by catcher Bob Boone of the 1985 California Angels.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Gene Mauch 1986 California Angels Game Used Home Jersey

Examination Date: June 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0613J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: California Angels #3 manager Gene Mauch pullover full-weight Wilson-made white knit jersey. Wilson was a licensed supplier of Angels road jerseys 1979-1986. 1 1/2" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn-in sleeve end trim and 1" similarly colored V-neck trim. Size 44, which is reasonable to fit the manager and the same as other authenticated jerseys in our archive. "Angels" in red and midnight blue tackle twill arched across the front, a gold halo encircles the top of the "A" in Angels. The team's secondary logo patch in its first year of use in 1986 is a baseball-stitched disk with embroidery of red/blue State of California with a yellow halo and star is sewn on the left sleeve, and the team's hallo-A floating above it. On the left chest below the team wordmark is Mauch's number 3 It is sewn using the Wilson varsity font in red/Navy. On back, player number "3" in Wilson Varsity font in the same colors, Name on back above, in the same two colors, direct sewn (no nameplate) and vertical arched as is correct. The jersey is autographed and inscribed in black Sharpie with the year 1987 on the front right just below the team wordmark. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

While he was at first a MLB player 1944-1957, Mauch was best known for managing four teams from 1960 to 1987. He is by far the winningest manager to have never won a league pennant (breaking the record formerly held by Jimmy Dykes), three times coming within a single victory. Mauch managed the Philadelphia Phillies (1960–1968), Montreal Expos (1969–1975 — as their inaugural manager), Minnesota Twins (1976–1980) and California Angels (1981–1982, 1985–1987). His 1,902 career victories ranked 8th in MLB history, when he retired, and his 3,942 total games managed ranked 4th. (Wikipedia)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The white rectangular Wilson "Prestige Teams" style style locker tag with a flag tab showing the size as 44 is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correctly used starting in 1986. There is a 3/4" square of white jersey knit fabric stitched to the immediate left of the Wilson tag with the numbers "86" hand chain stitched on them in black, in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good to excellent used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging and its original sleeve patch. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Manager Gene Mauch of the 1986 California Angels.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Reggie Jackson 1986 California Angels Autographed Game Used Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 16, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0116J01

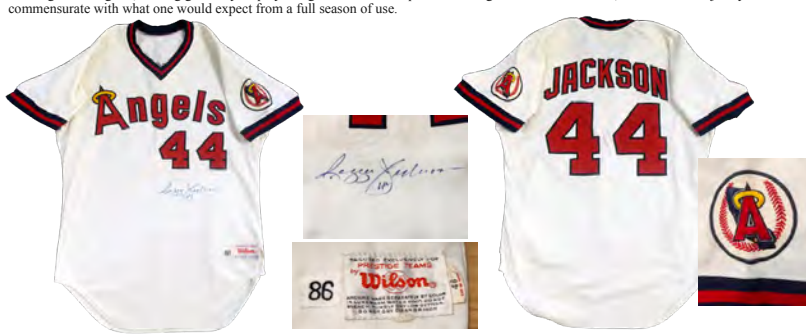
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: California Angels #44 Reggie Jackson pullover full-weight Wilson-made white warp-knit jersey. Wilson was the licensed supplier of Angels home jerseys in 1986. 1 1/2" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn-in sleeve end trim and 1" similarly colored V-neck trim. Size 46 (marked and measured), which is consistent with other Jackson authenticated jerseys in our archive; Jackson wore both size 46 and 48 at this stage of his career. "Angels" in red and Navy Blue tackle twill arched across the front, a gold halo encircles the top of the "A" in Angels. The team's secondary logo patch in its first year of use in 1986 is a baseball-stitched disk with embroidery of red/blue State of California with a yellow halo and star, sewn on the left sleeve, and the team's halo-A floating above it. On the left chest below the team wordmark is Jackson's number 44 sewn using the Wilson front varsity font specific to the Angels in red/Navy. On back, player number in Wilson Varsity font matching the team template in the same colors, Name on back above, in the same two colors, and vertically arched, direct sewn (no nameplate) as is correct. In those years, arched player names were drawn and cut by hand by a Wilson artist; every one is slightly different. The jersey is autographed in blue Sharpie on the front right just below the team wordmark. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph. This jersey was presented without provenance.

In the 20th year of his 21 year Hall of Fame career, Jackson played in 132 games for the 1986 Angels, batting .241 with 16 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The white rectangular Wilson "Prestige Teams" style style locker tag with a flag tab showing the size as 46 is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correctly used starting in 1986. There is a 3/4" square of white jersey knit fabric stitched to the immediate left of the Wilson tag with the numbers "86" hand chain stitched on them in black, in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight an unbleached from washing. The jersey fabric is slightly grayed; no longer bright white after many washings; the lettering shows some wear from use and washing, and is generally burnished but unfaded but with some stray threads. The tagging shows signs of repeated washing, as it is puckered and the edges of the flag-tabs are frayed. One small flag tag centered under the bottom of the larger tag is frayed to the point of being unintelligible; this tag generally displayed a garment code or special tailoring instructions. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from a full season of use.



Conclusion: This jersey is in good well-used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging and its original sleeve patch. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Reggie Jackson of the 1986 California Angels.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rex Hudler 1996 California Angels Game Worn and Autographed Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 2, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0502J01

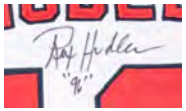
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White full-weight knit Wilson seven-button California Angels jersey, #10 Rex Hudler. Three-color wordmark lettering; red/Navy/white, "ANGELS" arched on front in the correct style for 1996. 2-color red outlined with white, HUDLER and number 10 on the back in the correct fonts and sizes. CA patch red outlined letters with blue with silver halo is stitched to the end of the left sleeve. Narrow, navy 1/8" soutache is sewn around the placket, and 1" from the end of each sleeve. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. Jersey is autographed on the back "Rex Hudler "96" " in black Sharpie. (I offer no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) A study of authenticated Hudler jerseys from our exemplar library showed that the player wore size both 44 and 46 jerseys during his career. All player lettering is stitched through to the garment with both colors rather than just the outside edge, which seems to be the way that the 1996 Angels jerseys were stitched, as I have seen more than one like this.

A popular player with a winning personality, "Wonder Dog" Hudler played in 13 seasons for six different Major League Baseball teams, and at every position except pitcher and catcher throughout his career: the New York Yankees (1984–1985), Baltimore Orioles (1986), Montreal Expos (1988–1990), St. Louis Cardinals (1990–1992), California Angels (1994–1996), and Philadelphia Phillies (1997–1998). He also played for the Yakult Swallows of the Japanese Central League in 1993, contributing to the team's Japan Series championship. After his playing days concluded he became a baseball announcer for the Angels and later the Royals *(Stats from Wikipedia and Baseball Almanac)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson "Prestige Teams" tag sewn on the outside left front tail, flag tag pinched beneath the bottom edge is a flag tab showing size 46 a. A rectangular white knit fabric tag zig-zag stitched below the Wilson tag is machine embroidered "46 96" (size 46 1996). Wilson was the exclusive maker of on-field Angels road jersey in 1996. (Russell made "Authentic" retail sale versions) Two variants of team tagging were used in 1996, some show the year only, most others like this one show the size and the two-digit year. The team tagging properly matches other examples for the team and year in our photo library.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of moderate wash/wear, appropriate of a game use. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. There is evident puckering of all lettering from repeated washing in hot water, including wrinkling and curling of the tags. There is light wear to the inside linen lining, again showing use.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has the correct team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Rex Hudler of the 1996 California Angels.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Chili Davis 1996 California Angels Game Worn and Autographed Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray full-weight knit Wilson seven-button California Angels jersey, #44 Chili Davis. All three-color lettering; Navy/red/white, "ANGELS" arched on front in the correct style for 1996. DAVIS and number 44 on the back in the correct fonts and sizes. CA patch with silver halo in red, Navy and white is stitched to the end of the left sleeve. Narrow, 1/8" soutache is sewn around the placket, and 1" from the end of each sleeve. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. Jersey is autographed on the back "Chili Davis 1996" in black Sharpie. (I offer no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) A study of authenticated Davis jerseys from our exemplar library showed that the player was wearing size 48 jerseys at this later point of his career, though we have not seen another with the extra length tailoring that this one exhibits. All player lettering is stitched through to the garment with all three colors rather than just the outside edge, which is uncommon but not disqualifying. The 7th button added to the bottom is consistent with the 2" extra length.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson "Prestige Teams" tag sewn on the outside left front tail, flag tag pinched beneath the bottom edge is a flag tab showing size 50 with +2" length, and a pen marked +2" sleeve on an additional white flag tag pinched beneath the Wilson tag. A rectangular gray knit fabric tag zig-zag stitched below the Wilson tag is machine embroidered "50 96". Wilson was the exclusive maker of on-field Angels road jersey in 1996. (Russell made "Authentic" retail sale versions) Two variants of team tagging were used in 1996, some show the year only, others like this one show the size and the two-digit year. The team tagging properly matches other examples for the team and year in our photo library.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of heavy wash/wear, appropriate of a season's use. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. There is significant puckering of all lettering from repeated washing in hot water, including puckering of the fabric beneath the numbers. There is notable wear to the inside linen lining, again appropriate for a season's use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has the correct team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Chili Davis of the 1996 California Angels.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Scioscia 2002 Anaheim Angels Autographed Game Worn World Series Jersey

Examination Date: December 29, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1220J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Angels gray Rawlings full-weight six-button knit road jersey, issued to manager Mike Scioscia. City name, "ANAHEIM," wordmark crest vertically arched across the chest in three-colored layered twill, red over navy over white, with sparkle silver halo over the first "A" . Player number "14" in red with Navy and white outlines directly under the player name on left chest and on back using the Angels team-specific font. Collar and sleeve ends trimmed with narrow red knit ribbon trim. Number 14 on back, arched above is "SCIOSCIA" in red/Navy two-color block condensed font with radially arched letters. The fonts used are accurate and authentic. Right sleeve has the 2002 World Series patch sewn on. The red/white/blue MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is correctly sewn to the back of the neck. Size 52 is accurate for Scoiscia at this point in his career. This style of jersey was worn in only two years, 2002-2003, and was made by Rawlings only in 2002. Scoiscia has autographed the jersey at the end of his name on back, with the inscription below "2002". I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

As a player, Scioscia made his major league debut with the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1980. He was selected to two All-Star Games and won two World Series over the course of his 13-year MLB career, which was spent entirely with the Dodgers; this made him the only person in MLB history to spend his entire playing career with one team and entire managing career with another team with 10+ years in both places. After his playing career ended, Scioscia was hired as the Angels manager after the 1999 season. As a manager, Scioscia led the Angels to their only-to-date World Series championship in 2002. He is the Angels' all-time managerial leader in wins, games managed, and division titles. Scioscia was honored with the American League Manager of the Year Award in 2002 (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings logo is embroidered in red thread on the end of the left sleeve. The jersey has a Rawlings Authentic Collection manufacturer tag on its front left tail, a white flag tag pinch-sewn below the locker tag notes the size as 52. There are three other tags; 2002 SET 2; +1" extra length; and +2" extra length. Measuring the jersey, it is clear that the 1" extra length tag refers to the sleeves (at 11") The jersey body is 35". Team tagging is consistent with other examples of 2002 Angels jerseys in our database. Its size and special tailoring matches other jerseys worn by Scioscia in his post-playing days as manager of the Angels.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of wear as might be expected from the jersey of a coach/manager, and it shows moderate wash/wear use with some puckering of the lettering and curling/ink smudging of the tags. There is no sign of repair or any contrivance.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine issue to and worn by Mike Scioscia of the Anaheim Angels in the 2002 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Scioscia 2014 Los Angeles Angels Red Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: January 21. 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J26

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Angels alternate red, six-button-front, Majestic Cool Base 2014-tagged Los Angeles Angels jersey issued to manager Mike Scioscia. Team name, "ANGELS," word-mark crest vertically arched across the chest in four-colored layered twill. Player number "14" in red with black and white and gray outlines directly under the player name on left chest and on back using the Angels team-specific font. Collar and sleeve ends trimmed with white-gray-white knit ribbon trim. Number "14", arched above is "SCIOSCIA" in red/Navy/ white three-color block condensed font with radially arched letters. Right sleeve has Angels secondary logo, an embroidered red "A" bordered with Navy and white, capped by a silver halo. The red/white/blue MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is correctly sewn to the back of the neck. On the left sleeve is the 2014 Postseason patch, adjacent below is a white embroidered Majestic logo. Notably, the Angels did not wear their red jerseys in the 2014 Postseason, so this may have been prepared as a backup.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey has a heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer tag on its front left tail, indicating its size, 54. On the inside side seam are pinched a number of tags, including a Majestic stock tag with the code 0630 printed on it, which identifies this jersey as one made to on-field specifications for the team. There are three other tags; 2014; +2" sleeve length; and +3" body. The jersey exhibits these tailoring characteristics. There is no other team tagging, consistent with other examples of 2014 Angels jerseys in our database. A MLB Authentication Program hologram is affixed to the Majestic tail locker tag with the serial number HZ376155. A database lookup of this code shows that the jersey was prepared for Sciosica but does not indicate that it was game worn. Its size matches other jerseys worn by Scioscia in his post-playing days as manager of the Angels.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of light wear as might be expected from the alternate jersey of a coach/manager, and while its MLB hologram does not identify it as game worn, from our experience that is not conclusive evidence that it has not been game worn, just that it was not marked as such.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine issue to and worn by Mike Scioscia of the Los Angeles Angels in the 2014 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1991 Scott Bailes California Angels Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: March 5, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0305J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made size 44 (marked and measured) six button white home jersey, California Angels. 1 ¾" knit sewn-in sleeve end trim in Navy/red/Navy with 1" similarly colored trim sewn at the neck opening. Rawlings script embroidered into the trim on the end of the right sleeve. "ANGELS" arched on the front across both panels in red outlined by Navy; the leading "A" has a gold/Navy halo stitched around its top. Team disk patch correct for 1991 stitched to the left sleeve. Jersey is customized for pitcher Scott Bailes, with his roster number 43 on left front and centered on the back, and his name arched above and stitched to a separate single-needle serged edge nameplate, all lettering in red over Navy layered twill. The fonts and placement are correct for the 1991 Angels. Size 44 is appropriate for the player, (6' 2" 184 lbs) and matches other exemplars offered at auction. Bailes made 42 appearances for the 1991 Angels, all in middle relief, when he compiled a 1-2 record with a 4.18 ERA in 51.2 innings pitched.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Besides the Rawlings logo embroidery on the sleeve end, the 1991-correct Rawlings locker tag is stitched to the outside bottom of the left tail, around all four sides of its perimeter as is typical with team-issued jerseys. There is no team/year tagging present, a noted characteristic of 1991 Angels jerseys. (Bailes was on the team and wore this style Rawlings jersey in 1990-1991. While the two years' jerseys are identical, the 1990 jerseys are team year-tagged and the 1991 ones are not, in our experience.) While this was presented without provenance, it was sourced from a reputable dealer who made a large purchase of team issued and game worn items from a long-time Angels affiliate, and the jersey has a stamp inside the tail on the reverse of the Rawlings locker tag that reads "Purchased from the California Angels".

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows appropriate use by a relief pitcher, meaning it is undamaged from rough treatment, but shows signs of repeated washing including some puckering to the twill lettering, some slight graying of the fabric, and softening of the edges of the twill . Notably, the thread holding all stitched elements in places shows evidence of being washed with bleach, as it has faded to a dark purple consistent with that treatment.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has the correct tagging for team issue. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Scott Bailes of the 1991 California Angels.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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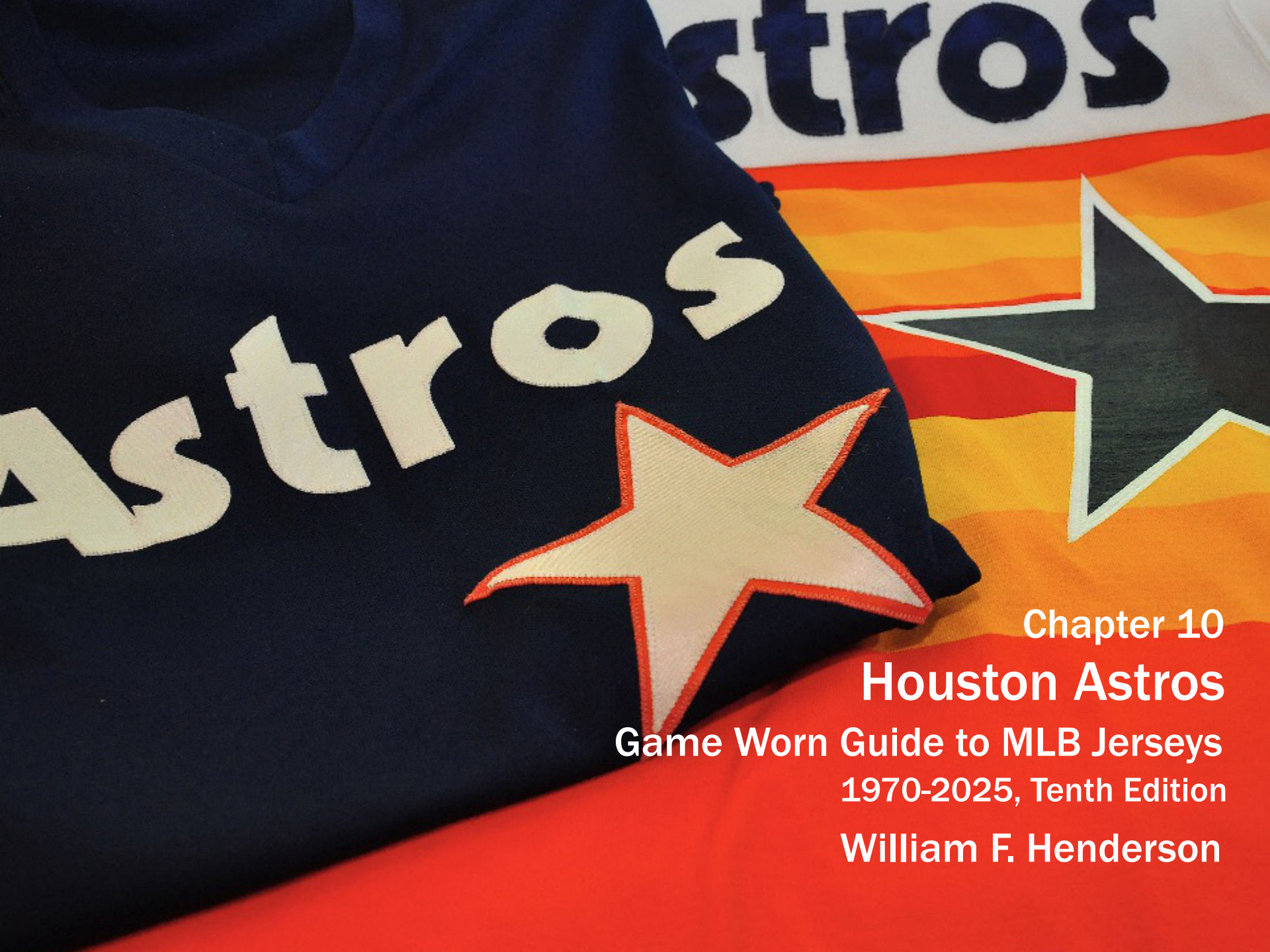

Chapter 10

Houston Astros

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Astros Uniform History Notes

- Without question, the Houston Astros have been the most colorful team in baseball throughout their more than 60 years of history.
- Born as the expansion "Houston Colt .45s" for the 1962 season, the new team from the Lone Star State adopted the wild west theme that had suited the region for well over a hundred years. Their symbol was a large embroidered smoking pistol, displayed prominently on the jerseys of all players. But principal team owner Roy Hofheinz was never a fan of the name and preferred the name "Stars", saying that Houston should embrace its future rather than its past.
- The opening of the Houston Space Center to support the Apollo space missions began to give the area a different feeling in the early 1960s. On December 1, 1964, the team was rechristened "Astros." Team colors stayed the same (navy blue and orange) but the theme seized the promise of the space program—and optimism for the future.*
- The Astrodome—billed by promoters as 'the Eighth Wonder of the Modern World'—was the very first indoor sports stadium big enough to play baseball in, famous for its computerized scoreboard, which stretched across the entire outfield and displayed what now seem like primitive animations for home runs, strikeouts and the like.
- The 1965 flannel uniforms were simple and elegant in a "mid-century modern" sort of way. Truly dated by time, the 'ASTROS' wordmark was chain-stitched in navy blue, outlined in orange. A blue shooting star, followed by orange vapor trails, rocketed across the top of each player's chest. Player names on back were introduced in 1971 and have been used every year since, except for 1974.
- The Astros' switch to knit uniforms came in 1972, when their 1971 flannel design was translated almost identically onto the new 'miracle fabric.' The result featured a zipper front, joining the White Sox as the only zipper-clad teams at the time—followed the next year by the Phillies.
- But the big, shocking change came for the 1975 season… no one had seen anything like it before or since. The Astros introduced "Rainbow" striped uniforms that were so garish that players first thought it was a joke. Sometimes called the "Tequila Sunrise" or "Rainbow Guts" design, these uniforms were so unique that the team wore the same duds at both home and on the road for five seasons.
- Tamer, more traditional uniforms were reintroduced for road use for the 1980–1981 seasons. In 1982, a similar white version of the 1980–1981 style was used at home as an alternate and the Rainbow jersey jersey was being used less and less. By 1987, it was gone. Rainbow patterns were used as shoulder trim only 1987–1993.
- In 1994, the Astros made an abrupt 180-degree change. Their new uniforms were stark in their design—in black, gray and white and completely devoid of trim.
- For 2000, the Astrodome had become a hopeless relic, and the team moved into a new ballpark with a retractable roof. The team look changed completely yet again, including colors. Brick red, Sand, Black and Silver were the new primary colors. With the Space Race but a memory, the Astros curiously took on a ballpark railroad motif, embracing that their new stadium stood on the site of the old Houston rail yards.
- In 2013, coinciding with their shift to the American League, the team completely rebranded, returning to the navy blue and orange colors they wore from their 1962 inception through 1993.
- In 2022, the Astros joined MLB's City Connect program with a space-themed alternate uniform. The design celebrated Houston's identity as 'Space City,' featuring NASA-inspired fonts and trim details that subtly echoed the team's classic Tequila Sunrise rainbow palette.
- In 2025, the Astros introduce a completely redesigned "City Connect 2.0" uniform—retaining the space theme, but built on a white base incorporating visual callbacks to the 1990s look, including a prominent asymmetrical star on the chest and a "STROS" wordmark, creating a cleaner, brighter update that blended retro Astros iconography with modern visual themes.
- The Astros have more style changes, varieties and flat-out inconsistencies than any other team in baseball, even the Padres. They are by far the hardest team to catalog. For every rule, whether related to a manufacturer, style, silk screened or sewn on, there seems to be an exception.
- With seven almost completely different uniform design themes since 1970 and 35 different game jerseys in that period (not counting batting practice jerseys), there are no fewer than 20 different game jersey styles in the 2000–2025 era alone… and each uses different rules for number placement and colors.

TM

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

*Thank you to Chris Ralws of the Astros organization who helped us revise this information.

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Year by Year Summary

1970

1970

1971

1971

1972-1974

1972

1973-1974

1975-1979

1980-1981 blue collar orange star outline

1982-1983

1980-1981 gray

1982-1988 white

1984-1986

1982-1988 cream

Astros Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Astros Varsity 2 color	No	-	orange Astros disc	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Red Sox 2 color	No	-	orange Astros disc	-	Rawlings
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Astros Varsity 2 color	2 color Block Vertical Arch	No	orange Astros disc	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Red Sox 2 color	2 color Rawlings Block	No	orange Astros disc	-	Rawlings
1972	Home	No	SF Giants Varsity 73-76*	2 color Vertical Arch	No	orange Astros disc	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity similar Padres 1973**	2 color modified Block	No	white Astros disc	-	Spalding
1973	Home	No	SF Giants Varsity 73-76*	2 color Vertical Arch	No	orange Astros disc	-	Wilson
	Road	No	SF Giants Varsity 73-76*	2 color Vertical Arch	No	orange Astros disc	-	Wilson
1974	Home	No	SF Giants Varsity 73-76*	NO	-	--	-	Wilson
	Road	No	SF Giants Varsity 73-76*	NO	-	-	-	Wilson
1975	Rainbow	No (# is on pants)	"Circus" font in disc	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	#40 Memorial	-	Sand-Knit
1976	Rainbow	No (# is on pants)	"Circus" font no disc	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	NL Centennial	Sand-Knit
1977	Rainbow	No (# is on pants)	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
1978	Rainbow	No (# is on pants)	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
1979	Rainbow	No (# is on pants)	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
1980	Home Rainbow	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Gray Pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
1981	Home Rainbow	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Alt White pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 or 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road gray pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
1982	Home Rainbow	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Alt White pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Alt Cream pullover		Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road gray pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
1983	Home Rainbow	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Alt White pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Alt Cream pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road gray pullover	No	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Sand-Knit
1984	Home Rainbow	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Alt White pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Off-white pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1985	Home Rainbow	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Alt White pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Off-white pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1986	Home Rainbow***	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	All Star Game	-	Goodman & Sons
	Alt White Pullover***	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	All Star Game	-	Goodman & Sons
	Off-white pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	Silver Anniversary	-	Goodman/Rawlings

* Number font is very close but not quite identical to Giants Varsity of 1973-1976. The Astros version numbers seemed to be stretched just a little taller.

** Numbers are very close but not identical to the style cataloged as "San Diego Padres Varsity" from 1973.

*** For 1986, the old alternate white jersey became the official "home jersey", and the old Rainbow jersey is now officially listed as the Alternate.

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Astros Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1987	Home White Pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Cream Pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White Pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Goodman/Rawlings
	Road Cream Pullover	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	Smith Armband*	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road Cream Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	Smith Armband*	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	Astrodome 25th Anniv	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road Cream Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	Astrodome 25th Anniv	-	Goodman & Sons
1991	Home White Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Cream Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road Cream Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Russell
1993	Home White Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road Cream Button-up	No	Block 2 color	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Russell
1994	Home	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome the Original	MLB 125th	Russell
	Road	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome the Original	MLB 125th	Russell
	Alt Black	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome the Original	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome 30th Aniv	-	Russell
	Road	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome 30th Aniv	-	Russell
	Alt Black	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome 30th Aniv	-	Russell
1996	Home	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	35th Anniversary	-	Russell
	Road	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	35th Anniversary	-	Russell
	Alt Black	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	35th Anniversary	-	Russell
1997	Home	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alt Black	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Alt Black	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1999	Home	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome 35th Aniv	-	Russell
	Road	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome 35th Aniv	-	Russell
	Alt Black	No	Astros Font A 3 color	Astros Font A 3 color	Yes	Astrodome 35th Aniv	-	Russell

* Starting July 21, 1989

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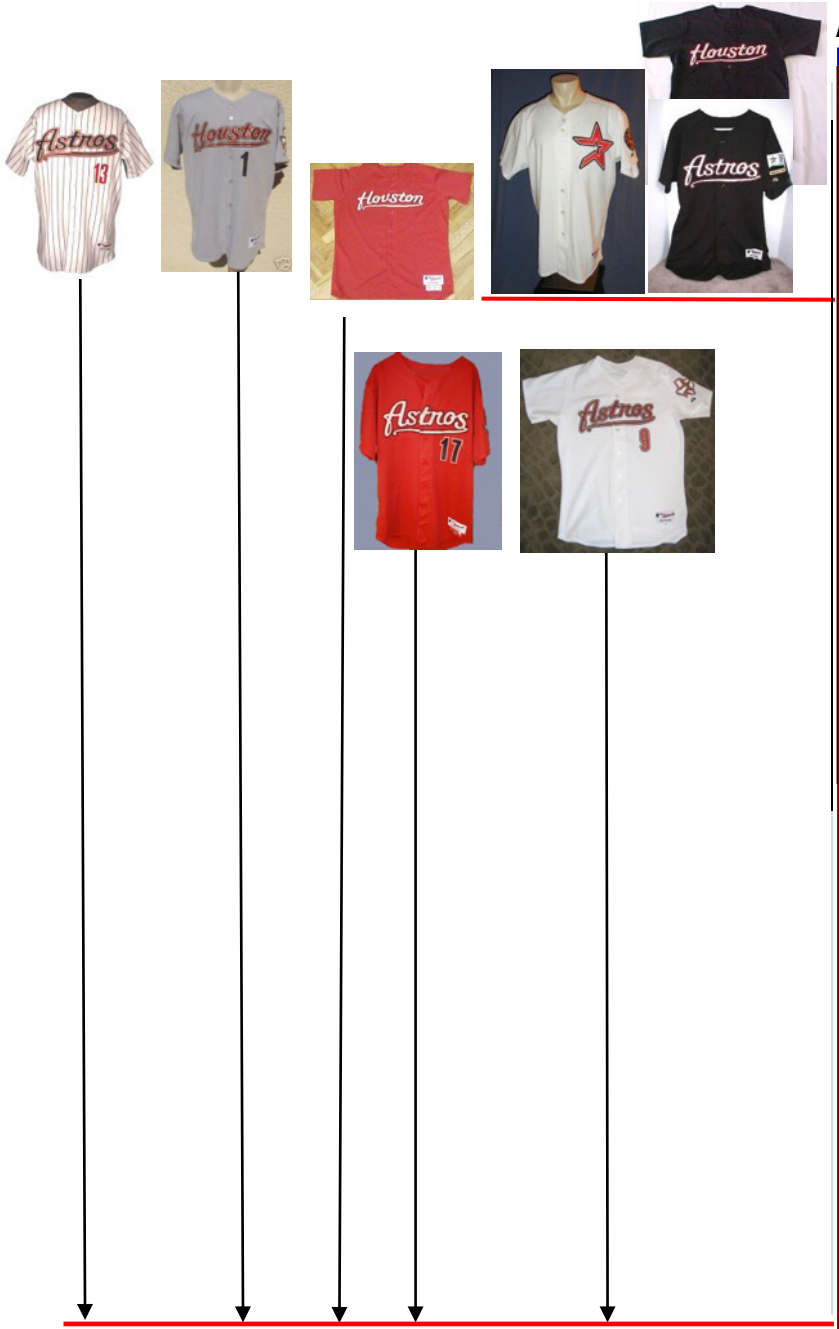

Astros Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Name plate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2000	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Enron Field Inaugural	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes		-	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	No	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Enron Field Inaugural	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	No	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes		-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	No	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Enron Field Inaugural	-	Majestic
2001	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	40th Anniv Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	No	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	No	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	40th Anniv Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	No	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	No	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	40th Anniv Disc	-	Majestic
2002	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	-	Majestic
2003	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	Space Shuttle Columbia	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Space Shuttle Columbia	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Space Shuttle Columbia	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Space Shuttle Columbia	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	Space Shuttle Columbia	Majestic
2004	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	All Star Game	Majestic
2005	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	-	Majestic
2006	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	Houston Baseball 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Houston Baseball 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Houston Baseball 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Houston Baseball 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	Houston Baseball 45th Anniversary	Majestic
2007	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	-	Majestic
2008	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	-	Majestic
2009	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	-	Majestic
2010	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 45th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	Astros 45th Anniversary	Majestic
2011	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	-	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	-	Majestic
2012	Home Pinstripe	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	No	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 50 Years	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 1 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 50 Years	Majestic
	Alt Brick Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 50 Years	Majestic
	Alt Brick Road	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star GOLD	Astros 50 Years	Majestic
	Alt White Home	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Special 3 color	Yes	Texas/star WHITE	Astros 50 Years	Majestic

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2013-2025

2013-2025

2013-2025

Change to Flex Base

2013^

2014-2015+

2016-2025

Batting practice jersey doubles as an alternate jersey 2016–2025

Astros Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Name plate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2013	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alternate/Blue BP v1^	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	-	-	
2014	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alternate/Blue BP v2+	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	50th Anniversary/MH patch*	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	50th Anniversary/MH patch*	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	50th Anniversary/MH patch*	Majestic
	Alternate/Blue BP v2+	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue ("ASTROS")	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	Houston Strong left chest**	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	Houston Strong left chest**	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	Houston Strong left chest**	Majestic
	Alt Blue ("ASTROS")	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	Houston Strong left chest**	Majestic
2018	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue ("ASTROS")	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Blue ("ASTROS")	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Nike
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Nike
	Alt Blue ("ASTROS")	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Nike

^ Though this jersey is listed as only a BP in 2013 (and not an alternate) in the MLB Style Guide, the team wore it as a Sunday home alternate 11 times, hence its inclusion here.

+ The "Rainbow Side" BP jersey received minor updates in 2014 with all MLB BP jerseys. It was made an official alternate in the 2014 and 2015 MLB Style Guides. Nevertheless, the team stopped wearing it in July 2014 and did not use it on-field in 2015.

* Milo Hamilton patch was worn on left chest starting September 18, 2015

** Starting September 2, 2017

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Astros Game Jerseys

These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Name plate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Nike
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	-	Nike
	Alternate/Blue BP	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	-	Nike
2022	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	60th anniversary	Nike
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	60th anniversary	Nike
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy	60th anniversary	Nike
	Alternate/Blue BP	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange	60th anniversary	Nike
	City Connect 1.0	-	Custom 3 color	Custom 1 color	No	Space City flag	60th anniversary	Nike
2023	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate/Blue BP	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 1.0	-	Custom 3 color	Custom 1 color	No	Space City flag‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
2024	Home White	Special 2 color (no perf)	Special 2 color (no perf)	2" Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Special 2 color (perf?)	Special 2 color (perf?)	2" Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color (perf?)	Special 2 color (perf?)	2" Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue ("ASTROS")	-	Special 2 color (perf)	2" Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 1.0	-	Custom 3 color (perf?)	2" Custom 1 color	No	Space City flag‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home White	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Orange	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue ("ASTROS")	-	Special 2 color	Special 2 color	No	Astros Disc/Navy Orange‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Custom 3 color	Custom 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Space City circle‡	OXY Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ Patch placement varies based on player handedness

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970 Home

- Introduced in 1965, the Houston Astros' 'Shooting Star' uniform is an all-time classic of the 1960s Space Age aesthetic. In that year, the Astros completely dropped their original wild-west moniker of "Colt .45s," along with the smoking gun featured on the front of their uniforms.
- The Astros wordmark is fully chain-stitched, just like the Colt .45 emblem. This detail was also used by a few other teams, including the Phillies and Cardinals.
- The 1965–1970 flannel jersey features navy blue lettering as the primary color, outlined in orange.
- The shooting star itself is navy blue and also chain-stitched. An orange Astros disc is sewn onto the left sleeve.
- Player names were not used on the home uniform in 1970. The number font is a unique Astros-specific variant of Varsity. Only year tagging appears on the front tail, beneath the Wilson tag

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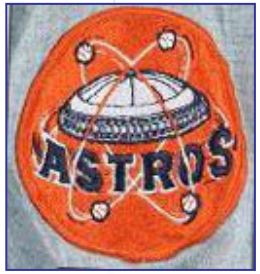
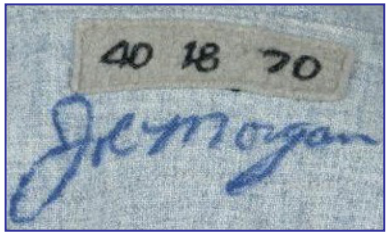
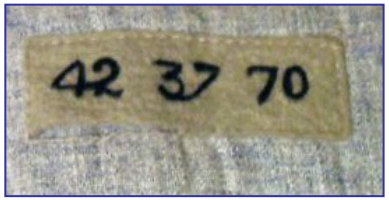
1970 Road







Size, player number, and year strip tags sewn inside the back of the collar.

- When the Houston Colt .45s were born as an expansion team in 1962, their road uniforms featured the city name “HOUSTON” in Varsity style lettering, arched in navy and outlined in orange across the front. The back displayed similarly-colored Red Sox-style font numbers.
- When the team became the Houston Astros in 1965, they kept the same road uniform—changing only by replacing the State of Texas flag on the left sleeve with the new Astros disc patch. The Astros disc proudly featured the Astrodome as its centerpiece—the team’s indoor stadium, christened (perhaps prematurely) as “one of the new wonders of the modern world.”
- While the flannel home uniforms were made by Wilson, the road uniforms were made by Rawlings, likely explaining the difference in player number fonts between home and road jerseys. This was a detail that didn’t seem to matter to teams back then.

© GameWornGuides.com

1971 Home

Left: *Side by side, the 1970 (front) and 1971 (back) jerseys. 1971 features an orange chain-stitched shooting star.*

Bottom right: *Both jerseys are likely sales samples for previewing the 1971 colors, as the name on back is not a player's but refers to Colt 45s/Astros founder Judge "Roy" Hofheinz who was also the political architect of the Astrodome.*

At a glance, the Astros flannel 1971 home jersey looks identical to its 1965–1970 predecessors. But a closer look proves that all the colors on front and back have been completely reversed—what was blue is now orange, and vice versa. Call this the "Orange Star" flannel jersey.

The entire front design is still chain-stitched as before. The Astros disc patch remains on the sleeve. Wilson makes the home uniforms and stitches the two-digit year on the front below the Wilson tag.

The colors are reversed on the back of the jersey as well. The number font remains unchanged. Player names were added for 1971, and they appear in a crisp vertical arch.

SHOWING OFF the Astros' new uniforms before the opening game of the season are, from left, coach Hub Kittle, shortstop Roger Metzger, catcher Jack Hiatt and pitcher Buddy Harris. The Astro uniforms, for the first time, have the names on the back of the blouse. The caps, belts, stockings and lettering are bright orange.

8 ★ THE SPORTING NEWS, APRIL 17, 1971 ★

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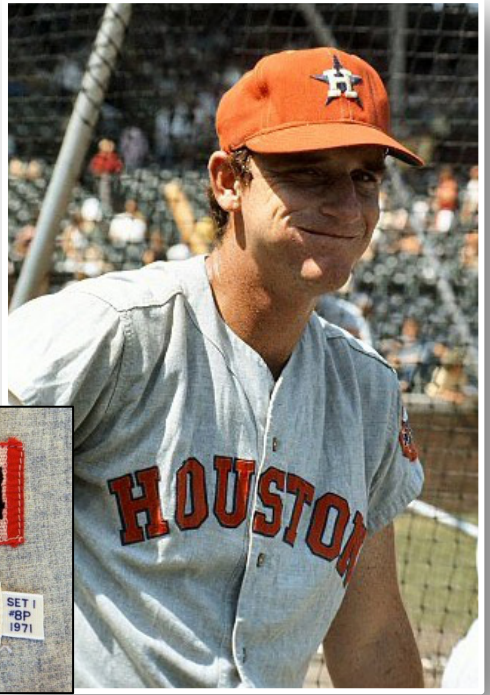
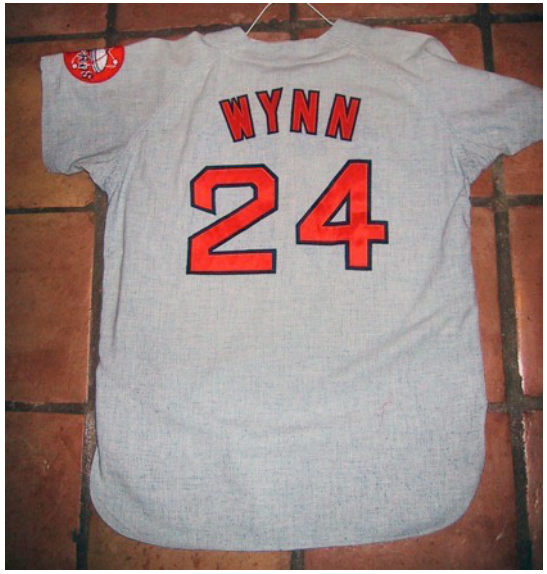
1971 Road





Just as the flannel home uniform reversed its color scheme for 1971, the flannel road uniform followed suit. All lettering that had previously been blue, outlined with orange, was now orange, outlined with blue. Rawlings continues to tailor the road uniforms for the Astros. Player names appear on the back for the first time, along with McAuliffe–Red Sox-font numbers in two colors: orange outlined in navy blue.

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1972-1974 Home

1972

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Chain-stitch detail on the shooting star.

1973

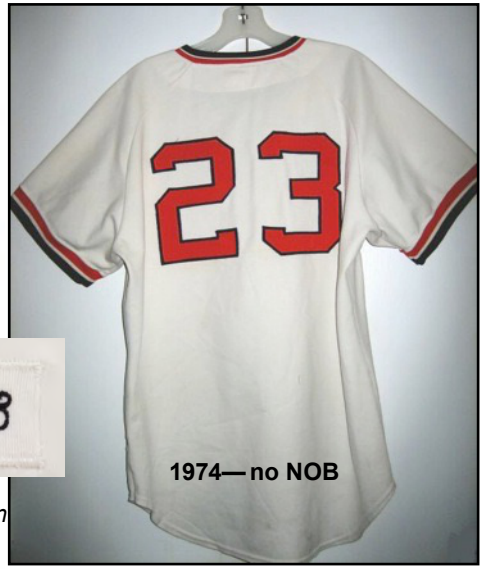
The "Shooting Star" jersey continues in double-knit fabric. The word "Astros" appears on the front in orange/navy blue. It features a zipper-front, with a knit collar and sleeve trim. Chain-stitching is used for the entire front lettering design.

Numbers on the back remain two-color (orange/navy), in Varsity style—though the font is a unique variant specific to the Astros. The font closely resembles the one used by the Giants 1973–1976.

Astros orange disc logo patch on sleeve 1972–1973. No patch in 1974.

1973

Year-tag square on front tail



1974— no NOB

- **Names on back and the orange disc sleeve patch used in 1972–1973.**
- **No names on back, and no sleeve patch, in 1974.**

© GameWornGuides.com

1972 Road

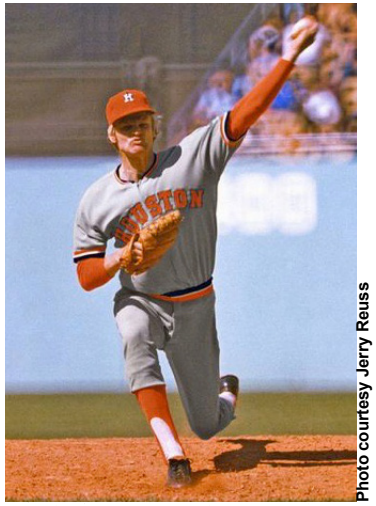


Photo courtesy Jerry Reuss

The 1972 zipper-front road jersey was a one-year style made by Spalding and marked the first Astros road jersey produced in double-knit fabric. Blue/white/orange knit collar and sleeve trim, with a flat-bottomed shirt tail typical of Spalding-made jerseys. The front features a plain 'Houston' wordmark in Varsity Bold font, rendered in orange outlined with navy blue—similar to, but not identical to, the final flannel versions (note the squared-off interiors of the letters 'o' and 's').For 1972 only, the number font is a unique varsity variation, similar to the 1972 Texas Rangers/Washington Senators font. Player NOB is used in 1972. Most surviving examples have had the name on back either stripped or later restored. A white-background Astros logo disc patch is sewn on the left sleeve. 1972 is the only year the white patch is used. No player or set tagging was used on these jerseys.

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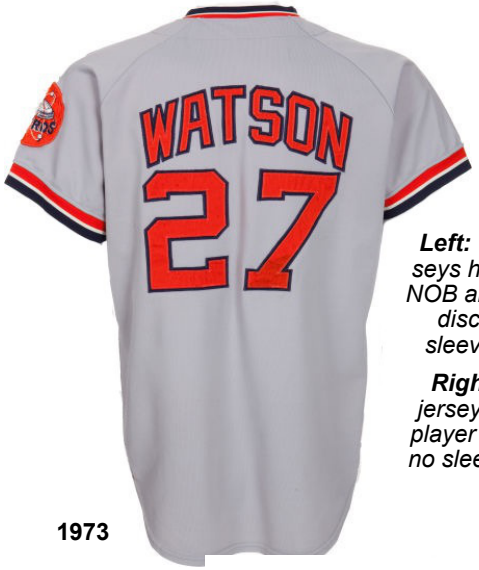
1973-1974 Road

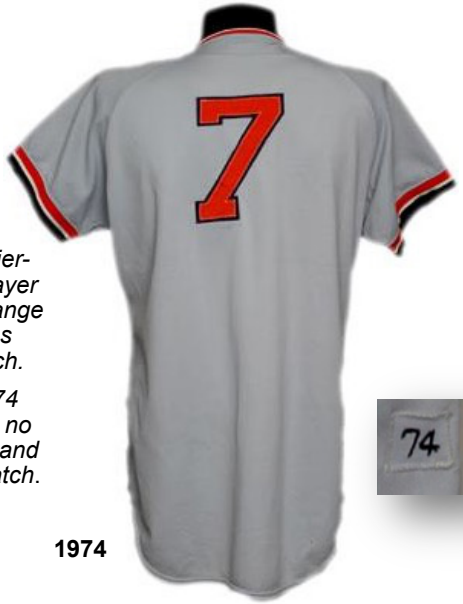


1973

Photo:Heritage Auctions

Left: *1973 jerseys had player NOB and orange disc Astros sleeve patch.*

Right: *1974 jerseys had no player NOB and no sleeve patch.*



1974

1973

"HOUSTON" now appears on the front in a vertically arched, Varsity style type in orange/navy, with a zipper-front design. Wilson is now the jersey manufacturer. The collar and sleeve ends feature orange/white/navy trim.

1973 sleeve disc is now orange, replacing the white-background version used in 1972. In 1974, no sleeve patch was used.

Player numbers are in a style very similar to the Giants 1973-1976 font. In 1973, player NOB is two-color, orange/navy vertical arch style. NOB is omitted for 1974.

1973

1974

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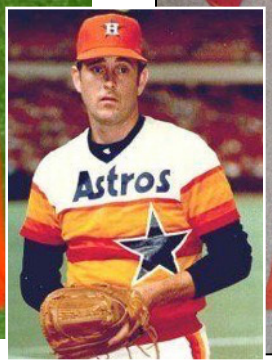
1975-1986 Rainbow Jerseys

Instantly recognizable, and to many the pinnacle of baseball's 1970s kitsch, the Astros Rainbow jersey is a true icon of the decade. This bold style caused much talk when it debuted in 1975. So odd was it, that there was no need for a different road jersey. The Rainbow jersey was worn both at home and on the road by the Astros 1975–1979… it was their only uniform! This style remained the team's official home jersey through 1985. When the more restrained white alternate jersey—with rainbow-sleeve tops—was introduced in 1982, the full-Rainbow version was gradually phased out. By 1986, it was relegated to an alternate, while the white jersey took over as the official home jersey. After 1986, the Rainbow jersey style disappeared entirely. While casual fans may see all Rainbow jerseys as identical, there are numerous subtle variations over the 12-year run—which will be detailed on the following pages. Early game worn jerseys of this style are often thoroughly worn out—after all, they are used both at home and on the road through 1979! Because these jerseys were not set-tagged and often lacked year tags, we have it on good authority—from the team batboy during the early Rainbow years—that each player was issued ***four*** uniform sets, since they were used both at home and on the road.

Left: *Early Sand-Knit jersey with screened-on front lettering and red-bordered star.* **Bottom left:** *Later Sand-Knit jersey features white-bordered star and sewn-on lettering.* **Below and Bottom right:** *Later Goodman jersey has smaller white-bordered star with all lettering and designs sewn on. Back numbers use a different font than before.*

The star received a white outline in 1982. Though worn less frequently in later years, the Astros happened to wear it one final time on the day they clinched the NL West crown in 1986.



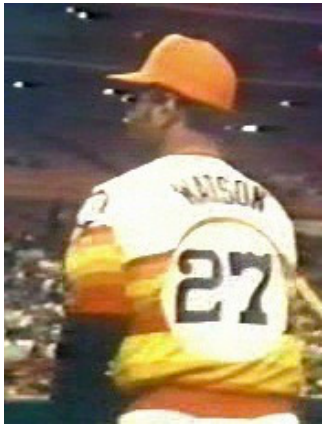
© GameWornGuides.com

1975 Rainbow

Guy Hankel Collection

1975 featured a unique back number treatment: a Circus-style font placed within a large white circle—almost like the gumball numbers on a race car's doors!

Note the 1975 #40 Don Wilson memorial patch on the left sleeve.



This wild design sparked considerable discussion when it debuted in 1975. It was so distinctive that there was no need for a separate road jersey—the Rainbow jersey was worn for both home and road games by the Astros from 1975 to 1979.

In 1975 only, the back has a large tackle-twill white circle sewn on for the number. The numbers themselves are heat-pressed (not sewn) in special one-color navy Circus-style font. Players reported that the huge twill circle was heavy, hot, and uncomfortable to wear.

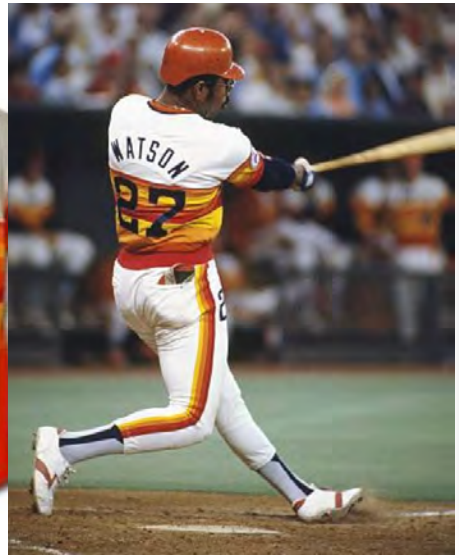
Front lettering and star are screen-printed/heat-pressed on, not sewn. The tackle-twill name on a nameplate uses a very thin version of Block, steeply curved to match the arc of the circle below it.

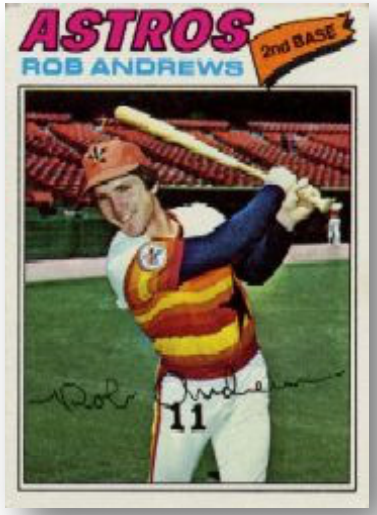
© GameWornGuides.com

1976 Rainbow

The 1976 numbers use the 1975 circus-look font, but now without the white circle. They are one-color navy. The style is very similar (though not identical) to the 1972–1973 numbers used on Braves uniforms—also made by Sand-Knit. This specific number size and treatment of the 1976 jersey are unique to the 1976 jersey, and all examples should have the 1976 National League Centennial patch sewn on the right sleeve.

The "Astros" lettering, front star, and back numbers are all heat-transferred or screened-on—a technique common in the NFL but rare on Major League Baseball uniforms! Twill player names sewn on nameplates at a steep arch. It remains a mystery what happened to all of these one-year-style jerseys in the hobby.





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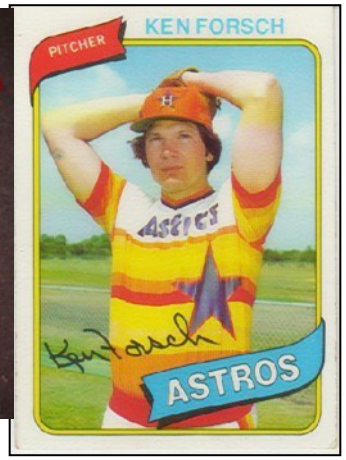
1977-1979 Rainbow

1978

Nearly all Astros jerseys from this period—likely including those shown—have had their nameplates stripped and/or replaced following use in the minor leagues after their MLB service.

A large, red-outlined star—screened-on rather than sewn—spans the entire front stripe pattern, touching all the stripes on the jersey front. The "Astros" lettering is also screened-on. The collar is blue and orange striped, with no team year tagging. Sand-Knit block font is used for player names, sewn on nameplates in a steep arch.

Note the distinctive sewn-on Sand-Knit Varsity style numbers on the back, which are shorter and wider than numbers used in later years by Goodman and Sons. With a little practice, you can indentify the jersey manufacturer in player photos and baseball cards by recognizing subtle details like these. These jerseys have flat-bottomed shirt tails and relatively lightweight fabric construction.

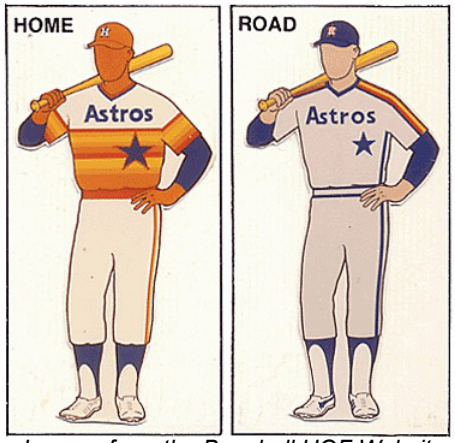


Left: *Screen-printed star and Astros lettering are evident on this baseball card photo, likely taken during 1979 Spring Training using a 1978 jersey.*

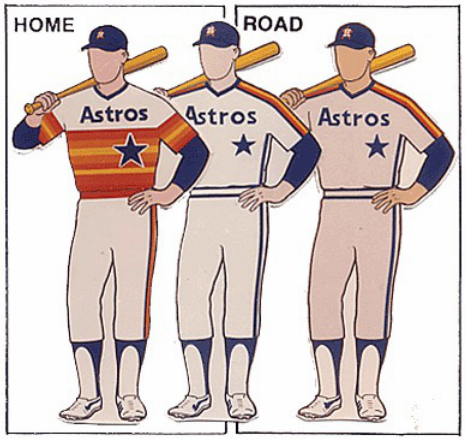
© GameWornGuides.com

How many *different* jerseys did the 1980-1988 Astros actually wear?

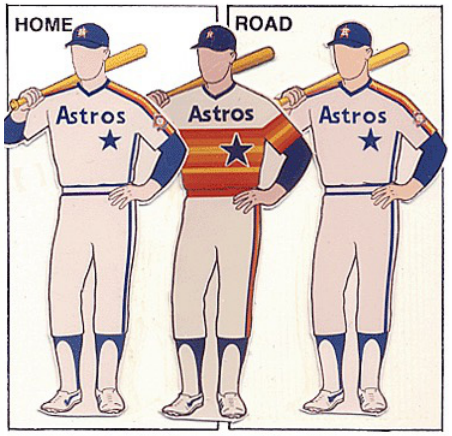
1980–1981



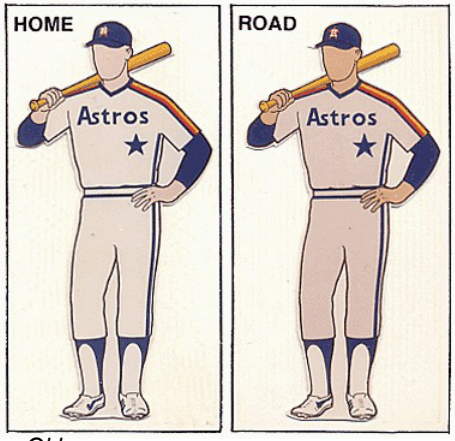
1982–1983



1984–1986



1986–1988



Images from the Baseball HOF Website, http://exhibits.baseballhalloffame.org/dressed_to_the_nines/database.htm Drawings by Marc Okkonen

In earlier editions of this Guide, we speculated on the question posed at the top of this page. The white, cream, and gray jerseys are so similar in shade that they're nearly indistinguishable in news photos of the day, which are almost always in black and white. We wondered whether the Sand-Knit gray road uniform (so pale it often appears dingy white) might have been worn at home as an occasional alternate in 1982 (it wasn't—in fact, it was retired after 1981). Further research revealed there was indeed a separate set of white home uniforms issued in 1982. But then we also uncovered 1982 cream-colored uniforms! But we didn't know if they were worn at home as a separate set from the whites or only on the road.

Very few color news photos exist of the Astros from this era, apart from a few showing Nolan Ryan during his 1983 milestone strikeout achievement.

Only the 1981–1983 Sand-Knit and 1987–1988 Rawlings jerseys from this era featured distinguishing year tags. All others had only manufacturers' tags, leaving uncertainty about year of issue and player use. As a result, much of the jersey history has been 'manufactured'—decades later. Many jerseys have been altered to include famous player names and numbers to increase collectibility. Fake Nolan Ryan jerseys are the most common example.

Our research was often slowed by printed materials from large, reputable auction houses that occasionally listed jerseys with incorrect—or even impossible—years of use. These errors were only revealed through detailed comparisons of manufacturer tagging styles to other confirmed examples from the same year

Finally, there's the question of when a jersey was actually worn, regardless of its year of issue. Most of these jerseys were reused by the team from season to season, and many entered the hobby with their nameplates removed. To close this discussion, here's a quote from an avid Astros collector I know. In a note to me, he wrote:

> *"The club had tons of variations in that era, some jerseys made by Sand-Knit, others with Goodman tags. I was quite close to the club at that point and spent hours on various projects. In photos from that era you could see three guys standing around the BP cage and all three had on different style jerseys…subtle differences perhaps but differences, nonetheless. Kind of quaint, compared to the cookie-cutter stuff of today."*

The following pages in this chapter reflect our most current findings and conclusions as of this 10th edition.

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1980-1981 Home Rainbow

1980

1981 with name on back removed

1980

For 1980, the Rainbow jersey becomes a jersey worn at home only

The collar changes from navy/orange to solid navy, and the team stops wearing player numbers on the pants. Otherwise, all details remain the same as in 1979.

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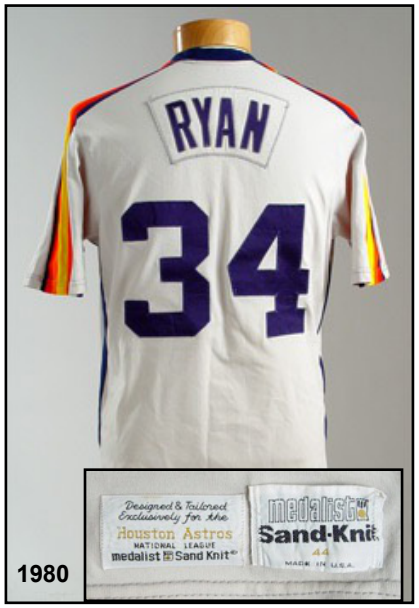
1980-1981 Road Gray



1980

1981—with sewn back numbers and nameplate restored

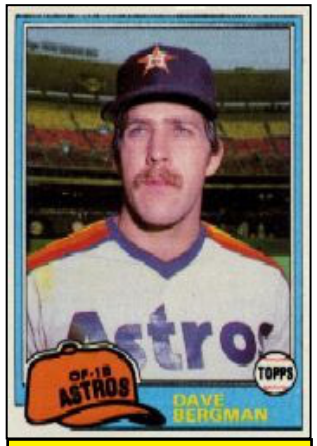
Steve Kraljic Collection

Goodman gray jersey, screened lettering, no year tag

The Astros wore light gray pullover road jerseys with one-color, all-screened front lettering from 1980–1981. As seen in these photos, the gray is so pale it appears almost dirty white—but close inspection confirms the jerseys are indeed gray. Newspaper photos offer little help, as there's often barely any visible difference between the gray, white or cream colors!

While we previously believed all Astros gray jerseys were made by Sand-Knit, we've since uncovered a Goodman-tagged example ***(bottom left)***. Even that jersey uses Sand-Knit-style number and name fonts on the back. Names and numbers are one-color. Sometimes the back numbers are screened on.

The 1980 jerseys I've seen have no team tagging, while 1981 jerseys are marked with the year. The Tartabull jersey is not year-tagged, but we believe it dates to 1981 and was later passed down to the minors in 1982, where José Tartabull was a minor league coach through 1984.



Note the screen-printed lettering on this 1980 road jersey. How can I tell it is a road jersey? Those are the old seats in Philadelphia Veterans Stadium in the background, crafted in the same era. The 1970s-brown, red and yellow are "in". Remember your Mom's kitchen?

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1982-1986 Home Rainbow

Sand-Knit 1982-1983

1983

Sand-Knit remains the uniform supplier in 1982, but two minor changes are made to the Rainbow jersey. The front "Astros" lettering is now either sewn on **OR** screened on in one-color navy blue. The star now features a white border, replacing the earlier red one, but it is still always screened on. Team tagging appears for the first time on Rainbow jerseys with the 1982 year tag. Nameplates have been restored on most surviving examples, as the Astros likely removed them before the jerseys were sent to the minors.

1983

1982

1983

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1982-1986 Home Rainbow, continued: Sand-Knit 1982-1983

Below: This 1982 year-tagged Sand-Knit jersey was well worn before it was retired. Note the two-color screened-on star outlined in white, and the one-layer sewn-on team name. From my handling of original 1975–1983 Rainbow jerseys, they are surprisingly thin—many almost feel like heavy T-shirts. While this may be attributed to overuse before being retired, my experience leads me to believe the fabric was never as heavy as a typical MLB uniform..

The Astros wordmark is designed so that the bottom point of the V-neck collar trim bisects the “s” and “t”— a detail missed by nearly all makers of Turn Back the Clock uniforms (except Mitchell & Ness’ July 1999 game version).

Bill Henderson Collection

1979 version has screened on wordmark and red-bordered star

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1982-1986 Home Rainbow, continued: Goodman 1984-1986

1984–1986 jerseys were made by Goodman & Sons. Goodman jerseys always have the star sewn and outlined in white; the Astros wordmark is also sewn on and outlined in white.

These jerseys have no team year or set tagging.

The star is significantly smaller than the Sand-Knit version—it only extends to the first red stripe

Numbers and names use Goodman's custom Block style, with sharp corner angles. Used with nameplates that are more gently arched than those used by Sand-Knit.

1984

1986

1986

1984 or 1985

The lettering fabric used by Goodman on these jerseys was a matte-finished, square-weave navy fabric, very similar to Goodman's dark royal blue "Dodger Twill" introduced by the Dodgers in 1980. It was not the standard tackle twill used by other teams. Many of these jerseys were notably short-waisted.

Left: *The Knepper jersey is made by Goodman & Sons. Note the lettering and star are sewn on the front in two colors—navy outlined in white. Rainbow jerseys were worn less frequently as the 1980s progressed. Goodman jerseys are heavier and of higher quality than the earlier Sand-Knit versions.*

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1982-1988 Road Cream

Sand-Knit 1982-1983

1982

Do You Want Cream With That?

With this 10th edition, we've once again revised our conclusion: the cream-colored jersey first appeared in 1982, immediately replacing gray as the Astros' road jersey. (Previously, we had misidentified some Sand-Knit jerseys tagged 1982–1983 as gray, when they were in fact cream-colored.) We've now updated all references, removing gray as a color for 1982–1983.

As you'll see on the following pages, the cream jersey is so close in shade to the white version that one wonders why the team bothered. The difference is only apparent when the two are side by side. Still, the subtle tint was clearly intentional—four manufacturers (Sand-Knit, Goodman, Rawlings, and Russell) produced Astros road jerseys in this specific shade through 1993.

Key detail: 1982–1983 cream jerseys have white outlines on the Astros wordmark and back numbers. White jerseys have none.

Right: *Sand-Knit tagging with an "S" after the size number (e.g., 42S) indicates a slimmer waist taper ("Slim"?)*

1983

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Side by Side: Comparing the Too-Similar Gray, Cream, and White Jerseys

Collector Chris McShan helped me research the confusing array of Astros rainbow-era jerseys. ***Left:*** For comparison, he placed his 1981 gray road jersey next to a 1983 cream colored version. Both were made by Sand-Knit. Each has sewn-on back numbers, but both have had the nameplates removed. The team wordmark and star are screened on the front. The gray jersey features solid navy lettering, while the off-white jersey has navy lettering outlined in white.

Right: *All three Astros jersey colors side by side—gray, cream, and white.*

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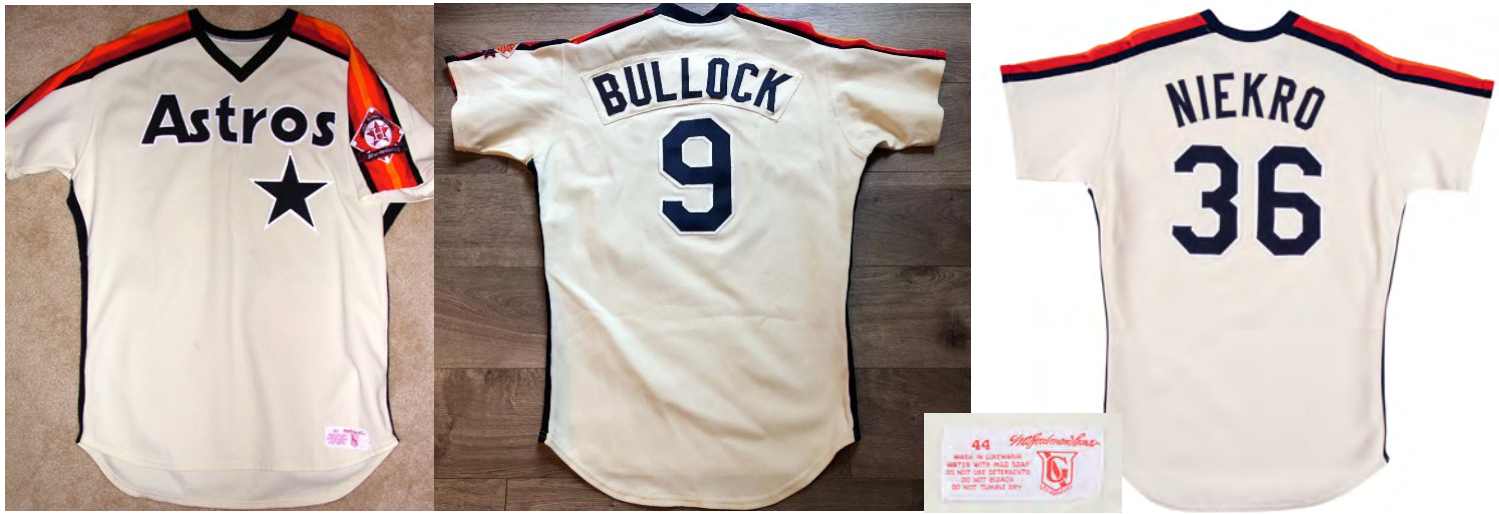
1982-1988 Road Cream, continued: Goodman 1984-1986

1984 and 1985 jerseys appear identical, no team tagging used.



1986 jersey with Silver Anniversary sleeve patch

Goodman made the Astros cream-colored road jerseys exclusively in 1984–1985, and *possibly* shared production in 1986 with Rawlings. However, because Goodman jerseys are not year-tagged (making it impossible to distinguish 1984 from 1985 issues), it's entirely possible that the jerseys with the 1986 sleeve patch were actually 1985 leftovers or reissues—and that Rawlings was the only true maker of cream road jerseys for 1986. Since sleeve logos did not appear until 1987, the jerseys appear identical, and we may never know for certain.

The player name on back fonts are slightly different between Rawlings and Goodman, and careful photo analysis can sometimes identify which brand a player wore. But those who were "there then" tell us that little attention was paid to what brand of shirt a player was wearing until visible sponsorship sleeve logos changed everything in 1987.

The two-color lettering for the team crest and back numbers sometimes used navy Dazzle twill or even a matte-finish "Dodger Twill." Player names were applied on nameplates using Goodman's blocky NOB font.

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1982-1988 Road Cream, continued: Rawlings 1986-1988

1988

1986-tagged, plain sleeves, and missing sleeve patch

Rawlings' 1986 cream-colored pullover V-neck jerseys are virtually identical in appearance to the 1984–1985 Goodman versions. The 1986 season marks the final year of "blank" sleeves; beginning in 1987, the Rawlings logo is embroidered in navy blue at the end of the right sleeve. Player NOB use the taller Rawlings house font.

1986-tagged with 1987 Rawlings logo on sleeve

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And just when one thinks one has seen it all, an example like this appears—enough to make the researcher throw up his hands. These two jerseys are for the same player, the same year (1983), and made by the same manufacturer (Sand-Knit)—yet they are clearly different colors. *But what are they?* If not for the subtle differences in tagging and the fact that one has a white outline around the star and numbers while the other does not, one might easily be convinced they're the same jersey photographed under different lighting conditions.

This example highlights the countless hours your author has spent staring at individual jerseys, color photos, and (God forbid) black-and-white images. Here, let me propose that one is white and the other cream-colored. But viewed in isolation, you could easily convince yourself they're both cream… or white… or even gray. This ambiguity underscores just how difficult visual identification can be—especially in photographs.

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1982-1988 Home White

Sand-Knit 1982-1983

1983 with screened-on wordmark and star

Sewn-on one-color NOB/number

By 1982, the Astros considered their disco-era '70s gaudy Rainbow home jersey to be looking quite dated. To modernize their look, they introduced a plain white pullover with rainbow accents, worn as an alternate home jersey starting in 1982 (see "How Many Jerseys Did the 1980–1988 Astros Actually Wear?" on a prior page).

The team referred to this style as "White Alternate" from 1982 to 1985, then "Home White" from 1986 to 1988. Sand-Knit made the Astros jerseys for the 1982–1983 seasons. Note the three variations shown here, all using Sand-Knit's version of the Varsity font.

1982–1983 variant with star, wordmark and number all screened on!

1983 variant with all-sewn graphics/lettering front and back; Two-color number (navy/white),one-color NOB.

1982 variant with all-sewn graphics/lettering front and back; one-color NOB and number

Top left: *1983 Gainey has screened-on front graphics, one-color sewn on numbers and name on nameplate.*

Right: *#54 was not issued to anyone in either 1982 or 1983, so this jersey may never have had a name sewn on. Screened-on front graphics AND back numbers.*

Bottom left: *#35 Sambito is undated but likely from 1982 as he was not on the 1983 roster. Front graphics and back numbers all sewn-on two-color, NOB is one-color on nameplate.*

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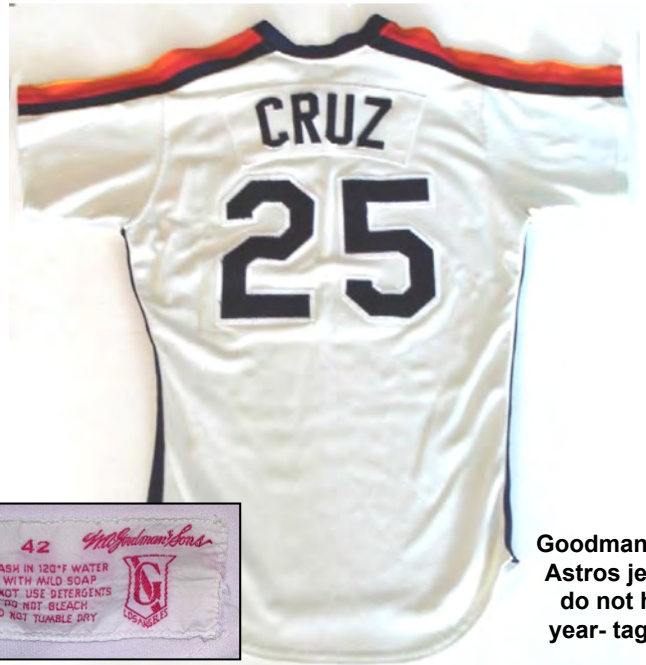
1982-1988 Home White, continued: Goodman 1984-1986

1984, from the Barry Halper Collection



Goodman-made Astros jerseys do not have year- tagging.

1986

1984–1988 Goodman jerseys use two-color sewn lettering and sewn star exclusively. The NOB is one-color and is sewn to a nameplate. Number font is now Block Standard, numbers like the front graphics are navy outlined with white. IIt was not uncommon during this period to see both Goodman and Sand-Knit jerseys in use simultaneously. A trained eye could distinguish between manufacturers by examining the number font on the back of the jersey.

Nolan Ryan's Special Jerseys

Throughout his career, Nolan Ryan was notably particular about the uniforms he wore—whether due to fit, superstition, or personal preference. He was reportedly allowed to have his uniforms tailored separately from those of his teammates.While I have not personally authenticated these examples—and remain cautious about superstar jerseys I haven't examined firsthand—there are consistent reports of Ryan's preferences. During his time with the Angels (1972–1979), he developed a preference for Goodman jerseys by 1974. For the remainder of his career, with the Astros (1980–1988) and Rangers (1989–1993), he reportedly continued to favor Goodman uniforms. However, we do have photos of Ryan as a Ranger wearing Rawlings jerseys, which became easier to identify after 1987 due to the addition of sleeve logos.

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1982-1988 Home White, continued: Rawlings 1987-1988

- Rawlings becomes the third company to make the Astros pullover jerseys, beginning in 1987
- These jerseys feature all sewn-on graphics and numbers in two-color navy/white. Names on back are single-color navy on name-plates.
- Note the differing Rawlings tags used in 1987 and 1988, as well as the three distinct tagging styles across these examples.

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1989-1993 Home White

Goodman 1989-1990

1989

1989

1990

The pullover style is discarded in favor of this traditional button-front design. The design of the lettering remains the same: The Astros lettering and star are navy outlined in white Name on a plate, navy Block numbers on back only, two-color navy/white.

On some jerseys, the lettering splits as “Ast–ros” (like the 1993 Russell on the next page), while on others—like those shown here—it splits as “As–tros.” Though the style remains consistent over these five years, the jerseys were made by three different vendors: Goodman (1989–1990), Rawlings (1991), and Russell (1992–1993).

Proper Lettering Fabric: *Check the front wordmark and star. The back lettering should match the fabric used on the front. The Astros often specified the matte-finished polyester knit fabric on many of their on-field jerseys in these years that we have come to call “Dodger Twill” based on that team’s use of this style during the 1980s and 1990s. It is without the traditional tackle twill diagonal weave lines seen on tackle twill. Retail sale Authentic jerseys sometimes lacked this feature.*

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1989-1993 Home White, continued:

Rawlings 1991

1991

1991

Russell 1992-1993

Russell varied the placement of the front lettering, splitting it at times as As–tros and at other times as Ast–ros.

1993

1992

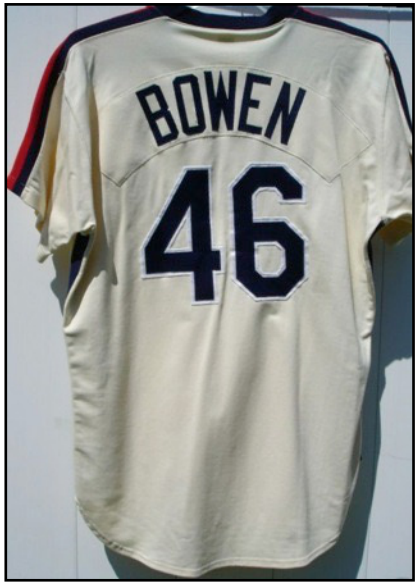
Left: *Russell's Intera fabric lasted just over a year before being discontinued. In addition to its penchant to fade or yellow, it was always a wrinkly mess, as demonstrated by this example.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1989-1993 Road Cream

1989

1990



1992

Road cream-colored jerseys are button-front, just like the home versions, and aside from a slight fabric tint, they are identical in appearance. The Astros lettering and star are navy outlined in white. Back numbers are in two-color navy/white block font. Player names appear on nameplates in one-color navy.

1989 and 1991 jerseys were made by Rawlings, 1990 by Goodman, and 1992–1993 by Russell. Russell often varied the placement of the front lettering, splitting it as either "As–tros" or "Ast–ros."

1993

Right: *Ken Caminiti wearing his road cream uniform. How can we be sure? Only because the un-cropped photo reveals the outfield wall behind him is in San Diego.*

© GameWornGuides.com

Side by Side: Comparing Home White vs. Road Cream

Bill Henderson Collection

Above: *Velcro closures were sometimes used—but not always—to hold the jersey closed at the center of the split wordmark.* ***Below:*** *Note how the word "Astros" splits at different points on different jerseys—sometimes as As–tros, other times as Ast–ros.*

When viewed side-by-side, **these jerseys make one wonder why they bothered**. Yet the Astros had three different manufacturers—Goodman, Rawlings, and Russell—all producing jerseys in both white and cream fabric for ten straight years. One has to wonder how often they got mixed up on the field—and whether anyone even noticed. Button-front jerseys were introduced in 1989.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

After nearly two decades of bold and colorful styles, the Astros adopted a much plainer and more traditional design in 1994—known as the *"Gold Star"* jersey. There are no numbers on the front. These jerseys are not team-year or set-tagged. They feature a special 1990s Astros-only font for names and numbers, with nameplates applied. Lettering consists of three colors: black/white/Nugget gold.

While this basic style remained in use from 1994–1999, minor changes to the wordmark distinguish the 1995–1999 version, which is shown on the following page. All 1994 versions should include the MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve, and the Astrodome "The Original" patch on the left.

The team wordmark and back numbers are officially listed as "Astro Blue," though the twill used is clearly black.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

Known as the *"Small Gold Star"* jersey, it is identifiable by the star ***inside*** the second "O" in "Houston." These jerseys feature a special 1990s Astros-only font for names and numbers. There are no numbers on the front. Lettering is three-color—black/white/Nugget Gold. Nameplates are used. These jerseys are not team-year tagged, though most team-issued examples include a small "100% polyester" flag tag below the Russell jock tag. While nearly identical to the 1995–1996 road version shown on the next page, the 1994 jersey features a smaller and differently styled front wordmark. Since these jerseys were used only in 1994, all team-issued examples should feature the MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve.

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1994 Alternate

Left: *Comparison with a black Orioles jersey highlights just how visually similar "Astro Blue" truly is.*

Astros on the front in white/black/white; star trimmed in gold. Officially designated 'Astro Blue,' the jersey color is nearly indistinguishable from black. In fact, the twill lettering layer on the Astros jersey of this period *is* black. No numbers on front. Special 1990s Astros-only font for names and numbers. Nameplates are used. Three-color names and numbers, white/black/Nugget Gold. No team set or year tagging used.

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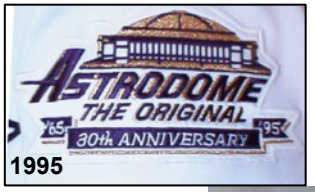
1995-1999 Home

1998

In just the second year of this design, the front wordmark is altered enough to warrant treatment as a separate style. The lettering is slightly bolder, the point of the "A" at the left is shortened, and the bottom loop of the final "S" is now white instead of black (as it was in 1994). The "O" appears narrower and taller, with the star placed differently within it.

The back of the jersey stays the same, nameplates are used along with the special Astros player name and number font in three-color black/white/Nugget Gold.

Bottom left: A comparison of the 1994 and 1995 designs.



1995

1996

1994

1995–1999

1998

1999

1996

© GameWornGuides.com

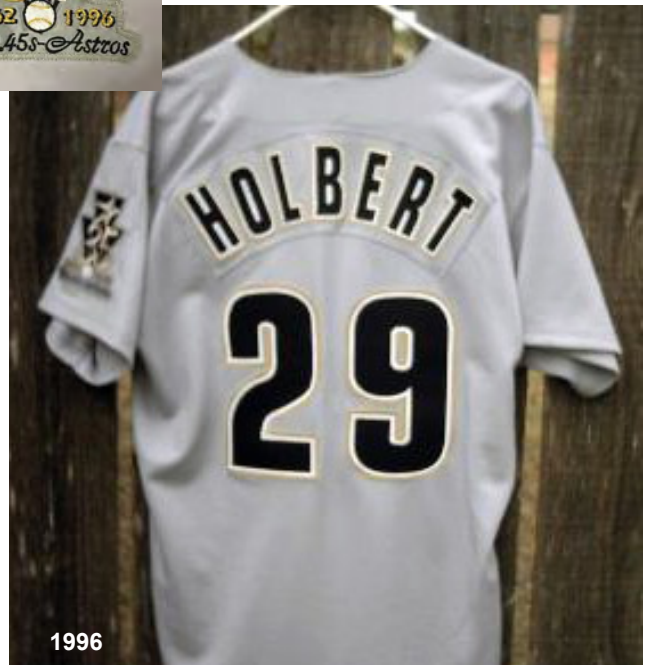
1995-1996 Road

1995

1996

Top: 1994 wordmark; Bottom: larger 1995–1996 version

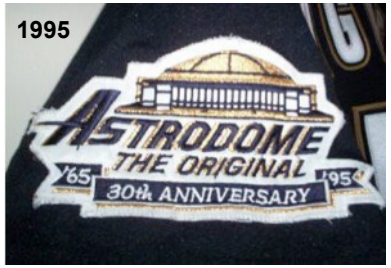
While it closely resembles the 1994 road jersey, subtle design changes were introduced. The "Houston" wordmark on the front is larger and proportioned differently compared to the 1994 design. Everything else remains unchanged from 1994, except for the sleeve patches used.



1996

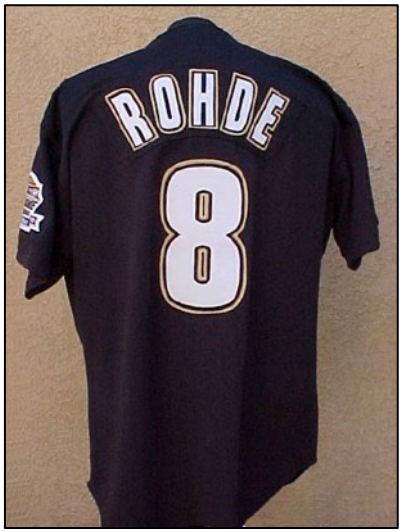
© GameWornGuides.com

1995-1996 Alternate



After just one year, the Astros make a minor adjustment to the front wordmark. The point on the left side of the "A" is squared off and shortened, the bottom loop of the "s" is now filled in black instead of 1994's white, and the entire wordmark becomes slightly taller and thinner..

The back of the jersey remains unchanged.



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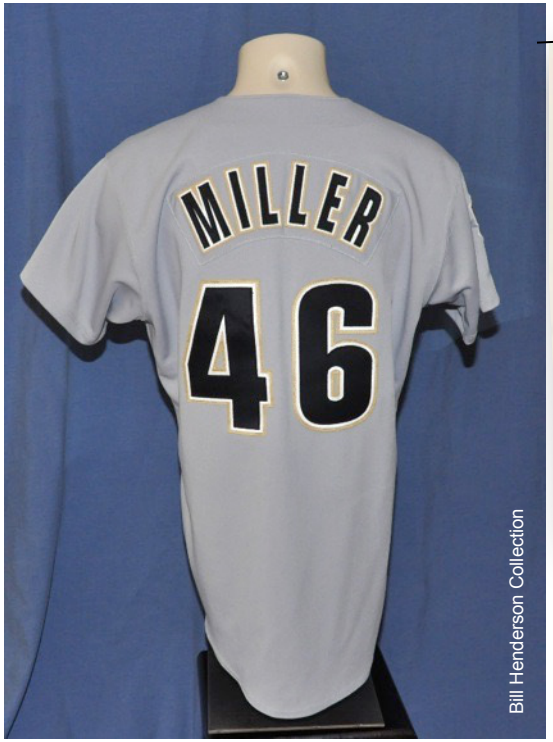
1997-1999 Road

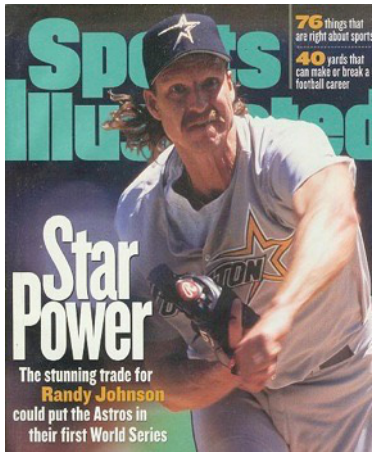
1997



Bill Henderson Collection

Known as the "*Big Gold Star"* jersey*;* Identify by the **large star** extending beyond the word "Houston" (see two pages back for comparison).

There are no numbers on the front. The special 1990s Astros-only font for names and numbers continues. Nameplates are used, featuring three-color names and numbers: black/white/ Nugget Gold. No team set or year tagging is used.



1998

1997

1999

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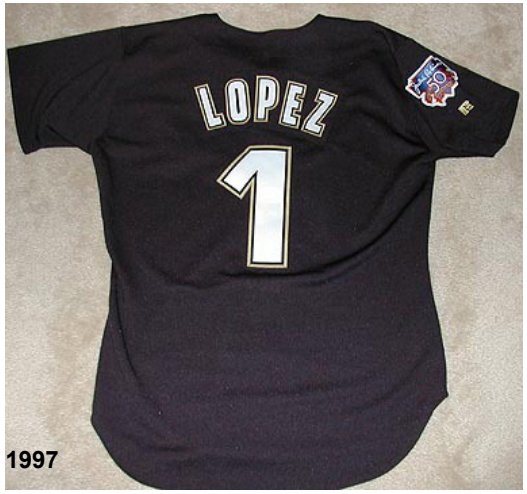
1997-1999 Alternate

1997



1997

Embroidered patch with metallic gold/black/white star sewn on the left chest. Although it closely resembles the BP jersey from the same era, it is not identical. There is no trim around the sleeve ends and neck, and the fabric is solid, not mesh.

There are no numbers on the front. The special 1990s Astros-only font for names and numbers continues. Nameplates are used, and the three-color names and numbers—white/black/Nugget Gold—remain consistent. No team set or year tagging is used, though special tailoring tags may be present.

1999

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2000-2012 Home

2001

The move to a new stadium brought a new look for the Astros. A fancy Astros script appears on the front in black/sand/brick with a gray drop shadow. A new Astros-only font is introduced for player names and numbers. Small dark red numbers appear on the front, while the back features three-color names and numbers in black/sand/brick. No nameplates on pinstripe jerseys. Team Texas star left-sleeve patch worn all years except when replaced by a commemorative patch between 2002 and 2012.

The 2000–2001 jerseys differ from later versions in two key ways. They feature a multi-layer tackle twill wordmark and smaller numbers on both the front and back. Starting in 2002, the team name script is executed in an attractive, old-fashioned looped chain stitching—last seen on Astros home jerseys in 1974. After 2001, front numbers become larger and bolder, increasing from 3 1/2” to 4 1/8”, while back numbers grow from 8” to 8 3/4”. Player name size remains consistent at 2 7/8”.

Above: *2000–2001 version, with layered twill wordmark and smaller numbers front and back.*
Below: *2002–2012 version, with chain-stitched wordmark and larger numbers front and back.*

2004

Detail of 2000–2001 twill wordmark (top), compared to chain-stitched 2002–2012 version (bottom).

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2000-2012 Road

2000 or 2001

A new "Houston" script appears on the front in brick/sand/black. The 2000–2001 jerseys differ from later versions in two significant ways: they feature a multi-layer tackle twill wordmark and smaller player numbers on both the front and back. Starting in 2002, the team name is rendered in an attractive old-fashioned looped chain stitching—last seen on Astros home jerseys in 1974. After 2001, front numbers become larger and bolder, increasing from 3 1/2" to 4 1/8", while back numbers grow from 8" to 8 3/4". Player name size remains consistent at 2 7/8". The Astros' custom font style continues to be used for names and numbers. Front numbers are plain black; back names and numbers are three-color brick/sand/black, applied on a nameplate. The Texas state sleeve patch is worn from 2002–2012. Starting around 2008, the Astros wore their brick red "Houston" jersey as their road jersey almost exclusively. They seemingly wore grays only when forced to do so by the home team's choice to wear their own red or orange alternate home jerseys.

Above: *2000–2001 version, with layered twill wordmark and smaller numbers front and back.*
Below: *2002–2012 version, with chain-stitched wordmark and larger numbers front and back.*

2006

2003

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2000-2001 Alternate Home White

Plain white jersey featuring the stylized star logo on the left chest in brick, sand, and black. There are no numbers on the front. All lettering—names and numbers—is rendered in three-color brick/sand/black using the Astros' custom font. Names are applied on nameplates. A strip of Velcro is present between the second and third buttons from the top.

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2000-2001 Alternate Home Black

- Team script is layered tackle twill
- Solid fabric button-front jersey
- Astros custom font is used for names and numbers, three-color sand/black/brick
- The backs of both home and road alternate jerseys are identical
- Name on back on nameplate
- No front numbers used on the black alternate jerseys

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2000 Alternate Road/2001 Alternate Road Black

- Team script is layered tackle twill
- Solid fabric button-front jersey
- Astros custom font is used for names and numbers, three-color sand/black/brick
- The backs of both home and road alternate jerseys are identical
- Name on back on nameplate
- No front numbers used on the black alternate jerseys

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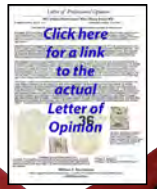
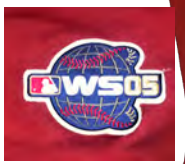
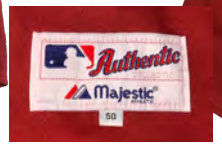
2001 Alternate Road Brick/2002-2012 Alternate Road

Left sleeve patch 2002–2012







- Jersey features layered tackle twill team lettering from 2001–2002.
- Starting in 2003, the team name script on the front of all jerseys is done in old-fashioned looped chain stitching, last seen on Astros home jerseys in 1974.
- Astros custom typeface is used for names and numbers. Back numbers and nameplate letters are rendered in three-color brick/sand/black.
- Nameplates are used.
- Front numbers are added beginning in 2002, in three-color black/brick/sand.
- Texas left-sleeve patch worn 2002–2012.

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2002-2012 Alternate Home Brick

- The home "Astros" version of the brick-colored jersey is added to the lineup in 2002, replacing the black home alternate that was discontinued after 2001.
- Beginning in 2002, the team script on the front of all team-issued jerseys is rendered in old-fashioned looped chain stitching—last seen on Astros jerseys in 1974.
- Lettering is sand/brick/black, as are the back name and numbers.
- The front number is black/brick/sand. The name appears on a nameplate.

Above: *Velcro closure, as added to many player-worn jerseys. The reverse side shows chain stitching applied directly to the jersey. The only other team that used this direct-to-jersey method at the time was the Cardinals. The Phillies also used a chain-stitched wordmark, but theirs was sewn to a patch before being attached to the jersey front.*

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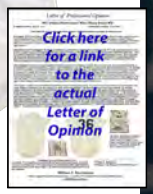
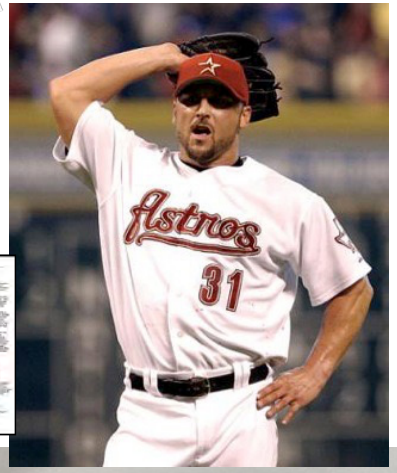
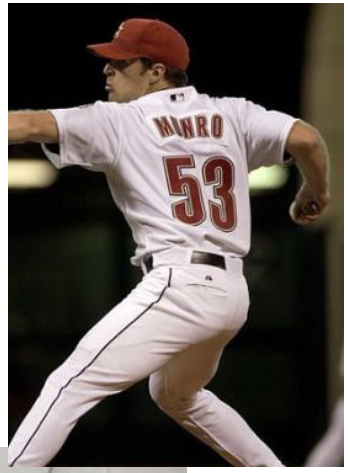
2002-2012 Alternate Home White

Plain white jersey with “Astros” script on the front. The Astros’ custom font is used for names and numbers. All lettering on the front and back is three-color: brick/sand/black. Names are applied on nameplates. The “Astros” script is direct-embroidered in three-color chain stitching.

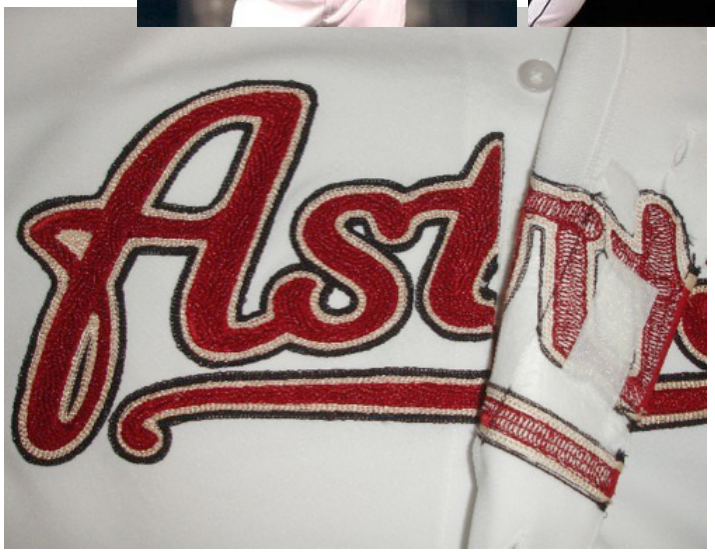
2005







2003



Above: *Close up of direct-sewn chain-stitched wordmark and Velcro closure*

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2013 Astros Rebranding: with Switch to American League

- For 2013, the Astros made a rare move in MLB by switching leagues. The franchise had originally joined baseball as a National League expansion team in 1962 (then as the Houston Colt .45s), before being rebranded the "Astros" for the 1965 season. Such a league shift had occurred only once before in modern times—when the Milwaukee Brewers moved in the opposite direction, leaving the American League to join the National League for the 1998 season.
- Along with the league switch, the Astros introduced a completely redesigned uniform set. The new look was officially unveiled in early November 2012, although it had been inadvertently leaked by the team nearly a month earlier.
- The new color scheme revived the navy and orange combination used from 1962–1993. The classic "H" within a star was brought back as the cap logo, a sleeve patch on game jerseys, and the chest logo on new batting practice jerseys. Though very similar to the historic version, the updated logo is not identical.
- The uniform set features full-button (placket) jerseys with narrow one-color knit trim. Home jerseys and alternate orange jerseys display "Astros" arched across the front, while the gray road jersey features "Houston."

- Player numbers appear on the front left and back, in a custom font unique to the Astros. Player names on the back are used on all game uniforms, and they match the front "Astros" or "Houston" wordmark in both font and nearly identical size. All wordmarks, letters, and numbers are rendered in two-color twill. A circular team patch featuring the "H" and star appears on the sleeve of each game jersey.
- The navy blue batting practice jersey is also worn as an alternate jersey in 2013–2014. Midway through 2014, it was deemed unacceptable for on-field use and was removed from the game jersey rotation. It features "rainbow" striped side panels in yellow and orange.
- Overall, the new look is highly restrained—arguably classic, though perhaps a little bland. The use of the same font *and* size for player names as the front wordmark is unusual. All Astros jerseys were made with Cool Base fabric when introduced.

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2013-2023 Home

- Home jersey is bright white and features “ASTROS” arched across the front in two-color navy/orange.
- Thin orange knit trim runs down the placket and around the back of the collar, and extends approximately ½” from the sleeve ends.
- A navy-based sleeve patch featuring an orange star, ringed in orange, appears on both sleeves. This is a different patch than the one used on road or alternate jerseys.
- Player numbers are located on the front left and back, in a special font that matches the front wordmark, using the same navy/orange color scheme.
- Player NOB is direct-sewn without a name-plate, using the same font, size, and color scheme as the front “ASTROS” wordmark.
- Originally manufactured by Majestic; Nike assumed production in 2020.

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2013-2023 Home, continued

Over the course of this jersey's timeline, the team has worn several different sleeve patches, in addition to the standard disc patch. These include:

- **2015:** Astros 50th Anniversary patch, right sleeve
- **2015:** "MH" patch (for broadcaster Milo Hamilton) worn on the left chest after September 18
- **2017:** "Houston Strong" patch, left chest (starting September 2)
- **2022:** Astros 60th Anniversary patch, right sleeve
- **2023:** Sponsor ad patch worn on various sleeves depending on player handedness, with the team disc patch placed on the opposite sleeve

More details can be found in the Commemorative Patch section of this chapter.

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2013-2023 Road

2017
Postseason

- Road jersey is gray and features "HOUSTON" arched on the front in two-color navy/orange.
- Thin navy knit trim adorns the placket and around the back of the collar, and approximately ½" from the sleeve ends.
- A navy-centered sleeve patch with an orange star is ringed with orange, a different patch than is used on the home or alternate jerseys.
- Player numbers appear on the left front and on the back, in a special font that matches the wordmark and uses identical colors.
- Player NOB is direct sewn without a nameplate and is in the same font, colors, and size as the "ASTROS" wordmark on front.
- Originally made by Majestic. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.

2013

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2013-2023 Road, continued

Over the course of this jersey's timeline, the team has worn several different sleeve patches, in addition to the standard disc patch. These include:

- **2015:** Astros 50th Anniversary patch, right sleeve
- **2015:** "MH" patch (for broadcaster Milo Hamilton) worn on the left chest after September 18
- **2017:** "Houston Strong" patch, left chest (starting September 2)
- **2022:** Astros 60th Anniversary patch, right sleeve
- **2023:** Sponsor ad patch worn on various sleeves depending on player handedness, with the team disc patch placed on the opposite sleeve

More details can be found in the Commemorative Patch section of this chapter.

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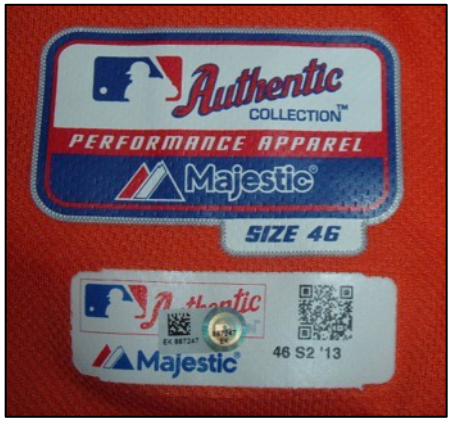
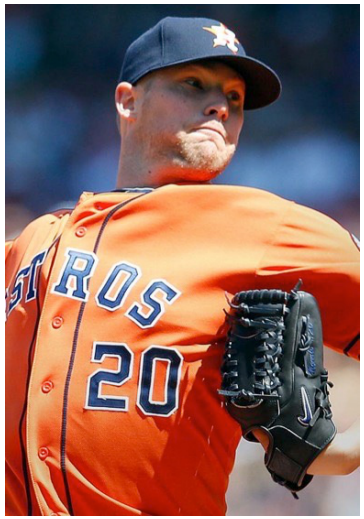
2013-2023 Alternate Orange

- Alternate orange jersey features "ASTROS" arched on the front in two-color navy/white. These are worn on the road and for Friday night home games.
- Navy narrow knit trim adorns the placket and around the back of the collar, and approximately ½" from the sleeve ends.
- A navy-centered sleeve patch with an orange star is ringed with navy—a different patch than is used on the home jersey, and the same as is used on the road gray.
- Player numbers appear on the left front and on the back, in a special font that matches the wordmark, in identical colors.
- Player NOB is direct sewn without nameplate, and is in the same font, colors, and size as the "ASTROS" wordmark on front.
- Originally made by Majestic. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.





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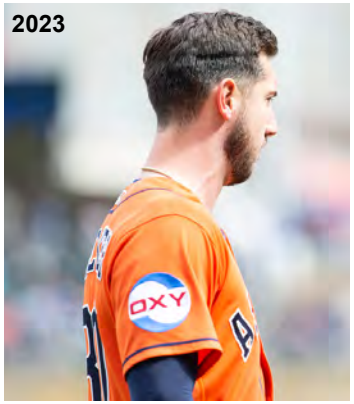
2013-2023 Alternate Orange, continued

Over the course of this jersey's timeline, the team has worn several different sleeve patches, in addition to the standard disc patch. These include:

- **2015:** Astros 50th Anniversary patch, right sleeve
- **2015:** "MH" patch (for broadcaster Milo Hamilton) worn on the left chest after September 18
- **2017:** "Houston Strong" patch, left chest (starting September 2)
- **2022:** Astros 60th Anniversary patch, right sleeve
- **2023:** Sponsor ad patch worn on various sleeves depending on player handedness, with the team disc patch placed on the opposite sleeve

More details can be found in the Commemorative Patch section of this chapter.



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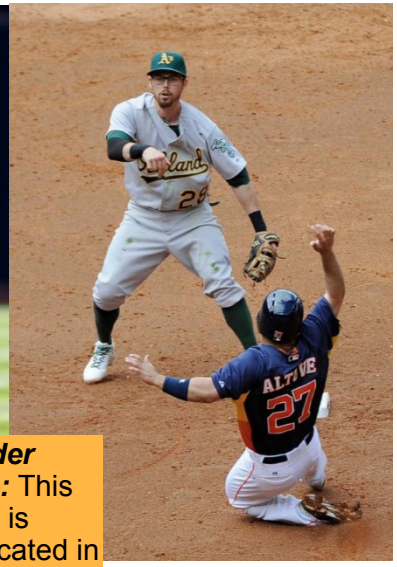
2013 Batting Practice/Alternate Home Rainbow

The 2013 batting practice jersey is made of lightweight Cool Base fabric in navy, with side panels striped in five shades of yellow and orange. The white “H” in an orange star logo is an embroidered applique applied to the left chest. There are no numbers on the front of these jerseys. Numbers on back are orange over white twill; player NOBs are direct applied without nameplates and are white over orange, in the same font as the other game jerseys. Team-issued versions exist both with and without player names. No-NOB jerseys are typically from Spring Training non-roster invitees.

Besides being used in Spring Training and for regular season pregame warm-ups, it was also worn during the entire 2013 regular season as a Sunday home game jersey, despite not being listed in the MLB Style Guide as an official alternate.

Ultimately, during the middle of the 2014 regular season, the slightly redesigned-for-2014 version was pulled from game use. Players complained that it was uncomfortable and was improperly tailored for use as a game jersey.

Quoted on MLB.com, team authentication manager Mike Acosta said, “It wasn’t built like a game jersey. It’s totally different material than a game uniform. Once they voted to stop wearing it on the field, we had a discussion behind the scenes and said, ‘It’s really a shame we can’t have that on the field anymore,’ so why don’t we try to come up with a new jersey that is designed to be on the field, constructed to where you can tailor it and guys will feel comfortable in it?” It took two years to find an answer. The result was the new 2016 Batting Practice/Alternate, introduced in the game jersey section earlier in this team chapter.



Reader Note: This page is duplicated in the Batting Practice section as well.

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2014-2015* Batting Practice/Alternate Home Rainbow

Majestic's redesign of MLB batting practice jerseys for 2014 introduced only minor changes for the Astros. This version features multi-colored side panels that extend all the way to the bottom of the garment, unlike the construction of other teams' jerseys which have a smaller side panel insert. Knit navy sleeve ends and collar trim feature a center orange stripe. The Majestic logo on the sleeve changes to the new style; the jock tag on the lower left front also reflects the updated 2014 design. These jerseys were used in Spring Training games and for regular season pregame warm-ups. While originally planned for Sunday home game use—as alternate game jerseys, like in 2013—they were only worn in 2014 during the first half of the season. Usage ended prematurely after July 17, when players voiced complaints that the tailoring was unsuitable for game wear (see prior page). Although they remained in the MLB Style Guide as an alternate through 2015, they were not used on the field again.

Reader Note: This page is duplicated in the Batting Practice section as well.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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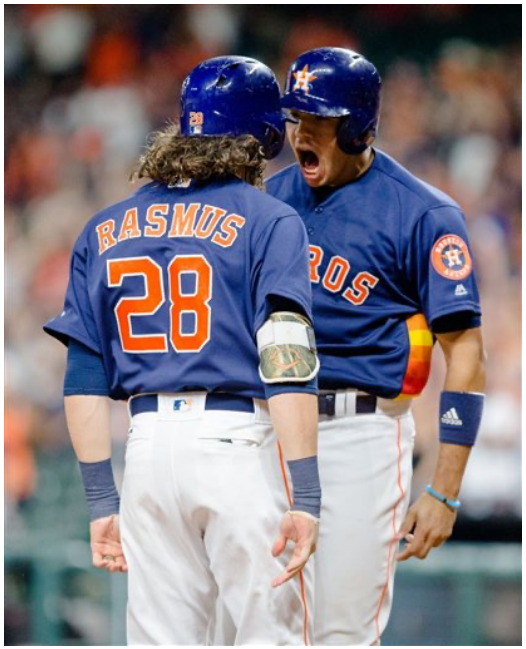
2016-2021 Alternate Home Rainbow/2022-2023 Alternate Rainbow



For the 2016 season, the Astros modified their rainbow-sided alternate jersey. After the failed 2013–2014 experiment using the batting practice jersey as a game jersey, this new version was designed as a standard, tailored game jersey to improve player comfort.

The new jersey features the “Astros” wordmark in place of the “H Star” logo. Based on the Flex Base game-jersey template, it takes full advantage of the colorful side inserts in its design. Player names and numbers are rendered in orange/white using the Astros’ special font. Note that player names are now the same color as the numbers—previous versions had player names stitched in white outlined with orange.

This style was also used as a batting practice jersey in 2016. Initially worn only as a home alternate from 2016–2021, it was later adopted for both home and road use starting in 2022.

Originally made by Majestic, Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.

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2016-2021 Alternate Home Rainbow/2022-2023 Alternate Rainbow, continued

2019

Over the course of this jersey's timeline, the team has worn several different sleeve patches, along with the standard disc patch. These include:

- **2017:** Starting September 2, Houston Strong patch, left chest
- **2022:** Astros 60th Anniversary patch, right sleeve
- **2023:** Sponsor ad patch, worn on various sleeve depending on player handedness, with team disc patch appearing on opposite sleeve

More info is in the Patches section of this chapter.

2017

2020

2022

2023

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2022-2023 City Connect

The Astros enter the City Connect program in 2022 with a space-themed uniform set meant to celebrate Houston's role as home to NASA's Johnson Space Center, while also honoring the Astros' own "Tequila Sunrise" color scheme. The dark blue Flex Base jerseys read "SPACE CITY" in orange/blue across the front in a NASA-style font, which is also echoed on the orange name and the orange/yellow-to-orange gradient/blue number on back. Following from the number outlines, a gradient narrow knit trim encircles each sleeve, the neck opening, and placket—though Nike indicated that each jersey's rainbow trim pattern is slightly different. The grid pattern printed on the jersey's set-in sleeves references star charts used by astronomers. On the left sleeve is a NASA-style "mission patch" containing Houston's four area codes and an "Astros version" of the Texas flag. Finally, Nike and the Astros also included two hidden space-themed details (not visible during gameplay but featured on retail versions for more local appeal):

- Orange embroidery inside the collar reading "Go for Launch"
- A front jock tag with a lunar lander silhouette and the words, "Houston, the Eagle has Landed," paraphrasing Neil Armstrong's line upon Apollo 11's touchdown on the Moon on July 20, 1969.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly — a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The template shift to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) brings many of the same changes to the Astros home jersey, even if the intent is to apply the exact details of the previous iteration to the new template. Most obvious is the league-wide downscaling of the player names and numbers on back. Coupled with the narrower placket, lower MLB logo on back, and sewn-in sleeve trim replacing the former sewn-on trim, the changes make the jersey still seem different, even if the plan was to stay the same. The narrower placket also means the front lettering, specifically the "R", intersects with the trim differently, though the effect is not as jarring as it is for some other teams. The Astros disc and sponsor patches are still embroidered, but in a different style on lighter backing, though from the stands or on TV, those do not appear much different. The Astros do not use perforated twill on these jerseys.

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2024 Road

Much as it did for the team's home jerseys. the template shift to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) brings many of the same changes to the Astros road jersey, even if the intent is to apply the exact details of the previous iteration to the new template. Most obvious is the league-wide downscaling of the player names and numbers on back. Coupled with the narrower placket, lower MLB logo on back, and sewn-in sleeve trim replacing the former sewn-on trim, the changes make the jersey still seem different, even if the plan was to stay the same. The narrower placket also means the front lettering, specifically the "S", intersects with the trim differently, though the effect is not as jarring as it is for some other teams. The Astros disc and sponsor patches are still embroidered, but in a different style on lighter backing, though from the stands or on TV, those do not appear much different. It is unclear if the Astros use perforated twill on these jerseys; more research is required.

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2024 Alternate Orange

As it does with the Astros' other jerseys, the template shift to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) brings many of the same tiny changes to the Astros road jersey, even if the intent is to apply the exact details of the previous iteration to the new template. Most obvious is the league-wide downscaling of player names and numbers on the back. Coupled with the narrower placket, lower MLB logo on back, and sewn-in sleeve trim that replaces the previous sewn-on version, the changes make the jersey still seem different, even if the plan was to stay the same. The narrower placket also means the front lettering, specifically the "R", intersects with the trim differently, though the effect is not as jarring as it is for some other teams. The Astros disc and sponsor patches are still embroidered, but in a different style on lighter backing, though from the stands or on TV, those do not appear much different. It is unclear if the Astros use perforated twill on these jerseys; more research is required.

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2024 Alternate Rainbow

Debuting as a Spring Training jersey back in 2013, the Astros "Rainbow Sides" jersey—inspired by the team's classic Tequila Sunrise motif—has become a popular choice in the team's jersey lineup. Since that time, the basic concept has been used across several templates, including two batting practice designs, Flex Base (both Majestic and Nike), and now Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. In an era where Nike tries to simplify and systematize everything, this jersey's existence stands out. The defining feature of these jerseys—the colorful side inserts—lent themselves well to BP and Flex Base designs of past years, where those templates had separate side panels to work with. But VPE has a more traditional, standard side seam—so carrying this design over takes additional work for Nike to produce.

Like the team's other jerseys, the template shift to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) brings many of the same tiny changes to this style. Most obvious are the league-wide downscaling of player names and numbers on the back and the lower MLB logo. The Astros disc and sponsor patches are still embroidered, but in a different style on lighter backing, though from the stands or on TV, those do not appear much different. The Astros use perforated twill on these jerseys.

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2024 City Connect

It's the same...but different. The 2024 City Connect jersey copies all of the elements of the original and pastes it on to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite template. And in doing so, makes a handful of adjustments to better suit the new template. Most obvious is the league-wide downscaling of the player names and numbers on back. Back numbers are perforated twill. The Astros "Space City" and sponsor patches are still embroidered, but in a different style on lighter backing, these changes are barely noticeable. The construction of the front lettering changes on the VPE version, with spaces between and inside letters no longer filled with blue twill — see the "SP" and "CI" letters as an example. And as for hidden messaging elements that no one will ever see on field, the "Houston, the Eagle has landed" text is now heat-pressed rather than embroidered on a patch. The "Go for Launch" lettering on the inside collar is still heat-pressed, but is now arched rather than straight. Finally, though the change to VPE typically meant that sleeve-end trim became sewn-in to sleeve ends rather than sewn on top, this jersey retains its traditional sewn-on trim, just above the sleeve end. It is likely that the pattern on the sleeves themselves and the unusual rainbow knit trim both conspire to require this vestige of the earlier version.

Above: *A detail showing the differences in front lettering between Flex Base and VPE.* ***Left:*** *The "Eagle" slogan is now heat-pressed vs. an embroidered patch. Right: Sleeve-end trim remains sewn-on vs. sewn-in, likely because of the sublimated pattern on the sleeves and the gradient trim color.*

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. The sleeve-end trim remains sewn in, carried over from 2024. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey and the narrower placket, accentuated by the trim, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys were plagued by significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert to the same fabric used for Flex Base, but now applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Also removed is the largely invisible, jersey-colored set-in band of collar trim—unless a team uses contrasting trim around the collar opening.

Other pre-2024 elements return, including collar/placket and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Since this is still the VPE template, the placket is smaller than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together as it did in 2024, rather than how it appeared in 2023. Sleeve patches also return to full embroidery, replacing the printed or lightweight embroidered versions used previously.

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2025 Alternate Orange

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve-end trim is still sewn in, carried over from 2024. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey and the narrower placket, accentuated by the trim, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels.

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2025 Alternate Rainbow

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve-end trim is still sewn in, carried over from 2024. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels.

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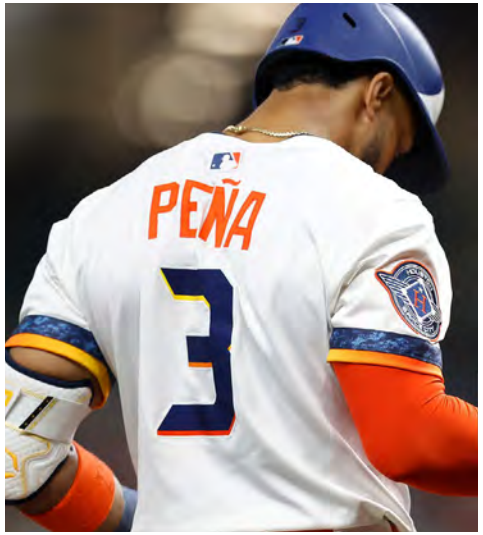
2025 City Connect 2.0

The Astros start 2025 with a new City Connect 2.0 design that replaces there CC 1.0 “Space City” uniforms. This new entry still leans heavily on Houston’s association with the space program, as noted in these explanatory points adapted from the MLB press release:

- Front Crest: The wordmark is an expression of the sleek and futuristic design of this uniform. The phrase “Stros” has always been integrated in Astros fan culture, it’s the first time the organization has formally adopted the fan-driven nickname.
- Player Lettering: Numbers are navy blue with sublimated 3D drop shadow beveled edges that gradate from gold at the top through orange to red at the bottom. Player names are bright orange.
- Neckline: The phrase “Space City” (of the CC 1.0 uniforms) sits in the neckline on a lunar surface texture.
- Sleeve Patch: The sleeve mission patch takes its inspiration from the long-time Union Station logo that adorns the historical building next to Daikin Park and includes the Astros “H” alongside an additional nod to Space City.
- Sleeve Trim: The sleeve trim showcases a lunar pattern that pays tribute to the history of the moon landing and the pursuit to return to the moon in the coming years. The rainbow gradient is a notable carryover from City Connect version 1.0 and is designed as a modern version of the famous “Tequila Sunrise” pattern.
- Jock Tag: The heat-pressed quote comes from a speech about space travel by President John F. Kennedy delivered at Houston’s Rice University.



As a new 2025 jersey, this design uses the Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. Based on Nike documentation, we believe it may use the same fabric previously found in Nike’s version of Flex Base. We will be able to confirm this in future editions. Also note the use of a white Nike jock tag on the front—one of a handful of known uses of this newer tag, which was typically black. The black version was more visible when worn under white pants.

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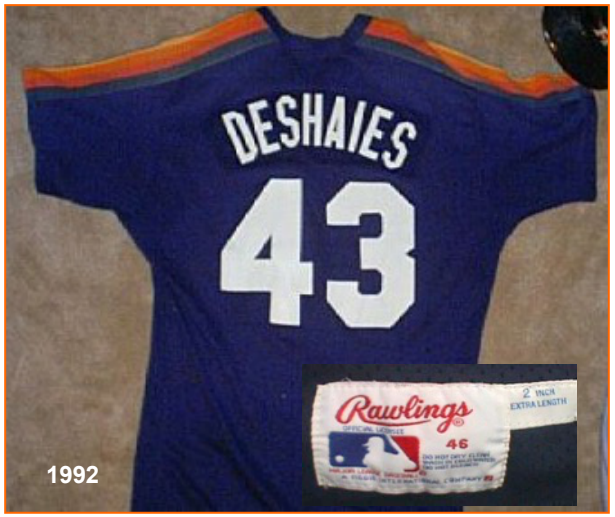
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1978-1993 Batting Practice

1993 (Majestic)

1992



1992

Bill Henderson Collection

- Rainbow trim along shoulders
- Some BPs are mesh, while others use a solid, non-mesh fabric.
- These jerseys are used for Spring Training and batting practice. They are sometimes referred to as “alternate jerseys”, and may have been worn *ad hoc* in a few regular season games.
- Shoulder stripes are sewn *in*, not sewn on top.
- In earlier years, numbers, lettering, and the star were often screened on both front and back. Later examples used sewn tackle twill. Some later models featured entirely sewn-on lettering and star.
- No numbers on front. No names on back from 1979–1983, names appear on back from 1984–1993, although inconsistencies are common.
- One-color white number on the back, Extra Bold Block Style
- Many of the jerseys shown are made by Rawlings, while earlier versions were made by Goodman. From 1992–1993, they were produced by Majestic, Rawlings, and Russell..
- These jerseys were often heavily used before being sold off. Game-worn examples typically show sun-faded shoulder trim, which was originally bright.

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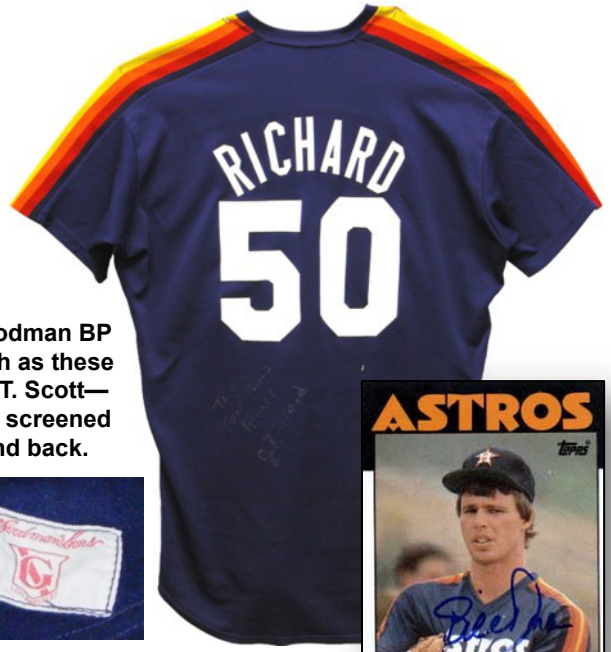
1978-1993 Batting Practice, continued

1978



On some Goodman BP jerseys—such as these Richard and T. Scott—everything is screened on, front and back.

*Mesh fabric characteristics varied between manufacturers. Compared here are Russell **(top)** and Majestic **(bottom)***

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Chris Boyd Collection

Goodman was a frequent supplier to the Astros, and both of these jerseys are made by them.

Top left: *This J.R. Richard BP jersey, claimed to be from 1978, is made by Goodman. It appears to be solid, non-mesh fabric.*

Bottom row: *Early 80s Scott BP has all screened-on lettering and lightweight, solid (non-mesh) fabric; #6 jersey never had a NOB; with the number placed only 6" from the collar.*

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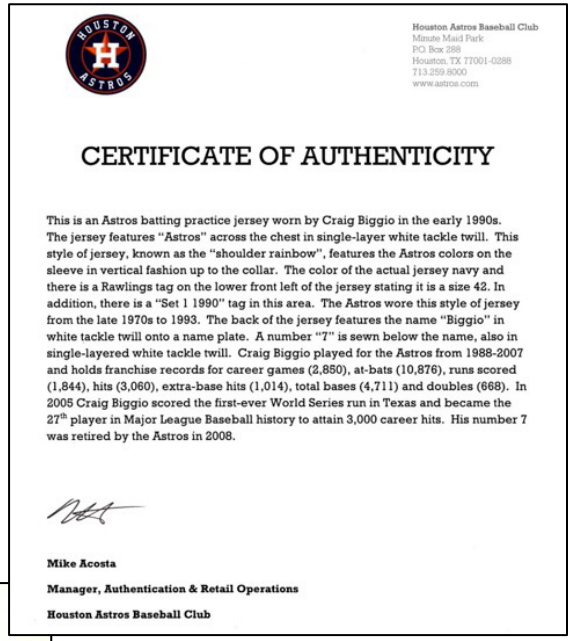
1978-1993 Batting Practice, continued

(Chris Boyd collection)



Houston Astros Baseball Club
Minute Maid Park
P.O. Box 288
Houston, TX 77001-0288
713.259.8000
www.astros.com

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

This is an Astros batting practice jersey worn by Craig Biggio in the early 1990s. The jersey features "Astros" across the chest in single-layer white tackle twill. This style of jersey, known as the "shoulder rainbow", features the Astros colors on the sleeve in vertical fashion up to the collar. The color of the actual jersey navy and there is a Rawlings tag on the lower front left of the jersey stating it is a size 42. In addition, there is a "Set 1 1990" tag in this area. The Astros wore this style of jersey from the late 1970s to 1993. The back of the jersey features the name "Biggio" in white tackle twill onto a name plate. A number "7" is sewn below the name, also in single-layered white tackle twill. Craig Biggio played for the Astros from 1988-2007 and holds franchise records for career games (2,850), at-bats (10,876), runs scored (1,844), hits (3,060), extra-base hits (1,014), total bases (4,711) and doubles (668). In 2005 Craig Biggio scored the first-ever World Series run in Texas and became the 27th player in Major League Baseball history to attain 3,000 career hits. His number 7 was retired by the Astros in 2008.

Mike Acosta
Manager, Authentication & Retail Operations
Houston Astros Baseball Club

This 1990 team-tagged jersey, made by Rawlings, is featured here as yet another variant—constructed from a shiny, non-mesh knit fabric that some have dubbed "*Comfort-weave*." This same fabric was also used by the Mets and a few other teams for batting practice jerseys.

Having a legitimate and verifiable COA for a game-used item worn by a well-known player is absolutely essential if you're purchasing the item as an investment.

Chris McShan collection

Left: *1990 Goodman version of the "Comfort-Weave" fabric variant. Note that the orange outline of the star has rounded points—similar to Goodman's white and cream Astros jerseys from the same period—unlike the Russell version, which features sharp star points.*

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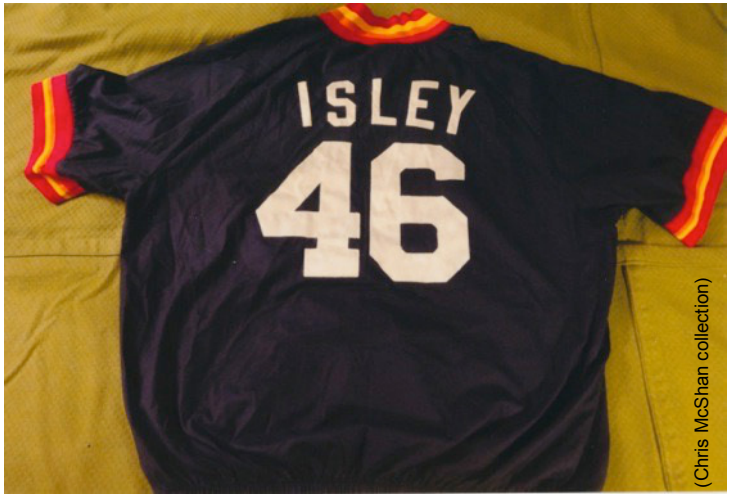
1986-1993 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Bill Henderson Collection

Majestic introduced this zip-neck variant of batting practice jerseys during the late 1980s and early 1990s. Here are two Astros variants.

Top row: Example used 1986–1992 features large-hole mesh, a half-zip neck, and the typical colorful knit trim on the neck and sleeves. It also has slash pockets and an elastic waistband. The Majestic logo on the sleeve is embroidered, while the one on the slash pocket is heat-pressed.



(Chris McShan collection)

Bottom row: Made of solid light-weight knit fabric and features a Majestic tag that dating it to 1993.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994-1996 Batting Practice

Chris Boyd Collection

Introduced with the new game uniform design of 1994. Navy blue with Astros lettering on front, white/midnight navy/white with metallic gold-edged navy blue star in the design.

All certifiable team-worn BP jerseys are made by Majestic and are decidedly navy blue. There are some of these made by Russell that appear to be team prepared, have neck size tabs, and are nearly black in color. To date, we have not been able to confirm that Russell-made jerseys in this style were worn on-field by players, but we continue to search for photographic evidence.

Astros sleeve patches are identical to those used on game jerseys, including commemorative patches like the 1994 MLB 125th anniversary design.

Bottom center: Notably different proportions of front wordmark on 1994 and 1995–1996 Majestic jerseys, notice especially the length of the point on the left side of the word, and the more squat lettering.

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1994 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Chris McShan Collection

Majestic provided this zip-neck mesh batting practice jersey they named "The *Gamewarmer*" as an option to all teams in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Collector Chris McShan shares his team-issued example here and notes that he believes the Astros used this style only in 1994—without player names or numbers on the back

The jersey features slash pockets, gold/white/navy knit trim at the collar and sleeve ends, and hidden elastic at the waist.

No known photos exist of players wearing this style jersey.

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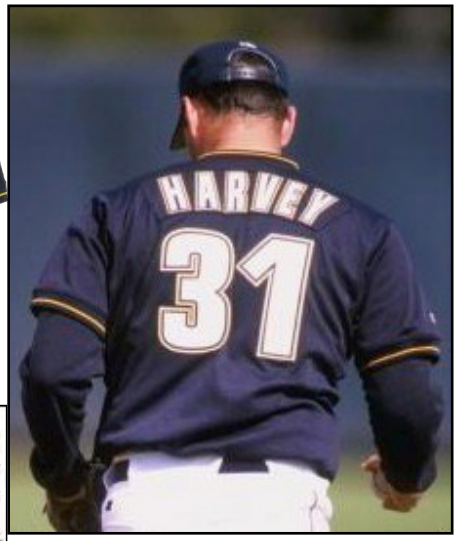
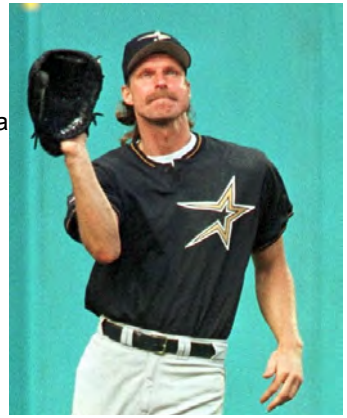
1997-1999 Batting Practice (Narrow Gold Trim)



Chris Boyd Collection



This style features a very dark 'midnight' navy blue mesh in a pullover design with two-button Henley-style collar. Lettered identically to that of the navy alternate game jersey from the same years. The front chest team logo is embroidered in gold over black over white. A gold star also appears on the left chest. There are no numbers on the front. The distinctive 1990s Astros-only font for names and numbers remains in use. Mesh nameplates are used, and names and numbers appear in three colors—white/black/Nugget Gold. Sleeves feature knit navy/gold/navy trim. This style was made for the team by both Russell and Majestic, with each brand embroidering its logo on the right sleeve.

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1997-1999 Batting Practice (Wide Gold Trim)

This variant of the “Big Star” batting practice jersey features significantly wider gold trim on the knit neck and sleeve ends. All examples of this style in my collection and photo archives are made by Russell. Although I don’t have photographic documentation, I suspect these were worn interchangeably with the more common narrow gold trim variant on the field.

Although the official color for Astros dark-bodied jerseys is “Astro Blue,” this example from my collection appears definitively black. I have found no photos of players wearing this style jersey. The lettering is rendered in white “Glacier” twill, featuring an embossed pattern.

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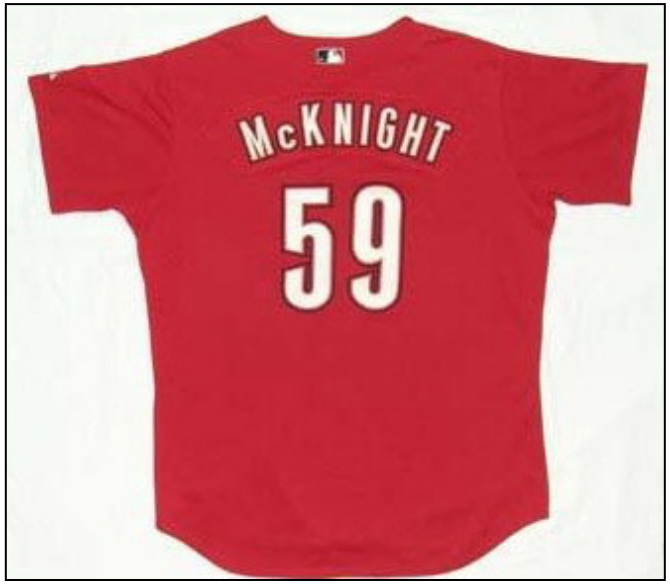
2000-2001 Home Batting Practice



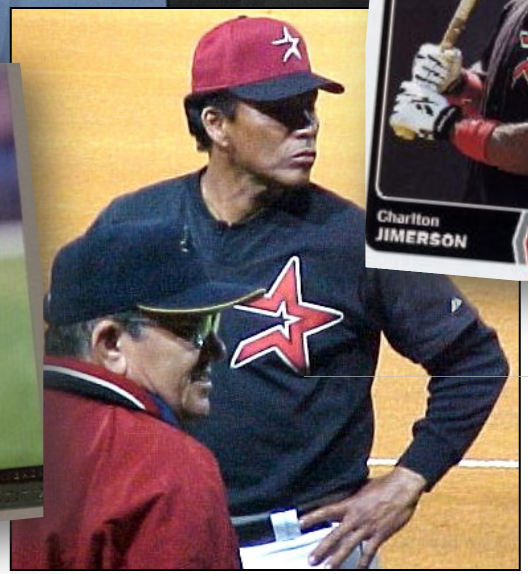
- Brick-red mesh jersey with a two-button neck and Astros script on the front in sand/brick/black tackle twill. No numbers appear on the front.
- Three-color names and numbers on back: sand/brick/black.
- Uses Astros' custom font for both names and numbers.
- Player names are smaller than typical—just 2½" tall for the innermost, outline-free layer—and are placed on nameplates.

Chris Boyd Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2001 Road Batting Practice

Left: *A closer look at the back of this game-worn jersey reveals a darker, unfaded area where the nameplate was once sewn.*



- Black mesh jersey with a two-button neck and stylized star logo sewn on the left chest.
- Astros' custom font for names and numbers.
- Three-color name and number styling: sand/black/brick.
- Nameplates used.
- Also worn during 2000–2002 Spring Training.

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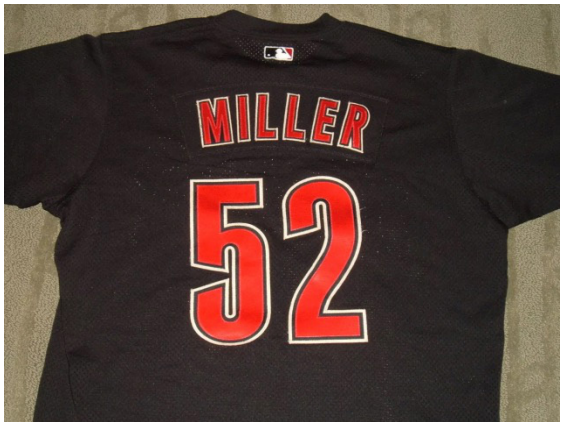
2002 (?) Home Batting Practice

Chris Boyd Collection



This style remains something of a mystery, and we are still seeking more information. It features a two-button neck and red, black, and beige twill script on the front. ***Near right:*** We've seen examples made of mesh (on left), as well as one using early Cool Base-style fabric (on right).

To date, we haven't located reliable pregame photos showing both the front and back of these jerseys, and even seasoned Astros collectors have been unable to confirm the exact years of use.

Two different name/number color combinations appear on the back: brick/black/sand and sand/black/brick. The Astros' custom font is used for all lettering..

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Batting Practice

- Made of early-generation, non-mesh “tech” fabric that’s soft to the touch. Pullover design with two-button neck.
- Fabric is prone to fading and fabric pulls with regular use.
- Tackle twill Astros wordmark on front.
- All previous BP jersey variations were discontinued—this was the only BP style worn from 2003–2006.
- No front numbers.
- Player name on a nameplate; three-color name and number in sand/brick/black.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

Chris Boyd Collection

- Astros' version of the 2007 Cool Base batting practice jersey. Features a one-button neck and lightweight fabric.
- Appliqué-style lettering, names, and numbers replace traditional tackle twill.
- Side panel inserts are solid black.

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2011-2012 Batting Practice

Chris Boyd Collection

- All MLB teams switched to button-front batting practice jerseys for 2011.
- The Astros' 2011 design is identical to their 2010 version, with the exception of the button-front construction.
- Back numbers and names return to multi-layered tackle twill.

© GameWornGuides.com

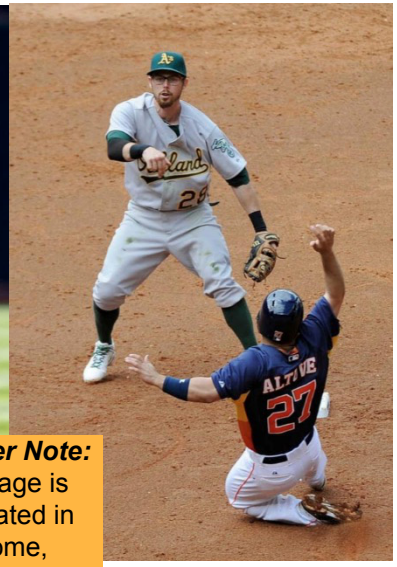
2013 Batting Practice/Alternate Home Rainbow

The 2013 batting practice jersey is made of lightweight Cool Base fabric in navy, with side panels striped in five shades of yellow and orange. The white “H” in an orange star logo is an embroidered applique applied to the left chest. There are no numbers on the front of these jerseys. Numbers on back are orange over white twill; player NOBs are direct applied without nameplates and are white over orange, in the same font as the other game jerseys. Team-issued versions exist both with and without player names. No-NOB jerseys are typically from Spring Training non-roster invitees.

Besides being used in Spring Training and for regular season pregame warm-ups, it was also worn during the entire 2013 regular season as a Sunday home game jersey, despite not being listed in the MLB Style Guide as an official alternate.

Ultimately, during the middle of the 2014 regular season, the slightly redesigned-for-2014 version was pulled from game use. Players complained that it was uncomfortable and was improperly tailored for use as a game jersey.

Quoted on MLB.com, team authentication manager Mike Acosta said, “It wasn’t built like a game jersey. It’s totally different material than a game uniform. Once they voted to stop wearing it on the field, we had a discussion behind the scenes and said, ‘It’s really a shame we can’t have that on the field anymore,’ so why don’t we try to come up with a new jersey that is designed to be on the field, constructed to where you can tailor it and guys will feel comfortable in it?” It took two years to find an answer. The result was the new 2016 Batting Practice/Alternate, introduced in the game jersey section earlier in this team chapter.



Reader Note: This page is duplicated in the Home, Road, and Alternate Jerseys section as well.

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2014-2015* Batting Practice/Alternate Home Rainbow

Majestic's redesign of MLB batting practice jerseys for 2014 introduced only minor changes for the Astros. This version features multi-colored side panels that extend all the way to the bottom of the garment, unlike the construction of other teams' jerseys which have a smaller side panel insert. Knit navy sleeve ends and collar trim feature a center orange stripe. The Majestic logo on the sleeve changes to the new style; the jock tag on the lower left front also reflects the updated 2014 design. These jerseys were used in Spring Training games and for regular season pregame warm-ups. While originally planned for Sunday home game use—as alternate game jerseys, like in 2013—they were only worn in 2014 during the first half of the season. Usage ended prematurely after July 17, when players voiced complaints that the tailoring was unsuitable for game wear (see prior page). Although they remained in the MLB Style Guide as an alternate through 2015, they were not used on the field again.

Reader Notes: *This page is duplicated in the Home, Road, and Alternate Jerseys section as well.*

Find the **2016 Batting Practice jersey** *listed in the "Game Jersey" section, as it is also classified by the team as an alternate game jersey.*

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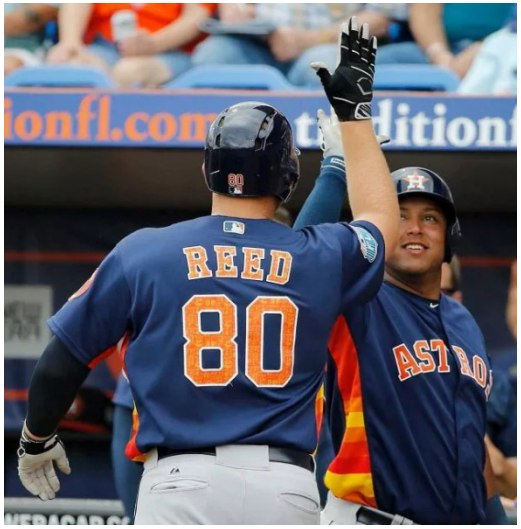
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Astros use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are orange patterned twill/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Astros spend Spring Training.

This same jersey body, but using non-patterned solid-color lightweight twill lettering, was used as both a regular season batting practice jersey and a Sunday alternate home jersey starting in 2016. See the game jersey section, prior, for its detail.



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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. The Astros again use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Astros spend Spring Training.

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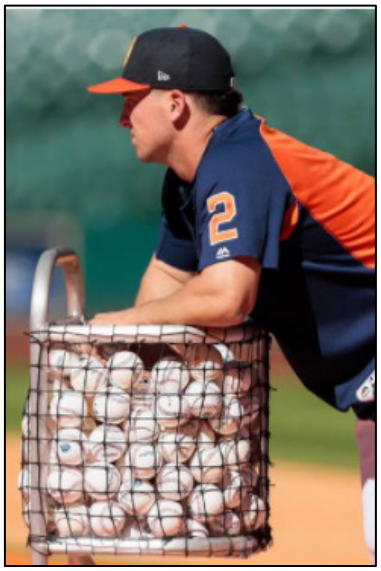
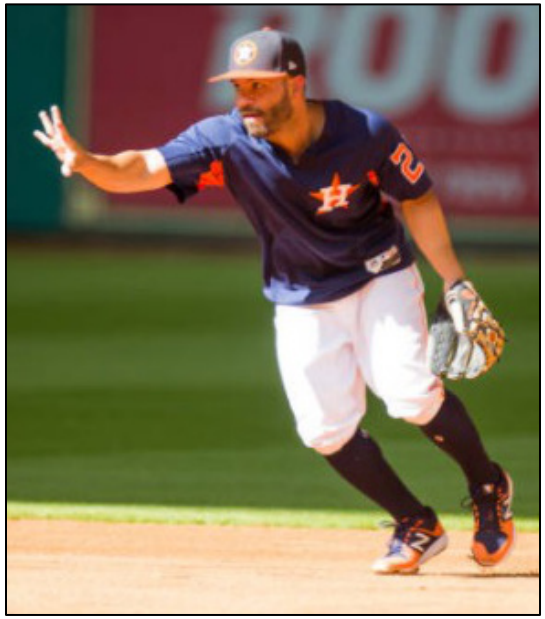
2017-2019 Batting Practice



With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Astros jersey is blue with orange back with rainbow underarm gussets. The "H-Star" logo, from their caps and alternate jersey, appears on the left front chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in orange/white in the Astros special font on the left sleeve.



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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018 year-specific patterns on back. The Astros use their regular-season blue alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color pattern-printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season-style multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet now without 2016's printed patterns. The Astros use their regular season alternate jersey as the base for this design, applying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are orange/white.

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2020-2024 Spring Training

Spring training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the player lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Astros use their regular-season navy alternate with the red/orange/yellow rainbow pattern on each side, with orange/white name and back numbers.

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Special Events Jerseys

1995 Turn Back the Clock to 1965

Brandon Bartholomew Collection

Above: *Thanks to collector John Oates, who snapped this shot at the game and shared it with us.*

Astros host "Turn Back the Clock" night, Phils take free-for-all/Schilling chills Astros

ALAN TRUEX Staff:SAT 05/13/1995 HOUSTON CHRONICLE, Section Sports, Page 1, 3 STAR Edition Astros owner Drayton McLane Jr. gave away every seat in the house Friday night, but he still couldn't sell Houston on baseball. There were huge gaps of empty seating in the Astrodome, even with two first-place teams competing and their No. 1 pitchers on the mound.

The Astros wore their turn-back-the-clock Shooting Star uniforms, but they could not turn back the Philadelphia Phillies. The unlikely leaders of the National League East won 5-2 to stretch their season record to 11-4.

The idea of giving away 54,350 tickets was to thank the fans for their support at a time when many are embittered by the labor dispute that wiped out one-fourth of last season, including the World Series, and chopped 18 games per team off of this season.

But fan support was not much in evidence Friday night, even though the Astros were starting a nine-game homestand after a productive 7-2 road trip. Only 30,828 made it through the turnstiles and most of those people were heading out before the eighth inning.

You could find more electricity in a triple-A battery. You could say the fans got what they paid for-a listless performance from the home team.

This was the Astros' first-ever Turn Back the Clock game, held on May 12, 1995, at the Astrodome against the Phillies (who wore their standard uniforms). The front wordmark is fully rendered in twill rather than the chain stitch style used in 1965. The back numbers do not match any font the Astros have historically used.

The jerseys were produced by Victory Athletic. Notably, the Victory logo appears on the sleeve—something likely not approved by MLB. By 1995, strict guidelines were in place regarding which manufacturer logos were allowed and where. Collectors report that players including Biggio, Bagwell, and Donnels liked the feel and fit of the jerseys so much that they ordered additional custom jerseys from Victory afterward (see "Oddballs" section for more).

The embroidered sleeve logo was almost certainly a violation of MLB's licensing rules. It's likely that no one from Victory (conveniently) sought prior approval—intentionally or not. At the time, only Russell Athletic was permitted to display a sleeve logo on-field.

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1999 Turn Back the Clock to “Shooting Star” Astros

The Astros played the Giants on May 16, 1999 and wore Turn Back the Clock uniforms made by Rawlings. The Giants dressed in their regular road uniforms. This game is a new discovery for us and was added in the 10th edition. At first we had only grainy video stills of this game. Our friends at Kruk Jerseys came across this item in a purchase of team issued uniforms and shared photos of the Bagwell ***(top left)*** with us. One caveat—we have not been able to positively authenticate any actual game worn jerseys from this event. Examining in-hand the Bagwell above which is shown tagged as a size 48 is actually closer to a size 54, which seems very large for him to have worn. There is no team tagging of any kind on this jersey. Notice the incredibly long sleeves on these, including as seen in the game photo at right; very odd and not true to the period. The wordmark is amazingly accurately fully chain-stitched onto white knit patches and sewn to the jersey, just like the pre-1975 originals. Beautiful embroidered team sleeve patch. The names are on nameplates. However, the name and number fonts are not exactly true to the originals.

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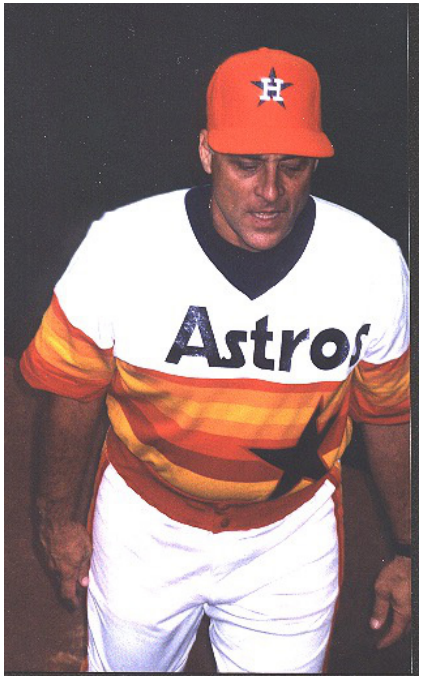
1999 Turn Back the Clock to 1980-1981

Chris Boyd Collection



This game was played on June 26, 1999, against the visiting Cincinnati Reds (who wore their regular road uniforms).

Mitchell & Ness's label is on these nearly perfect replicas of the 1980–1981 Rainbow uniforms. Note the screened-on lettering and star within the orange border, plus the correct Sand-Knit varsity numbers on the back and a stripe pattern that runs fully through the mid-chest—unlike later Majestic replicas. The only detraction is that names on back should be arched, not sewn in a straight line as these are.

A clue emerges as to why these are so spot-on perfect: Close examination of the inside tags on these indicates they were made in Berlin, Wisconsin, home of Ripon sportswear, acquirer of Sand-Knit in 1992. When the original rainbows were made, the two companies were separate (but neighbors). So, not exactly the same company making the originals and the throwbacks, but pretty close. This also explains the non-standard M&N set tagging.

Astros collector Chris Boyd recalls: "These were given away to random fans and season ticket holders after the game, on the field. Each player signed the jersey, stuffed it in a bag, and then fans got to pick bags to see if they were lucky. I purchased this a few years later from a lucky fan. Pants were not specific, and I later obtained a pair from the team. Those, too, were made by M&N."

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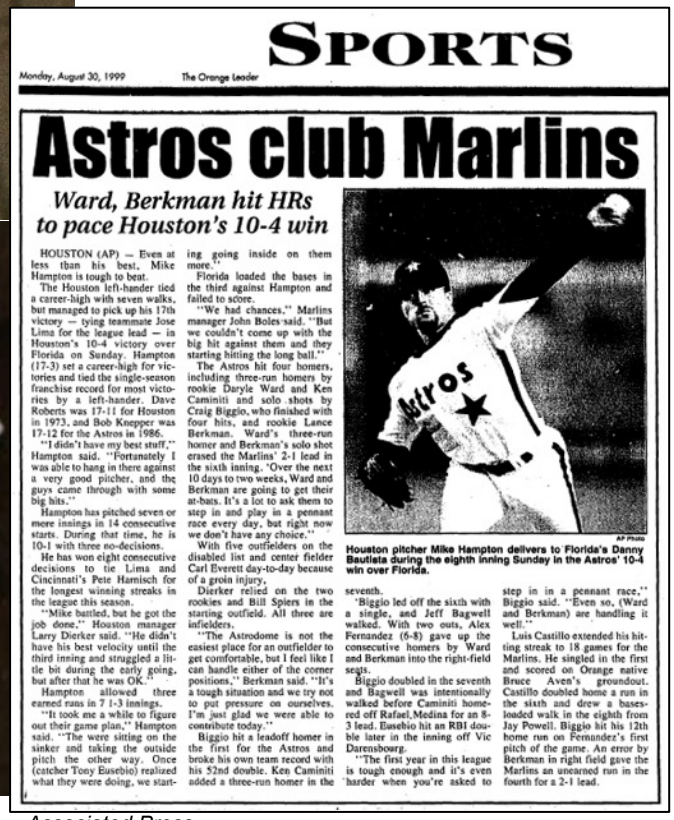
1999 Turn Back the Clock to 1989-1993

Game played August 29, 1999 at home vs. the Marlins, who wore their regular road uniforms.

These Rawlings recreations from 1999 faithfully replicate the white home jerseys worn from 1989 to 1993. They are high-quality reproductions, nearly indistinguishable from the originals.



SPORTS

Monday, August 30, 1999 The Orange Leader

Astros club Marlins

Ward, Berkman hit HRs to pace Houston's 10-4 win

HOUSTON (AP) — Even at less than his best, Mike Hampton is tough to beat.

The Houston left-hander tied a career-high with seven walks, but managed to pick up his 17th victory — tying teammate Jose Lima for the league lead — in Houston's 10-4 victory over Florida on Sunday. Hampton (17-3) set a career-high for victories and tied the single-season franchise record for most victories by a left-hander. Dave Roberts was 17-11 for Houston in 1973, and Bob Knepper was 17-12 for the Astros in 1986.

"I didn't have my best stuff," Hampton said. "Fortunately I was able to hang in there against a very good pitcher, and the guys came through with some big hits."

Hampton has pitched seven or more innings in 14 consecutive starts. During that time, he is 10-1 with three no-decisions.

He has won eight consecutive decisions to tie Lima and Cincinnati's Pete Harnisch for the longest winning streaks in the league this season.

"Mike battled, but he got the job done," Houston manager Larry Dierker said. "He didn't have his best velocity until the third inning and struggled a little bit during the early going, but after that he was OK."

Hampton allowed three earned runs in 7 1-3 innings.

"It took me a while to figure out their game plan," Hampton said. "The were sitting on the sinker and taking the outside pitch the other way. Once (catcher Tony Eusebio) realized what they were doing, we starting going inside on them more."

Florida loaded the bases in the third against Hampton and failed to score.

"We had chances," Marlins manager John Boles said. "But we couldn't come up with the big hit against them and they starting hitting the long ball."

The Astros hit four homers, including three-run homers by rookie Daryle Ward and Ken Caminiti and solo shots by Craig Biggio, who finished with four hits, and rookie Lance Berkman. Ward's three-run homer and Berkman's solo shot erased the Marlins' 2-1 lead in the sixth inning. "Over the next 10 days to two weeks, Ward and Berkman are going to get their at-bats. It's a lot to ask them to step in and play in a pennant race every day, but right now we don't have any choice."

With five outfielders on the disabled list and center fielder Carl Everett day-to-day because of a groin injury,

Dierker relied on the two rookies and Bill Spiers in the starting outfield. All three are infielders.

"The Astrodome is not the easiest place for an outfielder to get comfortable, but I feel like I can handle either of the corner positions," Berkman said. "It's a tough situation and we try not to put pressure on ourselves. I'm just glad we were able to contribute today."

Biggio hit a leadoff homer in the first for the Astros and broke his own team record with his 52nd double. Ken Caminiti added a three-run homer in the seventh.

"Biggio led off the sixth with a single, and Jeff Bagwell walked. With two outs, Alex Fernandez (6-8) gave up the consecutive homers by Ward and Berkman into the right-field seats.

Biggio doubled in the seventh and Bagwell was intentionally walked before Caminiti homered off Rafael Medina for an 8-3 lead. Eusebio hit an RBI double later in the inning off Vic Darensbourg.

"The first year in this league is tough enough and it's even harder when you're asked to step in in a pennant race," Biggio said. "Even so, (Ward and Berkman) are handling it well."

Luis Castillo extended his hitting streak to 18 games for the Marlins. He singled in the first and scored on Orange native Bruce Aven's groundout. Castillo doubled home a run in the sixth and drew a bases-loaded walk in the eighth from Jay Powell. Biggio hit his 12th home run on Fernandez's first pitch of the game. An error by Berkman in right field gave the Marlins an unearned run in the fourth for a 2-1 lead.

AP Photo

Houston pitcher Mike Hampton delivers to Florida's Danny Bautista during the eighth inning Sunday in the Astros' 10-4 win over Florida.

Associated Press

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2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1970

Chris Boyd Collection

July 1, 2002, the Astros appeared against the Reds as the 1970 (wool flannel era) Astros, in road uniforms made of modern double-knit. Compared to an actual 1970 road jersey ***(above right),*** the front letters are sewn in a different arc, names on the back (on nameplates) are added to the 2002 edition, and the number font actually used by the Astros in 1970 was McAuliffe—also known as the Red Sox number font. These replicas use a non-standard version of Varsity.

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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1982-1983

Chris Boyd Collection

- Game played July 4, 2004 vs. the Texas Rangers who dressed in normal 2004 uniforms. The Astros jersey has the large, white bordered star on front as was used in 1982–1983.
- Uniforms made by Majestic, positively notable because the team wore correct pants, with elastic banded snap waists and wide side stripes. Majestic logo embroidered on the left sleeve end.
- The design of the Majestic Rainbow jerseys is not authentic in that the rainbow stripes start too low on the garment. Therefore, most noticeably the numbers on back are half in the white and half in the rainbow. The originals had the numbers completely on top of the rainbow stripes.
- Numbers in 1982–1983 were Sand-Knit Varsity, not Block as is used here. The style numbers on these replicas were used in 1984–1986.
- Names on back are sewn on nameplates and are straight across, while the originals were arched.
- These jerseys were significantly oversized compared to the originals.

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2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1976

August 3, 2006 vs. 1976 Padres in San Diego. Red-bordered star was used 1975–1981.

I will admit special pride in these 2006 TBTC Rainbow uniforms, as Majestic used my number font recreations to letter these team jerseys and pants in their unusual "Circus" number font used only in 1975–1976. However, the rainbow stripes on the back do not come high enough on the body, ending right in the middle of the numbers. The originals had the numbers fully within the higher-riding stripes ***(inset, right)***.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to the Early 1990s

- The September 28–30, 2007 homestand against the Braves marked Craig Biggio's final games as a pro. Having spent his entire 20-year career with the Astros, the team retired his number 7 in a ceremony during August.
- For the last three games of the season, the team wore the three different home uniform styles that Biggio appeared in during that long career (the first two styles worn were throwbacks, the third and final was the current brick alternate).
- Made by Majestic, the September 28 uniform was a replica of the 1992–1993 home uniform. The reproduction is perfect; indistinguishable from the original except for the 2007-era Majestic jock tag and "triple peaks" sleeve logo.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1997

Chris Boyd Collection

- **September 29, 2007**: The Astros dressed in uniforms from 1997 as part of a three day celebration of Craig Biggio's final games, after a 20-year career played entirely with the Astros
- These Majestic reproductions of the 1997 uniform make me cry—the fronts are perfect, the Jackie Robinson patch is in place, the player names are right—but the player-number font is completely wrong. It's baffling how this happens.

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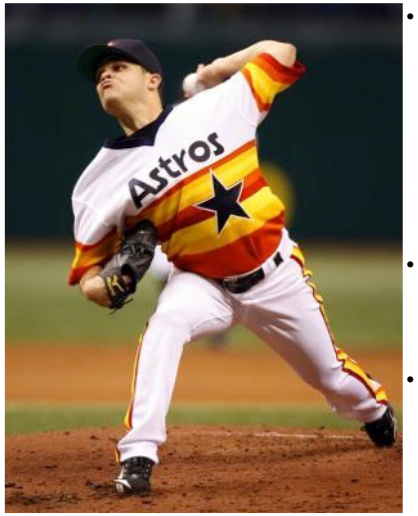
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1982-1983



- I am not sure exactly what year the Astros were trying to recreate on June 21, 2008 when they visited Tampa Bay to play the Rays, who dressed as the independent Senior League St. Petersburg Pelicans of 1989–1990, a team that lasted all of a season and a half.
- The Rays' press release simply says that the Astros "will be wearing a retro uniform from the 1980s"
- The fact that the star is outlined in white with the bottom of the star touching the top of the last gold stripe, this would date the jersey as a recreation of the 1982–1983 version originally made by Sand-Knit.
- These Majestic jerseys are identical to the ones worn in the Astros' home 2004 TBTC contest.
- But in keeping with our tradition of obsessive attention to detail, the back lettering is rendered in the 1984–1986 Block font, albeit not bold enough to match the Goodman originals. Player names are sewn flat (should be arched).
- But just like the 2004 and 2006 Majestic throwbacks, the rainbow stripes on this TBTC jersey back do not come far enough up compared to originals which began about two inches below the player name ***(inset, right)***. These reproduction uniform stripes begin halfway down the players' backs right in the middle of the numbers.

Right: *Mid-1980s original Goodman jersey; compare the back stripes to the 2008 TBTC version.*

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1965

Members of the ground crew donned replicas of the "space-suits" worn by groundskeep-ers at the Astrodome.

Celebrating the Astros 45th Anniversary, the Astros and the Phillies dressed in Majestic knit recreations of their 1965 uniforms **April 10, 2010.** The Astros' uniforms are well executed. They are made of cream colored, full-weight knit, their front wordmark is fully chain stitched, the player numbers on back look relatively close to the original font.

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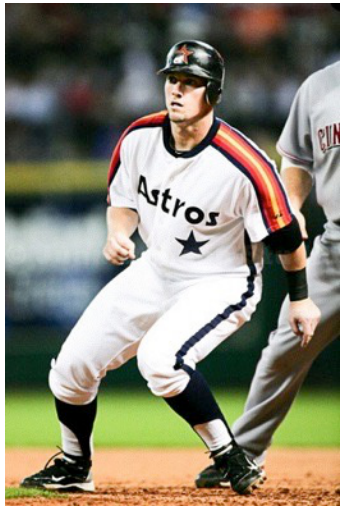
2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1989-1993

Chris Boyd Collection

July 24, 2010, Reds vs. Astros, Astros wear near-perfect copies of the 1989–1993 button-front home white uniforms, made by Majestic. All two-color sewn-on graphics and numbers on back, blue/white, one-color name on back on a nameplate. If you took away the Majestic "triple peaks" logo from the sleeve, indistinguishable the jersey is otherwise indistinguishable from the Goodman/Rawlings/Russell originals from those years.



Now, it would be tempting to say that they are identical to the 2007 uniforms also made by Majestic… but they are not! Notice that on these the wordmark splits as **As–tros**, whereas it splits **Ast–ros** on the 2007 version. Unexplainable to your author.

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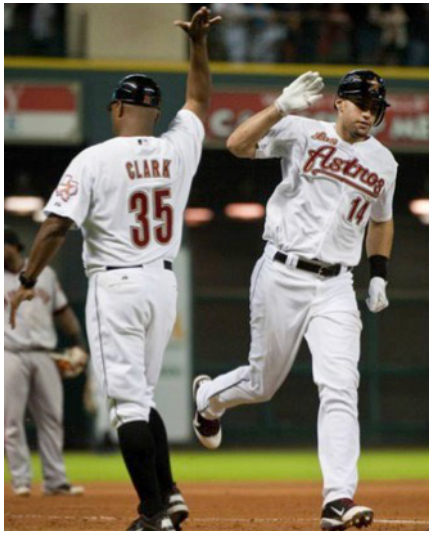
2011-2012 Hispanic Heritage

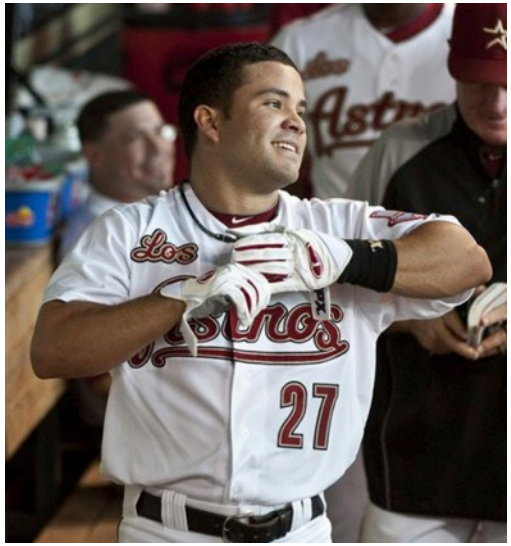
Chris Boyd Collection

2011

2012



- On August 20, 2011 the Houston Astros wore Latin-inspired jerseys at Minute Maid Park. The jerseys were the white alternates, with the simple addition of the word “Los” on the right chest above the existing Astros crest. The added word was styled to match the Astros wordmark, in brick/sand/black. However, it is sewn in layered twill like the player numbers and not chain stitched like the rest of the front wordmark.
- May 5, 2012 version had 50th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve.
- The backs are identical to normal jerseys. It is even possible the team sewed the word onto the current set of jerseys that were already in use, especially since it was late in the season. In the “old days” prior to 1990 they would have all been gathered up and stripped of the sewn-on adornments the next day. I doubt that happened in 2011.



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2012: Astros 50th Anniversary Celebration

The Astros commemorated 2012 as the 50th year of Major League Baseball in Houston in a season-long celebration. During the 2012 season, the Astros hosted "Flashback Fridays," wearing replica team jerseys of a different eras for every Friday home game during the season.

Uniforms from 1962, 1965, 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1997—five different eras and six different designs—were represented and worn for a total of 15 home games during the 2012 season. All uniforms reasonably faithfully recreated by Majestic, with details highlighted on the following pages.

Photo: Houston Astros

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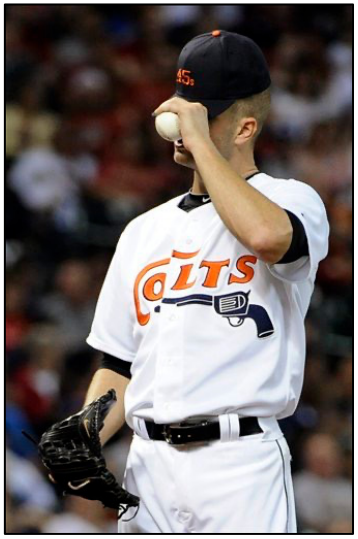
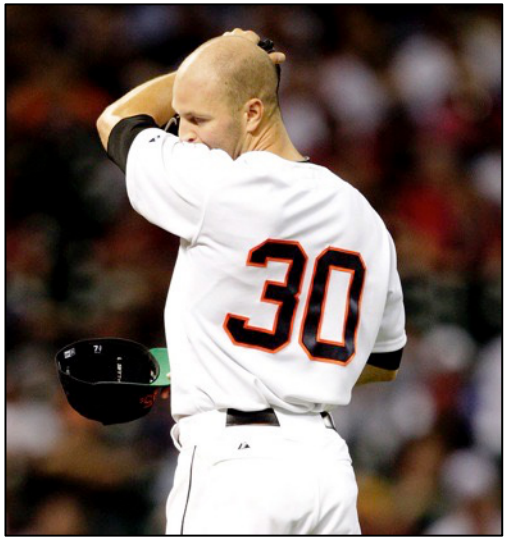
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1962

Chris Boyd Collection





As part of their 50th Anniversary year, the Astros dressed in 1962 Colt .45 uniforms on **April 10 and 20, and September 21, 2012**. Knit uniforms made by Majestic.

The Colt .45 logo wordmark, with its (incredibly politically incorrect—for 2012) smoking gun is nicely chain stitched just like the originals.

Back numbers are an accurate reproduction of the original team font, a very nice detail that adds authenticity.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1965

As part of their year-long 50th Anniversary celebration, these jerseys were worn on **May 4, 18, 22, 2012.** Beautifully chain stitched wordmark is sewn onto individual patches, which are then sewn to the jersey. Back numbers are rendered in the correct version of the Varsity font used by the Astros in the 1960s. On the originals, however, the centers of the letters were cut out to reveal the jersey fabric underneath, while these 2012 versions feature solid centers in the A, R, and O, along with a noticeably wider twill border. Twill sleeve patch very closely resembles embroidered original, but is not identical. The only deviation from authenticity is that this jersey is pure white, instead of the 2010 Turn Back the Clock version that was crafted in cream-colored knit to make it more closely resemble flannel.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

As part of their year-long 50th Anniversary celebration, these jerseys were worn on **June 1, 22, and September 23, 2012.** Majestic finally corrects the biggest complaint we had about their past recreations of the Rainbow jersey, because on this version the rainbow stripes rise several inches higher on the chest and back, allowing the player number to rest fully on the rainbow stripes instead of being clumsily placed half on and half off.

Though to be critical, the tailoring is still not quite right, and the numbers are still too low. The front star features the correct orange border for 1978, but it is not properly positioned beneath the word 'Astros' (***right***: see comparison to a 1978 original). Names are on nameplates as they should be for authenticity. The 1999 Mitchell & Ness TBTC replicas remain the "ones to beat."

1978 original shows differences in tailoring and placement of lettering and star.

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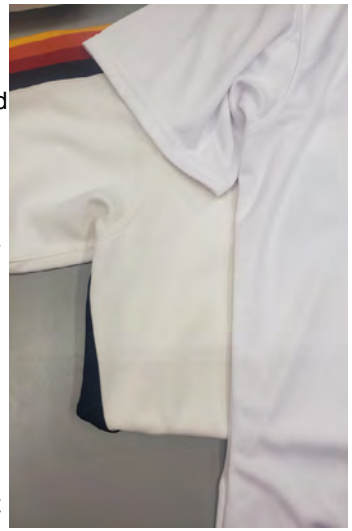
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1982 (Home White)

As part of their year-long 50th Anniversary celebration, these white pullover jerseys were worn on **June 1, June 22, July 6, and July 27, 2012.** They are as perfect as replicas can be, differing from the originals of 30 years prior only in their Majestic sleeve and tail tagging and the fact that 2012 players wear their uniforms several sizes larger than players in 1982 did. Names are on nameplates as would be authentic for 1982. Note that these same uniforms were not worn during the June 16 game in Texas; see the next page for more.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1986 (Road Cream)

June 16, 2012 The Astros were invited by the Texas Rangers to participate in their Turn Back the Clock to 1986 game. While the Astros could have gotten away with wearing their already-made 1982 white uniforms to the away game (after all, they were the same style in both years), the Rangers instead paid for a whole new set of Astros uniforms, those which included the correct-for-1986 Astros Silver Anniversary sleeve patch. This way, the Rangers were able to auction the Astros uniforms off after the game. In keeping with a familiar theme in this chapter, the color of these jerseys is difficult to categorize: call them "off-white"—not as dark as the cream-colored ones were, but not bright white either.



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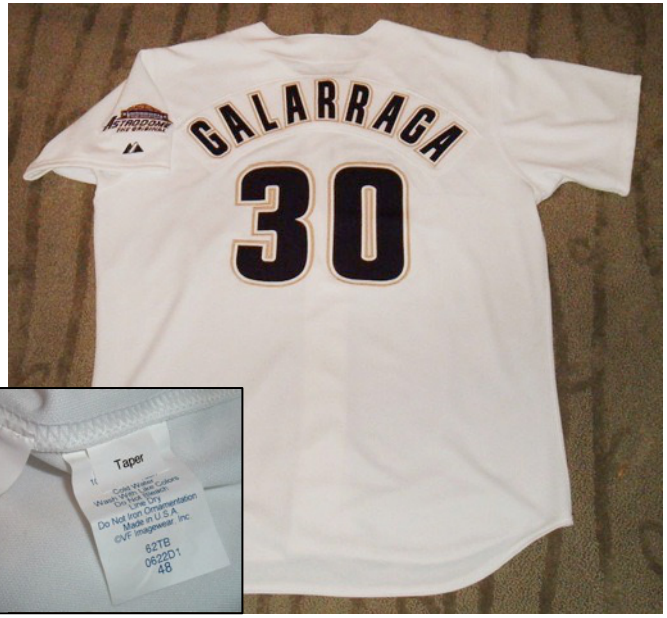
2012 Turn Back the Clock to the 1990s



As part of their year-long 50th Anniversary celebration, these jerseys were worn on **August 10, 11,12,18 and 31**. The copies are really quite good, but being picky, the front wordmark is the 1995–1999 version; while the left sleeve patch was used only in 1994. And if they were recreating 1994, the MLB 125th Anniversary patch is missing from the right sleeve as well. The only team tagging consissts of a year tab and tailoring instructions (if needed) sewn inside the side seam.

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2013 Memorial Day

MLB asked all teams to wear camouflage lettered uniforms for Memorial Day, **May 27, 2013**. The Astros jerseys feature hard-to-see USMC Desert Camouflage twill in place of the normal navy blue twill lettering on their jerseys, both front and back. The lettering, outlined in orange, is difficult—but not impossible—to see from the stands. Their opponents that day were the Colorado Rockies.

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

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2013-2014 Hispanic Heritage

The Astros created a modified version of their new-style home uniforms for use twice in each of 2013 and 2014, by simply adding a the word “LOS” in twill above the standard wordmark, Dates of use are **May 5 and September 28, 2013** and **May 3 and September 20, 2014**. Each set of uniforms (one for 2013 and one for 2014) is bar code tagged on the tail by Majestic.

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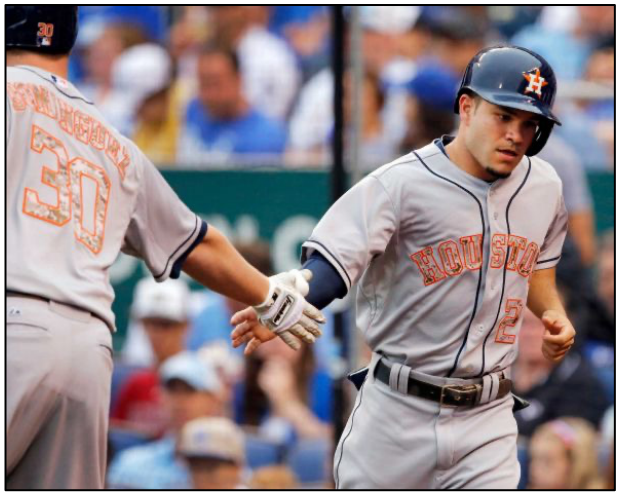
Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2014 Memorial Day

In a repeat of the MLB request to have all teams wear camouflage-trimmed uniforms for Memorial Day, May 26, 2014, the Astros complied by replacing the navy blue lettering on their road uniforms with desert camouflage twill.

The combination of desert camouflage outlined in orange against a gray background is nearly invisible—and certainly illegible—even from just a few feet away, rivaling the Pittsburgh Pirates' road uniforms (camo/yellow/gray) as one of the least effective executions of the concept.. The Astros opponents that day were the home Kansas City Royals.



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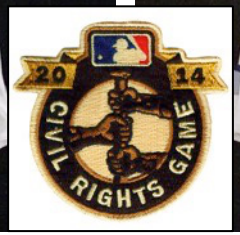
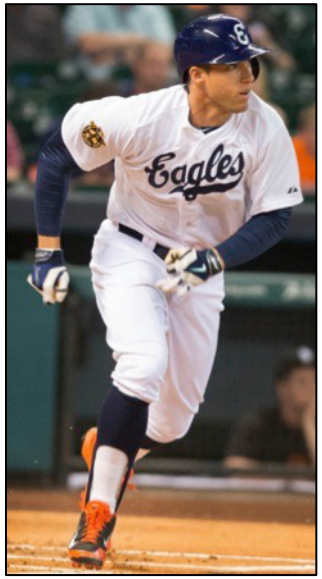
2014 Civil Rights Game



May 30, 2014: Houston hosted the annual Civil Rights Game, playing the visiting Baltimore Orioles who dressed as the Baltimore Elite Giants. The Astros' uniforms—completely white and devoid of trim, with navy blue lettering—appear to be an exact copy of those worn by the 1949–1950 Houston Eagles, seen in surviving photographs. After the game, the uniforms were auctioned on MLB.com.



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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

May 24 in Seattle, July 21 in Tampa Bay, 2014—Majestic had it down to a science at this point, as these uniforms appear identical to those used in the Astros' 2012 50th anniversary celebration season. The same comments and criticisms apply to these, therefore. This set features Majestic's then-new bar code tagging on the front tail. Note the 1977–appropriate orange and blue V-neck.

Chris McShan collection

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1965

Chris McShan Collection

Left: *Compare the 2015 Astros wordmark and shooting star (top) with that of the 2010 version (bottom). Note the differences in the wordmark outlines. The 2015 star has rounded points compared to the 2010 jersey, which has sharp star points.*

To celebrate their 50th anniversary, the Astros throw back to their first Astros home jersey (and their first TBTC jersey) against the Angels on April 18, who also wear 1965 uniforms for the occasion. The "Shooting Star" jersey returns for the fourth time as a throwback, this time very faithfully rendered in full knit by Majestic. The front lettering and graphics are once again presented in beautiful chain-stitch embroidery on patches that are then sewn on to the jersey (like the originals). This time, Majestic even cut out the material inside the front 'O'—a detail they had neglected when the Astros last wore this jersey in 2012. Back numbers are in the correct version of Varsity font used by the Astros in the 1960s, in blue/orange, and the Astrodome disc sleeve patch correctly adorns the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Hispanic Heritage

Chris McShan collection

As they did in 2013 and 2014, the Astros repurpose a jersey in their rotation and add a small "LOS" above the front wordmark to create their Hispanic Heritage jersey. In 2015, they use the orange alternate, which remains otherwise unchanged from the original. The jersey is worn three times: July 25 at KC (who wear Los Reales jerseys), September 26 vs. TEX, and October 3 at AZ (who wear Los D-Backs jerseys). The "MH" memorial patch is added to jerseys starting on September 18, so it is apparent on this jersey only in the second and third games. MLB authenticates the game-worn versions as being used for all three games, so all such examples in circulation likely have the "MH" patch.

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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Memorial Day

Chris McShan collection

Repeating their 2014 design, the Astros replace the navy blue lettering on their road uniforms with desert camouflage twill for May 25, 2015. Once again, the combination of desert camo outlined by orange on a gray background is nearly invisible and certainly illegible from even a few feet away. The 2015 version differs in that MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white and the Astros' 50th anniversary patch appears on the right sleeve.

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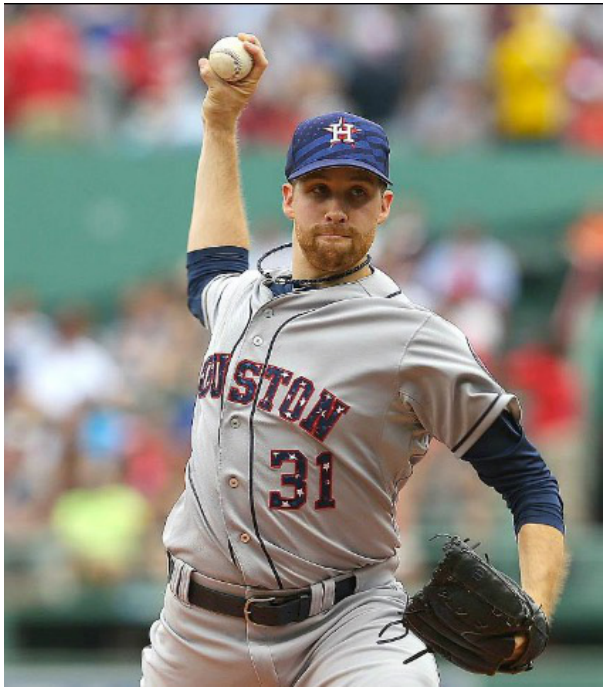
2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palette might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Astros wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars, with all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo and both front and back numbers. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to the 1980s

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The Astros resurrect the Rainbow jersey for a seventh time in 2015, this time for an interleague match-up against the cross-state Rangers on July 18, who also wear 80s throwbacks. Once again, Majestic uses its flawed template for this throwback, with several small inconsistencies from the originals, detailed in earlier entries. This jersey, as with many throwbacks, is rendered in full knit fabric rather than Cool Base material, and the 2015 edition sports the same Majestic bar code tagging that debuted in 2014.

***Right**: Note that players did not wear pant-leg numbers in this game, as the Astros had dropped them in 1980.*

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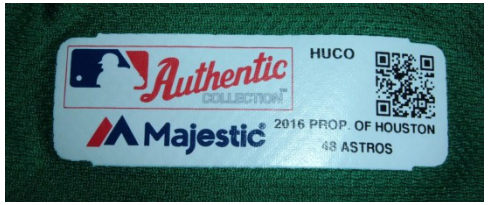
2016, 2018 St. Patrick's Day



The Astros go green for St. Patrick's Day 2016 and 2018 in Spring Training games held March 17. Based on the Astros' home jersey, this Flex Base model is in solid green with front logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white, all in the Astros' special font. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The Astros' left sleeve patch is reduced to shades of gray and white, while the right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the St. Patrick's Day promotion. Narrow white knit trim encircles both sleeves, however, the neck trim of the regular home jerseys is absent here.

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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Memorial Day

Chris McShan Collection

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template with higher visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Astros apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. The bolder, serif font the Astros use on the front of the jerseys is slightly hard to read in camo/black over road gray, and did not offer the same contrast as the usual navy and orange of their standard road set. Like other teams, the Astros reduce their sleeve patches to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are simplified to single-color black from the usual blue.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Mother's Day

Chris McShan collection

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also adds the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carry-over from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Astros wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, with front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Father's Day

Chris McShan collection

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms for Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Astros wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray. The look returns unchanged for 2017, worn on June 17–18.

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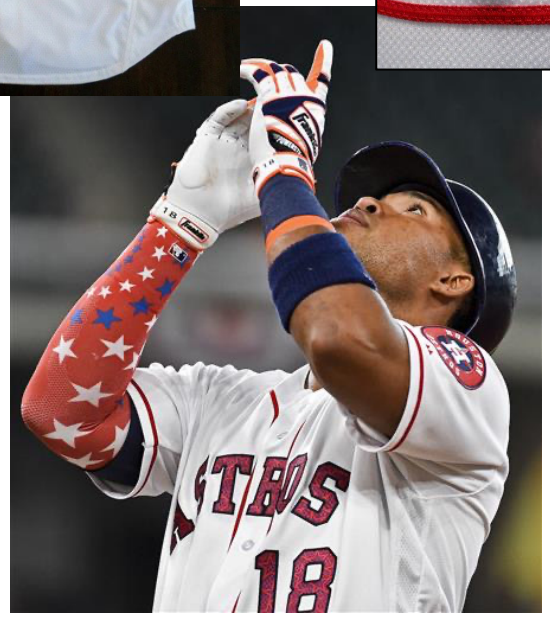
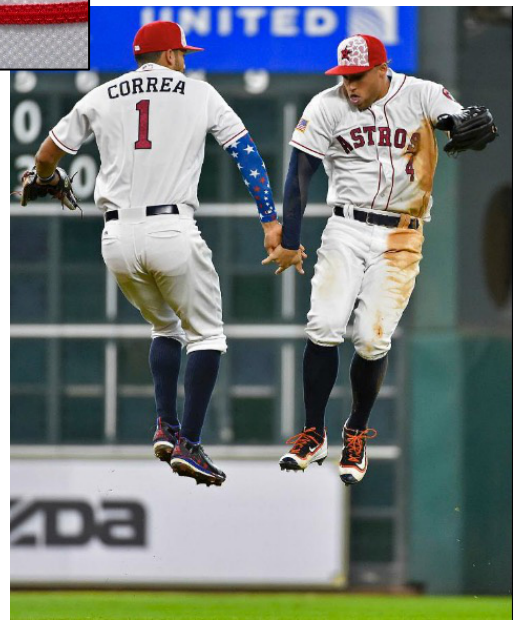
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Astros are at home and wear their home jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Astros select the red twill version with blue outlines for their for their lettering and both front and back numbers, with a blue player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim, normally blue, becomes single-color red.





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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1986

The original jersey patch is shown at left; the 2016 reproduction at right is slightly larger.

August 6, 2016: In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the 1986 NL West Division championship team, the Astros present the eighth incarnation of the Rainbow jerseys as a throwback. They take on the Rangers, who also wear 1986 road jerseys. Once again, Majestic creates full-weight knit jerseys to replicate the 1986 version, originally created by Goodman and Sons. To Majestic's credit, they accurately reproduce the bolder version of the front "Astros" lettering, in blue/white twill, and outline the smaller front star in white. Names on back are in blue block, correctly applied to a nameplate, while numbers are the correct Block style in blue/white. Finally, the 1986 All-Star Game patch appropriately adorns the left sleeve. Overall, the jersey is a fairly close duplication of the original, though it suffers from today's players' penchant for wearing uniforms several sizes too big, which makes the back numbers seem too low.

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2016, 2018-2019, 2022-2023 Hispanic Heritage (Orange)

Chris McShan collection

At first glance, the 2016 Los Astros jersey appears identical to the 2015 version, but there are subtle differences that distinguish them, including the use of the new-for-2016 Flex Base template and the updated Majestic logo on the sleeve end. In addition, the Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck is the new plastic style vs. the earlier embroidered cloth, and the 2016 edition lacks the sleeve anniversary patch and chest memorial patch. The twill lettering on the 2016 version is the new "lightweight" version, and the tacked-on "LOS" on the chest above the wordmark is sewn closer to the center of the jersey. Worn September 24, 2016. This same jersey takes the field again on September 14, 2018 and September 20 & 22, 2019. It returns again, made by Nike, on September 16, 2022 and September 22, 2023. The 2023 version carries the team's ad patch as well.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat-applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter appliqué stitched on the back of the collar. All multicolored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Astros wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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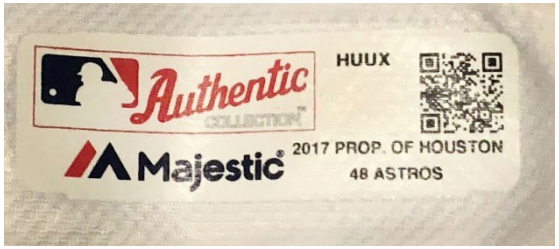
Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2017 Memorial Day (Home)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Astros apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017.



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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Astros apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017 and again May 26–28, 2018.

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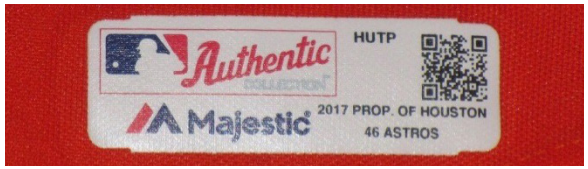
2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

The Astros love reliving the more colorful periods of their uniform history, and once again, they return to the beloved “Tequila Sunrise” uniforms for a Turn Back the Clock night on June 24, 2017. This version replicates the 1977–1979 jersey, originally made by Sand-Knit—so distinctive that it was used for both home and road. Majestic made other throwbacks of this style in 2012 and 2014, and aside from the updated sleeve logo, they are very much the same template, and thus slightly flawed in the same ways. The front star and “Astros” don’t align in the same way as the originals, and the back numbers—though properly placed within the rainbow—sit lower than on the original Sand-Knit versions.



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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A Chroma-Flex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017, the Astros wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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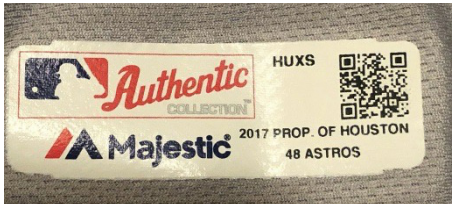
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2017 Independence Day (Road)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 4, 2017, the Astros wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1999

Playing their cross-state rival Rangers on August 12, 2017 in Arlington, the Astros break out an 18-year-old "Big Gold Star" road design from 1999, complete with Astrodome commemorative patch on the left sleeve. The backs of these full-knit remakes are impressively spot-on, including the three-color names (correctly on nameplates) and numbers in black/white/Nugget Gold. The fronts, however, are another matter, with the "Houston" lettering squatter and wider than the original, and the placement of the star relative to the text is completely different from how it appeared in 1999.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1997

Stephen Kraljic Collection

A week after wearing similar-era road jerseys in Arlington, the Astros return home and turn back the clock to 1997 on August 19, 2017, complete with Jackie Robinson anniversary patch on the right sleeve. Like the road versions from a week before, the home version looks quite convincing from the back, with the three-color names (on correct nameplates) and numbers in black/white/Nugget Gold. But the front leaves much to be desired, with a much smaller, squatter wordmark and star. Only five years ago, the team wore much more accurate versions of the identical late 1990s set, also made by Majestic, so the lack of attention to detail here is surprising and disappointing.

Original
1997

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard colors and equipment designs—such as cleats and bats—MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single-color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Astros wear jerseys with orange bodies and powder blue sleeves with white nicknames and powder blue numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide powder blue/white/powder blue trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in powder blue/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2017-2019, 2021-2023 Hispanic Heritage (White)

After a three-year absence, the white “Los Astros” jersey returns, this time on the Flex Base template but otherwise identical in appearance to the 2013–2014 version. Dates of use are September 23, 2017 (with the Houston Strong patch on left chest); September 16, 2018; and September 21, 2019. The jersey returns again, this time made by Nike, on September 18–19, 2021, September 17, 2022, and September 23, 2023. The 2023 version carries the team’s advertising patch as well.

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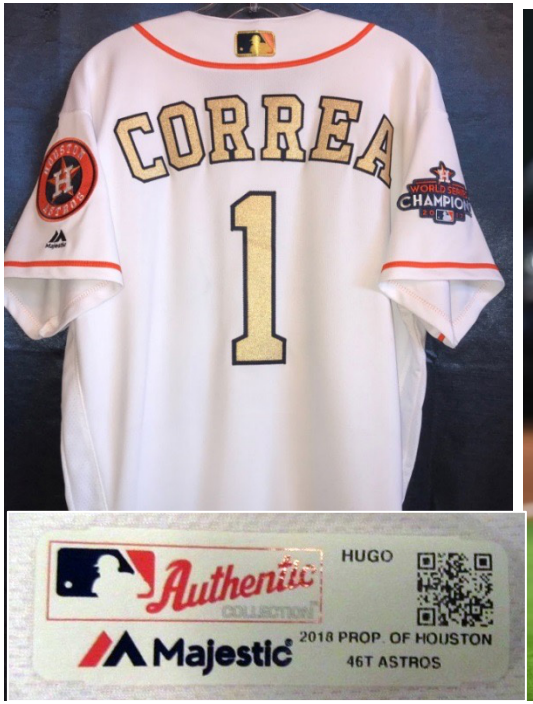
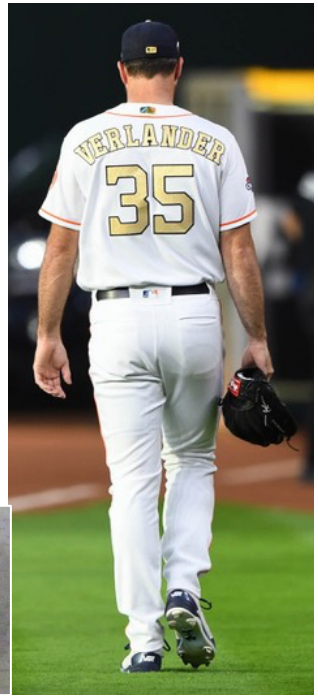
2018 Special Opening Series Gold Trimmed

Anthony Nunez Collection





As with many recent World Series winners, the Astros open the following season by adding flashy gold metallic twill to their jersey lettering on April 1–3, 2018. The team adorns its standard white Flex Base home jersey with metallic gold/blue letters and numbers on front and back, a special World Series Champions patch on the right sleeve, and a gold version of the MLB logo on the back of the collar. The contrast of gold on white, even with blue outlines, makes it more difficult to read from a distance, but in the afterglow of a championship, one would assume that few Houston fans cared.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2018 Independence Day (Road)

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes that evoke a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the lettering—red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2–4, 2018, the Astros wear their road gray jerseys with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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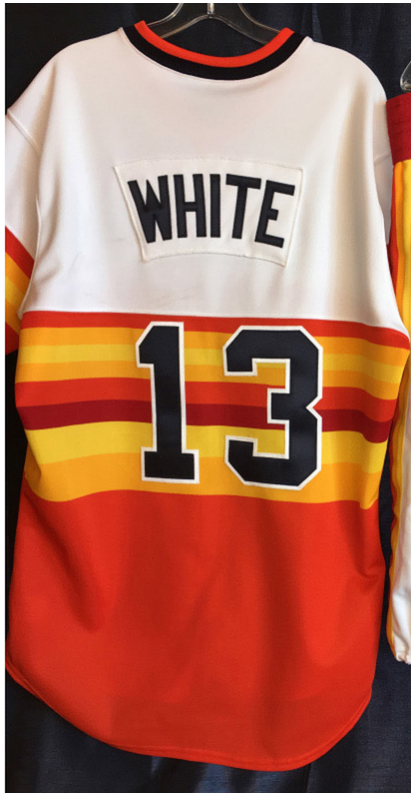
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1977-1979



It's another tequila sunrise for the Astros on August 10, 2018 when the late '70s rainbows rise again. They are identical to the full-knit set used just a year before and carry with them the same details as the year prior, including proper nameplate with stripe and number placement slightly too low on back. The two-color collar cements this one as a late '70s model, whereas the early '80s version had a solid blue collar.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year—a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Astros wear jerseys with orange bodies and black sleeves with white nicknames and black numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide black/white/black trim. The front features lettering based on their home jerseys, here rendered in black/white kiss-cut twill.

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2019 St. Patrick's Day

While many other teams limit their St. Patrick's Day jerseys to white, green, and, more recently, some gray, the Astros' March 17 Flex Base jersey goes full Irish flag, drawing on the presence of orange in the team's color scheme. Otherwise, it is an identical take on the 2016 and 2018 Astros St. Patrick's Day jerseys, here with orange replacing white as the main color for all lettering, and white replacing gray as the outline color on front wordmark and back numbers. The impact of the orange and green is striking, and somewhat jarring to look at, especially in daylight photos from the game. The gray-hued team patch remains on the left sleeve from the previous version, along with the white shamrock on the right sleeve. A set was made up for 2020 by Nike, but was not worn because of the COVID-19 shutdown of Spring Training.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1989-1993 (Home White)

The Astros throw back to their 1989–1993 home white "rainbow sleeve" button-up set, made in full knit fabric by Majestic, on June 28. Overall, these are very faithful reproductions of the originals, which were made by Goodman and Sons, Rawlings, and Russell, depending on the year. Two-color front graphics and back numbers in blue/white, one-color blue name on back, on a nameplate, consistent with the originals. Note here that Majestic chose to follow recent throwback precedent in splitting the word "Astros" as **As–tros**—as they did in 2010—but not in 2007, when it was split as **Ast–ros**. The originals did both, likely based on different manufacturers' approaches.

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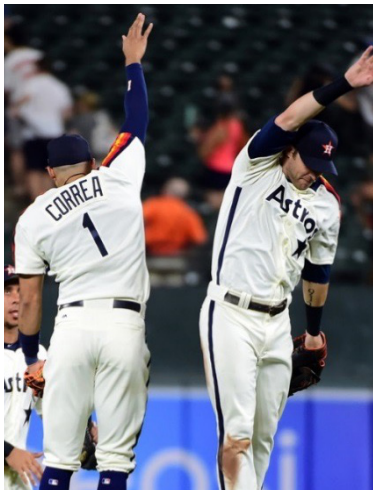
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1989-1993 (Road Cream)



Your eyes do not deceive you—this is, in fact, a different jersey from the one shown on the previous page. For their August 9 throwback on the road, the Astros use the cream version of their 1989–1993 “rainbow shoulders” set. How do we know these are different? The June home version was constructed in full knit by Majestic and bears the code ‘HUS3’ on the set tag, while this cream version uses Majestic’s Cool Base fabric and carries the ‘AS9G’ code. From the stands or on TV, these differences would not be noticeable and one would have to compare the color to the home whites worn by the Orioles that day. Either way, just like the white version of two months before, these are very faithful reproductions of the originals, which were made by Goodman and Sons, Rawlings, and Russell, depending on the year. Two-color front graphics and back numbers in blue/white, one-color blue name on back, on a nameplate. Once again, Majestic chose to follow recent throwback precedent in splitting the word “Astros” as **As–tros**—as they did in 2010—but not in 2007, when it was split as **Ast–ros**. The originals did both, likely based on different manufacturers’ approaches.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Astros wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2023 World Series “Gold Program”

As they did in 2018, the Astros celebrate their second championship at the start of the following year by adding flashy gold metallic twill to their jersey lettering on March 30–31, 2023, though with different stylistic elements than in their 2018 version. The team again adorns its standard white home jersey (now made by Nike, and called “Gold Program” in their terminology) with metallic gold/blue numbers on front and back, and blue/metallic gold letters for the front team name and back player name. They also add a special World Series Champions patch to one sleeve and place a gold version of their sponsor logo on the other.

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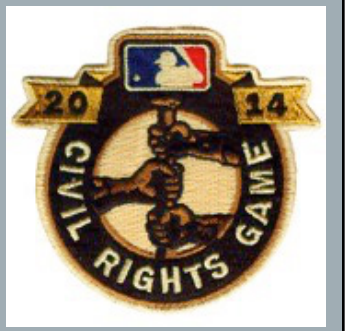
2023 Negro Leagues Tribute (1950 Houston Eagles)

On the road against the Royals on September 16, 2023, the Astros throwback to the short-lived Houston Eagles. The Eagles started in Newark, New Jersey in 1943, but moved to Houston for the 1949–1950 seasons, before leaving for New Orleans for their final year in 1951. The Astros also wore very similar Eagles jerseys for the 2014 Civil Rights Game, though that version included a special sleeve patch for the occasion. In 2023, the Astros' sponsor patch appears instead. Made by Nike, these stark white jerseys have no ornamentation outside of the script team name on front and simple Block player numbers on back, both in single-color navy blue. Photos of the Houston Eagles are scarce, and some show the team wearing pinstriped uniforms, but others show them in uniforms strikingly similar to these, making them a very good representation of what the team wore. Oddly, the Royals, who hosted the event and thus paid for the uniforms, advertised that the Astros would wear Eagles road jerseys rather than these home whites. It is unclear why the Astros ended up in white instead of gray, but the Royals' own Monarchs throwbacks—cream-colored with red details—provided at least some contrast between the two teams on field.

***Above**: Bob Harvey of the Houston Eagles models a similar uniform in a 1950 newspaper clipping.*

What Happened With These Uniforms?



*Prior to the game, the Royals provided graphics of the Astros' uniforms that showed them as gray with player numbers on the pants (**above left,** from sportslogos.net). On-field, the jerseys were white and the pants had no numbers. What's more, the auction listings for the Astros jerseys noted, "Jersey sleeves may have additional wear due to patch removal." On close inspection, many sleeves had the ghost of a removed patch **(above center)** one that looks suspiciously like the Civil Rights Game patch from 2014 **(above right)**, where the Astros also wore similar Eagles uniforms. Perhaps one of those was possibly used as a reference, which Nike may have interpreted too literally, so they simply reproduced the 2014 uniforms rather than the intended gray uniforms? We'd love to hear from any readers with the inside scoop!*

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2024 Hispanic Heritage (Orange)

The Astros continue their tradition of wearing "Los Astros" jerseys in September. For 2024, they wore the orange version on September 20. In concept, the jersey remains the same from previous years, now applied to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. VPE jerseys have a narrower placket. As a result, the knit trim around the collar and down the front appears closer together than in past years. The change slightly impacts the way the "ASTROS" lettering crosses the placket as well. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn-in to the sleeve rather than sewn onto it, and the new approach makes the blue part of the trim wider than it once was. The most glaring change from the previous version is the considerably larger size of the "LOS" lettering, which almost equals the "ASTROS" letters, and may rival the size of the player name on back. This example was issued to a bat boy, so no front number or back lettering was applied, but as in past years, all of the lettering matches exactly to the team's standard orange jersey.

Left: *The 2022 version of this jersey, showing how small the "LOS" lettering was compared to 2024. Perhaps Nike did not want to cut and sew lettering in a custom size for a one-day jersey, and opted for back lettering to do the job instead?*

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2024 Hispanic Heritage (White)

The Astros continue their tradition of wearing "Los Astros" jerseys in September. For 2024, they wore the white version on September 21. In concept, the jersey remains the same from previous years, now applied to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. VPE jerseys have a narrower placket, so the knit trim around the collar and down the front appears closer together than in past years. The change slightly impacts the way the "ASTROS" lettering crosses the placket as well. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn-in to the sleeve rather than sewn onto it, and the new approach makes the blue part of the trim wider than it once was. The most glaring change from the previous version is the considerably larger size of the "LOS" lettering, which nearly matches the size of the "ASTROS" letters and may rival the size of the player name on back. All of the back lettering matches exactly to the team's standard white jersey.

Left: *The 2023 version of this jersey, showing how small the "LOS" lettering was compared to 2024. Perhaps Nike did not want to cut and sew lettering in a custom size for a one-day jersey, and opted for back lettering to do the job instead?*

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Prototypes and Oddballs

Early Astros Design Concept ? (Perhaps 1964-1965)

Although this artwork falls outside the official scope of this Guide, it is too “good” not to include.

Possibly from the planning stages of the Colt .45s transition to the Astros for the 1965 season, this hallucination might show a uniform design that is hard to take seriously. Astros collector Andy Greenstone shared this concept in a public forum and we have borrowed it to be included here.

And we thought the 1975 rainbow was cutting edge!

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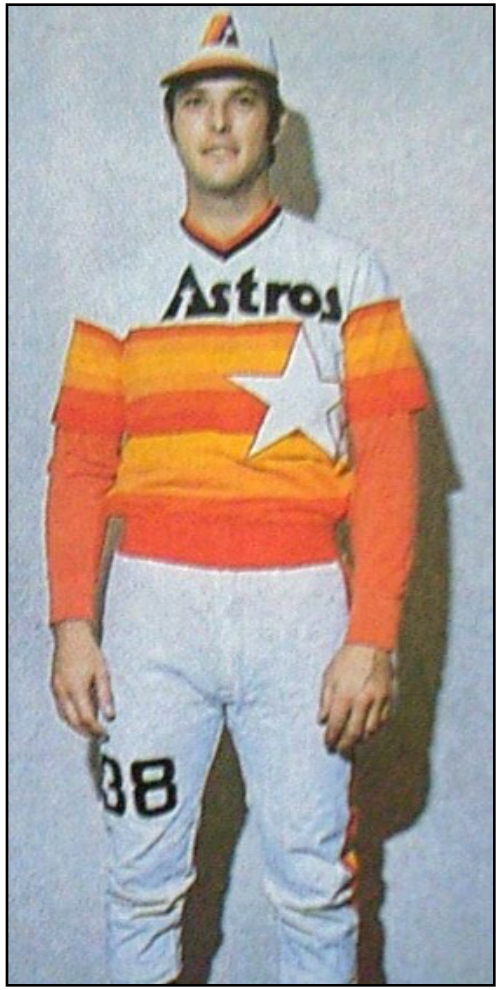
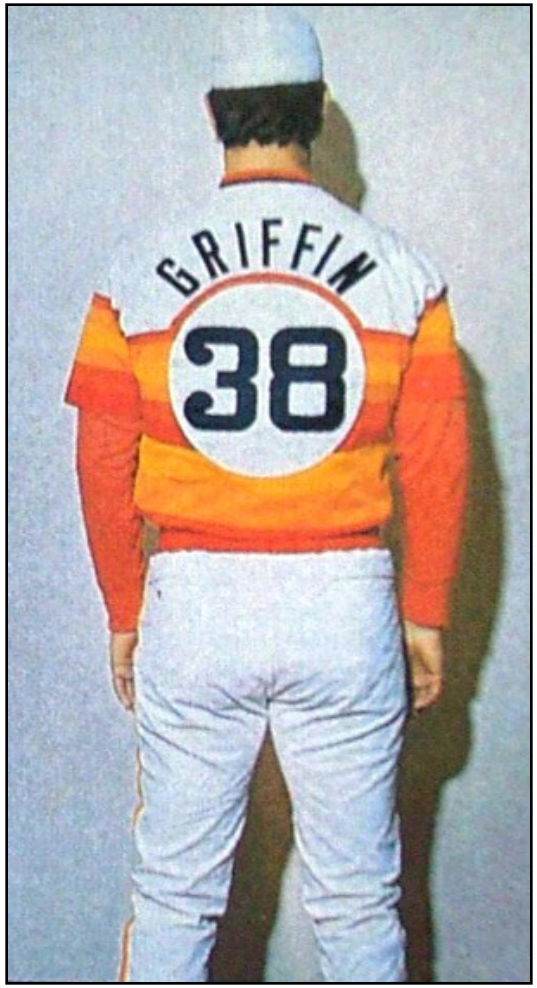
Pre-1975 Prototype Rainbow Uniform





Compare the prototype to what was eventually adopted in 1975. Elements that were carried forward include the front numbers on the pants leg, the oversized star on the jersey front, the odd player numbers in the gumball disk, radically arched names. Some features did not make it: White star was changed to navy, "A" in Astros has an additional shooting star inside of it, notice the white area to the big star's right, giving the illusion that the star is shooting across the jersey. Also abandoned was the white cap with a multi-colored 'A' logo, which was abandoned because it too closely resembled another company's trademarked design.

(Excerpted from "From Pistols To Pinstripes, A Look At Astros Uniforms (1962-Present)" by Bob Hulsey)

"…Before the 1975 season, the advertising firm of McCann and Erickson was hired to re-brand the Astros. Their creation combined a futuristic use of eye-catching color and a touch of early-century lettering that was outrageous to baseball traditionalists. The early prototype was modeled below by pitcher Tom Griffin:

The white cap was ultimately rejected for the current orange cap with the blue star and the white 'H'. The jersey star was switched to navy. The uniform number was moved up to the right hip from closer to the knee and other minor modifications were made. The "Rainbow" uniforms made their debut in April 1975 and they took some getting used to, even for those wearing them.

"We had all heard that we were going to get new uniforms for the start of the season," Metzger said, "and the word had gotten around that they were kind of flashy. But the first day we saw them, I think there were three or four of us looked at each other and wondered if they were really serious."

"We thought it was just one of the Judge's promotions, like the cowboy suits he had us wear," said pitching coach Cot Deal, alluding to the 1962 effort to dress all the Colt .45s in cowboy duds for road trips - an idea that was ridiculed by the players and eventually dropped…."

http ://www.astrosdaily.com/history/uniforms/index.html

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1970s-1980s Rainbow Sweaters

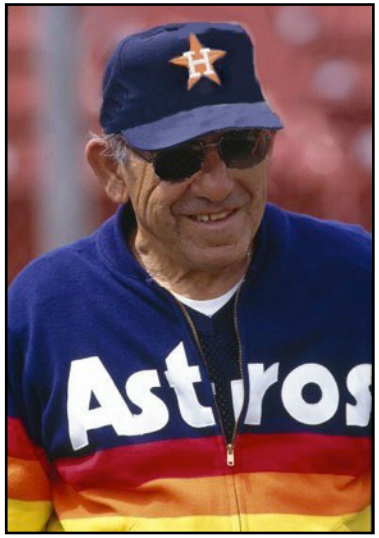
1976

If these were not so cool looking I might have considered them jackets and left them out. The Astros issued these synthetic knit Orlon sweaters for players to wear on the bench. Made by Sand-Knit, these are snap-front sweaters with player names—but no numbers—on the back

Bottom left: Later models are zip-front.

Bottom right: There's something oddly jarring about seeing Yogi Berra in this outfit.

1985–1986



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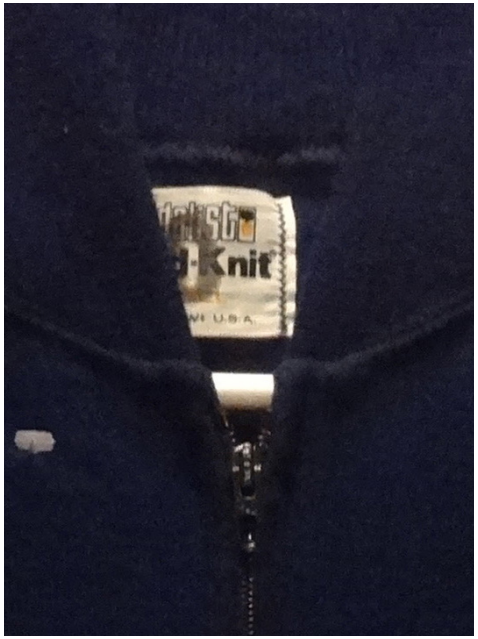

Astros collector Chris McShan submits these two Astros dugout sweaters from his collection. The top one is a Sand-Knit ffeaturing a one-year-only 1980 neck tag, which helps date the garment.

Oddly, the wordmark is sewn over the red stripe rather than entirely within the blue section, as seen on other examples. Below is a Goodman-made sweater as well.

Chris McShan collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1982: Umpire Joe West's Rainbow Sweater

Legendary MLB umpire "Cowboy" Joe West also had his own experience with the Astros' Rainbow sweater. For a game in Houston between the visiting Braves and the Astros, West wore Astros gear behind the plate, most notably, the distinctive Rainbow sweater. A newspaper report from the time indicates that the umpires' luggage did not make it to Houston from their previous stop in Chicago. As a result, West was forced into a makeshift outfit that included Astros team-issued pants and shin guards.

Though the same newspaper article said that all of the umpires had to borrow Astros road caps, and video from the game appears to show that John McSherry at second and Dutch Rennert at third may have had their proper umpire jerseys and pants on the field. First base umpire Bill Williams was not so lucky — he is wearing a dark (possibly navy) shirt and white pants, likely either his street clothes or garments borrowed from the Astros. At the very least, they could have outfitted him with a cool matching sweater like West's.

The Braves won the contest 5-3, suggesting the clothes had no influence over the umpires or the outcome of the game.

Top left, top right: *Umpire Joe West with his Astros gear behind the plate.*

Above*: First base umpire Bill Williams signals the final out of the game in a dark shirt and white pants, which may have been borrowed from the Astros as well.*

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1980, 1982 St. Patrick's Day

Mitchell & Ness has made recreations of another Astros green jersey that features a slightly more refined design. We have no photos of an original jersey in this style.

These Sand-Knit green jerseys with black and white V-neck trim just scream "Sunday Beer League" to us.

While they do include the 'Exclusively for the Houston Astros' Sand-Knit tagging, the iron-on lettering both front and back, and the goofy holiday sentiment in place of the player name, give the jersey an exaggerated, novelty appearance.

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1980-1983 Goodman Rainbow?

The jersey shown at right appeared in the 2021 baseball uniform exhibit at the Worcester (Mass.) Art Museum on loan from the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and listed as a 1983 Joe Niekro Astros jersey both at the art museum and in the Hall of Fame's database. At a glance, this seems perfectly legitimate. Niekro was on the Astros for 11 years from 1975–1985 and wore the bright "tequila sunrise" style jersey for much of his tenure with the team. Given the Hall of Fame's reputation, the attribution seems credible.

BUT look closely and you will see that this jersey is the large star/orange border/blue V-neck style that was worn by the team in 1980–1981. Further, all of the front lettering is screened on, typical of the earliest iteration of this style. Goodman never (officially) made this style of jersey for the team, and in fact did not appear as an Astros supplier until 1984. However, the rounded hem is a hallmark of Goodman jerseys, and the tagging appears consistent.

However, this is now the second such jersey we've found, along with the #79 jersey at right, which differs from the Niekro in that it has the large star with white border. That one could have been passed off as a Spring Training or minor league issue, but the existence of the Niekro jersey leads to even more questions than answers.

1980–1981 Sand-Knit

1982–1983 Sand-Knit

1984–1985 Goodman

Right: *We won't cover all the details of these three style variants again, but they are shown here for comparison to these mystery Goodman jerseys, which are decorated like earlier Sand-Knit jerseys but on a Goodman jersey base.*

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1985 Cabell "Captain" Jersey

Veteran Enos Cabell was named team captain early in the 1985 season, a year that apparently featured a great deal of clubhouse contention. In early July, just weeks after being named captain, he was traded to the Dodgers. This is his Goodman jersey with the captain's "C" in a star sewn on the left sleeve, worn on the field in this configuration for less than half a season.

© GameWornGuides.com

Early 1990s Goodman Prototypes

Normally when I see something like this for sale on eBay I would dismiss it as a remnant from the local beer league. But these specimens pique my curiosity. They came from the estate auction of an avid collector who had a large collection of game-worn jerseys and bats in his possession, all sold off after his death.

These were made by Goodman, who was a major supplier to the MLB Astros during the 1970s and early 1980s. Its restrained style and black-and-dark-gold palette closely resemble the jersey design adopted in 1994, following years of rainbow-themed gaudiness.

These were likely prototypes created by Goodman for the Astros in the early 1990s, during a period of uniform reconsideration.

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1992 Protype Turn Back the Clock to 1971?

This unusual example is mysterious in a few ways. The period-correct Rawlings tagging has a 1992 Set 1 flag tag, something typically seen on team-issue jerseys. It is possible that this was a prototype of some sort. Rawlings stopped making Astros jerseys after 1991, so they may have mocked this up as an example of a possible Turn Back the Clock jersey for the team while they were still making Astros jerseys. It's not a particularly faithful reproduction of the team's one-year-only 1971 jersey—aside from the "Astros" lettering being reasonably close, everything else is just a bit off from the originals. However, the use of twill for the H-star logo on the sleeve (vs. an embroidered throwback patch) may suggest this was a quick mock-up rather than a fully fledged prototype. Ultimately, the Astros did not hold a Turn Back the Clock Game until the 1995 season, where they used a similar 1965-style home throwback.

The Astros switched to Russell for the 1992 season, and changed their uniforms completely in 1994, so this may also have been an example of Rawlings' bid to get the Astros business back by proposing a fauxback home jersey for the rebrand. Regardless, it was not to be, and we are left with this example, and many questions.

Original
1971

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Prototype 1992-tagged Road Jersey

This is surely a Rawlings prototype submission to the Astros for a new design road jersey, with 1992 tags and featuring the side “racing stripes” that were so popular in the 1980s into the early 1990s. Lettering is navy over orange. A team star patch appears on the right sleeve, featuring a white ‘H’ overlaid.

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1992-1994 Prototype Batting Practice?

Here is a strange batting practice design we have not come across before. It is a pullover mesh BP jersey with Rawlings tagging that places it approximately in the 1992–1994 range. Rawlings stopped making Astros jerseys after 1991, so they may have mocked this up as an example of a possible BP jersey for the team while they were still the team's supplier. The neck and sleeve trim on this example hearken back to the trim used on the team's early 1970s jerseys, before they introduced the "rainbow" color scheme that carried the team through the mid-1970s and 1980s. The player name, applied on a nameplate, is one-color white, while the player number in orange/white is atypical for this period as the Astros consistently used single-color white twill for BPs during that era.

Note the use of Craig Biggio's name and number for this example. Biggio was one of the team's big stars in the era, and his name was also on the sample seen a page before. Similarly, the front chest mark of this jersey, the simple, two-color H-star, closely resembles the sleeve patch on Rawlings' throwback sample on the preceding page. Perhaps these were created around the same time in an effort to hold on to the Astros' business by showing how Rawlings could look back and forward at that same time. Alas, it was not to be. Soon after the likely creation date of this sample, the Astros embarked on a complete rebrand and never looked back—to this design or to Rawlings.

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1993-1994 Prototype Batting Practice?

This jersey, discovered by collector Chris McShan on eBay, presents a curious case. The Astros never wore anything like this on the field. The jersey is a pro-quality mesh with a “6000” inside seam tag, which would normally be found on a retail-sale jersey. The wordmark is in pro-quality two-layer twill in orange and white. The style of the wordmark is similar to the 1997 road jersey ***(below, left)***, and 1994–1995 home jersey ***(below, right)***, but notably, the Astros did not use orange with this design theme.

In all our collecting, we have never seen this style jersey offered for retail sale. My estimation is that it is a prototype design for club consideration, sewn on a retail authentic blank pulled from the production line.

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1994 Bat Boy Oddball

Presented here is what appears to be a 1994 Astros road jersey, made up for a bat boy (hence the “BB” on back). The odd part is that the “BB” lettering on back is the wrong color scheme for the gray road jersey. Rather than black/white/metallic gold, it features white/metallic gold/black, which was the proper style for the dark blue alternate jersey.

This appears to be a team issued jersey, with the “100% Polyester” flag tag under the size tag, and no tagging in the neck. The size 40 is consistent with bat boy sizing.

Bat boys rarely travel on road trips, so teams typically carry multiple sizes of road bat boy jerseys to accommodate the varying sizes of those assigned. It is likely that the wrong-color lettering on back was just a mistake. Perhaps the Astros didn’t have a size 40 jersey on a road trip, and one had to be made up quickly by the host team, which used the wrong lettering. Whether this jersey was actually worn by a bat boy during the Astros’ 1994 road games remains unknown.

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1994-1995 Prototype Road

Chris McShan Collection

Victory Athletic was a Los Angeles-based uniform manufacturer that clearly coveted the Astros business. You will see them mentioned more than once in this chapter, as a preferred though non-approved maker of uniforms for Jeff Bagwell, Graig Biggio, and others who reportedly preferred them, and the maker of the Astros' 1995 Turn Back the Clock uniforms. These were likely prototypes submitted by Victory for the Astros' pending 1994 uniform redesign. Alternatively, they may represent early versions of the 1995 Turn Back the Clock uniforms. The neck tagging here is the same as the 1995 examples we have shown. These are full-weight pro knits, sized with a numeric designation (48) rather than small/medium/large, using a rather generic font for the number on back. Ultimately the Astros selected Russell, MLB's official provider as their uniform company, but you can't blame Victory for trying.

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Mid-1990s Victory Athletic Uniforms, Biggio *et al.*

Steve Kraljic Collection

For some years, I had heard rumors that Craig Biggio and Jeff Bagwell wore on-field jerseys made for them by Victory Athletic rather than by Russell, the team's official supplier. I initially dismissed these as idle rumors, common in collecting circles—especially when tied to a sales pitch needing a convincing story to accompany the "evidence." My search of period news photos of these players showed them wearing jerseys with the Russell logo on the sleeve, so I dismissed the chatter and moved on.

Here are some of these I have seen. Search "Astros Victory Athletic" on the web and you'll find a few collecting forum threads with discussion of the high price some brought at auction.

Chris Boyd supplies the following:

"Several theories exist, but the most plausible is this: In 1994, the Astros introduced the new gold/navy/white uniforms. After the 1994 season, the team collected the entire team set and sold to Hartel Sports. Players like Biggio and Bagwell were not thrilled as they typically kept a handful of their items. Biggio, Bagwell, and Donnels placed some custom orders for white and gray ones from Victory. This allowed the players to retain control of the jerseys—meaning the team did not own them. I was told that Victory could not reproduce the exact navy color, so all three did wear the alternate navy Russell jerseys for Sunday's and day games. From 1995–1998, the Astros again sold most of the team jerseys to dealers as a set. Biggio and Bagwell Russell jerseys were included, but all I have seen looked unworn. Biggio and Bagwell appeared to keep all of their Victory jerseys, and very few have surfaced. The few that have surfaced appear to have come from the player through a friend or other team employee that likely traded with the Astros equipment people."

Above: *Victory apparently produced pants for select Astros players as well, in at least two different seasons. Additional examples likely exist in the hobby, based on the variety of players and years represented in known jersey and pants tagging.*

VICTORY CUSTOM ATHLETIC, INC.

Letter of Authenticity

Congratulations on the acquisition of your Houston Astros away jersey

Memorabilia: 1994 Chris Donnels game used Houston Astro Jersey

Victory Athletic supplied this jersey to the player in question. We supplied regular season Home and Away jersey's to Craig Biggio, Jeff Bagwell and Chris Donnels in the 1990's. The authenticity of this jersey is unconditionally guaranteed, and the undersigned certifies it's validity.

On behalf of Victory Athletic we hope you enjoy the addition of this amazing item to your collection.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994 Goodman Home Jersey

This jersey appeared in a large lot of team-issued surplus sold by Kruk Jerseys. Another oddball piece, yet again with Chris Donnels' name on the back, this 1994 Astros home jersey, complete with sleeve patches, is tagged as a Goodman and Sons make. This is a full two years after Goodman stopped making MLB jerseys for any team. It is a size 45—an unusual size—with the designation handwritten on the neck tag in pen. Yet another oddball mystery.

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1999 Protoype Turn Back the Clock to “Shooting Star”

Steve Kraljic Collection

This Mitchell & Ness jersey appears to be a prototype submitted as a proposal to outfit the Astros for a 1999 Turn Back the Clock game, a contract that was eventually awarded to Rawlings. Notice the chain stitched front wordmark. The unusually generous dimensions were also evident in the Rawlings-issued versions.

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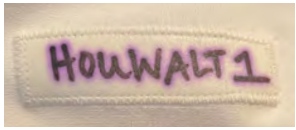
2000 Prototypes: Alternate Home

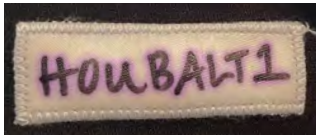
These sample jerseys represent a great deal of change all in one place. The Astros rebranded in advance of the 2000 season, including several new uniforms. Pictured here are two prototypes for their alternate home jerseys that very closely represent what made the field that year. They also changed official suppliers that season from Russell to Majestic, which had just broken into the on-field jersey market after many years of producing BP jerseys. As such, these samples were also made during a time that Majestic was establishing its own jersey branding and tagging to reflect its new status as on-field supplier, which also shows in some of the unusual aspects of these jerseys' details.

Photos: Gary Taylor



As for the jerseys themselves, they show typical sample hallmarks like the use of "Player" on back as player name. The jersey number "6" is also occasionally used as a sample number (5 is more typical), though sometimes the year of issue for the jersey is used. However, it is possible that either Majestic or the Astros did not want to use "0" or "00" here, as it is not a common baseball number. The Inaugural Season patch occupies the left sleeve as it did on the final jerseys that year. All lettering and logos front and back appear the same as they did in the final versions as well, with the notable exception of a direct-sewn player names on the samples, where the on-field jerseys used a nameplate. They also lack the back-of-collar MLB logo that all teams added in 2000. Perhaps these were made before that mandate came about, or before those patches were readily available.

Photos: Gary Taylor



Some elements of these prototypes that are unusual are the hand-written prototype tags reading "HouWALT1" for Houston White Alternate 1 and "HouBALT1" for Houston Black Alternate 1. It is unclear if there were other prototypes made, but Majestic usually numbered all samples in this way, though later prototype tags were embroidered. The jock tag on these examples use the "Authentic Collection" branding that replaced "Diamond Collection" for 2000, but does so using a tag that was seen on BP jerseys rather than game jerseys. Again, like the MLB logo on the neck, this tag may have been all that was on hand when the samples were made, and final tags may not have been created yet. Similarly, the Majestic logo embroidered on the sleeves is the full wordmark version more common on BP jerseys, rather than the simple mountain logo that was used on game jerseys. Here, it appears on the right sleeves, again, a hallmark of Majestic BP jerseys, while their on-field jerseys ultimately had the logo on the left sleeve.

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2002 Prototype Batting Practice

As with many prototypes, it has the name PLAYER sewn on back. Numbers and names are three-color, sand/brick/black. A jersey-fabric nameplate is used.

These prototype jerseys are made by Majestic. Both are likely candidates that did not make the cut for team use in 2002. The number “02” on the back of the one above/left indicates the intended production year, 2002. It features the embroidered Majestic sleeve logo. Its brick/black/sand star logo sewn on the chest is much smaller than the one used on the team’s white alternate and batting practice jerseys. The undated mesh one above at right has a different star and a Majestic retail-style heat-pressed sleeve logo.

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2002 Oddball Prototype Black Batting Practice

Above, left: *A closeup of the underarm gusset present on these jerseys that was used in the 2003–2006 BP jerseys.* ***Above, right:*** *A comparison of a 2002 mesh BP jerseys (left) and the early moisture-wicking fabric on these jerseys (right). Below: A gallery of the iterations of this jersey seen thus far, perhaps with many more yet undiscovered. All of the players and coaches represented here shared a single season with the Astros in 2002.*

At first glance nothing about this jersey looks remotely unique. But closer investigation will prove that the team *never wore a black button-front jersey like this one.* Collector Chris McShan says he found the Lamont one at, of all places, the *Astros Authentics* store at Minute Maid Park. Since then, several more have come up for sale online, all of different players and coaches who appeared together for the Astros only in 2002. But they are still a mystery.

It is a solid black jersey but with the wordmark and back numbers/lettering used on the similar black mesh pullover batting practice jersey. Chris comments that fabric and construction are identical to the fabric used on the 2003–2006 brick red BP jerseys, Majestic's first attempt at moisture-wicking fabric—the one that preceded Cool Base. They could be prototypes for a game jersey or BP jersey (note that the very, very early BP jerseys in the 2003–2006 style did indeed have regular Majestic "Authentic" tags instead of the revised, rubberized tag that was used when they were released to full production). And the 0065 code on the wash tag also lines up with some team issued 2003–2006 BP jerseys as well. But why did they make so many in 2002? Perhaps they were a planned alternate in the new fabric and the team rejected them once receiving the first full set? After all these years, it remains a mystery. If any readers have any inside info, we'd love to hear it!

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Mid-2000s Prototype Road?

This gray jersey features “Astros” instead of “Houston” on the front. It features chain stitching in the post-2003 style. It could be a Astros prototype, or possibly for one of their minor league affiliates that would not use the MLB city name on its road jerseys. Three of the Astros farm teams are called “Astros” and this might be for one of them, but usually minor league jerseys don’t carry the Majestic Authentic tagging or sleeve logo.

Umm....

The phrase “politically incorrect” may not have been widely used when this program cover was issued—likely in 1965 or 1966. Either hallucinogenic drugs were not viewed as seriously then, or the Astros Marketing Department was having a silly day, but can you imagine an MLB club issuing a game program cover like this today?

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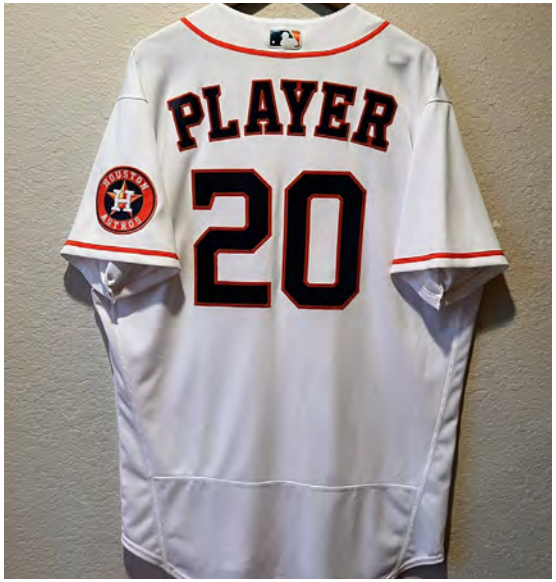
2020 Nike Home Sample



Though Nike's 2020 entry into MLB jerseys resulted only in the rebranding and relabeling of Majestic's previous Flex Base jersey template, it appears that Nike still produced sample jerseys for team inspection. Here is one such example, made up for the Astros.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the name "PLAYER" and number "20" are also typical for samples, where 20 represents the year for which the sample was made. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "AST-HJ-D1-1-2020" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of an Astros (AST) home jersey (HJ). Outwardly, this home white jersey appears just as it did on the field in 2020, a testament to the fact the team was not planning any changes for that season. However, there are still some small details in this sample that were updated before the full run of 2020 jerseys went into production. First, a heat-pressed neck tag which was not used in on-field jerseys. Next, an interior heat-pressed tag, almost twice as tall as the ones used by Majestic before and Nike after, appears inside the placket with the sample coding. This location was used by Majestic for team tagging, but Nike versions moved these tags below the jock tags on the lower front of the jerseys.

Finally, the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag is the same used for Majestic's version of the Flex Base template. By the time these jerseys were released in 2020, the product code had been updated to "0890" to reflect the new Nike jerseys, even though nothing had really changed.

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2020 Oddball Nike Home Sample

Like every other MLB team, the Astros switched from Majestic to Nike for the 2020 season. We have already seen one 2020 sample home jersey for the Astros, shown elsewhere in this chapter. This unusual example appears to be another one, which lines up to similar (strange) samples we've seen for other teams around the same time.

This jersey's possible pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, the player number "20" represents the year for which the sample was made. The use of "Nike" as the player name, rather than "Player" is unusual for MLB samples, however, Nike has done this for samples made in other sports in the past, and we have seen other examples in baseball as well, though not frequently.

Since the Astros were not changing their uniform design for 2020, this sample was likely made just so the team could see their jersey with the new Nike branding. Most of those had "0730" coded wash tags and heat-pressed neck tags, indicating that they were likely made before the final decisions on Nike branding were completed. This jersey had the wash tag cut out, so we can't be sure what code was there. However, on the other "Nike" name on back sample we have seen (for the Rangers) the tag code was 0890, Nike's eventual number for their version of this style of jersey. Thus, it is possible that this is a later version of the 2020 sample earlier in this chapter, though it lacks some typical prototype tagging that would support this.

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2020 Unused St. Patrick's Day

The Astros made up a set of 2020 St. Patrick's Day green jerseys that were never worn because of the COVID shutdown. Made by Nike, they were identical in style to the 2019 Majestic versions that came before. Even though the jerseys were not used on the field, they were sold by the team online with MLB authentications noting that they were team issued.

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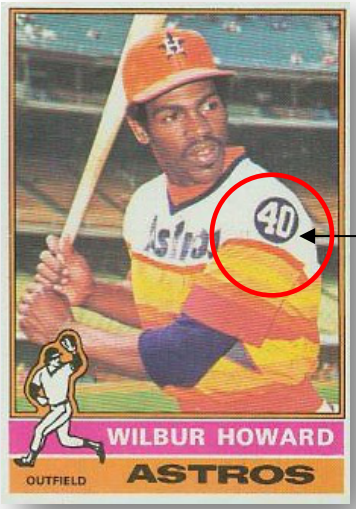
Commemorative Patches

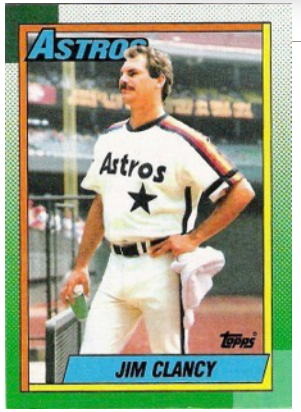
Astros Patches



1975, white screened numbers on a black fabric disk.

1986

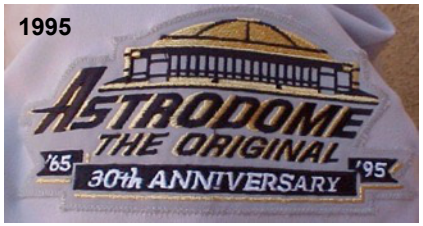
1986 All-Star Game patch ***(left)*** was worn on the Rainbow and the alternate white jerseys. The 1986 Silver Anniversary patch ***(right)*** was worn on the cream-colored jerseys



1989

1990

1994



1995

1996

1999

The Astros have a somewhat confusing way of marking anniversaries. They often mark both the date the club came to Houston as the Colt 45s in 1962, and also sometimes the year the team was renamed the Astros in 1965. They also marked the 30th anniversary of the Astrodome in 1995.

- 1975: Don Wilson Memorial (#40)
- 1986: Silver Anniversary (see caption)
- 1986: All Star Game (see caption above).
- 1989, July 21 to end of season: Armband for shareholder Vivian Smith who died July 11
- 1990: Astrodome 25th Anniversary
- 1994: *Astrodome – the Original*, three different patches, white, black and gray backgrounds).
- 1995: Astrodome – the original/30th Anniversary (3 versions; white, black and gray backgrounds)
- 1996: 35 Years in Texas (white, black and gray background)
- 1999: 35 Great Years

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2000

2001

2004

2006

July 29, 2008

Chris Boyd Photo

Patch differs slightly from the printed insignia shown.

2010

2012

June 4-6, 2013

- 2000: Enron Field Inaugural
- 2001: 40 years
- 2003: Space Shuttle Columbia Memorial
- 2004: All-Star Game
- 2006: 45 Years in Houston
- 2008: July 29 only on home pinstripe uniform. It marked NASA's 50th Anniversary. The patches were not stitched but glued to the jerseys and removed after. Some heavily used home pinstripes show a sticky tape residue remaining.
- 2010: 45th Anniversary Patch
- 2010, May 15: AIDS Ribbon for "Until There's a Cure Day" at San Francisco
- 2012: Astros 50 Years (only slightly confusing, since the 2010 patch from two years prior was marking Astros 45th Anniversary—but the 2012 patch is including the start of the franchise as the Colt .45s in 1962).
- 2013: June 4-6 HFD patch for fallen Houston firefighters

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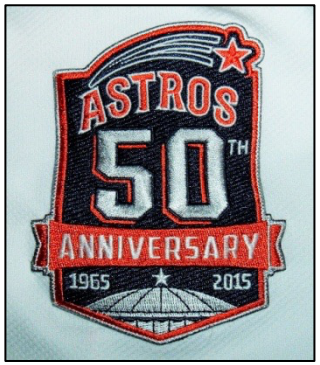

2015

- 2015: Astros 50th Anniversary patch, doubly confusing because the 2012 patch said almost the same thing.
- 2015: “MH” patch added to left chest after September 18, for broadcaster Milo Hamilton.
- 2017: Starting September 2, Houston Strong patch recognizing the way the community addressed the social challenges of devastating Hurricane Harvey.
- 2018, September 3-5, Houston Strong patch remembering the one-year anniversary of the hurricane.
- 2022: Astros 60th Anniversary patch, right sleeve on all jerseys.
- 2024, April 27 and 28: Heat-pressed T Mobile sponsor patch (left sleeve) and embroidered MLB World Tour Mexico City Series patch (right sleeve) for games in Mexico vs. Rockies
- 2025, May 19-21: Green mental health awareness ribbon for series in Tampa against the Rays

2017, Starting September 2, also Sept. 3-5, 2018

2022

April 27-28, 2024

May 19-21, 2025

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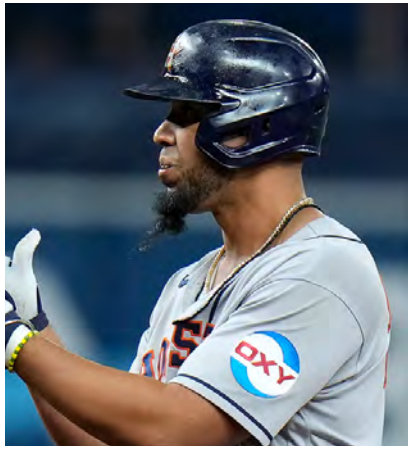
2023-2025 Astros Advertising Patches



With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Astros struck a sponsor patch deal with Occidental Petroleum, or OXY, an energy company. The patches first appeared in the regular season in 2023.

The patch is a white circle with "OXY" in red letters in between two blue arc shapes. For the team's 2023 World Series celebration jersey, the patch was white with all other elements in gold.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's disc logo patch remains on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

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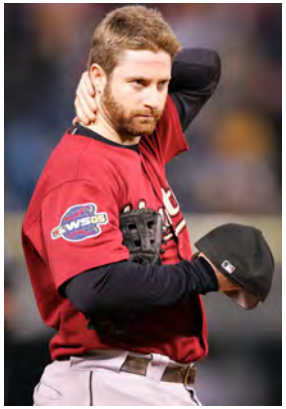
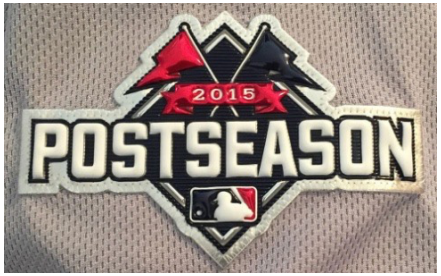
Astros Postseason Patches

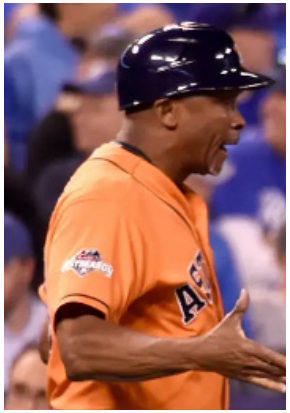
2005 World Series
(right sleeve)



2017 AL Division Series
2017 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve)



2015 AL Wild Card
2015 AL Division Series
(right sleeve, replacing team 50th Anniversary patch)



2017 World Series
(right sleeve)

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Astros Postseason Patches

Note: The Astros played in the postseason in 2020, 2021, and 2022, however, no postseason patches were worn in those years. They also played in the 2021 World Series, but no World Series Patch was worn that year.

2018 AL Division Series
2018 AL Championship Series (right sleeve)

2019 AL Division Series
2019 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve, above MLB150 patch)

2019 World Series (right sleeve, MLB150 patch removed)

2022 World Series (right sleeve, replacing 60th Anniversary patch)

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Wade Blasingame 1972 Houston Astros Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 7, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1107J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Spalding-made gray zipper-front 1972 Houston Astros Road jersey, first-year knit, and a one-year style. Tagged as a size 44. Navy/white/orange sewn-on knit sleeve-end trim and similarly colored trim edging the neck opening. Original "HOUSTON" arched on the front in orange over Navy Blue. The front lettering is surprisingly unfaded, showing some burnishing but with very tight stitching and bright unbleached colors. Flat-bottom, side vented tails as was the characteristic of these one-year only Spalding jerseys. 1972-only white background ASTROS team left sleeve patch is original, an shows typical heavy puckering. Original Talon zipper is present and working. Trim is bright and unbleached.

Pitcher Wade Blasingame was nearing the end of his 10 year MLB career spent with the Braves and Astros, entering the 1972 season. He appeared in just ten games for the Astros in April and May, pitching fewer than twelve innings total, all in relief and posting an 8.64 ERA. He was traded to the New York Yankees to start June where he saw similar limited action, and then retired at the end of that season.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey had an inaccurate name and number restoration on the back. I removed the replacement lettering from the back. The light table revealed two things: first, the ghost outlines of the original BLASINGAME #36 in its correct original arch, fonts and locations. Photographing it on the light table revealed the exact outlines of the original unique name and number fonts used by Spalding in 1972, for both the player name and numbers. Small holes in spots along the perimeter of the original lettering showed placement, and ample glue marks made the examination easy. But also visible was the ghost image of less-faded fabric showing that a number "6" had been stitched to the center of the back without a player name above it. The nature of the differently-faded area tells me that the jersey was exposed to the sun and laundered repeatedly for some time with that "6" in place.

Unraveling the post-1972 history of this jersey is really only speculation. It is significant that when this jersey was made, MLB jerseys were not considered very collectable, and teams used them like any other piece of equipment, reissuing them and using them over and over until they were worn out. Isolating the year of issue, besides the 1972 Spalding tagging in the tail, this was the only year that the team wore this style and the only year that Spalding was the team uniform supplier. Because this was a one-year style, it would not have been reissued for the 1973 MLB season. And because it retained the major league city name "HOUSTON" on the front, it was not of much use in the minor leagues unless stripped, which it was not. Regarding the ghost of the "6" on back: The Astros had a practice of issuing most of the single digit numbers to their coaching staff during these years, though in an exception, #6

Continued, overleaf

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Top: As received, jersey wore an inaccurate restoration on the name and numbers on back, front is judged all original. At left, after being stripped, the light table reveals three sets of numbers: the original (larger) number 36, the poor restoration #36, and a sole "6" in the middle of the back in a font that is not the same. Used by the 1972 Astros. Below, the original player name ghost arch is highlighted in color, the just-removed inaccurate replacement name ghost is seen above in a flatter arch. Original NOB is not perfectly letter-spaced, and is slightly crooked, with the left side of the name decidedly lower than the right.

was worn 1972-75 by infielder Cliff Johnson. As there is no sign of another player name ever having been on back, I do not believe this jersey was ever issued to Johnson; I do not know who wore it with the "6" on back.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1972 Spalding tagging is sewn inside the center of the bottom of the back tail. It consists of a set of three tags: A blue square tag with "72" machine embroidered in silver, the 1 3/4"x 1" rectangular Spalding PROFESSIONAL tag, and a small size tag noting the size as 44. 1972 Astros jerseys were not further tagged with player information. The tagging present matches exemplars, and notably in 1972 Spalding was not licensed to make or sell on-field spec jerseys to the public. So it is reasonable to assume that year tagged examples are team-issue.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good to very good original and partly-restored condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. Given the rarity of any surviving 1972 Astros team jerseys, this example is in the best condition of any I have ever seen. The jersey has no contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Wade Blasingame of the 1972 Houston Astros.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bob Watson 1972 Houston Astros Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 10, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0510J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Spalding-made gray zipper-front 1972 Houston Astros Road jersey, first-year knit, and a one-year style. Tagged as a size 42 but currently measures as a 46, even after expected wash shrinkage. Navy/white/orange sewn-on knit sleeve-end trim and similarly colored trim edging the neck opening. Original "HOUSTON" arched on the front in orange over Navy Blue. The front lettering is well worn, with fading and fraying on the edges. Flat-bottom, side vented tails as was the characteristic of these one-year only Spalding jerseys. As received, this jersey had an incorrect font #5 on the back, and a replacement name on back "Watson" that was not exactly the same colors as the 5, nor in the correct font for the Astros. It was missing its disk sleeve patch, and a large unfaded spot showed where the patch had been. The light table revealed that the number 27 had been on back previously. Outfielder Bob Watson wore 27 in 1972. Original Talon zipper is present and working, the pull tab is broken off at the end.

In 1972 Bob Watson appeared in 147 games for the Houston Astros batting .312 with 16 home runs. In a 19 year MLB career spent with the Astros, Red Sox, Yankees and Braves, Watson was twice an All-Star with the Astros. *(Baseball Almanac)* After retiring as a player, Watson was a coach for the Oakland Athletics for four years, before he joined the Astros' front office. In 1993, he became the second African-American general manager in major league baseball history with the Astros. He then served as the Yankees general manager from 1995 through 1998, during which time the team won the 1996 World Series. Watson became the first African-American general manager to operate a team which would win the World Series. He later served as MLB's vice president in charge of discipline and vice president of rules and on-field operations, from 2002 to 2010. In 2020, Watson was inducted into the Houston Astros Hall of Fame. *(Wikipedia)*

Restoration Performed: Unraveling the history of this jersey was a challenge. It is significant that when this jersey was made, MLB jerseys were not considered very collectable, and teams used them like any other piece of equipment, reissuing them and using them over and over until they were worn out. Isolating the year of issue, besides the 1972 Spalding tagging in the tail, this was the only

Continued, overleaf

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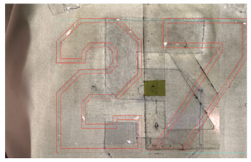
year that the team wore this style and the only year that Spalding was the team uniform supplier. This jersey was very dirty and stained. Putting this jersey on the light table, it was clear that there had been a the number 27 on it before, and that the name WATSON covered outlines that did not match the current letters. The "5" On the back showed that it had been there for some time, as it was faded and puckered. The name on back was brighter in color, suggesting it was was added at another time.

It is difficult to say exactly what journey this jersey followed…typically, at the end of the season, MLB jersey were stripped of their player names and sometimes their numbers, and were either saved and reissued for the next year's spring training or sent to the minor leagues for a second life. However, team road jerseys with the city name on front were decidedly less useful in the minor leagues, and usually when they were sent to the minors; the front crest was then usually removed and replaced by something more apropos to the minor league club. This one retains its original front crest which shows a great deal of fading and wear, more than a single season of use. Reason would suggest that this jersey should have simply reissued to Watson for 1973 spring training. The Astros were issued new road uniforms for 1973 made by Wilson that were slightly different from the 1972 Spalding issues, so this jersey would not (likely) have carried into the 1973 regular season, unless as an emergency backup. One concern was the size of the jersey: Bob Watson (6' 2" 205 lbs) did not wear size 42; researching his game worn uniforms showed that he wore size 44 or 46 even early in his career. However, measuring this jersey shows that even in its

As received, jersey missing sleeve patch with vintage replacement 5 on back and more recent replacement "WATSON"; chest measurement showing that jersey is larger than its size tag specifies, and below that the progression the back restoration from light table images, also on the next page.



heavily used and wash-shrunken state, it was 46" at the chest. My guess is that this jersey was given the wrong size tag at the factory. Coach Bob Lillis (5' 11" 160 lbs) was a new addition to the 1973 on-field team roster, and wore #5. He might have been issued this jersey for use in 1973 spring training.

We elected to strip the back of the jersey for a closer examination. Photographing it on the light table revealed the exact outlines of the unique name and number fonts used by Spalding in 1972, for both "Watson" and #27. Small holes in spots along the perimeter of the original lettering showed key placement, and ample glue marks made the examination easy. The original name on back showed the wide letter spacing that was typical of the 1972 Astros road jerseys. The removal of the "5" from the back showed a significantly less faded spot, matching the color of the spot on the sleeve where the team patch had been removed. In contrast, where the name on back was removed, the jersey fabric was faded equally to the surrounding areas. One can surmise from this that this jersey spent significant time with the 5 on back and without a player name present. It would be guesswork to decide if it was used in the Astros organization so-lettered, was sent to a local club-team who wore it in amateur play, or by a fan who enjoyed wearing it to games after it was disposed of by the team. In any event, someone chose to amateurishly reletter the WATSON On back at some point, roughly covering the original glue-mark ghosts without regard to the font they were using.

It took a great deal of work with solvents and detergents to remove the glue that was left over from the replacement name and number, and the unfaded area where the "5" on back likely spent significant time in the sun could not be erased. But after finally getting the jersey clean enough, I recreated the original style name and numbers from team patterns and surviving exemplars, showing that they exactly matched the Spalding fonts of the 1972 Astros. We located a replacement 1972 sleeve patch (one year style with the white background) and it exactly covered the scar on the sleeve. Prior to stitching the name and number on back, I aged the lettering by media blasting it to remove the sheen, then bleached/dyed it to make it better match the patina of the rest of the jersey. Finally, I stitched it in place with off-color thread to match the bleached look of the original lettering on front.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1972 Spalding tagging is sewn inside the center of the bottom of the back tail. It consists of a set of three tags: A blue square tag with "72" machine embroidered in silver, the 1 3/4"x 1" rectangular Spalding PROFESSIONAL tag seen only in 1972, and a small size tag noting the size as 42, which as we previously mentioned is inaccurate given the 46" chest measurement of the jersey. 1972 Astros jerseys were not further tagged with player information. The tagging present matches exemplars, and notably in 1972 Spalding was not licensed to make or sell on-field spec jerseys to the public. So it is reasonable to assume that year tagged examples are team-issue.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair to good restored condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bob Watson of the 1972 Houston Astros.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Larry Dierker 1975 Houston Astros Rainbow Game Worn Jersey

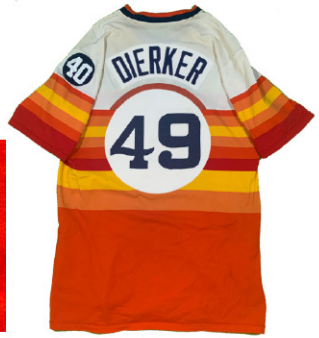
Examination Date: February 14, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0214J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros pullover full-rainbow style jersey, Sand-Knit made size 44, both marked and measured. The 1975 Astros jerseys were a shock to the community of baseball purists; a pullover V-Neck, white panels at the very top of the chest, and then a cascade of alternating colors of orange, gold and red horizontal, wrap-around stripes from the mid chest all the way to the tail. The stripes repeated on the jersey sleeves as well. Orange and blue V-Neck. "Astros" is screened in Navy on the white area on the top of the chest, left justified. On the left chest a large navy star is screened onto the fabric with a dark red border. On back, the player number was screened in a Sand-Knit fancy house font (also used by the company for the Atlanta Braves of 1972-73, and was used on Sand-Knit jerseys in the NBA) onto an 11" diameter serged-edge fabric disk which was stitched in place with a wide zig-sag stitch. Defining the top edge of the back number disk is a semi-circular arc of orange silkscreening, splitting the distance between the player name disk and the name on back. The player name is stitched onto a matching fabric nameplate in the Sand Knit player name font that matches my team templates, the plate has a serged edge and is cut in a steep arc that mirrors the shape of the top of the back number disk. On the left sleeve is sewn the 3.5" diameter navy blue disk with the number "40" screened on it in white, a memorial to pitcher Don Wilson who had died in January 1975 and worn all season. The patch is basted in place by hand— needle and thread, and this matches the examples of other originals I have evaluated. Certainly no other team in baseball had ever worn something like this, and in fact all that season, the team wore this jersey both at home and on the road as their only uniform. The colors, the placement of the elements, the use of silkscreening for the lettering compared to traditional methods, the huge sleeve memorial patch were all distinctive elements that people either loved… or hated.

Larry Dierker was a popular Astros pitcher and later a broadcaster. He played for the Colt .45s /Astros for 13 of his 14 MLB seasons, retiring in 1977 after a single year with the Cardinals. He made his first big league appearance for the Colt .45s the Astros original name) in 1964 when he was 17 years old (as of 2019 the last 17 year old to make a MLB debut), and struck out Willie Mays in his first inning pitched. His number 49 has been retired by the Astros. In 1975 he appeared in 34 games, all as starter, and compiled a 14-16 record with a 4.0 ERA. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: On the lower left outside of the shirt tail is a set of two stacked tags, each 2" wide and 1.5" tall. The bottom tag lists the size (44) and the maker's name in bold black lettering; wash instructions below in gold embroidery, and then the company logo along the bottom line . The top tag is known familiarly as the "Exclusive" tag: It reads, *"Designed and tailored exclusively for the Houston Astros by Sand Knit"* with the company logo embroidered below. Both tags are firmly attached, and careful inspection reveals that the left border of both tags has been reinforced with a tight line of stitching; not unsurprising as other examples of this jersey style show that these tags easily came un-sewn and often fell off.



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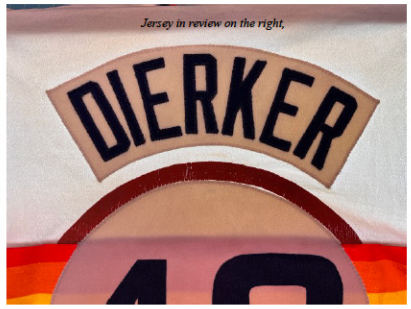
Wear & Repairs, Other Observations: These jerseys were surprisingly lightweight in construction. They are made of a double knit fabric that is notably more shear than the typical MLB jersey of the day. Because players wore these as both home and road jerseys, multiple sets were issued to each player, though exactly how many were issued to each player is not known. There are no repairs to this jersey, and a thorough light table evaluation shows that all stitched elements are original and uncontrived. The player name on back is stitched onto the correct matte-finished double knit fabric that is cut from the same fabric as the back number disk, and the stitching that secures the letters of the player name lettering to the plate is slightly purple-tinged from having been washed in detergents. This jersey shows wear, but not excessive use; the seams are still tight and the colors bright. I would suggest that given its use profile (it belonged to a pitcher who did not play every day) and the fact that it has its original number disk on back as well as the original nameplate that this jersey was spared use in the minor leagues after the 1975 season had ended. A slightly different configuration of this same jersey was used in 1976, so these jerseys were not used again after spring training of 1976.

The only noteworthy thing about this particular jersey when compared to both other surviving originals and in viewing period game photos is the player nameplate. Commonly, the player name letters on 1975 Astros jerseys were widely spaced on the arc with 1/4" to 3/8" between letters. This particular jersey has the lettering spaced uncharacteristically closely, with about 1/8" between each. The nameplate border is also narrower on the jersey in review, with a 3/8" fabric margin compared to 5/8" or more on exemplars in our files. Notably: we must realize that all of this layout work was done back in the day completely by hand, and things like letter spacing and nameplate margin was done purely at the discretion of the stitcher. Secondly, we do not know how many of the other jerseys in our exemplar library have had their nameplates restored, correctly or not. Nonetheless, it is notable that this one has different letter spacing than is typically seen. Perhaps it was made at a different time in the season from the initial sets. Whatever the reason, the light table verifies that there was not another nameplate or number-disk on this jersey besides this one; no traces of any other stitching can be seen.

Exemplars on the left.

Jersey in review on the right,



Exemplars on the left, note that while the lettering is of the exact size and shape on both, on the exemplar (typical of the year) the lettering is more widely spaced and the nameplate has a larger margin. The jersey tagging identical on both. The photo at top right is on the light table, which shows no evidence of any other elements having been sewn on this jersey other than the ones on there now. At far right, the original and correct Don Wilson sleeve patch on the jersey under examination. Fabric puckering beneath that patch suggests that it is original and was not removed/ replaced.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good, original condition, with what I believe are its original numbers and nameplate as well as the memorial sleeve patch. It is free of repairs and contrivances. A thorough examination of this jersey allows me to conclude that it was issued to and used by Astros pitcher Larry Dierker during the 1975 season

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Letter of Restoration

Ed Herrmann 1976 Houston Astros Rainbow Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: April 26, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0426J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros pullover full-rainbow style jersey, Sand-Knit made and tagged as size 46, but now measured as a 44. This style of jersey was first unveiled by the Astros in 1975 and was a shock to the community of baseball purists; a pullover V-Neck, white panel at the very top of the chest, and then a cascade of alternating colors of orange, gold and red horizontal, wrap-around stripes from the mid chest all the way to the tail. The stripes repeated on the jersey sleeves as well. Orange and blue V-Neck trim. Bold "Astros" is screened in Navy on the white area on the top of the chest, left justified. On the left chest a very large navy star (9' across) is screened onto the fabric with a dark red border. For 1976 only, on back, the player number was sewn in Navy twill in a Sand-Knit fancy house font (also used by that company for the Atlanta Braves of 1972-73, and was used on some Sand-Knit jerseys in the NBA). While the back player number had been surrounded by a large white disk in 1975, for 1976 alone it appeared sewn directly to the jersey in a single color over the rainbow stripes. Player names were sewn in a steep arch on a nameplate above. 1976 jerseys also featured the National League 100th Anniversary disk patch centered on the right sleeve. Certainly no other team in baseball had ever worn something like this, and in fact all through the 1975-1976 seasons, the Astros wore this jersey both at home and on the road as their only uniform. The pullover shirt style, tight tailoring, the wild colors, the asymmetrical element placement, use of silkscreening for the lettering compared to traditional sewn crests: all were distinctive elements that people either loved… or hated.

Ed Herrmann was acquired by the Astros in early June 1976 from the California Angels, was assigned #8, and immediately became the team's regular catcher replacing Milt May who had broken his ankle on just the sixth game of the season. Herrmann was known as one baseball's best knuckleball catchers. At 6" 1" and 195 lbs, he would have fit into a size 46 jersey. In 1976 his combined Angels/Astros stats he appeared in 109 games, and hit .257 with 5 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: On the lower left outside of the shirt tail is a set of two stacked tags, each 2" wide and 1.5" tall. These tags match exemplars as used by Sand-Knit in 1976-1979. The bottom tag lists the size (46) and the maker's name in bold black lettering; wash instructions below in gold embroidery, and then the company logo along the bottom line . The top tag is known familiarly as the "Exclusive" tag: It reads, *"Designed and tailored exclusively for the Houston Astros by Sand Knit"* with the company logo embroidered on the tag below. Both tags are firmly attached around their full perimeter with what appears to be their original stitching. Astros jerseys in 1976 were not year tagged for the player who they were issued to, there was no player identifying/team tagging on Astros jerseys between 1975-1980.

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Restoration performed: As received, this jersey was in very good condition and all original except for the absence of the sleeve patch and the nameplate, both of which were typically stripped at the end of the season so the team jerseys could be repurposed for further use in the minor leagues. While there not clear evidence of the sleeve patch having been there, the ghost of the original name plate was clearly obvious when placed on the light table. Sand-Knit sewed the Astros uniforms in 1976, using uncharacteristically wide spacing between the player name letters. That, combined with the high arch of the plate and the length of Herrmann's last name, the ghost of this plate is nearly semicircular, with both ends horizontal and flat against the top row of the rainbow stripes. I feel confident in the conclusion that this jersey was issued to Herrmann in 1976 based on the style of the back number, the marked size and the length/shape of the nameplate. Notably, in 1976 Sand Knit was not authorized to sell retail examples of the Astros jerseys with the "exclusive" Sand Knit tagging in place.

I cut the player name from Midnight Blue twill using the patterns for the original Sand-Knit font, and prior to being stitched with eggplant colored thread, the lettering was both media blasted and dyed to try to better approximate the patina of the back number "8" which shows discoloration from repeated washing in strong detergent and probably bleach. I recreated the nameplate from a pair of game-used Astros 1970s pants to match the uniform color, and cut the exact shape of the one that had previously been there, and serged the edge as originally done. I sewed the nameplate to the jersey with a wide zig-zag stitch as were the originals.

Wear & Repairs, Other Observations: These jerseys were surprisingly lightweight in construction. They are made of a double knit fabric that is noticeably more shear than the typical MLB jersey of the day. Because players wore these as both home and road jerseys, multiple sets were issued to each player, though exactly how many were issued to each player is not known. There are no repairs to this jersey, and a thorough light table evaluation shows that all stitched elements are original and uncontrived. The stitching that secures the back number to the jersey is notably purple-tinged from having been washed in detergents. This jersey shows wear, but not excessive use; the tagging shows abrasion and some thread loss, the screened-on elements are un-cracked, the seams are still tight and the colors bright.

photonegative image shows the clear outline imprint of the original semi-circular nameplate. Baseball card at left shows how Herrmann's name was spaced wall-to-wall on the back of his jersey.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good condition, with what I believe is its original player number, and a nameplate that I reproduced to match original specifications. It is missing the 1976-issue sleeve patch. It is free of repairs and contrivances. A thorough examination of this jersey allows me to conclude that it was issued to and used by Astros catcher Ed Herrmann during the 1976 season

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Letter of Restoration

Mike Scott 1983 Houston Astros "Rainbow" Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 10, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0810J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Sand-Knit made pullover Rainbow style Houston Astros game jersey, size 44, #33 on the back in the correct team font. Horizontally boldly-striped jersey body in five shades of red, orange and gold, Navy V-neck trim. ASTROS is stitched across the top of the front in Navy twill, a large two color five-pointed star in Navy outlined with with white is screened on the left chest. This specific style of the Rainbow jersey was worn only in 1982-1983. These jerseys are characteristically rather lightweight in construction, notably more-so than other teams' double knit jerseys.

Scott enjoyed a 13 year career pitching for the New York Mets and the Houston Astros. He won the National League Cy Young Award in 1986. Scott is part of a select group of pitchers that have thrown a no-hitter and struck out 300 batters in the same season. In 1983, Scott had a productive first year with the Astros making 24 starts and going 10–6 with a 3.72 earned run average. His number has been retired by the Houston Astros. (Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac)

Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey wore a replacement nameplate from an earlier restoration that have been commissioned by its owner. The autographed nameplate that was added was incorrect as it omitted the player's first initial "M"; in 1983 that initial was included on Mike Scott's jersey to differentiate him on the field from teammate, outfielder Tony Scott. I removed the replacement nameplate and using the team template as well as scant evidence of the ghost of the original plate, made a replacement in the original style, using a pair of donor vintage Astros pants, with a properly double-needle serged edge.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The correct set of two Sand Knit "Exclusive style" tagging is stitched to the front outside bottom tail. The printed fabric "Medalist Sand Knit" tag sewn on the right side had blue outlined hollow-white lettering, usually seen only 1980, but not impossible to have carried over and used in later years as well. The stitching holding the tags in place is original and untampered with. The embroidered "Designed Exclusively for the Houston Astros" maker's tag to the left shows signs of heavy use and repeated washing, as the embroidery that spells out the writing is somewhat wear-obliterated. Finally, stitched to the left of these

(Continued on next page)

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two tags is a small strip tag with Plastisol ink printing in the correct Sand-Knit hollow-letter style that reads "83 * 44" 1983 size 44) . While earlier years also incorporated a player name into the tagging, in 1983 exemplar tagging shows that player designations were not included in the team tagging during 1983.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in uncharacteristically good condition. By 1983, the Astros were wearing the rainbow jerseys less frequently than in prior years. The removal of the nameplate may signal that it was sent to the minor leagues for use after its MLB service was through, but if it was used in the minors it was well treated there. Light table examination shows that all stitched elements of the jersey are original and untampered with . There is a tiny vintage repair to close a hole about the size of a grain of rice on the back to the right edge of the top of the first "3" . The Navy over white lettering is puckered and burnished from use, and as is characteristic of jerseys that were well-worn, some of the stitching along the inside center of the back is worn away from constant abrasion with the player's back.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good, game used condition: all original, with the nameplate on back properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Mike Scott of the 1983 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Mike Scott Houston 1985 Astros Game Worn Cream Colored Road Jersey

Examination Date: April 3, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0403J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Goodman and Sons cream colored pullover cream-colored road jersey size 46 (measured and marked). The size matches other reliably authenticated exemplars for the player at this point in his career. ASTROS across the front in navy outlined with white with a large similarly colored star sewn below on the left chest. Navy matte-finish "Dodger Twill" is used for the lettering. Rainbow sleeve-top sewn-in inserts with seven alternating stripes in Navy, red, orange and yellow. 1" wide blue knit trim down each side seam, and outlining the neck opening. The Navy colored player name and number are sewn using the same Navy matte-finished fabric, not traditional tackle twill. All but the player name are two-layers, Navy matte fabric over white tackle twill. The player name on back is in the proper Goodman font, and is stitched to a matching nameplate. The plate has a serged edge, and is also zig-zagged to the jersey

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Goodman tag on the outside of the left front tail noting the size as 46. Goodman did not tag its Astros jerseys for year, player or set. Because they did not have the license to make retail jerseys to sell to the public; Goodman jerseys were made only for use by the team. Goodman had the contract to make the team's cream colored pullover jerseys in 1984-1986: the lack of a ghost shadow on the sleeve for the 1986-only Al-Star Game sleeve patch dates this to either 1984 or 1985. Teammate Tony Scott was on the 1984 Astros, and so Mike Scott's 1984 jerseys had his first initial on the nameplate, which this one lacks. This isolates the year of issue to 1985.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination confirms that these are the original numbers on the jersey and that the nameplate is original and has not been removed or replaced, an uncommon event with Astros jerseys of the period. Generally they were stripped of nameplates and sent to the minor leagues for heavy reuse. This jersey was spared that fate. The garment shows signs of solid use, including puckering, fading and abrasion to the Goodman tail tag, some puckering of the fabric beneath the numbers, and notable detergent-fading of the blue thread used to secure the stitched elements.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: It is all original including the the player nameplate; uncommon on Astros jerseys of this vintage. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-specification tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was used by Mike Scott of the 1985 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Scott 1988 Houston Astros Road Cream-Colored Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 12, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0112J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made size 46 (marked and measured) Houston Astros pullover jersey prepared for pitcher Mike Scott. Cream-colored heavyweight knit body with Navy Blue V-Neck. 4-inch wide "rainbow" style 7-color banded inserts sewn-in to the tops of the sleeves. 1" Navy trim sewn-on down the side seams of the jersey. ASTROS sewn boldly across the front in Navy over white tackle twill, with a large similarly-colored star sewn below on the left chest. On back, Scott's name in 3 1/4" Navy block lettering sewn to a matching single-needle serged-edge nameplate, above his number 33, in Navy over white twill. Scott was wearing size 46 jerseys at this point of his career. Notably the nameplate is made of the exact fabric that the jersey is made from. This is important because this specific fabric is very difficult to match and jerseys customized but not original to that year generally have nameplate fabric that is not identical to the jersey itself.

Scott had a good year in 1988, and although the Astros finished in fifth place in their division, he ended the season 14-8 with a 2.92 ERA, appearing in 32 games, all as a starter. (*Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: In 1988, Rawlings was in their second year of supplying all of the Astros game uniforms. The company had been named official supplier to MLB in 1987, and so all jerseys they made for on-field use starting in their year should properly have the Rawlings script logo embroidered into the trim at the end of the left sleeve, as this one does. My photo archives show that two styles of Rawlings tail tagging were used in that year, some (probably early season) jerseys received the customary red tag, while jerseys made later had the new larger white style tag that notes Rawlings as a Figge International Company after their acquisition. These later jerseys had different style team tagging and some had a taller NOB font than the earlier ones. The Rawlings tag is sewn to the outside of the left front tail, and beneath it is a strip tag with a new style of machine-embroidery on it, "33 88 46 1" (player number 33, 1988 size 46 set 1). A small white flag tab pinch-sewn under the right side of this strip tag says SET 1 1988. All of this matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all elements sewn on the jersey are original and are without alteration. This jersey does not show obvious signs of use; it appears to be unwashed. All elements are crisp and fresh. It is not unreasonable to assume that this is an extra jersey prepared after the start of the season. (Notably: any tagging designation as "set 1" is meaningless. These tags were used mostly indiscriminately in the 1980s). There is a small brown stain dot about 1/8" in circumference on the back tail that looks like drop of oil.

Exemplar tagging for comparison

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. While it does not exhibit obvious wear, it appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue to Mike Scott of the Houston Astros for the 1988 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bob Knepper 1987 (1986 Tagged) Houston Astros Game Worn Cream Color Road

Examination Date: February 22, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0222J01

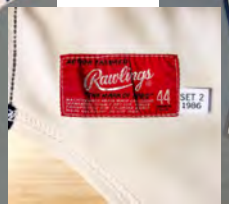
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings pullover cream colored road jersey, size 44 (measured and marked) of pitcher Bob Knepper. ASTROS across the front in Navy outlined with white with a large similarly colored star sewn below on the left chest. Rainbow sleeve-top inserts with seven alternating stripes in Navy, red, orange and yellow. 1" wide blue knit trim down each side seam, and outlining the V-neck. The jersey is not noted as being made with special tailoring, but it is notably longer than normal. Knepper preferred extra-length jerseys and this one matches that characteristic. Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1986 sewn inside the bottom front left tail, 1986 Set 2 flag tab pinch-sewn under its right side, matching exemplars.

There is an oddity on this jersey, in that it is tagged for 1986, but it has the Rawlings sleeve-end embroidery that was first used in the 1987 season. I would reasonably ascribe this to human error— either the 1987-issued jersey was incorrectly tagged at the factory with leftover 1986 tags, OR there were blank jerseys left over at the factory from the 1986 season and before they were issued to the team for use in 1987, the Rawlings script was added on the sleeve end. I have seen this happen before, and inaccurate year flag tags are not something that anyone was going to pay attention to back in 1987. The jersey style used by the team was identical, 1986-1987. Knepper was on the team roster in both 1986 and 1987.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows honest use, probably it was used in the minor leagues or spring training with its nameplate removed after its MLB service was through. There are several small slice-holes in the front tail of the jersey, each about 1/2" long, of undetermined origin.

Restoration Performed: This jersey was delivered to me otherwise intact for a nameplate restoration. I examined it to verify that the player wore that number in the tagged year, that it was a reasonable size for the player; that a light table evaluation of the jersey showed that the numbers were original and without contrivance, and that the ghost of the removed nameplate was a reasonable length for the player's last name. I replaced the nameplate using the correct font and fabric, using a pair of period Astros pants for the best fabric match. I serged the edge of the plate as would have been done to the original.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: It is all original save for the replacement noted of the player nameplate. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bob Knepper of the 1987 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Terry Puhl Houston 1989 Astros Game Worn White Home Jersey

Examination Date: February 22, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0222J09

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Goodman and Sons six-button-front white home jersey with supplemental Velcro closure, size 42 (measured and marked). The size matches other reliably authenticated exemplars of the player at this point in his career. Goodman tag in the back of the neck. ASTROS across the front in navy outlined with white with a large similarly colored star sewn below on the left chest. Navy matte finish "Dodger Twill" is used for the lettering. Rainbow sleeve-top sewn-in inserts with seven alternating stripes in Navy, red, orange and yellow. 1" wide blue knit trim down each side seam, and outlining the neck opening. Goodman did not tag its Astros jerseys for years, teams or sets. Goodman did not have the license to make retail jerseys to sell to the public; Goodman jerseys were made only for use by the team. Goodman made the team's white jerseys in 1989-90: a ghost armband shadow dates this to 1989.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey was delivered to me complete but missing its nameplate and armband, part of a huge stash of Astros jerseys that had been rescued from long-term storage. The jersey shows good use, it may have been used in the minor leagues or spring training with its nameplate removed after its MLB service was through. There is some pilling of the white fabric around the right side of the Astros wordmark; this was caused from abrasion with the rough side of the Velcro closure strip in the washing machine. The edges of the neck tag are worn and the tag shows puckering and abrasion.

Restoration Performed: I was requested to do an authentication and nameplate restoration. I examined the jersey to verify that the player wore that number in the tagged year, that it was a reasonable size for the player; that a light table evaluation of the jersey showed that the numbers were original and without contrivance, and that the ghost of the removed nameplate was a reasonable length for the player's last name. There was clear ghost-evidence of the removal of an armband on the left sleeve; the Astros wore memorial armbands in 1989 after July 21. I replaced the nameplate using the correct font and fabric, using a pair of period Astros pants for the best fabric match. I serged the edge of the plate as would have been done to the original. I replaced the armband over the ghost, using

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: It is all original save for the replacement noted of the player nameplate and the memorial armband. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-specification tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was used by Terry Puhl of the 1989 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Mike Scott Houston 1989 Astros Game Worn White Home Jersey

Examination Date: February 22, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0222J08

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Goodman and Sons six-button-front white home jersey with supplemental Velcro closure, size 46 (measured and marked). The size matches other reliably authenticated exemplars of the player at this point in his career. Goodman tag in the back of the neck. ASTROS across the front in navy outlined with white with a large similarly colored star sewn below on the left chest. Navy matte finish "Dodger Twill" is used for the lettering. Rainbow sleeve-top sewn-in inserts with seven alternating stripes in Navy, red, orange and yellow. 1" wide blue knit trim down each side seam, and outlining the neck opening. Goodman did not tag its Astros jerseys for years, teams or sets. Goodman did not have the license to make retail jerseys to sell to the public; Goodman jerseys were made only for use by the team. Goodman made the team's white jerseys in 1989-90: a ghost armband shadow dates this to 1989.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey was delivered to me complete but missing its nameplate and armband, part of a huge stash of Astros jerseys that had been rescued from long-term storage. The jersey shows good use, it may have been used in the minor leagues or spring training with its nameplate removed after its MLB service was through. There is some pilling of the white fabric around the right side of the Astros wordmark; this was caused from abrasion with the rough side of the Velcro closure strip in the washing machine. The edges of the neck tag are worn and some of the thread from the tag and the adjacent neck seam are coming loose.

Restoration Performed: I was requested to do an authentication and nameplate restoration. I examined the jersey to verify that the player wore that number in the tagged year, that it was a reasonable size for the player; that a light table evaluation of the jersey showed that the numbers were original and without contrivance, and that the ghost of the removed nameplate was a reasonable length for the player's last name. There was clear ghost-evidence of the removal of an armband on the left sleeve; the Astros wore memorial armbands in 1989 after July 21. I replaced the nameplate using the correct font and fabric, using a pair of period Astros pants for the best fabric match. I serged the edge of the plate as would have been done to the original. I replaced the armband over the ghost, using the same knit material as original.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: It is all original save for the replacement noted of the player nameplate and the memorial armband. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-specification tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was used by Mike Scott of the 1989 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Curt Schilling 1991 Astros Game Worn White Home Jersey

Examination Date: August 1, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0801J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings six-button-front white home jersey with supplemental Velcro closure, size 48 with "T" (tapered) tailoring marked (measured and marked). (Schilling wore size 48 jerseys at this stage of his career, I had never seen one before with tapered tailoring, but looking at game images of him in 1991, his jersey does seem very tight around the middle) Rawlings tag on the lower outside left tail. ASTROS across the front in navy outlined with white with a large similarly colored star sewn below on the left chest. Navy matte finish "Dodger Twill" is used for the lettering. Rainbow sleeve-top sewn-in inserts with seven alternating stripes in Navy, red, orange and yellow. 1" wide blue knit trim down each side seam, and outlining the neck opening. Tagged as Set 1 1991.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey was presented to me complete but missing its nameplate. The jersey shows good use and is generally clean; while it was stripped of its nameplate as was typical of team issues at the end of the season, it appears to have escaped the usual hard-time in the minors or spring training that many Astros game jerseys endured. I have found that often jerseys in larger sizes were spared such use because they did not fit the younger players who might have worn them.

Observations: This jersey was presented to me without provenance, making it challenging to determine with complete certainty who it belonged to. However, consider the following facts: 1) This jersey is correctly team-tagged for the 1991 season. 2) The back numbers are original without any signs of replacement or contrivance, show equal wear to the other elements on the jersey, and are in the team's special fabric that matches the front crest. 3) In Schilling's career, the sole year he played for the Astros was 1991 and he wore #19. 4) 3) Nobody else on the Astros roster wore #19 in 1991 5) 1991 Astros Jerseys were made by Rawlings, with the Rawlings script shown on the sleeve, by license. Starting in 1992, Russell made the Astros home jerseys, and by license their logo appeared on jersey sleeves. Therefore, the team did not reissue 1991 jerseys to be worn on field in 1992. 6) In 1992 #19 was a much smaller player, Juan Guerrero, who would likely not have worn a size 48, even in spring training. 7) There is light table evidence of the removal of a nameplate that would be the proper size and arch for the name "Schilling", matching period photos.

Restoration Performed: Based on my reasonable conclusion of authenticity, I was requested to do a nameplate restoration. Using a pattern made from the ghost of the original nameplate and the Astros team font and special fabric of 1991, I replaced the nameplate using a pattern of period Astros pants for the best fabric match. I serged the edge of the plate as would have been done to the original.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: It is all original save for the replacement noted of the player nameplate. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-specification tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications, shows appropriate wear and was issued to Curt Schilling of the 1991 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Ron Washington 1989 Houston Astros Game Worn Cream Colored Road Jersey

Examination Date: February 22, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0222J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings button-front cream colored road jersey, size 42 T (Tapered) (measured and marked) of infielder Ron Washington. Year tagged 1989 SET 1 on a flag tab sewn under the right edge of the Rawlings red tag, located inside the left tail appropriate for 1989. Below the Rawlings tag is a small twill tag with machine embroidery "15 42T" (player number 15, size 42 Tapered) that matches exemplars. This jersey is a reasonable size for Washington at 5" 11" 163 lbs. ASTROS across the front in navy outlined with white with a large similarly colored star sewn below on the left chest. Rainbow sleeve-top inserts with seven alternating stripes in Navy, red, orange and yellow. 1" wide blue knit trim down each side seam, and outlining the neck opening. Rawlings script embroidered in Navy Blue on the end of the right sleeve, correct for 1989 team issue.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey was delivered to me complete but missing its nameplate and 1989 armband, part of a huge stash of Astros jerseys that had been rescued from long-term storage. The jersey shows light use, it may have been used in the minor leagues or spring training with its nameplate removed after its MLB service was through.

Restoration Performed: I was requested to do a nameplate restoration. I examined the jersey to verify that the player wore that number in the tagged year, that it was a reasonable size for the player; that a light table evaluation of the jersey showed that the numbers were original and without contrivance, and that the ghost of the removed nameplate was a reasonable length for the player's last name. There was clear ghost-evidence of the removal of an armband on the left sleeve; the Astros wore memorial armbands in 1989 after July 21. I replaced the nameplate using the correct font and fabric, using a pair of period Astros pants for the best fabric match. I serged the edge of the plate as would have been done to the original. I replaced the armband over the ghost, using the same knit material as original.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: It is all original save for the replacement noted of the player nameplate and the replacement armband. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for by Ron Washington of the 1989 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Randy Johnson 1998 Houston Astros Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 16, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0116J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros white heavyweight jersey made by Russell, Size 50 marked and measured. 5" extra length tagging. Jersey measures 39" in length compared to 34" for a regular size 50, so this is accurate. No trim, three color team crest across the chest, ASTROS in black over white over black. An embroidered star n white and metallic gold is stitched on the top of the left side. On back is the player's name, Johnson, is sewn using the team's stylized font in three colors of layered twill, black/white/Nugget Gold, arched on a single-needle serged edge nameplate made from identical fabric as the jersey body. Beneath are the player's numbers #51, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched The size and special tailoring is consistent with exemplars for the player. This jersey was presented without provenance.

Johnson was acquired in a trade with the Seattle Mariners in August 1998, and went 11-1 in 12 starts to finish the season as the Astros won their division. While the jersey is not team-tagged or dated in any way (as is accurate for Astros jersey of this period) the only time Johnson played for the Astros was September-October 1998, so we can assume the jersey is from 1998. Johnson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2015.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "Diamond Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 1998. There are two flag tags sewn pinched under the bottom edge of the Russell tail tag; one that says 100% polyester and one that says 5" extra body length". There is no size tag in the neck, as is correct with team issues. Johnson is the only player I know of who required such extreme tailoring. The Russell "R" is embroidered in black thread at the end of the left sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight an unbleached from washing. There is some slight puckering of the back numbers as well as some slight splatter-staining of what could be mud on the tops of the sleeves and under the left arm. This could be from use or improper storage. The tagging shows signs of having been washed. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from just a few weeks of use, given that this was certainly not his only jersey.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good lightly used condition, is all original and properly lettered, has correct custom tailoring and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Randy Johnson of the 1998 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jeff Bagwell 2001 Houston Astros Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: January 17, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0017J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros white with black pinstripes, heavyweight knit jersey made by Majestic, Size 50 marked and measured. Four color stylized Astros script across the chest, layered twill (as correct for 2000-2002) black over beige over dark red over gray. Beneath the team crest and on the left chest is his number "5" in dark red twill, in the smaller size 3 3/8" numeral correct for 2000-2001. The Astros commemorative *40 Years in Houston* patch is stitched to the left sleeve, worn only in 2001. On back the player's name is sewn in three colors of layered twill, black over beige over dark red arched and direct sewn to the jersey. Beneath is the player's number 5, 8" tall as correct for 2001, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched. Bagwell wore a size 50 jersey in this time period, noting other exemplars in our library. While this jersey was presented without provenance, my research shows that it can likely be photo-matched to news photos of Bagwell playing in the postseason in early October 2001 against the Atlanta Braves. This jersey has the USA flag on the back of the neck, (covering the MLB logo patch still sewn beneath) added after the tragic events of 9-11-2001, showing that it was worn late in the season. When authenticating Astros jerseys, I carefully compare all player lettering to team templates for their year of issue, and this one matches perfectly to specifications.

Bagwell enjoyed a 15 year career in MLB, all with the Astros, and was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2017. In 2001, he appeared in 161 games, and hit .299 in 600 at bats with 39 home runs. (*Baseball Almanac*) While hitting his 32nd home run on August 19, 2001, against Pittsburgh, Bagwell collected his 100th RBI. It was the sixth consecutive season he reached at least 30 home runs and 100 RBI, making him the eighth player in MLB history to achieve such a streak, and the only Houston player to do so. Five days later, also against Pittsburgh, he scored his 100th run, joining Jimmie Foxx, Lou Gehrig, and Babe Ruth as the only players in MLB history with six consecutive seasons of 30 homers, 100 RBI and 100 runs scored. On September 30 at Chicago, Bagwell walked for his 100th of the season, thus making him the only player in MLB history to register six consecutive seasons of at least 30 home runs, 100 RBI, 100 runs scored, and 100 walks. (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "Authentic Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 2001. Pinch-sewn under the bottom border of this tag is a flag tab showing the size, 50. The Majestic "M" logo is embroidered in black at the end of the left sleeve. The inside side-seam Majestic garment tag codes this as a 0062, the style designation used for on-field specification jerseys generally made only for the team's use. The Astros did not otherwise team or player tag jerseys at all in 2001.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight an unbleached from washing. There is significant pilling of the fabric on the bottom sides of both sleeves, caused from the rubbing of the sleeves, especially during batting, against the ridiculously thick four-layer twill wordmark. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from a jersey worn as a regular issue and in extended use. In 2001 there were no special sleeve patches worn in the first round of the playoffs, and it seems likely that Bagwell's playoff jersey was the same one worn late in the regular season.

Fabric pilling shown on left sleeve; right sleeve is similar.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good well-used condition, is all original and properly lettered, and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jeff Bagwell of the 2001 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andy Pettitte 2004 Houston Astros Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 18, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0018J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros white with black pinstripes, heavyweight six-button knit jersey made by Majestic, Size 50 marked and measured; pitcher Andy Pettitte #21. Exemplars show that this was the preferred size used by the player at this point in his career. Three-color stylized Astros script across the chest in direct chain stitch (as correct for 2002-2012) black/beige/dark red. Beneath the team crest and on the left chest is his number "21" in dark red twill, in the larger size numeral correct for 2002-2012 (compared to smaller numbers, 2000-2001) at 4 1/8". Team Texas/star patch on the left sleeve, 2004 All Star Game patch on the left sleeve. On back the player's name is sewn in three colors of layered twill, beige over dark red over black, arched and sewn directly to the jersey fabric without a nameplate. The MLB logo patch is sewn to the back of the collar in black, white and dark red. Beneath is the player's number 21, 8 7/8" tall as correct for 2002-2012, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched. The MLB logo patch is sewn to the back of the collar in black, white and dark red. When authenticating Astros jerseys, I carefully compare all player lettering to team templates for their year of issue, and this one matches perfectly to specifications. This jersey was presented without provenance.

Pettitte joined the Astros in 2004 and started 15 games, earning a record of 6-4 with an ERA of 3.9. His 2004 season, in which he held batters to a .226 batting average, was shortened by elbow surgery to repair a torn flexor tendon. In an 18 year career, Pettitte played three seasons for the Astros bookended by 15 seasons with the Yankees (*Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "Authentic Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 2001. Pinch-sewn under the bottom border of this tag is a flag tab showing the size, 50. The Majestic "M" logo is embroidered in black at the end of the left sleeve. The inside side-seam Majestic garment tag codes this as a 0062, the style designation used for on-field specification jerseys generally made only for the team's use. The Astros did not otherwise team or player tag jerseys at all in 2000-2012.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight and unbleached from washing. The lettering and the tagging is crisp, showing extremely light use. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from a jersey worn for a game or two by a pitcher.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent lightly used condition, is all original and properly lettered, and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Andy Pettitte of the 2004 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Lance Berkman 2000/2001 Houston Astros Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: January 18, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0018J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros gray, heavyweight six-button knit jersey made by Majestic, Size 48 marked and measured, Lance Berkman #17. Four color stylized Astros script across the chest, layered twill (as correct for 2000-2001) dark red over beige over black over gray. Supplemental Velcro closure added, Beneath the team crest and on the left chest is his number "17" in black twill, in the smaller size 3 3/8" numeral correct for 2000-2001. No sleeve patches; the Astros road jersey was essentially identical in 2000 and 2001, as no team tagging was used at all. On back the player's name is sewn in three colors of layered twill, dark red over beige over dark red, arched and sewn to a matching serged edge nameplate. The MLB logo patch is sewn to the back of the collar in black, white and dark red. Beneath is the player's number 17, 8" tall as correct for 2000-2001, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched. Berkman wore a size 48 jersey in this time period, noting other exemplars in our library. This jersey is without the USA flag on the back of the neck, meaning only that it was not worn after 9-11-01. When authenticating Astros jerseys, I carefully compare all player lettering to team templates for their year of issue, and this one matches perfectly to specifications. This jersey was presented without provenance.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "Authentic Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 2001. Pinch-sewn under the bottom border of this tag is a flag tab showing the size, 48. The Majestic "M" logo is embroidered in black at the end of the left sleeve. The inside side-seam Majestic garment tag codes this as a 0062, the style designation used for on-field specification jerseys generally made only for the team's use. The Astros did not otherwise team or player tag jerseys at all in 2000-2001.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight an unbleached from washing. The lettering and the tagging is softened from washing and visibly puckered. There are many loose sewing threads, and significant pilling of the fabric on the bottom sides of both sleeves, caused from the rubbing of the sleeves, especially during batting, against the ridiculously thick four-layer twill wordmark. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from a jersey worn as a regular issue and in extended use.

Fabric pilling shown the bottom of the left sleeve. Right sleeve is similar

Conclusion: This jersey is in good well-used condition, is all original and properly lettered, and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Lance Berkman of the 2000-2001 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andy Pettitte 2006 Houston Astros Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: January 18, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0018J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros gray, heavyweight six-button knit jersey made by Majestic, Size 50 marked and measured, pitcher Andy Pettitte #21. Exemplars show that this was the preferred size used by the player at this point in his career. Three-color stylized Astros script across the chest in direct chain stitch (as correct for 2002-2012) dark red/beige/black. Beneath the team crest and on the left chest is his number "21" in black twill, in the larger size numeral correct for 2002-2012 (compared to smaller numbers, 2000-2001) at 4 1/8". 2006 Houston 45 years patch. On back the player's name is sewn in three colors of layered twill, dark red over beige over dark red, arched and sewn to a matching serged edge nameplate. Beneath is the player's number 21, 8 7/8" tall as correct for 2002-2012, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched. The MLB logo patch is sewn to the back of the collar in black, white and dark red. When authenticating Astros jerseys, I carefully compare all player lettering to team templates for their year of issue, and this one matches perfectly to specifications. This jersey was presented without provenance.

In 2006, Andy Pettitte appeared in 36 games for the Astros, going 14-13 with a 4.20 ERA. 2006 was the 12th season of his 18 year career. (*Baseball Almanac*) He tied for the National League lead in starts (35), tied for sixth in pickoffs (4), and was eighth in double plays induced (26), and tenth in strikeouts (178) and batters faced (929) (*Wikipedia*).

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "Authentic Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 2001. Pinch-sewn under the bottom border of this tag is a flag tab showing the size, 50. The Majestic "M" logo is embroidered in black at the end of the left sleeve. The inside side-seam Majestic garment tag codes this as a 0062, the style designation used for on-field specification jerseys generally made only for the team's use. The Astros did not otherwise team or player tag jerseys at all in 2000-2012.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight and unbleached from washing. The lettering and the tagging is crisp, showing light use. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from a jersey worn by a pitcher for part of a season, especially considering that the Astros had five jersey styles to choose from, multiple sets of each, and that the gray jerseys were probably the least frequently worn by the team.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered, and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Andy Pettitte of the 2006 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andy Pettitte 2005 Houston Astros Road Alternate Red World Series Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 18, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0018J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros dark red, heavyweight six-button knit jersey made by Majestic, Size 50 marked and measured; pitcher Andy Pettitte #21. Exemplars show that this was the preferred size used by the player at this point in his career. Three-color stylized Astros script across the chest in direct chain stitch (as correct for 2002-2012) beige/dark red/black. Beneath the team crest and on the left chest is his number "21" in layered twill; black/dark red/beige. Team Texas/star patch on the left sleeve, 2005 World Series patch on the left sleeve. On back the player's name is sewn in three colors of layered twill, beige over dark red over black, arched and sewn to a matching double-needle serged edge nameplate. Beneath is the player's number 21, 8 7/8" tall as correct for 2002-2012, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched. The MLB logo patch is sewn to the back of the collar in black, white and dark red. When authenticating Astros jerseys, I carefully compare all player lettering to team templates for their year of issue, and this one matches perfectly to specifications. Players were typically issued new jerseys for the postseason, and I will note that this one has lettering that is laser-cut, new technology for the time. This jersey was presented without provenance.

In 2005, Andy Pettitte appeared in 33 games for the Astros, all as a starter, going 17-9 with a 2.39 ERA. 2005 was the 11th season of his 18 year career. (*Baseball Almanac*) He had a standout season, helping the Astros to the 2005 World Series, His 2.39 ERA was a career-best, and second in the NL behind teammate Clemens. He was also second in the league walks/9 IP (1.66) and LOB percentage (79.7%; a career best), third in sacrifice hits (15), fifth in wins (17), and eighth in winning percentage. (.654). He held left-handed batters, who over his career have outhit righties when batting against him, to a .200 batting average, had a career-best 4.17 SO/BB ratio. (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "Authentic Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 2001. Pinch-sewn under the bottom border of this tag is a flag tab showing the size, 50. The Majestic "M" logo is embroidered in beige at the end of the left sleeve. The inside side-seam Majestic garment tag codes this as a 0062, the style designation used for on-field specification jerseys generally made only for the team's use. The Astros did not otherwise team or player tag jerseys at all in 2000-2012.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight and unbleached from washing. The lettering and the tagging is crisp, showing light use. However, the front tail tag is notably stained with red as often happens the very first time a red jersey is washed in water that is too hot. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from a jersey worn in only the post-season, then not used again.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered, and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Andy Pettitte of the 2005 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andy Pettitte 2005 Houston Astros Home White Alternate Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 18, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0018J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros pure white, heavyweight six-button knit jersey made by Majestic, Size 50 marked and measured; pitcher Andy Pettitte #21. Exemplars show that this was the preferred size used by the player at this point in his career. Supplemental Velcro closure added, Three-color stylized Astros script across the chest in direct chain stitch (as correct for 2002-2012) dark red/beige/black. Beneath the team crest and on the left chest is his number "21" in three color layered twill in the same colors. Team Texas/star patch on the left sleeve. On back the player's name is sewn in the same three colors of layered twill, arched and sewn on a white double-needle serged nameplate. Beneath is the player's number 21, 8 7/8" tall as correct for 2002-2012, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched. The MLB logo patch is sewn to the back of the collar in black, white and dark red. When authenticating Astros jerseys, I carefully compare all player lettering to team templates for their year of issue, and this one matches perfectly to specifications. This jersey was presented without provenance. While the jersey is without team year tagging (as is correct) it year of issue can be isolated to 2005, as this was the only season that Pettit was on the Astros and the team did not wear a commemorative sleeve patch on this style jersey.

In 2005, Andy Pettitte appeared in 33 games for the Astros, all as a starter, going 17-9 with a 2.39 ERA. 2005 was the 11th season of his 18 year career. (*Baseball Almanac*) He had a standout season, helping the Astros to the 2005 World Series, his 2.39 ERA was a career-best, and second in the NL behind teammate Clemens. He was also second in the league walks/9 IP (1.66) and LOB percentage (79.7%; a career best), third in sacrifice hits (15), fifth in wins (17), and eighth in winning percentage. (.654). He held left-handed batters, who over his career have outhit righties when batting against him, to a .200 batting average, had a career-best 4.17 SO/BB ratio. (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "Authentic Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 2001. Pinch-sewn under the bottom border of this tag is a flag tab showing the size, 50. The Majestic "M" logo is embroidered in black at the end of the left sleeve. The inside side-seam Majestic garment tag codes this as a 0062, the style designation used for on-field specification jerseys generally made only for the team's use. The Astros did not otherwise team or player tag jerseys at all in 2000-2012.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight and unbleached from washing. The lettering and the tagging is crisp, showing very light use. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from a jersey worn for a few games by a pitcher.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent lightly used condition, is all original and properly lettered, and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Andy Pettitte of the 2005 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jose Altuve 2017 Houston Astros Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 4, 2020 **Certification Number:** 20-1104J03

This letter will serve as the opinion of Sports Investors Authentication LLC regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, six-button-front, size 40 Majestic FlexBase Houston Astros jersey issued to Jose Altuve in 2017. The player is noted wearing size 40 jerseys in the 2017 season. All two-color kiss-cut lightweight twill lettering front and back, Orange outlining Midnight Blue, HOUSTON arched on the front. 27 below and one the left panel. On back, ALTUVE arched above the number 27. The numeral 7 is signed by Altuve in silver Sharpie. (I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) The Astros Navy/white/orange disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve. The 2017 Postseason patch is stitched to the right sleeve. Navy 1/8" soutache lines the placket and rings each sleeve 1/2" from the edges. The "STRONG" disk patch is stitched to the upper left chest. This patch was added to all team jerseys from September 2 to the end of the season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Two heat pressed Majestic manufacturer tags are found on the jersey (front left tail and lower right placket), indicating size "48". The second is a "2017 PROP. OF HOUSTON ASTROS" QR-barcode style tag with player-specific information. A Navy Blue embroidered Majestic logo is under the team patch on the left shoulder. There is no MLB hologram or serialized sticker on this jersey indicating its certification as game used. The inside seam tag bears the code 0730 indicating it is a team issued specification jersey, not one made for retail sale.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. It shows no signs of wash or wear, as all elements and tagging are still crisp.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was team issued and made to the specifications of Jose Altuve of the 2017 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Randy Johnson 1998 Houston Astros Team Issue BP Jersey

Examination Date: January 16, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0116J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Houston Astros Midnight Blue heavyweight mesh jersey made by Russell, Size 52 marked and measured. Sewn-in elastic sleeve ends, very dark blue bands with a 1/8" dark gold stripe running through the middle, the same trim is used on the neck opening. Two button Henley neck closure. Three color stylized star logo on the left chest, sparkle-gold embroidery over black over white. On back the player's name, Johnson, is sewn in three colors of layered twill, white/black/Nugget Gold arched on a double needle serged edge nameplate made from identical mesh fabric as the jersey body. Beneath are the player's numbers #51, in the same three colors. They are in the team font and correctly stitched Johnson typically wore a size 50 jersey, so a 52 BP is a reasonable substitute. This jersey was presented without provenance.

Johnson was acquired in a trade with the Seattle Mariners in August 1998, and went 11-1 in 12 starts to finish the season as the Astros won their division. While the jersey is not team-tagged or dated in any way (as is accurate for Astros jersey of this period) the only time Johnson played for the Astros was September-October 1998, so we can assume the jersey is from 1998. Johnson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2015.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "Diamond Collection" locker tag sewn to the outer left front tail in the appropriate style for 1998. There is a flag tag in the neck, generally correct for BP jerseys (1998 game jerseys have no neck tag) and layered underneath the neck tag is a flag tag that says 5" extra body length". A normal size 52 jersey is 34" neck to tail. This one 36", which means it is actually 2" extra length. In my judgement, the fact that it displays any extra length is sufficient to me; Johnson was a late-season pickup by the team, and Russell likely had to scramble to get uniforms ready for him. I would suspect that there were no 5" extra length jerseys in this unique style made at the start of the season— in fact Johnson is the only player I know of who required such extreme tailoring. Educated speculation: they likely used what they had, which was 2" extra length, hoping it would be acceptable. The Russell "R" is embroidered in dark metallic gold thread at the end of the left sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. All stitching is tight an unbleached from washing. There is some slight puckering of the back numbers as well as some slight splatter-staining of the white twill. The tagging shows signs of having been washed. Overall, the wear to this jersey is commensurate with what one would expect from just a few weeks of use, given that this was probably not his only warm-up jersey.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good lightly used condition, is all original and properly lettered, has acceptable custom tailoring and is without contrivance. It has the proper tagging It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Randy Johnson of the 1998 Houston Astros.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Letter of Restoration

Alan Ashby 1981 Houston Astros Road Gray Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: November 15, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1115J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Sand-Knit made pullover gray road Houston Astros game jersey, size 42 (now measures closer to a size 40), #14 stitched on the back in the correct team font. Solid light tan/gray jersey body, Navy V-neck trim and up the sides of the jersey body seams. Seven-striped rainbow trim stitched into the sleeve tops. ASTROS is screened (not stitched) across the top of the front in Navy ink, a large two color five-pointed star in Navy is screened on the left chest. This specific style of the gray/rainbow trimmed jersey was worn only in 1980-1981. These jerseys are characteristically rather lightweight in construction, notably more-so than other teams' double knit jerseys. They are very uncommon in the hobby, most having been destroyed after hard minor league use.

Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey was without a nameplate. Using the team template as well as edge evidence of the ghost of the original plate, made a replacement in the original style, using fabric that matched the original as closely as possible, with a properly double-needle serged edge. Ashby was the only player to wear #14 in 1981, and the size of the original plate matches the player's short name.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The correct set of two Sand Knit "*Exclusive Style*" tagging is stitched to the front outside bottom tail and the fabric "Medalist Sand Knit" tag sewn on the right side. The stitching holding the tags in place is original and untampered with. The embroidered "Designed Exclusively for the Houston Astros" maker's tag to the left shows signs of heavy use and repeated washing, as the embroidery that spells out the writing is somewhat wear-obliterated. Finally, stitched to the left of these two tags is a small strip tag with Plastisol ink printing in the correct Sand-Knit hollow-letter style that reads "81". Exemplars from 1981 show that simple, two digit team tagging was the standard. There is a small wash instruction tag sewn into the inside of the side seam.

Wear & Repairs: While the tagging reveals many washings, the shoulder-top rainbow trim is in surprisingly unfaded condition. There is some puckering under the back numbers from wash shrinkage. There is an approximately 2" long team repair of a vertical rip on the back above the right edge of the nameplate. The removal of the nameplate signals that it was to be sent to the minor leagues for use after its MLB service was through, but if it was used in the minors it was well treated there. Light table examination shows that all stitching is original and untampered with.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, game used condition: all original, with the nameplate on back now properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by catcher Alan Ashby of the 1981 Houston Astros.

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Chapter 11

Athletics

Oakland Athletics 1970-2024

Athletics 2025

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Athletics Uniform History Notes

- The team, officially known as simply “Athletics” starting with the 2025 season, migrated from Philadelphia to Kansas City to Oakland. After 55 years in Philadelphia, 13 in Kansas City and 57 in Oakland, the A’s arrived in Sacramento in 2025, expected to be their temporary home for three years until a newly built stadium in Las Vegas is ready for them in 2028.
- They first adopted the green and gold color scheme for the 1963 season in Kansas City, introducing a third “alternate” uniform top which at the time was a real rarity in Major League Baseball. They had at least one alternate jersey in their set almost every year thereafter.
- The team wore vests through 1971 and numbers on the back were sewn very high up, and as a result, names had to be sewn in a straight line at the top to make them fit, made even more difficult because the tops of the vests were so narrow.
- When the A’s switched to double knits in 1972 along with most of baseball, they made especially good use of the new fabric. Using its bold colors and its multi-hued striped knit sleeve and collar trim (and wearing white shoes), the A’s remained among the most flashy of all of MLB’s teams. They dropped the vests that they had worn for many years, and changed to pullover shirts with short sleeves. For part of 1972 only the A’s kept numbers on their jersey fronts.
- The A’s wore so many different styles of jerseys in the 1970s and 1980s that it is extremely difficult to determine rules about what lettering is correct and what is not. For one thing, many of the jerseys in the hobby are well-worn (worn out?) and many have been restored in some way with names and numbers replaced. It can be difficult to determine what is original and what may not be.
- Unlike almost any other team, the A’s did business with several different jersey manufacturers simultaneously–as many as four different vendors in some years! Back in the days of pre-standardization of lettering, it is apparent that each manufacturer did its own lettering for the team – using their own interpretation of details like fonts for numbers and names, how thick the outlines were or whether player names were arched or straight. Looking at jerseys grouped by manufacturer, some similarities begin to emerge. McAuliffe, the A’s supplier for many years, used its own unique version of Varsity numbers, and its own version of the Block name font. Rawlings, Sand-Knit and Wilson each made different styles of jerseys for the team, each using their own fonts.
- Consistency was seemingly an afterthought, as even player name fonts from the same manufacturer from the same years have variations.
- There are a couple rules of thumb: during the entire double knit era, A’s numbers have always followed the same color pattern as the A’s lettering on the front.
- From 1970 through 1986, player names on all jerseys are one-color and uniquely sewn straight across the back of the jersey with no arch. Starting 1987, names become arched like all other teams.
- In 1982, Kelly green, a staple in the A’s color palette since 1963, is dropped in favor of dark green in the first sign of the team moving toward a more conservative look from the wild mix-and-match ‘70s. A white full-button style is also introduced as an alternate home jersey
- In 1987, the team moves to a full-time classic button jersey look, wearing white at home and gray on the road, and abandoning the V-neck pullovers worn since 1972.
- A green alternate with script Athletics wordmark is introduced in 1994 and is worn through 2013, when it’s replaced by a different dark green alternate with the classic A’s logo on the chest.
- Two different black alternates have short runs of one year (2000) and three years (2008–2010)
- A gold alternate, somewhat resembling the team’s classic 1970s gold jersey, is worn 2011–2018, then mothballed for six years, before being reinstated in 2025 for the team’s first year in Sacramento.
- In 2018, Kelly green returns to the team repertoire after a 26 year absence in the form of an alternate jersey that quickly becomes a popular option with players and fans.
- The temporary move to Sacramento in 2025 results in the script “Oakland” dropped from the road green and Kelly green alternate and replaced with the script “Athletics”.
- Despite the many alternate jerseys through the decades, the team has maintained remarkable consistency in its core home and road looks since 1987. The return of classic elements like Kelly green and gold alternates in recent years reflects a renewed appreciation for the franchise’s bold and unconventional uniform legacy.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

* The A's added their front numbers midway through the 1972 season . The three A's players in the 1972 All-Star Game did not have front numbers on their jerseys.

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	Red Sox 2 color	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray Flannel	Red Sox 2 color	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alt Yellow Flannel	Red Sox 2 color	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1971	Home White Flannel	Red Sox 2 color	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray Flannel	Red Sox 2 color	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alt Yellow Flannel	Red Sox 2 color	Red Sox 2 color	McAuliffe Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1972	Home White A's	Expos Style 2 color*	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #1	Expos Style 2 color*	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Green A's	Expos Style 2 color*	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1973	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alt Yellow #1(yellow-wt)	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alt Yellow #2 (yellow-grn)	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Green A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1974	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #2	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Green	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1975	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #2	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Green A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1976	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1776-1976 Liberty Bell	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #2	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1776-1976 Liberty Bell	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Green A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1776-1976 Liberty Bell	-	McAuliffe
1977	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #2	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Green A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1978	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #2	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Green A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1979	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #2	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alt Green A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1980	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alternate Yellow A's #2	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Alt Green A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
1981	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Home Alt White A's	No	Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Yellow Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings/McAuliffe
1982	Home White A's	No	A's Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	McAuliffe
	Home Alt White A's	No	Varsity 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson/Sand-Knit
	Alt Yellow Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray Oakland	No	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	-	-	Sand-Knit
1983	Home White Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Yellow Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray Oakland	No	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Alt Green Oakland	No	Block Bold 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1984	Home White Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Yellow Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray Oakland	No	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Alt Green Oakland	No	Block Bold 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1985	Home White Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Yellow Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Green Oakland	No	Block Bold 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Yellow Oakland	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Green Oakland	No	Block Bold 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings/Sand-Knit

** Some experts say that the 1982 tagged set of McAuliffe uniforms were never used by the club.

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1987-1992

1987-1992

1993-2020

1993-2020

1994-2013

three styles continue onward

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1987	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	WHITE Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	A's 25 Years	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	A's 25 Years	Russell
1993	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant Head	-	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Elephant Head	-	Russell
1994	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant Head	MLB 125th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant Head	MLB 125th Anniversary	Russell
	Alt Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	MLB 125th Anniversary	Russell
1995	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	WAH Memorial aft 9/20	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	WAH Memorial aft 9/20	Russell
	Alt Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	WAH Memorial aft 9/20	Russell
1996	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Russell
	Alt Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	-	Russell
1997	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 30 Years	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alt Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Russell
	Alt Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/Sunglasses	-	Russell
1999	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	#27 Catfish Memorial after 9/7	Russell
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	#27 Catfish Memorial after 9/7	Russell
	Alt Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	#27 Catfish Memorial after 9/7	Russell

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1993-2020

1993-2020

1994-2013

2000 only

2008-2010

2011-2018

2014-2020

Athletics Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2000	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black**	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
2001	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	AL 100th Anniversary	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	AL 100th Anniversary	Rawlings
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black**	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
2002	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Rawlings
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black**	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
2003	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant w/sunglasses	-	Majestic
	Alt Black**	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
2004	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Black**	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
2005	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Black**	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	A's 100 Years	-	Rawlings
2006	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	"Holy Toledo" Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	40 Years	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	OPD (Oakland Police)	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	A's Unique Block, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	A's Unique Block, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball		Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	-	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2012	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	GJN Patch, postseason only	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	GJN Patch, postseason only	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	GJN Patch, postseason only	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	-	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	GJN Patch, postseason only	Majestic
2013	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Green	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic

** While The alternate black jersey is listed in the MLB official style guide as "correct" for 2000–2005, it was game worn only in 2000. Player jerseys were not made for the team in other years.

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2016: Change to Flex Base

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2014	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	50th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	50th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	50th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Yellow	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	50th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Kelly Green "Oakland"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	50th Anniversary	Majestic
2019	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Yellow **	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Majestic
	Alt Kelly Green "Oakland"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball		Nike
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball		Nike
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball		Nike
	Alt Yellow **	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball		Nike
	Alt Kelly Green "Oakland"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball		Nike

1993-2025

1993-2024

2014-2021

2011-2018*

2018-2024

** While this jersey remains included in the official MLB style guide through 2024, our sources tell us that these were not issued to players after 2018, being functionally replaced by the kelly green alternates.

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
	Alt Dark Green "A's"	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
	Alt Yellow **	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
	Alt Kelly Green "Oakland"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
2022	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
	Alt Yellow **	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
	Alt Kelly Green "Oakland"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball	-	Nike
2023	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
	Alt Yellow **	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
	Alt Kelly Green "Oakland"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
2024	Home White	Nike Block 2 color	Nike Block 2 color	Nike Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Nike Block 2 color	Nike Block 2 color	Nike Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
	Alt Yellow **	-	Nike Block 2 color	Nike Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
	Alt Kelly Green "Oakland"	Nike Block 2 color	Nike Block 2 color	Nike Block 2 color	No	Elephant on Ball‡	-	Nike
2025	Home White	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Sacramento/ Henderson Memorial‡	Las Vegas Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray "Athletics"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Sacramento/ Henderson Memorial‡	Las Vegas Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Yellow (refresh)	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Sacramento/ Henderson Memorial‡	Las Vegas Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Kelly Green "Athletics"	A's Unique Block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Sacramento/ Henderson Memorial‡	Las Vegas Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ Patch placement varies based on player handedness

** While this jersey remains included in the official MLB style guide through 2024, our sources tell us that these were not issued to players after 2018, being functionally replaced by the kelly green alternates.

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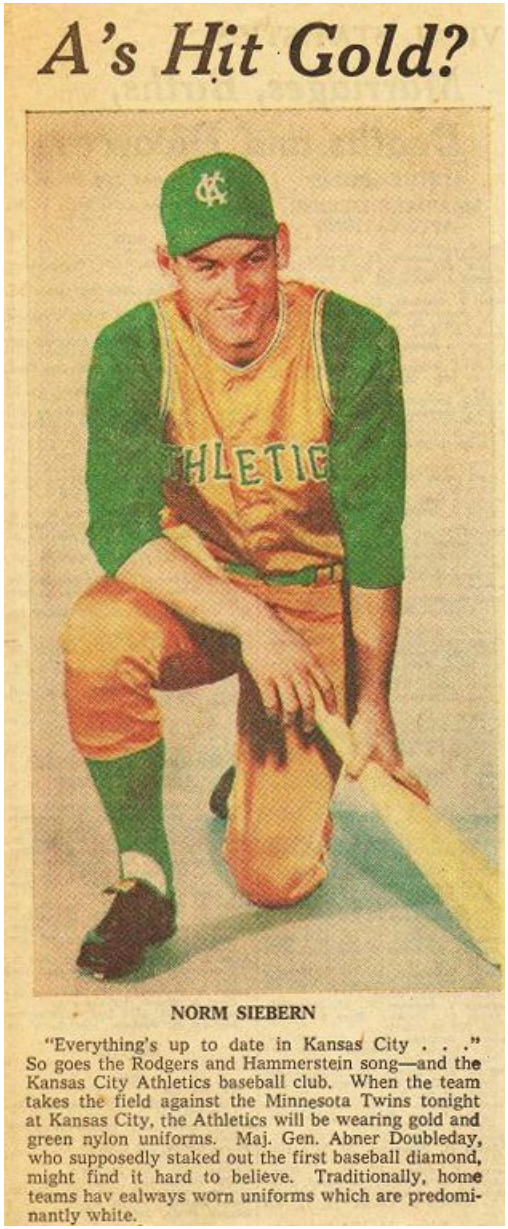
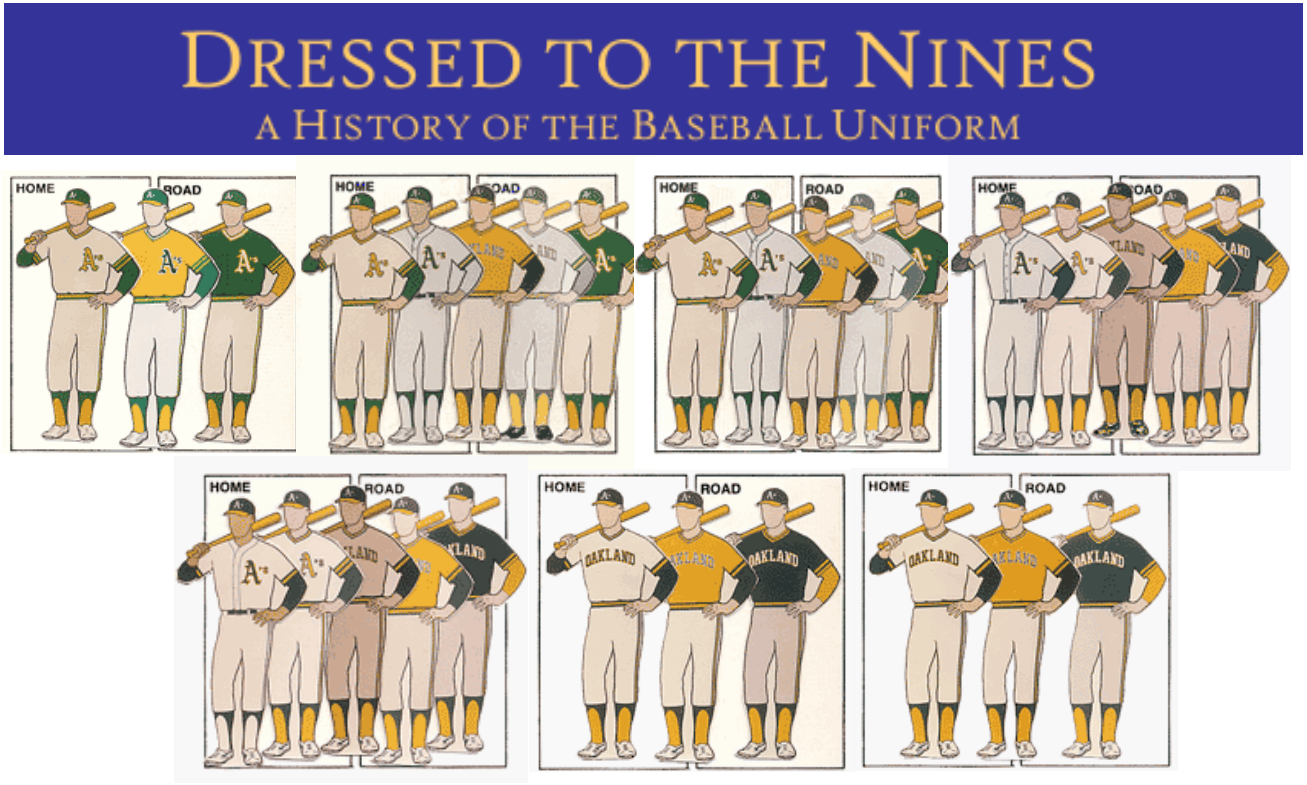


A's Hit Gold?

NORM SIEBERN

"Everything's up to date in Kansas City . . ." So goes the Rodgers and Hammerstein song—and the Kansas City Athletics baseball club. When the team takes the field against the Minnesota Twins tonight at Kansas City, the Athletics will be wearing gold and green nylon uniforms. Maj. Gen. Abner Doubleday, who supposedly staked out the first baseball diamond, might find it hard to believe. Traditionally, home teams hav ealways worn uniforms which are predominantly white.



The Baseball Hall of Fame "Dressed to the Nines" database is a wonderful resource, incorporating the incredible research begun by historian and author Mark Okkonen, and updated over the years with new information. While it is very tempting to use this research as the definitive source, and although it is usually correct, I have serious doubts about it accuracy when referring to the various styles of jerseys worn by the A's in specific years in the 1980s. Therefore, on various pages, I have noted where my research disagrees with what is published there. One thing the illustration above suggests is that the Athletics have been wearing (at least) a third, alternate jersey since the mid-1960s—twenty years before this practice was adopted by much of the rest of baseball. This array of illustrations over nine years resembles a virtual army of Athletics. In reality, the team did not wear as many different uniforms in some years as the database suggests.

Left: This item from the April 12, 1963 *Kansas City Star* announces the A's new colors for the 1963 season, though the specific jersey shown in the illustration was never worn. Note that the uniforms are described as "nylon" in the caption. Today, we recognize this fabric as Durene—a nylon/natural fiber blend, not true double knits as we know them today..

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home White Vest

Chip Allgrove Collection

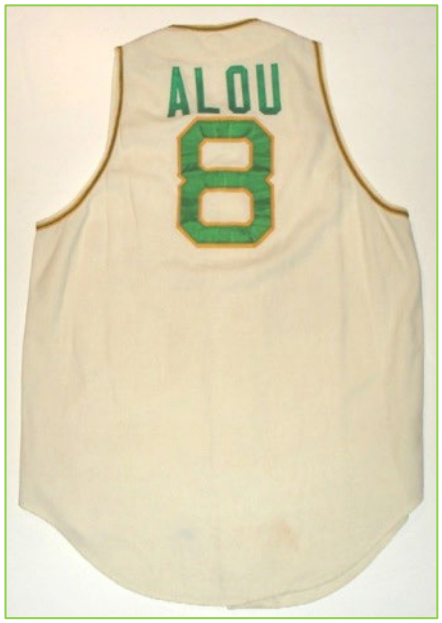
The Athletics introduced the flannel vest as standard attire in 1962 (Kansas City era), and adopted the now-iconic green and gold color scheme in 1963.

Simple green and gold sewn-on narrow knit braid adorns the arm holes and neck opening.

Notice the design of the "A" on the front, sewn in twill, it lacks the center serif (or brush stroke) that appeared later.

The vest is worn with a green-sleeved undershirt.

Player numbers are in two-color Red Sox style, green names on back are sewn in a straight line within the narrow space between the shoulders. Long names were particularly challenging to fit on the narrow upper back!



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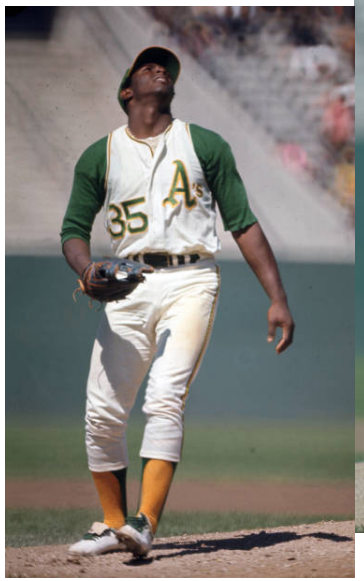
1970-1971 Home White Vest, continued

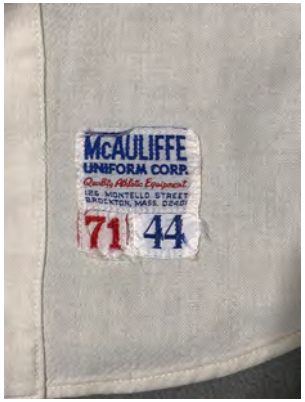
1971

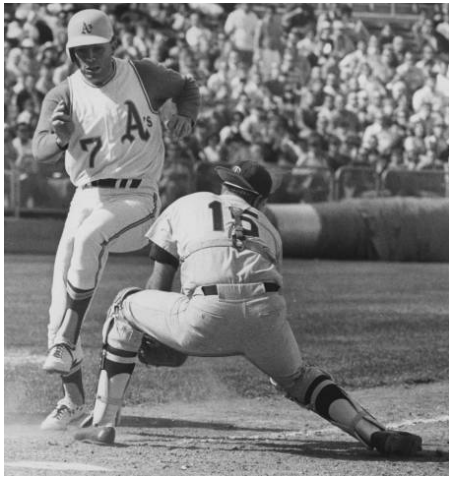


Tony Khing Collection

1971

Mark Heller Collection





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1970-1971 Road Gray-Green Vest

Chip Allgrove Collection

The road gray-green vest is identical to the home white vest save for the color of the greenish-gray flannel fabric. Its official name is said to be "Seafoam Green."

The old flannel uniforms were worn in Spring Training at least through 1973. Most were likely shipped to the minor leagues afterwards, and surviving examples generally show signs of number changes and most are missing player names like the example shown ***(right)*** or have had them restored.

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1970-1971 Road Gray-Green Vest, continued

1971

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

Chip Allgrove Collection

1971

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

Chip Allgrove Collection

1971

© GameWornGuides.com

1970-1971 Alternate Gold Vest

1970

Chip Allgrove Collection

The alternate flannel gold vest is identical to the home white vest save for the color of the fabric. These gold vests are worn both at home and on the road, and represent one of the very first uses of an alternate and colorful uniform to break with the tradition of home whites and road grays.

The old flannel uniforms were worn in Spring Training at least through 1973. Most were likely shipped to the minor leagues afterwards, and surviving examples generally show signs of number changes, and most are missing player names or have had them restored.

1971

Chip Allgrove Collection

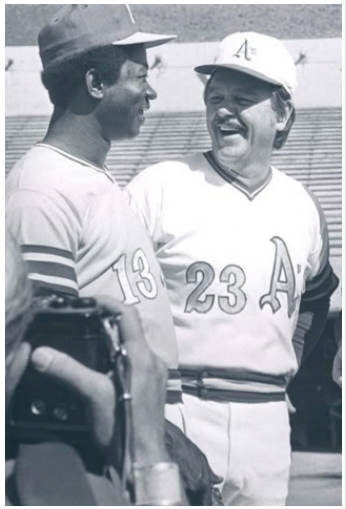
© GameWornGuides.com

1972 Home

For 1972, the A's introduced a white pull-over knit jersey with wide green and gold knit trim on the sleeve ends. Distinguish this one-year style jersey by the "A" on the front that lacks a center serif as found on 1973 and later white jerseys.

Front numbers, in the Expos font, were added after the All-Star break and remained through 1973 Spring Training only. Unusual because the back numbers are McAuliffe's version of Varsity font.

Most surviving originals probably endured several years of use in the minor leagues before being retired and are either missing front numbers or have had them replaced. Game photos of this jersey in use are elusive, as the team wore these only for Sunday home games—hence the nickname 'Wedding Gown Whites"



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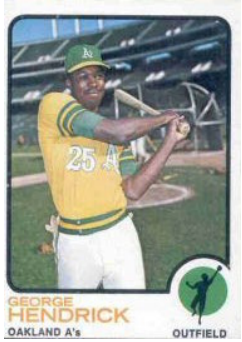
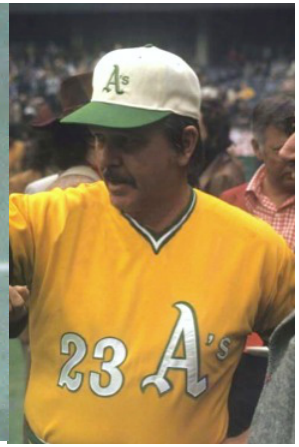
1972 Alternate Gold





In 1972, the A's wore a gold alternate jersey, with a white "A" and white player numbers outlined in green. Notice the "A" on the front—it has only two serifs, or points, on the left side unlike in later years when there are three. Player name on back is one-color, green, sewn with no nameplate and in a straight line.

In 1972 only, the jersey featured white/green Expos-style numbers on the right chest. This was unusual because McAuliffe Varsity numbers were used on the back. It is the only known post-1970 example of a team jersey that intentionally uses two completely different number fonts on the front and back. Front numbers were added after the All-Star break and worn through the end of the season only.

Notice that there are three green stripes on the sleeve ends. Similar-looking gold batting practice jerseys have only two sleeve-end stripes. See page ahead titled "1972 A's Jerseys: An Enduring Mystery." for more insight.

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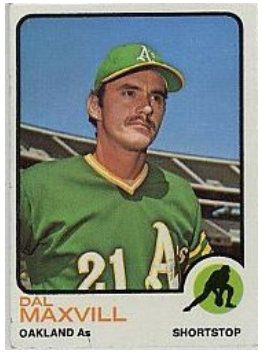
1972 Alternate Green

Though listed as an alternate jersey, the sheer number of game photos showing this style being worn in 1972 both at home and on the road indicates it was a popular choice for the team. The 1972 version of the "A" on the front has only 2 serifs (fancy brush-strokes) on the left side, lacking the central serif that appeared in later years. The 1972 jersey is the only year that featured front numbers using the Expos number font. Back numbers were a blocky version of Varsity, different from those used on the gold or white jerseys in 1972. It is also notable that completely different number styles were used on the front and back; we can't recall another example of this happening in baseball post-1970. Front numbers were added by the team midseason. Names on back were used in one-color white. They were sewn straight across the top. Extremely few of these jerseys remain unaltered in the hobby today—the reason for that is suggested on the next page.



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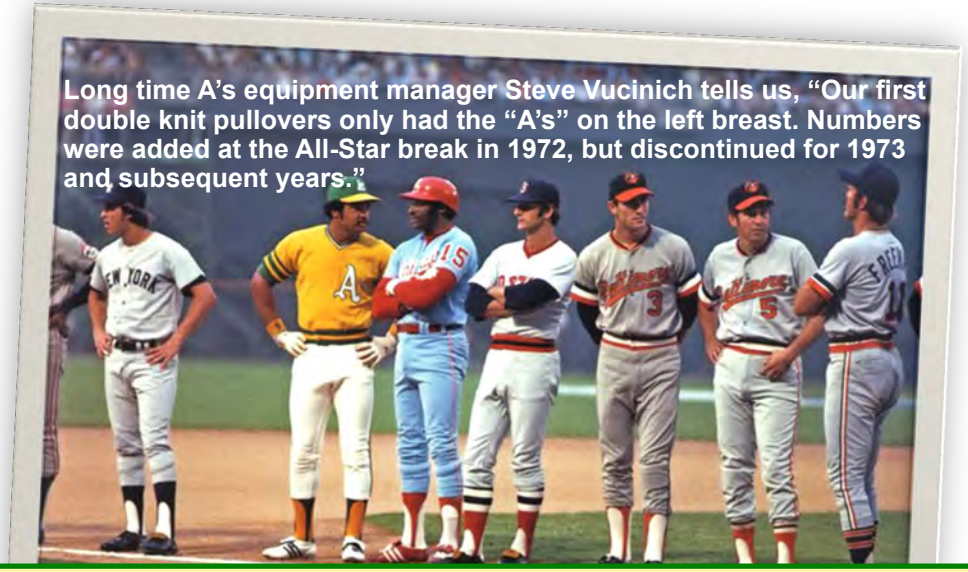
1972 A's Jerseys: An Enduring Mystery

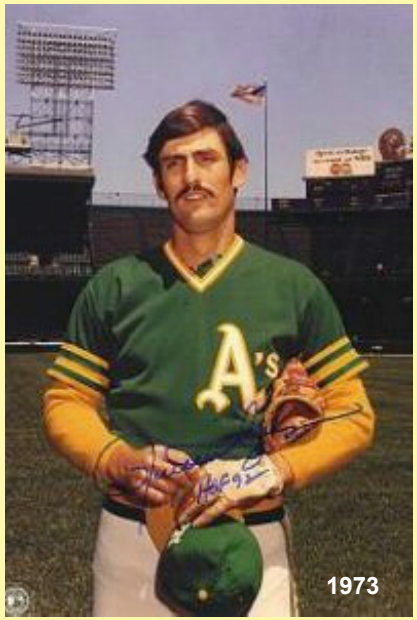
This publication has been improved over the years because readers write to share with me things they remember about teams' uniforms from decades ago. Sometimes I can find photos to back up the claims, other times not. But the mystery of the numbers on the front of Oakland Athletics 1972 jerseys of all three colors came up just after the release of the Seventh Edition of this guide. "I don't think the A's wore numbers all season on their 1972 jerseys" challenged reader Scott Johnston. Well, I knew they certainly wore them in the World Series. There are lots of photos of those games. But some 53 years later finding "every-day" news photographs from that era is not always easy. Scott shared this photo from the 1972 All-Star Game posted on Uni-Watch, proving that at mid-season the A's players were not wearing front numbers. Referring to a film of the event he had seen he said, "There were other A's on the team too, and they wore green jerseys, also without the front numbers."

We've since learned from long time A's equipment manager Steve Vucinich that the front numbers were added to all three styles of team jerseys after the All-Star break. We now have photo proof ***(below)*** that the front numbers remained in 1973 Spring Training.

And then…?

I have long wondered what happened to the front-numbered 1972 A's jerseys, those without the center flourish on the "A." The sidebar helps explain why there seem to be so few in the hobby. I suspect the odd Expos-style numbers were removed and most of the jerseys recycled into 1973. For one more word on this topic, see the page on the 1974 World Series near the end of this chapter.





The A's 'Go Green':
Recycling, 1973 Style

Some (or perhaps many) of the 1972 green, and gold with white lettering game jerseys were recycled into 1973.

Looking at game photos from the 1973 season, some players on the field have green jerseys with the 1972 style *"A"* on the front ***(left)***, one which is missing the center serif "flourish" seen on jerseys from 1973 and later. It is likely that returning players who had not abused their 1972 jerseys were reissued them again in 1973, albeit with the front numbers stripped off.

1973 Spring Training

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1973-1981* Home

For 1973 the front numbers disappear again from the jersey, and the "A" now includes a third brush stroke serif on the left side. Everything else stays the same. Still mostly worn for Sunday home games through 1980. Two-color McAuliffe A's Varsity numbers on back gold/green. One-color names in green, sewn straight across the back, with no curve, no nameplates. This style was used as the full time home jersey in 1981, the final year of its use.

* The Baseball Hall of Fame "Dressed to the Nines" database lists this jersey as an available alternate jersey choice for the team through the 1984 season. However, I have not been able to locate game photos of it in use after 1981, nor have I ever come across a jersey of this style tagged later than 1982. Some experts believe that the 1982-tagged set was created but never used by the team. I would welcome information from collectors that document the use of this jersey after 1981.

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1973-1981* Home, continued

Todd Walker Collection

1977

1976

1979

1973

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1973-1980* Alternate Green

1976 with sleeve patch removed

1973

This jersey is different from the 1972 style in that it has no numbers on the front. Back uses A's Varsity two-color white/gold numbers on the back, one-color (white) names sewn straight across the upper back without a curve. The "A" is taller too. In all cases, there are three gold stripes on the sleeve ends of green game jerseys. Similar-looking green batting practice jerseys from later in the era have only two sleeve-end stripes.

1976

* The Baseball Hall of Fame "Dressed to the Nines" database lists this jersey as an available alternate jersey choice for the team through the 1982 season. However I have not been able to locate game photos of it in use after after 1980, nor have I come across any examples tagged beyond that year. I would welcome information from collectors that document the use of this jersey after 1980.

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1973-1980* Alternate Green, continued

1976

Derek Teets Collection

1973

1974

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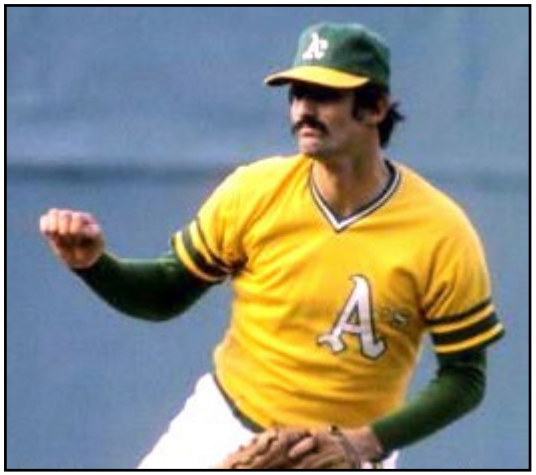
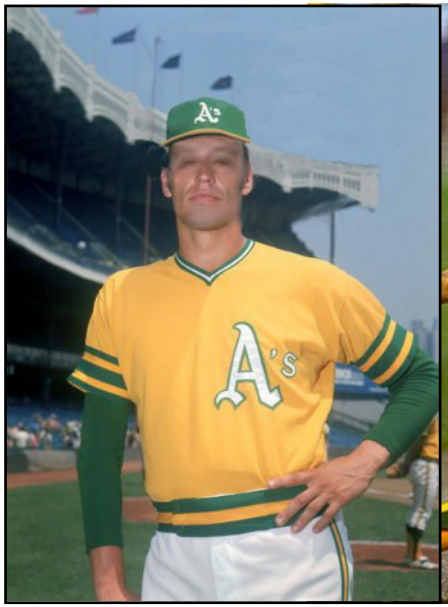
1973 Alternate Gold (White “A”)



- There were two styles of gold jerseys worn by the A’s in 1973. This version matches the same style as worn in the previous year, white lettering edged in green. Notice the “A” on the front, it lacks the center serif (or center brushstroke flourish) that appears on the newly introduced 1973 white, gold, and green jerseys. On the next page you will see the new style of gold jersey with green/white logo and lettering, newly introduced for 1973. I still have never seen a 1973 year-tagged jersey in this style.
- Examining game photos from the 1973 season leads me to conclude that these likely are actually the set of 1972 jerseys, simply with their front numbers removed. I would conclude that this style of jersey was worn far less often in 1973 than the ones on the next page, judging only from the imbalance of existing game photos depicting this style in use.
- These white-lettered jerseys today are ultra rare, and the few that survive probably change hands privately among the select few who covet them. Given that the A’s won the World Series wearing these in Game 7 the prior year, one might expect at least some “common” original examples to have been preserved. However, it is likely that the entire set was sent to the minor leagues and used until worn out and discarded. In those years game jerseys did not yet carry the broad collector interest or cachet they hold today.



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1973 Alternate Gold (Green "A")/1974-1980 Alternate Gold

Two-color A's style McAuliffe Varsity numbers on back only, green/white. These jerseys feature three green stripes on the sleeve ends. Also note that the "A" on the front has three serifs (or flourishes) on the left side. Player names were sewn straight across the shoulders without an arch.

1975

Dave Olsen Collection

1980

Steve Kraljic Collection

1977

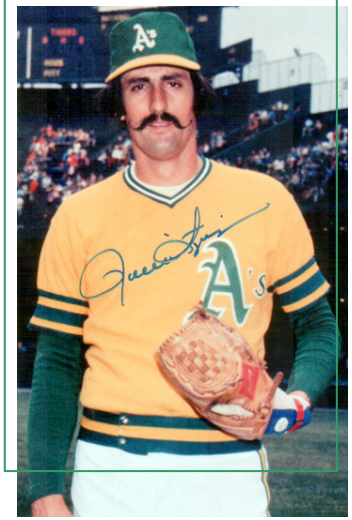
© GameWornGuides.com

1973 Alternate Gold (Green "A")/1974-1980 Alternate Gold, continued

1979

1973

1977



1980

1979

1976

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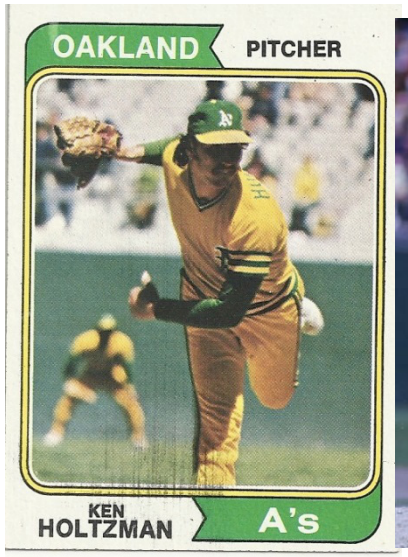
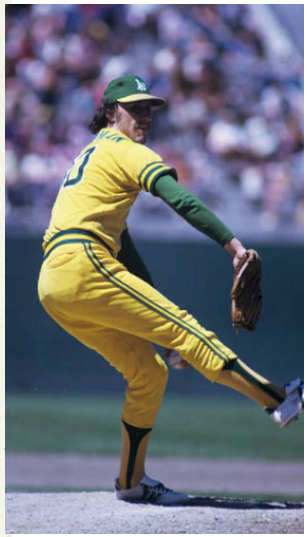
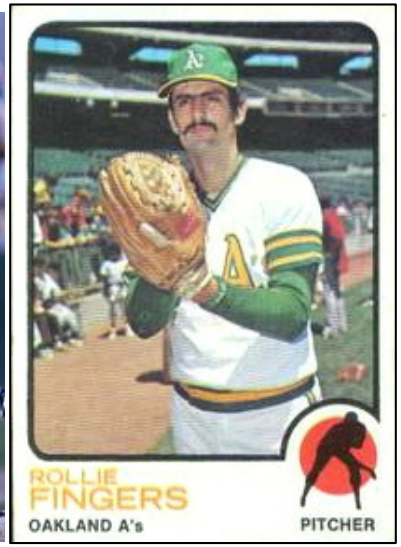
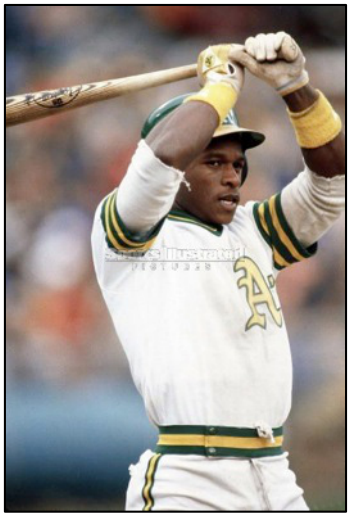
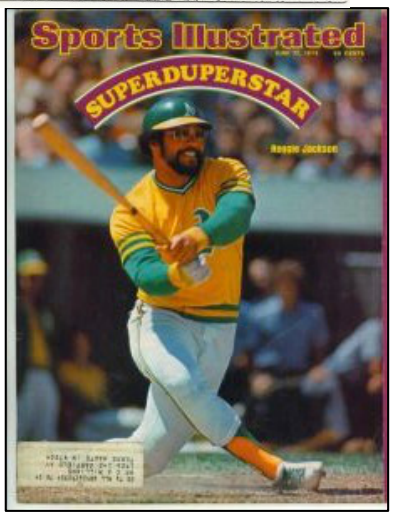
1970s A's "Mix-and-Match"

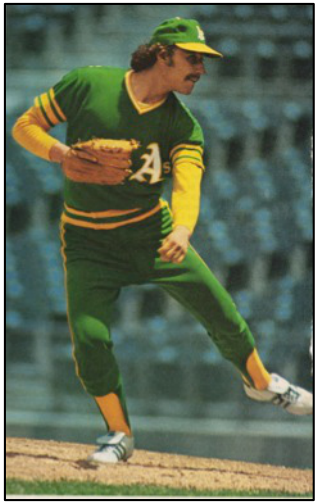


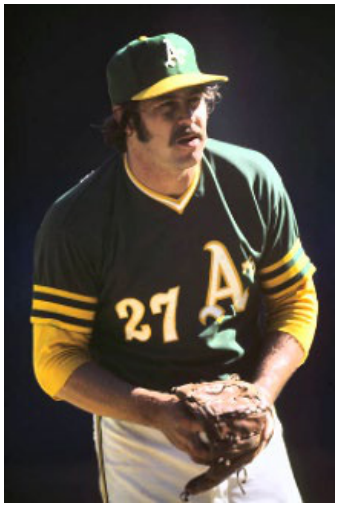












Although the term "Mix-and-Match" is commonly associated with the 1977–1980 Pirates, the A's embraced this concept as early as 1972. With at least three jersey colors and a trio of distinct pant colors to choose from during most of the 1970s, the Athletics engaged in mix-and-match combinations from time to time. Other combinations may have existed, but these are the only ones documented in my archive.

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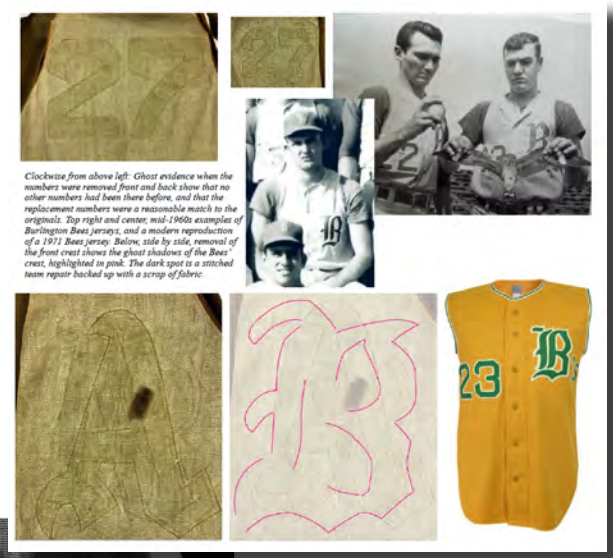
Athletics Jerseys Sent to the Minor Leagues

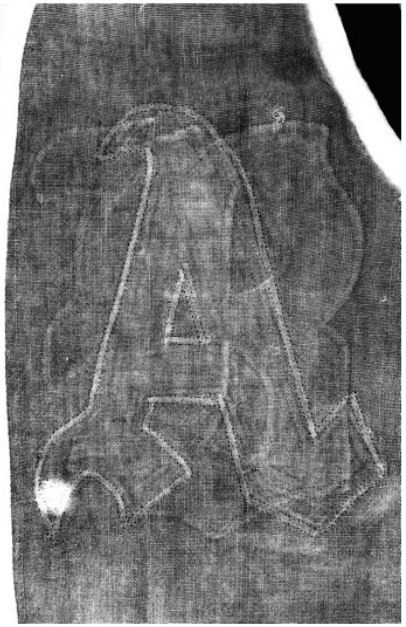
Burlington Bees

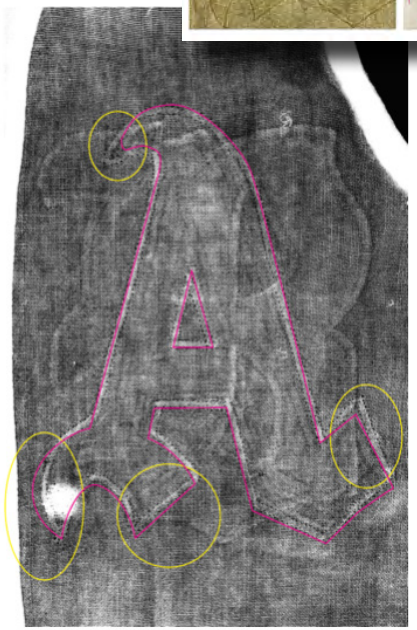


Clockwise from above left: Ghost evidence when the numbers were removed front and back show that no other numbers had been there before, and that the replacement numbers were a reasonable match to the originals. Top right and center, mid-1960s examples of Burlington Bees jerseys, and a modern reproduction of a 1971 Bees jersey. Below, side by side, removal of the front crest shows the ghost shadows of the Bees' crest, highlighted in pink. The dark spot is a stitched team repair backed up with a scrap of fabric.

The A's were remarkably frugal—even compared to other cost-conscious teams. It was not uncommon for the team to re-use jerseys at the MLB level for several years, either as a spare or backup for the same player from the previous year, or re-lettered for newly acquired players. Compared to many other teams, the Athletics have a modest minor league system typically consisting of four or five affiliates as a part of the family. Of these teams many were named "A's," just like the parent club, so they could use the A's MLB uniforms by simply removing the player names from the back. Nearly every A's uniform from the 1970s through the mid-1980s was, in my experience, sent to the minors for extensive reuse. For those jerseys where "OAKLAND" was sewn on the front, this re-use was far less common. I have yet to encounter any jerseys stripped of an "OAKLAND" wordmark and re-lettered for something else.

One team that received a fair number of hand-me-downs in the A's farm system was the Burlington Bees. I have restored a number of Athletics flannels that once had the Burlington Gothic-B on the chest. Click on the image below to read my writeup of the restoration of one that had been issued first to future Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson!





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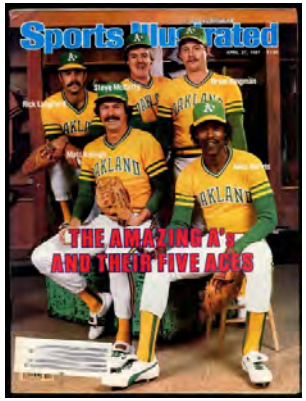
1981 Road



1981 gold jerseys dropped the prominent capital "A" from 1980 and gained this vertically arched "OAKLAND" wordmark. Note the three sleeve stripes. The "Dressed to the Nines" database incorrectly shows the 1981's with two stripes—a detail also incorrectly depicted in earlier editions of this guide. Only the 1981 examples of this jersey style used Kelly green lettering, while the team's other uniform styles transitioned to a darker green. In 1982 the gold jersey also transitions to darker green lettering. It appears that both Rawlings ***(above left)*** and McAuliffe ***(above right)*** provided a set of these jerseys to the team in 1981. Note that each manufacturer used its own distinct 'house' number font. This style was used as the full time road jersey in 1981.

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1982* Home/1983-1984 Alternate Home

On this style jersey the numbers switch to Wilson's Varsity Standard style. Numbers on back only, green/gold. Knit sleeve ends are three stripes: green/gold/green. One-color names in green, sewn straight across the back without an arch. Primary home jersey for 1982, and a home alternate in 1983–1984.

**The extensive Baseball Hall of Fame "Dressed to the Nines" database shows this style as starting 1981, however I have never come across 1981 year-tagged jerseys or game photos in all my years of collecting. This style likely actually started with 1982.*

Left: *Most jerseys we have come across in this style were made by Wilson, but this well-worn 1982 example at right has Sand Knit team tagging. Not surprisingly, note the use of Sand Knit Varsity numbers. This is the only Sand-Knit example we've encountered*

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1982* Home/1983-1984 Alternate Home, continued

1982

1982

1983

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1982-1984 Road

The Hall of Fame's "Dressed to the Nines" database and prior editions of this book lists this jersey style as beginning in 1981, though evidence indicates it was actually introduced in 1982. Two-color dark green/gold OAKLAND on the front. Sleeve and collar trim is thin green/gold/green, narrower than prior years' jersey designs. I believe that these gray jerseys are made exclusively by Sand-Knit. Only this gray jersey features two-color Block numbers with serifs; sewn on back only, green/gold. One-color names in green, in Sand-Knit Block usually sewn straight across with no curve. The 1982 tagged Underwood jersey ***(bottom right)*** and Lopes jersey ***(bottom left)*** have exaggerated curved names, the only ones like them I have seen. Most likely done on the whim of the seamstress and not because any rule was being followed.

Dark green replaced Kelly green in the team's color palette beginning in 1982.

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1982, 1985-1986 Alternate/1983-1984 Alternate Gold

Two-color green/white Oakland on the front, green/gold/green sleeve and collar trim.

Two-color Block numbers on back only, green/white

One-color names in green, sewn straight across the back with no curve.

Both Rawlings and Sand-Knit made sets of gold jerseys in 1986, each using its own distinct font styles.

Bill Henderson Collection

Chip Allgrove Collection

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1983-1984 Alternate Green/1985-1986 Road

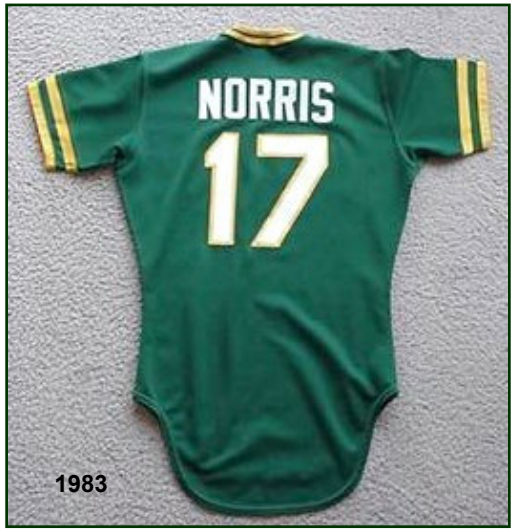
A darker green replaces the previously used Kelly green in the team's color palette.

Two-color white/gold Oakland vertically arched on the front, Gold/green/gold sleeve and collar trim.

Worn as an alternate jersey 1983–1984, then as the primary road jersey 1985–1986.after the gray jersey is dropped.

Two-color Block numbers on back only, white/gold.

One-color names in white, sewn straight across the back without an arch.



The jersey directly above is made by Sand-Knit. A skilled observer can identify it by the style of the back numbers (and, under very close examination, the name on the back as well), which use Sand-Knit's own variant—slightly different from all the Rawlings jerseys shown on this page.

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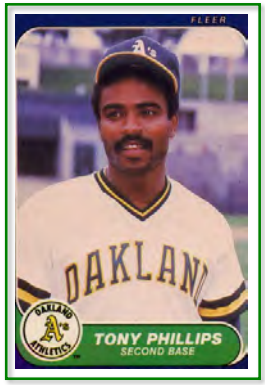
1983-1986 Home

According to my research, these jerseys debuted in 1983—conflicting with the Hall of Fame's 'Dressed to the Nines' database, which lists 1986 as their first year.

White jersey body with green/gold/green sleeve and collar trim. It's rare for a home jersey to display the city name instead of the team name—a notable design quirk. The 2009–2019 Texas Rangers' jerseys are another rare example. Two-color Block numbers on back only, green/gold. One-color names in green, sewn straight across the back with no arch.



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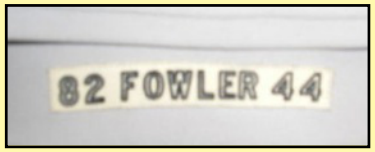
1972-1986 Athletics Team Tagging

McAuliffe was the exclusive maker of A's jerseys 1972–1980. Four tags are clustered, seemingly in whatever order the seamstress desired that day. Tags are usually on the center of the front tail, sometimes outside and sometimes inside the garment.

** Previously I have said I have never seen a credible 1982 year tagged McAuliffe A's jersey. This tag is from a photo of a Billy Martin-lettered size 38 Wedding Gown White jersey that may be a sample, in my judgment. I share this here for information only should another example surface.*

Wilson contributed the A's button-front alternate white jersey from 1981–1984

Sand-Knit contributed a few jersey styles in the 1981–1986 timeframe. Sand-Knit jerseys are tagged with a strip in the inside back tail, and have the "Exclusively for the Oakland Athletics" tag on the outside front tail.



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1987-1992 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

1987

1990
World Series

1987

1990

Scott Jackson Collection

Athletics scripted across the front with an underline. The 'A' in 'Athletics' features only top and bottom serifs, omitting the central brushstroke serif.

Two-color front numbers return. back and front numbers are Block.

Name on back is on a plate, one-color green, 1987–1992.

Patch style combinations are many; often, one can tell the year of an A's jersey simply by glancing at the sleeves.

Elephant sleeve patch used 1988–1992; has green elephant-on-ball, with green A and yellow field.

1992

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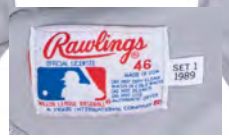
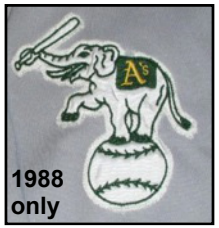
1987-1992 Road



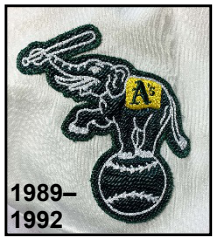
1989

1987

1989 World Series only black arm-band



1988 only



1989–1992

1990 World Series

Bill Henderson Collection

Identify by the open, round “O” in Oakland, with no loop inside. Two-color numbers on front and back, green/gold. Front numbers are very tall, with extra wide outlines. One-color green names on nameplates. Sleeve patches vary by year. In 1987, an All-Star patch appears on the sleeve; in 1988, only the white elephant-on-ball patch is used. From 1989–1992, the team adopts the green elephant-on-ball patch with green ‘A’ on a yellow field.

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1993-2023 Home

1993

1993

A very subtle change for 1993, the "A" in "Athletics" gains a third serif (or brushstroke). Elephant sleeve patch changes styles in 1995. 1997 and 2000 jerseys have anniversary patches instead of the standard team patch.

Names on back change to two-color—matching the numbers—and use nameplates from 1993–2009—then no nameplates starting in 2010. Made by Russell 1993–1999; Rawlings 2000–2002; Majestic 2003–2019; Nike 2020–2023.

1994

Sleeve patch used only 1993–1994

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1993-2023 Home, continued

1997

2003

Chip Allgrove collection

2000

2001

Bill Henderson Collection

Sleeve patch 1995–2023, (except 1997 and 2000); yellow A on a white field

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1993-2023 Home, continued

Note the change in style code from FZHH for Majestic to FZ1H for Nike.

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The Athletics' Changing Color Palette

Everyone thinks of "green and gold" when they imagine the A's uniforms. This unique MLB color scheme has been the team's trademark since 1963 when the team was located in Kansas City. The team brought the colors with them to Oakland in 1968 and have used them ever since. Careful observers may notice that the shades of green and gold have evolved over time.

Greens: The original bright Kelly green lettering changed to dark green in 1982, then to a green hue with a high blue content used for a few years in the early-to-mid 1990s, a color I cannot find reproduced for lettering twill today. They returned to dark green again in the 1990s. Around 2016 they changed it again to "Packer Green", a very dark shade with a high percentage of black mixed in—yes, the same shade used by the Green Bay Packers. Oddly, along with this change to a darker green for team lettering in 2018, they simultaneously introduced a Kelly green-bodied alternate jersey.

Golds: The shades of gold used by the team for their lettering have changed over the years, too. Liebe/Webster "Gold" was used through 1991. From 1992–2002, the team switched to a new shade named, appropriately, "Oakland Gold" which adds a bit of red. Its RGB code places it in the "orange" family. Gold is switched back to the old lighter shade when Majestic takes over in 2003. Starting in 2024, new Nike fabrics are used which do not precisely match the legacy colors.

#007444
0, 116, 68

"Kelly Green", used 1963–1981

#1D593B
29, 89, 59

"Dark Green", used 1982–1991, then again 1997–2015

#005B59
0, 91, 89

Dark bluish-green, used on Russell jerseys, 1992–1996

#00402C
0, 64, 44

"Packer Green", used 2016–2023

#F1B407
241, 180, 7

"Gold", used 1963–1991, 2003–2023

#FFA200
255, 162, 0

"Oakland Gold", used 1992–2002

The swatches above were generated by scanning the actual tackle twill lettering used on A's jerseys using a NIX color sensor. The top number in each set is a numeric hex code that represents the formulation. Below, each set of three numbers separated by commas is that color's RGB code—red, green, blue. Entering these codes into a graphics program (like Adobe Illustrator or Photoshop) will reproduce these scanned swatches.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993-2023 Road

1998

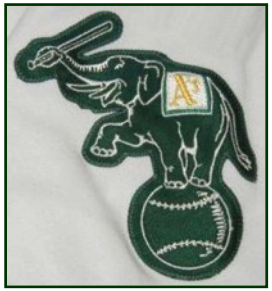
Bill Henderson Collection

2012

2000

1994

1993–1994 Only


1995–2023 (except 2000)

A minor change is the addition of a loop inside the "O" in 'Oakland,' helping to distinguish this version. The color of the jersey fabric changes slightly, becomes a slightly purplish gray instead of the earlier greenish-gray.

Now two-color numbers and names, green/gold, Nameplates used 1993–2009, then eliminated. Front numbers very tall with extra-thick outlines.

Sleeve patch of elephant with crossed bats in his trunk used in 1993–1994 only. Replaced by standing elephant 1995–2023, like the one used prior to 1992, except now the "A's" banner on his back is yellow on a white field. Used except in years when a commemorative sleeve patch was used in its place (see Patches page).

Made by Russell 1993–1999; Rawlings 2000–2002; Majestic 2003–2019; Nike 2020–2023.

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1993-2023 Road, continued

2003

2015

2019

2022

Note the change in style code from FZRR for Majestic to FZ2R for Nike.

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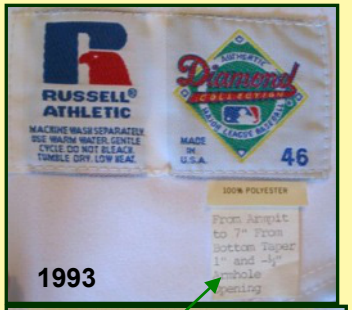
1983-1993 Athletics Team Tagging

Rawlings began supplying jerseys to the A's in 1981 and was the team's primary provider from 1985 to 1991. Rawlings jerseys typically tagged on the inside front tail.

Russell takes over, as it becomes official supplier to MLB in 1992, and the Athletics stay with Russell exclusively through the end of 1999. Russell jerseys seem to be devoid of any team/year/set or player name/number tagging, featuring only special tailoring tags ***(bottom right)***. Russell tags are on the outside front tail. Russell team-issued jerseys have no tab tags in the back of the neck, and instead place them below the jock tag on the front tail.



1992–1999: No year tagging, just tailoring instructions

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1994-1999 Alternate

Steve Kraljic Collection

1994

1995

Button front, solid, non-mesh fabric. Used from 1994 to 1999, this version did not feature front numbers. Elephant-with-sunglasses patch on sleeve. All lettering two-color gold/white. Names on green nameplates used.

1997

1999

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2001, 2008-2013 Alternate Green/2002-2007 Alternate

2001

Patch on left: 2000–2003. Patch on right: 2004–2013.

This version retained the same design as the 1994–1999 edition—a button-front jersey made of solid, non-mesh fabric Numbers added to front in 2000 and MLB logo appears on the back of the collar. Rawlings becomes the team's supplier for three seasons (2000–2002) and jerseys are date tagged by Rawlings. Majestic takes over for 2003 and continues year tagging. Elephant-with-sunglasses sleeve patch continues through 2003, then is replaced by the green elephant-on-ball for 2004–2013. All lettering two-color gold/white. Names on nameplates used through 2009; starting 2010, NOBs are direct-stitched without nameplates. In 2000, it is is barely worn—if at all—having been functionally replaced by the short-lived black alternate. In 2001 it returns as the primary alternate, used both home and away.

2003

2010

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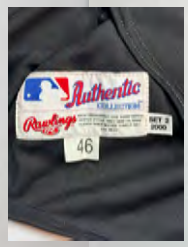
2000-2001* Alternate Black

Steve Kraljic Collection



It seems that between 1998 and 2000, half the teams in baseball experimented with black: adding a black alternate jersey or adding black drop shadowing to their team script or player names/numbers. The Athletics succumbed to the trend for 2000, launching a black alternate jersey with two color green/white numbers and name. Player names were arched in standard style across the back. This jersey displaced the green jersey as the main alternate for most—if not all—of 2000, before being unofficially retired at the end of the season.

** Although the official MLB Style Guide lists this black alternate as available from 2000-2005, it was only worn on the field in 2000, and while we have now seen at least a few examples team tagged for 2001* ***(right)*** *we do not believe the team issued these to players or used them on field in 2001 or after. This style remained available as a retail 'Authentic' item for several years.*

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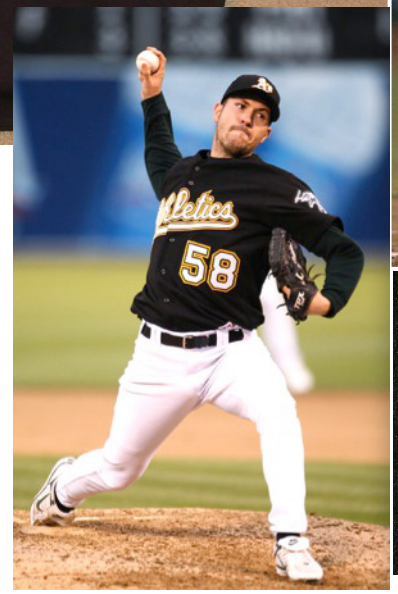
2008-2010 Alternate Home Black

Bill Henderson Collection



The black alternate is reintroduced and redesigned for 2008, becoming a home jersey option. All lettering—team script, player name, and number—are switched to three-color white/green/gold. Note the narrow green outline and the unusually wide gold outline. Elephant-on-ball patch matches that used on other team jerseys—green and white. These were supplied to the team in both full-weight knit and Cool Base fabric.

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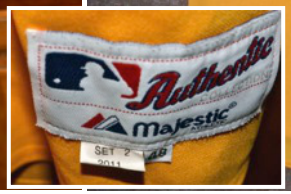
2011-2024* Alternate Home Gold



For the first time since 1986, the Athletics have a gold jersey in their lineup for 2011. It features the green-and-white "A's" logo, last seen on a regular game jersey in 1980. This Cool Base jersey features front-placket and sleeve-end trim in white and green. The green 'Elephant on a Ball' patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Initially worn only at home, the A's began wearing these gold alternates for some road games in June 2011—likely for good luck, as they had been winning in them at home. By 2012, the jersey reverts back to its originally intended home-only status and continues as such for the rest of its run. No nameplates are used on these jerseys. Our research shows some players had these issued in full-weight fabric.

** While this jersey remains included in the official MLB style guide through 2024, our sources tell us that these were not issued to players after 2018, being functionally replaced by the Kelly green alternates.*

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2011-2024* Alternate Home Gold, continued

2015

2017

Note: Although these jerseys remain listed as an alternate through 2024 in the MLB Style Guide, they have not been worn on-field since 2018, it does not appear any Nike versions were made for team use from 2020–2024. If any surface, they will be documented in future editions of this guide.

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2014-2021 Alternate Green

After a 20-year run, the A's update their green jersey, creating a version that stylistically matches the gold alternate introduced in 2011. It has white lettering outlined with gold on all adornment and has gold/white/gold knit braid trim on the placket, collar, and sleeve ends. The style recalls the popular green pullover alternate worn by the club from 1973–1980. Numbers appear on the back only, in a bold version of Block. Player names sewn without nameplates. The green elephant-on-ball patch is on the left sleeve. The style is worn for both select home and road games. Nike takes over manufacturing in 2020. The jersey is discontinued after 2021.

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2014-2021 Alternate Green, continued

2019

Note the change in style code from FZA3 for Majestic to FZ33 for Nike.

2021

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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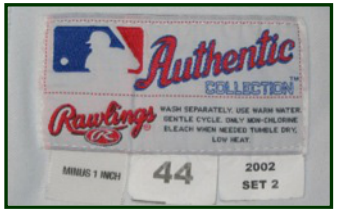
2000-2015 Athletics Team Tagging



Rawlings tags: inside the garment.

Majestic tags: outside the garment.

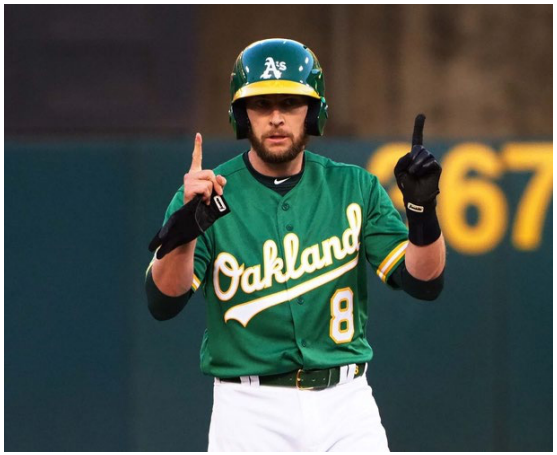
- No set and year tagging used 1994–1999.
- Rawlings resumes its role as exclusive team supplier 2000–2002. Rawlings team tags are found inside the left front shirt tail.
- Majestic takes over for 2003–2015. Majestic tags are found on the outside left front tail.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018-2019 Alternate Home Kelly Green/ 2020-2023 Alternate Kelly Green

Bill Henderson Collection

The A's abandoned Kelly green in the early 1980s, but it returns to their lineup in 2018 for these Flex Base alternates. This new addition features all lettering in white/gold, including the familiar 'Oakland' road script. Player names, along with front and back numbers, appear in bold block font. Wide gold/white/gold trim encircles both sleeve openings. The 2018 version sports the Kelly green version of the A's anniversary patch on the right sleeve. In 2019, the A's "Elephant-on-Ball" patch appears on the left sleeve, with the MLB 150 patch on the right. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020. Note the change in style code from FZA4 for Majestic to FZ34 for Nike.



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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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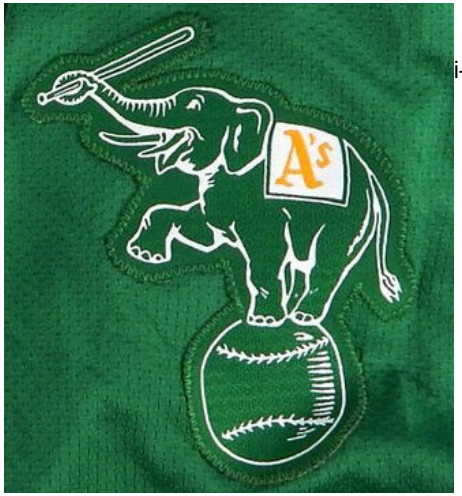
2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Athletics clean, classic home jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Front numbers are also scaled down and move closer to the team script. The narrower placket on VPE jerseys also makes the team script break in a different, and more awkward location than before. The Elephant-on-Ball patch returns, varying in sleeve placement depending on the handedness of each player, despite the team not having an ad patch. The patch is now thinner and more flexible than before as well. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering, more research is required.



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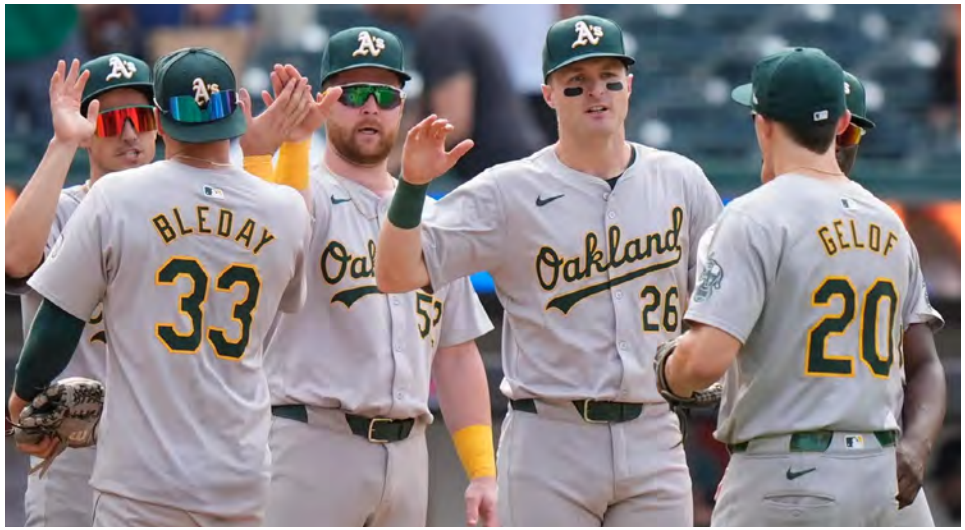
2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Athletics clean, classic road jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Front numbers are also scaled down and move closer to the team script. The narrower placket on VPE jerseys also makes the team script break in a different, and more awkward location than before. The Elephant-on-Ball patch returns, varying in sleeve placement depending on the handedness of each player, despite the team not having an ad patch. The patch is now thinner and more flexible than before as well. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering; more research is required.



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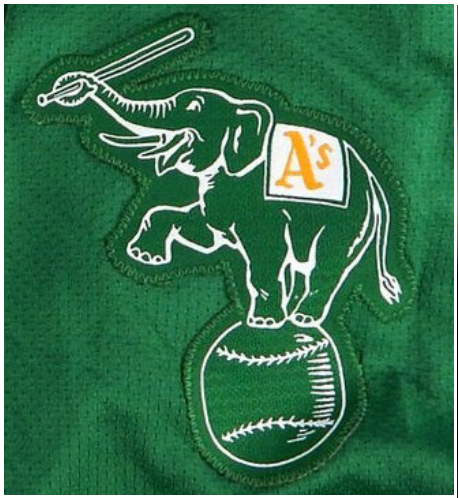
2024 Alternate Kelly Green

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Athletics Kelly green alternate jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Front numbers are also scaled down and move closer to the team script. The A's opt for perforated front and back numbering on this jersey. The narrower placket on VPE jerseys also makes the team script break in a different, and more awkward location than before. Sleeve-end trip moves from being a sewn-on braid to a sewn-in trim, and becomes slightly narrower as a result. The Elephant-on-Ball patch returns, varying in sleeve placement depending on the handedness of each player, despite the team not having an ad patch. The patch is now thinner and more flexible than before as well. Note the change in style code from FZ34 on the Nike Flex Base template to FZA1 on the VPE.



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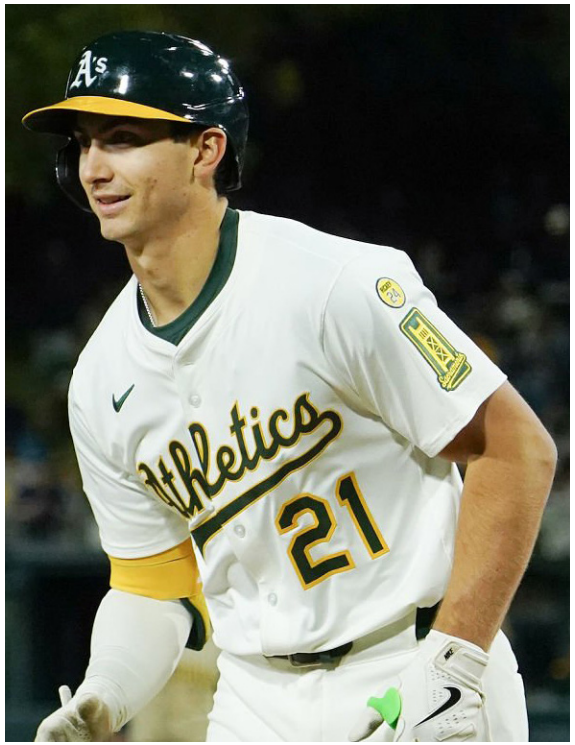
2025 Home



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and all numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels. The Athletics' 2025 jerseys have the Rickey Henderson memorial patch and Sacramento patch on one sleeve, and a sponsor patch on the opposite sleeve. Patch locations vary based on player handedness.. The jersey also features the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag used on a handful of jerseys around MLB. Otherwise, these remain the same as in 2024.

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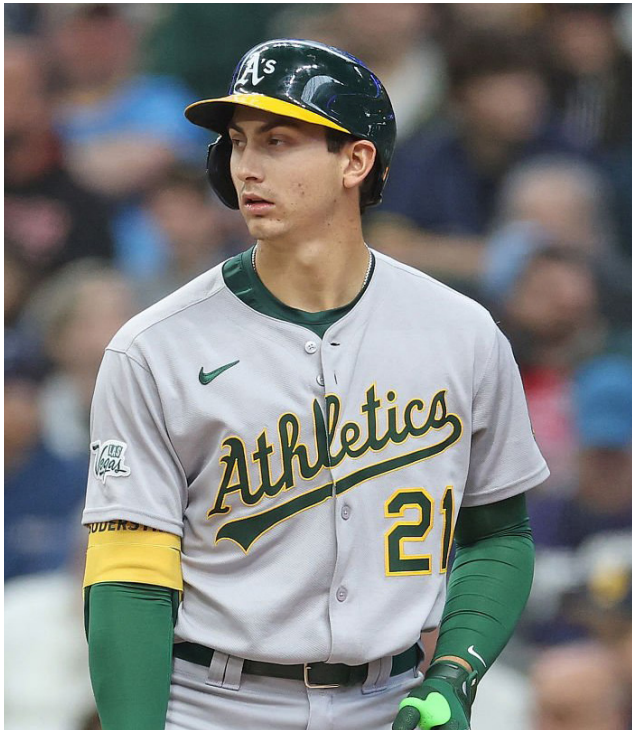
2025 Road



With their temporary move to Sacramento, the A's drop all references to Oakland from their uniforms, so their road jerseys switch to read simply "Athletics." Otherwise, the 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or "Air Belt" back panel). Also, unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. Since this is still the VPE template, the placket is smaller than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together as it did in 2024, rather than how it appeared in 2025. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The Athletics' 2025 jerseys have the Rickey Henderson memorial patch and Sacramento patch on one sleeve, and a sponsor patch on the opposite sleeve. Patch locations vary based on player handedness.

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2025 Alternate Gold

As far as our research can tell, the A's last wore their gold alternate jerseys in 2018, though the style remained in the MLB Style Guide through the 2024 season. Upon the club's temporary move to Sacramento, during which all references to "Oakland" were scrubbed from their uniforms, the team resurrects the gold alternate for 2025. Overall, it is the same jersey as last seen in 2018 applied to the 2025 version of Nike's VPE template. As such, aside from a few minor details, it is almost identical to how it last appeared. Changes include the lower MLB logo on back neck, and with VPE's narrower placket, the front knit trim is a little closer together than before. The neck and placket trim is slightly different too, with the bands of white/green/white about equal in width, where the green band was wider before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on it, so it appears right at the end of the sleeve instead of slightly above the end as in the last iteration. The Athletics' 2025 jerseys have the Rickey Henderson memorial patch and Sacramento patch on one sleeve, and a sponsor patch on the opposite sleeve. Patch locations vary based on player handedness.

Left: *A 2017 Flex Base version of this style for comparison.*

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2025 Alternate Kelly Green

With their temporary move to Sacramento, the A's drop all references to Oakland from their uniforms, so their Kelly green jerseys switch to read simply "Athletics." Otherwise, the 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and all numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. The Athletics' 2025 jerseys have the Rickey Henderson memorial patch and Sacramento patch on one sleeve, and a sponsor patch on the opposite sleeve. Patch locations vary based on player handedness.

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Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1975-1977 Green and Gold Warmup Pullovers

Team warm-ups were a new concept in the mid-1970s; very few teams had them. This pullover with a wide elastic waistband might have been made from a cut-down game jersey, and I have no photos of players wearing one. But the McAuliffe tag set was purposely sewn inside the waistband. Examples shown from our archives are tagged 1977 (green) and 1975 (gold), both worn by A's trainer, Joe Romo.

1976 photo of Joe Romo, A's trainer, wearing green warmup pullover. Note 1976 Liberty Bell Bicentennial patch on left sleeve.

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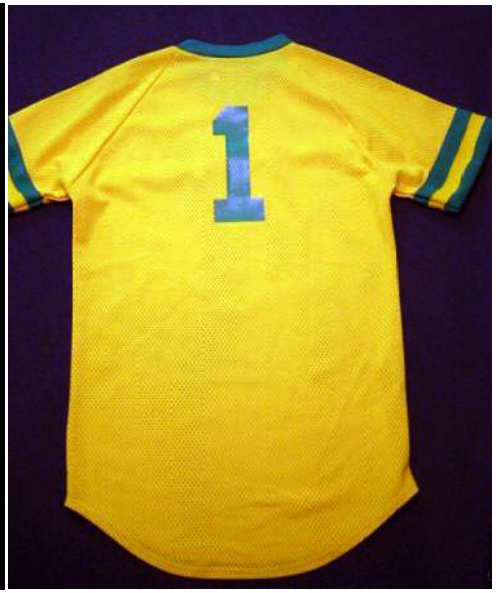
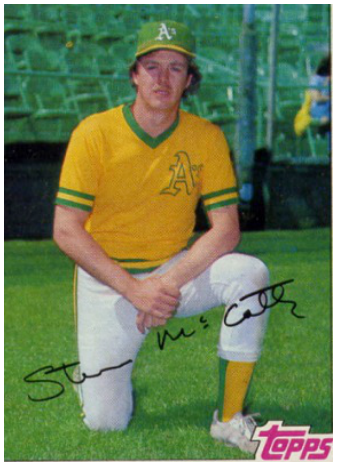
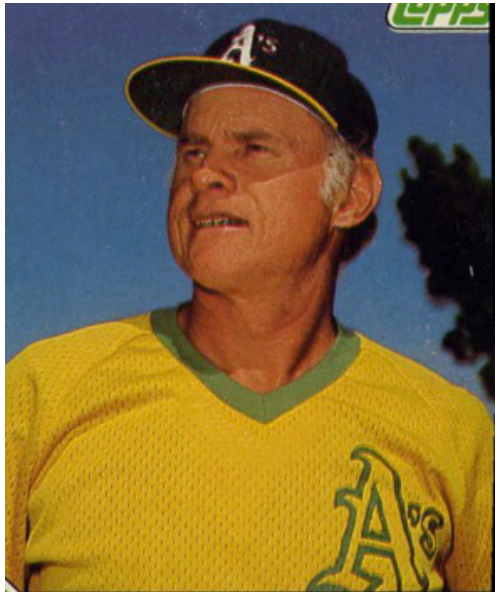
1980-1982 Gold Batting Practice (Hollow “A”)







- Gold mesh with screen-printed green-outlined hollow A’s logo; these may have been Spring Training issue only.
- Alpha Sportswear, Inc. is the manufacturer, also made a similar style of BP jersey for the Giants around the same time. Not terribly good quality.
- Green/gold/green sleeve stripes, green V-neck trim.
- Heavy vinyl numbers on the back are heat-pressed on, not sewn.

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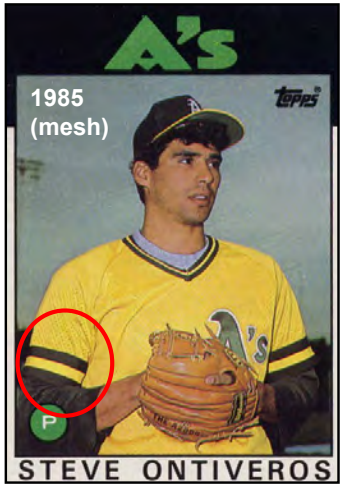
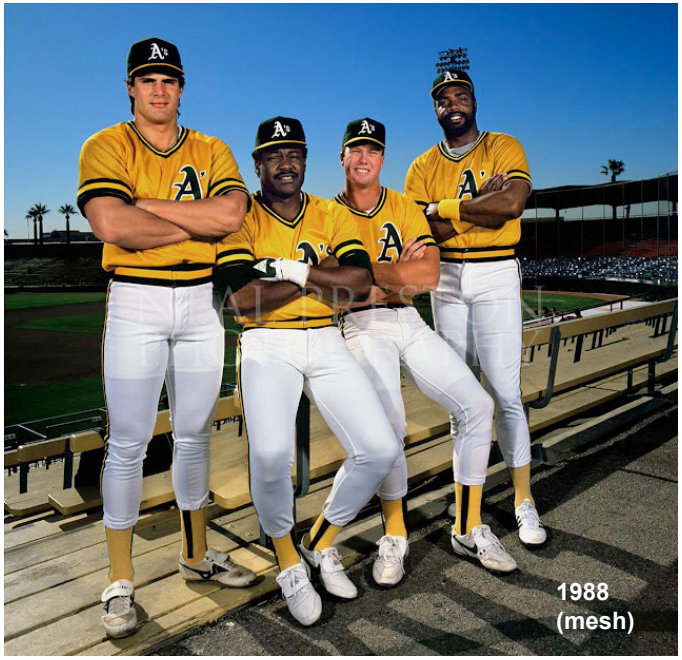
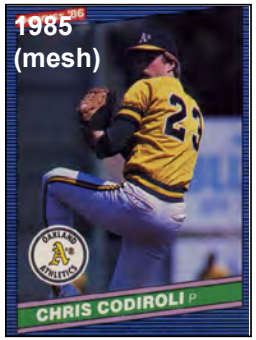
1980-1994 Gold Batting Practice (Green "A")





Early variant ***(top left, bottom right)*** is mesh only, has thick green/white/gold sleeve striping and neck trim (1980–1982). More common style ***(above left, near right)*** has green/gold/green neck trim and thick sleeve striping and is seen in both mesh and solid fabric. Alpha-made jerseys ***(above)*** are mesh, have a large "A's" logo on front, a rounded V-neck collar, and use an Alpha house-version of Varsity font. Eariler Majestic versions ***(top right)*** are solid lightweight fabric, have a smaller "A," a very pointed V-neck collar, and use a different number font (note very odd #5). All versions are tackle twill-lettered, not screened on. BP jerseys were not carefully controlled in this era; it's very likely multiple styles were worn on the field at the same time.



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1980-1994 Gold Batting Practice (Green "A"), continued

Rawlings (solid)

By the mid-to-late 1980s, gold BP jerseys are supplied by Rawlings and Majestic, joined by Russell in the early 1990s. Both solid and mesh fabrics are used. Rawlings jerseys have narrower sleeve stripes compared to Majestic and Russell ***(bottom right)***. Majestic solid fabric jerseys have a pointed V-neck compared to Rawlings and Russell rounder versions. All versions are tackle twill-lettered, not screened on.

On Rawlings jerseys ***(top left, top right)***, two-color Block with Serif numbers in two-color green/white. 1992 Russell mesh jersey ***(bottom left)*** uses two-color Varsity numbers on back. 1992 solid-fabric Majestic jersey ***(below)*** uses Majestic's house Varsity number font. All of versions are lettered with tackle twill and not screened on. Typical of many teams in this era, BP jersey consistency was an afterthought.

1990 Rawlings (mesh)

1992 Russell (mesh)

1992 Majestic (solid)

Above: *Note the difference in greens and stripe width used by Rawlings (top) and Majestic (bottom).*

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1986-1994 Gold Batting Practice (White "A")

Steve Kraljic Collection

- Majestic made. Tagging style dates these back to at least 1986.
- Solid lightweight fabric construction, not mesh. Note the very pointed V-neck design.
- Numbers use Majestic's in-house Varsity style.
- Sewn-on tackle twill, not screened-on.

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1984-1992 Green Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic Collection

This style is seen in both mesh and solid fabric. Made by Majestic, Alpha, Rawlings, and Russell. These look similar to the regular 1972–1980 game jersey, except there are no names on back and only two gold sleeve stripes (not three) and the sleeve stripes are narrower.

1989 Rawlings ***(top left)*** and 1992 Russell ***(bottom left)*** both use two-color Block bold with Serifs on back only–white/gold. Majestic uses their house Varsity number font. Apparently, the team did not care, allowing each manufacturer to use their own fonts.

Rawlings jerseys have narrower sleeve stripes compared to Majestic and Russell versions. Majestic solid fabric jerseys tend to have a more pointed V-neck compared to Rawlings and Russell versions.These are also used in Spring Training.

Above: *This baseball card shows what is probably a Majestic version of the BP jersey with very wide knit trim/sleeve stripes.*

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Batting Practice — Modesto Minor League

These are shared here only because there are so many of them floating around. The A's minor league affiliates often use uniforms that very closely copy the look of the MLB club. They are often made by the same manufacturers with similar tagging. Details of the jersey trim, team logo and the fonts of numbers used on them differ from the big-league club's. When offered for sale, they are often claimed to be game-used MLB jerseys.

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1993-2002 Batting Practice

1993–1994

1997

1995–2001

- Green mesh pullover, matches the home alternate uniform in design.
- It features numbers only—no names on the back—in two-color gold/white.
- The sleeve patch varies by year.
- Elephant-with-crossed-bats patch was used from 1993–1994, while Elephant wearing sun-glasses appeared from 1995–2002

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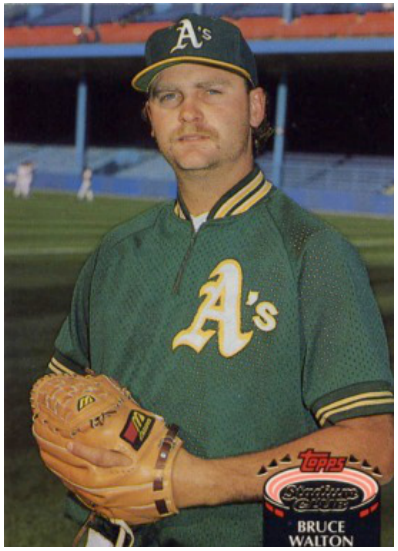
Early 1990s-2000 (or later) Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck



1991–1992

Here are three different examples of zip-neck Majestic "*Gamewarmer*" jerseys. These were released in the early- to mid-1990s, and while we have found at least one game-worn example for every team, they never proved popular except for a couple of teams. The A's likely issued them only to players who requested them, even sewing player numbers onto the back—something not all teams did. In any event, they were not popular and are rather uncommon to find today.

The example above lacks knit trim on the sleeve ends and the neck, while the other examples have both. We can tell that these two are from 2000 or later, as they have the MLB Silhouetted Batter on the back of the neck and the Majestic twin-peaks logo on the sleeve.

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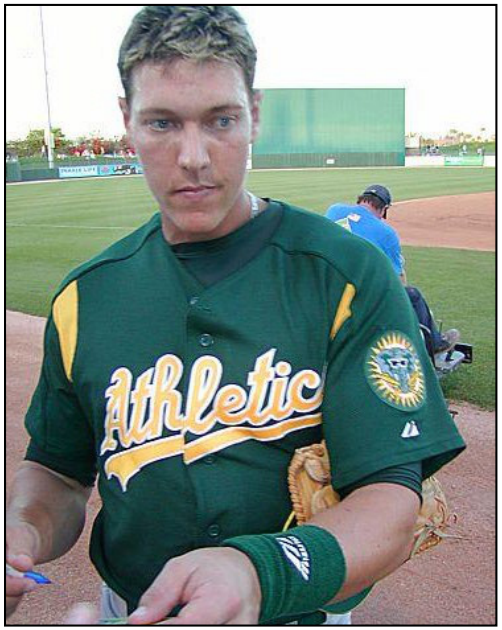
2003-2006 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection



Majestic's first attempt at a moisture-wicking fabric is tried out on team batting practice jerseys for the 2003 season. The material is soft and lightweight, but fades quickly in sunlight and is highly prone to snags—even from a fingernail. Identify by gold sleeve inserts. Elephant-with-sunglasses patch appears on the left sleeve.

The back has two-color numbers in gold/white, with no player names. All lettering and numbers are done in tackle twill.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

In 2007, all Major League Baseball teams adopted a new one-button, Henley-necked Cool Base batting practice jersey. Very sheer and lightweight, these jerseys feature logos, lettering, and numbers that are no longer sewn on; instead, they are heat-applied appliqués.

The A's version is solid green with a bright gold side panel insert. The back features two-color block numbers in gold/white, with no names.

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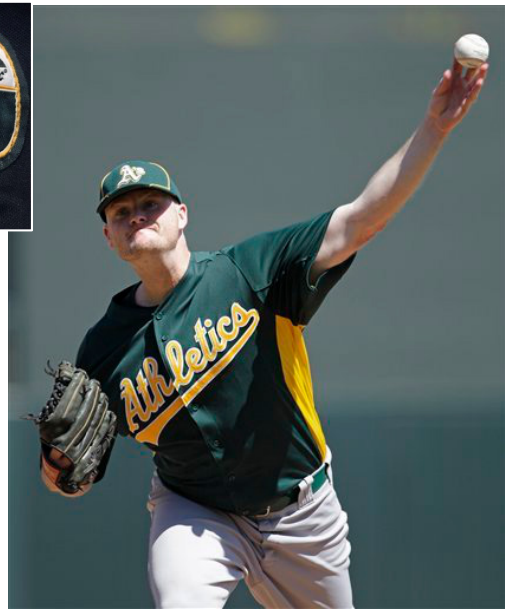
2011-2013 Batting Practice

Like all MLB teams, the Athletics redesigned their batting practice jerseys in 2011, switching to a button-front style. Although the overall appearance remains similar, the lettering returns to layered twill, replacing the lightweight flocked style used previously. The side panels are bright gold. Numbers on the back are in block-bold style, two-color—just like the Athletics script on the front.



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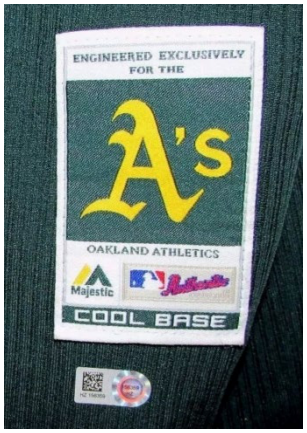
2014-2016 Batting Practice

Major League Baseball once again redesigns BP jerseys league-wide for the 2014 season, and the Athletics return to their classic warm-up look last used in 1992. Gold side panels cover the under-sleeve area. The jersey features green/gold striped knit trim bands on the sleeve ends and neck opening. A plain white 'A's' logo appears on the left chest, with two-color white/gold twill numbers sewn on the back and no player names.



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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended for workouts and preseason games. Based on the Flex Base game jersey template, the jersey features printed twill decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols as the main twill layer for every team. The Athletics use their regular-season green alternate—minus the player name on the back—as the basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are white patterned twill with a gold outline. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve, styled like an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ," representing where the Athletics spend Spring Training.

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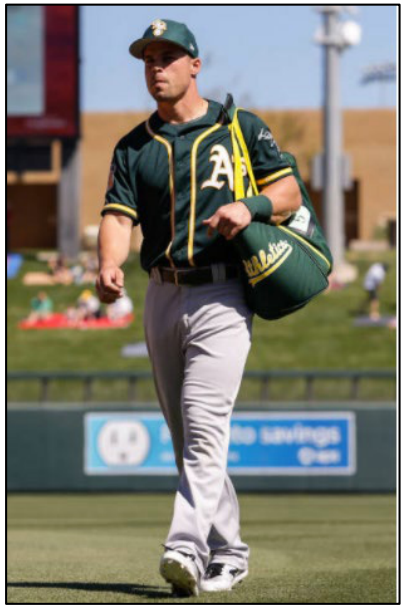
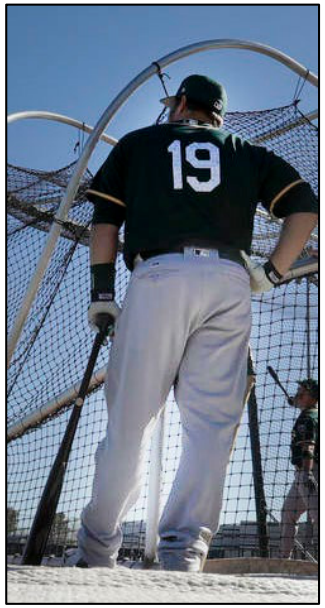
2017 Spring Training





Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill. This year, the twill is decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. All teams now use the same twill: single-color white with gray sublimated printing, replacing the unique team-specific combinations from the prior year.

The Athletics again use their regular-season green alternate—minus the player name on the back—as the basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve, styled like an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ,” representing where the Athletics spend Spring Training.

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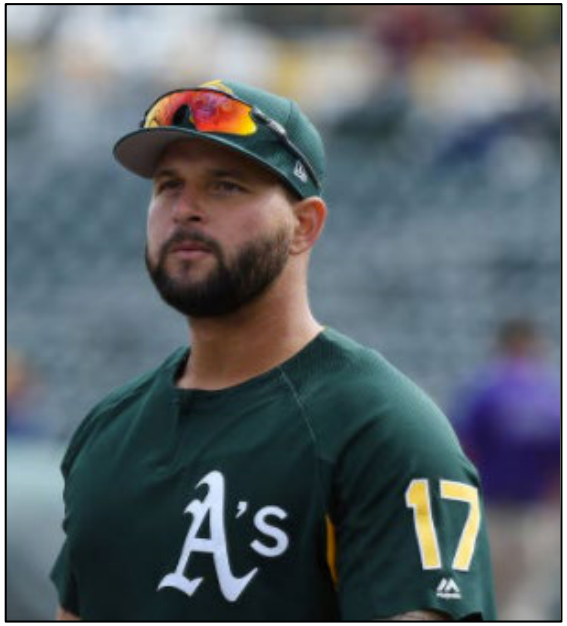
2017-2019 Batting Practice



With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on-field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering are in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Athletics jersey is green with green back with yellow underarm gussets. The white A's logo, also seen on their caps, appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in gold/white Block on the left sleeve.

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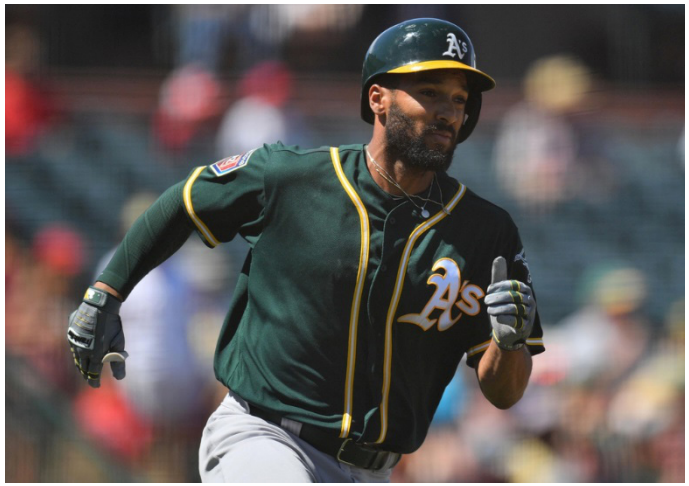
2018 Spring Training



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design introduced the previous year. Player names and numbers use each team's regular fonts in a single layer of twill printed with Spring Training– and 2018-specific patterns.

The Athletics use their regular-season green alternate—minus the player name on the back—as their base. The back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch—shaped like home plate—is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ," representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey represents the latest evolution in the design trend of the past three years. This version abandons the single-color printed twill used in recent years, returning to regular-season, multi-layered team-color twill as seen in 2016—but without that year's printed patterns. The Athletics use their regular-season dark green alternate—minus the player name on the back—as the base. A new CFX patch appears on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The back numbers are white/gold.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified league-wide for 2020. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home. The lettering now matches the non-patterned, multi-layered twill used in regular-season games. As a result, many teams' Spring Training jerseys are identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020–2023, the Athletics use their regular-season dark green alternate—minus the player name on the back. The back numbers are white/gold.

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Special Events Jerseys

1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1968

Left: *Close-up of game-worn embroidery from a 1968 jersey,*

Left: *Close-up of the 1992 recreation, with layered twill lettering sewn to the jersey using a green embroidery stitch. Not an exact match, but close.*

The Athletics invited the California Angels to join them in their very first Turn Back the Clock game on August 16, 1992. The A's wore their white 1968 vests with "Oakland" spelled across the fronts. The Angels wore replicas of their road gray 1965 suits.

These uniforms were made of double-knit fabric by Russell. All ornamentation was done in tackle twill. Originals in 1968 featured all-embroidered wordmark; the reproductions had two-color layered twill wordmark and numbers (not three) sewn onto the jersey with a wide green embroidery stitch.

Steve Kraljic Collection

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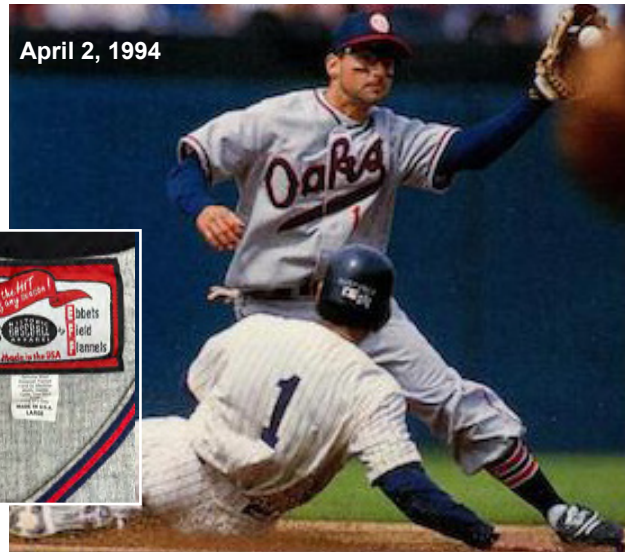
1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL Oakland Oaks (Road)

Steve Kraljic Collection



These gray road flannels were made by Ebbetts Field Flannels for the A's to wear as the 1955 Oakland Oaks of the old Pacific Coast League, both at home and on the road in 1994. On April 2, the A's wore these in an exhibition against the Giants in San Francisco, where the Giants dressed as the Pacific Coast League San Francisco Seals. Then, on June 11, the A's wore these to visit the Mariners, who dressed as the 1955 Pacific Coast League Seattle Rainiers. 1955 was chosen because it was the last year the Rainiers won the PCL Pennant.

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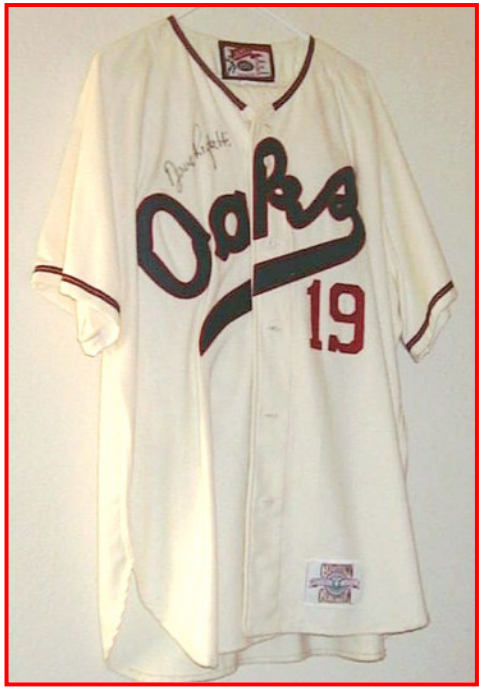
1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL Oakland Oaks (Home)



Before Turn Back the Clock games became standard fare in Major League Baseball, the A's and the Giants had a tradition of playing each other in an exhibition game just before the season opened, unofficially called the Bay Bridge Series. They wore old time flannel Pacific League uniforms in some of those games, recreated by Ebbets Field Flannels.

The A's dressed as the 1955 Oakland Oaks of the old Pacific Coast League on April 3, 1994 in a preseason game with the cross-bay Giants. The uniforms were made by Ebbetts Field Flannels.

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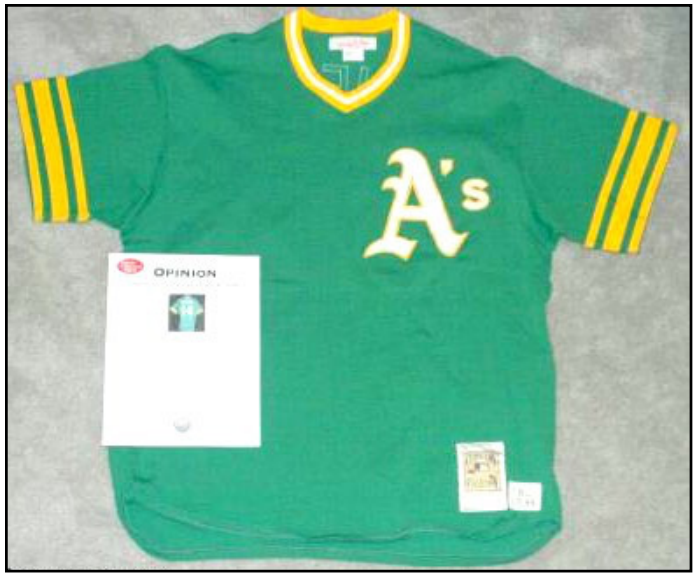
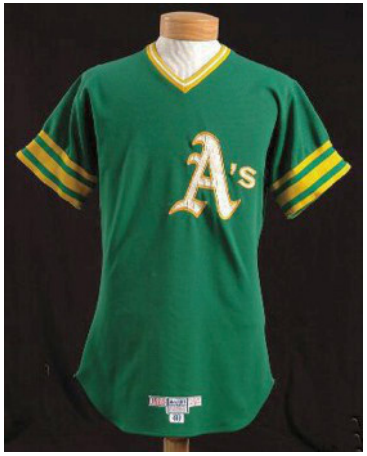
1999 Turn Back the Clock to 1979



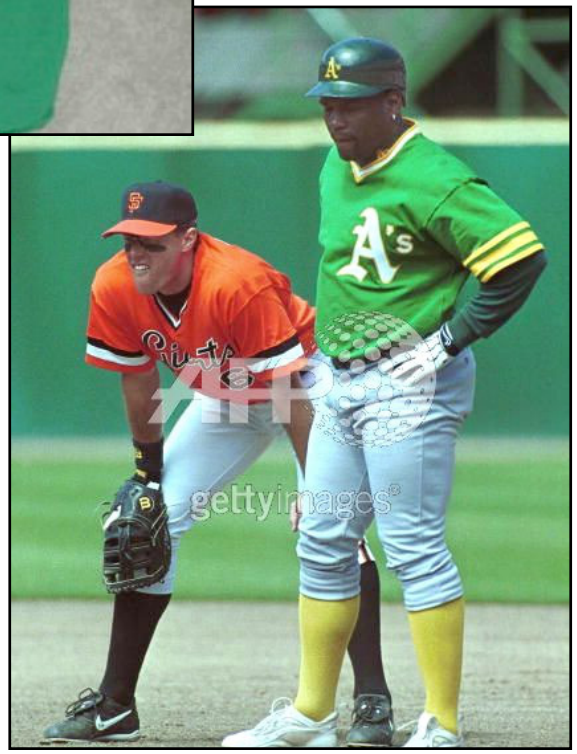


Actual 1973 McAuliffe jersey for comparison.

On June 5, 1999, the A's and Giants played an Interleague game in San Francisco wearing 1979-style uniforms, recreated by Mitchell & Ness. Aside from being overly baggy, the A's uniforms were otherwise believable. For purists, the back numbers were the wrong style. The real 1979 green jerseys were made by McAuliffe, which used the Boston supplier's own version of the Varsity font, not faithfully reproduced here.

The names on the back also should have been straight across, not curved. ***Inset:*** Actual McAuliffe-lettered jersey from the 1970s.

Right: In the game photo, note that while the player is wearing the correct gold sanitary hose, the uniform is missing the green stirrups that would have been worn in 1979. The pants are the A's standard 1999 grays—identifiable by the absence of side stripes and the presence of belt loops—and the batting helmet should be a brighter green with a gold brim.



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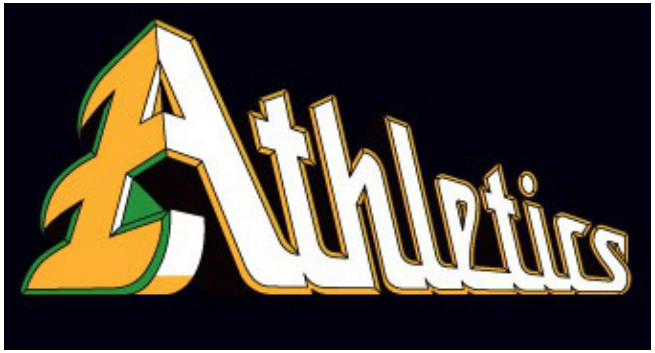
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock



The A's participated in a futuristic Turn Ahead the Clock game on June 26, 1999 vs. the California Angels at the Angels' Edison Field.

Thanks to Steve Sale, the tailor for the Athletics, we now have photos of an actual game jersey. Thanks to Steve, we've also secured the templates for the unusual typeface used on the jerseys.

Sleeve patch sewn to the left arm of the gold undershirt is of a fearsome-looking mastodon who would be right at home in a kids' Saturday adventure cartoon.

The Athletics used the same unconventional font as the Mets and Royals. Numbers are gold/white; names, white/gold..

Regarding the game, these few lines were found in the *LA Daily News*, June 27, 1999: **Saturday's game was billed as "Turn Ahead the Clock Night at Edison Field." Both teams wore futuristic uniforms, supposedly representing the year 2021. The Angels wore bright red jerseys with the new logo taking up the entire front of the jersey. Said one Angels player: "All we need are red bottoms and we have the perfect pair of pajamas."**

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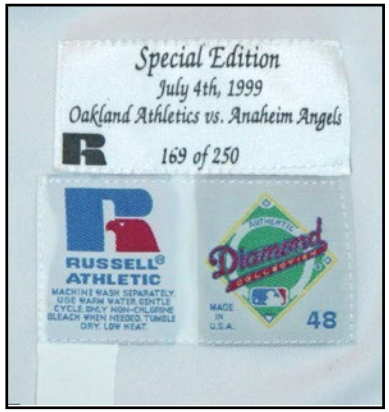
1999 Independence Day



Left: *Sequentially numbered tags were applied to the limited commemorative jerseys the A's produced for retail sale for the July 4, 1999, Independence Day game. The game-worn jersey above does not have this tag.*

Playing at home on Independence Day, July 4, 1999, the A's wore these red, white, and blue jerseys, made by Russell and displaying the Russell logo in red on the right sleeve.

An American flag patch adorned the right sleeve, while the elephant-on-a-ball patch on the left sleeve was recolored in a patriotic red, white, and blue scheme for the occasion.

To longtime fans, the Athletics' red, white, and blue color scheme would not have seemed unusual—it was their official palette from 1954 through 1962, before the franchise adopted green and gold.

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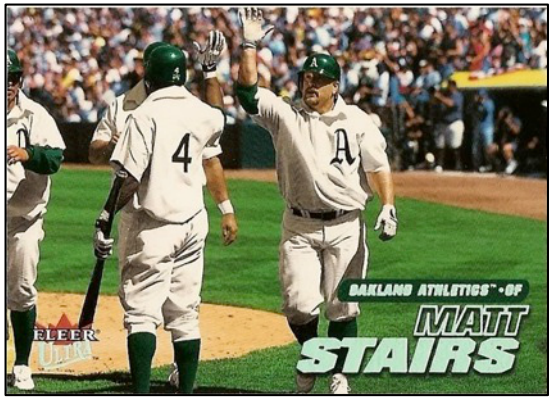
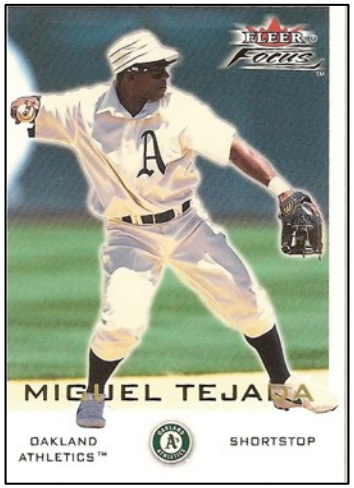
2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1911 Philadelphia Athletics

Steve Kraljic Collection





The A's appeared on June 3, 2000 as the 1911 Philadelphia A's, playing the Giants who were attired as the 1911 New York Giants, recreating the 1911 World Series between the two clubs. These uniforms were made of white flannel.

Although player numbers were not used in 1900, these contemporary recreations feature player numbers using the Red Sox-style font.

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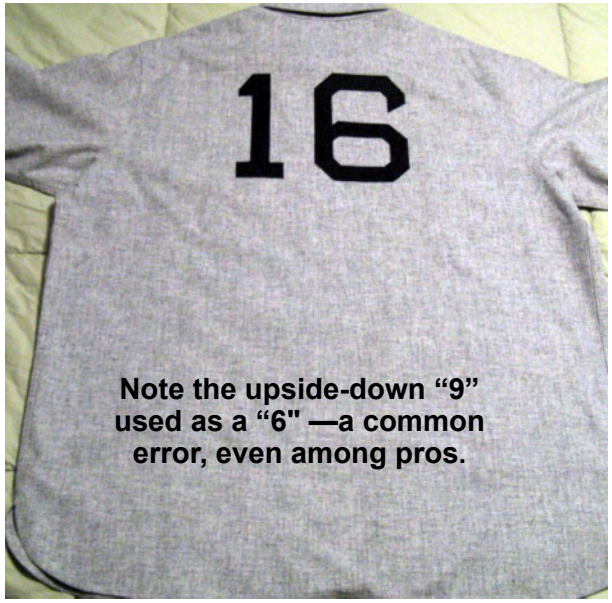
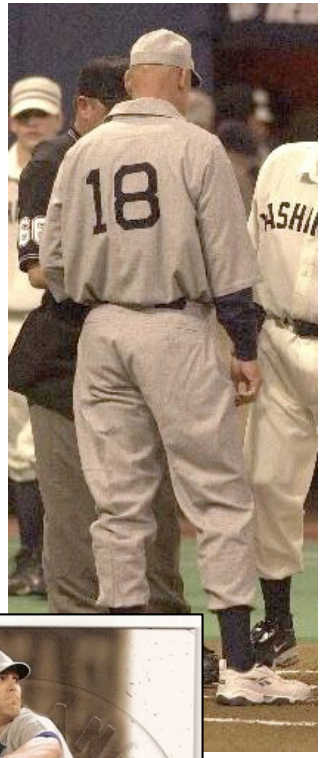
2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1901 Philadelphia Athletics

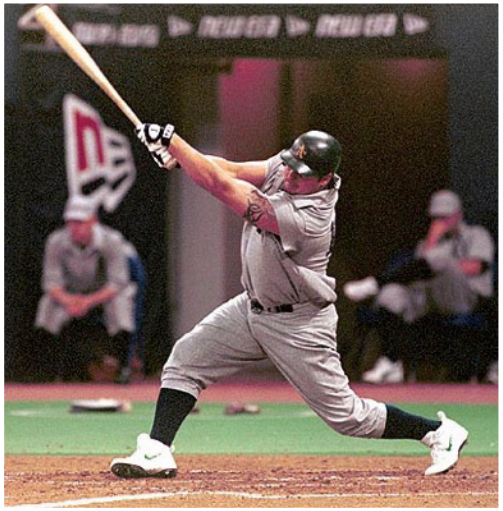




The A's played the Twins in this game where they turned back the clock one hundred years, on May 26, 2001. They wore gray wool flannel uniforms with wide collars made by Mitchell & Ness, featuring a bold "A" on the left chest.

Red Sox-style numbers are used on the back, even though the actual 1901 uniforms did not include numbers.

The Athletics played in Philadelphia in 1901. The Twins began in Washington as the Nationals/Senators and had moved to Minnesota in 1961 when they became the Twins.



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2001 Independence Day

Bill Henderson Collection

On July 4, 2001, the A's wore red, white, and blue jerseys at home, made by Rawlings and featuring the manufacturer's logo mark in red on the left sleeve.

This year, instead of using the usual home-script 'Athletics' on the front, the team opted for the road-style 'Oakland' script—even though the jersey was worn at home.

An American flag patch adorns the right sleeve, while the elephant patch—rendered in a matching color scheme—appears on the left. Names are applied to nameplates.

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2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1972

Steve Kraljic Collection

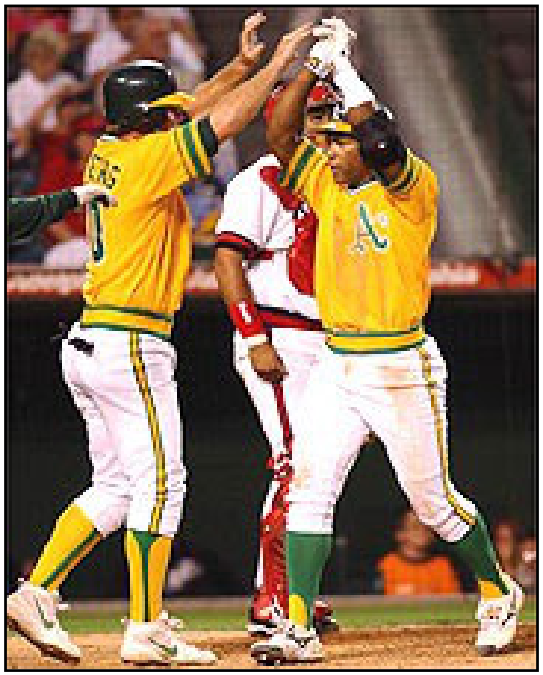
These uniforms got a nice work-out for the A's, worn for eight games in July 2002.

First, they appeared at home vs. the Rangers for a three-game series from July 19–21. The Rangers dressed as the 1961 Washington Senators for the series.

Then, they wore them on the road against the Angels from July 23–25, and again vs. the Rangers, but this time at Texas, on July 27–28.

First, the A's logo on the front is poorly rendered; the 1972 version included front numbers. The sleeve stripes are narrower than the originals, and the name on back should be sewn straight across with no curve. Additionally, the use of nameplates is inaccurate.

Given this, we will overlook that the back numbers are not the McAuliffe Varsity variant they should be. Credit is due, however, for the beltless pants that accurately reflect the 1972 design, as well as for the inclusion of green stirrups—an element skipped in previous throwback games.



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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1974

Steve Kraljic Collection

The A's wore 1974 throwback uniforms on July 17, 2004, at home against the White Sox (who did not participate), and again on the road July 30–31 against the Rangers (who did). Numbers on back are not the correct font. Note the manager wearing a white hat, a detail true to what the A's did in that era. However, the team is also wearing their current white pants, which lack the proper side stripes and include a belt—both of which are inaccurate for 1974.

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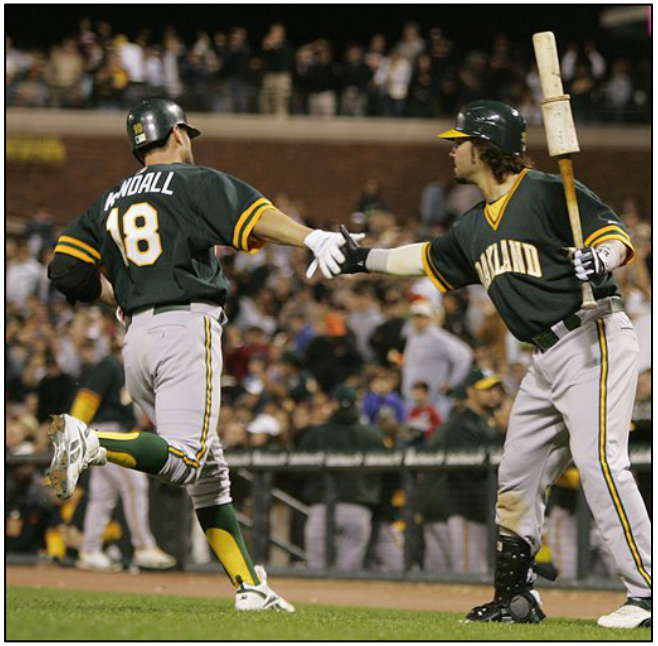
2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1983



Majestic made these green road/alternates, styled after the A's 1983–1986 design, for a June 23, 2006 Turn Back the Clock game played in San Francisco against the Giants. The Giants wore their 1982 alternate orange jerseys.

The reproductions are reasonably accurate, although the green is slightly off compared to the originals—these appear too blue.

On the originals, the knit sleeve ends had three equal width stripes. The reproductions' stripes are not equal width. Back numbers should be less bold version of block. Names sewn straight across the top are an accurate feature.

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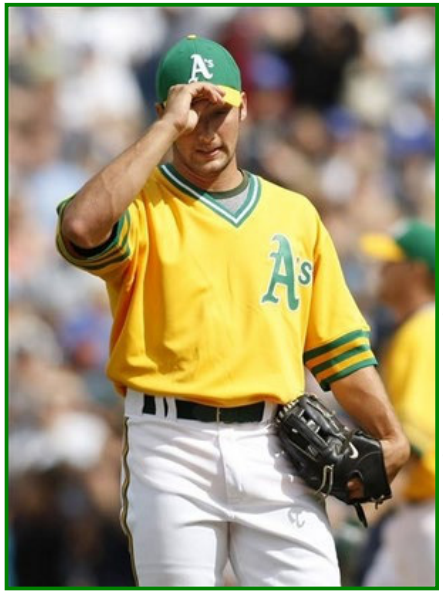
2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

Steve Kraljic collection



- On July 29, 2007, both the visiting A's and the home Mariners wore 1977 throwback uniforms, courtesy of Majestic.
- The original 1977 A's uniforms were made by McAuliffe, which used its own version of the Varsity font for back numbers. The recreations instead used block font, which is incorrect.
- The team wore special TBTC pants with side stripes, but they also included belts—which were not part of the A's 1977 uniform.
- Kelly green batting helmets with gold brims were a nice touch. Teams rarely go to the trouble or expense of producing special helmets for TBTC games.

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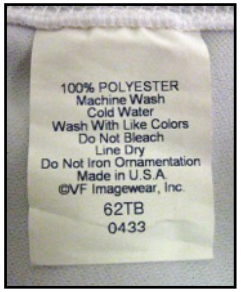
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1968

Above: Majestic did an artful job replicating the original uniform front in three-layered twill. However, it is worth noting that the 1968 original was a masterful piece of full-front embroidery rendered by McAuliffe. An original 1968 jersey close-up is shown above at left, compared to the 2008 version at right.

- On Sunday, May 4, 2008, the A's wore beautifully accurate bright white knit replicas of their one-year-only 1968 home uniforms, celebrating the club's 40th anniversary in Oakland. Bert Campaneris threw out the first pitch and fans got retro Campaneris T-shirts.
- McAuliffe-style numbers on the back were rendered in green and gold twill, attached to the jerseys with thick green embroidery stitching.
- The team played the Texas Rangers, who wore 1968 Washington Senators throwbacks. All A's jerseys were auctioned off after the game.



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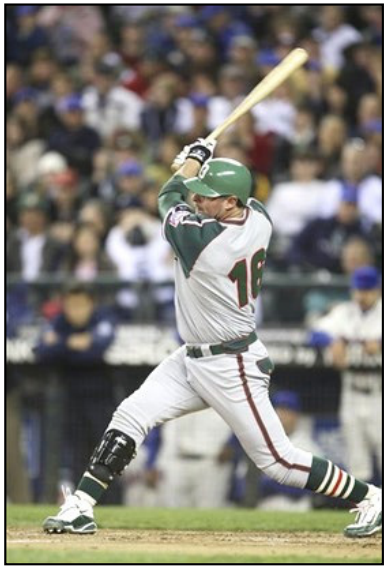
2009 Turn Back The Clock to 1939 PCL Oakland Oaks

Steve Kraljic Collection

On May 2, 2009, the A's played a Turn Back the Clock game in Seattle, appearing as the 1939 Oakland Oaks. The Mariners dressed as the 1939 Seattle Rainiers. The uniforms were made by Majestic in full-weight knit fabric. Note the 1939 Baseball Centennial patch on the sleeve.



Top left: This example is missing the 1939 sleeve patch worn in the game; its tagging identifies it as a pre-production sample.

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2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1973-1980

On July 11, 2009, the Athletics visited the Tampa Bay Rays, who— for the first time—held a Turn Back the Clock game featuring their own past uniforms. In previous TBTC events, the Rays had worn Negro League, college, or minor league throwbacks, as their franchise dates only to 1998.

The A's wore Majestic Cool Base replicas of their 1973–1980 road green jerseys. However, the sleeves were too long, and the neck trim too wide. Oddly, player names were omitted from the backs—despite the fact that the A's have long used them and were one of the earliest adopters of names on back, dating back to the flannel era. Oh yes–and again that pesky problem of the wrong font for the back numbers. But strangest of all was the inaccuracy of the "A's" symbol on the front—even though Majestic had previously produced this jersey style using the correct logo.

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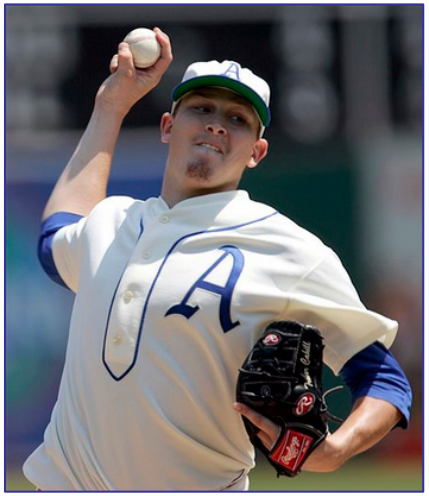
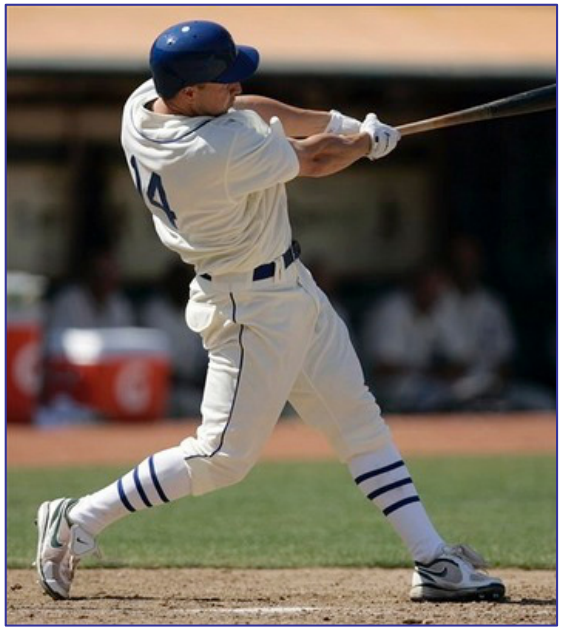
2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1929 Philadelphia Athletics

Derek Damian collection



On August 16, 2009, the A's wore uniforms styled after the 1929 Philadelphia Athletics for a Turn Back the Clock contest against the Chicago White Sox, who also wore 1929-vintage uniforms. Majestic produced the jerseys using regular-weight double knit fabric. In keeping with the period design, the jerseys were pullovers with a half-button front. Block-style numbers were applied to the back, even though player numbers had not yet been introduced in 1929.



1931 A's jersey worn by Lefty Grove

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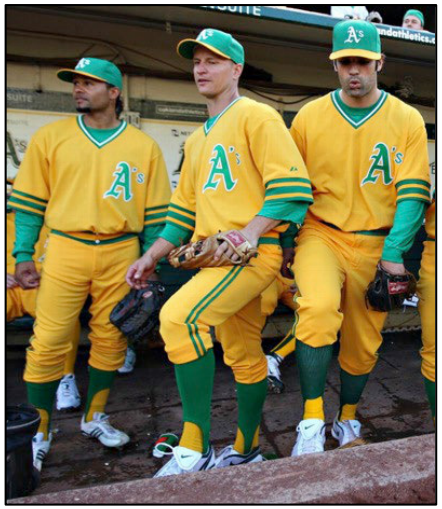
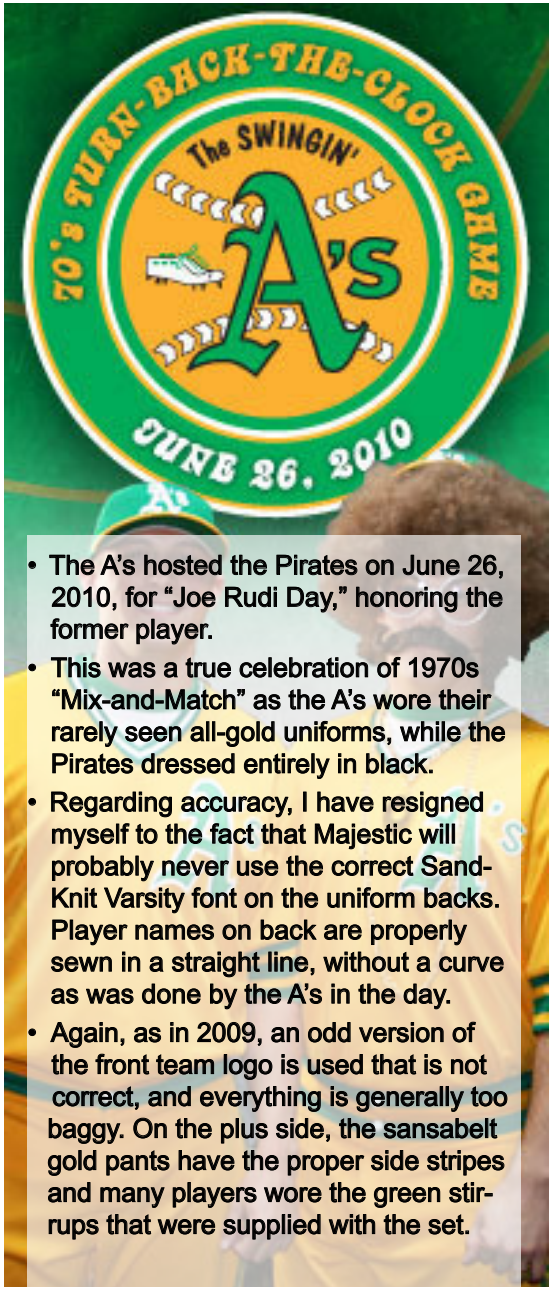
2010 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s





- The A's hosted the Pirates on June 26, 2010, for "Joe Rudi Day," honoring the former player.
- This was a true celebration of 1970s "Mix-and-Match" as the A's wore their rarely seen all-gold uniforms, while the Pirates dressed entirely in black.
- Regarding accuracy, I have resigned myself to the fact that Majestic will probably never use the correct Sand-Knit Varsity font on the uniform backs. Player names on back are properly sewn in a straight line, without a curve as was done by the A's in the day.
- Again, as in 2009, an odd version of the front team logo is used that is not correct, and everything is generally too baggy. On the plus side, the sansabelt gold pants have the proper side stripes and many players wore the green stirrups that were supplied with the set.

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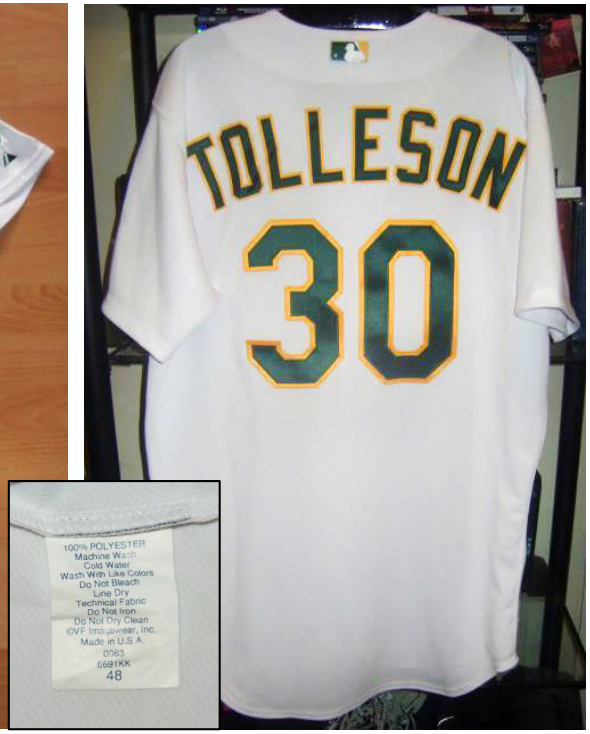
2010-2013 Hispanic Heritage



The A's hosted special days celebrating the Hispanic heritage of the Oakland community in 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013. The games were played on August 22, 2010; August 14, 2011; September 16, 2012; and September 8, 2013.

The full-weight Majestic knit uniform jerseys have *"Atleticos"* scripted on the front—a subtle change... that likely went unnoticed. Jersey backs are identical to the standard everyday uniforms.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to the Mid-1980s

On July 17, 2011, the Athletics hosted the Angels for a Turn Back the Clock game, wearing home uniforms originally seen 1983-1986. Majestic made these uniforms and did a commendable job, including details like the elastic-waist pants. The players contributed to the authenticity by wearing them with a tight, high-cuffed look. Very nice, guys!

The number and name fonts were accurate for the era—this time, Majestic's default throwback font happened to match the originals.

Fans in attendance received M.C. Hammer bobblehead dolls. Hammer had served as a member of the A's clubhouse staff and as a batboy during the 1970s.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1936 Philadelphia Athletics

May 2, 2012: The Red Sox invited the Oakland A's to participate in their 100th anniversary celebration of Fenway Park by taking part in a Turn Back the Clock game.

The Athletics' gray knit uniforms were made by Majestic and have simple navy-blue block numbers on the back. The front 'A' is navy with a white outline.

Left: *#36 jersey is actually a sample made up in advance of the game. It is also discussed in the "Prototypes and Oddballs" section of this chapter.*

Original
1943

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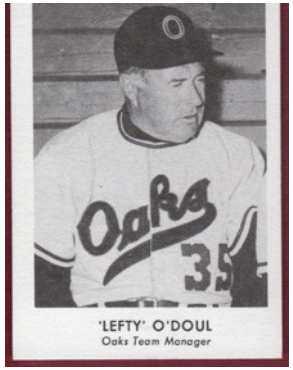
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL Oakland Oaks

On July 8, 2012, the A's faced the Seattle Mariners, who also wore PCL throwbacks. The A's had last worn this style in 1994, when the set was produced by Ebbets Field Flannels and constructed from flannel fabric.

These are full-weight knits made by Majestic. A one-color red Varsity variant was used for the front numbers, while Varsity Bold was used for the back—differing from the pattern used in 1994.



1955

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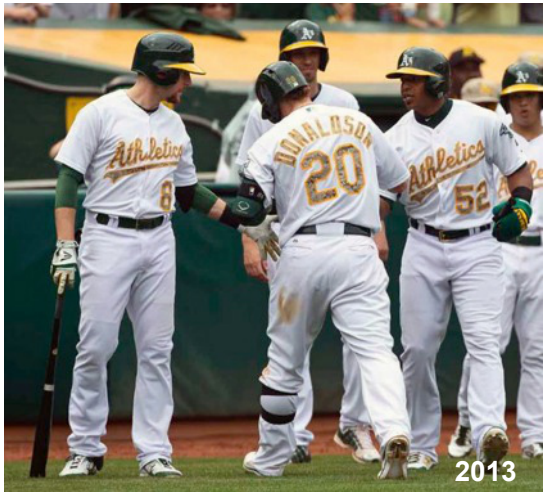
Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013-2015 Memorial Day



Major League Baseball required all teams to wear camouflage-lettered jerseys for Memorial Day games in 2013 (May 27), 2014 (May 26), and 2015 (May 25).

In all three years, the A's were the home team and wore white uniforms with camouflage-style wordmarks, player names, and numbers—outlined in gold. This combination resulted in poor visibility from the stands.

In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo at the back of the neck was updated to a dark green/khaki/white version, replacing the standard color scheme used 2013–2014.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

On July 27, 2013, the A's invited the Angels to participate in a Turn Back the Clock game commemorating 1969. The A's wore Majestic-made replicas of their all-gold "mix and match" uniforms, rendered beautifully in knit fabric. The ensemble featured gold vests and pants with green/white/green narrow-knit trim on the neck and sleeve openings.The MLB 100th Anniversary patch—unique to 1969—was sewn on the left chest below the team insignia. Players gamely wore white shoes and green/gold/white boldly striped stirrups. The Angels also wore replica 1969 road grays, produced by Majestic.

Left: *Original 1969 jersey worn by pitcher Rollie Fingers*

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1914 Philadelphia Athletics

Steve Kraljic Collection

Above: *Original 1914 A's home jersey. Note the sleeve length—modern players would never tolerate this touch of realism.*

August 16, 2014–The Braves hosted a Turn Back the Clock game commemorating the 100th anniversary of 1914, with both teams wearing replica uniforms from that year. The A's had been based in Philadelphia in 1914, and the Braves in Boston. Both clubs wore solid gray, blouse-like pullover jerseys with 4-button necks, navy insignias, and plain numbers on the back—though players did not wear numbers in 1914. The long sleeves typical of 1914 jerseys were omitted for this game.

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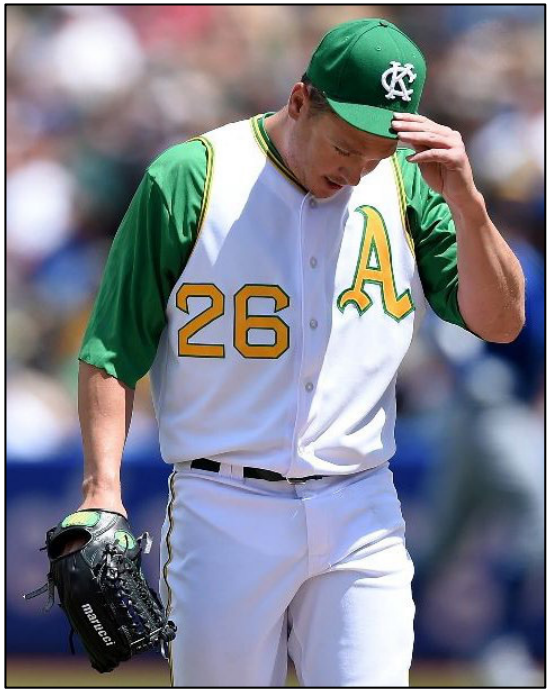
2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1965 Kansas City Athletics



Game-worn 1965 example has reversed front colors.

The A's wore these knit Majestic vests in a June 27 game against the Kansas City Royals—the current residents of their former home. The Royals did not participate in the throwback and wore their standard uniforms. The jerseys featured a gold/green "A" logo and player number in McAuliffe font on the front, with green/gold McAuliffe numbers on the back. Gold/green/gold braid encircled the sleeve openings and neck.

Though the team claimed these to be 1965 jerseys, the A's actually wore green/gold lettering on both the front and back of the home vests that year. It appears they followed the uniform drawings from the Baseball Hall of Fame's "Dressed to the Nines" exhibit, based on the work of Marc Okkonen. That illustration depicts gold/green for the front, but game-worn jerseys from 1965 show the colors reversed (Left: Actual game-worn 1965 jersey). Nevertheless, the classic baseball vest design—combined with the A's bold (especially for the mid-60s) color scheme—makes for a very attractive throwback entry.

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2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palette might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys, which makes the A's green elephant sleeve patch look very out of place. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar.

The Athletics wear their home white jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars. All lettering—including the front logo and the front and back numbers—is outlined in red. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is colored in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Athletics wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also changed to shades of pink, gray, and white. The style returns, unchanged, for May 13–14, 2017.

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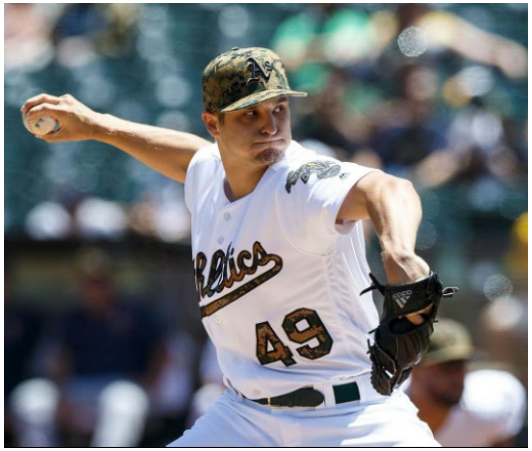
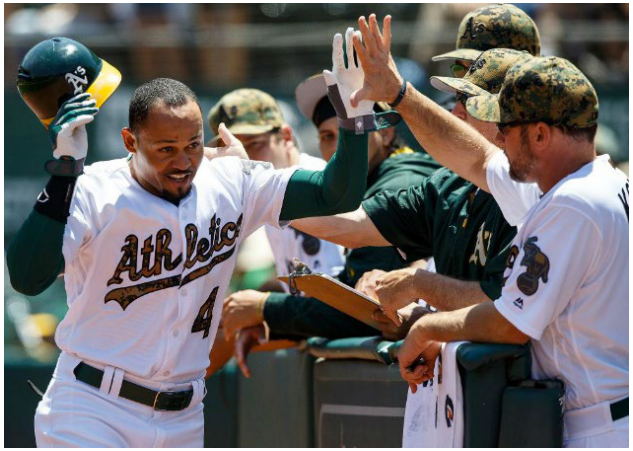
2016 Memorial Day

MLB's 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at the back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template—with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines—makes this set more legible than in prior years.

The Athletics apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black





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2016-2017 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms for Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with a rubberized manufacturer's tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back-of-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Athletics wear their home white jerseys, with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while the front and back numbers are rendered in light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. This style returns unchanged in 2017.

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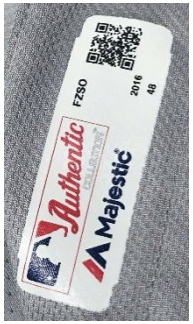
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates a new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Athletics are on the road and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill. The Athletics select the blue twill version with red outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers. Player names on back are rendered in red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors. The resulting jersey looks quite a bit like the special July 4 jerseys the Athletics wore in 2001, but this version uses a gray jersey base instead of white. instead of white.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1981

On August 6, the A's pay tribute to their 1981 team, which reached the ALCS in a strike-split season. The gold Majestic knit pullovers feature the team name on front in green/white, with green/white Block-style back numbers. The single-color green names, directly sewn with no arch, are also era-accurate, though the font is slightly different from the originals. Not only did the visiting Cubs wear their powder blue, pinstriped 1981 road uniforms, but the A's broadcast joined in, using retro graphics and dressing the announcers in gold sport coats.

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2017 Special Batting Practice — Warriors NBA Tribute

Throughout 2017, the A's pay tribute to their local pro sports neighbors with a series of crossover jerseys used only during pre-game activities. The April 21 edition honors the Golden State Warriors by adapting the A's existing gold alternate, with the addition of a Warriors logo patch on the right chest and a change in the player name and number lettering on back to blue/white in deference to the Warriors' color scheme.

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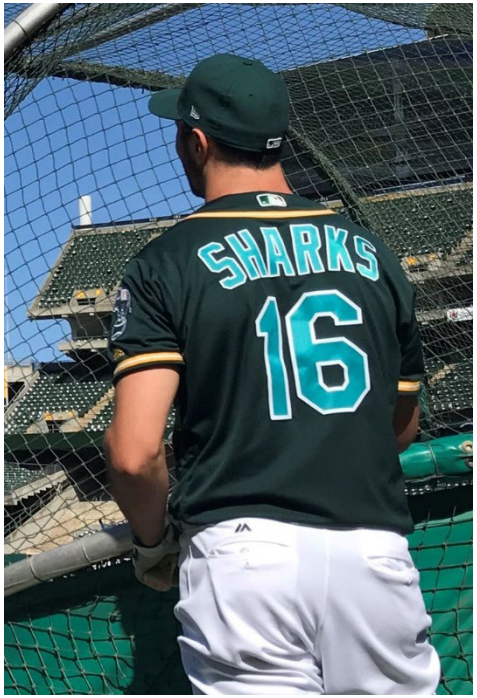
2017 Special Batting Practice — Sharks NHL Tribute



Throughout 2017, the A's pay tribute to their local pro sports neighbors with a series of crossover jerseys used only during pre-game activities. The May 18 edition honors the San Jose Sharks by adapting the A's existing dark green alternate, with the addition of a Sharks logo patch on the right chest and a change in the player name and number lettering on back to teal/white in deference to the Sharks' color scheme.

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2017 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two dark colors are difficult to distinguish, especially from a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches are rendered in olive green and black. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are simplified to single-color black. The Athletics apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017.

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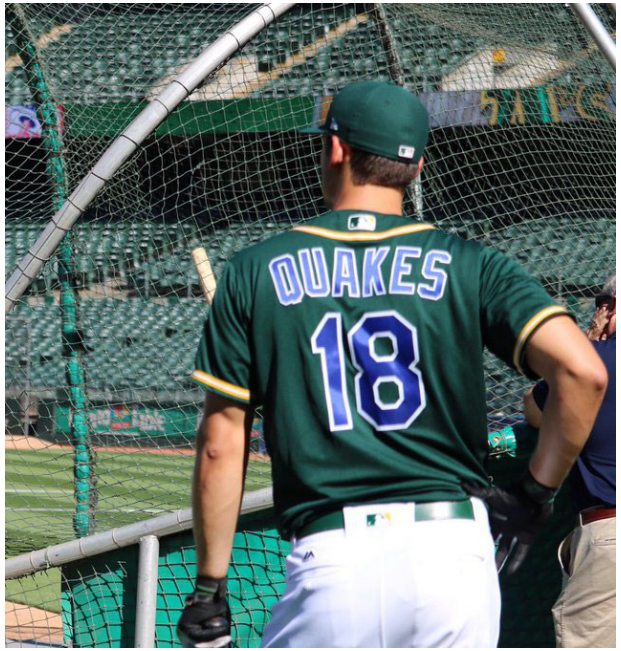
2017 Special Batting Practice — Quakes MLS Tribute



Throughout 2017, the A's pay tribute to their local pro sports neighbors with a series of crossover jerseys used only during pre-game activities. The June 15 edition honors the San Jose Earthquakes of Major League Soccer by adapting the A's existing dark green alternate, with the addition of a Quakes logo patch on the right chest and a change in the player name and number lettering on back to royal blue/white in deference to the Quakes' color scheme.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 2000

Steve Kraljic Collection

More than 70 years (and two franchise moves) passed before the A's reintroduced black as a primary color in the early 2000s, when many other teams were doing the same. All the more mysterious, then, is the choice to resurrect this one-year style from 2000 for a throwback game on July 1, 2017. That said, these full-knit recreations are reasonably accurate to the originals, then made by Rawlings.

These jerseys feature all lettering in green/white, with names properly applied to nameplates. For some reason, this throwback lacked the "Century of A's Baseball" commemorative patch that appeared on the 2000 version, and the front numbers are positioned slightly lower than on the original.

***Above**: An original from 2000, with the tail cut off by the player.*

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, featuring a slightly less busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base, with standard manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 2–4, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the Athletics wear their home white jersey with front logo lettering and front and back numbers in red patterned twill with blue outlines. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue.

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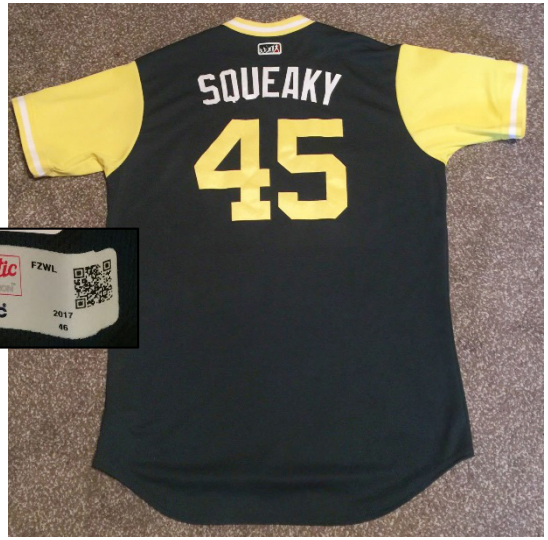
2017-2018 Players Weekend



To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors and include a patch on the right sleeve where players could write handwritten messages of appreciation in black marker. Both the patch and the back-of-collar logo feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood.

Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single-color Varsity, and the player names are in 2¾″ single-color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font.

On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Athletics wear these jerseys with dark green bodies and gold sleeves, with white nicknames and gold numbers on the back. Sleeves and the V-neck opening are lined with wide gold/white/gold trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in gold/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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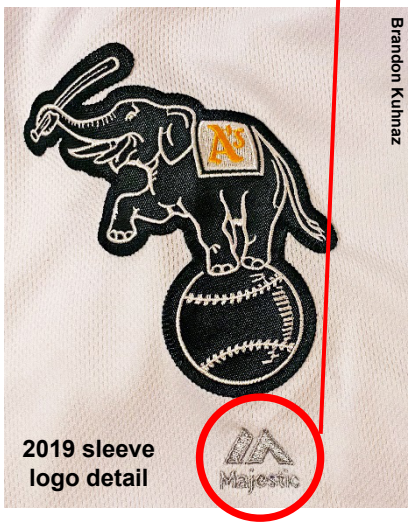
2017-2019 Hispanic Heritage

After a five-year hiatus, the A's resume the use of a special *Atléticos* home jersey to honor Hispanic Heritage Day. These games were held on September 24, 2017; September 9, 2018 (with the team's anniversary patch on the right sleeve); and September 16, 2019 (without the MLB150 patch on the right sleeve). Now Flex Base jerseys, they feature the Spanish version of the team's name on the front, with all other elements identical to the regular home set. In an unusual move, the 2019 jersey features a light gray version of the Majestic logo on the left sleeve, making it nearly impossible to see.



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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1968

For a third time, the A's throw back to 1968, their inaugural year in Oakland, with these beautiful vests, originally made by McAuliffe in flannel. This full-knit version features a more authentic and exaggerated vest cut compared to the previous two throwbacks, which were more "sleeveless" than "vest," with squared-off sleeve openings. Aside from the front lettering being done in green/gold/green twill—rather than the combination of embroidery and twill used in 1968—these sharp throwbacks duplicate the originals nicely. The outline layers on the McAuliffe-style green/gold/green back numbers are slightly thicker than on the 1968 set, but this does not detract from the overall aesthetic on the field.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Memorial Day

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers, and feature solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly invisible due to the similarity of the two colors. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches are also repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Athletics apply this style to their home white jerseys on May 26–28, 2018.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration.

MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Athletics wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1972 Prototype Home

Discovered at an online auction and apparently signed by Reggie Jackson, this appears to be a prototype 1972 home jersey for the A's, made by McAuliffe but never selected for use. It features "Oakland" arched on the front in the same "Tiffany" style font used by the Red Sox, Mets, and 1960s Angels on their uniforms. The center-sewn number is extra large—probably 5½″—and its placement appears unusual, though the 1972 Cubs road uniforms used a similar format, with a player number centered on the front.

© GameWornGuides.com

1972 Prototype Alternate Gold

Stephen Kraljic Collection

A companion piece—or perhaps a long-lost brother—to the page above, here's what appears to be a prototype for a 1972 A's gold jersey. Made by McAuliffe, this one also features "Oakland" arched on the front in the same "Tiffany" style font used by the Red Sox, Mets, and 1960s Angels on their uniforms. Again, the center-sewn number is extra large—probably 5½″—and its placement seems unusual, though there was precedent for this style in baseball. It's clear the A's and McAuliffe were experimenting with bold design ideas during this Technicolor era. Detail photos of this example show the wide knit trim sewn on top of the sleeve ends. The white example likely used the same construction. Ultimately, the A's 1972 switch to double knits made an unforgettable statement—just not this particular one, which was ultimately forgotten to time.

© GameWornGuides.com

1972 Jerseys in the 1974 World Series?

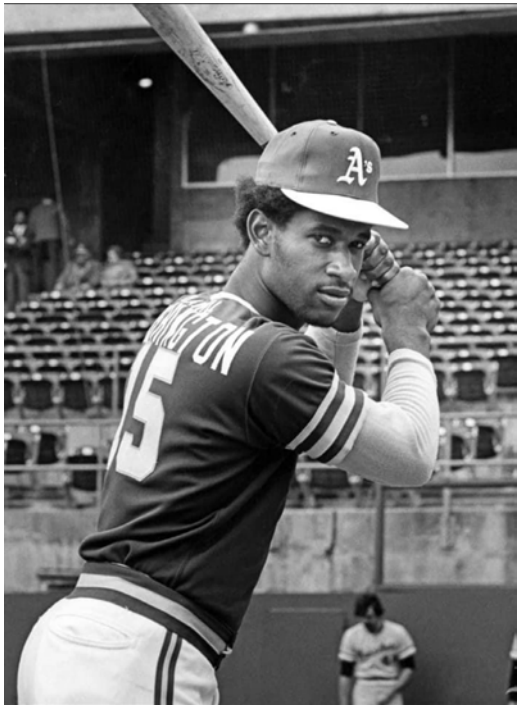
Reader Curtis Peddle writes to say:

"I am attaching two photos of Sal Bando and Ken Holtzman that I took while watching a DVD of Game Four of the 1974 World Series. I noticed a number of the A's players are wearing the two-serif A instead of the three-serif version, introduced in 1973. Proof (*perhaps? -.ed*) that the 1972 jerseys were not only recycled into 1973, but into 1974 as well."

Right: *A sewing error places the 1976 patch on this pitcher's right sleeve, rather than the left, where the rest of his teammates have it.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1974 Claudell Washington — “Tiny First Name on Back”

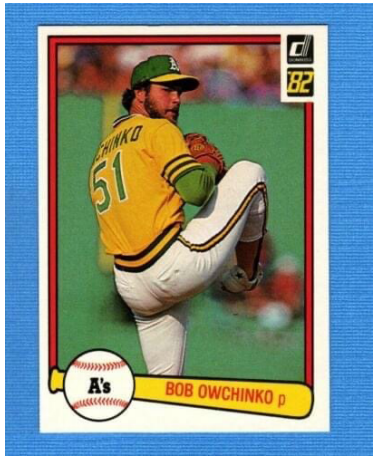


In 1974, Claudell Washington was spotted with this odd feature—a very tiny first name above the standard last name on his jersey. That year, sprinter Herb Washington—used as a pinch-running specialist (!!!)—was also on the A’s roster. Photos and video of Herb Washington do not show any first name on his jerseys.

(Thank you to collector Stephen Kraljic for submitting this item).

© GameWornGuides.com

1980 “OAKLAND” Gold Rawlings — What Is It?



Occasionally, we come across an item that defies explanation. The A’s did not begin wearing jerseys with the “OAKLAND” crest on the front until 1981, and Rawlings did not start producing the team’s jerseys until that same year. Bob Owchinko only played for the A’s in 1981–1982. So, what is the story with this jersey?

It is a gold Rawlings jersey with Kelly green lettering, as used only in 1981. Yet it is tagged as 1980. Examination shows that no changes were made to the jersey lettering.

One might guess this was a 1980 sample jersey made to propose the new style—but that seems unlikely, as it bears the name and number of a player who had not been with the team in 1980. Nor was he the kind of “famous name” typically used on manufacturer’s samples.

Our only logical conclusion is that this was simply a tagging error at the Rawlings factory. It’s likely that a stray “1980 SET 1” tag was accidentally mixed in with the 1981 batch and went unnoticed. This is the kind of anomaly that drives authenticators crazy.

© GameWornGuides.com

April 1990 “Too High” Front Wordmark on Home Jerseys

Whether by team order or Rawlings’ manufacturer error, the home jerseys worn by the Athletics to start the 1990 season had the front wordmark sewn very high on the shirt—with the top of the central “I” touching the shirt’s top button.

After the first home series (or two) these jerseys were replaced by a new Rawlings set with the wordmark lowered by one button. Every once in a while we see jerseys from this set come up for sale, typically advertised as “game used” but showing almost no wear.

Notably, the placement of this particular wordmark is often problematic because the letters interfere with the buttons, especially on smaller jerseys. On some team-issue jerseys we have seen, the third button from the top is eliminated and replaced with a Velcro closure so the wordmark can be lowered slightly and stitched over top of the former buttonhole location.

In the top row of photos, one jersey from this set is shown, along with Dennis Eckersley wearing the style on April 10, 1990. The bottom row shows a later-season game-used jersey with the wordmark in its traditional position. Dave Henderson’s photo, dated May 1, 1990, shows the lower-placed wordmark.

(Thank you to collector David Randolph for submitting this item)

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Revisiting the "Phantom" Athletics 1987-1988 Alternate Pullover Jerseys

As noted several times in this chapter, my research into which jerseys the Athletics wore in various years does not always align with the information presented in the Baseball Hall of Fame's Dressed to the Nines website, itself based on the work of author and historian Mark Okkonen. This is another such example.

I had long doubted the existence of A's alternate pullover game jerseys for the 1987 and 1988 seasons as listed in that database, but included them as fact through the Third Edition in 2005. Eventually, my editor convinced me to abandon the idea, as in many years of searching we had never seen a single example—nor even a photo of one being worn. We subsequently removed all mention of these jerseys from this publication.

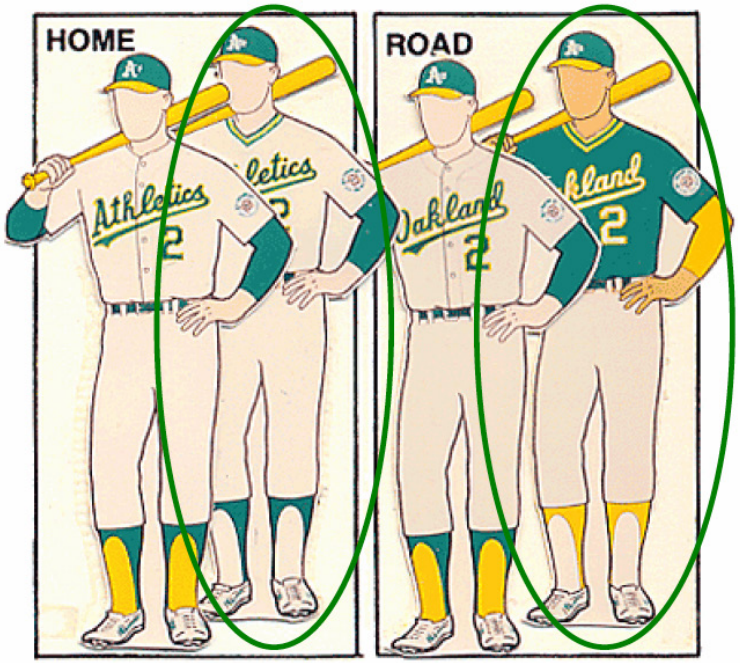
Yet even now, a new reader will occasionally send a letter saying, "Hey—you missed one!" and point to these jerseys still listed in Dressed to the Nines as fact for 1987–1988.

So I've reproduced this long-discarded page from an earlier edition to illustrate the "phantoms" once more. If anyone has any evidence that they ever existed, I'd like to know.

1987-88 Alternate Pullover Jerseys (2 styles)

Home White "Athletics" and Road Green "Oakland"

- I have yet been unable to locate any real examples – or even period photographs of the two styles circled in the illustration to the right.
- Both jerseys are pullover style. Sleeve end trim disappears but collar trim remains.
- 2 color numbers on front and back, white/ yellow on green jersey, green/yellow on home jersey
- Names on back- I assume also 2 color, same as numbers
- Maybe someday I'll locate real examples- or at least photos of a real ones. More research required.



Source: MLB Hall Of Fame Website www.baseballhalloffame.org

MLB Jersey Style Guide: The Double Knit Era Collectors' Reference (1970-2005)

© W.F. Henderson 2005 V3.0

96

1996-1999 Prototype Royal Blue

The Athletics wore red, white, and blue–themed uniforms for Fourth of July home games during the 2000 and 2001 seasons. This shocking bright royal blue jersey with 1995–2000 Russell tagging is very likely a prototype for a special game, rather than an indication that the A's were considering changing their team colors. A couple of other details suggest this is a prototype. One is the frequent use of the numeral "5" on prototype jerseys. The other is the use of a different outline color on the back number compared to the front design—something often seen on experimental or sample pieces.This gem was found on eBay by a reader.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1936

Shown here is a sample of the Turn Back the Clock jersey worn by the A's during a 2012 game against the Red Sox. Note the typical sample size of 46 and the back number 36, indicating this is a 1936 throwback. The sample tagging, "ATH-RJ-TBTC-D1-1-1936," stands for Athletics road jersey Turn Back the Clock, version 1, 1936.

Made by Majestic, the full-weight knit gray jersey loosely copies the team's 1930s-era road uniform. The back numbers do not match the distinctive MacGregor number pattern used at the time, and the original jerseys featured blue trim on the sleeve ends but none at the neck opening. Despite its historical inaccuracies, this style was ultimately approved and used on-field.

1943 Original

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Prototype Alternate Greens

Presented here are two jerseys that offer a glimpse into the creative process teams use when designing or updating uniform options. These are prototypes for the dark green alternate jersey the A's introduced in 2014.

Majestic provided the A's with at least two options, differing only in the twill color arrangement used on the front and back lettering. One version features white/gold lettering, the other gold/white. Like most other Majestic samples of this era, these jerseys use "Player" as the placeholder name on back and the year—14—as the uniform number.

Both jerseys include internal sample tagging: one reads ATH-AJ-D1-1-2014 and the other ATH-AJ-D1-2-2014. Aside from the D1-1 vs. D1-2 distinction (marking the two variations), the rest of the code indicates "Athletics alternate jersey, 2014." The A's ultimately selected the white/gold version, which debuted that season as intended.

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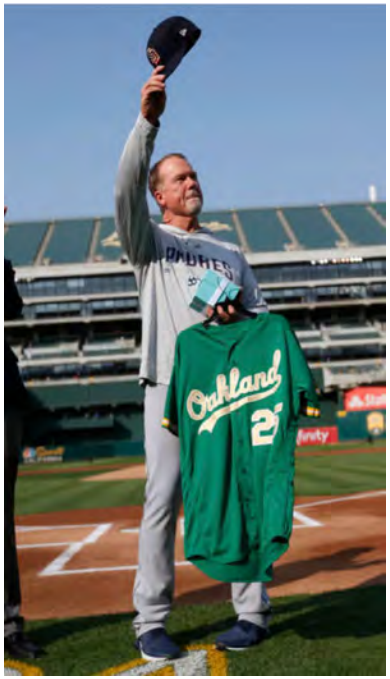
2018 50th Anniversary In Oakland Honorary 50th Anniversary Team Jerseys

Tim Koberg Collection



On multiple home dates during the 2018 season, in special pregame ceremonies, the A's celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Athletics in Oakland. Before each game, players from a special 50th Anniversary All-A's Team were introduced, and each was presented with a new-style Kelly green game jersey featuring metallic gold lettering front and back, outlined in white. The largest gathering of players occurred on Opening Day, March 30, but other events were held on April 17, May 7, May 25, July 3, and July 20. In total, 50 players were honored in this way.

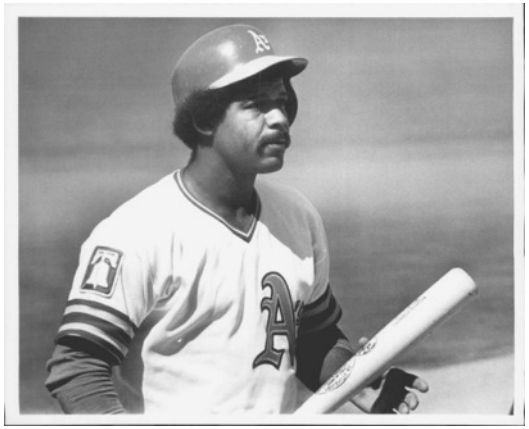
As attractive as they were, these special jerseys were never worn during a game by the team, nor does it appear that this style was ever offered for sale to fans. I was informed by readers who tried to acquire one of these for their collections that the only ones made were one for each of the players to whom they were presented. I have little doubt that some of these will appear at auction in the future. In the meantime, I share a singular exact replica I was commissioned to make for a reader who simply had to have one.

© GameWornGuides.com

Commemorative Patches

Athletics Patches

1976



1987

1989

World Series Only

1990 World Series

- (Not Shown) 1972, September 6: Black armband worn by Ken Holtzman, Reggie Jackson, and Mike Epstein to honor the 11 Israeli athletes killed during the Summer Olympics.
- 1976: Liberty Bell Bicentennial patch.
- 1987: All-Star Game patch.
- 1989, World Series only: Black armband worn in memory of Baseball Commissioner Bart Giamatti, who died September 1. Worn on both home and road jerseys.
- 1990, World Series only: American flag worn in support of Operation Desert Shield. Also worn on left sleeve of both green and gold BP jerseys (see 1986–1992 BP page earlier in this chapter).
- 1992: 25th Anniversary patch.
- 1995, after September 20: WAH (for former owner Walter A. Haas) commemorative patch, worn with a black armband on white and gray jerseys; no armband on the green jersey.
- 1997: 30th Anniversary patch worn on the left sleeve of the home jersey only (Jackie Robinson patch worn on right sleeve).
- 1999, after September 9: #27 patch on sleeve in memory of Catfish Hunter.

1992

1995

1997

1999

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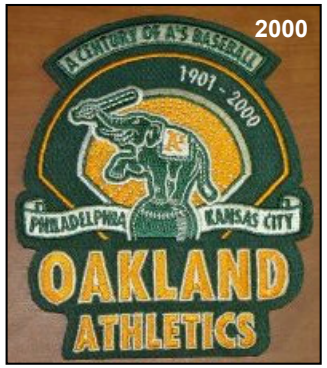
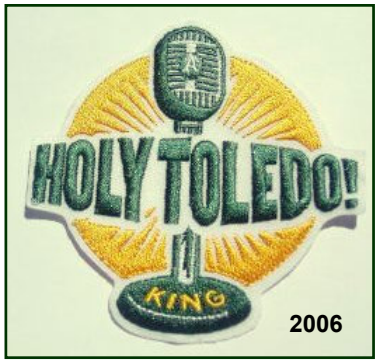
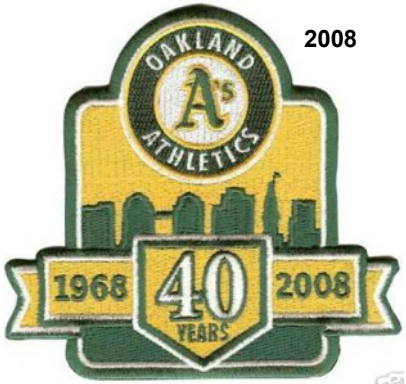
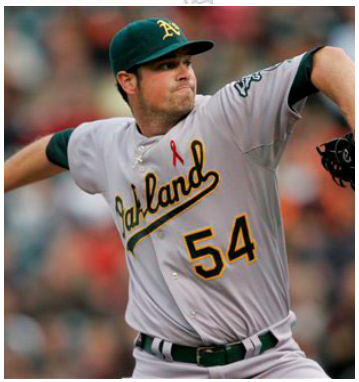






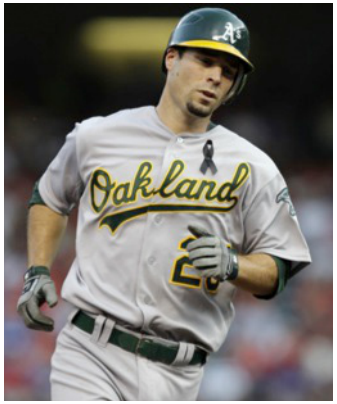
2008 Opening Series in Japan, on Whites and Green BPs

2008



2009 June 12

2009 White Uniform only



2011 July 8– 9

- 2000: Century of A's Baseball on left sleeve of home and black alternate jerseys only.
- 2006: Gold and green patch featuring microphone, the phrase "HOLY TOLEDO!" and the name "KING" on home jerseys for Broadcaster Bill King.
- 2008, March 25: Opening Day in Japan. The A's, sponsored by Pepsi, wore a Pepsi patch on the right sleeve of both home white and green BP jerseys.
- 2008: "40 Years" patch worn on home white jersey all season, except on March 25.
- 2009: OPD patch worn on right sleeve of white jersey only to honor Oakland Police Department officers injured and killed in a March 21, 2009 shootout.
- 2009, June 12: Red AIDS ribbon on left chest for "Until There's a Cure" Day in San Francisco.
- 2011, July 8–9: The A's and Rangers wore black ribbons on their road jerseys to honor fan Shannon Stone, who died on July 7 after falling from the stands while reaching for a foul ball tossed by Josh Hamilton in Arlington.

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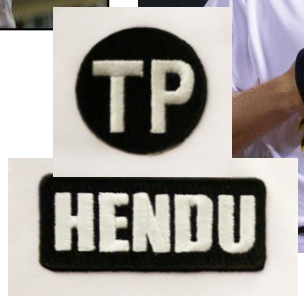
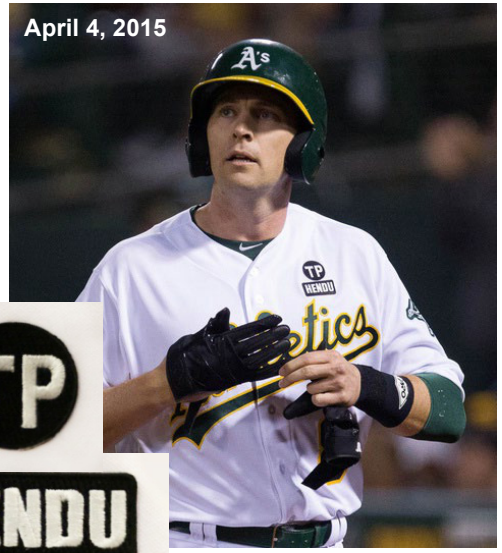
2014 Postseason

- 2012, March 28–29: Opening series games in Japan. “Gloops” (a social network) sponsor patch on right sleeve of white home uniform and BP jersey only.
- 2012 postseason only: “GJN” memorial patch worn on right sleeve to honor the death of day-old Gehrig John Neshek, infant son of pitcher Pat Neshek.
- 2014, April 7: “Stand Up To Cancer” patch worn during the home opener by both the A’s and Twins in support of Twins GM Terry Ryan.
- 2014, July 19: One-day “BW” patch worn on left chest of the home white jersey in memory of former player Bob Welch.
- 2015, April 4: One-day “TP” and “HENDU” patches worn on left chest in memory of former A’s Tony Phillips and Dave Henderson, who died prior to the season.





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2018

- 2018: Oakland Athletics 50th Anniversary in Oakland. Two versions of the commemorative patch were worn—Kelly green (for the Kelly green alternate) and dark green (for all other jerseys). Worn on right sleeve.
- 2019, March 20–21: MGM Resorts sponsor patch worn during the 2019 Japan Series.
- 2022: Memorial patch honoring A's broadcaster and former catcher Ray Fosse, home white jersey only.
- 2023, starting May 15: Memorial patches for former players Sal Bando and Vida Blue, home white jersey only.
- 2024, May 28–30: Green ribbon worn on the left chest in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.
- 2025: Rickey Henderson memorial patch and Sacramento patch

March 20–21, 2019

2022

May 28–30, 2024

2023, starting May 15

2025

2025

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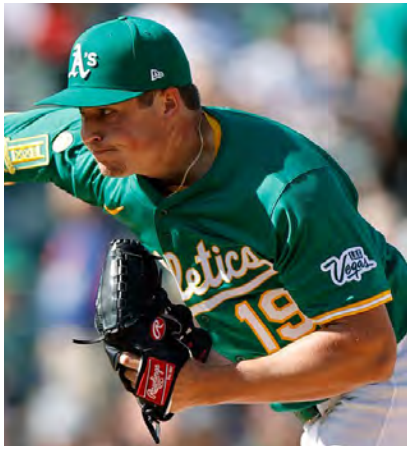
2023-2025 Athletics Advertising Patches



With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Athletics struck a sponsorship deal with the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA), the official tourism marketing organization for Las Vegas. The patch features the LVCVA logo in green on a white background shaped to match the contours of the logo. The patches first appeared on March 27, 2025. The agreement spans three years, coinciding with the period the team is playing home games in Sacramento, California, while its new stadium in Las Vegas is under construction..

In 2023 and 2024, the Athletics had not yet reached a deal for a jersey patch sponsor. However, in anticipation of a future ad patch, the team began alternating the placement of the “Elephant-on-Ball” patch based on each player’s handedness, leaving the opposite sleeve available. The elephant patch was removed in 2025 to make room for both the new ad patch and a patch honoring Sacramento, the club’s temporary home.

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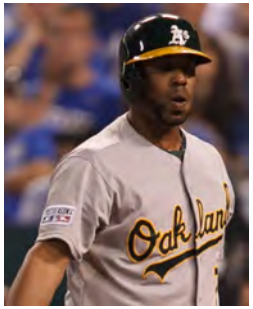
Athletics Postseason Patches

1988 World Series (right sleeve)

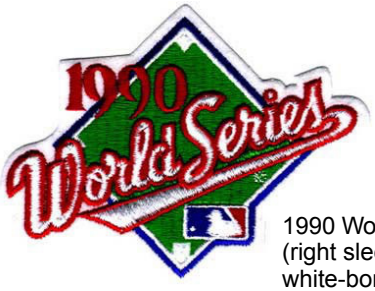
2013 AL Division Series (right sleeve)

1989 World Series (right sleeve) Worn in combination with left sleeve black armband World Series only, for the sudden death of commissioner Bart Giamatti

2014 AL Wild Card (right sleeve)



2018 AL Wild Card (right sleeve, above Anniversary patch)



1990 World Series (right sleeve) worn with white-bordered USA flag on right chest

2019 AL Wild Card (right sleeve, above MLB150 patch)

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Back

Document of Restoration

Oakland Athletics 1970 Home Jersey- BANDO

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: 1970 tagged Oakland A's white road vest #6, with name on back removed. Ghosts and small holes remain and are visible on the light table.

Work Performed: The light table examination clearly showed that the name "Bando" had been removed, which left both shadows and a few small holes at the edges of the letters, admittedly difficult to see on these small photos. I restored the name on back using media-blasted twill and bleached colored thread to make a more harmonious match. I removed 1" pleats from both of the side seams, as this jersey had been taken in to make it a smaller size for its post-MLB use.

William F. Henderson

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications
Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
The Dream Shop: MLB Jersey Restorations
http://GameWornGuides.com http://TheDream.Shop

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Letter of Restoration/Professional Opinion

Jim Roland 1971 Oakland Athletics Game Used Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 12, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0112J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Oakland Athletics seven-button home cream colored flannel size 44 (marked and measured) vest jersey, McAuliffe 1971 manufacturer and team tagging. Kelly Green over gold "A's" on the left chest, #33 on the right chest and again on the back in the A's McAuliffe style font. Gold/Kelly/gold uniform braid rings the neck opening and the two vest armholes. The original buttons are intact; they are the correct small, white four-hole style used by McAuliffe. Size 44 is appropriate for Roland, who was 6' 3" and 190 lbs. A's jerseys of that time were almost always relegated to the minor leagues for reissue, with some or all lettering stripped. As received, a light table examination revealed that this one still had its original team crest and numbers on both front and back, but that the name on back had been removed. The impression of the removed name was easily seen without use of the light table, with crisp outlines and indents in the cloth, This tells me that while it was stripped, it was never re-issued, because being washed just once would have obliterated these imprints substantially. In 1971 Roland appeared in 31 games for the Athletics, all in relief, compiling a 1-3-1 record in 45.2 innings with a 3.15 ERA.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: White, red and blue McAuliffe tagging on the outside left tail with blue "44" size tag and red "71" year tag, the set of three tightly spaced and stitched tags in a cluster are comparable to other exemplars. A's jerseys in 1971 were not team-tagged with player names/numbers. The tagging is appropriately slightly edge-frayed.

Restoration/Wear & Repairs: This jersey body shows appropriate wear for a single season of use by a relief pitcher and all the stitching remans reasonably tight, and the original green/gold/green braid on the neck and arm openings shows light wear but is without damage. The lettering shows some puckering from hot water washing but is all still firmly attached and is shiny and bright. There are no team alterations and repairs, save the removal of the player name on back. This jersey seems to have avoided reuse in the minor leagues or spring training, an uncommon occurrence for period A's jerseys that were almost universally shown no mercy. One can only speculate how this came to be, but I have found that jerseys issued to larger players like Roland were more likely to be spared because they were not a good fit for the younger minor league players. There are no signs that any other number than 33 had been on this jersey. I was charged with restoring the name on back to its original appearance and recreated it using the team font of 1971, and placed it using the clear ghosts as my guide. The letters in the name are not in a perfectly straight line probably due to stretching distortion of the original fabric.

Continued on the next page

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Here, the jersey as received. Below, light table photo of the name on back shadow, just slightly enhanced to show it more clearly. The slight misalignment of the lettering is probably caused by stretching distortion of the fabric that occurred during use and subsequent washings.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used, mostly original condition with only the player name on back professionally restored. It is properly lettered and tagged without contrivance. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Jim Roland of the 1971 Oakland Athletics.

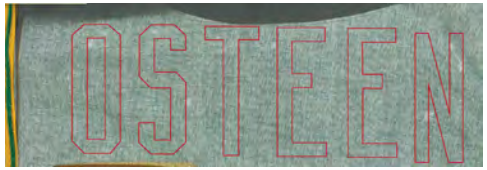
William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

Back

Document of Restoration

Oakland Athletics 1970 Road Jersey- BLUE and OSTEEN

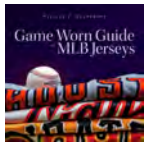
This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.



As Received: 1970 tagged Oakland A's heather gray/green road vest #35, with name on back removed. Ghosts and small holes remain and are visible on the light table.

Work Performed: The light table examination showed that two names had been on this jersey, "Osteen" and "Blue". The Osteen name had been removed more roughly and left more marks. I restored the name on back "BLUE" at the client's request, using media-blasted twill and bleached colored thread to make a more harmonious match.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator



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Letter of Professional Opinion/Letter of Restoration

1971 Oakland Athletics #12 Tommy Davis Road Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: July 29, 2021; *Revised* Feb 2, 2025 **Certification Number**: 21-0729J05

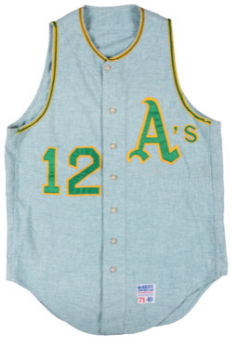
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Oakland Athletics, seven-button sea-mist green (road gray) size 40 jersey, McAuliffe 1971 manufacturer and team tagging. #12 on the front right chest and on the back in the A's McAuliffe style font, in Kelly Green over light gold. A's team crest in the same colors on the left chest. Gold/Kelly/gold uniform braid rings the neck opening and the two vest armholes. The original buttons are intact; they are the correct small, tan four-hole style used by McAuliffe.

Infielder Tommy Davis (6' 2" and 190 lbs) was acquired midseason from the Astros and had played on the Athletics June 23-September 15, then was traded to the Cubs where he played in only 11 games to end the season He then returned to the A's as a free agent to start the 1971 season. The A's were a notoriously frugal organization, and this jersey has one remarkable characteristic: both sides of the jersey have been professionally tailored to **add** an extra three inches to the chest. I have included a photo of the tailoring, because this is not an amateur job. Someone with a great deal of skill perfectly spliced in identical hemmed fabric to make a size 40 jersey fit the larger player. Other Davis jerseys from this period in our exemplar library are size 42 and 44. It is possible that given its very good current condition, Davis used this as his set 2/alternate road jersey. Davis had an outstanding year in 1971, batting .324, He had previously twice won the NL batting title with the Dodgers, in both 1962-1963.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: McAuliffe tagging on the outside left tail with "40" size tag and "71" year tag, the set of three tightly spaced and stitched tags in a cluster are comparable to other exemplars. The presence of its 1971 tag is all the more odd, as it indicates that this is most likely not Davis's 1970 jersey reissued, which is what one might expect the organization would have done. Any explanation of why the team began in 1971 with a size 40 jersey for Davis and then proceeded to make it two sizes bigger would be purely speculation.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows light to moderate wear, all the stitching remans tight and there is no damage or repairs. It shows some puckering of the twill numbers and team crest on both front and back, as well as light piling and pulls to the flannel fabric, but it is still bright and evenly hued throughout, in much better condition than many other A's jerseys of this vintage, ones that were used again and again in spring training and in the minor leagues. A light table examination shows that the sewn elements are original and without contrivance, The faint ghost image of former name on back "DAVIS" is evident.



Continued on reverse

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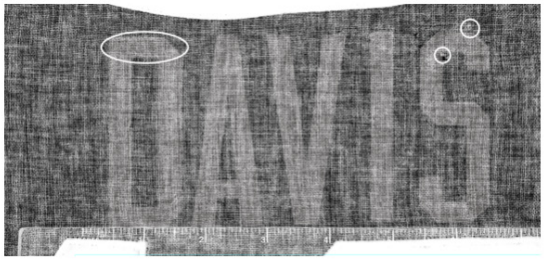

Above left: the jersey back prior to restoration. Above right: Enhanced contrast light table photo showing the ghost of the removed name on back. The circles mark the spots where fraying or small holes give been created from the removal that match points of intersection with the edges of the old lettering. At left: photo showing the professionally tailored side panel inserts on both sides; very uncommon to see a jersey made bigger; generally jerseys are tailored to make them smaller!

Additional restoration documented: February, 2025 the jersey's owner asked that the player name on back be restored to original specifications. The jersey was put on the light table and the ghosts of the removed name on back became apparent, both with shadows from the slightly thicker fabric that had been protected beneath the old now-removed lettering and a couple of small holes that were strategically caused along the stitched edges from the lettering removal of many years ago. The ghosts were matched to the patterns of the Athletics' player name font as used in 1971, the Kelly Green fabric cut and then media blasted to better match the patina of the other aged fabric on the shirt. It was stitched in place with a similar, matching green zig-zag stitch as the rest of the lettering. With the lettering now sewn exactly over the original ghosts, they are completely invisible when the restored jersey is placed on the light table. The photo below documents the restoration.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. The unique tailoring would have made it the proper size for Davis to have worn. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Tommy Davis of the 1971 Oakland Athletics.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Angel Mangual 1971 Oakland Athletics Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 31, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0531J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Oakland Athletics, sea-mist green (off-gray) road jersey, #2, McAuliffe 1971 manufacturer and team tagging. Outfielder Angel Manual wore #2 for the A's in 1971. Gold/Kelly/gold knit ribbon trim banding the arm and neck openings. "A's" wordmark in green outlined with yellow on the left chest, and similarly two-color #2 on back and right chest in the distinctive A's/McAuliffe font. McAuliffe tagging on the front center tail with "42" size tag and "71" year tag, all comparable to other examples. A size 42, it is a reasonable size for a 5' 10", 180 lbs. player (as Mangual is listed in Baseball Almanac). This green/gray jersey was one of three styles (the others are white and yellow) issued to A's players in 1971. This style was the standard road jersey.

Wear & Repairs: Notable on this jersey is some puckering of the original lettering. Caused by hot water washing, the twill shrunk less than the jersey did, causing the characteristic puckering. The jersey shows wear which is consistent with a jersey that has been worn by a player throughout the season, and then possibly by another player in either Spring Training or the minor leagues for another season. Jersey has reasonable level of thread pulls, loose threads, and shows wash wear, with significant puckering of the back numbers.

Restoration Performed: When I received this jersey for evaluation, it was missing its original name on back, and the ghosts were easily visible on the light table. As was customary for the team and the time, after a year or so in MLB service, game jerseys had their player names removed from the back, and the equipment was sent to Spring Training or to the minor leagues for reuse. The ghost of the removed NOB showed that it was the correct team name on back NOB font as used by the 1971 Athletics. I was asked to perform NOB restoration on this jersey. The name on back has now been restored with appropriately aged Kelly green twill covering the old NOB ghosts perfectly in both size and position, and photo evidence of the restoration was recorded.

Continued, overleaf

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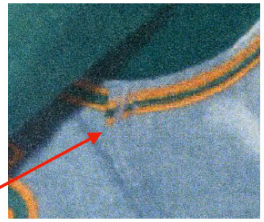
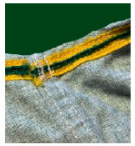
As restored, the player name letters were placed exactly over the old marks, and distortion to the fabric over the the years and many washings means that the name is not perfectly straight. This is expected.

In a 1971 team photo of Mangual shown here, notice the stitching detail of the side trim under the armhole opening. I would judge this as a likely photo-match and plausible evidence that this is the same jersey as the player is shown wearing in the team photo.





Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the trim, team crest and numbers are all original, and the name on back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this is the original and genuine Oakland A's road jersey issued to and worn by outfielder Angel Mangual during the 1971 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bert Campaneris 1970 Oakland Athletics Game Used Gold Jersey

Examination Date: February 21, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0221J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Oakland Athletics gold alternate jersey, #19, McAuliffe 1970 manufacturer and team tagging. Shortstop Bert Campaneris wore #19 for the A's in 1970. White/Kelly/white knit ribbon trim banding the arm and neck openings. "A's" wordmark in green outlined with yellow on the left chest, and similarly two-color #19 on back and right chest in the distinctive A's/McAuliffe font. A size 40, it matches multiple exemplars of other Campaneris jerseys in our archives and is reasonable for a man of his stature. Original set of seven thick yellow plastic buttons as used by McAuliffe are still intact. This gold jersey was one of three styles (the others are white and sea mist green/gray) issued to A's players in 1970. This style was an alternate and was worn both at home and on the road. As received the name on back had been removed, which was standard procedure by the A's at the time; team jerseys were stripped and were prepared for use either the in next year's spring training or for reassignment to the minor leagues. The A's had four minor league squads in 1971, with two of them being named "A's". The original MLB A's crest remains intact on this one, so if reused in the minors it was sent to either Birmingham (AA) or Coos Bay (A-). Since Campaneris was on the 1971 A's squad, he probably wore this jersey with his name on back still intact in 1971 spring training before it was stripped and demoted.

Manufacturer/Team Tagging: McAuliffe cluster of three tags is stitched on the front left tail with "40" size tag (both marked and as measured) and "70" year tag, all comparable to other examples. The A's did not player-tag jerseys in 1970. The tagging is original and with contrivance.

Wear & Repairs: The light table and an examination of the stitching shows that both the A's crest and the player numbers sewn to this jersey are original. Notable on this jersey is puckering of the original lettering, caused by hot water washing. While both fabrics shrunk, the twill shrunk more than the jersey did, causing the characteristic puckering beneath. The jersey shows wear which is consistent with a one that has been worn by a player throughout the season, and then again in Spring Training and/or the minor leagues for at least another season. Jersey has reasonable level of thread pulls, loose threads, and shows wash wear, with significant puckering of the back numbers. The original trim around the neck and sleeve openings is worn but still solid, complete and intact, not shredded as is often the case when these jerseys were over-used in the minors.

Continued, overleaf

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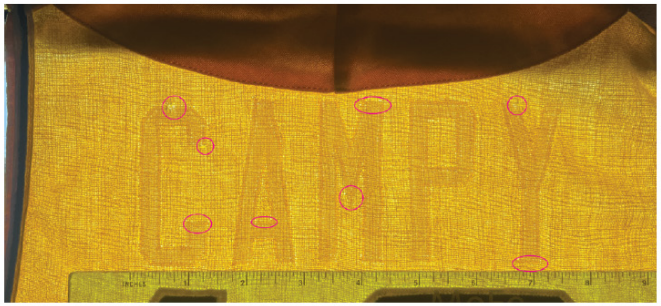
Restoration Performed: When I received this jersey for evaluation, it was missing its original name on back, and the ghosts were easily visible on the light table. The ghost of the removed NOB showed that it was the correct name on back NOB font as used by the 1971 Athletics. I was asked to perform NOB restoration on this jersey. The name on back has now been restored with appropriately media-blasted aged Kelly green twill covering the old NOB ghosts perfectly in both size and position, and photo evidence of the restoration was recorded. As restored, the player name letters were placed exactly over the old marks, and distortion to the fabric over the the years and many washings means that the restored name is not perfectly straight. This is expected.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the trim, team crest and numbers are all original, and the name on back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this is the original and genuine Oakland A's road jersey issued to and worn by shortstop Bert Campaneris during the 1970 season.



Above: as received, prior to restoration. Light table image of ghosting of name on back; red circles show small holes and points of distress from the removal of the original lettering.

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Letter of Restoration / Letter of Opinion

Oakland Athletics 1976-1977 Team Issued and Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: July 8, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0708J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: "Wedding Gown White" heavyweight knit pullover jersey, size 44 by McAuliffe. 2 1/2" wide green and gold banded sleeve end trim, and 1" green/gold/green V-Neck trim. Kelly Green over white, A's wordmark crest on the left chest in gold over Kelly Green.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The correct set of four clustered tags are sewn at the bottom outside center if the shirt tail. They include the McAuliffe manufacturer tag in the center, surrounded by the blue-bordered white year tag "1976" embroidered in red; red-embroidered washing instructions, and the size tag embroidered in blue on a white tag, "44". These tags were always clustered arbitrarily by the stitcher, and their placement matches exemplars. The tags show extreme wear, the final digit of the "1976" tag is discernible only under very close scrutiny.

Wear & Repairs: As received, the jersey had been stripped clean of all back lettering and was remarkably white and clean despite the wear evident by the worn tagging and the burnishing of the front team crest. A light table evaluation of the stripped jersey showed the placement of more than one set of original numbers, "60" being discernible with the remnants of glue around the edges, but it is clear another set of two numbers had been on the back before, from the presence of some non-aligned shadows and small pulls/cuts in the jersey fabric where the other set of numbers had once been. On back, there are competing sets of ghosts of two prior names on back, though the only one I can make out aligns with the name on back Dick Allen wore in 1977, WAMPUM, the name of his high school and the 60 signifying his year of graduation. In the attached enhanced light table image, I have highlighted the ghosts and the points of intersection with the team's player lettering fonts and Allen's name and number.

Thoughts and Observations: Allen appeared in only 54 games for the 1977 A's, April through mid-June, collecting 171 at bats with 5 home runs and hitting .240, before leaving the team abruptly after the doubleheader on June 19, a day in which he had two hits. He never played on a MLB roster after that day.

The A's were notoriously cheap, and the white jerseys were alternates, worn only for Sunday games at home, of which there were 13 in 1977; and Allen was on the roster for only six of them. Keep in mind that players were typically issued two jerseys in every style. It is possible that Allen was re-issued this previously-used 1976 jersey with his name and number added since this jersey was the least-used in the team's wardrobe. The size of the jersey is consistent with those Allen wore throughout the second half of his career. 1977 photos show him very lean and trim, even at this point so late in his career. But reissuing a 1976 jersey for the star-player who joined the team for only the 1977 season is mind-boggling to me. Then, to have it stripped so cleanly after he used it in what was his final MLB season adds to the oddity.

Lettering ghosts left behind on jerseys are intensified with the amount of time they were worn and washed with names and numbers in place. It would be pure speculation, but the ghosts could be so faint because the jersey was washed only a few times, depending on how offen it was worn, which, owing the presence of two sets, may well have been only three times. It is *possible* the team stripped this jersey of Allen's name and number after his departure mid-season, perhaps planning on re-issuing it again to another call-up player.

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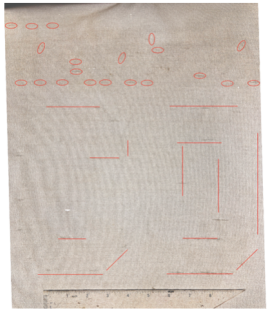
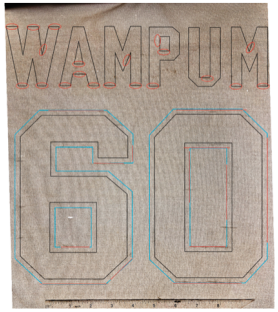
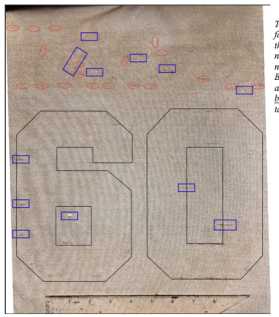
Restoration performed: The A's jerseys of the 1970s had player names and numbers hand-cut from twill using rough paper patterns. Thus there are many small variations from jersey to jersey. Over the years I have handled enough original jerseys that I have amassed a quite sizable collection of scans of game-used number and alphabet fonts. Using standard patterns from this collection, as well as game photos of Allen in 1977, I recreated the player name and number lettering and overlaid them onto the light table image of this jersey back, and there are significant points of match of many ghost-mark strokes. The complete outlines of the "60" are visible, as are many individual strokes from the player name on back, though not enough to say 100% without question that the word WAMPUM was present. I will let the collector be the judge if the evidence I have uncovered is convincing enough. I will also note that there are other faint ghost marks that DO NOT match 60 WAMPUM that I will assume are from the 1976 use of this jersey. I was not able to determine who might have worn this jersey in 1976.

At the top, jersey as received. Without the aid of the light table the back is completely clean and blank. Here, Allen in 1977 game photos. Bottom right, an example of an Allen 1977 jersey said to be game worn that I can not personally validate, but I offer it for consideration.







Top left, multiple strokes of the outline of the "60" on back are fairly clear, emphasized here with red lines. The small red ovals at the top are points of distress that indicate the edge of a letter of the name on back. Top right, the template of the player's name and number are overlaid showing many points of possible intersection. Bottom left, the blue rectangles show points of fabric distress that are not consistent with Allen's name and number, and may have been from the prior year's use of this same shirt, as it is year tagged for 1976.

Conclusion: This is a team issued and game used 1976 white alternate jersey of the Oakland Athletics. It shows heavy wear, yet is clean and without contrivance. I have re-lettered it with the name and number used by Dick Allen in 1977 at the request of its owner, and can say that there is a body of evidence that it had originally been lettered this way, as well as probably having been lettered for a different player who wore it in 1976.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Authenticity

Oakland Athletics 1976 Mike Torrez Green Game Jersey

Examination Date: December 24, 2018 **Certification Number 181226-1**

Description: Oakland Athletics, green road/alternate jersey, #24, McAuliffe 1976 manufacturer and team tagging. (From Wikipedia) "Torrez was traded (*to the Athletics*) along with Don Baylor and Paul Mitchell by the Orioles to the Oakland Athletics for Reggie Jackson, Ken Holtzman and pitcher Bill Van Bommel on April 2, 1976.[2] Pitching with the Athletics, Torrez had another fine season in 1976 as he went 16–12 with a career low 2.50 ERA. He was traded to Yankees early the next season.."

Design & Tagging: Dark Kelly Green pullover jersey with three yellow banded knit trim stripes at the end of each sleeve. Knit V-Neck trim is yellow-white-yellow. "A's" wordmark in white outlined with yellow on the left chest, and similarly two-color #24 on back in the distinctive A's/McAuliffe font. McAuliffe tagging on the front center tail with "46" size tag and "76" year tag, all comparable to other examples. When I received this jersey for evaluation, it was missing its original name on back and its left sleeve patch, and the ghosts of both were visible on the light table. I restored both to original, and documentation of that process is included in this letter.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows wear which is consistent with a jersey that has been worn by a pitcher throughout the season, and then possibly by another player in either Spring Training or the minor leagues for another season. Jersey has reasonable level of thread pulls, loose threads, and shows wash wear, especially in the puckering of the back numbers.

Comments: A size 46, it is a reasonable size for a 6; 5" pitcher, 220 lbs. (as Torrez is listed in Baseball Almanac). The green jersey was one of three styles (the others are white and yellow) issued to A's players in 1976. Green jerseys were worn both at home and on the road.

Jerseys issued to pitchers typically show less wear than those issued to position players, because pitchers don't play in every game. They also rarely damage their jerseys with hard slides and other activities more common to position players. This jersey shows low wear typical to a pitcher-issued jersey, and it did not suffer much undue wear in post-MLB use, if it was in fact used again at all. As was customary for the team and the time, player name on back had been removed after his jersey's MLB service had finished. This evaluator was asked to perform a name on back (NOB) restoration on this jersey as well as sewing a reproduction 1976 team patch on the left sleeve. The name on back has been restored with appropriately aged, yellowed white twill covering the old NOB ghosts perfectly in both size and position, and photo evidence of the restoration was recorded.

Notable on this jersey is rather extreme puckering of the original back numbers indicating that this jersey shrunk somewhat during what were probably many hot-water washings. The twill shrunk less than the jersey did causing the characteristic puckering. This puckering is not so evident on the front "A's" wordmark. This puckering is a common characteristic of these team used Athletics jerseys.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Mike Torrez in the 1976 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal

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Document of Restoration

Oakland Athletics 1977 Green Jersey -#24 Torrez

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: 1977 year tagged Oakland A's green road jersey, #24 with name on back removed. Careful examination on the light table, then enhancing photos using color and contrast tools allowed us to uncover the original name on back, TORREZ, in the correct font style and sizes as used by McAuliffe on the 1977 A's jerseys. There was no evidence of any other name having been sewn there.

Work Performed: Replaced name on back using the team template from our archives, exactly matching the shadows now clearly visible on the jersey fabric. Twill lettering was media blasted and organically dyed prior to stitching to jersey to tint the color and reduce the sheen for a better match to the original lettering, and all was sewn with off-white thread for a better match.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Gene Tenace 1975 Oakland Athletics Gold Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: December 7, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1207J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1975 Oakland Athletics gold alternate pullover jersey, McAuliffe size 42, (marked and measured) as issued to #18 infielder and catcher Gene Tenace. This is the proper size for the player, (6' 0" 190 lbs) compared to exemplars. McAuliffe 1975 manufacturer and team tagging (set of 4 clustered individually sewn tags) in sewn to the outside center bottom of the front tail. Solid bright gold pullover jersey with 3" knit, five-striped green/gold trim at the end of each sleeve. Knit V-Neck trim is green/white/gelly. "A's" wordmark in Kelly Green outlined with white on the left chest, and similarly two-color #18 on back in the proper A's/McAuliffe font. "TENACE" in tall, narrow single-color Kelly letters that are correct to the team, player and year. Notably, the numbers and the team wordmark on front is sewn with a typical and characteristic rather wide zig-zag stitch. Matching other examples. When examined on the light table, all elements and stitching appear original and without alteration.

Tenace enjoyed a 15 year MLB career, spending his first eight seasons (1969-1976) with the A's. In 1975 he played in 158 games hitting .255 with 29 home runs. He was selected to the AL All Star team in 1975. He was on four World Series winning teams as a player.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Typical 4-separate piece McAuliffe tagging on the front outside center tail with "42" size tag and blue-bordered McAuliffe tag, blue bordered "1975" year tag, and seven-line wash tag; all comparable to other game worn examples.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows wear which is consistent with a full season's worth of use. Jersey has reasonable level of thread pulls, loose threads, wash wear, especially in the puckering of the tagging and burnishing of all sewn elements. There are two significant areas of staining: rows of horizontal dark yellow scuffs on the upper chest and the lower back tail that appear to be paint or rust, but because the jersey is gold they are not very noticeable. Because this jersey wears its original numbers and player name on back, it somehow was spared reissue to the minor leagues, and therefore shows less wear than those examples we have seen that did not escape this fate. Most Oakland A's jerseys of this vintage in the hobby are in far worse condition from multiple reissues.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Gene Tenace of the Oakland Athletics during the 1975 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Davis 1980 Oakland Athletics Gold Rookie Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: March 10, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0310J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gold heavyweight knit pullover jersey, size 44 by McAuliffe. 2 1/2" wide green and gold banded sleeve end trim, and 1" green/white/green V-Neck trim. Kelly Green over white, A's wordmark crest on the left chest.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The correct set of four clustered tags are sewn at the bottom outside center if the shirt tail. They include the McAuliffe manufacturer tag in the center, surrounded by the blue-bordered white year tag "1980" embroidered in red; red-embroidered washing instructions, and the size tag embroidered in blue on a white tag, "44". These tags were always clustered arbitrarily by the stitcher, and their placement matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: As received, the jersey previously had the numbers 31 on the back and the name UNDERWOOD. The jersey owner had stripped these off anticipating returning the jersey to its original DAVIS. A light table evaluation of the stripped jersey showed the placement of the original numbers "16" and the faint ghost of several strokes in the DAVIS NOB. Unfortunately, the UNDERWOOD name had been applied with too much heat, burning the green dye into the fabric. Unsatisfied with its restored appearance, the jersey owner opted to have it again stripped and re-lettered as HENDERSON #35 simply to make it more presentable for dimply.

It is a mystery as to why a year-tagged 1980 jersey had Underwood on it. He did not join the Athletics until mid-season 1981 (when he did wear #31) and by 1981 the team was no longer wearing this style of jersey. (1980 was its final year). Had Underwood played for the A's in 1981 spring training, that might explain it, but he was with the Yankees then.

1980 was outfielder Mike Davis' rookie year. He platooned during 1980, and was on the A's roster the full year. He appeared in 51 games, batting .211 with 51 at -bats and a single home run. He went on to a ten year career, eight with the Athletics and the final two with the Dodgers. The size of this jersey is reasonable for a man of Davis' height and weight.

Photos of the jersey attached show it 1) as it was originally correctly restored for Mike Davis but then changed again. 2) as received 3) As it exists today, lettered for Henderson #35.

These photos show the jersey in its "restored to original" condition. It has since been re-lettered as shown, overleaf.

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Above, as received from its owner. At left, the burned in stains of the later player lettering. At bottom, as it has been lettered today. It could easily be changed back to Davis 16.

Conclusion: In my opinion, the is the 1980 Oakland Athletics rookie jersey of Mike Davis. While it now wears a different name and number, it began life lettered for that player. It was re-lettered to Henderson only because of the permanent stains where the player name is sewn are better covered by the long name.

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Letter of Restoration/Professional Opinion

Reggie Jackson 1967 Kansas City Athletics Game Used - His First Home Jersey

Examination Date: June 28, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0628J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Kansas City Athletics seven-button home cream colored flannel size 44 home vest jersey, McAuliffe 1967 manufacturer and team tagging. Kelly Green over gold "A" on the left chest, #31 on the right chest and again on the back in the A's McAuliffe style font. Gold/Kelly/gold uniform braid rings the neck opening and the two vest armholes. The original buttons are intact; they are the correct small, white four-hole style used by McAuliffe. This jersey body shows heavy but not excessive wear, with the original gold/green/gold braid on the neck and arm openings showing moderate wear but is without separation, fraying or missing sections as so often happens. The jersey body is evenly discolored from much washing and reuse and has weathered almost to an ivory-tan color. No names on back were used in 1967. Size 44 is appropriate for Jackson at the start of his career and matches other examples. A's jerseys of that time were almost always relegated to the minor leagues for reissue, with some or all lettering stripped. Inside the button placket at the very bottom is the word "BUD" written in faded black marker, and a similarly marked and faded "X" is penned inside the back of the neck, both doubtlessly from minor league service.

As received, a light table examination revealed that this one still had its original numbers on both front and back, but that the front "A", even though worn and weathered, was not original to the garment; while close in design, was from 1965 and its shape was not identical to the crest style used in 1967.

There is a long inscription on the front of this jersey on the left side above the tagging, in black felt tip pen. It reads, "My first rookie 'gamer' jersey from Kansas City June 1967" and it signed *Reggie Jackson*. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Continued on the next page

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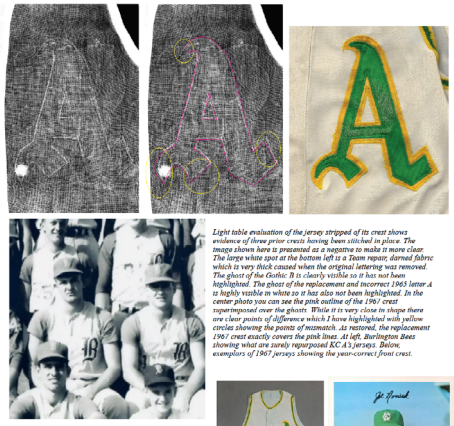
Manufacture and Team Tagging: White and blue McAuliffe tagging with no colored border on the outside left tail with blue "42" size tag and green with white "'67" year tag, the set of three tightly spaced and stitched tags in a cluster are comparable to other exemplars. A's jerseys in 1967 were not team-tagged with player names/numbers. Matches exemplars.

Notes and Restoration Performed: Researching this jersey's history: it was offered at auction in May 2011 by Gray Flannel, and the auction listing contained this line: *"This shirt originates from a lot of 150 A's flannel jerseys the team still retained that were purchased from a warehouse in the late 1970's"* While I can not personally validate that statement, I have located other jerseys in my research that likely were part of that find, including a gray road jersey of Jackson's autographed with similar front inscription.

Continued on the next page

At top, the front autograph and inscription; inside view of tagging shows original stitching. June 11, 1967 Kansas City Star photo showing Jackson wearing home #31. At bottom, the light table evaluation of the numbers, front and back showing that they are original. At bottom, the inside showing characteristic puckering from washing. Bottom left, black marker inside the front button flap, an artifact of minor league use.



Light table evaluation of the jersey stripped of its crest shows evidence of three prior crests having been stitched in place. The image shown here is presented as a negative to make it more clear. The large white spot at the bottom left is a Team repair, darned fabric which is very thick caused when the original lettering was removed. The ghost of the Gothic B is clearly visible so it has not been highlighted. The ghost of the replacement and incorrect 1965 letter A is highly visible in white so it has also not been highlighted. In the center photo you can see the pink outline of the 1967 crest superimposed over the ghosts. While it is very close in shape there are clear points of difference which I have highlighted with yellow circles showing the points of mismatch. As restored, the replacement 1967 crest exactly covers the pink lines. At left, Burlington Bees showing what are surely repurposed KC A's jerseys. Below, examplars of 1967 jerseys showing the year-correct front crest.

21-year old Reggie Jackson was called up by the Kansas City Athletics in June 1967 and made his first MLB appearance in a double header June 9 at home, where he had his first MLB hit in the second game, a triple. (*Baseball Almanac*, *Wikipedia*). Jackson was issued #31, a number worn briefly at the start of the season by pitcher Bob Duliba (5' 10" 185 lbs.) who had been released by the team a month prior. Jackson (6' 0" 200 lbs) was roughly the same size and would have fit into Duliba's jersey; it was common for call-ups to be given any available jersey and in my judgement Jackson was re-issued Duliba's barely-used uniform sets as a matter of practical course. Jackson played in games with the A's from June 9 through July 2, 1967, when he was sent back to the minor leagues (Birmingham) after hitting only .178. He was called up again and resumed the Athletics' MLB roster in mid September 1967. (SABR) No other player wore #31 during 1967.

As auctioned in 2011 by Gray Flannel and as delivered to its buyer, he reports that the front A's crest had been replaced with a crisp and shiny brand new one in seven green over gold tackle twill. After acquisition, the owner sent it out to be restored, and a replacement A's crest from an original, 1960s-vintage weathered jersey replaced the new crest that had been on it. A light table evaluation shows that a large gothic "B" logo had been sewn on the front of this jersey and from the difference in thickness of fabric beneath it, likely been stitched there for multiple seasons of minor-league use, with the Class A Burlington Bees who used this front crest.

The light table shows that the numbers on this jersey are unchanged. The patina of the burnished and puckered numbers on both front and back indicates that they are original. All of the stitching on the numbers, back and front, were touched up Typically, tackle twill lettering shrinks more than the flannel fabric beneath it. This causes a characteristic puckering behind the original numbers. It appears (wisely) that the inner (green) layer was simply overstitched with the numbers left in place, while the gold outer layer attaching thread was stripped and re-sewn. The numbers don't seem to have been completely taken off the shirt because the puckering of the flannel underneath them is still visible. If the numbers had been completely removed and reattached, there would have been a mismatch in the outlines because the puckered flannel would have expanded, causing the outlines to expand and no longer match the shrunken numbers.

While the front crest have been replaced with a vintage original, it was not exactly like the style of the crest used in 1967. The jersey's owner commissioned me to properly restore the front crest using one from another 1967 Athletics jersey he had procured; this one all original.

Carefully removing the front crest, the jersey was again returned to the light table. The large "B" that had been there was clearly visible as a darker area, as the fabric in that area was thicker having been protected in the washing machine for probably multiple seasons it was used with that logo in place. Placing the 1967 vintage "A" crest over the stitched outline reveals a ghost and the overlap of a team repair that match its shape.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used, mostly original condition with only the front "A" professionally restored with as period original. The numbers have been reinforced with new stitching that conserves the original. It is properly lettered and tagged without commivance. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Reggie Jackson of the 1967 Kansas City Athletics, his first MLB jersey.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Art Fowler 1982 Oakland Athletics Alternate Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: June 3, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0602J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White Wilson seven-button size 46 alternate home white jersey with raglan-style sleeves, issued to pitching coach Art Fowler for the 1982 season. Heavy white double knit jersey body with sewn-in knit sleeve end trim, 1 1/2" dark green/gold/dark green. The placket is trimmed with dark green soutache. Matching dark green outline with gold "A's" crest on the left chest. Number 42 on back in the same colors, his name, FOWLER above in one color dark green, sewn in the characteristic straight line of these A's jerseys. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort as is typical with Wilson-made jerseys of the period.

As a player, Fowler toiled in the minor leagues for ten years, finally reaching the majors in 1954 at age 31. He played for the Reds, Dodgers and Angels during parts of nine of the next eleven seasons, as a starter 1953-1956, and after that mostly as a reliever. After his playing career ended, Fowler hooked up with Billy Martin, and served as his pitching coach for five different teams, including three separate stints with the Yankees.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Small Wilson manufacturer tag in the correct style for 1982 is stitched to the outside of the left tail. Beneath it is a 1" x 2.5" rectangle of white knit fabric, hand chain-stitched embroidered "42 82" in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher, matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in very good condition and shows definite signs of being worn and washed multiple times. The wear is what would be expected of a jersey issued to a coach, with minor light stains, but without hard game wear. The lettering is clean and crisp with some loose threads. The linen lining of the inside of the placket is yellowed from use bit fully intact.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, and lettered. It is all original and lacks contrivances of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and worn by coach Art Fowler of the 1982 Oakland Athletics.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dave Lopes 1982 Oakland Athletics Gray Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 3, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0603J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Oakland Athletics, road gray pullover jersey, size 40, #15, Sand Knit manufacturer and team tagging, issued to infielder Dave Lopes. Heavyweight gray jersey body with three-banded dark green/gold/green knit trim at the sleeve ends and the V-Neck. "OAKLAND " vertically arched wordmark in dark green outlined with gold across the chest. Similarly two-color 8 1/8" tall #15 on back in the correct A's block font, LOPES ached above in dark green in the Sand-Knit font. Lopes was the 1982 A's starting second baseman, playing 128 games, his first season in Oakland after ten as a Dodger. He hit .242 in 450 at bats.

Manufacturer and team Tagging: The customary set of two side-by-side Medalist Sand-Knit locker tags are on the outside left tail; the left one is the "Exclusively tailored for the Oakland Athletics" that appeared on all team issued jerseys, and the right one has the maker's Medalist Sand-Knit logo and the garment size of 40 on it. Inside the back of the tail is a Sand-Knit machine printed outline hollow-black-letter printed white knit strip tag that matches exemplars. It reads 82 LOPES 40S. (Size 40- the "S" on Sand Knit jerseys indicates special tailoring, usually extra length which this has.) These tags all match exemplars for 1982. Size 40 is appropriate for Lopes to have worn based on his size- 5' 9", 170 lbs., and is the same as other period jerseys attributed to him. Sand Knit exclusively provided the team's gray "OAKLAND" lettered jerseys in 1982.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in excellent original condition, with very little evidence of use. The twill lettering is unpuckered and crisp. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance. Multiple game photos from the 1982 season show Lopes wearing a gray jersey in this style with his name sewn in a straight line, unlike this one that is arched. Given its pristine condition, yet the fact that it is specially tailored with extra length, it is likely that this jersey was a "set 2" that received less use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, and lettered. It is all original and lacks contrivances of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and worn by Dave Lopes of the 1982 Oakland Athletics.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jose Canseco Oakland Athletics 1990 Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: July 16, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0716J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home white six-button Rawlings-made Oakland Athletics road jersey of #33 Jose Canseco. "Athletics" scripted on a slant across both front panels with underline, in the proper style for 1990, dark green over gold. Player number 33 below on the left chest in the correct style unique to to the Athletics, in the same colors as the wordmark above, with wide outlines and with the numbers spaced widely apart, typical for the team and the year. On back, "CANSECO" name is arched properly and in the correct font in dark green on a perfectly matching white nameplate with a single-needle serged edge. The nameplate is a specific style used by the A's with uniquely angled ends. Below the player number 33 in green over gold in the correct font for the team. Green elephant on a ball patch is stitched to the left sleeve, it is the correct patch— with the elephant's gold saddle and a green A embroidered in the center. There is correctly no patch on the right sleeve. It is autographed on the left front below the numbers in blue marker. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the signature.

In 1990 Canseco hit .274 with 37 home runs and won his second Silver Slugger Award. *(From Wikipedia)* In 1988 Canseco became the first player to hit 40 home runs and steal 40 bases in one season. He won the Silver Slugger award four times: three as an AL outfielder (1988, 1990, 1991), and once as a designated hitter (1998). He ranks 4th all time in A's history with 254 home runs and is one of 14 players in MLB history with 400 home runs and 200 stolen bases. Despite his many injuries during the later part of his career, Canseco averaged 40 home runs, 120 RBIs and 102 runs scored every 162 games, playing a total of 1887 games in 17 seasons with seven different teams.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings script logo is correctly direct embroidered in dark green to the end of the right sleeve. The Rawlings white locker tag is stitched inside the front left tail is the correct style for 1990. A white twill 1" x .5" rectangular tag is pinch-sewn under the right side of the Rawlings tag, with "2 90" machine embroidered in green thread. (1990 Set 2) Credible exemplars in our library show that while he wore size 46 jerseys, many with tapered tailoring immediately prior to 1990, all claimed game worn examples in our library show that he was suddenly wearing exclusively size 50 come 1990.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey presents as nearly new with very light use. All sewn elements are crisp and bright and all twill is un-burnished, unpuckered lacking evidence of repeated washing. A major star and celebrity figure who that same year had signed the largest contract to date in MLB history, there are multiple examples of 1990 jerseys tagged identically to this one, more than just the typical two commonly issued sets. It is likely, anticipating demand, the team or the player had multiple sets issued to him for the purpose of offering them as game used memorabilia.

Conclusion: A careful examination shows that this jersey is authentic in every way to those made by Rawlings for use on the field. It is consistently sized with exemplars and has correct team tagging. It shows very light use. I would conclude that this jersey was made to exacting team specifications and for issue to Jose Canseco in the 1990 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tony Philips 1986 Oakland Athletics Gold Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 3, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0603J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Oakland Athletics, size 42 gold alternate pullover jersey, #18, Tony Philips. Sand Knit manufacturer and team tagging. Heavyweight bright gold jersey body with three-banded dark green/gold/green knit trim at the sleeve ends and the V-Neck. "OAKLAND " vertically arched wordmark in dark green outlined with white across the chest. Similarly two-color 8 1/2" tall #18 on back in the specific A's/Sand-Knit font, PHILLIPS above in dark green sewn in a straight line in the Sand-Knit font,

Recognized as being one of the first "super-utility players" in major league baseball, Phillips had an 18-year Major League Baseball (MLB) career from 1982 to 1999. He played regularly at second base, but also had significant time as a shortstop and at third base. In addition, Phillips showed his versatility with over 100 game appearances in the outfield corners and as a designated hitter. *(Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac)*

Manufacturer and team Tagging: The customary set of two side-by-side Sand-Knit locker tags are on the outside left tail; the left one is the "Exclusively Tailored for the Oakland Athletics" that appeared on all team issued jerseys, and the right one has the maker's logo and the garment size of 42 on it. Inside the back of the tail is a set of Sand-Knit machine embroidered white knit strip tags that match exemplars. The left one says 86-42, the right one PHILLIPS. These tags all match exemplars for 1986. Size 42 is appropriate for Phillips to have worn in 1986 he listed at 5' 10" and 175 lbs. My research says that Sand Knit provided only a single set of the team's gold jerseys in 1986, all other jerseys (white, green, gray) were made by Rawlings, and an additional set of gold jerseys was made by Rawlings.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in excellent original condition, with very little evidence of use. The twill lettering is unpuckered and crisp. A light table evaluation shows that stitching is original and without contrivance. Notably Phillips is listed as having started the season wearing #18 (as he had on the A's since 1982) and then switched to #2, the number he wore through the rest of his tenure with the team in 1989. While I do not have an exact date of the switch, Phillips was wearing #2 on May 16 when he hit for the cycle. Notably, the Athletics had four jerseys to choose from in their 1986 set, and likely two sets of each style, so the lack of use on this specimen is understandable.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, and lettered. It is all original and lacks contrivances of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and worn by Tony Phillips of the 1986 Oakland Athletics.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jose Canseco Oakland Athletics 1989 Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 2, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0402J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray six button Rawlings-made Oakland Athletics road jersey of #33 Jose Canseco. Oakland scripted on a slant across both front panels with underline, in the proper style for 1989, dark green over gold. Player number 33 below on the left chest in the correct style unique to to the Athletics, and in the same colors as the wordmark above. On back, "CANSECO" name is arched properly and in the correct font in dark green on a perfectly matching gray nameplate with a single-needle serged edge. The nameplate is a specific style used by the A's with uniquely angled ends and without serging on either end. Below the player number 33 in green over gold in the correct font for the team. Green elephant on a ball patch is stitched to the left sleeve, it is the correct patch— with the elephant's gold saddle and a green A embroidered in the center. There is no patch on the right sleeve. The A's were in the 1989 World Series, in which they wore a sleeve patch and a black armband, and this has neither.

(From Wikipedia) In 1989, Canseco missed 97 games of the regular season, most of them because of a broken wrist during the preseason. Despite not playing a single game in the first half of the year, he was voted as one of the starting outfielders for the American League All-Star squad, He managed to hit 17 home runs with 57 RBIs in barely 65 games played (a pace equal to 40+ home runs and 130+ RBIs had he played a full season) as the Athletics won the AL West and their first World Series since 1974, beating the San Francisco Giants in four games. Canseco had a solid postseason, batting .323 and hitting 2 home runs

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings script logo is correctly direct embroidered in dark green to the end of the right sleeve. The Rawlings white locker tag is stitched inside the front left tail is the correct style for 1989. A white flag tab is pinch-sewn under the right side of the Rawlings tag, "SET 1 1989". Credible exemplars in our library show that while he wore larger jerseys as his career went on, he was wearing size 46 at that time, although reliably authenticated examples show special tailoring indicated of both 1" and 2" extra length. This one lacks the player's typical special tailoring.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey presents as new and likely unused. All sewn elements are crisp and bright and all twill is un-burnished, unpuckered and appears new. There are a few stray pulls in the gray fabric above the N in Oakland that appear to be accidental.

Conclusion: A careful examination shows that this jersey is authentic in every way to those made by Rawlings for use on the field. It has team tagging but lacks the special tailoring generally found on other Canseco exemplars. It does not show signs of use. I would judge this to be a team issue style jersey that was likely a sample or a spare, and an outstanding example of a star player jersey from a World Series championship year.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mark McGwire Oakland Athletics 1994 Home Game Used Jersey

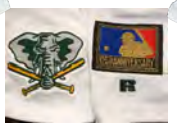
Examination Date: November 12, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1112J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home white, six-button Russell-made Oakland Athletics road jersey of #25 Mark McGwire, marked and measured as a size 48. Tagged as 2" extra length, jersey measures 34" in length which is actually around 1" extra length (reasonable). "Athletics" scripted on a slant across both front panels with underline, in the proper style for 1994, in the proper Forest Green (blue-green used only 1993-1994) over Oakland Gold. Player number 25 below on the left chest in the correct style unique to to the Athletics, in the same colors as the wordmark above, with wide outlines typical for the team and the year. On back, "McGWIRE" name is arched properly and in the correct font in the same green over gold on a perfectly matching white nameplate zig-zag stitched to the jersey directly with an un-serged edge. Below the player number 25 in the same colors and in the correct font for the team. 1993-1994 style left sleeve patch, elephant head with crossed bats. MLB 125th patch on the right sleeve as used only in 1994. Size 48 is reasonable for McGwire, he was wearing size 50 Rawlings jerseys prior to 1992, but the Russell jerseys are slightly more roomy. His jerseys often included special tailoring

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell R is correctly direct embroidered in dark green to the end of the right sleeve. The Russell Diamond Collection white locker tag is stitched outside the front left tail in the correct style for 1994. Pinch-sewn under the bottom edge is a small 100% Polyester tag, typical of team-issue, along with the aforementioned 2" extra length tailoring tag. The A's did not team tag jerseys in 1994, but the characteristics of the jersey's construction indicate that it is team issued.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey was presented without provenance. A light table evaluation shows that the jersey is without any changes from original and is without contrivance. This jersey shows evidence of moderate use, All sewn elements are still tightly sewn and undamaged, but there is some softening of the twill, minor puckering and some light fraying of the edges from wash wear.



Conclusion: A careful examination shows that this jersey is consistent in every way with exemplars of other 1994 Oakland Athletics home game jerseys. It is the proper size with team tailoring, and shows appropriate use I would conclude that this jersey was made to exacting team specifications as used by Mark McGwire in the 1994 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Barry Zito 2003 Oakland Athletics Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 3, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0603J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic full-weight six button white Oakland Athletics home jersey of #75 pitcher Barry Zito. Size 48, which is the same as multiple other, similar era jerseys authenticated for this player. "Athletics" script with underline slanted across both panels of the jersey front, in Packer Green outlined with Oakland Gold. The player's #75 is below in the proper font with the team's characteristic wide outlines. The number is repeated on back, and the player name ZITO is stitched in the same color onto a knit, serged edge nameplate sewn above. All lettering is layer-cut as is correct for 2003. The jersey body is without trim, the team's green elephant standing on a ball patch is stitched to the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in green-white-gold is stitched to the back of the neck. This jersey is autographed by Zito between the back numbers. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Zito played 15 seasons in MLB for the Oakland Athletics and San Francisco Giants. In 2002, he won 23 games (while only losing five) and won the Cy Young Award. His record was only 14–12 in 2003, but he still made the All-Star team for the second year in a row.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Athletics on-field jerseys were made exclusively by Majestic in 2003. The Majestic "M" logo is direct embroidered to the end of the left sleeve. Majestic's locker tag is stitched to the outline of the front left tail. Centered beneath it is a white flag tag noting its size, "48". Pinch-sewn under the right bottom side of the same tag is a flag tab with the printed designation "2003", matching other team issues in our exemplar library. 2003 A's jerseys did not receive more extensive player tagging. On the inside left side seam of the jersey is a cloth majestic style tag that has the code "0062" printed on it, the style designation for on-field spec jerseys as issued to the team, vs. the code 6200 that was used for retail-spec Authentic Jerseys. While the MLB authentication/hologram program had begun in 2000, in 2003, it was still used then only for significant events. The A's were among the early marketers of their game worn gear in these pre-hologram and database days. So, while this jersey is offered without provenance, it is very reasonable that this jersey was indeed game worn.

Provenance: When reviewed , this jersey was accompanied by a notarized letter of provenance signed by Donald Allgrove which explains how he came into original possession of this jersey.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs of game use and remains dirty with brownish dirt stains up the front and sides and a number of darker brown spots and stains on the front below the numbers, with mud splatters up the back left side. A light table evaluation shows that there are no alterations or repairs to the jersey.

Conclusion: This jersey is properly tagged and lettered and is the correct style for a game worn jersey. It is reasonable to assume that this jersey was made for and worn by Pitcher Barry Zito of the Oakland Athletics in the 2003 season.

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Chapter 12

Toronto Blue Jays

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys 1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Blue Jays Uniform History Notes

- The Blue Jays were born in the double knit era, so they have no history in flannels. Their early uniform design is notable, as they were the first club to use a centered team logo on their pullover jersey. Most teams that used pullovers designed them to mimic button-front styles, with a bisected lettering design spelled out broadly across the chest —like the Pirates—or with logos and numbers placed on opposite sides of the chest, as seen on Reds uniforms. The Jays displayed their large stylized Blue Jays logo directly in the middle of the chest.
- The team has usually used a highly recognizable and attractive stylized font for numbers from the beginning. Versions of the "split numbers" had been a Blue Jays hallmark from 1977 through 2003 and returned for 2012.
- It is often repeated that period players did not like the Blue Jays pullover uniform set, especially the road powder blues. They were referred to derisively by players as pajamas. The button-front changeover in 1989 maintained the team identity but gave the Blue Jays a more professional look that was widely preferred.
- In 1994, a solid royal blue button-down was introduced as the team's first alternate jersey, a time when many other teams began experimenting with solid color alternates.
- Starting in 1997, design-wise the team appeared to lose its way. Every year they seemed to be changing something, including which logos were used. In 2001–2003 they even used two different team patch logos on the *same* jersey.
- An alternate home vest was rolled out in 1999, worn for two years, and then the look was converted to a "faux vest" (with sleeves attached) for 2001–2003. The faux vest style was applied to the road jerseys full time while oddly maintaining only alternate status at home.
- The total redesign of 2004 was a bit of a mishmash as well. The word "Blue" was dropped from the team designation and the team began to refer to itself as the "Jays" on all its uniforms. Name and number fonts were large, bulbous and fussy, colors muted and seemingly washed out. Combinations of different shades of gray were used on lettering, and the alternate uniform was charcoal in color, which resembled a black jersey faded by over-washing or exposure to bleach.
- Finally, a completely different font was selected for use for player numbers, but on ONLY the team's road uniforms 2008–2011. Multi-colored names on back were constructed of letters so enormous that any name more than seven letters required exaggerated and unnatural arching to fit.
- In 2008–2010, the once unloved powder blue road uniforms of the team's first decade were reintroduced, but oddly used this time as an alternate home uniform.
- Yet another complete team redesign for 2012 brings back elements of the team's first basic design theme while providing the traditional elements of button-front jerseys, including restrained use of trim and the return of split lettering. These were applied to new alternates—a red jersey introduced in 2017 and a powder blue uniform in 2020.
- Through the end of 2015, the Jays specified that their jerseys be made of full-weight knit fabric only; no Cool Base jerseys were worn by the team. In 2016, they switched to Flex Base jerseys with the rest of the teams in MLB.
- As mentioned earlier, in 2020 the Blue Jays get nostalgic and return powder blue to their uniform options for the first time since the 2010 alternate retros, adding an alternate powder blue jersey to the lineup.
- In 2024, the team's "Night Mode" City Connect jerseys debut, featuring a black base with a vivid electric-blue Toronto skyline across the chest, bold red "TORONTO" lettering, stylized striping on the sleeves, and a glowing blue hem, trying to capture the city's energy after dark.
- For collectors and restorers, names are always sewn directly to the game jersey; no game-worn examples I have seen use nameplates. Some late 1990s and early 2000s BP jerseys use nameplates.
- During the 1970s–1980s especially (and also in the 2010s), the Blue Jays' minor league teams had often used similar/identical uniforms to the parent club. Look out for minor league uniforms being misidentified as MLB game jerseys. Ways to tell include the manufacturer being different and lack of presence of a NOB.
- Many game-worn Blue Jays jerseys were made by Wilson from 1977–1996. However, the Wilson manufacturer tagging in many of these years is different than other teams', as the Wilson logo is printed on the tag instead of embroidered, and this writing often wore off after many washings, frequently leaving these tags nearly blank.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1977 only

1978 only

1979-1988

1994-1996

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer*
1977	Home White	No	1 or 2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1978	Home White	No	1 or 2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1979	Home White	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1980	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color special font	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	2 color special font	No	-	-	Rawlings
1981	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1982	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1983	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1984	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	Toronto 150th Birthday	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1985	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1986	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	Blue Jays 10th Anniv	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	Blue Jays 10th Anniv	-	Rawlings
1987	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1988	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	2 color Split style	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1989	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
1990	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
1991	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	All Star Game	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	All Star Game	-	Wilson
1992	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
1993	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
1994	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	MLB 125th	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	MLB 125th	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	MLB 125th	Wilson
1995	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
1996	Home White	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	Blue Jays 20th	Russell
	Road Gray	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	Blue Jays 20th	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	No	2 color Split style	1 Color Block	No	-	Blue Jays 20th	Wilson

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Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1997	Home White	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	Jackie Robinson	Wilson
	Road Gray	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	Jackie Robinson	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Russell
1999	Home White	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Russell
	Alt Home Wht Vest	-	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	-	-	Wilson
2000	Home White	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Wht Vest	-	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	-	-	Majestic
2001	Home White	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Blue Jays 25th Anniv	AL 100th Anniv	Majestic
	Road Gray faux vest	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Blue Jays 25th Anniv	AL 100th Anniv	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Blue Jays 25th Anniv	AL 100th Anniv	Majestic
	Alt Home faux vest	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Blue Jays 25th Anniv	AL 100th Anniv	Majestic
2002	Home White	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
	Road Gray faux vest	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
	Alt Home faux vest	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	Team Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
2003	Home White	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	"T-Bird" Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray faux vest	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	"T-Bird" Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	3 color Split Style "B"	3 color Split Style NEW	3 color Split Style "B"	No	"T-Bird" Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Home faux vest	2 color Split Style "B"	2 color Split Style NEW	2 color Split Style "B"	No	"T-Bird" Logo	-	Majestic

* There are a fair number of Jays minor league jerseys in the hobby being passed off as MLB jerseys. These are often made by Rawlings in the 70's and 80's or Russell in the 90's. While they often look identical to the parent team's uniforms, including having team tagging sewn in them, there are sometimes subtle clues that they are not from the majors; such as the fact that they are missing a player name on back, or the gray road jerseys say "Blue Jays" in the years that the MLB jerseys said "Toronto."

Team identities over the years: Between their inception in 1977 and 2024, the Blue Jays have gone through six primary team logo changes. All six versions shown below.

1977-1996 | 1997-2003 | 2000-2003 (overlapping) | 2004-2011 | 2012-2017 | 2020-

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2004-2011

2004-2007

2004-2011

2008-2010

2008-2011

------2012-2025------ *Change to Flex Base*

2017 only: **While the red jersey was worn for Canada Day 2012, and then worn twice each year 2013-2016, for 2017 only it is added as an official alternate. (In 2015 the special Canada Day jersey was white with red lettering.)**

2020-2025

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2004	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	-	Majestic
2005	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	"Teammates Forever"	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	"Teammates Forever"	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	"Teammates Forever"	Majestic
2006	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	"TC" Memorial	30th Season	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	"TC" Memorial	30th Season	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	"TC" Memorial	30th Season	Majestic
2007	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	"SP" Memorial (8/15 on)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	"SP" Memorial (8/15 on)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	"SP" Memorial (8/15 on)	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray (new style)	3 color special Jays #2	3 color special Jays #2	2 color special Jays	No	Blue Jay Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt 2 - throwback	No	2 color old style split letter	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	TED Memorial	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special Jays #2	3 color special Jays #2	2 color special Jays	No	Blue Jay /TED Mem	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	TED Memorial	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Alt 2 - throwback	No	2 color old style split letter	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special Jays #2	3 color special Jays #2	2 color special Jays	No	Blue Jay Logo	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Alt 2 - throwback	No	2 color old style split letter	No	No	-	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special Jays #2	3 color special Jays #2	2 color special Jays	No	Blue Jay Logo	Maple Leaf	Majestic
	Alt Black	No	3 color special Jays	2 color special Jays	No	-	Maple Leaf	Majestic
2012	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	40th Season	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	40th Season	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	40th Season	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	Red Maple Leaf	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	"32" Halladay Memorial	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	"32" Halladay Memorial	-	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	"32" Halladay Memorial	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	Tony Fernandez "1" mem	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	Tony Fernandez "1" mem	-	Nike
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	Tony Fernandez "1" mem	-	Nike
	Alt Retro Powder Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	Tony Fernandez "1" mem	-	Nike

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

2024-2025

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Retro Powder Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
2022	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Retro Powder Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	-	-	Nike
2023	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch*	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch*	-	Nike
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch*	-	Nike
	Alt Retro Powder Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch*	-	Nike
2024	Home White	No	2 color new split letter (perf?)	Nike Block 1 color	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter (no perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	Alt Retro Powder Blue	No	2 color new split letter (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 3 color (perf?)	Custom 3 color (perf?)	Nike Block 1 color (perf?)	No	TD Ad patch	Recolored Blue Jay Head	Nike
2025	Home White	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	Alt Dark Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	Alt Retro Powder Blue	No	2 color new split letter	1 color Block	No	TD Ad patch	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 3 color (perf?)	Custom 3 color	Nike Block 1 color (perf?)	No	TD Ad patch	Recolored Blue Jay Head	Nike

* Starting July 14, 2023

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1977-1988 Home

1977

Bill Henderson Collection

1977

Pullover with large Blue Jays logo centered on the front. White body with royal/white/light blue sleeve and V-neck trim.

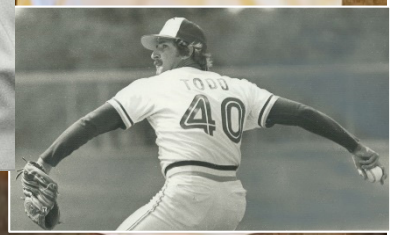
Distinctive “split-letter” font used for back numbers.

No names on back 1977–1979. Unique stylized vertically arched NOB font used in 1980, then Block font used 1981–1988, directly sewn to jersey with no nameplate.

1980

Original examples of 1980 jerseys are rare, as are period news photographs of the Blue Jays at home. These are believed to be accurate representations.

1980



1986

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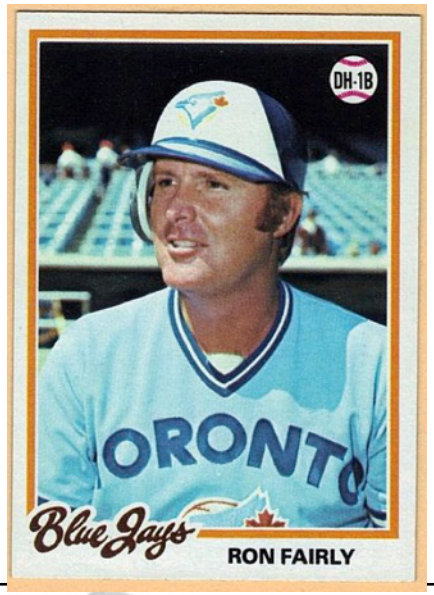
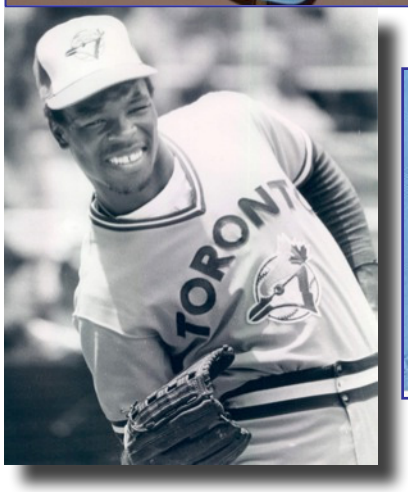
1977 Road



For 1977 only, the road jersey features solid royal blue "TORONTO" lettering across the front. Back numbers use a Blue Jays-specific "split-letter" style: royal blue with a white split in the center, with no white outline used that season.

See the following pages for more detail on how these numbers were sewn.



Manufacturer's and team tagging are sewn inside the front shirttail.

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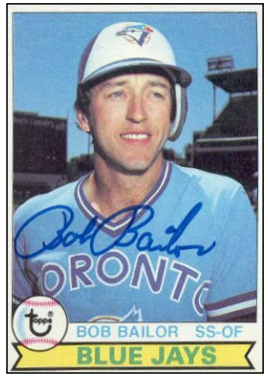
1978 Road

Nicjk Vescio Collection

After only a single year of use, the “TORONTO” lettering and back numbers were changed. A white outline was added to the numbers on the back and to the team lettering on the front. This is the only Blue Jays jersey in the 1977–2003 period that does not use the characteristic split numbers. No names on back.



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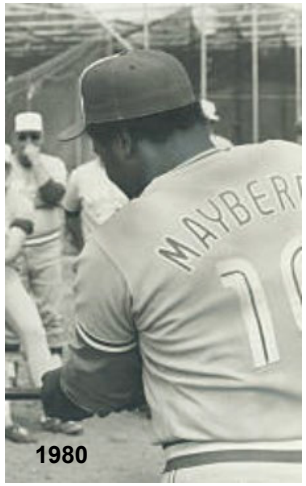
1979-1988 Road

In 1979, the Blue Jays switch to this powder blue pullover road jersey with the team's logo patch sewn in the center of the front. The team used this style for the next ten seasons, with a few lettering variations:

- 1979, there is no player name on back.
- 1980 only, a stylized two-color Blue Jays-specific font is used for the name on back. It is different from the special font on the 1980 Wilson home jerseys. It more closely resembles the Phillies' 1992–2024 name on back font.
- 1981–1988, there are no names on back of road jerseys.



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1977-1996 Sewing Detail: Split Lettering

Bottom left: On early home jerseys, when the split color matches the jersey fabric, the numbers are actually only one color. The twill is sewn on top, allowing the jersey fabric to show through the "splits." This is the case on white home jerseys and blue batting practice jerseys.Each digit is cut into segments and sewn directly to the jersey back. The "splits" are simply the white jersey material showing through.

Below, center: Over time, this process changes. Leaving the fabric exposed led to issues as the material shrank. By the late 1980s, a solid layer of white twill was placed underneath the blue layer to help the lettering maintain its shape.

Below, right: Finally, by the early 1990s, the team began stitching a narrow white split on top of the blue twill—an early version of what would later be called "lightweight twill" in the Flex Base era beginning in 2016.

1977

1985

1995

1977 to at least 1988

1986

1995

On road jerseys, a double layer of twill is always used to achieve the split-letter effect. Prior to 1989, the split appears by revealing the bottom layer. After that, the pattern is reversed and the narrow split is stitched on top.

1994

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1977-1990: Variations to Blue Jays Wordmark

1980s Wilson home jersey
with squared-off lettering.

Not surprisingly, Wilson batting practice jerseys use that same squared-off lettering for the wordmark (1986 shown).

However, Rawlings-made road jerseys use more softly rounded lettering (1983 shown). Unsurprisingly, when the Jays switched to Rawlings-made batting practice jerseys in 1988, those also adopt the rounded wordmark style.

The custom split-letter Blue Jays wordmark varied on early jerseys, depending on whether they were made by Wilson or Rawlings.

- The letters on Wilson jerseys from 1977–1989 are formed with sharper angles, most noticeable on the letters U, E and J.
- A careful eye notices that Rawlings jerseys (used from 1979–1983, and again in 1986) feature more gently curved lettering.
- Wilson-made batting practice jerseys use the squared lettering style, and these are used by the team 1977–1987. When Rawlings takes over as jersey supplier in 1988, BP jerseys have rounded lettering.

Starting in 1990, the lettering is standardized to the rounded style on all jerseys, regardless of the manufacturer.

1990 and onward, all jerseys convert to use the same rounded lettering regardless of manufacturer. ***Above left:*** 1990 Wilson game jersey. ***Above right:*** 1990 Wilson batting practice jersey.

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Blue Jays Jerseys Sent to the Minor Leagues

It was common practice in MLB to recycle year-old uniforms for use by minor league affiliates. While home jerseys featuring the team name could often be used without alteration, road jerseys displaying the MLB city name typically had to be stripped—or in some cases, simply covered up—before they could be repurposed for the minors.This practice helps explain both the scarcity of original road jerseys in the hobby and the heavily worn condition of many pre-1995 game-used MLB jerseys.

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1989-1996 Home

The 1989–1996 home jersey is a button-front style. The knit sleeve trim remains, but the old pullover V-neck trim is removed. The Blue Jays logo is moved from the center to the left chest to make room for the buttons.

Back numbers are the same royal blue split-letter style. Names are added to the back during this style period, in one-color royal blue block font, sewn directly without nameplates.

Left: *Simple two-digit date coding sometimes indicates an extra jersey—one not issued to a specific player at the start of the season—later pressed into use during the year.*

This jersey features a flat-hemmed tail, custom-tailored to a player's specifications.

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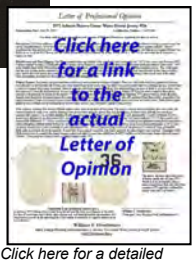
1989-1996 Road

1994

Bill Henderson Collection



Click here for a detailed letter of opinion document

In 1989, the road jersey shifts from a powder blue pullover to a traditional gray button-front design. The Blue Jays logo is moved from center to left chest to accommodate the button placket. “TORONTO” replaces “BLUE JAYS” on the front of road jerseys.

Back numbers are now royal blue with a white center split and no outline. Names are added to the back during this style run in one-color royal blue block font, sewn directly to the fabric without nameplates The version of the NOB Block font used by the Jays is a unique variation.

1990

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1994-1996 Alternate

Bill Henderson Collection

Back numbers follow the same style as the Blue Jays wordmark on the front. Names on back in white standard Block, sewn directly to fabric, no nameplate. Game-worn versions of this style are made by Wilson. Authentic retail versions made by Russell, which used different sleeve-end trim ***(right)***.

More on tagging: Notice the tags at the left. The one at the far left, marked "94," is from a spare jersey—initially made without a player name or number and converted during the season for on-field use. The tag in the center is from the Leyva jersey pictured. Consider this: in the case of the Alomar jersey shown below, is it likely that a high-profile player, with the team from the start of the year, was issued a spare? It's possible—players sometimes request a larger jersey later in the season, or an extra jersey to give to a friend. But as always, buyer beware!

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1977-1996 Blue Jays Team Tagging

Blue Jays standard collar strip tags: The Blue Jays used standard collar strip tags with a three-part code: *player number, two-digit year, and set number.* This format was used on jerseys made for players at the start of the season.

However, not all jerseys were numbered at the beginning of the year. Each season, the team ordered an additional quantity of blank, year-tagged jerseys to handle midseason call-ups, player requests for different sizes, trades, and replacements for damaged or lost uniforms.

Jerseys labeled with only a two-digit year (such as “94”) or a year and set number (such as “88-1”) were most likely extras at the start of the season that were later issued during the year.

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1997-2000 Home

1999

The team's first major redesign since 1977 introduces a new font for lettering, names, and numbers. Player names appear in split-letter style for the first time, sewn directly without nameplates.

Two-color lettering features royal blue with a light blue split highlight centered within each letter. Number also appears on the left front.

Sleeve ends are finished with red/light blue/royal blue knit trim. A maple leaf logo is sewn on the left sleeve.

1998

1999 jersey used in 2000; note added MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on back of neck.

1997

Click here for a detailed letter of opinion document

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1997-2000 Road

Steve Kraljic collection

2000

When Majestic took over from Wilson in 2000, its sleeve logo was not embroidered as with other teams—it was instead a small stitched-on patch. Perhaps there was a licensing issue that required a last-minute solution?

Made by Wilson, 1997–1999, Majestic takes over in 2000. While the lettering was redesigned, it retains the signature split-lettering style. For the first time, player names also appear in split-letter style, no nameplates used. Three-color lettering is royal blue and white, with red split highlights centered in each letter. Player numbers appear on the left front. Sleeve ends feature red/light blue/royal blue knit trim, and a maple leaf logo is sewn on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997-2000 Alternate Blue

Three-color lettering consists of red and white, with royal blue split highlights centered within each letter. Player numbers appear on the left front. Sleeve ends are finished with red/light blue/royal blue elastic trim, and a maple leaf logo is sewn on the left sleeve. All lettering is layered twill, with the blue "split" stitched on top.

1997

Above: *Russell tagging.*

Below: *Majestic tagging.*

2000

© GameWornGuides.com

1999-2000 Alternate Home Vest

For 1999–2000, the Blue Jays introduced an alternate vest style, worn with a blue undershirt. There is no front number; instead, the team's maple leaf logo appears on the left chest.

The lettering colors are the reverse of the home jersey—light blue with a royal blue split highlight. The 1999 version was made by Wilson; in 2000, production shifted exclusively to Majestic. The MLB "Silhouetted Batter" logo patch is added to the back of the collar on all 2000 MLB jerseys.

Notice the lettering detail. On the Wilson jersey ***(near right)***, all lettering on both front and back is solid Process Blue with an embroidered split applied on top of each letter before being sewn to the jersey. The Majestic version ***(far right)*** uses the traditional two-layer stitched twill technique, with the darker blue split sewn on top.

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2001-2003 Home

2003

2003 only

2002

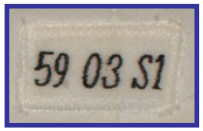
2001

2001 only

The wide knit sleeve-end trim is removed and replaced with simple, classic royal blue knit trim around the collar, sleeves, and jersey front. Lettering remains the same as the 1997–2000 home jersey.

Sleeve patches vary each year, making it easy to identify the specific season. The short-lived "T-Bird" logo appears on the home jersey in 2003 only.

2002 only



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2001-2003 Alternate Home Faux Vest

2001

Click here for a detailed letter of opinion document

2003 sleeve patch

Though it appears to be a vest, the blue sleeves are sewn onto the body, making it a "faux vest." While the basic jersey remained the same all three years, the front numbers and patches were applied differently each season.

Oddly, in 2001 and 2002, two different depictions of the Blue Jay character were used simultaneously—one on the front and a different one on the sleeve—suggesting the team had not settled on a final version.

- **2001**: "T-Bird" patch on the front in place of numbers; 25th Season patch and American League 100th Anniversary patch on the sleeves.
- **2002**: "T-Bird" patch on the front; Blue Jay head/maple leaf patch on the sleeve.
- **2003**: Numbers on front; "T-Bird" patch moves to the sleeve. The earlier Blue Jay patch is no longer used.

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2003 Road

Steve Kraljic Collection

2001

Inside the collar: note the outline where the post-9/11 flag patch was sewn to the outside of the collar.

2002

2003

The jersey is designed to resemble a vest, but the blue sleeves are sewn on, making it a “faux vest.” Simple blue knit trim is added to the front placket and around the collar. Lettering remains the same as on the 1997–2000 road jersey. Sleeve patches vary by year.

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2003 Alternate Blue

2001

Click here for a detailed letter of opinion document

2003

The wide knit sleeve ends are removed and replaced with simple red knit trim around the collar and jersey front.

Lettering remains the same as on the 1997–2000 alternate jersey. The sleeve patches differ in placement and design across the three years. While most examples include team tagging in the neck, some do not.

2002

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1997-2003 Sewing Detail: Split Lettering

The front lettering close-up above is from a store-bought Russell authentic jersey from around 1997. Note how the light blue is laid down first, with the royal blue sewn on top.

1999 Wilson jersey has blue twill lettering with the light blue split embroidered on top of each letter.

2003 Majestic jersey features two-layer twill lettering, with a thin light blue split cut from twill and sewn on top of each solid letter. Player names on the back are applied using the same method.

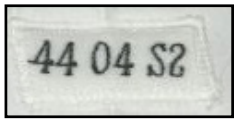
The 1999 Wilson jersey uses player-name lettering identical in style to the front wordmark ***(top center)***. These letters are clearly pre-fabricated and sewn to the jersey only around the edges. This was certainly automated and done for speed in lettering player and retail sale jerseys. Properly aligning and hand-sewing the split highlights onto each letter was a time-consuming process.

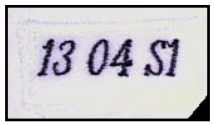
1999 Majestic batting practice jersey has red twill lettering with the royal blue "split" stitched on top of each letter.

© GameWornGuides.com

2004-2011 Home

Bill Henderson Collection





For the complete story of this team rebranding, see the pages on the *2004 Abandoned Road Charcoal* in the "Prototypes and Oddballs" section.

Maple leaf sleeve patch added for 2009

This marks the team's third major redesign since their inception in 1977.

The back numbers use a three-color custom Blue Jays font in charcoal gray/metallic silver/turquoise blue. Player names appear in a two-color version of the same font, in charcoal gray/turquoise blue. A maple leaf patch is added to the right sleeve beginning in 2009.

The front wordmark is a complex embroidered cloth patch, sewn to the jersey.

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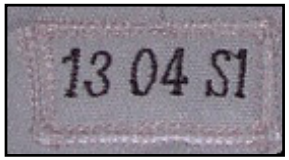
2004-2007 Road

For a complete explanation of how this troubled road jersey "came to be", see the pages on the *2004 Abandoned Road Charcoal* in the "Prototypes and Oddballs" section.



Back numbers are rendered in a three-color custom Blue Jays font: charcoal gray/ metallic silver/turquoise blue. Player names appear in a two-color version of the same font, in dark gray/turquoise blue.

The wordmark is an elaborate embroidered patch featuring textured silver/gray beveling and *three* layers of outlining.

While the rest of the team's visual identity continues after 2007, this road jersey style is replaced by a new design in 2008.

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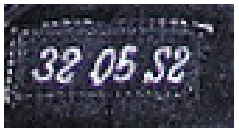
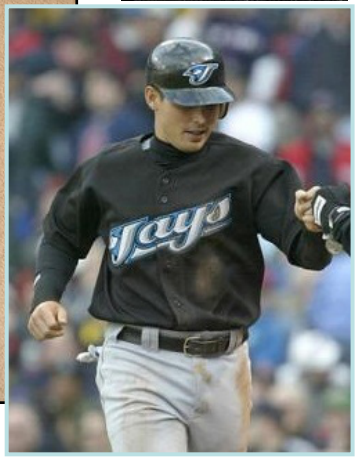
2004-2011 Alternate Black





This jersey features a solid black base.

The back numbers use a three-color version of the custom Blue Jays font in metallic silver/turquoise blue/light gray. Player names appear in a two-color version of the font, in light gray/turquoise blue.

A maple leaf patch is added to the right sleeve beginning in 2009.

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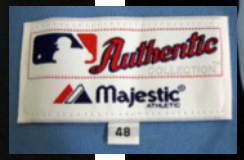
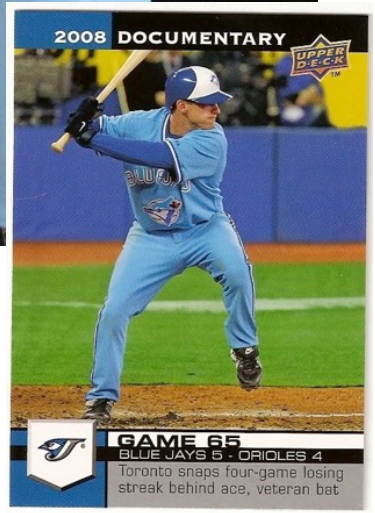
2008-2010 Alternate Home Retro

- To the casual observer, the new retro jersey appears to be an exact replica of the 1979–1988 powder blue road jersey. But to the detail-obsessed, there is one key difference. All of the original jerseys were made by Wilson and featured squared-off lettering in the Blue Jays wordmark. The new retro jerseys use rounded lettering—something never found on a Wilson road jersey from that era.
- The return of the old-school pullover road uniform—worn at home on Friday nights—was not universally embraced by players and coaches.





"There was a classic moment during yesterday's press conference to unveil the Blue Jays' new road and alternate uniforms. It came when they trotted out old-timers Lloyd Moseby and John Mayberry to model the team's new 1979 powder blue throwbacks, which will be worn for Friday home games. At one point Moseby was asked what it felt like when he first wore that uniform back in the day. The prop boy must not have been holding the cue cards high enough for Moseby to see, because instead of giving a scripted reply, he chose to ad lib: "The uniform sucked, okay? So we ain't gonna go there." After a moment of nervous laughter from the audience, followed by a beat or two of silence, Moseby added, "'Course, it was big to put on any uniform," but it was too late — his point had been made..."

—Quoted from Paul Lukas's *Uni Watch* (December 4, 2007)

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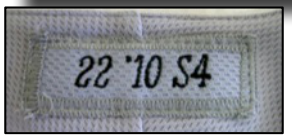
2008-2011 Road

In 2008, the Jays introduced a new road jersey that, while visually appealing, diverges sharply from the design of the home and alternate styles. The front wordmark is bold and angular, and the player numbers are presented in a modern, blocky style used exclusively on the gray road jersey—distinctly contrasting with the softer, curved elements on the other uniforms. It marks the only time a team has intentionally used *different* custom font styles for home and road jerseys in the same season. The player name font matches that of the other jerseys, but its three-color design proves unwieldy for names longer than seven letters. The Blue Jay head logo, also seen on the black caps, appears on the left sleeve. A red maple leaf patch is added to the right sleeve in 2009.



Photos here show that any name longer than seven letters requires sewing gymnastics to "make it fit."

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2012-2023 Home

After years of tinkering and over-embellishing the original design—followed by a complete stylistic departure in 2004—the Blue Jays introduced a new uniform set for 2012 that returned directly to the club's most successful era: the early to mid–1990s.

The 2012 uniform is a modernized version of the 1989–1996 classic design. Clean, simple, and understated, it features minimal trim and reintroduces the familiar "split-letter" style that debuted in 1977. The lettering font is slightly updated but remains tasteful. A refreshed version of the classic Blue Jay logo returns to the left chest. Player names on back are direct-sewn in a one-color block font

Through the 2015 season, the Blue Jays used full-weight knit jerseys, avoiding the lighter Cool Base material. In 2016, they transitioned to Flex Base along with the rest of Major League Baseball. Majestic manufactured this jersey from 2012–2019, Nike takes over for 2020–2024.

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2012-2023 Home, continued

2019

2022

Note the change in style code from TOHH for Majestic to TO1H for Nike.

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Blue Jays unveil new logo for 2012 season/Club undergoes third major redesign in its 35-year history

By Gregor Chisholm/MLB.com 11/18/2011

TORONTO — The Blue Jays dipped into their past when looking for inspiration for the club's new logo that was revealed at Rogers Centre on Friday afternoon.

The new look is a modernized version of the franchise's first logo that was used from 1977–1997. It features a sleeker-looking Blue Jay bird head with a prominent red maple leaf to showcase Toronto's standing as the only Major League Baseball team in Canada.

The design also marks the return of "Blue" in Blue Jays for the first time in almost 10 years and will be reflected on two of the three uniforms.

"I always thought of it as the Blue Jays," team president and CEO Paul Beeston said. "I know Jays was kind of a nickname for it, but we were the Blue Jays, and it was on all our material.

"At the end of the day, we went right back to where we were and we upgraded it. It has been energized, it has been modernized, and I think when you started looking at it, the players wanted the same thing."

The primary logo has the sharp-featured bird head imposed on top of a baseball and a red maple leaf. An arched solid blue font "Toronto" is above the baseball with "Blue Jays" located below, and the entire logo is fully encased in a blue and white split-line circle.

The new look was more than 18 months in the making. It was created by the Blue Jays with assistance from the Design Services division of Major League Baseball, in conjunction with members of Toronto's staff, manager John Farrell and several players.

The secondary club logo will be the focus of the cap and helmet. It features the bird head with a blue crown, navy blue beak and neck accompanied by the red maple leaf. That look will be used for all home, away and alternate uniforms.

"It's exciting, because we're going back to the 1992–1993 look," third baseman Brett Lawrie said. "It's good in that aspect and it's good to bring blue back to the city of Toronto.

"I think it looks good, a mix of old-school and new-school."

The Blue Jays also will return to a double-knit polyester fabric for all of their uniforms. The switch from the previous Climate Base material was made at the request of the players during the consultation process.

The Climate Base material is lighter in nature, but players thought it became too heavy once they started to sweat, and the polyester is expected to breathe a bit more naturally.

Toronto's home white uniforms will have "Blue Jays," while the traditional grey road uniforms have "Toronto" across the front in blue and white split-lettering font.

Royal blue will be the main colour scheme for Toronto's alternate uniform. It has arched "Blue Jays" lettering across the chest and two white stripes at the bottom of each sleeve. The jersey can be worn with either the home white or road grey pants, and all three uniforms will have the secondary logo located on the left side of the player's chest.

"We were all part of the development and the design of these new uniforms," slugger Jose Bautista said. "Our input was asked for by the management, the front office, and I think it was very nice of them to do that.

"We're going to enjoy playing in these uniforms, just like we have in the past, but this is going to mark a change of culture in this organization, and hopefully moving forward, we'll be in the playoffs on a yearly basis."

The logo is the seventh in Toronto's 35-year history and its third major redesign. The first logo was introduced in 1976 and spanned 20 seasons before a change was implemented in 1997.

The second logo, which was designed by the Design Services division of Major League Baseball, put more of an emphasis on Canada's national colour, as the red maple leaf served as the backdrop for the bird head.

In 2002, the club went through its second major rebranding process. The Toronto-based firm Brandid opted to focus on "Jays" and used traditional baseball script with three-dimensional metallic letters with an emphasis on a black and silver colour scheme.

Toronto's latest version once again embraces the full Blue Jays name, which was an important initiative for Beeston, who was hired as the club's first employee in 1976. Beeston departed the Blue Jays in '97, but he returned again in 2009 to become the club's president and CEO.

"I really believed that we should go back to the blue," Beeston said. "The black wasn't for me. It wasn't for me when I was in New York or heard about what they were going to do. But I wasn't in charge, so they could do what they wanted to do.

"We knew that we had two or three years where we could have a look at it, we could examine it. ... To be quite honest with you, when you start looking at it and you come back with what you had before, it just proves that's probably what you should have had before, because everybody agreed with it."

For a perspective on the earlier 2004 rebranding and a glimpse into what went wrong, this article In Sports Business Daily, titled "Franchise Rebranding Case Study- The Blue Jays" offers a wider perspective.

Https://www.sportsbusinessjournal.Com/Daily/Issues/2004/02/25/Franchises/Franchise-Rebranding-Case-Study-The-Blue-Jays.aspx

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2012-2023 Road

The road gray suit is the perfect complement to the home uniform. It also represents a return to the 1989–1996 button-front look, with “Toronto” spelled out in split-lettering across the front. Note the inset color detail, which includes a fine black outline. Two-color split numbers appear on the back only, while player names are rendered in single-color blue Block font, direct sewn to the shirt.

Through the 2015 season, the Blue Jays stayed with full-weight knit jerseys only, avoiding Cool Base. In 2016, they moved to Flex Base along with the rest of Major League Baseball. Majestic manufactures this jersey from 2012–2019; Nike takes over for 2020–2024.

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2012-2023 Road, continued

2016

2020

Note the change in style code from TOGR for Majestic to TO2R for Nike.

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2012-2023 Alternate Dark Blue

Just like the home and road uniforms, the royal blue alternate jersey is a restrained, modern recreation of the 1989–1996 alternate jersey.

A minimum of trim is used—only narrow white/blue/white knit on the ends of the sleeves.

Split-letter numbers appear on the back in white and blue, and single-color white names are direct sewn.

Through the 2015 season, the Blue Jays stayed with full-weight knit jerseys only, avoiding Cool Base. In 2016, they moved to Flex Base with the rest of Major League Baseball. Majestic manufactures this jersey from 2012–2019; Nike takes over for 2020–2023.

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2012-2023 Alternate Dark Blue, continued

2016

2021

Note the change in style code from TOAA for Majestic to TO3A for Nike.

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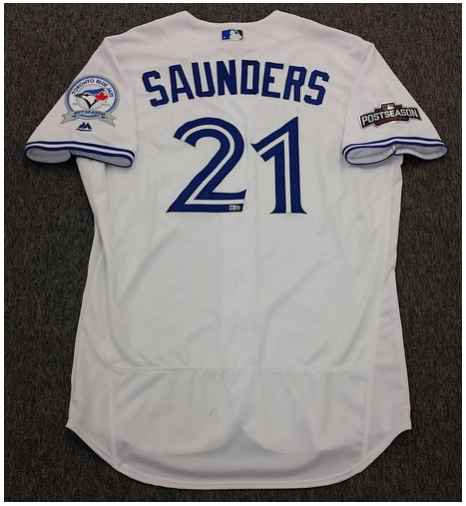
Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding



In 2016, all teams—including the Blue Jays, who had resisted Cool Base jerseys—adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys. These are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2017 Alternate Home Red

The Blue Jays add a red jersey as an alternate in 2017, similar in spirit to previous red Canada Day jerseys. The Majestic Flex Base jersey is nearly an exact red copy of their blue alternate, but where the blue version has the full-color Blue Jay logo on front, the Blue Jay patch on the new red entry is rendered in red and white only. A textured, deeply embroidered red Canadian maple leaf adorns the left sleeve. All front and back lettering and numbers are white with red inner lines. This jersey is used not only for Canada Day 2017 but also for several Sunday home games. As such, the jersey is changed from a “special” to an official “alternate.”

**This same style is worn again on Canada Day 2018–2019 and 2021–2024 (and occasionally at other times as well), but it is no longer listed as a team alternate in the style guide. This is a clerical/administrative distinction only.*

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2020-2023 Alternate Powder Blue

Like a few other teams in recent years, the Blue Jays look back to their history and reintroduce a powder blue uniform set. The new Nike button-front jersey, based largely on Majestic's former Flex Base template, replicates the team's existing home jersey in all ways except for the powder blue base color.

Front lettering and back numbers on this jersey are navy, not royal, blue, with white inner lines, while names on back are solid blue. Sleeve ends are encircled with blue/white/blue trim, and the Swiss-embroidered, textured Blue Jay logo patch adorns the front left under the wordmark. Powder blue pants complete the look, creating a fully matching uniform rather than just an alternate jersey to be worn with regular home or away pants.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Blue Jays' modern-classic home jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front Blue Jay head logo and team script are also made smaller. Most unfortunately, the Blue Jay head is embroidered flat on to lightweight twill, rather than the raised, textured, Swiss-embroidered patch of years past. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering, more research is required. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it.

Right: *Note the loss of depth and detail in the Blue Jays patch embroidery with VPE (2024) vs. Nike Flex Base (2020–2023).*

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Blue Jays' modern-classic road jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front Blue Jay head logo and team script are also made smaller. Most unfortunately, the Blue Jay head is embroidered flat on to lightweight twill, rather than the raised, textured, Swiss-embroidered patch of years past (see the prior page for detailed photos). The team does not use perforated numbers on this style. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it.

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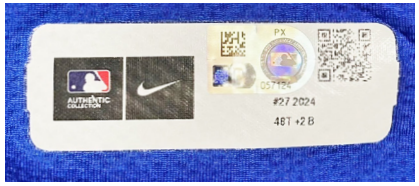
2024 Alternate Dark Blue



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Blue Jays' dark blue alternate jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front Blue Jay head logo and team script are also made smaller. Most unfortunately, the Blue Jay head is embroidered flat on to lightweight twill, rather than the raised, textured, Swiss-embroidered patch of years past (see the *2024 Home* page for detailed photos). The Blue Jays use perforated back numbers on this jersey. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it.

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2024 Alternate Powder Blue

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Blue Jays' popular powder blue alternate jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front Blue Jay head logo and team script are also made smaller. Most unfortunately, the Blue Jay head is embroidered flat on to lightweight twill, rather than the raised, textured, Swiss-embroidered patch of years past (see the *2024 Home* page for detailed photos). The Blue Jays use perforated back numbers on this jersey. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The Blue Jays and Nike put a lot of storytelling into the team's City Connect identity, nicknamed "Night Mode." And we mean a LOT. Rather than explain it ourselves, let's hear what they had to say about this new style in their joint press release:

Illuminated Skyline – The rhythmic skyline graphic, proudly displayed across the uniform chest, portrays the pulse of Toronto's Night Mode and the vibrant lights that reflect off the pitch blue of Lake Ontario. The iconic dome of Rogers Centre – home of the Blue Jays – sits at the core beneath the imposing CN Tower.

Landmark Toronto Sign – For the first time since 2003, the chest of a home Blue Jays uniform dons our city's name. The new font is inspired by the vibrant landmark TORONTO sign at Nathan Phillips Square, with modern details reminiscent of the beloved Blue Jays split font. In addition, this is the first time since 2003 that a home uniform features a number on the front.

Pitch Blue, Speed Red, & Hyper Royal – A Night Mode version of the core Blue Jays colours, the bold new combination brings a dark base colour back for the first time since 2011. The "pitch blue" is inspired by the hue of Lake Ontario at night, while Speed Red and Hyper Royal add energetic accents while maintaining a distinctly Canadian identity. The shoulder of the jersey features a "hyperized" bird head – a modern version of the logo that has been core to the Blue Jays brand for nearly 50 years.

Diversity Our Strength – Written across the uniform neckline, the phrase is intentionally placed as the closest feature to the wearer, representing who we are at our core as a city and country. It comes from the Toronto Coat of Arms, reflecting the city's multicultural identity and belief that our diversity – in neighbourhoods, traditions, ethnicities, cultures, social backgrounds, and so much more – is what makes Toronto thrive.

City Flag Double Stripe – A look that is quintessentially Blue Jays, double stripes have been fundamental to the team's uniform since 1977. The Hyper Blue pant stripes line up with the "T" on the jersey sleeve.

Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Also, the home jersey now has the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag (see above), which has been used on a handful of jerseys around the league.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys were prone to significant sweat staining during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. The redundant, jersey-colored band of trim around the neck opening is also deleted. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Toronto” script breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Dark Blue

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys—a step toward more comprehensive changes planned for the 2026 season. Among them, back names and numbers are enlarged—typically back to 2023 sizes—and perforated numbers are eliminated. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, replacing the printed or lightweight embroidered patches used in 2024.

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2025 Alternate Powder Blue

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys—a step toward more comprehensive changes planned for the 2026 season. Among them, back names and numbers are enlarged—typically back to 2023 sizes—and perforated numbers are removed. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, replacing the printed or lightweight embroidered patches used in 2024..

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2025 Alternate Red

After becoming an official alternate in the MLB Style Guide for just one year in 2017, the Blue Jays' red jersey re-appears as an alternate in 2025. This means that the Blue Jays are one of the few teams allowed to break Nike's "4+1 Rule," which allows a team four primary jerseys and a City Connect. It is likely done for inventory or manufacturing purposes, as other teams have had to add unique Spring Training or regular-season one-day-only jerseys to the guide in order to be able to continue to wear them.

This is the first time this jersey has appeared in Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, as the 2024 entry was still Nike's version of Flex Base. As such, it features some of the minor modifications to the template that were made in 2025 as a precursor to more extensive changes planned for 2026. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. However, since the 2024 version was actually the same as 2023 to begin with (being Flex Base) the 2025 look is almost identical to the prior year.

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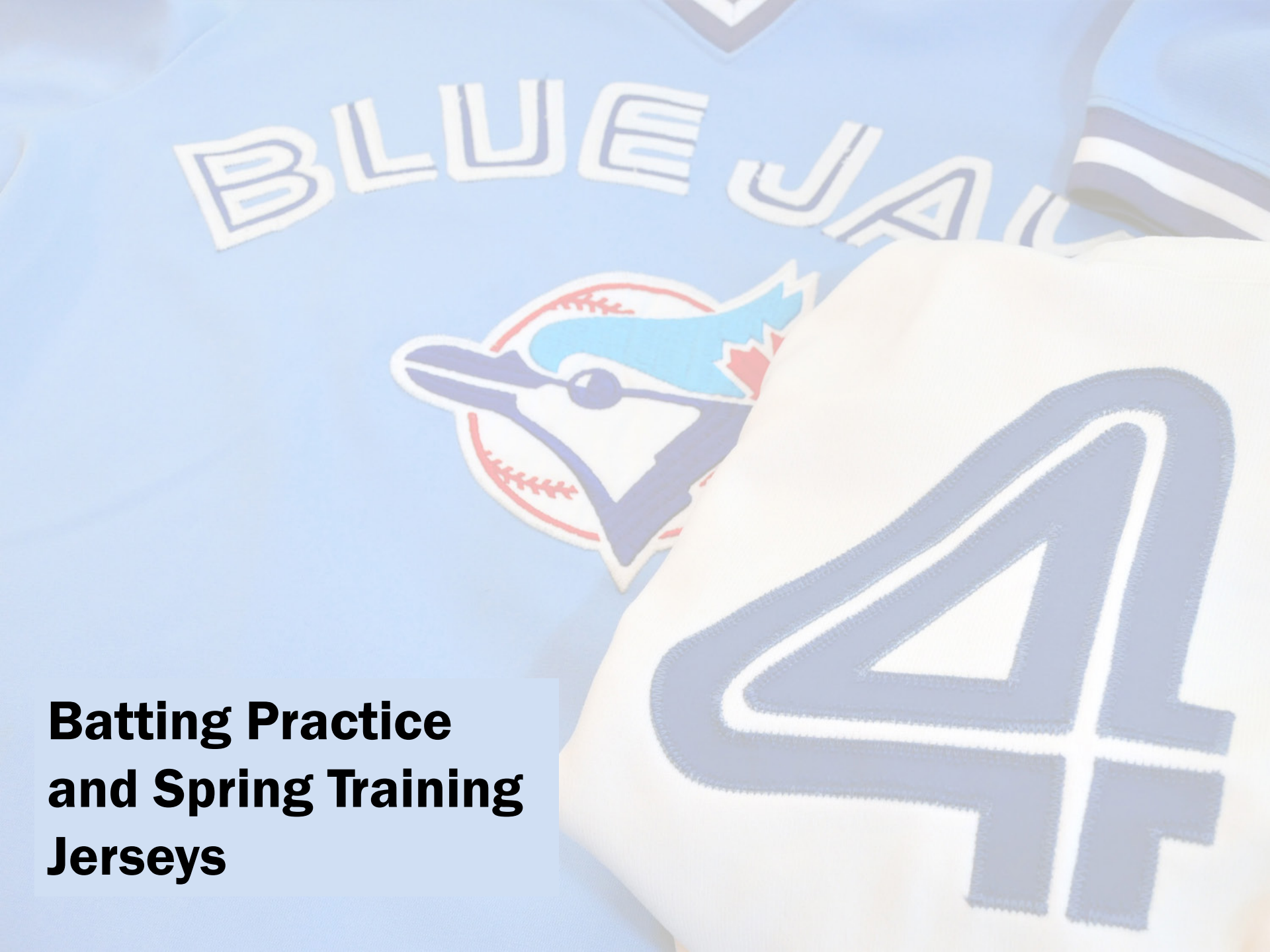

Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1982-1996 Batting Practice

This jersey style uses early-style split-letter numbers. No NOB on BP jerseys through 1992. Split numbers on mesh BP jerseys are sewn in two layers: a white split number over a solid royal blue bottom layer. Names on back, rendered in white, first appeared in 1993 and remained through 1996.

As is typical, multiple manufacturers supplied the team in different years. Some jerseys from 1983–1993 were made by Wilson; those from 1994–1996 were made by Majestic and feature the Majestic logo on the sleeve end. Rawlings jerseys appear by 1988, with Rawlings' script logo on the sleeve end.Rawlings script on the sleeve end.

Danny Hartnett collection

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1990-1995 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

As with several other MLB teams, Majestic supplied the Blue Jays with an alternate set of warmup jerseys used over several years. Use of this jersey was optional for players; there appears to have been no formal requirement for all players to wear the same warmup style.

This jersey features nylon mesh construction, color-striped elastic knit cuffs and collars, a short zipper at the neck, and elastic at the waistband. Shallow slash pockets on both sides of the front are deep enough only to hold small items like batting gloves. The Majestic logo is heat-pressed onto the edge of the right-side pocket.

Back lettering consists of solid white characters with a blue split overlay. These jerseys tend to run small and are notably short at the waist.

Close examination reveals that the jersey above differs from the one at left; the neck trim is three-striped on one and five-striped on the other.

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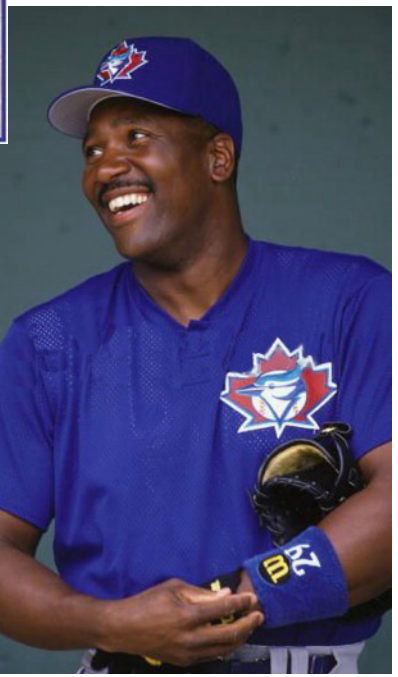
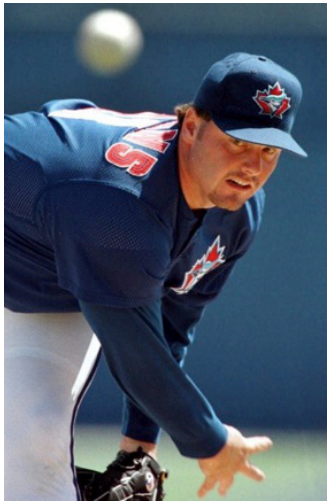
1997 Batting Practice





With the team's change of branding for 1997, the BP jersey was changed along with all the team uniforms.

It is a simple blue mesh, one-button pullover with the new Blue Jays logo embroidered as a patch on the left chest. The jersey features new-style split-letter numbers on the back, joined by a brand-new player-name font also in split-letter style. All lettering is three-color. Names are applied both on nameplates and as direct-sewn lettering, with the latter more commonly seen.

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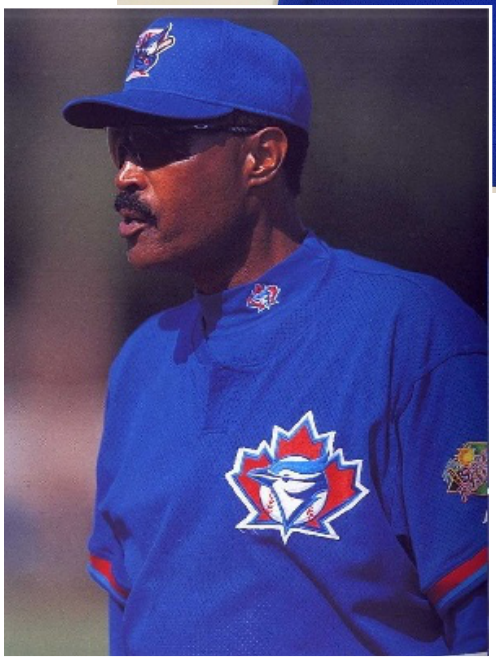
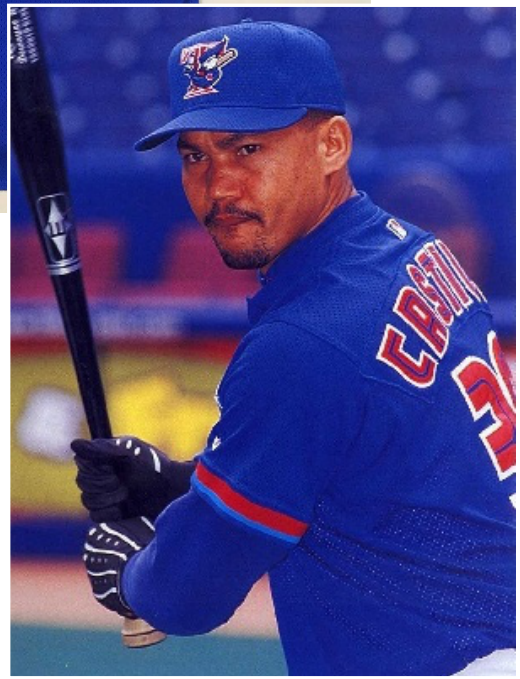
1998-2000 Batting Practice

2000 with Spring Training patch



This mesh batting practice jersey features the Blue Jays maple leaf logo on the left chest and uses the alternate game jersey lettering on the back. The knit sleeve ends feature a three-color pattern: red/light blue/royal blue. Team-issued batting practice jerseys of this style often display player names on nameplates.



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2001-2002 Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic Collection

2001: with 25th Anniversary Spring Training-only patch and NOB

This mesh batting practice jersey features the cartoon “T Bird” logo on the left chest. Back numbers use the alternate jersey lettering colors. On team-issued batting practice jerseys, player names appeared on nameplates in 2001 only.

2002: No sleeve patch, no NOB

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2003 Batting Practice

2003 BP jerseys are made of new first-generation moisture-wicking knit fabric by Majestic. These are non-mesh jerseys, identifiable by their gray sleeve inserts.

These jerseys were prone to significant fading, especially when exposed to sunlight. The fabric was fragile and could easily snag, even from a fingernail. Used examples often show noticeable wear and deterioration as a result. Back numbers are three-color: red/white with blue split insert. Player names not used in 2003.

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2004-2006 Batting Practice

This is a black, full-button jersey made of early technical fabric, with the team logo on the left chest. The back features three-color custom Blue Jays numbers, rendered in a new-for-2004 font: light gray/turquoise blue/dark gray. A bead of gray piping runs from the shoulder to the sleeve end.

Generally seen without names on the back. However, a trusted dealer has recently listed some with NOB ***(bottom center)*** on nameplates. It is assumed that jerseys with NOB were issued for regular season use, while those without were used in Spring Training.

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2007 Home/Road Batting Practice

Home version with white side panel

Road version with gray side panel

In 2007, all MLB teams switched to Cool Base pullover batting practice jerseys with a one-button neck. The Blue Jays' version is black, with a contrasting white or gray panel sewn into the sides. Like the Yankees, the Jays issued two distinct warm-up jerseys so that the side panels would match the team's home white or road gray uniform pants.

There are TWO distinctly different jersey styles highlighted on this page: one with white side panels for home use ***(top row)***, and one with gray side panels for road use ***(bottom row)***.

All adornments on these jerseys—including team designs, manufacturer logos, names, and numbers—are heat-pressed appliqués, not sewn-on tackle twill as used in prior years. The back numbers are updated to a two-color design with a much narrower outline than the 2006 version.

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2008-2010 Home/Road Batting Practice

These jerseys are identical to the team's 2007 BP versions, apart from a change in the team logo applied to the left chest. Notice the change in the word "Toronto" to a stylized set of blocky capital letters, replacing the prior script used 2004–2007. Both home (white side panels) and road (gray side panels) versions were issued, as the team felt that the white side panels clashed with the gray road pants.

2008–2010 team crest

Player numbers are not stitched; they are two-color flock appliqués. The front team crest is also an appliqué, rendered in gray, white, blue, and black, and incorporates metallic-patterned insets.

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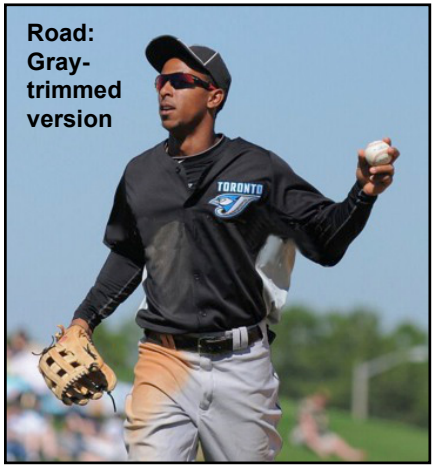
2011 Home/Road Batting Practice



Home and road versions are nearly identical except for the color of the side insert panels and back numbers. Home version has bright white panels with three-color numbers, road version has pale gray.

This button-front Cool Base design features an understated logo and the word “Toronto” on the left chest in block capital lettering. Both home and road versions use three-color numbers on the back, different once again from 2010. Player names are still not used.

As in previous years, subtly different Home and Road versions are used: the home version has white side panels, while the road version uses gray side panels to better match the uniform pants.

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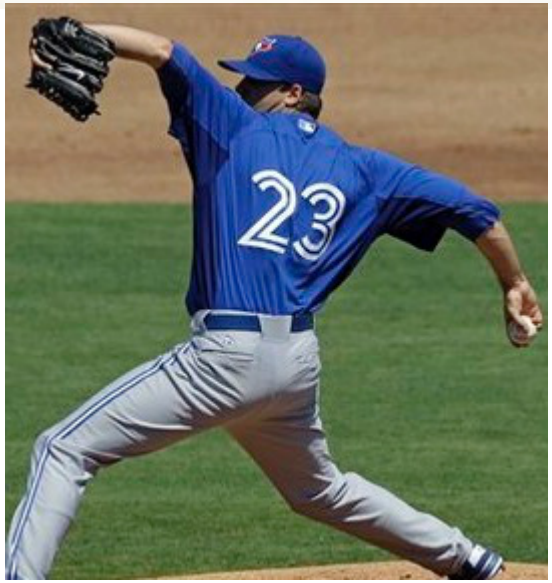
2012-2013 Batting Practice



The 2012–2013 Cool Base batting practice jersey is a button-front design in royal blue with navy side panels that extend to the underside of each sleeve. An embroidered Blue Jays crest appears on the left chest. Single-color split numbers in tackle twill are featured on the back. No player names are used.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

MLB refreshed all teams' batting practice jerseys for 2014, and the Blue Jays' version includes several subtle but interesting refinements. First, while the jersey design allows for two-tone styling, with provisions for contrasting side or even side-and-back panels, the Jays opt for an almost entirely monochromatic blue look. Second, although the new knit trim around the sleeve ends and neck opening is designed to allow contrasting color bands (used by every other team to create at least a stripe of contrast), the Blue Jays again choose solid blue.

In the right lighting (as shown in the accompanying photos), the side panel appears slightly darker than the rest of the jersey—likely due to its different fabric and texture, which reflect light differently.

The back features white twill numbers with no player names. The embroidered Blue Jay head patch remains on the left chest, consistent with the prior design.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduced a Spring Training–specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games during the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the top twill layer used by every team.

The Blue Jays use their regular season dark blue alternate as the base, omitting the player name from the back. The back numbers are white patterned twill with blue inner lines. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" to represent the Blue Jays' Spring Training home.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail.

The Blue Jays jersey is royal blue with navy blue back and underarm gussets. The Blue Jay head logo, also seen on their caps, appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white with blue inner line in Blue Jays special font on the left sleeve.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training–only jerseys returned for all teams in 2017, with minor design modifications. As in 2016, the jersey was based on the Flex Base game jersey template and featured special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now used the same base twill design: a single-color white twill with gray printing, replacing the varied team-specific styles from the previous year.

The Blue Jays again based their Spring Training jersey on their regular season dark blue alternate, omitting the player name from the back. The back numbers are made of white patterned twill but omit the team’s familiar trademark “split” style. A recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch appears on the right sleeve, shaped like an Interstate highway sign and reading “2017” and “FL,” representing their Spring Training home.

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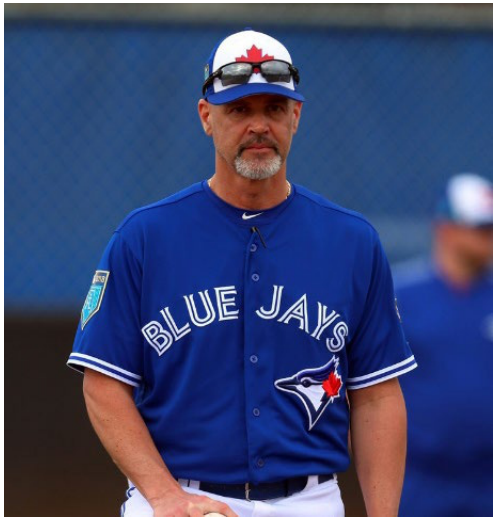
2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continued the previous year's design, featuring player name and number lettering in each team's regular fonts, rendered in a single layer of twill printed with Spring Training and 2018-specific patterns. The Blue Jays again used their regular season dark blue alternate as the base, omitting the player name from the back.

The bold back numbers—minus their trademark "split" style—are sewn in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve and features "2018" and "FL," representing their Spring Training home.



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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey represents another iteration of the theme used over the previous three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of recent seasons and return to the regular season's multi-layered, team-color twill used in 2016—but without the printed patterns seen that year.

The Blue Jays again use their regular season dark blue alternate as the base, omitting the player name from the back and featuring white back numbers with blue inner lines. A new CFX patch on the right sleeve reads "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home.

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2020 White Spring Training

Spring Training jerseys were simplified league-wide in 2020. For the first time since 2016, teams eliminated the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of their Spring Training home. Lettering now matched the non-patterned, multi-layered twill used during the regular season, making many Spring Training jerseys virtually identical to their teams' regular season alternates.

For 2020, the Blue Jays used their regular season home white jersey, omitting the player name on the back. The back numbers were blue with white inner lines. These jerseys were worn during the team's intrasquad scrimmages in 2020 "Summer Camp," the modified preseason period following the COVID-19 shutdown. We have not seen any examples enter the hobby.

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2020-2023 Dark Blue Spring Training

Spring Training jerseys were simplified league-wide in 2020. For the first time since 2016, teams eliminated the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of their Spring Training home. Lettering matched the non-patterned, multi-layered twill used in regular season jerseys, making many Spring Training designs nearly identical to regular alternates.

From 2020 through 2023, the Blue Jays used their regular season dark blue alternate as their Spring Training jersey, omitting the player name from the back. The jersey featured white back numbers with blue inner lines.

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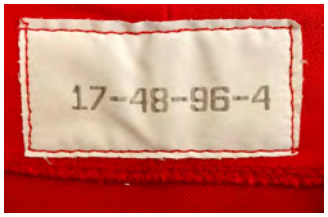
Special Events Jerseys

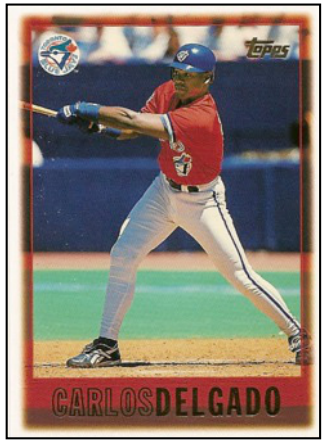
1996 Canada Day

Danny Harnett Collection

The Blue Jays began a new tradition in 1996: celebrating Canada Day with special jerseys on July 1, at least when the team is playing at home. This marked the first Canada Day jersey.

The design was a red-fabric rendition of the team's blue alternate jersey from that year. Player names were omitted and replaced by the word "CANADA" on all jerseys





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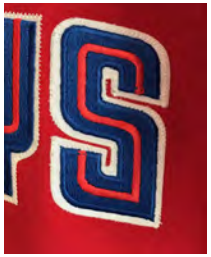
1997 Canada Day



Would you believe that the Blue Jays wore replica, department store fan-shop style jerseys on the field for the 1997 Canada Day game? While I don't have a definite confirmation of the story I'm about to tell, my research leads me to believe that the data points align to make this story rooted in fact.

Early in the season, the Jays would have ordered from Russell these one-game special jerseys for the July 1 game. It was only the second such Canada Day game, and with red as the theme, the jerseys specified were to be red-bodied with red, white and blue lettering. But when the Diamond Collection, team-tagged jerseys arrived, we suspect someone in the Blue Jays organization likely objected to them strongly enough to insist that they order up a different set. You see, the main color of the lettering on these red jersey was also red—with minimal blue and white outlining, and that made them hard to see on the field.

Again, speculating: there was not enough time to get a new customer tailored and player-lettered set of red vests made, so the manufacturer was forced to substitute blue-lettered retail-spec "Authentic Merchandise" jerseys instead. These were sized generically (M, L, XL) rather than numerically, as is typical, and the original red-on-red sets were banished to the minor leagues.

To back up this story, one the years I have found multiple examples of the team tagged red-on-red vests, all with the CANADA name-on-back stripped off. And, I have found almost a dozen examples of "Authentic Merchandise" retail style red vest jerseys with uncustomary-for-replicas complex layered twill lettering, various player numbers—including those of non-stars—and even autographs. Some have been auctioned as "game-used."

Game photos from the event clearly show the players wearing the blue-lettered uniforms, though so far we have been unable to confirm definitively that these were the retail-tagged replicas.

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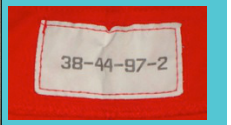
1997 Canada Day, continued

1997 Canada Day jerseys are red Russell vests worn with special royal blue undershirts. The undershirt has the Canadian flag patch sewn on one sleeve and the Blue Jays maple leaf logo patch on the other. The word "CANADA" replaces player names on all jerseys. Store-bought versions of this jersey had heat-transfer sleeve patches on the sleeves instead of the customary embroidered ones.

In 1997 game action photos, are these players wearing Authentics or replicas? Perhaps, on this one day, they were one and the same.

Below are the probable "error jerseys" made but never used for the 1997 game. See the page dedicated to this style in the "Oddballs" section of this chapter.



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1998 Canada Day

Left: *Replica jersey courtesy of Jeff Brown. We continue to search for a game-worn example.*

1998 Canada Day jerseys are a rendition of the team's alternate vest, only with red replacing the light blue trim in the lettering.

It is worn with a special red undershirt that has a maple leaf team patch on the left sleeve and a Canadian flag on the right.

Player names were replaced with the word "CANADA," rendered in a slight vertical arch.

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1999 Canada Day

Jeff Brown Collection

Jerseys shown are retail replicas. We are still searching for a game-worn example.

The 1999 Canada Day jerseys were nearly identical to the team's standard home jerseys for that season, with the knit trim changed to red for this single-day event and a small Canadian flag patch added to the left chest. No numbers appeared on the front.

As per tradition, player names were replaced with the word "CANADA," which was once again vertically arched.

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2000 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

Jeff Brown Collection

On August 11, 2000, the Blue Jays wore 1977-style powder blue road uniforms while visiting the Twins for a “Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s Night” in Minnesota. 1977 was the only year the team featured a solid blue “Toronto” wordmark on the front. Aside from being a shade too dark, the uniforms were a nearly perfect reproduction.

Left: *Original 1977 Blue Jays road jersey for comparison.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2001 Canada Day

- The game was played on July 2, 2001 vs. the Boston Red Sox.
- The 2001 Canada Day jersey was solid red with white knit trim at the sleeve ends and along the placket.
- The large maple leaf crest from that year's alternate vest replaced the usual front player numbers.
- The left sleeve featured a Blue Jays 25th anniversary (25 seasons) patch, while the right sleeve had the American League 100th anniversary patch.
- The back featured three-color numbers, and all player names were replaced with the word "CANADA."
- The Space Shuttle crew were featured guests at the game. One might wonder who wore the most red—the Red Sox, the astronauts, or the Blue Jays?

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2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

On May 21, 2001, the Blue Jays hosted a Turn Back the Clock game against the Chicago White Sox. (The White Sox' throwback uniforms were delivered but reportedly did not fit properly, so they were not worn. I wonder what happened to these?)

The Blue Jays wore jerseys designed to replicate their 1977–1988 home pullover uniforms—presumably modeled after the 1977–1979 style, which did not feature player names on the back. Contemporary photo captions identify 1977 as the intended reference year. The jerseys do not include the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back of the neck, which is accurate for a 1977 reproduction.

The cringe factor for me is the back numbers used the then-current 1998–2003 split style, which is anachronistic for a proper 1977 recreation.

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2001 Negro Leagues Tribute (Chatham All-Stars)

Todd Bargman/Gameusedonly.com

Todd Bargman/Gameusedonly.com

Todd Bargman/Gameusedonly.com

On July 15, 2001, the Blue Jays played in New York vs. the Mets, who dressed as the 1947 New York Cubans. This is the Blue Jays' first participation in a Negro League tribute game.

To honor the historic Canadian team, the Blue Jays wore uniforms styled after the Chatham All-Stars of Ontario. The design featured the team's contemporary sleeve patch placed low on the left sleeve. Back numbers one-color navy blue, Block with Serifs Bold. The uniforms were made by Rawlings using double knit fabric.

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2002 Canada Day

The game was played at home on Sunday, June 30, 2002, against the Montreal Expos.

The jersey design was nearly identical to that of 2001, with two key differences: the 2002 version included year-specific sleeve patches and added a front player number, which was absent in 2001. Player names were replaced with “CANADA” on the back.

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2002 Negro Leagues Tribute (Chatham All-Stars)

Bill Henderson Collection

This was the Blue Jays' first home Negro League tribute game. The team wore uniforms honoring the Black Canadian Chatham All-Stars and debuted them on July 13, 2002, in a home game against Boston.

Back numbers were one-color navy blue in Block Bold. The uniforms were made by Rawlings in double knit fabric. The Red Sox wore uniforms styled after the 1948 Boston Royal Giants.

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2003 St. Patrick's Day

So far as I can determine, 2003 marked the first time the Blue Jays participated in the lightheart-ed—and commercially savvy—tradition of wearing green jerseys for the mid-Spring Training holiday.

Their jersey is green mesh, and features the same left-chest patch as found on their regular batting practice jerseys in 2001–2003. Heat-pressed white Varsity numbers onto the back.

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2005-2006 St. Patrick's Day

For St. Patrick's Day 2006, the Blue Jays wore green mesh, button-front versions of their then-current batting practice jersey. The front logo matched the regular version, and the back numbers were metallic silver/turquoise blue/gray.

Oddly, the game-worn jersey photos in my archives do not show a Silhouetted Batter patch sewn on the back of the neck. Retail versions do include the patch, suggesting it may have been unintentionally omitted from the team-issued set.

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2006 Canada Day

- The 2006 Canada Day jersey is constructed and tagged by Majestic like a batting practice jersey, rather than a standard game jersey.
- This version is unusual, made of black lightweight batting-practice jersey fabric, with red and white player numbers and special red/white/blue front lettering.

Left: *I do not believe there was a Canada Day game in 2007, as the Jays were on the road for the entirety of that week. In 2008, the Jays were again on the road and wore only a special hat. However, at retail, Majestic offered thiis version of the 2006 special jersey, featuring updated back lettering.*

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2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

The Blue Jays visited the Baltimore Orioles on July 23, 2008, for a Turn Back the Clock game themed to 1983.

The Orioles dressed in 1983 uniforms. The Blue Jays wore their throwback alternates, which were technically part of their regular uniform set in 2008. However, since the home team billed the game as a Turn Back the Clock contest, we include it here.

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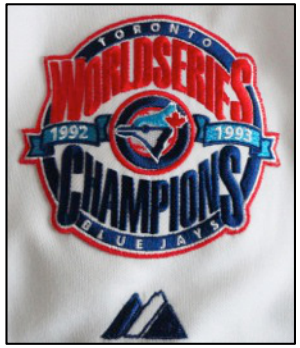
2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1992-1993



- On August 7, 2009, the Blue Jays hosted a Turn Back the Clock game celebrating the 1992–1993 Blue Jays World Series teams. The Orioles wore their regular black jerseys, opting not to participate in the theme.
- Majestic made the Blue Jays' throwback uniforms, which were good copies despite being excessively baggy—a frequent issue with modern reproductions.
- The Jays wore a 1994 "1992–1993 World Series Champions" patch on the left sleeve, which is odd only because, though this design was used for stadium artwork (painted on the outfield wall, for example) in 1994, it was never actually used as a sleeve patch at the time.

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2009 Canada Day

The game was played on July 1, 2009, against the Tampa Bay Rays.The jerseys are Cool Base button-front batting practice jerseys. Player names on back were replaced by the word “CANADA,” and back player numbers used the team’s current fonts in two-color white/turquoise blue.

A Canadian flag patch is sewn to the right sleeve, and the 2009 memorial “TED” patch is sewn to the left sleeve of game-worn models. The TED patch is not present on retail-sourced jerseys, like the one pictured inset at right.

Retail jerseys were often lettered with star player names, presumably to make them more appealing to buyers.

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2011 Canada Day

July 1, 2011: The jersey is a repeat of the one used in 2009, except the Canadian flag is now sewn on the opposite (left) sleeve,and the under-sleeve panels are white instead of red, as used previously. Their opponents were the Phillies, who wore their regular road grays.

Left: 2010? *Canada Day was marked on the road, with special caps only—no fancy uniforms.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Canada Day

Left: *This jersey is a retail authentic; note the absence of a set tag in the neck.*

Far left: *Game-worn example with set tag.*

July 1, 2012: This was the first year the team wore their new retro-style jerseys, which resembled the design worn in 1996. A Canadian flag patch appears on the left sleeve, and all players had the word "CANADA" in place of their usual name on the back.

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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013 Memorial Day (USA)

May 27, 2013: MLB had all teams wear camouflage-lettered jerseys for the U.S. Memorial Day holiday. Despite being a Canadian team, the Jays were included in the promotion. At home that day against the Braves, they played along.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Canada Day/Canada Baseball Day

Worn twice in 2013: July 1 (Canada Day) and **August 11** (Canada Baseball Day). For the first time since the Blue Jays started the tradition of wearing red for Canada Day, the players' actual names—and not the word "CANADA"—appeared on the back.

This may have been done because the jerseys were intended to be worn on two occasions instead of just one, or possibly to increase their appeal to collectors—and selling prices—when they were auctioned off. These jerseys are essentially the same as those used in 2012.

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2014 Canada Military Day/Memorial Day (USA)

Worn twice in 2014: May 9 (honoring Canadian military) and **May 26** (USA Memorial Day). While all other MLB teams used the prescribed USMC desert-sand twill, the Jays substituted the prescribed twill with a greener Canadian military pattern, which helped to make the writing on the jerseys more legible from the stands.

This substitution improved visibility, as desert camouflage is nearly impossible to distinguish from a distance.

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2014 Canada Day/Canada Baseball Day

Worn twice in 2014: July 1 (Canada Day) and **August 10** (Canada Baseball Day). The 2014 version is based on the new 2014 batting practice jersey, which features lighter-weight fabric and white inset side panels.

For the second year in a row, player names appear on the back, continuing the shift away from the earlier tradition of using the word “CANADA.” The Canadian flag continues to appear on the left sleeve.

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2015 Memorial Day (USA)

The Blue Jays marked the observance of U.S. Memorial Day on May 25, 2015, wearing a style very similar to their 2014 jerseys, which used the greener Canadian military camouflage pattern instead of the desert pattern worn by U.S. teams.

In 2015, however, the Blue Jays logo on the front of the jersey also received the camouflage treatment—whereas in the previous two years, it had appeared in standard team colors. The Jays used a unique darker green camouflage pattern preferred by the Canadian military, as opposed to the browner camouflage worn by U.S. teams.

Jerseys were once again Majestic knits, as were all Blue Jays jerseys through 2015.

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2015 Canada Day/Canada Baseball Day

Worn twice in 2015: July 1 (Canada Day) and **August 30** (Canada Baseball Day). After several years of wearing red jerseys for Canada Day and Canada Baseball Day, the Blue Jays mix it up—returning to a white jersey for the first time since 1999.

This is essentially a Jays home jersey with all the blue twill changed to red, and a Canadian flag on the left sleeve.

For the first time, the visiting team—the Red Sox in 2015—also wear a Canadian flag on their road jerseys to mark Canada Day.

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2015 Independence Day (USA)

The Blue Jays were in Detroit on July 4, 2015, and, like the Red Sox—who wore Canadian flag sleeve patches for Canada Day in Toronto—the Blue Jays repay the favor by wearing an American flag on the right sleeve during the July 4 game. The jersey is otherwise identical to their standard road uniform.

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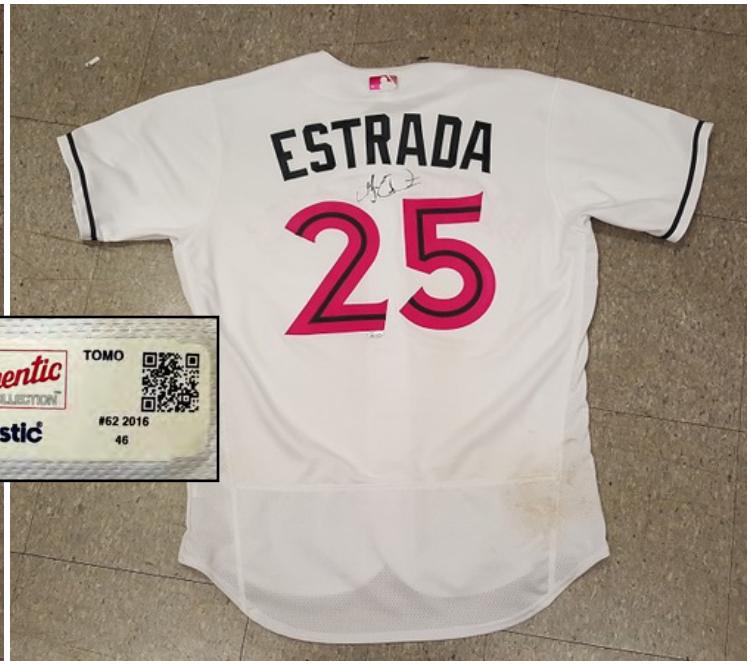
2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, featuring a rubberized tag on the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on the left chest—a carryover from previous seasons—while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink, and the back-of-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Blue Jays wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with gray inner lines (replacing the usual white). Player names on the back are sewn in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are pink with gray inner lines. All jersey trim, normally blue/white/blue, becomes dark gray. The jersey does not have the 40th season patch that their standard jerseys include. The style returns in 2017.

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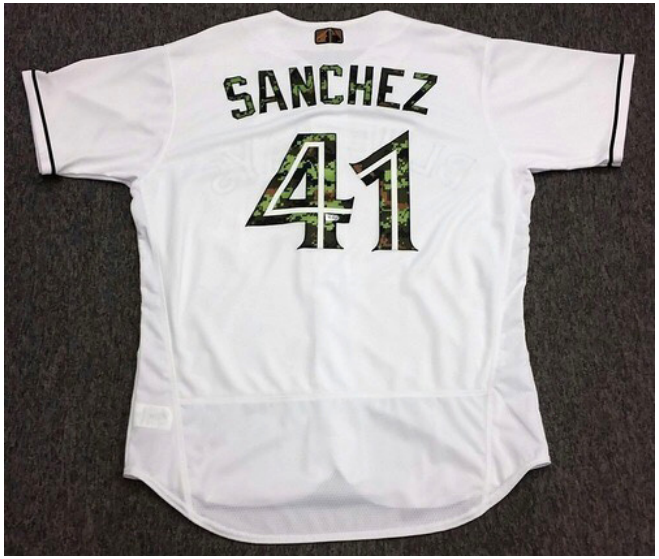
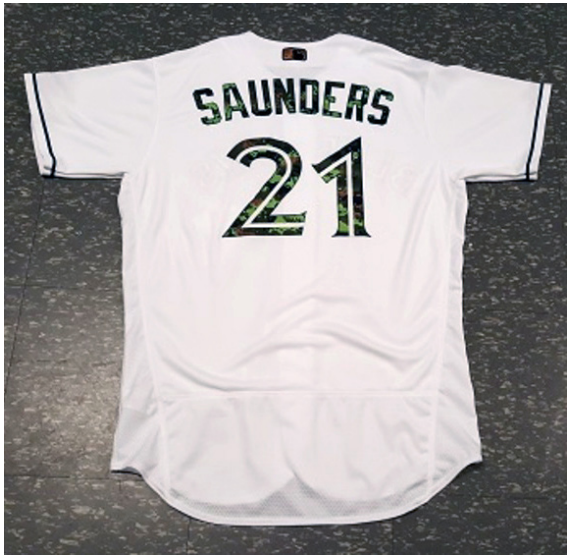
2016 Memorial Day (USA)





The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at the back of the neck is rendered in black and dark gold for all teams. The Blue Jays use their own unique version of camouflage trim on their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. All lettering—including numbers and player names—is rendered in a version of Canadian CANPAT camo. As with other teams, the Blue Jays simplify their trim elements to single-color black. This special jersey omits the 40th season patch found on their standard uniforms.

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Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Father's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue–trimmed uniforms for Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys use Flex Base construction with a rubberized tag on the front left tail. Each team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on the left chest—a carryover from past seasons—while the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the collar appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Blue Jays wear their road gray jerseys, with front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray inner lines and white outlines. This creates a rare three-layer design, making the Blue Jays one of the few teams with more than two colors on their jersey fronts. The added white layer significantly improves legibility on the small "Toronto" lettering and arguably should have been carried over to the back numbers, which are light blue with dark gray inner lines—a combination that reduces legibility on a gray jersey. Player names on the back are rendered in single-color dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue/white/blue, becomes dark gray. This version omits the 40th season patch found on their standard jerseys.

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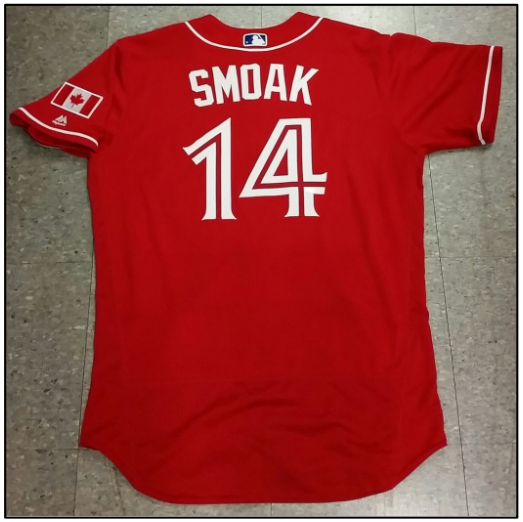
2016 Canada Day/Canada Baseball Day

Worn twice in 2016: July 1 (Canada Day) and **August 28** (Canada Baseball Day). Red returns to Canada Day/ Canada Baseball Day in 2016 after a brief one-year hiatus.

Built on a Flex Base template for the first time, this jersey features white knit trim on the sleeve ends and around the neck and placket. Front and back lettering are all white with red inner lines, and the Canadian flag patch once again appears on the left sleeve.

This version omits the 40th season patch found on their standard jerseys.



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2016-2018 Independence Day (USA)

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

As in previous years, the Blue Jays do not receive the Stars and Stripes treatment given to the rest of the league. Instead, they wear their standard blue alternate jersey with a Canadian flag on the left sleeve and a U.S. flag on the right. All lettering and trim on the jersey remain unchanged. The jersey omits the 40th season patch that appears on their standard 2016 uniforms when worn on July 4. The same treatment returns for both 2017 (July 3–4) and 2018 (July 4).

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2017 Memorial Day (USA)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with white center line for the Blue Jays. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. While U.S. teams wear a green bar patch bearing five black stars—representing the five branches of the U.S. military—the Blue Jays do not use this patch, given their home in Canada. All trim elements are simplified to solid black. The Blue Jays wear this style on their home white jerseys for the May 29, 2017 game only.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue–trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Flex Base jerseys feature the usual Majestic tagging on the front left tail and set tagging inside the bottom of the placket. Also returning are the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon applied to the left chest, the light blue embroidered Majestic sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back collar.

The Blue Jays wear their home white jerseys with front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray interior lines. Player names on the back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue with dark gray inner lines. All jersey trim, normally blue/white/blue, becomes dark gray.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. Back numbers are rendered in single-color Varsity, and player names appear in 2¾″ single-color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font.

On August 25–27, 2017, and August 24–26, 2018, the Blue Jays wear jerseys with royal blue bodies and powder blue sleeves, featuring white nicknames and powder blue numbers on the back. Sleeves and V-neck openings are trimmed in wide powder blue/white/powder blue. The front lettering is rendered in a straight-across style—rather than the usual arch—and appears in white with powder blue inner lines in kiss-cut lightweight twill.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Memorial Day (USA)

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys follow the same pattern as 2017, with dark olive green lettering and numbers featuring white inner lines, and solid-color dark olive player names on the back. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also carry over from 2017, rendered in olive green and black. Trim elements are once again simplified to solid black.

The Canada-based Blue Jays do not wear the green bar patch with five black stars, which represents the five branches of the U.S. military and is worn by all other teams. The Blue Jays wear this style on their road gray jerseys from May 26–28, 2018.

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2018-2019 Canada Day

The team wears the red jersey style that appears in the MLB Style Guide as an official team alternate jersey in 2017 and is worn on Canada Day that year. In 2018, it reverts to special event status and no longer appears as an alternate. While the distinction is purely clerical, we include it here for consistency.

The 2018 version includes the Roy Halladay memorial patch on the right sleeve, while the 2019 version features the MLB 150 patch in that same location.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Blue Jays wear a white version of their home jersey, omitting the Blue Jays logo. Front lettering appears in gray with white inner lines, while varsity-style back numbers are rendered in white with gray inner lines. Nicknames on the back appear in gray.

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2021-2024 Canada Day

Looking for the Blue Jays' 2025 red Canada Day jersey? For that season, it appears as an official alternate in the MLB Style Guide and is therefore listed in the "Home, Road, and Alternate Jerseys" section.

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-shortened 2020 season, the Blue Jays bring their familiar red Canada Day jersey back to the field in 2021. Now produced by Nike using their version of the Majestic Flex Base template, the jersey is once again worn on Canada Day (July 1) and on other select dates throughout the year. The jersey design remains unchanged from prior years through 2022, including the maple leaf patch on the left sleeve. On July 1, 2023, the maple leaf patch is removed, and when the jersey is worn again on July 31, the team's advertising patch takes its place on the left sleeve. Despite the league-wide switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite template in 2024, the Blue Jays continue wearing this Nike Flex Base version of the Canada Day jersey, now featuring larger player names on the back. Interestingly, the style code for both the Majestic and Nike versions remains the same: TOAB. It is rare for a style code to stay unchanged after a manufacturer transition.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

Wilson Cryptic Date Codes Decoded?

This white mesh jersey may be a spring training issue. It has screen-printed graphics and a high number on the back. It might also be a minor league jersey. The most interesting feature is a small tag sewn into the collar that simply reads “EP.”

We are aware that Wilson uses similar date tagging on NFL jerseys. There, they use two alpha characters to indicate the year and month of manufacture. The first letter uses A through K to designate the year—using an unusual scheme in which A means a year ending in 8, B a year ending in 9, and so on, repeating every ten years. The second letter represents the month, with O meaning January, P for February, and continuing alphabetically through Z for December.

When single characters are used, it indicates the year only, with no specific month designated.

This jersey is coded as “EP,” which corresponds to February 1992—a dating that aligns with the jersey style and the Wilson tag used in the collar.

Year Code		Month Code			
A =	1988				
B =	1989	O =	Jan	U =	Jul
C =	1990	P =	Feb	V =	Aug
D =	1991	Q =	Mar	W =	Sep
E =	1992	R =	Apr	X =	Oct
F =	1993	S =	May	Y =	Nov
G =	1994	T =	Jun	Z =	Dec
H =	1995				

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Pre-1977 Prototype Home?

Above: *An actual 1977 Blue Jays home jersey for comparison.*

The unspectacular looking plain white home jersey shown above has a Wilson manufacturer tag in the collar, using a tag style discontinued after 1977. Beneath the Wilson tag is a square of white twill containing a printed set of specifications and production codes. This type of tag is typically found on sample jerseys submitted for team approval.This may be a pre-inaugural Blue Jays jersey used to finalize the on-field uniform design.

© GameWornGuides.com

Trainer's Dugout Jersey

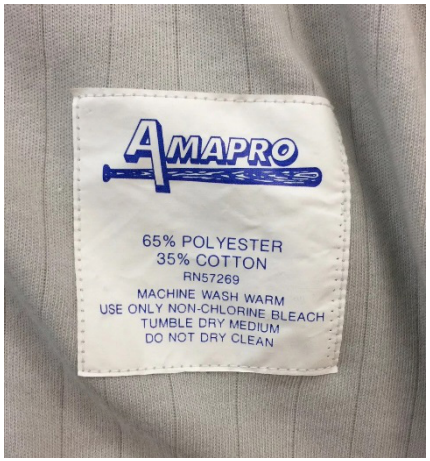
This white polyester collared shirt with three buttons at the neck and knit tri-tone sleeve-end trim—matching the player jerseys—is reportedly worn by the team's trainer in the dugout. The Rawlings tag style suggests a production date between 1977 and 1984. The small arched "Toronto" wordmark on the left chest is formed from tiny sewn twill letters. The heavy wear on the Rawlings tag's white embroidery suggests the garment has been washed dozens of times.

1981 Bat Boy "Tailoring"

Special tailoring for MLB player jerseys is nothing new, but the tailoring on this Blue Jays bat boy jersey is far from special. In 1981, the Blue Jays' bat boy receives his own home jersey—just like a big leaguer. Given the size 40, the wearer is likely younger and smaller than the players, which is to be expected. But instead of properly resizing the garment, the jersey is "tailored" by crudely cutting off several inches from the bottom—without even sewing a new hem. At least he gets his "name" written on the inside tag to avoid having it mistaken for a player jersey in the wash!

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-1993 Diamond Collection Team Undershirts



Marketed as “Diamond Collection” on-field apparel, these compression mock-turtle neck shirts were made by Amapro, and presumably supplied to players if they wanted to wear them. The MLB silhouetted batter logo is stitched to the front of the collar, and the Blue Jays primary logo is embroidered directly on the left chest. Amapro was contractually permitted to show its logo on the sleeve. The top part of the jersey was royal blue knit fabric, and from the chest down a gray ribbed compression-type of knit fabric was used. We have seen these for a few other teams. In the time period they were made, the distribution network for MLB authentic apparel was in its infancy. I do not ever recall seeing these items for sale in any of the outlets I visited back in those days.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993-1995 Prototype Canada Day

This jersey, found for sale on an auction site, is said to be a prototype for the team's first Canada Day commemoration. It features three-color red/white/blue lettering on the front and back, along with red/blue/red sleeve end trim.

We cannot confirm the exact year, as Joe Carter played for the team from 1991–1997, and this jersey style was in use by the team from 1990–1996. The design replaces the Blue Jay crest seen on other team jerseys with a front number. The tagging in the neck is appropriate for the period. The first officially documented Canada Day jersey was introduced in 1996.

© GameWornGuides.com

1996-1999 Prototype Canada Day?

Here's another possible prototype for the Canada Day jerseys that the Blue Jays introduced in 1996. This one features a red, full-knit body with navy knit trim above each sleeve end. There is no lettering on the back, and the only front design is the team's "Blue Jay-in-ball" logo, which appeared on team jerseys through 1996. The Russell jock tag also dates this to the 1996–1999 era. Given the logo, it is possible this jersey was produced in advance of the 1996 season as an option for the very first Canada Day red jersey. If that is the case, the team opted for a more ornate version to launch this longstanding tradition, leaving this comparatively simple iteration behind.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 Prototype Vest

Bill Henderson Collection

Above: *I recently found this jersey for sale on eBay. It has Russell Diamond Collection tagging, oddly using the 1992 –1993 version of the locker tag.*

This alternate royal blue vest was shown in the MLB Style Guide as part of the 1997 uniform redesign. However, it was never worn by the team. Note the graphic above left, from the official *MLB Style Guide*, showing the jersey without a number on the front. It is intended to be worn with a light blue undershirt.

This prototype jersey from my collection, pictured above-center, is made by Wilson. As is common with many prototypes, the number used is 5, and the name on the back is "Player." Lettering is in three-color layered tackle twill: light blue/white with a royal blue split sewn on top. This design apparently progressed far enough that, in addition to being listed in the official 1997 MLB internal Style Guide, some Diamond Collection replica vests were produced for retail sale by Russell, the company licensed to make them for the public. The example at right was listed for sale on eBay. Note the 1997 Jackie Robinson patch, and the retail-only Russell "R" logo on the sleeve of what is likely an original Russell-logoed undershirt.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 Prototype or “Error Run” Canada Day

Bill Henderson Collection

(Above) 1997’s actual Canada Day Jerseys, “as used.” Were they actually gift shop “replicas” worn on the field in an emergency?

In my research, I have come across several of these jerseys and personally own one of them. They are all set/year tagged for 1997 in the collar, and they show some use. So, are they the team’s 1997 Canada Day jerseys? Decidedly not. Look back at that page and you will see that the lettering on both front and back of these jerseys is REVERSED in color from what was used on the field. On game worn jerseys, the main color of all lettering is blue, with a red split.

I have made an educated, businessperson’s guess at what happened, and I would bet 100 Canadian dollars that I am correct. I suggest that Russell made a production error (read as: “screw up”) and cut the twill from the wrong colors and sewed them that way. The error was not noticed until after the team received the uniforms, and they rejected them and had Russell remake them to proper specs for the Canada Day game.

If prototypes, they would not be team tagged and there likely would not be more than one of them floating around. Several of the examples I have seen (including my own #38 jersey) have had the “CANADA” stripped off the back. I suggest the team simply kept the defective set and sent them to the minor leagues to be used there.

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2004 Prototypes

The gray jersey with blue sleeves is likely a design study for what became the 2004 road jersey. The silver/blue/white number scheme was ultimately replaced with the charcoal/gray/turquoise pattern used on the final version. On the final jersey, player names are also sewn using charcoal as the primary color.

Note that the numbers on the back of the prototype each have different outline widths—likely an attempt to compare options and determine which was most visually effective.

The black jersey, which resembles what was eventually approved as the team's batting practice jersey, is full weight, button-front, and features sewn-on charcoal and sparkle-silver trim on the sleeve tops. Lettering is in three colors, likely sparkle silver, medium blue, and gray.

Top right: *The strip tag stitched inside the button flap of the black jersey translates to "Blue Jays 2004 Alternate," with an added set code "J-S2" to distinguish it from other proposals submitted by Majestic.*

© GameWornGuides.com

Another 2004 Prototype

Quote from Sports Business Daily, regarding the nearly-used graphite jersey on the previous pages:

"The Blue Jays unveiled their new logo and uniforms on Sept. 2, 2003. The plan was for them to wear the graphite road away jersey with graphite pants and a graphite hat the following season. The video game MVP Baseball 2004 showed the solid graphite design as the team's road uniform. Apparently these jerseys were nixed by the MLB because they were too dark (imagine playing a day game in Arlington in those!). But the Jays already had the insignia production finalized, and a ton of graphite replica jerseys had been made. The team's solution was to take the existing insignia wordmarks—which had a graphite outline, to blend in with the graphite jersey—and place them on regular gray jerseys. This created a contrasting graphite outline that's still visible on the team's road grays to this day. I'm surprised they haven't changed it, because the original version was such a rush job."

Here is another Blue Jays prototype that did not make the cut for 2004. The body of the jersey is graphite in color rather than black. The design has a resemblance to a nightshirt to me.

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2004 Prototype Batting Practice

Here's what appears to be a prototype for the Blue Jays' 2004–2006 batting practice jersey. Note the sample tagging on the inside of the placket that reads "TOR-BP-04-FS," meaning Toronto BP 2004. The "FS" likely stands for "Fabric Sample," a designation seen on several other prototypes from this period. This was during the early stages of Majestic's knit performance fabric development, and fabric samples were created for teams to evaluate the new material. The use of the number "34" on the back is also unusual—Majestic samples typically featured "5," "05," or the corresponding year. Other Blue Jays samples from this era—shown on previous and following pages—also feature 34 and 43, suggesting there was a specific reason Majestic used those numbers for this team at the time.

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2004 Abandoned Road Charcoal

Here's a rather strange tale of market research and a team uniform redesign made by committee.

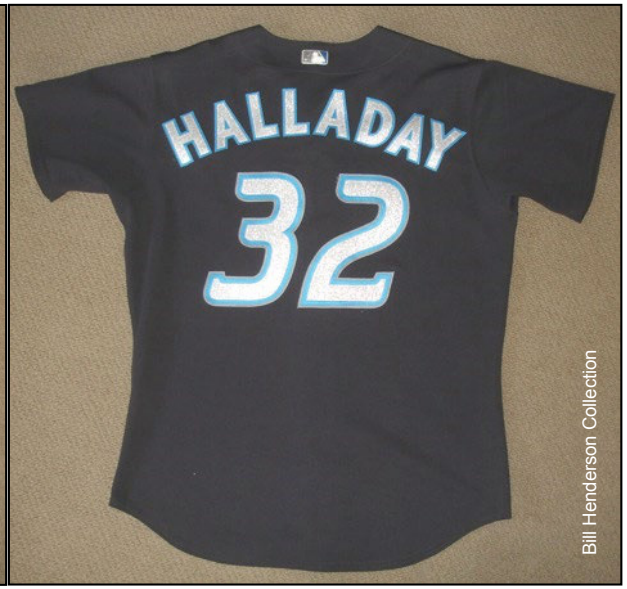
In 2000, Rogers Communications bought an 80% share in the Blue Jays, and immediately began to consider a team rebranding. They polled fans on the team's current (2000) logos and uniforms, and decided that they were "tired" and had little loyalty attached to them.

Sports Business Daily reported that designing the new look took about two years, consulting many stakeholders: ownership, senior management, players, fans, non-fans– "a cast of thousands," as characterized by team SVP Business Affairs and Administration Lisa Novak.

The branding firm chosen was Toronto-based Brandid, Inc., which had no prior experience designing for sports teams—a choice the Blue Jays viewed as a potential strength, bringing a fresh perspective.

The logos were done first, and then the team worked on the uniforms that would bear them. Again, there were many parties consulted and a lot of disagreement. Finally, the jersey style shown on this page was debuted as the team's new road uniform. They were a charcoal color, called "graphite"—neither gray, nor black, but somewhere in between.

The new design was certainly not traditional: The Blue Jay head was hidden like a cryptogram in the primary logo design. Colors included black, dark gray, metallic silver, white, and only minimal use of medium blue, which—according to some observers, including your author—resembled chlorine-bleached fabric.



Bill Henderson Collection

There was no red, no trim, and no maple leaf insignia, which had previously appeared on every team design. The word "Blue" was dropped entirely, with the team referring to itself simply as the "Jays." And, while the Jays aimed to position themselves as "Canada's team," their marketing strategy sought to avoid overly nationalistic imagery that might limit their appeal to fans in the northern United States.

The Jays unveiled the new look on September 2, 2003—which in itself was very odd, as the current season was still ongoing. But team officials felt they needed feedback before Toronto's attention shifted entirely to hockey.

So, they immediately went to market with the jerseys shown on the store display photo (next page) and even released the designs to the makers of video games, as *MVP Baseball 2004* featured the unreleased graphite uniforms.

But MLB, objecting to the team having **two** black jerseys (well, one graphite and one black), insisted that a lighter road option be used.

The problem was, the fancy embroidered team insignias were all approved, and being produced by the thousands. Even after making thousands of graphite jerseys for retail sale, the team adopted an on-field light gray jersey, and simply slapped the existing graphite-bordered wordmark on the front; a "look" of additional contrasting outlining that had never been intended!

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In the end, this last-minute rush-job result was used as the team's road jersey for the next four seasons before being replaced by a new design—one that bore no resemblance to the team's other uniforms and featured completely different fonts for the wordmark and player numbers.

The much-hyped, expensive, and entirely new identity was ultimately abandoned after the 2011 season. In 2012, a refreshed version of the original "split-letter" design and familiar Blue Jay head returned.

In hindsight, it is easy to sound wise when reviewing this situation, but since marketing is my profession, allow me to offer some observations. First, choosing a branding company without experience with sports teams would be an easy target, and I would reject that. Any professional firm of stature will have the proper methodologies in place to do this job, though one with sports-team experience may have relevant experience to draw upon that the new entrant might not. My observation is that, from what I have read, there were too many people involved in the design approval process."Design by committee" has become a cliché for a reason—when too many stakeholders are included in the approval process, the result is often muddled. Worse still, MLB's objection to the near-black road jersey came after production had already begun, suggesting the consultation process was mismanaged or poorly sequenced.

The design itself leaned too heavily on artistic subtlety—more fitting for a concept board than for athletic competition. One might even describe it as overly delicate, with soft curves and overly fussy detailing. And the color scheme was, quite literally, nonexistent. Unlike teams such as the Yankees, whose colorless palette is rooted in tradition, the Jays' design omitted even a simple red maple leaf or contrasting trim, making the uniform unappealing.

So—this is why the road jersey's wordmark features an extra outline. The wordmarks were originally designed to be sewn onto graphite-colored jerseys, not light gray ones. When MLB rejected the nearly-black road jersey, the team simply applied the existing wordmarks to the new gray version—creating an unintended contrast that lives on in uniform history/infamy.

Right: *Photo dates from the first week following the release of the Blue Jays' new uniforms in the fall of 2003. It shows a merchandise display at a team-sponsored store. Compare it to the darker alternate jersey beside it with "Jays" across the front. Also note the front numbers, which were never used in-game. A few of these jerseys, typically with blank backs, have occasionally surfaced on eBay. We are told thousands exist from that aborted retail run.*

Left: *Jersey offered by a private seller. It lacks the front numbers that are present on the prototype above. The player name appears slightly undersized and was likely added after purchase.*

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2004 Unused St. Patrick's Day Green

There is no photo evidence that the Blue Jays commemorated St. Patrick's Day on-field in 2004, but green mesh jerseys from that year have surfaced from time to time. Most of the known examples feature Roy Halladay's number 32 and carry the black-paper MLB "Players" tag, indicating a portion of proceeds went to the players' union.

Further suggesting they are retail-issued items is the Majestic logo—heat-pressed rather than embroidered—on the sleeve end. Based on these characteristics, it is likely these jerseys were produced solely for fan sale and never intended for on-field use.

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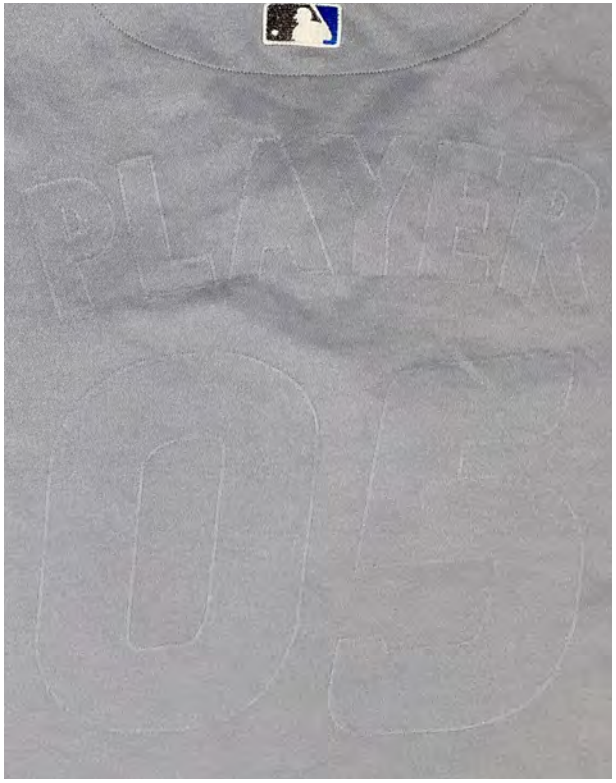
2005 Prototype Road



After the fiasco that was the Blue Jays' 2004 road jerseys, this sample suggests the team was still looking to improve upon the last-minute design they adopted that season.

The front features the same "Toronto" script originally intended for the graphite 2004 road jerseys—complete with a graphite outline that would have blended into the darker jersey fabric. However, instead of modifying the outline for better contrast on gray, this prototype seems focused on experimenting with player name and number treatments.

It is unclear what the original name and number looked like, but ghost outlines of "Player" and "05" remain visible on the back. We date the jersey to 2005 based on the "05" player number. A sample tag reading "BJ ROAD – 2 CLR name" suggests that the player name on back was sewn in two colors. The jerseys worn on-field from 2004 and 2005 did as well, but they were a combination of dark gray and light blue that that blended together, often appearing like single-color lettering from a distance. It's possible this sample tested alternate color schemes to improve legibility. Considering the Blue Jays kept the same treatment they had in 2004 for 2005–2007, it must not have turned heads in the front office.

We also don't know if the uniform numbers originally present had a different color combination, but we do know that this jersey featured a front number on left chest, under the "Toronto" logo. A ghostly "05" can be seen there, suggesting that the team was at least considering adding front numbers to this set, something they did not do, but returned to from 2008–2011, when the next iteration of their road jerseys did feature numbers on front.

Of note, the Majestic logo on the left sleeve appears to be either white or light gray, rather than the more common high-contrast embroidery. This detail may be another vestige of the failed graphite uniform experiment.

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2006 Prototype Red Canada Day

This Majestic prototype design for the 2006 Canada Day jersey is made of regular, heavyweight double-knit fabric. Interestingly, the “red-on-red” design is the same one previously rejected for the 1997 Canada Day jerseys (see earlier pages).

This design was not used; the actual 2006 Canada Day jersey appears in the Special Events section of this chapter.

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2006 Prototype Black Canada Day

his is an unused design for a Canada Day jersey. It is based on the team's 2006 black batting practice jersey. It may have been intended as a game jersey, or possibly as that day's batting practice jersey.

This design was not used; the actual 2006 Canada Day jersey appears in the Special Events section of this chapter.

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2007 Prototype Road

To have been a fly on the wall...prior to the introduction of the “one of these things is not like the others” road jersey of 2008, with its completely different and set-mismatched front wordmark and player numbers, it looks like this jersey was also submitted for team consideration. Tagged as 2007 (and with an 0062 garment code, indicating that it was a shell made for team issue) it features a rather unimaginative application of player NOB lettering spelling out the city name on front in a shallow and wide-letter-spaced clunky arc. The best thing we can say about this effort is that it was not chosen for use. Lettering appears to be charcoal and blue outlines over a gray jersey body, a combination that doesn’t display well.

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More Oddballs

Getty Images

In this 1995 photo, Roberto Alomar is seen wearing a zip-neck warm-up jersey unlike those worn by the rest of the team, as it was custom made for him. It was also customized with his name and number on the back.

This 2007 photo shows a subtle variation in jersey lettering—note that the center of the “R” is filled in on one jersey, but not on the other.

The Blue Jays’ player name font from 2008–2011 posed challenges when applied to longer names—especially when multiple outlines were added, as on this gray jersey. There was no condensed version of the font, which is typically available for stylized display fonts. As a result, the team tailor or seamstress had to do their best to fit the full name within the available space.

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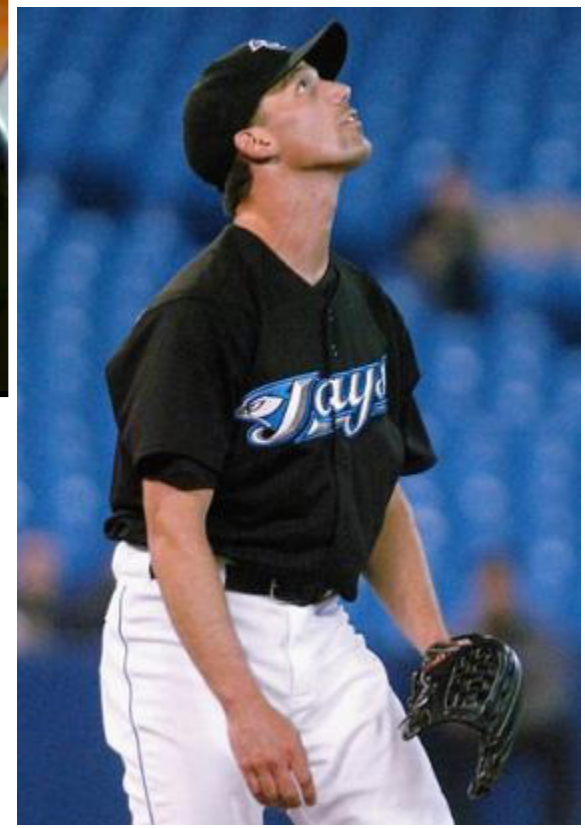
2008 Oddball – Mixed Up Alternate

Credit to Paul Lukas' of Uni Watch for this eagle-eyed catch.



These 2008 game photos (above) show a black jersey featuring the incorrect version of the front script logo. Note the white outline, which does not belong, in contrast to the correctly lettered on-field version shown at right. It appears the Majestic factory mistakenly applied the white-outlined script intended for the team's home white jersey.

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Joe Carter, 1994: creative spelling courtesy of Wilson.

Oops.

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2018: An Incredibly Small Mistake

South African shortstop Gift Ngoepe was the first continental African player—and the first from an independent African nation—to reach the Major Leagues. During his stint with the Blue Jays in 2018, he wore this jersey. So, why is it listed here under the oddball section?

From an on-field perspective, the jersey appears entirely standard and indistinguishable from any other Blue Jays home jersey worn that year. The difference lies in the tagging. This home white jersey carries the style code TOAA—Majestic's code for the Blue Jays' dark blue alternate jersey.

Despite the mislabeling, all other details of the jersey appear to be correct, and Ngoepe wore it like any other during his brief MLB tenure. It remains unclear whether this occurred with any other Blue Jays jerseys that year, but it stands as a curious and admittedly minor footnote.

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2023 Prototype Road

RGVDEAL on eBay

Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were "pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024." Ultimately, the new template was in fact delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made up in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

At first glance, this jersey closely resembles what the Blue Jays wore both before and after the template transition. Upon closer inspection, however, it reveals the key elements of the VPE design: a lower-back MLB logo, smaller player name lettering, a fabric band around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, a lightweight team patch, and perforated back numbers. The tell-tale "Player" and "23" on the back reinforce this as a pre-production sample..

Notably, the sleeve-end trim features colors not used in the Jays' final 2024 uniforms, and the dark gray neck trim is also atypical. Perhaps this trim was simply what was available at the time—or the team was briefly considering a different look that was ultimately rejected.

The heat-pressed inventory tag provides some information, though it also raises questions. It reads: "DH0497 TOR 2023 CONV. JERSEY ROAD P2." A small, handwritten "3" appears in the lower corner. The meaning of "DH0497" is unclear, but it may be an internal model code. "Conv. Jersey" could refer to a "conversion" from the Flex Base template, and "P2" might indicate a second iteration of the sample.

Above left: *This sample jersey had gray trim around the neck that was not used on the final jersey.* ***Above right:*** *Note the perforations on the back numbers on the sample. The Blue Jays opted not to use perforated numbers on their 2024 road jerseys..*

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2024 Prototype Road

RGVDEAL on eBay

In advance of the switch to the Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template for the 2024 season, Nike produced prototypes for team review. By the time these samples were created, teams had already seen earlier drafts that omitted or misrepresented various details, designed primarily to evaluate materials and construction. Later samples—such as the one shown here—more closely resembled the jerseys that would appear on-field in 2024. This Blue Jays road prototype replicates much of the team's previous road jersey, now adapted to the VPE template. For example, the sleeve-end trim is integrated into the sleeve edge rather than stitched onto it, and the Blue Jay head patch is lighter in weight with less intricate embroidery. The back numbers are perforated—a feature not carried over to the final 2024 road jerseys.

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads "BLUE JAYS ROAD JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. The meaning of the "DH0497-074" text on the front tag is unclear; it is likely an internal production code. All 2024 samples seen to date include similar numeric codes, the purposes of which have yet to be decoded.

Above: *Note the perforations on the back numbers on the sample. The Blue Jays opted not to use perforated numbers on their road jerseys in 2024.*

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2024 Prototype City Connect

The Blue Jays debuted their entry in MLB's City Connect uniform series during the 2024 season, and this prototype differs slightly from the version ultimately worn on the field. Most details are consistent with the final product, including the body color, "TORONTO" lettering with skyline, front and back numbers, sleeve-end trim, and recolored Blue Jay head patch. Even the small, heat-pressed "Toronto Blue Jays" wordmark—redundant and virtually invisible during gameplay—above the jock tag is present. This prototype omits two features, one obvious and one subtle. First, it has no player name on the back, and based on the position of the back numbers, it's clear this omission was intentional in the design stage. On the final jersey, player names were added in royal blue. Second, the "Diversity Our Strength" tagline, which appeared inside the collar on the final version, is also missing here. The Nike tag on this sample reads: "BLUE JAYS CC JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT." The use of size 44 was not typical of earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. The "regular fit" designation suggests an intent to use "bucket sizing" for jerseys—offering a limited set of standardized cuts instead of custom, player-specific tailoring. Nike's 2024 pants also used bucket sizing, a decision that proved unpopular among players. It is unclear what the "FQ4067-462" code on the front tag means. Most 2024 samples use codes beginning with a "D," making this an outlier. A small, handwritten "2" also appears in the lower-left corner of the tag, possibly indicating that this was a second version. If so, the first version—if it still exists—may include the missing name on back.

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2024-2025 Spring Training Fantasy Football Follies

Blue Jays pitcher Tim Mayza had a rough 2023—not on the baseball field, but in the team's fantasy football league. As the league's least successful participant, he was forced to wear an embarrassing jersey during the Blue Jays' 2024 spring opener, which advertised his 4–10 record on the back. The Jays do not normally wear player names on the backs of their spring training jerseys. Mayza's name, however, was added—appearing in a font that seems larger than what was used during the regular season—just to make sure there was no doubt about who had "earned" the honor. To top it off, Mayza also served as bat boy for part of the game, ensuring his fantasy football struggles were clearly visible to fans and teammates alike. Notably, the numbers on the back of his Nike Vapor Elite jersey were perforated, though it is unclear whether the name and numbers were pressed on or sewn; available photos do not provide a definitive answer.

A year later, on February 22, 2025, pitcher Tim Bassett suffered the same fate. He, too, posted a dismal 4–10 record in fantasy football and paid the price in the same manner. His 2025 jersey did not feature perforated numbers, which aligns with changes made that year. But his tiny name-on-back lettering much have been leftover from 2024. I suppose the team had to find some way to use it up after it was decommissioned for 2025.

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2024 Team Giveaway Jersey Used for BP

We've seen teams produce hockey-style jerseys for use in batting practice—such as the Angels and Cardinals—but this appears to be the first documented case of players actually wearing their team's hockey-themed giveaway jersey during batting practice. It happened in Toronto, as one might expect. On August 7, 2024, the Blue Jays distributed replica George Springer hockey jerseys as a fan giveaway. Several players liked them so much that they obtained their own jerseys before the gates opened and wore them during batting practice and pregame warmups.Since official batting practice uniforms are no longer consistently worn by teams, this represented a rare moment of uniformity in modern pregame attire. While not an official team-issued jersey, it was a fun and memorable occurrence—worthy of inclusion here.

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2024: How's That for an Introduction?

When the Blue Jays announced that they'd called up outfielder Jonatan Clase from Triple-A, it should have been a happy moment. They'd acquired the prospect from Seattle a few months earlier, and he was to make his debut with his new club on September 20. But the photo they put with their social media posts was a little disconcerting. A careful observer will notice that Clase's "8" was sewn upside-down on his jersey. Even closer inspection shows how rough the sewing job was, too. It is very possible the announcement was rushed, given the circumstances. And with the team on the road, they may have relied on an outside sewer to make up the jersey—someone who wasn't familiar with how to orient the digit properly. Fortunately for Clase, the error was quickly corrected. In both of his 2024 appearances wearing the royal blue jersey—on September 20 and September 29—the number "8" was properly sewn, back to its intended orientation.

Above: *A close-up of Clase's upside-down and poorly sewn "8".* ***Right:*** *The number was correctly sewn for both games in which he wore this style in 2024—September 20 (top) and September 29 (bottom). The team appears to have corrected the error swiftly.*

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Commemorative Patches

Blue Jays Patches

- 1984: Toronto 150th birthday celebration, home jersey only.
- 1986: 10th anniversary.
- 1991: All-Star Game.
- 1996: 20th anniversary.
- 2000 Spring Training: BP only.
- 2001 Spring Training: 25th Season in Dunedin, FL, on BP only.
- 2001: 25th Season.
- 2005: "Teammates Forever" commemorative patch, for former manager Bobby Mattick, broadcaster John Cerutti, and former player Doug Ault.
- 2006: 30th Anniversary and "TC" memorial patch for broadcaster Tom Cheek.
- 2007: "SP" memorial disc for former chairman and CEO Sam Pollock after August 15.
- 2009: TED memorial script, for owner Ted Rogers, all season.

1984

1986

1991

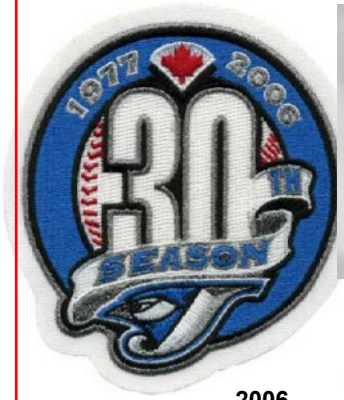
1996

2000 Spring Training, BP jersey only

2001 Spring Training BP jersey only

2001

2005



2006

The black background patch is used on home and away jerseys

The white background patch is used on black alternate jerseys only

2006

2007

2009

© GameWornGuides.com

September 11, 2011

2016

2018

- 2011: September 11. U.S./ Canadian crossed-flags patch, worn in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of 9/11. The U.S. teams all wore an American flag in this location on this day.
- 2016: 40th Season patch worn on the left sleeve of all home/road/alternate jerseys. Not worn on special jerseys (Mother's Day, Independence Day, etc.) .
- 2018: Roy Halladay memorial patch, left sleeve of all jerseys .
- 2020, February 22-25: Spring Training, black armband on left sleeve in honor of former player Tony Fernandez.
- 2020: Tony Fernandez memorial “1” patch, left sleeve of all jerseys, all season.
- 2025, May 23-25: Green mental health awareness ribbon for series in Tampa against the Rays.

February 22-25, 2020

2020

May 23-25, 2025

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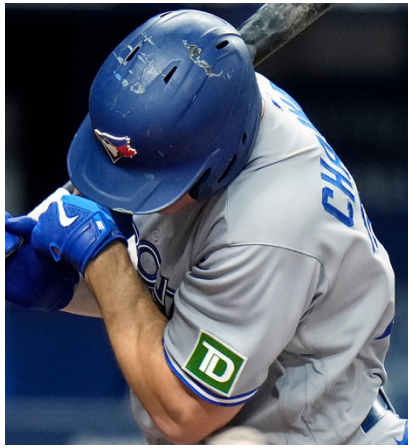
2023-2025 Blue Jays Advertising Patches



With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Blue Jays struck a sponsor patch deal with TD Bank. The patches first appeared on July 14, 2023.

The patch is a green square with the “TD” logo in white and a white border. It appears on the left sleeve on each of the team’s jerseys.

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Blue Jays Postseason Patches

1992 World Series
(right sleeve)

2015 AL Division Series
2015 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

1993 World Series
(right sleeve)

2016 AL Wild Card
2016 AL Division Series
2016 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Paul Molitor 1994 Toronto Blue Jays Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: February 6, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J22

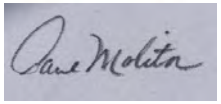
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray full-weight knit, size 44, seven-button Wilson-made road jersey of Paul Molitor. Blue/white/blue 1 1/2" sewn-in knit sleeve trim. "TORONTO" arched across both front panels in the team's distinctive split-letter font. The team crest patch, a blue jay's head in profile embroidered over a baseball with a red maple leaf, is stitched to the left panel below the wordmark. On back, the player's number, 19, in the team splits-letter font, white over Royal Blue. "MOLITOR" is arched above the number in the block font specific to the Blue Jays. The 1994 MLB 125th Anniversary patch is stitched to the right sleeve. All lettering and ornamentation is to team specifications. Because the Jays' on-field uniforms were made by Wilson, there is properly no visible branding on the sleeves; this right was contractually exclusive to Russell Athletic in 1994. The inside of the placket is fully lined with with linen for player comfort, a hallmark of Wilson on-field jerseys of the time. Molitor notably wore size 44 jerseys at this point of his career. It is signed in black marker by the player on the right side above the wordmark, and while I have no opinion on the autograph, it is accompanied by a Beckett Letter of Authenticity.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The black on white printed Wilson tag inside the back of the neck notes the size "44" in red. Notably, the Blue Jays exclusively used printed style (instead of embroidered) Wilson tagging on their jerseys unlike most other teams with Wilson uniforms which used the embroidered tags.. Sewn inside the neck below the Wilson tag is a 1" x 3" piece of gray cloth the same as the jersey's construction, with the code "**19 94 1**" in italic Royal Blue machine embroidery (Player 19, 1994, set 1). Wilson-made jerseys were exclusively supplied to the team; retail sale Authentics were made by Russell carried the Diamond Collection tag on their tail.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all elements of the jersey are original without alteration or contrivance. The jersey shows signs of light to moderate wear, with characteristic wash-fading of the sleeve ends that is typical in Blue jays jerseys of this vintage, a faded stain above the left side of the name, as well as some yellowing and wash-wear showing to the linen placket lining.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered and numbered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications, issued to and worn by Paul Molitor of the Toronto Blue Jays in 1994.



William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Raul Mondesi Toronto Blue Jays 2001 Game Worn Alternate Home Jersey

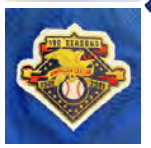
Examination Date: March 5, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0305J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Toronto Blue Jays six-button, size 48 white with Royal Blue sleeves, alternate home jersey of #43 Raul Mondesi. Solid white body faux vest with blue sleeves. Royal blue soutache bands the placket. Red-white-blue Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck in its first year of use by all teams in MLB. Two color lettering throughout; Dark Royal topped with a bright Process Blue "split", a hallmark of the Blue Jays. BLUE JAYS arched on front across both panels with the team alternate logo "T-Bird" on the left chest, MONDESI and "43" centered on the back, all in the proper fonts and sizes for the 2001 Blue Jays. The Majestic twin-peaks logo is direct embroidered in white on the left sleeve above the trim band. Above it is stitched the 2001-specific Jays 25th Season patch. On the right sleeve is sewn the 2001-only American League 100 Seasons patch. Size 48 is appropriate to have been worn by Mondesi. Both sleeve ends have been specially tailored for the player, with extended length and the last two inches of each sleeve split open and hemmed. Mondesi played for the Blue Jays 2000-2002 in the middle of his 13-year MLB career. He appeared in 149 games that year, batting .252 with 27 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is stitched to the bottom of the front left tail, a small flag tab stitched below notes the size of the jersey as 48. There is no USA flag stitched to the back of the neck of this jersey, indicating that it was not worn after the events of 9/11/2001 when this flag was applied to every MLB jersey. This jersey has a machine-embroidered strip-tag stitched into the back of the neck with machine embroidery of "43 01 S3" indicating player number 43, 2001, set 3. Majestic's manufacturing style tag is pinch-sewn into the inside side seam, in the correct style for 2001, and designates this jersey with the code 0062, correct for a team-issued jersey.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original and without alteration. This jersey shows definite signs of honest game wear, including scuffs, loose threads, small pulls and softening of all the fabric and lettering from washing.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, is free of contrivance and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It matches other team exemplars in our database. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Raul Mondesi of the 2001 Toronto Blue Jays.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Roger Clemens Toronto Blue Jays 1997 Cy Young Auto'ed Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: July 18, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0718J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Toronto Blue Jays Wilson six-button, size 52 heavyweight knit home white jersey of #21 Roger Clemens. White body with stretchy red, Royal and turquoise/medium blue stretchy sleeve ends. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort as is typical with Wilson jerseys. Two color lettering throughout; New York Blue (Dark Royal) solid letters with a Process Blue (Medium bright blue) "split", a hallmark of the team. "Blue Jays" arched on front across both panels with smaller "21" on the left chest, CLEMENS and "21" centered on the back, all in the proper fonts and sizes for the 1997 Blue Jays. On the left sleeve is stitched the team Maple Leaf patch with Blue Jay head over a baseball, on right the 1997-specific Jackie Robinson patch. Clemens' jersey size was steadily increasing between 1996 and 1998. Most of his 1997 jerseys of record were size 50, and most of his 1998 ones were size 52. It is reasonable that he would have been issued a one-size-larger jersey for use in the colder months when a player typically wears more layers underneath. The jersey is autographed in Sharpie on the right chest "Rocket" Roger Clemens CY5," Referring to the five Cy Young Awards he had won to date, which would mean this was signed following the 1998 season. By the time his career ended he had won seven of them.

(*Wikipedia*) Clemens was dominant in his two seasons with the Blue Jays, winning the pitching Triple Crown and the Cy Young Award in both seasons (1997: 21–7 record, 2.05 ERA, and 292 strikeouts; 1998: 20–6 record, 2.65 ERA, and 271 strikeouts).

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson was the designated maker of the Blue Jays home white uniforms in 1997, but MLB contractual rules did not allow the Wilson logo to be displayed on the sleeve of the jersey. Team tagging is machine embroidered in red on a .5" x 2.5" piece of jersey white knit fabric, "21 97 1" (player 21, 1997, set 1) This specific tagging matches other jerseys in our exemplar library that were known to be issued at the beginning of the season. It seems that many jerseys issued later in the season simply had a "97" embroidered on the tag. Layered beneath the neck tag the jersey are two additional fabric tags, noting 2" extra length and "tapered". The extra length is certainly apparent, and the tapering appears to be present as well.

Continued, overleaf

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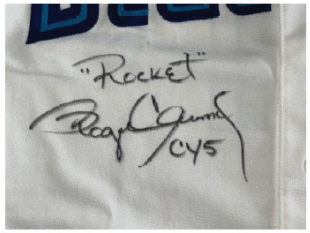
Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original and without alteration. Clemens was very aware of the marketability/collectability of his game worn gear, and examining photos of him pitching in 1997 clearly wearing several different jerseys, I note the varying placement of the front numbers. This jersey shows very light use with minimal signs of washing. The tagging is still crisp, but is slightly curled from washing. There is some light red scuff-staining on the left front if the jersey in the waist area, its origin is unclear.

Additional Comments: For a star player like Clemens who was highly aware of the collector value of his gear, I find it useful to review as many game photos as I can find to look for similarities and differences and to guess at how many jerseys the player might have worn during the season. I found this photo on Getty Images that, while it should not be considered a conclusive photo match, dates from the very start of the season (April 2) in Toronto when colder weather may have dictated a larger jersey being worn. I have also located a start-of-season game-worn example for another much less famous player when this specific style of *Set 1* tagging found on this jersey was observed. In the photo, compare the spacing and placement of the front numbers compared to the team wordmark, the placket seams and the button locations are all seemingly match to the jersey in review. Some loose threads that were left unclipped are present on the wordmark and could be useful in a photo matching exercise; pursuing a conclusive photo match might prove to be a valuable exercise.



Left, while it should not be considered a conclusive photo match, the overlay photo from Clemens' first outing, April 2, 1997 is a compelling one. Game photos from 1997 show a wide array of front numbers placement, confirming that the player wore multiple jerseys throughout the season. Below left, tagging on this jersey matches tagging at right, from an authenticated jersey worn in April by another player.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent lightly used condition, is properly lettered, is free of contrivance and has no alterations of any kind. It matches other exemplars in our database. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Roger Clemens of the 1997 Toronto Blue Jays.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jose Cruz Jr. Toronto Blue Jays 2001 Game Worn Alternate Blue Jersey

Examination Date: March 5, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0305J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Toronto Blue Jays six-button, size 48 Royal Blue alternate jersey of #23 Jose Cruz Jr.. Solid Royal Blue body with red soutache trim on the sleeve ends and circling the placket. Red-white-blue Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck in its first year of use by all teams in MLB. Three color lettering throughout; red, outlined with white and topped with a Royal blue "split", a hallmark of the Blue Jays. "Toronto" arched on front across both panels with smaller "23 " on the left chest, CRUZ and "23" centered on the back, all in the proper fonts and sizes for the 2001 Blue Jays. The Majestic twin-peaks logo is direct embroidered in white on the left sleeve above the trim band. Above it is stitched the 2001-specific team 25th Season patch. On the right sleeve is sewn the 2001-only American League 100th Anniversary patch. Size 48 is appropriate to have been worn by Cruz. Cruz played for the Blue Jays 1997-2002 early in his twelve-year MLB career. He played in 146 games that year, batting .274 with 34 home runs. He was named team MVP by the Blue Jays in 2001.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is stitched to the bottom of the front left tail, a small flag tab stitched below notes the size of the jersey as 48. There is no USA flag stitched to the back of the neck of this jersey, indicating that it was not worn after the events of 9/11/2001 when this flag was applied to every MLB jersey. While most Blue Jays team issued jerseys have a machine-embroidered strip-tag stitched into the back of the neck specifying player data and set number, this one does not. However, it is not the only such 2001 team spec and likely game-worn jersey in our exemplar library without such a tag. Majestic's manufacturing style data tag is pinch-sewn into the inside side seam, in the correct style for 2001, and designates this jersey with the code 0062, correct for a team-issued jersey.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original and without alteration. This jersey shows definite signs of honest game wear, including scuffs, fabric piling, loose threads, small pulls and softening of all the fabric and lettering from washing. It has significant fabric piling underneath both arms from use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, is free of contrivance and has no alterations of any kind. While it lacks the more commonly seen Blue Jays 2001 team neck tagging, it matches other exemplars in our database. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jose Cruz Jr. of the 2001 Toronto Blue Jays.

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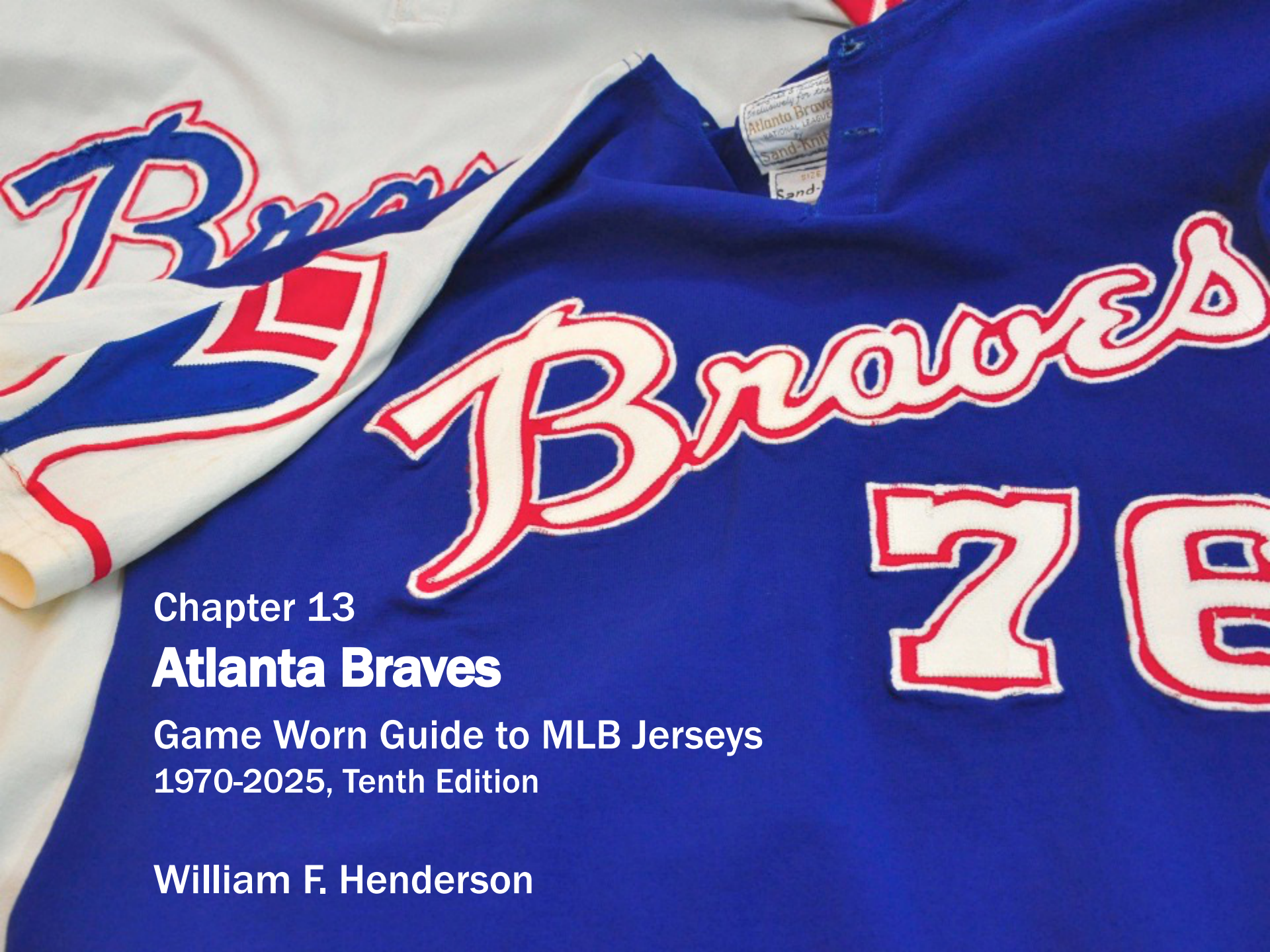

Chapter 13

Atlanta Braves

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Braves Uniform History Notes

- The Braves migrated to Atlanta from Milwaukee for the 1966 season, bringing their old-fashioned flannel uniforms with them. The Braves' uniforms were decidedly not flashy, and the prior elimination of tomahawk and trim meant that by 1970 they had become downright dull.
- The shock value of seeing the Braves new-for-1972 white and blue pullover uniform jerseys with the large flowery-feather depiction on its sleeves must have been intense. They featured ornate, almost embellished psychedelic player numbers (which if one looks closely one can tell that these same numbers were adapted for use on the Astros wild 1975 rainbow uniforms).
- These early knits were made by Sand-Knit, and they were not very sturdy in construction. They began to shrink rapidly with the first washing, until after a few washings they had become unwearable. The team ordered another set and the same thing happened. Finally, the Braves resorted to having the uniforms dry cleaned after each game. Surviving examples are shrunken and puckered, many are stained, reported to be the result of a fire in the dry cleaning plant where they were being stored.
- The Feather style was refined and improved for 1974–1975. This is perhaps the most famous style of Braves uniform, as it was the home jersey of this set that Hank Aaron was wearing when he broke Babe Ruth's lifetime home run record in 1974.
- 1976 brought red pinstripes at home, and another wild version of the feather uniform on the road, both used through 1979. The '70s were a time like no other!
- Player nicknames on home jerseys are used for a short time in 1976, an infamous PR stunt by new team owner Ted Turner to drum up interest in a lousy team with poor attendance. The gimmick is dropped after two months and the Braves return to being NOB-less until 1979.
- For 1980–1986, the home jersey is reborn as a clean white shirt with restrained red/white/blue trim. The road uniform is a rather garish (but typical for the time) powder blue with large graphics, but loses the feathers from the sleeves.
- From 1972–1986 (1972–1979 on road jerseys), the Braves use a unique style of sewing on both their team name and numbers. On light-colored jerseys, they make the lettering and numbers out of two layers of tackle twill, then sew it to the garment with a thick embroidery edging in a contrasting color. Dark-color jerseys get three layers of tackle twill, but the edge treatment is still the same. Look for this lettering detail on game worn jerseys. Its absence probably indicates at least a number change.
- In 1987, the Braves adopt new button-up uniforms for both home and road that hearken back to their classic look of 1957, with only a few minor changes to that design. This uniform design is beautifully traditional, and has remained in use as of this writing as the current longest-running uniform design without modification in the National League.
- In 2006, the Braves, the last holdout to use vertically arched style player names, finally relent to changing times and move to radial arching for names, hence ending a decades-long MLB tradition.
- In recent years, the team has added alternate jerseys in red and blue, and for 2012 adds a 1966 nostalgia-style cream colored jersey for use on weekends at home, and a military-tribute red jersey in 2014.
- The team freshens its jersey wordmarks for 2016, concurrent with the change to Flex Base construction. The road wordmark is updated again in 2019, along with a change to the player name font on jersey backs.
- The Braves introduce a City Connect uniform in 2023. The white jersey, with blue raglan sleeves, is a tribute to Hank Aaron and the 1974 uniform he wore when breaking Babe Ruth's all-time home run record. The left chest features "The A"—a red script "The" paired with a blue-and-red capital "A"—a nod to both the city and the classic Braves font. The design incorporates a stylized feather graphic on the sleeves inspired by the team's 1970s uniforms.
- The Braves continue to embrace the team's (and city's) rich baseball history, participating in nearly 30 throwback games since 1997, including eight dressed in the 1972–1975 Feather style pullover tops.
- Notable to mention is the Braves mascot, the laughing (or screaming) brave, depicted on the sleeve patches of the Braves' uniforms through 1971. The laughing brave was requested to be removed by The Cherokee Nation, and the Braves complied. He was eventually banished from all team artwork by the mid 1990s. While he has occasionally reappeared on the sleeve patch of Turn Back the Clock uniforms in recent years, it is notable that the 2012 nostalgia uniform omits him, instead using a more generic and totally inoffensive team patch on the sleeve.
- Over the decades, the Braves have balanced modern updates with a deep respect for their visual traditions—most notably the script "Braves" and tomahawk—creating one of the most consistent and recognizable uniform identities in Major League Baseball.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngnuides@gmail.com.. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Overview

1980 only

Braves Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NoB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity Standard 1 color	No	-	Laughing Brave	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Block 2 color	No	-	Laughing Brave	-	Spalding
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity Standard 1 color	No	-	Laughing Brave	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Block 2 color	No	-	Laughing Brave	-	Spalding
1972	Home White	"Feather Style" 3 color	"Feather Style" 3 color	No	-	Black Armband	-	Sand Knit
	Road Blue	"Feather Style" 3 color	"Feather Style" 3 color	No	-	Black Armband	-	Sand Knit
1973	Home White	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Blue	"Feather Style" 3 color	"Feather Style" 3 color	No	-	-	-	Sand Knit
1974	Home White	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Blue	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Blue	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	2 sets: 1 with and 1 w/o. See page for more details	No	-	NL Centennial	Wilson
	Road Blue	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	NL Centennial	Wilson
1977	Home White	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Blue	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home White	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Blue	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1979	Home White	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	No	-	Lucas armband after 5/5	-	Wilson
	Road Blue	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	Lucas armband after 5/5	-	Wilson
1980	Home	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	Wilson Front Varsity 2 color	Wilson Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	Wilson Front Varsity 2 color	Wilson Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	Wilson Front Varsity 2 color	Wilson Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	Georgia 250th Anniv	-	Wilson
	Road	Wilson Front Varsity 2 color	Wilson Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	Georgia 250th Anniv	-	Wilson
1984	Home	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	T. Aaron Black Armband	-	Wilson
	Road	Wilson Front Varsity 2 color	Wilson Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	T. Aaron Black Armband	-	Wilson
1985	Home	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	Braves 20th	-	Wilson
	Road	Wilson Front Varsity 2 color	Wilson Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1986	Home	Wilson Front Varsity 3 color	Wilson Varsity 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	Wilson Front Varsity 2 color	Wilson Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson

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Braves Game Jerseys

1987-2015

1987-2015

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NoB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1987	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1988	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1989	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1990	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	Braves 25th	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	Braves 25th	-	Wilson
1991	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	JWM Memorial	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	JWM Memorial	-	Wilson
1992	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1993	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Russell
1994	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	MLB 125th	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	Braves 30th	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	Braves 30th	-	Russell
1996	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Russell
1997	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Russell
1999	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	Aaron 715	-	Wilson
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	Aaron 715	-	Russell
2000	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	All Star Game	Wilson/Russell**
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	All Star Game	Russell
2001	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	41 Matthews memorial	-	Russell
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	41 Matthews memorial	-	Russell
2002	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-		Russell
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Russell
2003	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Russell
2004	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	21 Spahn memorial	-	Russell
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	21 Spahn memorial	-	Russell

•While most jerseys have Vertical Arch style names on back, it is not uncommon to find game worn jerseys (usually mid-season call-ups) with standard Block names on them instead.

** Braves collectors report that several extra sets of Braves home jerseys were made in 2000, the year the Braves hosted the All-Star game. Sets 1-2 are tagged by Wilson, with sets 3-4-5 tagged by Russell. All have the All-Star patch affixed. I do not have independent verification of this claim.

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1987-2015

2005-2013

2009-2015

2012-2020

2014-2018

2016-2018

2016-2025

Change to Flex Base

2019-2023

2019-2025

*** Ernie Johnson patch worn August 21 forward
**** Pete Van Wieren (broadcaster) memorial patch Aug 8 to the end of season

Braves Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NoB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2005	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color*	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2006	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Braves 40 years	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Braves 40 years	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Braves 40 years	-	Majestic
2007	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	LB 32 JS Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	LB 32 JS Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	LB 32 JS Patch	-	Majestic
2008	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	BEACH memorial	SKIP Memorial	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	BEACH memorial	SKIP Memorial	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	BEACH memorial	SKIP Memorial	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	BEACH memorial	SKIP Memorial	Majestic
2009	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2010	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2011	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Ernie (Johnson) memorial***	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Ernie (Johnson) memorial***	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Ernie (Johnson) memorial***	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Ernie (Johnson) memorial***	-	Majestic
2012	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes		-	Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-		Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2014	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	Hank Aaron Anniversary; "Pete" memorial****	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	Hank Aaron Anniversary; "Pete" memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No		Hank Aaron Anniversary; "Pete" memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	Hank Aaron Anniversary; "Pete" memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Red Home (new)	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	American Flag	"Pete" memorial****	Majestic
2015	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	American Flag	-s	Majestic
2016	Home (new script)	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	Turner field final season	Majestic
	Road (New Script)	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	Turner field final season	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	American Flag	Turner field final season	Majestic
2017	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	SunTrust Park Inaugural Patch	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	SunTrust Park Inaugural Patch	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	American Flag	SunTrust Park Inaugural Patch	Majestic
2018	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	American Flag	-	Majestic
2019	Home (refreshed)	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road (refreshed)	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	New alt blue road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Home Nostalgia (minor changes)	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	NEW Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	As 2019, Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	As 2019, Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	As 2019, Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	As 2019, Block 1 color	No	1876 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	As 2019, Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Braves Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NoB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	150th Anniversary Patch	-	Nike
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	150th Anniversary Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	150th Anniversary Patch	2021 All-Star Game Patch*	Nike
	Alt Home Nostalgia	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	1871 Crossed Tomahawks Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	150th Anniversary Patch	-	Nike
2022	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Nike
2023	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡**	-	Nike
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡**	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡**	-	Nike
	New Alt red home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡**	-	Nike
	City Connect	Varsity Standard 3 color	Varsity Standard 3 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡**	-	Nike
2024	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color (perf?)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color (perf?)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road (trim change)	No	Varsity Standard 2 color (perf?)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color (perf?)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	Varsity Standard 3 color (perf)	Varsity Standard 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
2025	Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Red Home	No	Varsity Standard 2 color	NEW Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	Varsity Standard 3 color (perf)	Varsity Standard 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Quikrete Ad patch‡	-	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

*Was visible on the right sleeve of the team's blue road alternate for one game only, was subsequently covered for a few games, then removed. See Oddballs and Patches sections for more info.

** Starting May 19

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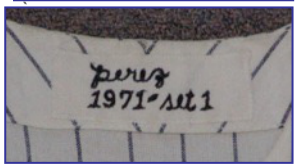
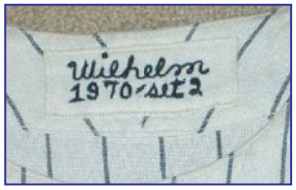
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

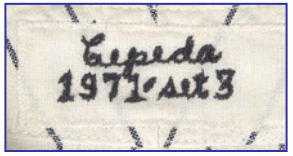
1970-1971 Home

1971

After embroidery, the artist's detailed and handsome painting of the "Laughing Brave" did not come out looking quite so handsome. As a small child, I found him to be a terrifying visage.







- 1971 was the final year of flannels for the Braves. Their last flannels were as traditional as they came in 1971: pinstripes on their home jerseys, plain gray road jerseys, all devoid of trim.
- Player names on back were still years away, and the uniform numbers were plain one-color Varsity style. 1971's flannels marked the final time that the "Laughing Brave" adorned the jersey sleeve. Considered offensive to Native Americans, he began to be slowly phased out of use by the team entirely in the years thereafter, though did not disappear entirely until the 1990s.
- Braves 1970–1971 flannel uniforms were recycled to the minors and many were quite simply used to death.

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1970-1971 Road

- The Braves 1970–1971 road jersey was even plainer than the home one. Solid gray and devoid of any trim at all, the navy blue script on front and block numbers on back are edged with red.
- The “Laughing Brave” sleeve patch provides the only color at all on this somber costume.
- Final-year road flannels are made by Spalding, which explains the different number font from the Wilson home jerseys. In those days, mismatched numbers between home and road uniforms were quite common because different companies usually used different patterns.
- Like the home jerseys, these were sent to live a second life in the minors and many were worn until they fell apart. There are few pristine survivors.

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1972 Home

The Braves entered the double knit era in style. Their new home uniforms were completely restyled from the conservative, pinstriped, home wool-flannels worn up to 1971. However, as fancy as they are, the lettering and numbers have a freehand, less-than-perfectly-professional look about them.

Two button Henley neck. Front and back, three-color numbers in royal blue/white/red. Unique “Feather Style” fancy numbers used in 1972–1973 only, and probably a Sand-Knit pattern. On the home jersey, these numbers and the team lettering are two layers of twill, blue and white, then thick red embroidery stitching is used around the edges to sew them to the fabric.

From an inside source, we learn: The Braves had so much trouble with Sand-Knit knits in 1972 and 1973, and this is the reason they switched to Wilson. The first couple of sets shrank so much when they came out of the dryer that they would not fit the players. In 1972, the Braves had at least 7-8 sets of homes and roads. Also, instead of washing at the clubhouse, they sent them out to be dry cleaned, then they had a fire at the cleaners and most of the shirts had fire/smoke/water damage. That is why you see some home jerseys with brown staining down one side or the other.

*Much puckering exists around the embroidery on surviving game jerseys. These are surprisingly thin garments, feeling like heavy t-shirts in construction. **Above**: Notice the brown stain on the bottom back of this jersey, most likely from the cleaning plant accident explained in the text.*

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1972 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

Along with their white home counterparts, these blue road jerseys are known as the Early Feather Style jerseys. No names on back. Bright blue pullover, two-button Henley neck, with white sleeves with large stylized "feather" designs sewn on them. Two-button Henley style neck. Front lettering and numbers are three-color Feather Style—white/red/white. Bottom layer of red twill is bound to the jersey with a thick border of white embroidery. Fabric is very lightweight and there is usually a lot of puckering where the twill is sewn to the garment. These shrunk badly in use, as many as three sizes smaller. They were somewhat of a disaster, and extra sets were made during the season as the old ones became all but useless.

"The Atlanta Braves introduced blue jerseys with tiled art flowers on the sleeves, prompting Astros third baseman Doug Rader to heckle them,'What'll it be tonight, boys? Fast pitch or slow pitch?'" (Bob Hulsey, Astrosdaily.com)

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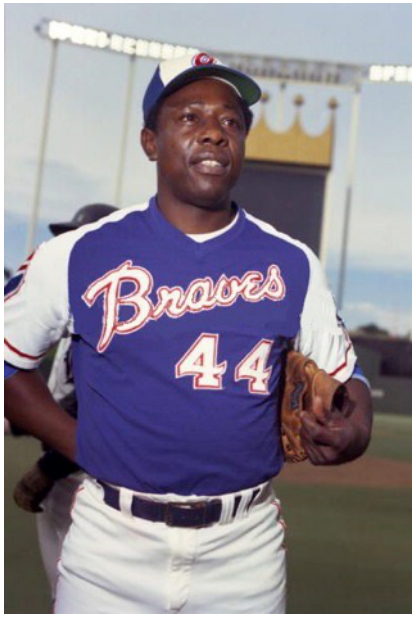
1973 Road



***Above**: Hank Aaron at the 1973 All-Star Game in Kansas City.*

Except for the change to a V-Neck from the 1972 two-button Henley, the Sand-Knit made 1973 blue road jersey is identical looking to the prior year's model. Some changes must have been made to the polyester fabric used though, as surviving examples are not as ridiculously shrunken. Two layer white lettering with red satin-stitch embroidery providing separation and contrast between the layers. These jerseys were cycled to the minor leagues and used mercilessly there. But because of the method of sewing the numbers in place, changing numbers on them was very difficult. The team had switched to Wilson home jerseys in 1973, then abandoned Sand-Knit for Wilson entirely starting in 1974. Funky number font continues on road jerseys alone in 1973, as home jerseys use Wilson Varsity house font.

Steve Kraljic collection

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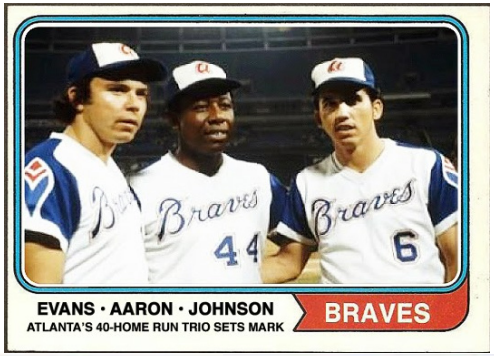
1973-1975 Home

1973

Stung by their problems with the first year knits provided by Sand-Knit, the Braves switched their home jersey provider to Wilson for 1973. Wilson jerseys were made of durable warp-knit polyester and had longer, rounded tails. The childish freehand Braves script as seen on the Sand-Knit jerseys was replaced by a more elegant, professional and flowing script likely penned by the Wilson art department. Lettering remained two color twill, dark Royal Blue over white, then bound to the jersey body with a tight, satin-stitch or red thread. Player numbers changed to Wilson's own house font, Varsity in the same three colors, front and back. The red stitching shrunk badly after many washings becoming badly puckered. These original jerseys were sent to the minor leagues where they were used excessively. Finding one in good original condition today is a rarity.



1973

1973

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1973-1975 Home, continued

1975

1974

These "feather style" jerseys have a special place in Braves history because it was this style jersey that Hank Aaron was wearing when he broke Babe Ruth's lifetime home run record in 1974. *Note that on Braves jerseys of these years, the second number on the tag refers to the SIZE of the shirt and not the player number. I have seen several claimed to be Hank Aaron's because he wore #44... and they are not!*

1975

Above and top right: *These close-up photos show the tight-spaced "Satin Stitch" in red that is used to bind the blue/white twill elements to the jersey. Normal hot water washing is unkind to these, as everything shrinks at different rates: twill, thread and jersey fabric, making a puckered mess.*

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1974-1975 Road

1974

Bob Case Collection

Also known as the *Later Feather Style* jerseys.

Front and back, three-color Varsity numbers — white/red/white. No names on back. Lettering and numbers are now two layers of twill, bound to the garment with thick, looped red embroidery stitching holding it in place.

Right: *Notice the heavy "satin stitch" edge embroidery that holds the back number in place.*

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April 1976/then July 1976-1979 Home

1978

1977

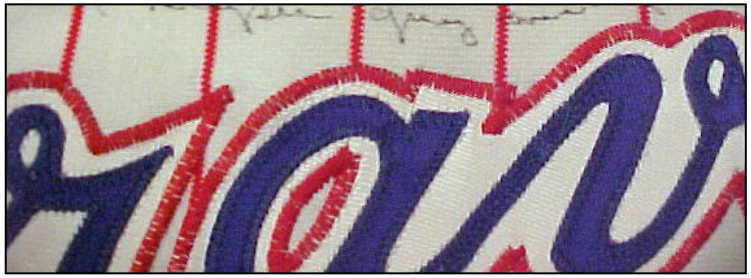
The Braves started out the 1976 season with this new red-pinstriped home set, before the infamous "player nickname" jerseys, discussed on the next few pages, were introduced on May 1, 1976.

The fronts of both sets are identical, but these have no names on back and the back numbers are smaller, the same style as the 1975 Wilson set, whereby the nickname jersey back numbers were a giant 10 ½ inches tall.

Front and back, three-color Varsity Standard numbers royal blue/white/red. The lettering and numbers are sewn on the same way as they have been since 1972—they are actually two-color, blue/white, then bound to the jersey with a thick edging of satin stitch red thread. Note wide spacing of numbers, front and back.

This style was worn at home throughout April 1976, then reintroduced in July and remained the home jersey through 1979 season.

The standard 1976 home jerseys properly carried the NL Centennial patch on the right sleeve, where the nickname set, discussed on the following pages, did not.



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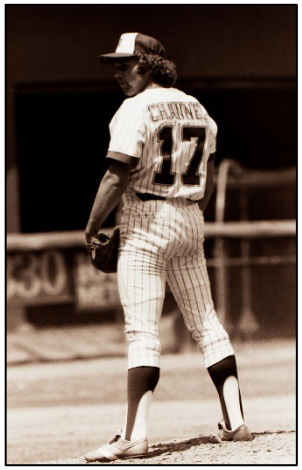
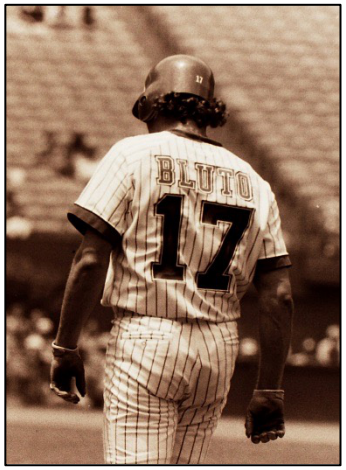
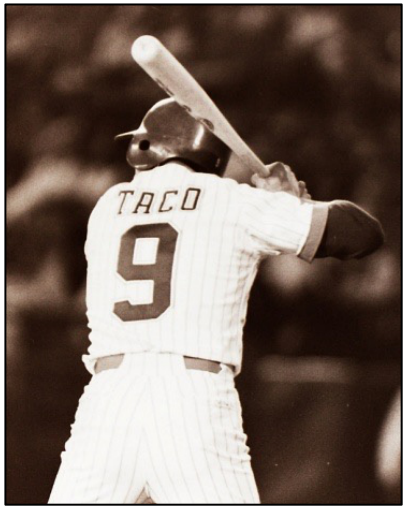
May-June 1976 Home "Player Nicknames"

Thanks to collector Tony Ciocci and Sam Wallace, an avid Braves historian, for sharing their research here for us to enjoy. The link provided here will take you to a great story posted on espn.com on their research in conjunction with the Atlanta Braves Museum, so I will not retell the whole tale here. I'll give you the short version:

Until 1976, the Braves had always been a "no name on back" team. However, after acquiring several players from the Dodgers—where names on back were standard—the idea of adding them began to circulate. Around three weeks into the season, with the team off to a poor start and struggling to generate fan interest, maverick owner Ted Turner-looked for any promotional angle they could find. Rather than simply placing players' last names on the back, the Braves opted for a bold twist: they would use player nicknames instead, turning their home uniforms into a quirky and attention-grabbing novelty.







http://www.espn.com/mlb/story/_/id/15507790/uni-watch-friday-flashback-braves-keep-informal

Pitcher Andy Messersmith, who wore #17, agreed to wear "CHANNEL" above his number in a tongue-in-cheek nod to owner Ted Turner's TV station. The ruse lasted from May 1 until May 21, when the league intervened and forced the team to change it, ruling it as impermissible free advertising. After May 21, Messersmith switched to the NOB "Bluto" (top right), which he wore until the team abandoned the nickname experiment altogether after June 24. The team reverted to their standard home jerseys beginning with their July 5, 1976 game, following a road trip from June 25 to July 4.

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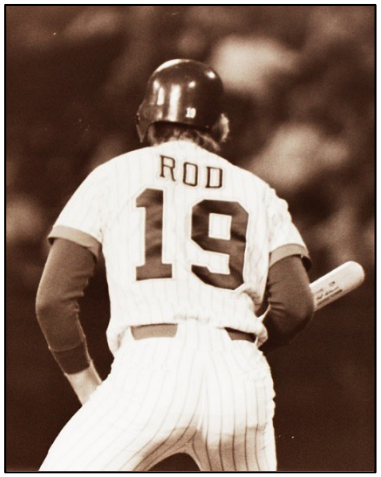
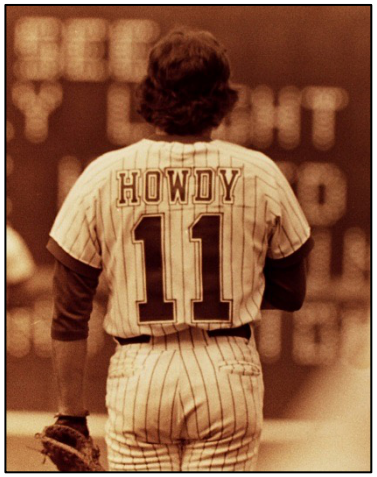
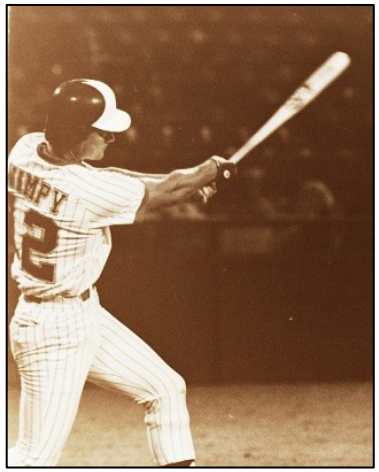
The concept wasn't entirely original—both the Kansas City and Oakland A's had allowed a handful of players to wear nicknames on their jerseys during the 1960s and 1970s.

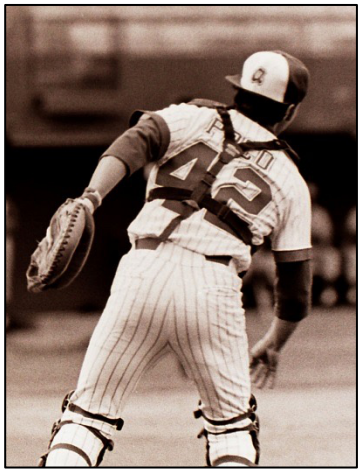
The Braves' version of the idea debuted on May 1 and lasted through June 24, covering a span of 28 home games, during which the team went 10–18. These jerseys were also notable for their enormous back numbers, which measured 10½ inches tall.

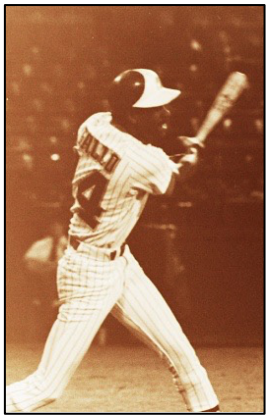
So what happened to them? After the Braves were cautioned by the league on their irreverence, management quietly pulled the plug on the nickname experiment. Based on our research, rather than attempting to salvage or rework the existing jerseys, the team simply produced two fresh sets of standard jerseys for the players. The original nickname uniforms were likely bundled up and sent down to the minors, never to be worn by the big-league club again.

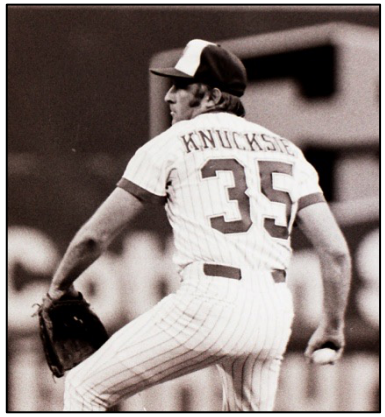


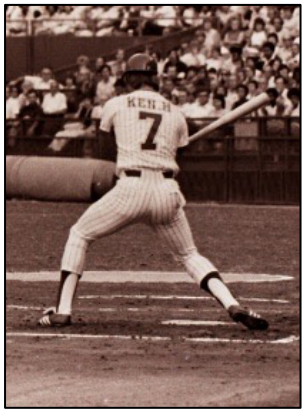


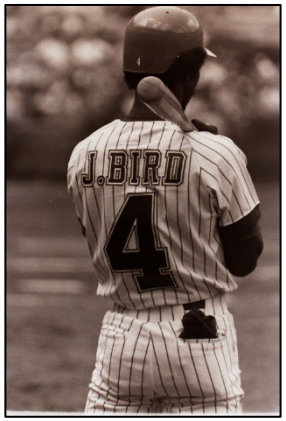


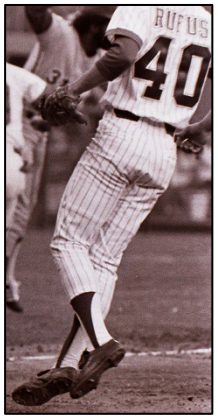


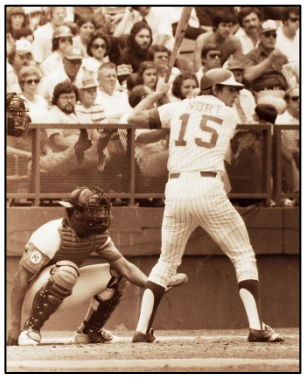


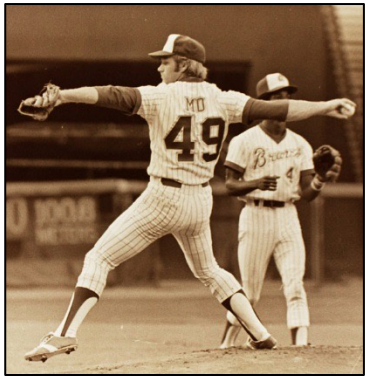


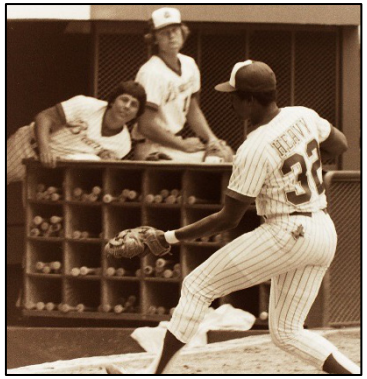












Even though it was 1976, these jerseys had no NL Centennial patch on the sleeve..

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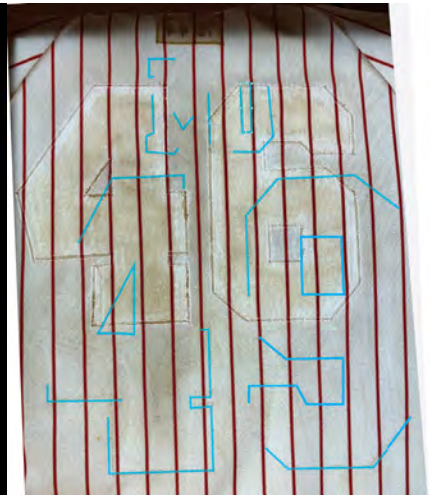
May-June 1976 Home “Player Nicknames”, continued



This jersey came to me from a collector friend, stained and filthy as shown at the bottom left of this page. “What is it?” he asked. Turns out it was indeed one of these elusive, early season 1976 jerseys, this one belonging to pitcher Carl Morton (above), that had been sent to the minors and was re-purposed. I restored it; the full story is here.

The fantastic thing about MLB in the pre-2000 era is you never know what you might find. Teams wasted nothing, re-using their uniforms in the minor leagues. Uncovering this relic was a shock to me, and an honor to restore it to original. The numbers on the restoration are crooked—because they weren’t perfectly aligned originally, and because the jersey is somewhat distorted by stretching and wear.! The ghosts don’t lie.

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1976-1979 Road

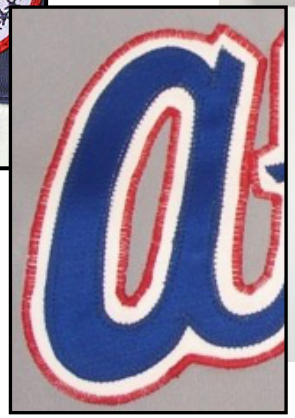
1976

Barely visible 1979 armband, after 5/5

Steve Kraljic collection

1979

1976 sleeve emblem & patch details



1979

Front and back, three-color numbers—royal blue/white/red. The lettering and numbers are actually only two colors of tackle twill, blue and white, and then a thick ”satin” embroidery stitch in bright red attaches them to the garment. No names on back in 1976–1978, names appear for the first time in 1979, and use nameplates. “Feather” decoration now appears on the left sleeve only. “Atlanta” front wordmark has a quaint hand-drawn quality about it that will become but a memory in the increasingly professional world of MLB in a very short time.

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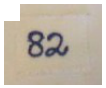
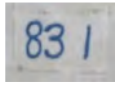
1980-1986 Home

1981

1980

After a four-year run, the white with red pinstripe uniforms were replaced with a more conservative solid white look with red/white/blue sleeve end and V-neck trim. The wordmark and the player numbers stay basically the same. Front and back, three-color numbers—royal blue/white/red. Braves home jersey lettering and numbers are sewn to the jersey as in prior years, with a thick red embroidery stitch. However, this technique is discontinued on road jerseys starting in 1980. Names on back are adopted at home for 1980, and used going forward. They are one-color royal-blue vertical arch; nameplates are used. Original player names on back have usually been replaced as many (or most) of these jerseys were recycled to minor league Greenville.





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1980 Road

Steve Kraljic collection

The Braves switch to a powder blue road jersey to start the new decade. In 1980 only, the “Atlanta” script uses a tall lower-case cursive “A” at its start. The wordmark is, to be kind, rustically drawn and hand cut. It is among the last of its kind, artwork done without the aid of computer drafting and cutting tools. Outlines are hand cut; no two jerseys are precisely the same.

Numbers on front and back, two-color Varsity, royal blue/white. Lettering and numbers are standard, two-layer tackle twill on the road jerseys, the fancy embroidered edges used since 1972 are discontinued.

Names on back, vertical arch one-color royal blue, on nameplates. The nameplates are not backed with any sort of fabric interfacing, and the edges are left raw and not serged, so puckering around the perimeter is typical.

This style jersey is extremely rare to find in the hobby; besides the fact this style was used for only a single year, nearly all of these were sent to the minors where the front “Atlanta” was stripped off and replaced with “Braves”. Look for Richmond Braves jerseys in this jersey body style that may have been repurposed MLB issue.

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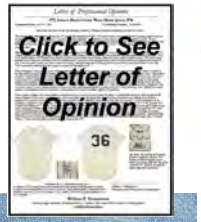
1981-1986 Road

1985



1983

1981–1986 road jersey has Atlanta spelled with upper case “A," otherwise identical to the 1980 road jersey design.

Front and back, two-color Varsity numbers—royal blue/white.

One-color (royal blue) vertical arch names on back; nameplates used.

1983

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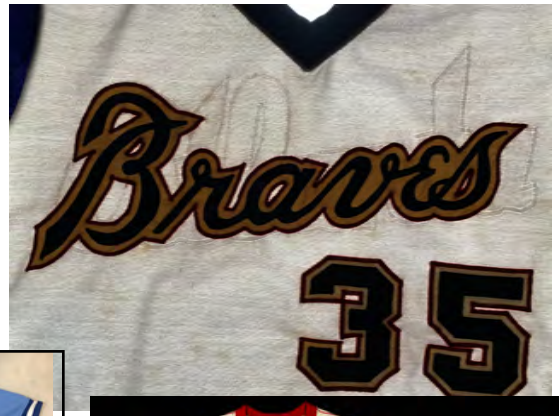
Braves Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues



With a half dozen farm clubs, and nearly all of them named “Braves”, there were plenty of homes for the MLB Braves uniforms to land after their season of use in the majors.

While home jerseys with the “Braves” script may have only suffered number changes, road jerseys with “Atlanta” on the front needed to gave their word-marks stripped as well.

Here are several examples. While not all minor league Braves jerseys started life in the majors, look for signs of conversion.

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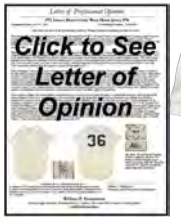
1987-2015 Home

1987



Mike Branham Collection

New for 1987, but very similar to team's 1946–1962 style. Differences: in those years they wore numbers on the front and had no names on the back, and the earlier tomahawk was black/gold. Back numbers Varsity style, two-color red/navy. One-color (navy) names on nameplates, *usually* vertical arch style, 1987–2005. 2006 names on back switch to Block style without vertical arch. Nameplates used only through 2013.Second only to the Yankees, this uniform is the next longest unchanged design in baseball, with minor changes to the script it is still in use 2025, 38 years and counting.

1990

1993

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-2015 Home, continued

1995

2000

Bill Henderson Collection

1997

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-2015 Home, continued

2000

2009

2006

2007

2008

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-2015 Home, continued

2013

2013

2015

1987–2015, the Atlanta Braves changed very little on their home jersey. For 2016, they would tweak the wordmark and alter the jersey construction to the new-for-2016 Flex Base template, but only those obsessed with detail might notice. In these 28 years, while manufacturers of the jersey would change, The front script was constant, as was the trim and the player number font on back. Through the years as detailed on prior pages, jersey construction evolved from full weight knit to Cool Base tech fabric, player names would change from vertical arch to radial arch, and would be direct sewn instead of on nameplates. 2016 and after jerseys are detailed several pages ahead.

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-2015 Road

Mike Branham Collection

1988

1987

One of the longest running uniform designs in baseball; no numbers on front. Back numbers Varsity style, two-color red/navy. One-color navy names, *usually* vertical arch style,1987–2005.

2006 names on back switch to Block style, without vertical arch. Nameplates used through 2013 and then after that the names are direct sewn.

1991

1991

1994

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1987-2015 Road, continued

1996

2000

2012

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1987-2015 Road, continued

2005 jerseys pictured both above and below. ***Top:*** *Lettered before the start of the season and uses vertical arch player NOB.* ***Bottom:*** *Lettered midseason, has non-vertical arched NOB. Both use nameplates. Starting in 2006, all names are radially arched and another Braves tradition falls by the wayside.*

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1987-1997: Braves Random Road Jersey Wordmark Pattern Variation

1999

1991

1995

1995

1997

1995

1993

A reader wrote and asked me, “Did you ever notice that some Braves’ road jerseys have the front lettering split in a different place?” I admitted that I had not. I went looking through my collection, and indeed I found that perhaps just under 10% of my photos of Braves’ road jerseys from the pre-Majestic 2005 era had the center “A” un-split, while 90% had the “A” split in the middle. I checked Getty Images for game action photos and verified this trend on the field, finding photos of game worn examples from as early as 1993 and as late as 1997. When I asked other collectors, some told me “It’s the Russell jerseys only that are that way." My research shows that Russell jerseys indeed came both ways, and I found photo evidence of players on the field at the same time with both variants in use. Finally, the photo below shows a Rawlings 1988–1991 (retail sale) jersey with the un-split “A." Since Majestic took over as the exclusive maker of Braves jerseys in 2005, all of them seem to have the “split A."

Does anyone know the origin of the two different patterns? Any reasons why both might be used in the same year, and continuing for multiple years? When it started and when it ended?

1988–1991

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2007 Alternate Red/2008-2011 Alternate Home/ 2012-2013 Alternate Home Red

2005 issue, with NOB in vertical arched style; jerseys issued mid-season did not have this feature. All jerseys switch to non-vertical arched NOB for 2006.

The Braves add a red alternate home jersey in 2005. White/blue/white knit trim adorns the sleeve ends and jersey front and collar. Numbers on back are two-color Varsity Standard, navy blue/ white, player names on back are white vertical arched type and sewn to a nameplate. 2005 jerseys sewn mid-season often had non-vertically arched names. In 2006, all names switch to Block, non-vertical arched style.

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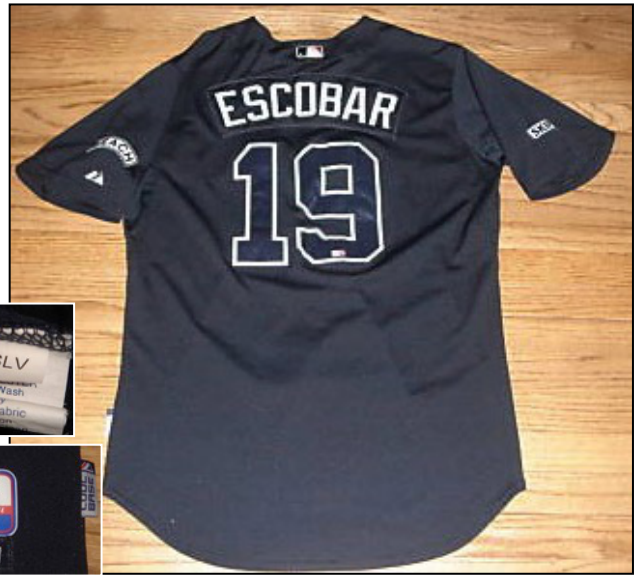
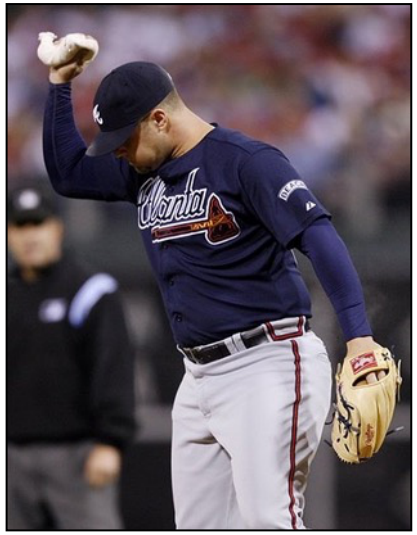
2008-2015 Alternate Road

2008





This style jersey is made in Cool Base only. It is a very dark navy color, darker blue than the batting practice jersey. Player names are white block on nameplates through 2013. Starting 2014, no nameplates are used. Player numbers are navy/white two-color Varsity style.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012-2021 Alternate Home Nostalgia

2017

Above: *Note tag coding. Though the style updates from 2018 to 2019 are small (added sleeve trim and new NOB font) Majestic still changes the style code of the jersey from AWAI to AWAC. The Nike tag, with code AW3I, is shown from the 2020 example at right.*

2020

Above: *Nike made at least one 2020 set of these jerseys for the team, but they were not worn during the season.*

Left: *In the 2019 MLB Style Guide, the Braves changed the team's founding date on the crossed tomahawk patch from 1876 to 1871. The change did not actually appear on the field until the final season for this jersey in 2021.*

When the Braves came to Atlanta in 1966, their uniforms were rather simple. Still flannel, for 1963, they had dropped the large tomahawk that had been a central feature of the front design since 1946. For 2012, they introduce a replica of this design as an alternate cream-colored Cool Base uniform. The design closely resembles the home uniform worn by the Hank Aaron-led Braves during their first two seasons in Atlanta in 1966–1967, featuring the player number instead of a tomahawk beneath the "Braves" script on front of the jersey.

The Laughing Brave patch that had been used on the 1966–1967 uniform sleeve is noticeably absent. While he has been brought back in the past for use on Turn Back the Clock jerseys, he is now considered too politically incorrect for a larger role. Instead, the sleeve patch features two crossed tomahawks and the date "1876," the year when the franchise debuted as the Boston Red Caps. Though the date on the patch is changed in the team's style guide to "1871" in 2019, that date only appears on the patch in the 2021 season.

Player names and back numbers are identical to the regular home jersey, Varsity numbers in red/navy, names in one-color navy Block. Nameplates are used 2012–2013, then not afterwards. For 2019, NOB changes to a new bolder font (described several pages ahead in this chapter) and a thin band of navy trim is added to the sleeve ends. Nike becomes the manufacturer for 2020, and though at least one set was made for the team, it was not worn that year. The style is discontinued after 2021.

2012–2020

2021

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2014-2018 Alternate Home Red Military Appreciation

2014

For 2014, the Braves modify their red alternate home jersey, turning it into an officially named “Military Appreciation” uniform. While the back lettering remains unchanged from before, the front loses the tomahawk, and gains a star-spangled blue wordmark outlined with white/navy and an American Flag patch on the left sleeve. Names are also no longer on nameplates. It is worn a half-dozen times in 2014 on dates honoring each of the branches of the armed services, military family night, plus Independence Day. We don’t have confirmation that this jersey was used at all in 2018 although it is listed as a valid team choice for that year.

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2016: Braves Home/Road Team Script Changes

1987–2015

Starting 2016

"Print" wordmark in the team's official art pack

In 2016, without making any mention at all, the Braves modified the script on their primary home jersey, changing it from the way it had appeared since 1987. The top photo is of a game worn 1997 jersey, the middle is of a 2016 jersey. At bottom is the "official" braves logo art as it has long appeared in the team's official style guide, and as it appears everywhere in print. We can see that the team simply decided to standardize on the official wordmark. The Phillies did the same thing with their jersey art in 2016 as well.

What changed? Many things… first the word splits at a different place than before. Previously the break was between the "A" and the "V", now it is in the middle of the letter "A". The slant of the wordmark is significantly less than previous. Note that in the earlier application, the vertical stroke of the "A" is nearly parallel with the placket trim. Now, it is tilted by some 30 degrees. The shape of the lower tail and the top point on the leading letter "B" is different, as is the new rounded top point of the final "s". The white space is much less in the final "VES" letters. And the yellow stripe on the tomahawk handle now aligns with the placket trim instead of being offset to the left.

The script from the team's alternate nostalgia jersey is shown at bottom right, Introduced in 2012. It presaged the change in the team's home jersey lettering by several years, as it mirrors the official team wordmark art. Because it lacks the tomahawk, the word is centered differently on the jersey front and therefore the word splits at a different place, between the "R" and the "A".

2012–2020

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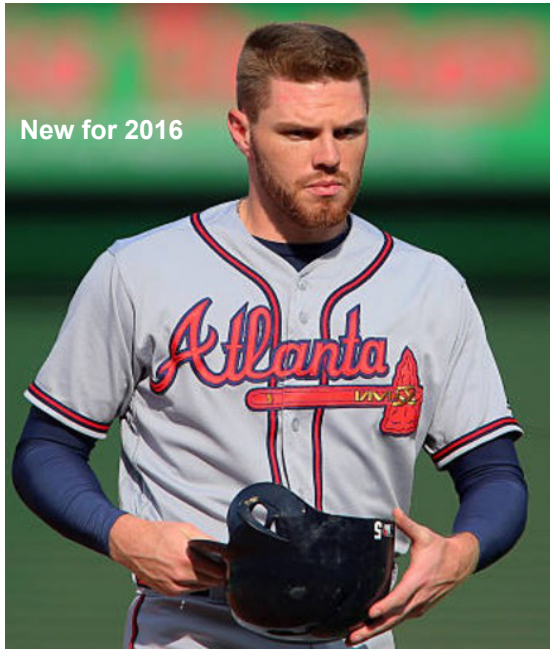
2016: Braves Home/Road Team Script Changes, continued

The road "Atlanta" script changes as well in 2016, as used on both gray and blue jerseys. In these photos you can see that it is bolder, less italic, not as tall and perhaps more graphically correct (although not as charmingly quirky) as before. Compare the shapes of the inside of the last "A", the slightly different place that the word splits in the center "A", the height difference of the "T" and where the tomahawk yellow stripe crosses the placket trim. No mention at all is made in the team style guide of the change.



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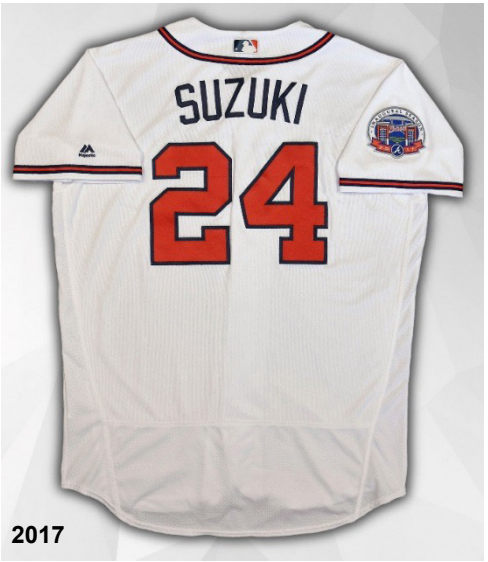
2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.



Rick Ogata collection

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2016-2023 Home

2018

2023

In 2019, the name on back font is changed, as described several pagees ahead in this chapter.

Concurrent with their change to Flex Base jerseys in 2016, the Braves subtly update the script on their home jerseys, reducing the angle of the lettering and tomahawk, and adjusting its position on the jersey. The changes are described in more detail several pages earlier in this chapter. Otherwise, the rest of the jersey stays the same in design, now applied to the Majestic Flex Base template. Back numbers are red/navy Varsity, player names in navy. In 2019, player name font changes, and style code updates from AWHH to AWH1. Blue/red/blue knit ribbon trim is sewn close to both sleeve ends and around the neck and placket. Nike takes over production starting in 2020, and the style code changes to AW1H.

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2016-2018 Road

Concurrent with their change to Flex Base jerseys in 2016, the Braves subtly update the script on their road jerseys, reducing the angle of the lettering and tomahawk, and adjusting its position on the jersey. The changes are described in more detail several pages ahead in this chapter. Otherwise, the rest of the jersey stays the same in design, now applied to the Majestic Flex Base template. Back numbers are red/navy Varsity, player names in navy. Blue/red/blue braiding is sewn close to both sleeve ends and around the neck and placket.

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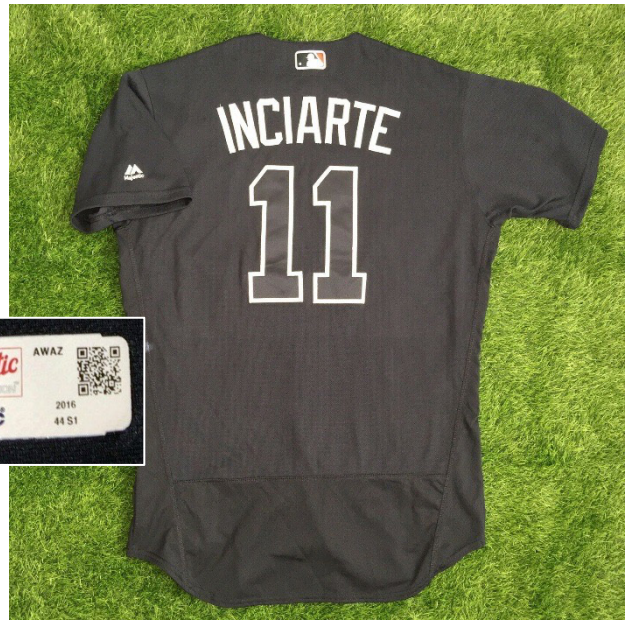
2016-2018 Alternate Road



The Braves update their blue alternate jerseys in 2016, adjusting the front logo to bring it in line with the other jerseys in their lineup, as described several pages ahead in this chapter. Aside from the script, and the switch to Flex Base in 2016, the jerseys are otherwise unchanged. Names on back in white, back numbers in blue/white.

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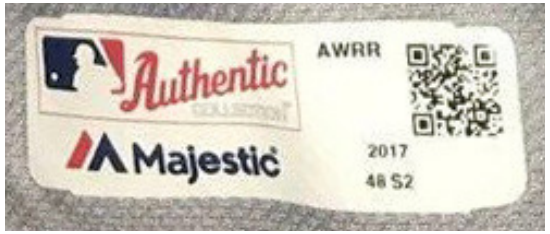
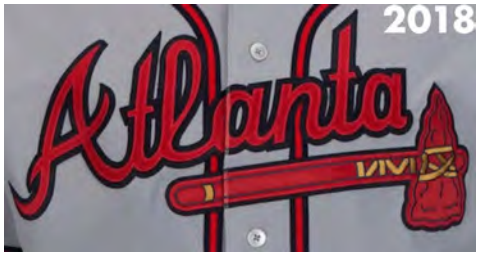
2019-2023 Road



Above: *The small tweaks to front and back lettering change Majestic's style code for this jersey from AWRR in 2017 to AWR2 for 2019. Nike changes it again to AW2R in 2020.*

The Braves update the "Atlanta" script on their road blue and gray jerseys again in 2019, just three years after the last change. 2016's flatter angle of the lettering and tomahawk remain, but the lettering itself is made less bold, and slightly more elegant. Notice the new position of the "T" and "L" relative to each other; the new point at which the letter "A" breaks over the placket, and the more consistent spacing between the letters overall. Note also the use of the new name-on-back font highlighted on the next page. Nike takes over production in 2020.



Logo Photos UniWatch/Paul Lukas

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2019: Player Name Lettering Font Change

2018

2019

In 2019, the Braves make very subtle changes to their player name-on-back lettering, making it bolder than before, and using a different font with slightly different letter forms. Notice the alphabet displays above from the 2018 and 2019 MLB Style Guides. Among other changes, the sharp points in the ”M” and “W” are squared off in 2019, while the “A” is made more triangular. The middle crossbars of the “E” and “F” are extended in 2019, and the tail on the “Q” is forced downward. The letter “S” has pronounced long end strokes. The difference in the “A” is also noticeable in the examples of the name “MARKAKIS” between 2018 and 2019 as well.

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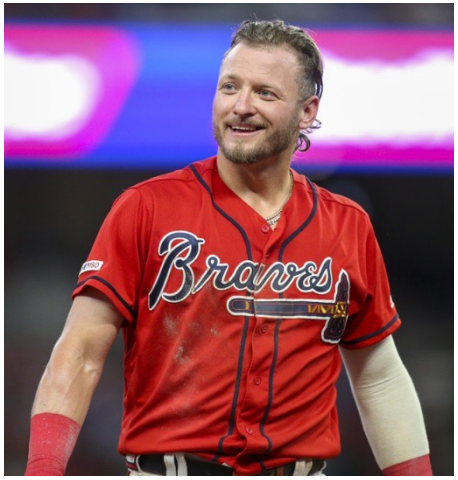
2019-2021 Alternate Home Red/2022-2023 Alternate Home



The Braves revise their alternate home red jersey again in 2019. The dark tomahawk of the 2005–2013 red alternate returns, below a blue/white version of the Braves' new home script on a red Flex Base template. Blue knit trim runs around collar and placket and appears at both sleeve ends. Player names are white, and back numbers are sewn in lightweight twill in navy blue/white varsity. The 2019 version of the jersey features the MLB150 patch. Also, note the use of a new unique font for player name on back, which begins with the debut of this jersey in 2019. Nike takes over production in 2020, and the style code changes from Majestic's AWA3 to AW3B for Nike, This jersey become the only Braves alternate home jersey starting in 2022 when the alternate nostalgia jersey is officially dropped.

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2019-2023 Alternate Road

The Braves update their alternate road jersey again in 2019. While the old was a rather monochromatic blue on blue, front and back, the latest version changes the primary color to red in the front script, tomahawk, and back numbers, all of which retain their white outlines. Player names on back remain in single-color white. White knit trim now appears around the neck and placket, as well as slightly above the sleeve ends, bringing this alternate into alignment with the trim placement on the team's red and cream alternate jerseys. The 2019 version of the jersey features the MLB150 patch on its right sleeve end. Also, note the use of a new team-unique font for player name on back. Nike takes over production in 2020, and the style code changes from Majestic's AWAY to Nike's AW3Z.

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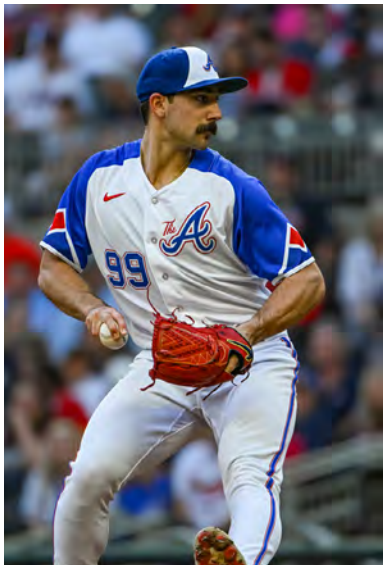
2023 City Connect



The Braves look to their past to form their City Connect uniforms, leaning heavily on a tribute to Hank Aaron and the style he wore in 1974 when he broke Babe Ruth's all-time home run record. The white jersey by Nike has blue raglan sleeves with a stylized version of the feather graphic used by the Braves in the 1970s, which here represents "the peak of the crown [that pays] homage to the Home Run King" according to the team. The left front insignia reads "The A" ("The" is embroidered in red script while the "A" is in blue/white/red twill)—a reference to the city that the team claims is familiar to all its residents. Front and back numbers are in the same colors, while the player name on back is in red. The tributes to Aaron continue with his motto and number, "Keep Swinging #44" heat pressed in gold above the jock tag, and "715" in a pattern similar to how the number was displayed on the Atlanta scoreboard when Aaron hit is famous home run, is inside the collar—both details not visible on the field, but desirable at retail.

Above: *The "715" on the jersey's inner collar is a nod to the scoreboard at Atlanta stadium on April 8, 1974, when Aaron broke Babe Ruth's lifetime home run record* ***(below).***

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Braves' classic home jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, and the Braves' crest now breaks in a different place upon crossing the placket. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering, more research is required.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Braves' classic road jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, and the front lettering and tomahawk now breaks in a different place upon crossing the placket. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering, more research is required.

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2024 Alternate Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Braves' alternate home red jersey. Most visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, and the Braves' crest now breaks in a different place upon crossing the placket. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering, more research is required.

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2024 Alternate Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Braves' alternate road blue jersey. It appears that the shade of blue used for the base fabric lighter than in years past. It is possible that this is actually an intended color change, or that the change in jersey material makes the color appear lighter than on the Flex Base template. Aside from the color, also visible are the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, and the Braves' crest now breaks in a different place upon crossing the placket. Sleeve and placket trim also change from white to red for 2024. The team opts for perforated numbering on this style.

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2024-2025 City Connect

Contrary to most updates from Nike Flex Base to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE), the Braves' City Connect jersey has comparatively few visible changes from the 2023 version. All of the storytelling elements outlined on the 2023 version return. Back names and numbers are smaller, as is expected, and numbers are also perforated. The MLB logo on back moves down with the smaller placket (see the difference compared to the page above). Oddly, the style code remains the same on both versions, 01O2, even with the clear, if subtle template change. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. The redundant, jersey-colored band of trim around the neck opening is also deleted. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Atlanta” script breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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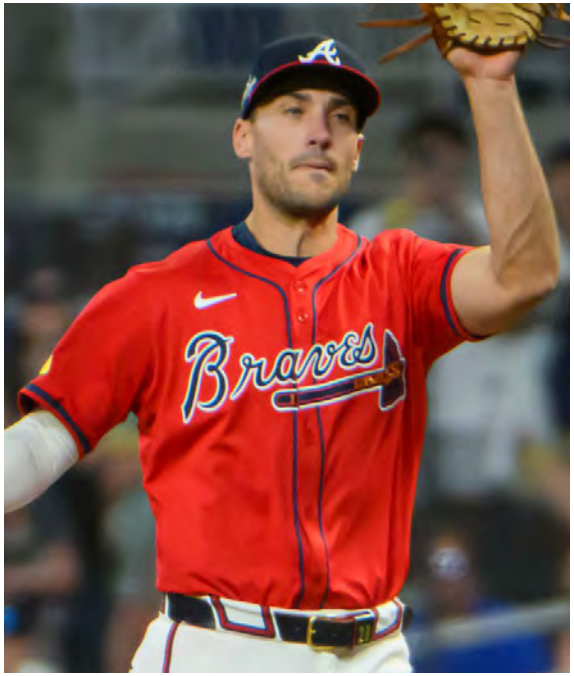
2025 Alternate Home



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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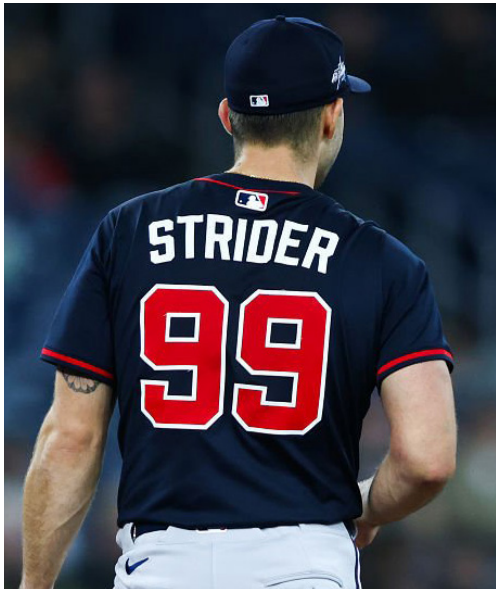
2025 Alternate Road

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.



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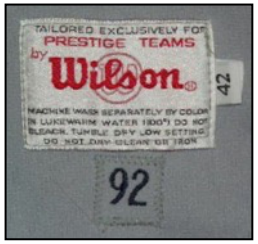
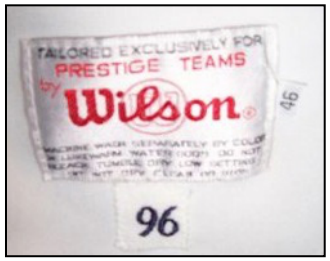
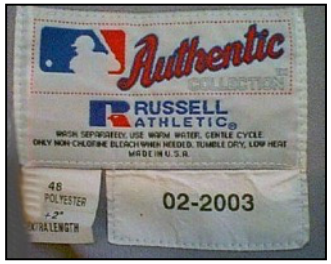
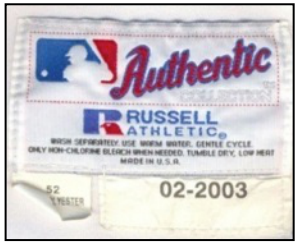
1987-2014 Braves Team Tagging









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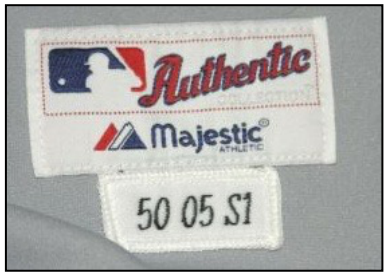
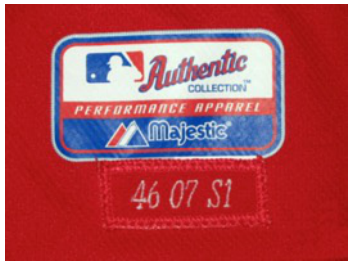
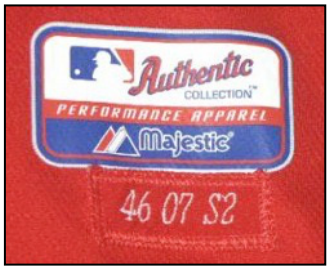
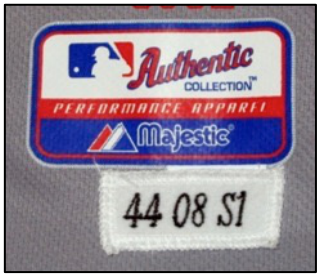
1987-2014 Braves Team Tagging, continued









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Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1979-1980 Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic collection

The Braves were among the first teams to wear mesh batting practice jerseys.

Note that front lettering is screen printed, Back numbers are heat pressed, seen sometimes in the early years of team batting practice jerseys. Note heat pressed vinyl letters for the name, applied to a nameplate then sewn to the jersey, surely to make the jerseys easier to reissue to new players.

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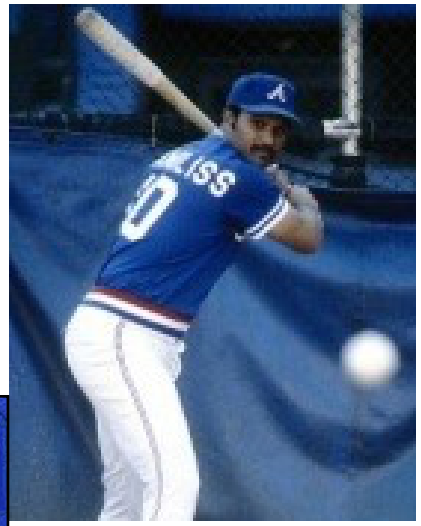
1981-1983 Batting Practice

Approximate dates of use are estimated from various photos and baseball cards. A few examples are year tagged. Pullover royal blue mesh jersey with white/royal/white knit stripes on collar and sleeve-end trim. All lettering and numbers are screened on, not sewn. Notice that the thickness of the wordmark stroke is slightly different on each example above. Numbers on back are one-color white Varsity style, one-color white player names used, lettering is heat press vinyl, usually on nameplates for ease in re-issuing to new players..

Stephen Kraljic Collection



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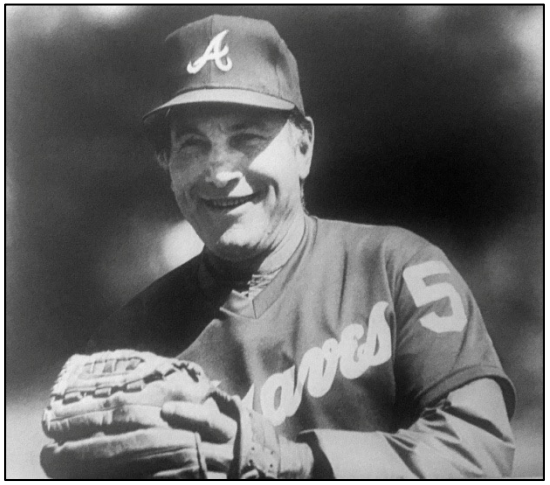
1983-1986 Batting Practice/Spring Training

Jimmie Boulware Collection



Coach Joe Pignatano at Spring Training, 1983

One of my favorite things is hearing from readers, correcting mistakes or making clarifications. Collector Jimmie Boulware of Hiram, GA submits these photos and writes: *"This is my 1983 Bob Horner blue Spring Training/batting practice jersey. It is a V-neck knit jersey (not mesh) with (team) name and back & sleeve numbers screened on. NOB appears to be screened on a nameplate and then sewn to the jersey. It is manufactured by Rawlings and has a Rawlings tag with Set/Year flag tag sewn to the inside front tail. I know these were worn at Spring Training in 1983 because I've seen Spring Training photos from 1983. Actually the 1983 Braves yearbook contains a three page pull-out poster with a posed photo taken at Spring Training (the guys are all wearing their meshed-back Spring Training caps) of Chambliss/Murphy/Horner/Washington wearing this jersey with numbers on the sleeve.*

I'm not sure if these jerseys were worn during the regular season or not, but if you haven't figured it out yet you'll realize the low-budget America's Team of the 1980s used, re-used & recycled just about every type of jersey imaginable. Few have dates or year tags leaving Braves collectors with quite a puzzle to try to piece together. Dated pieces and dated film/photos sometimes help, but it is not a rare occurrence to see different style jerseys on the field at the same time during this period as long as they were the same color and similar, just about anything was fair game. I've got several undated blue spring/batting jerseys that were used, I just haven't nailed down when yet."

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1983-1986 Batting Practice/Spring Training, continued

Bill Henderson Collection

Majestic jerseys have all sewn on lettering

Royal blue, solid fabric, no collar trim, Varsity numbers, names on back usually without nameplates, though some examples we have seen have nameplates, probably an artifact of reuse. Majestic uses all sewn-on lettering, Wilson has screened-on team name and numbers, sewn-on names.

- 1983–1984 is a V-neck and has number on back AND on left sleeve
- 1984–1985 is a V-neck, and has number on back only
- 1986 (and maybe 1985) Spring Training issue has a 2-button Henley collar (see next page)
- 1986 regular season BPs seem to have had V-necks

From the examples I have seen, Wilson-lettered jerseys seem to have vertical arched NOB, Majestic jerseys have non-vertical arched names. But as always, determining firm rules for early batting practice jerseys is difficult.

1985

Wilson pullovers all have screened on front crests and back numbers, twill sewn player names.

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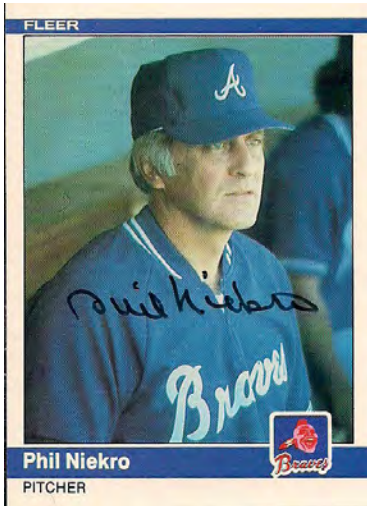
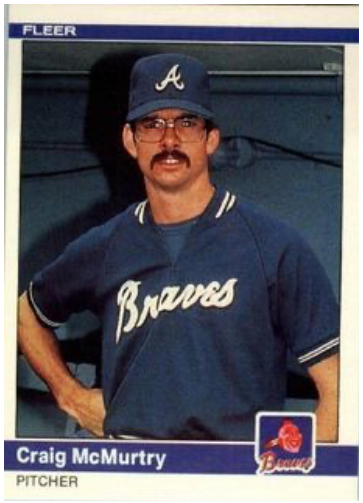
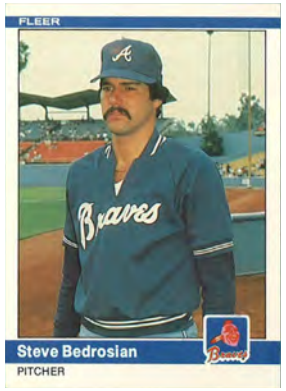
1983-1984 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

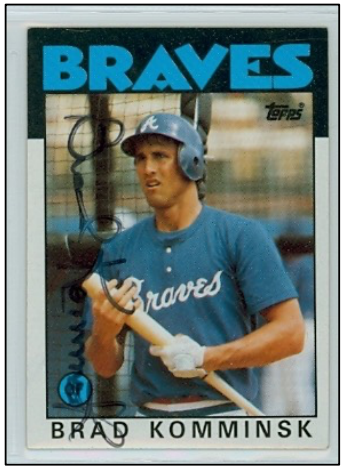
This short-sleeved zip-neck pullover was likely provided to players who wanted them. Interesting that the three examples of players wearing them below were all pitchers.

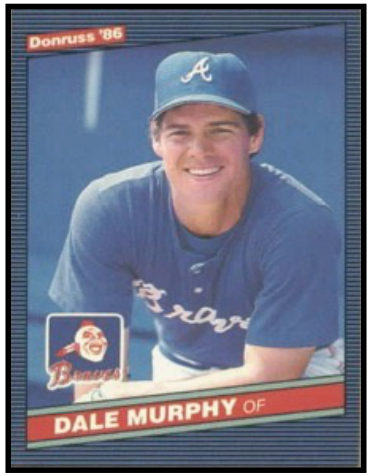




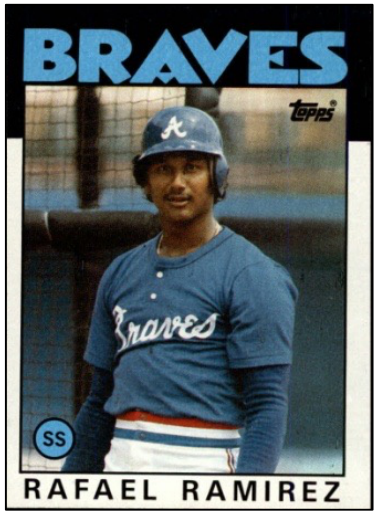


1985-1986 Alternate Spring Training





These baseball cards all show two-button Henley style neck, which appear to have been worn (interchangeably?) in Spring Training 1985–1986



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1986 Batting Practice

Above: *Tag is representative of the style seen on the jersey here but is not a photo of the actual tag from this jersey.*

These jerseys with all screened-on lettering and numbers front and back were worn in the 1986 regular season only. A mystery in earlier editions of this Guide, collectors have confirmed its use.

Tommy Harper was a member of the Braves organization 1980–1986, and this blue batting practice jersey features his autograph on what appears to be heat-pressed (screened on) numbers.

The high placement of the back numbers indicates that no NOB has ever intended to be used.

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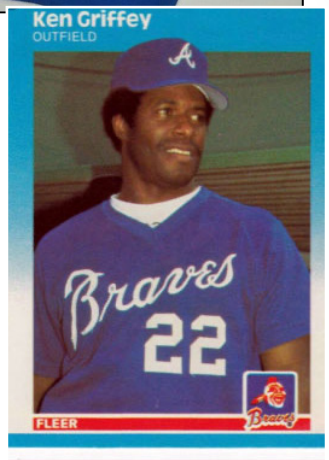
1987 Spring Training

Collector Ben Farlow who followed the Braves closely in Spring Training in the 1980s writes: *"The Braves used three different workout jerseys in 1987. In the overwhelming majority of preseason games they wore V-necks similar to 1984–1986 except the number was moved from the sleeve to the front like the 1980–1986 (game) uniform."* All white lettering is sewn on.

The other two 1987 batting practice/spring training jerseys are shown on the following two pages.



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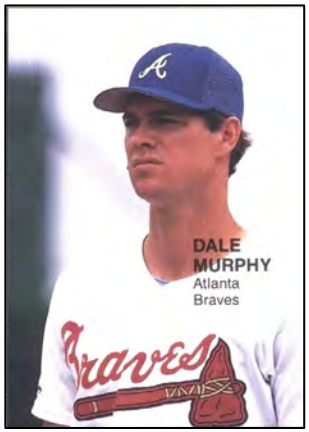
1987 Spring Training "Transitional"

Ben Farlow Photos

Jimmie Boulware Collection



Notice Dale Murphy in these photos wearing the 1986 issue cap and wide-elastic waist pants, which both were abandoned at the start of the 1987 regular season. Only 40-man roster players had their names vertically arched on the jerseys. Players like #61 had no names on their jerseys.

The Braves adopted their long-running "Tomahawk Jersey" starting with the 1987 season. However, these photos, taken in 1987 Spring Training, show a "transitional" jersey that was worn for part of that spring.

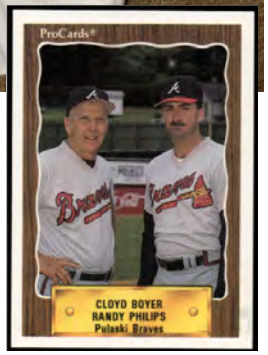
This jersey is a button-front design and made of solid (not mesh) fabric. The Rawlings script is embroidered on the right sleeve end.

The Braves script and the tomahawk design are sewn on. The front script, as well as the extra large player numbers on the back are in simple one-color (red) twill.

Braves aficionado Jason Taylor who supplied these photos writes to tell us to notice that the tomahawk has one fewer blue hash mark on the business end of the weapon than game jerseys did at the start of the 1987 season, and then had from then on. He notes that early production retail-sale jerseys also had only seven hash marks, but soon switched to have eight (on the bottom right photo I have drawn a small yellow circle where the "missing" hash mark belongs).

Collectors have suggested that players on the 40-man roster got their names on back, while non-roster players did without.

Baseball card evidence suggest that these jersey were sent to minor league Pulaski where they were used for an additional two seasons.



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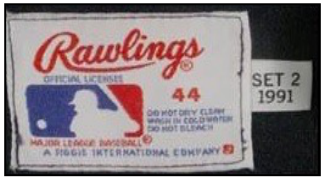
1987-2000 Batting Practice

1996

1992–1993 with vertical arched name

1994

1987



Button-front, non-mesh, lightweight solid fabric; no numbers on front, back numbers Varsity style, two-color red/white.

These jerseys are made by Russell, Majestic, and Rawlings in various years, and with a long style run and general inconsistencies permitted by the team, the use of vertical arch names and nameplates is hard to pin down as a constant. Generally vertical arch and nameplates is the standard 1987–1998. Mid-season call-ups may have non-VA names.

1999–2000 One-color bold white names, usually non-vertical arched names, but not universally. 2000 adds silhouetted batter patch to the back of the neck.

The Braves usually wear their game jersey memorial patches on their batting practice jerseys as well.

1999-only fat font NOB font, not vertical arched

1998

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Late 1980s-Mid 1990s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

- Majestic made an alternate style batting practice jersey used occasionally most teams at some point in the late 1980s into the mid-1990s. This is the Braves' version.
- It features the 1987 and later style team lettering embroidered on the front and large Majestic Varsity numbers. I am told by Braves collectors that these were often worn by players without any names or numbers on back. There is a short zipper at the neck and elastic trim at the neck and on the sleeve ends. Team spec versions will have an embroidered Majestic logo on the sleeve end, retail ones might have a decal instead.
- Two vertical slash trim pieces resembling pockets are on the front, and one has the Majestic logo printed on its edge. They are not usually actually pocket openings though.

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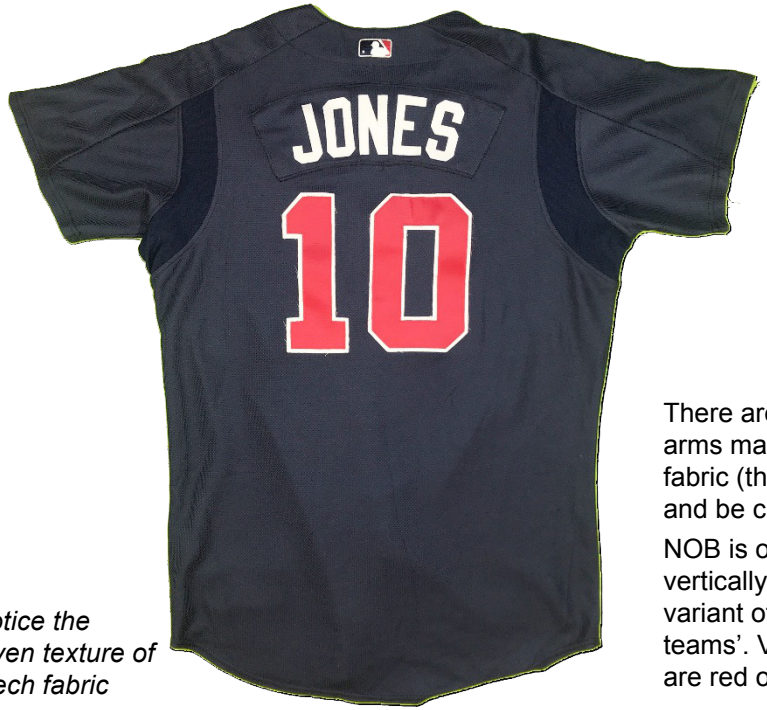
2001 Batting Practice



Button-front design, now made by Majestic, the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo patch is added to the back of the neck.

Jersey is made of the earliest "tech fabric," a roughly woven patterned fabric that fades and pulls easily.

There are blue inserts under the arms made of a different, smoother fabric (these inserts will reappear and be changed to red in 2003).

NOB is on a nameplate and is not vertically arched. The font used is a variant of Block that is unlike other teams'. Varsity numbers on back are red over white.

Below: *Notice the rough, woven texture of the early tech fabric*

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2002 Batting Practice

The 2001 style jerseys are unpopular as they fade badly, and the fabric is easily damaged. Bucking the MLB-standard, for 2002, players are issued a navy pullover batting practice jersey with a two-button Henley neck. The fabric goes back to the shiny, sheer type solid fabric used before 2001.

2002 Spring Training photos reveal some players still wearing the 2001 style jerseys. Name on back is on a nameplate and is not vertical arched.

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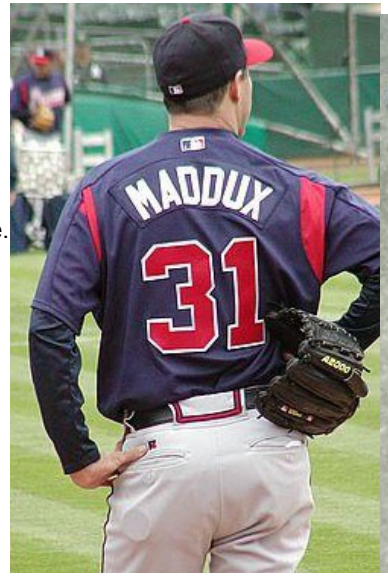
2003-2006 Batting Practice

Two-button neck Henley pullover. Loose weave "tech fabric" similar to 2001 issue, very susceptible to fading and pulls. Identify by red underarm trim, fabric is non-mesh solid dark blue. No numbers on front.

Back numbers Varsity style, two-color Red/ white.

One-color Block white names, no vertical arch, Braves continue the tradition of using names on nameplates.



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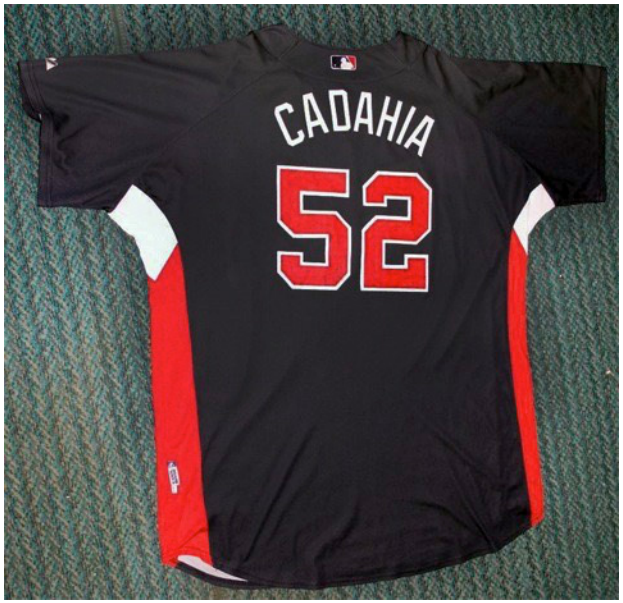
2007-2010 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection



The Braves new Cool Base batting practice jerseys for 2007 feature two-color red and white inserts in the sides. It is a pullover style featuring a one-button neck.

All lettering, numbers, and names are appliqués, not sewn on or embroidered as in the past. No nameplates. Player names are in regular Block font, not vertical arch. Numbers are a version of Varsity, although they seem narrower and less bold than the Varsity numbers sewn on game uniforms.

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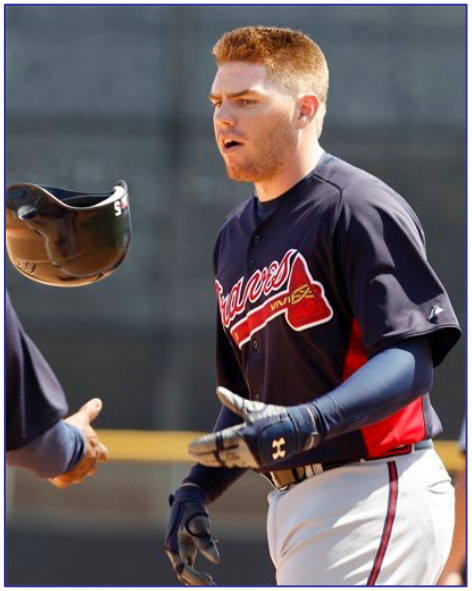
2011-2013 Batting Practice



All teams in MLB switch to button-front batting practice jerseys in 2011. The Braves' jersey looks very much like the 2010 version minus the two-tone side panels. The sides are solid red now. Two-color Varsity numbers on back as always, one-color white NOB in regular Block lettering.

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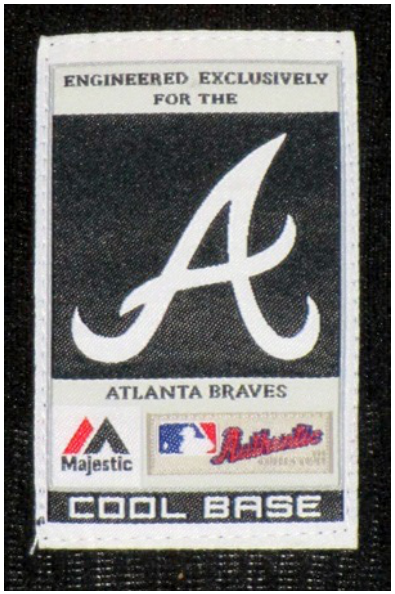
2014-2016 Batting Practice



The Batting Practice jersey is remodeled for 2014, and gains a bright red back panel. While player names on back stay white-only, the player numbers switch colors and become blue outlined with white. The jock tag on the front tail is a new vertical rectangle with the team's hat mark on it. Red side panels are slightly smaller than the prior design.

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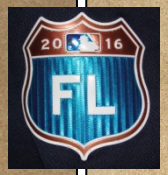
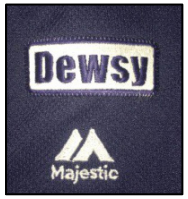
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

Jeffrey Frye Collection





For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in Florida. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team.. The Braves use their regular season alternate road blue jersey, now with "Braves" on front instead of "Atlanta", as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are blue patterned twill/white. The name on back is white patterned twill. The team's "Dewsy" memorial patch is on the left sleeve, and a rubberized, CFX patch is on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Braves spend Spring Training.

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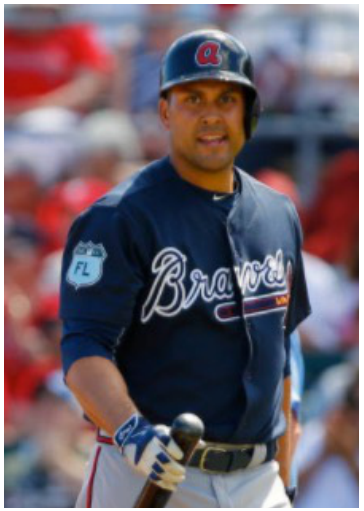
2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same patterned twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. The Braves again use their regular season alternate road blue jersey, though with "Braves" on front instead of "Atlanta", as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Braves spend Spring Training.



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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Braves jersey is blue with red back and underarm gussets. The Braves' "A" logo, also seen on their caps, appears on the front left chest in white. Player name in white Block and player number in navy/white Varsity on back. In 2019, the back was blank and player number in blue/white moved to right chest, opposite the team logo.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, but now simplified using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Braves again use their regular-season alternate road blue jersey, now with "Braves" on front instead of "Atlanta" as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of past years and return to regular-season multi-layered team-color twill without printed patterns. The Braves' Spring Training jersey is unique carryover from previous Spring Training seasons; a design separate from their regular season standard set, similar to their alternate road blue jersey, but with "Braves" on front instead of "Atlanta" and without trim on sleeve ends or placket. A new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The back numbers are red/white twill. The name on back is white and uses a new, team-unique font..

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring training is simplified by Nike for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season. For 2020–2023, the Braves use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, similar to their alternate road blue jersey, but with "Braves" on front instead of "Atlanta" and no trim on sleeve ends or placket, with red/white back numbers and white name on back. The 2021 version has the teams 150th anniversary patch on the left sleeve and the 2021 All-Star Game patch on the right.

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Special Events Jerseys

1997 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers)

- The Braves played as the 1938 Atlanta Black Crackers on June 28, 1997 at home vs. the visiting Philadelphia Phillies.
- Cream-colored knit uniforms made by Mitchell & Ness, who received design help from Ebbets Field Flannels. Lettering is felt.
- Note the use of the 1997 Jackie Robinson Breaking Barriers patch.

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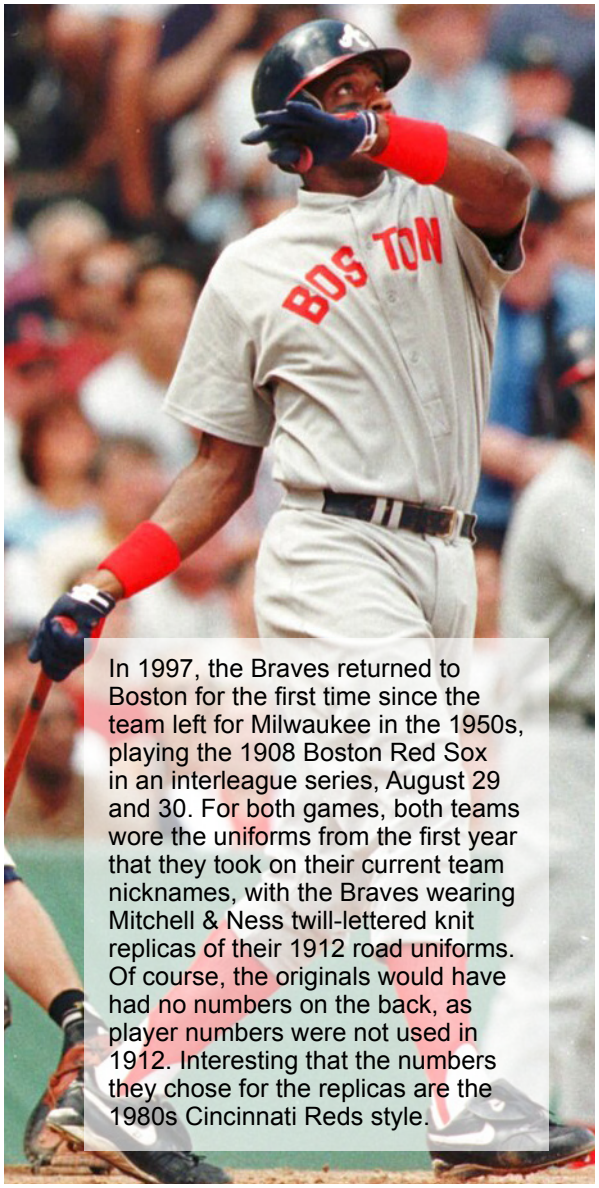
1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1912 Boston Braves

Steve Kraljic collection



In 1997, the Braves returned to Boston for the first time since the team left for Milwaukee in the 1950s, playing the 1908 Boston Red Sox in an interleague series, August 29 and 30. For both games, both teams wore the uniforms from the first year that they took on their current team nicknames, with the Braves wearing Mitchell & Ness twill-lettered knit replicas of their 1912 road uniforms. Of course, the originals would have had no numbers on the back, as player numbers were not used in 1912. Interesting that the numbers they chose for the replicas are the 1980s Cincinnati Reds style.

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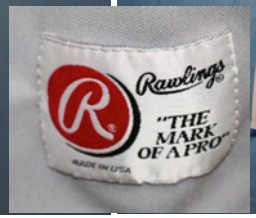
1998 Turn Back the Clock to 1958 Milwaukee Braves



News reports indicated that this was a matchup of the 1958 Braves vs. the 1958 Braves. Though these jerseys are close to accurate for 1958, the caps and helmets, with a "B" for Boston, don't match at all! The Braves left Boston after the 1952 season, and never wore a uniform with front numbers nor this sleeve patch. Both were introduced after the move to Milwaukee.

In a rather novel idea, the Milwaukee Brewers invited the Atlanta Braves to a Turn Back the Clock game on June 2, 1998 in Milwaukee. Milwaukee had, of course, been home to the Braves prior to 1966, and the Brewers first year as a franchise was 1970. The Brewers proposed that for the Braves first return to Milwaukee, BOTH teams dress in 1958 Braves uniforms, with the Brewers being the HOME braves, and the Atlanta team being the 1958 AWAY Braves. (Though, for some reason, the Braves had caps and helmets with a "B" logo, throwing back to their days in Boston—despite the sleeve patch on this uniform being introduced four years after the team moved from Boston to Milwaukee.) I don't know if it was "a first" but seeing both teams on the field wearing the same team's uniforms just in different colors was rather unusual!

The uniforms for the contest were made by Rawlings. They are zipper front, which is correct. The front script is not quite right, the sleeve patch is rather accurate. The player numbers are Block when they should be Varsity. But oddly, the sleeves are very long, almost like the style worn in the early 1930s. Uniform sleeves were actually very short in 1958.

In both 2004 and 2005, the Brewers reprise this idea, dressing as the 1957–1958 Braves for a single game each season when the Atlanta Braves were visiting town. On neither of these occasions did the real Braves participate in the fun, choosing to wear their regular road uniforms both times.

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1998 Negro Leagues Tribute (1940 Black Crackers)

For two games, on August 1–2 1998, the Braves dressed as the Atlanta Black Crackers of the Negro Leagues. Uniforms were made of knit by Mitchell & Ness. Their opponent was the Cardinals dressed as the 1928 St. Louis Stars. Player numbers were in a variant of Varsity, but is not the same as any regular font currently used in MLB. Notice the diagonal stroke on the “2."

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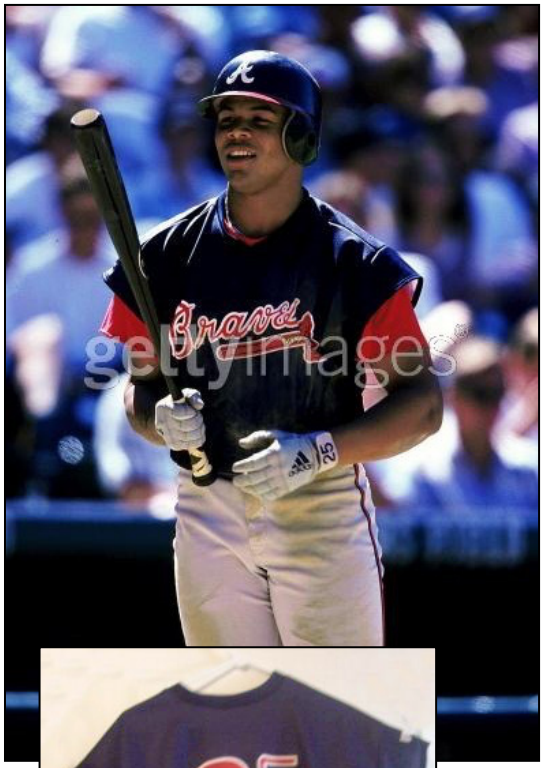
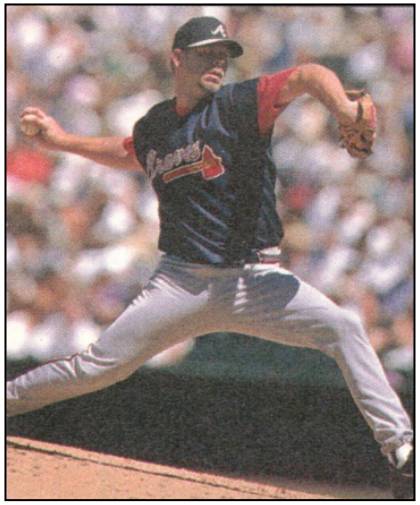
1999 Turn Ahead The Clock

Bill Henderson Collection





August 18, 1999. The Braves' uniforms for this admittedly silly promotion actually look very similar to the team's normal batting practice jerseys and they do not look too bad at all. Front lettering is sublimated into the fabric; on back, name and numbers are sewn on, two-color tackle twill, red and white.

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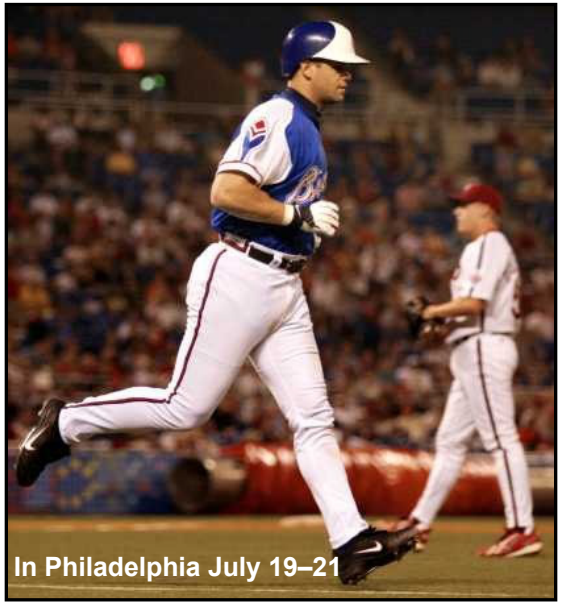
2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1974 (Road)

- On July 19–21, 2002, the Braves played three consecutive road games against the Phillies. Both teams wore throwback uniforms.
- Then the Braves went on to Miami to play another TBTC series against the Marlins on July 22–24, and wore these same uniforms. The Marlins dressed as the 1982 Miami Marlins of the Florida State League.
- Note use of regular team pants (see two pages ahead for explanation).



In Philadelphia July 19–21

In Miami, July 22–24

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2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1974 (Home)

Steve Kraljic collection

July 26–28, 2002, the Braves and Phillies played an entire three-game weekend series dressed in 1974 throw-back attire. The Phillies road uniforms were also 1970s-1980s vintage in styling.

The Mitchell & Ness jersey reproductions are almost indistinguish-able from the 1974 originals. They repro-duced the embroidery--stitched numbers and front wordmark like the originals. The era of baggy uniforms was starting by 2002, and most players wore these uniforms in a peri-od-incorrect loose-fitting style. Players in 1974 wore their uniforms skin tight.

© GameWornGuides.com

2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1974

Worn April 8, 2004 at home vs. the New York Mets (who wore regular uniforms), only the third game of the season, and the 30th anniversary of Aaron breaking Babe Ruth's career home run record. Mitchell & Ness uniforms visually identical to those worn in past years.

In 2002, 2004 and 2006, the Braves appeared as the 1974 "Hank Aaron Era" Braves, wearing that era's bright Feather Style uniforms, in both home white and road blue. The Mitchell & Ness reproductions are almost indistinguishable from the 1974 originals.

But...what is wrong with those pants? Notice that they are the current style pants with belts and zippers, as the Braves agreed to participate in Turn Back the Clock games so long as they could wear their regular tailored pants. The Braves told Mitchell & Ness that the TBTC pants never fit properly, causing a distraction to the players.

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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1968

June 26–27, 2004, the Braves appeared as the 1968 Atlanta Braves. The TBTC uniforms are rendered by Majestic in double knit, and they are fairly close copies of the originals.

You will notice on the real 1968 uniform (shown inset) that the wordmark lettering is a little thinner, smaller, and more angular. The original uses Block style numbers, while the replica uses Varsity Standard. However Braves uniforms of mid-1960s vintage show much variety year to year in number styles.

1968 Original

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Turn Back The Clock to 1966

Steve Kraljic collection

The Braves turned back the clock to 1966 on April 12, 2006 against the Phillies, reprising the Braves first home opener in Atlanta in 1966.

The Phillies wore their normal road uniforms.

The AIS uniforms are nice copies, right down to the thin number font used for the player numbers. An original 1966 jersey is shown, inset left.

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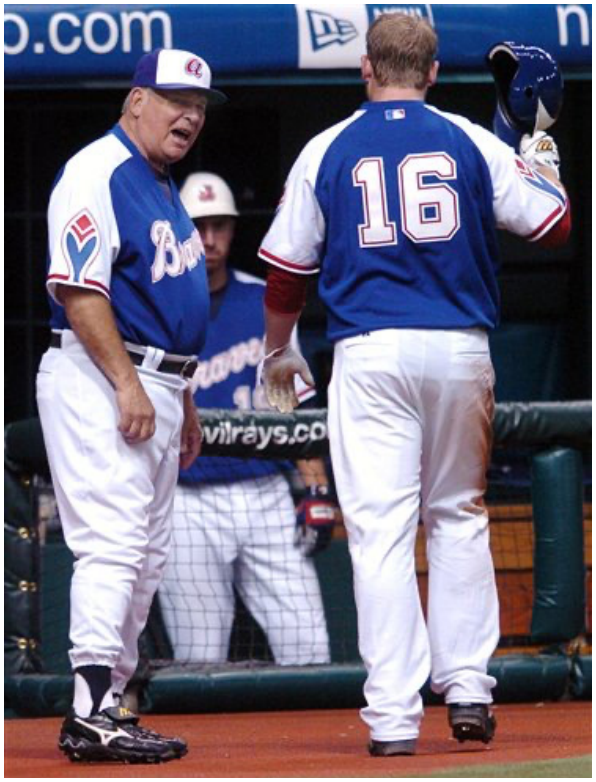
2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1975



Steve Kraljic collection

June 24, 2006: Braves vs. Rays (who played as the minor league Tampa Tarpons) in Tampa Bay. The Braves dressed in 1975 road uniforms. This is the first time Majestic has made this style uniform; as all previous ones were made by Mitchell & Ness.

Notice this version has the MLB logo on back, the only blue "Feather" Turn Back the Clock version of it the Braves have worn with it included. Note the Majestic logo on the left sleeve, stuck in beside the base of the feather.

Again, notice some players' use of current-year 2006 pants, worn for player comfort, while others appear to be wearing plain white pants that match the jersey.

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1948 Boston Braves

Retail authentic version of the jersey

The Atlanta Braves returned to 1948 to become the Boston Braves, playing the 1948 Cubs at Wrigley Field, June 12, 2008.

The Braves uniforms are made of double knit by Majestic. They are button front, but should have a zipper to be closer to correct.

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2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers)

July 25, 2009: The Brewers host the Braves in a Negro Leagues tribute game. The Brewers wore the 1923 uniforms of the Milwaukee Bears and Atlanta wore the 1938 uniforms of the Atlanta Black Crackers. The Black Crackers' uniforms were the same as the home versions of these uniforms previously worn by the club in a game during 1997, with the exception that the fabric is gray instead of cream colored. Red/black/red knit trim and "Atlanta" vertically arched in a slight arc across the front in red/black. Block with Serifs numbers on back, red/black 3D drop shadow. No player names on back used.

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1984

- The Braves joined the Padres in San Diego for a Turn Back the Clock day on April 15, 2010, which was also Jackie Robinson Day.
- Both teams wore their uniforms from 1984.
- The Braves road uniforms were the wide-waistband 1984 pullover V-neck powder blues.
- Because it was Jackie Robinson Day, all players on both teams wore Robinson's retired #42.
- These are full-weight knit jerseys, not Cool Base.
- As far as reproductions go, these are pretty darn good. Sure, the players wore them baggier than they would have in 1984, but we are sadly expecting nothing more these days.

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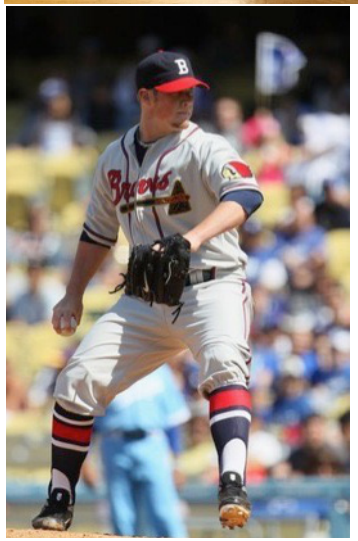
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1944 Boston Braves

When the Braves visited Los Angeles on April 21, 2011, the Dodgers were hosting the first of many Turn Back the Clock games that year. The Braves joined the Dodgers by wearing the uniforms of 1944 from when the team was the Boston Braves, in road gray.

The uniforms for both teams in that game were made by Bobcat Athletic, and therefore there was no manufacturer logo on the sleeve (by licensing rights, only Majestic's logo can appear in view on a 2011 game jersey).



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2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers)

In their 2011 Negro Leagues tribute game, the Braves hosted the Phillies on May 14 in Atlanta, part of the Civil Rights weekend. The Phillies dressed as the Philadelphia Stars; the Braves as the 1938 Atlanta Black Crackers. Notice 3D drop shadowed block numbers on back. Most likely made by AIS, though the tag is hidden on the inside of the back tail.

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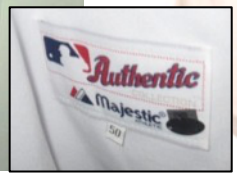
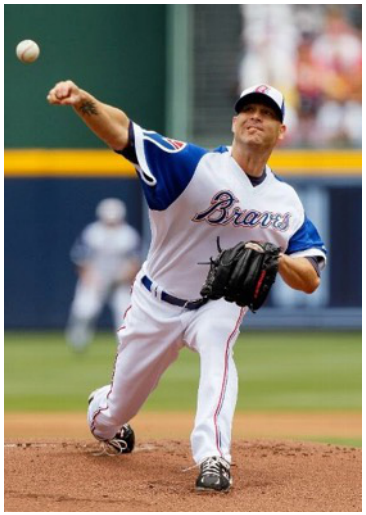
2011 Civil Rights Game (1974 Home)



The Civil Rights game of 2011 was played in Atlanta between the Phillies and the Braves on May 15. Both teams wore Majestic replicas of their 1974 uniforms, and the celebration honored Hank Aaron's 715th home run in 1974 that surpassed Babe Ruth's record for lifetime home runs.

The Braves' uniforms were quite good, made of full-weight knit, not Cool Base. The large "feather" design on the sleeve required the obligatory Majestic logo to be embroidered far off of center, toward the front of the sleeve. Player numbers front and back are Varsity style as the originals were, no NOB used.



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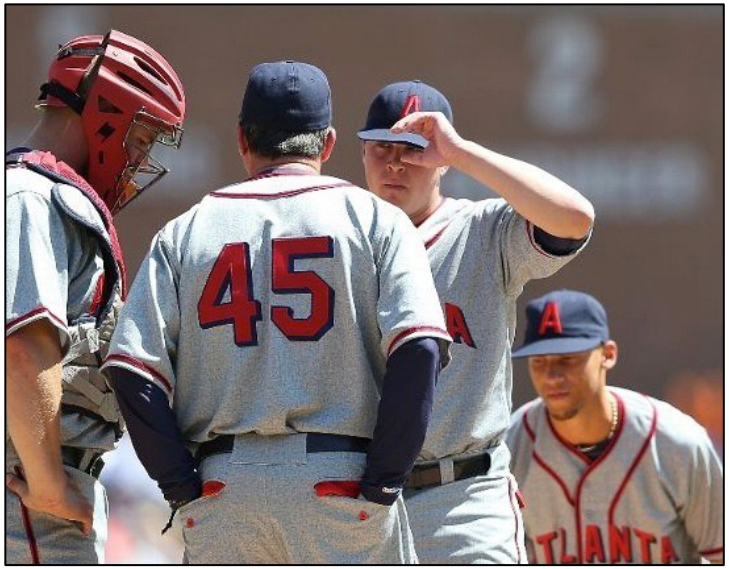
2013 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers)



April 27, 2013 at Detroit: The Braves were the guest at the Tigers' annual Negro Leagues Salute Weekend, and dressed in the road gray versions of the 1938 Atlanta Black Crackers uniforms, made in knit fabric by AIS, and last worn at home on May 14, 2011. The road grays look like the home versions except for the change in the color of the fabric. Back numbers are Block with a thick 3D drop shadow. No player names are used.

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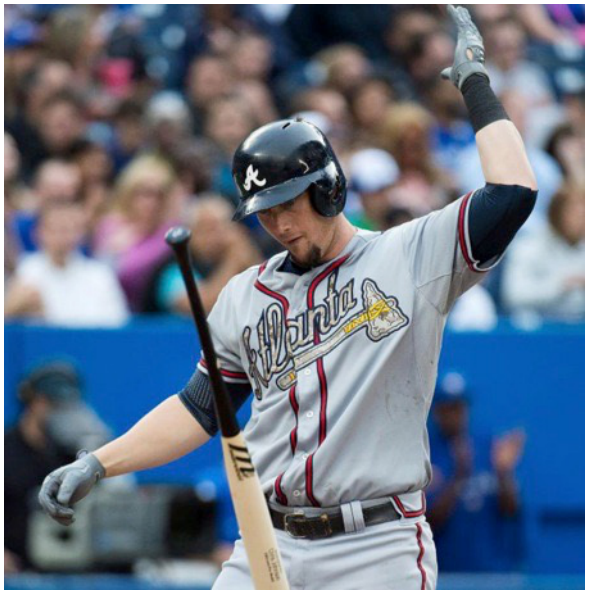
Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013 Memorial Day



All MLB teams mark Memorial Day, May 27, 2013, by wearing camouflage-lettered uniforms. The Braves were on the road in Toronto, and so their gray road uniforms receive the desert-camo treatment. Since the "Atlanta" wordmark, the tomahawk, and the back numbers are outlined with navy blue, they are at least visible to fans. Player names on back are not outlined, and are sewn on plates. They just as well could have been omitted as their color makes them invisible from a distance any further than a few feet.

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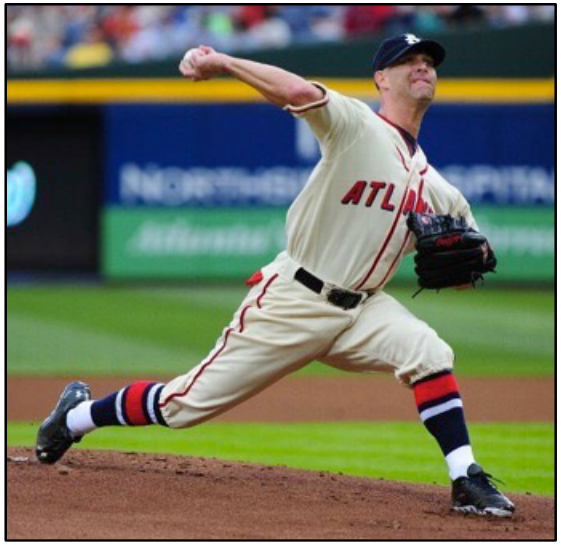
2013-2014 Negro Leagues Tributes (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers)

Steve Kraljic collection



June 1, 2013 vs. Washington Nationals; May 3, 2014 vs. San Francisco Giants. In both years, the Braves wore similar 1938 Atlanta Black Crackers uniforms as they had for their Negro Leagues tribute games in 2011 and 1997 (they skipped their home tribute game in 2012 as they played host that year to the Civil Rights Game instead). Uniforms made by AIS, and the manufacturer's tag returns to the outside left shirttail. No special year or set tagging.

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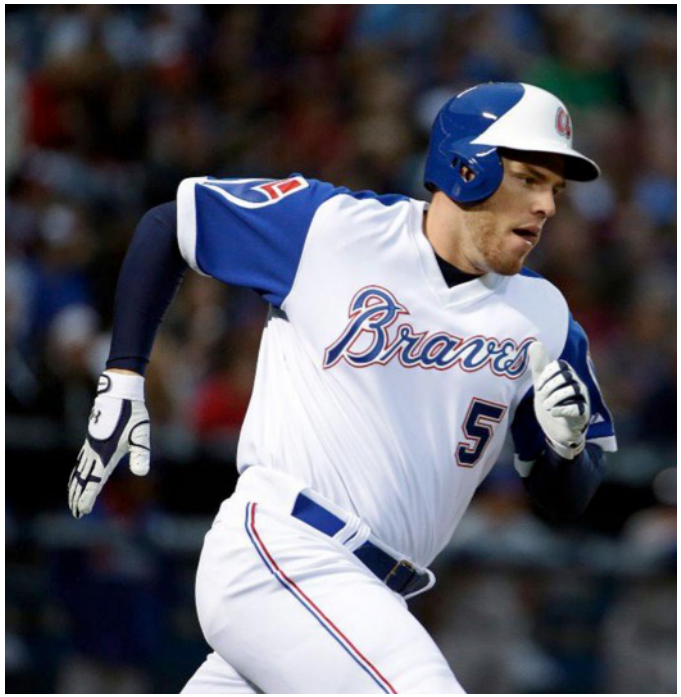
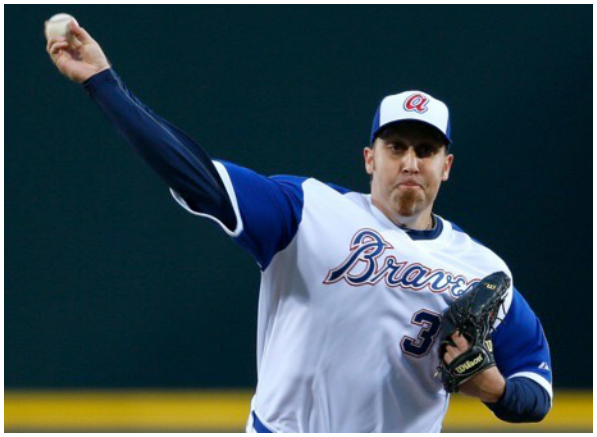
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1974



The Braves opened their home season in 2014 on April 8 with “Turn Back the Clock to 1974." The entire year was to be dedicated to the anniversary of Hank Aaron breaking Babe Ruth’s lifetime home run record exactly forty years ago that day—April 8, 1974. There were ceremonies before the game and Hank Aaron was the guest of honor. The Braves wore near-perfect replicas of their 1974 home white uniforms made by Majestic. Like the originals from decades prior, the lettering for wordmark and numbers both front and back were two colors of twill, blue outlined with white, and then a wide embroidery stitch in red was used to attach all the adornment to the jerseys. These uniforms are made of full-weight polyester knit. All uniforms were auctioned on MLB.com.



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2014 Memorial Day

The Braves played at home on May 26, 2014, Memorial Day, against the Boston Red Sox. Once again, MLB had decreed that all teams should make the main color in their uniforms camouflage in salute to the military. The Braves' home uniforms had the benefit of all designs and lettering (except for player names) outlined in navy blue, therefore most of it was visible to fans. Player names were direct sewn, no nameplates.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

Steve Kraljic collection

July 13, 2014: The Braves visited the Chicago Cubs for a Turn Back the Clock to 1969 game, and Majestic made a beautiful set of 1969 road gray uniforms for the Braves to wear, complete with the laughing brave patch on the left sleeve. However, the Braves jersey is missing the 1969 100th MLB Anniversary patch on the right sleeve, odd because it is present on the Cubs' uniforms for the game. I will assume ant oversight on some-one's part.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1914 Boston Braves

August 16, 2014: The Braves played the A's at home in a recreation of the 1914 World Series, and the "Miracle Braves" of 1914 who went from last place to first between July 4th and the end of the season, finally winning the pennant by 10 ½ games over the second place Giants, and won the World Series in a sweep.

The cream-colored knit uniforms were made by Majestic, with numbers added to the back in an accepted modern touch. But two other items were modified that many noticed. First, the Brave patch on the sleeve was omitted. I am certain some were afraid it would offend. Odd considering that just a month prior the Braves wore the laughing Brave on their 1969 throwbacks in Chicago. Second, most (all?) of the players wore low cuffed "pajama" pants, while the visiting A's wore their uniforms high cuffed as was appropriate. These early uniforms have almost no adornment, and the socks were one of the only item of color in the suit.

Left: *A modern replica of the missing 1914 sleeve patch by Mitchell & Ness.*

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2015 Memorial Day

The Braves are back on the road for Memorial Day on May 25, 2015, and their gray uniforms again get the camo treatment. The fronts are identical to the 2013 road version, as are the back numbers. Since both are outlined in blue, there are fairly visible from a distance. The team wisely did not repeat the single-color camo twill for the names on back, however, opting for navy blue this time, a marked improvement. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from previous years.

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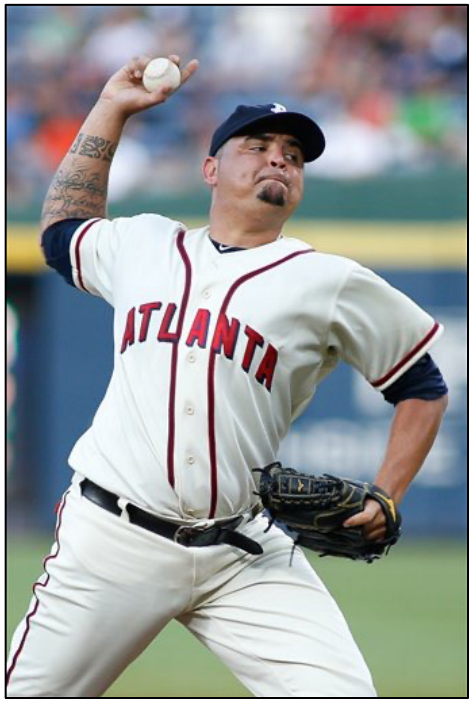
2015 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers)



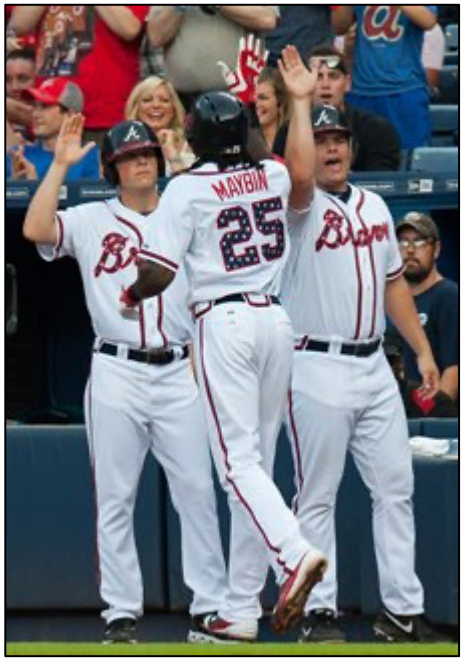
The Braves bring back their oft-used 1938 Atlanta Black Crackers home jersey for a fifth time in a game against the Mets, who wore Brooklyn Royal Giants jerseys. These knit jerseys by AIS are identical to the versions from past years, except the braid around the neck opening is omitted. Back numbers are Block with a thick 3D drop shadow. No player names are used. AIS tagging on inside, back hem.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. Though the Braves already have a patriotic-themed jersey, they forego that alternate to conform to the rest of the teams taking part in this promotion. The Braves wear their home white jerseys, minus the tomahawk, with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as back numbers. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.



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2016 St. Patrick's Day

The Braves go green for St. Patrick's Day 2016 in a Spring Training game held March 17. This Flex Base jersey is in solid green, with front logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the 2016 St. Patrick's Day promotion, while the left has the "Dewsy" memorial patch worn during Spring Training. White knit trim encircles both sleeves.

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2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Braves wear their alternate home retro jerseys, here in white instead of the usual cream, with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are pink/dark gray. Unlike other teams that recolor their sleeve patches to match the other jersey changes, the Braves choose to remove the crossed tomahawks patch that normally appears on their alternate home jersey. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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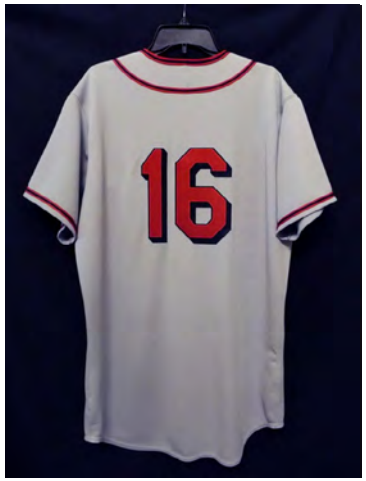
2016 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers road)

Steve Kraljic collection

May 15, 2016: Facing the Royals on the road, who wear Kansas City Monarchs jerseys, the Braves return to the Atlanta Black Crackers road jersey for a fourth time. For the first time, Majestic creates this set, which is full knit. Otherwise, all elements look very similar to previous incarnations, including Block back numbers with a navy 3D drop shadow. No player names are used.



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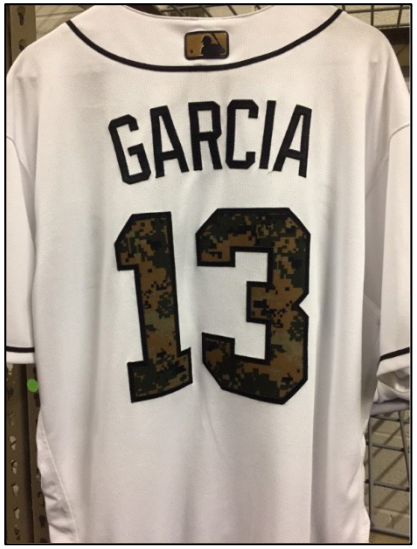
2016 Memorial Day



The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Braves apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys – minus the tomahawk – for the game on May 30. It had been suggested in sports media that perhaps the tomahawk removal is out of deference to recent controversies surrounding Native American imagery in sports and the intersection of the use of military camo. Regardless, without the tomahawk, the jersey is reminiscent of their alternate home retro jerseys. However, that version is on a cream base and has a sleeve patch and no sleeve trim, unlike the white, patch-free, sleeve-trimmed version used here. The front lettering and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black.

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2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Braves wear their road gray jerseys (without tomahawks) with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally red/blue/red, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers home)

Derek Damian collection

In a rematch of their 2015 Negro League matchup, including identical uniforms for both teams, the Mets visit the Braves on June 25. The Braves once again wear the 1938 Atlanta Black Crackers home jersey, here made up by Majestic for the first time. The full-weight knit jerseys have the braid on the neck opening back again (it was omitted by AIS in 2015), and as usual, back numbers are Block with a thick 3D drop shadow with no names on back.

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2016 Fort Bragg Game

On July 3, the Marlins and Braves met for the first professional sporting contest at an active military base. The two teams faced off at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina, and each wore that's years Independence Day uniforms, with a special patch (that either fell off or was not applied to several of the jerseys). The Marlins played the July 4 game on the road, and were the road team here, so they used the same uniforms.

However, the Braves were the home team at Ft. Bragg and the road team the following day, so they used a special white Stars and Stripes jerseys for this one day only. The Braves wear their home jersey, *minus the tomahawk*, with the red twill version of the star-spangled twill with blue outlines for their front lettering and for their back numbers, with a blue player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim, normally red/blue/red, becomes single-color red.

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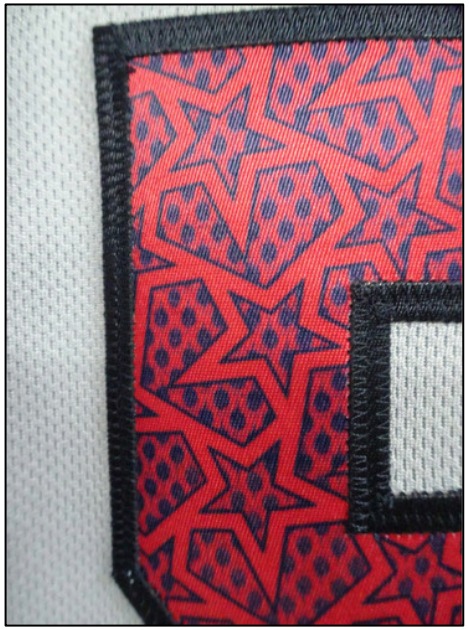
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Braves are on the road and wear their road jersey, minus the tomahawk. Like the Memorial Day jerseys, the missing tomahawk *may be* a result of controversy regarding Native American imagery in sports, especially in light of the "stars and stripes" pattern the design element would have received. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star spangled lettering twill and the Braves select the red twill version with blue outlines for their front lettering and for their back numbers, with a blue player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim, normally red/blue/red, becomes single-color red.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1968-1971

As one of eight MLB teams wearing throwbacks for games on July 20, the Braves revisit their 1968–1971 road uniforms at the Reds, who wear their "Griffey Era" 1999–2006 home vests. The Braves' entry is not particularly accurate. The original front wordmark script was more angled and slightly less bold. Back numbers in navy/red Varsity should be in Block instead. The now controversial "Laughing Brave" sleeve patch is also omitted entirely, contrary to the last time these were worn in 2014.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Braves wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are pink/dark gray. The Braves also remove the tomahawk from the front of the jersey, leaving the "Atlanta" script. All jersey trim, normally blue/red/blue, becomes dark gray.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. The Braves again remove the tomahawk from the front of the jersey, leaving the “Atlanta” script. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Braves apply this style to their road gray jerseys, minus the tomahawk, as worn on May 27–29, 2017 and May 26–27, 2018.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Braves wear home white, notably without the tomahawk with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue/red/blue, becomes dark gray.

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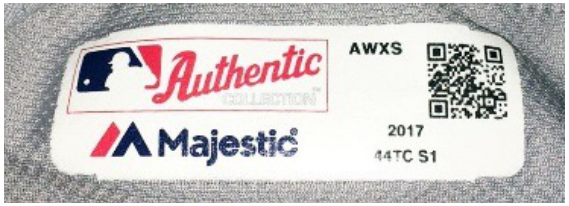
2017-2018 Independence Day (Road)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the Braves wear their road gray jersey (without the tomahawk) with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 4, 2017, the Braves wear their home white jersey (without the tomahawk) with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017-2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1974

2017

Rick Ogata Collection

For a three years straight, the Braves relish their mid-70's uniform glory by reintroducing these 1974 throwback home jerseys. Worn on August 18–19, 2017; June 22–24, 2018; and August 2–4, 2019; these feather-sleeved, V-neck pullovers, made in Cool Base fabric by Majestic, very convincingly capture the look and feel of the originals. Player numbers front and back are blue/white/red Varsity style as the originals were, with no NOB used. Unlike the real set from decades prior, and recent throwbacks, the lettering the for wordmark and front and back numbers are all twill rather than two colors of twill, outlined with a wide embroidery stitch in red.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Braves wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their home jersey script without the tomahawk, here rendered in red/white kiss cut lightweight twill.

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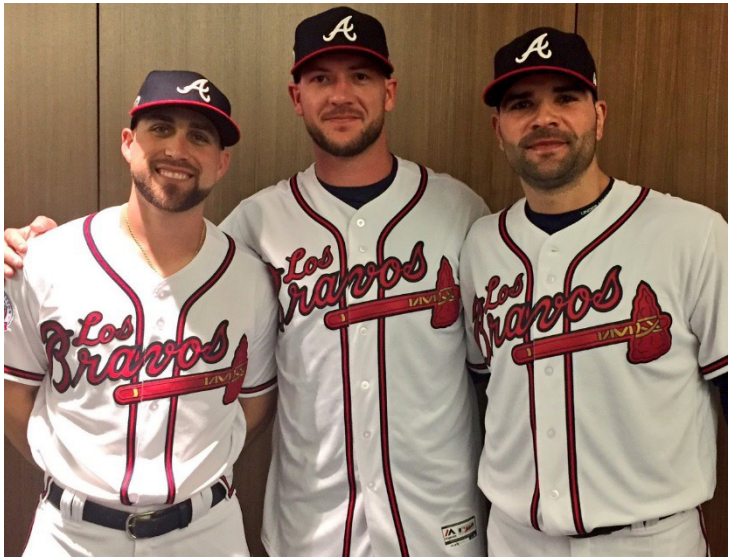
2017-2018 Hispanic Heritage



In 2017–2018, the Braves honor Atlanta's Latino community with this Los Bravos version of their Flex Base home jersey. Aside from the wordmark, the jersey is identical to the usual home set. It is worn on September 17, 2017 with the SunTrust Park Inaugural Season patch on the right sleeve, and on September 16, 2018 with no sleeve patches.

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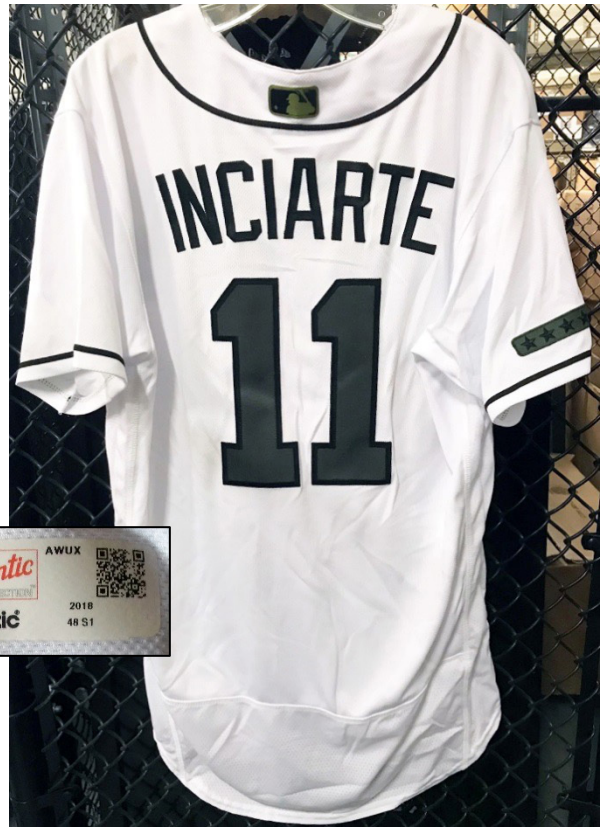
2018 Memorial Day (Home)



The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Braves apply this style to their home white jerseys, again notably without the tomahawk, for the day game of a doubleheader on May 28, 2018.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Steve Kraljic collection

The Braves liked their recent 1974 home throwbacks enough to wear them three years in a row, so why not bring back this classic 1979 road version 40 years later to counter their hosts, the Phillies, who wore their all-maroon 1979 throwback "Saturday Night Specials" on July 27. The game recalled the final year for this Braves classic (and for the Phillies, the only year for the maroon set, which was dropped after only one game).

Reproduced by Majestic in Cool Base, the feather-sleeved, V-neck pullovers very accurately recall the 1979 originals. Player numbers on front and back are blue/white/red Varsity style as the originals were, with blue name on back. Unlike the real set from decades prior, the back names are not vertically arched here, and the lettering for the wordmark and front and back numbers are all three-color twill, rather than 1979's two colors of twill, outlined with a wide embroidery stitch in red.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Braves wear a black version of their alternate home jersey (without the tomahawk) with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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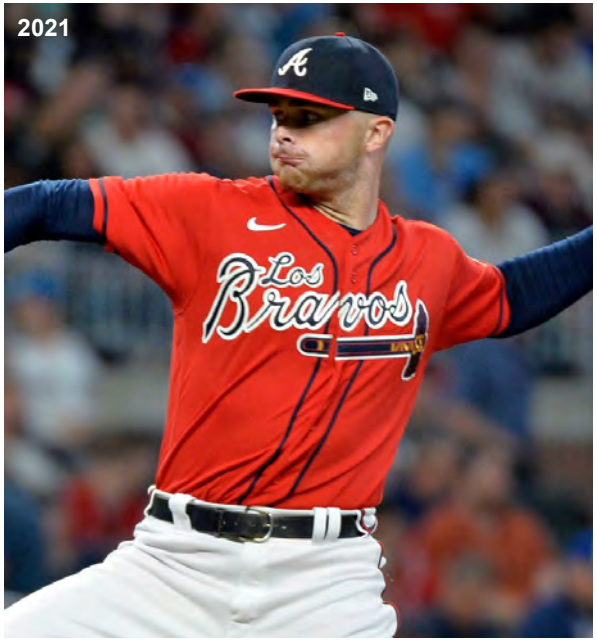
2019, 2021-2023 Los Bravos Red



The Braves alternate home red jersey gets the "Los Bravos" treatment in 2019. Like the home version of years past, apart from the wordmark, the jersey is identical to the red alternate. It is worn on September 6, 2019 but does not carry the MLB150 patch on the right sleeve that other jerseys do that year. After the shortened 2020 season, the jersey returns, now made by Nike, on September 10, 2021 (with the team's 150th Anniversary patch on the left sleeve), September 16, 2022, and September 21, 2023.

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2021-2022 Turn Back the Clock to 1974

After a COVID-induced hiatus in 2020, the Braves bring back their beloved 1974 home throwbacks in 2021–2022, now made by Nike, and bearing the Nike logo on front right chest. Like their Majestic predecessors, these feather-sleeved, V-neck pull-overs very convincingly capture the look and feel of the originals. Player numbers front and back are blue/white/red Varsity style as the originals were, with no NOB used. Unlike the real set from decades prior, the lettering the for wordmark and numbers are all twill rather than two colors of twill, outlined with a wide embroidery stitch in red. The team wore these in honor of two franchise legends who passed away in 2021, Hank Aaron and Phil Niekro, on April 9–14, and July 30–August 1. The jerseys returned to the field in 2022 on May 6–7.

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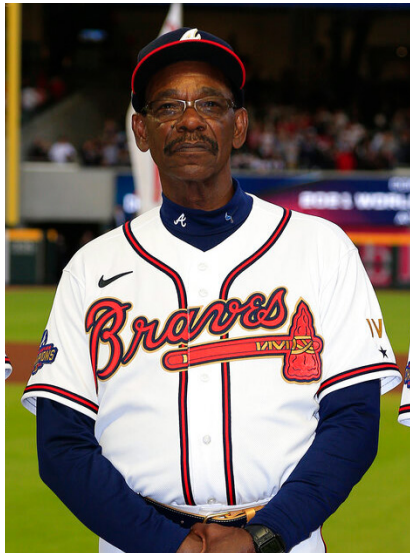
2022 World Series “Gold Program”



Like many teams before them, the Braves boasted gold-trimmed jerseys to celebrate their 2021 World Series championship, dubbed “Gold Program” jerseys by Nike. Based on their normal home jerseys, these special Nike Flex Base tops add a layer of gold outline to the front logo and player numbers on back. Unlike previous teams, the gold twill is not metallic. The effect is very subtle and is very difficult to see on the field. The left sleeve has the embroidered, gold Roman numeral “IV” over an embroidered blue star to represent the team’s total number of World Series titles, while the right sleeve carries a special World Series Champions patch. The team wore these several times throughout the 2022 season: April 7–13, May 23, June 8, and July 11.

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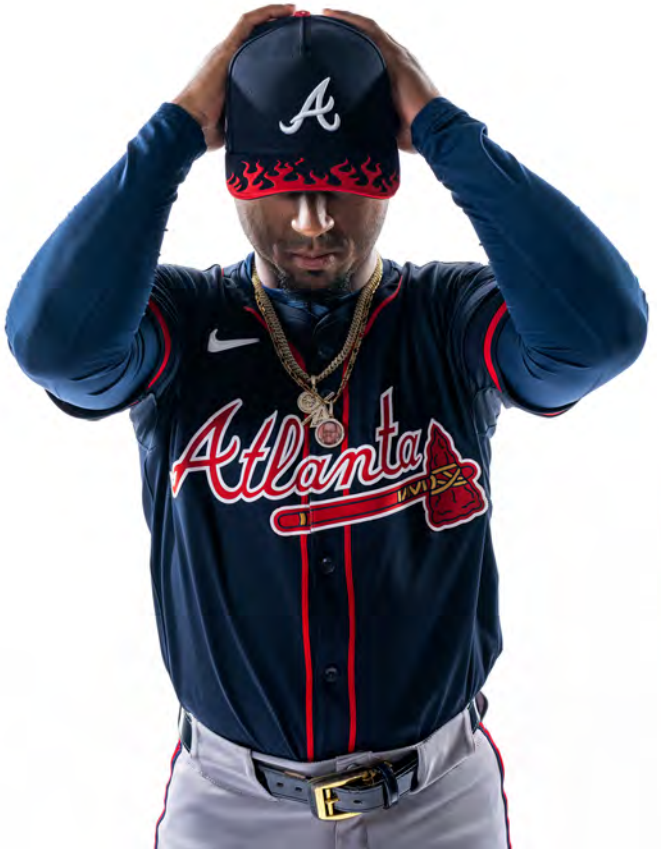
2025 Speedway Classic



Braves, Reds to sport NASCAR-inspired uniforms in Speedway Classic

July 21, 2025
By Jason Foster
(Excerpted from mlb.com)

When the Braves and Reds take the field on Aug. 2 for the 2025 Speedway Classic, the night's distinct NASCAR vibe will extend to racing-themed uniforms for the players.

The special Nike jerseys unveiled on Monday stay true to the usual looks of the two teams, but also feature nods to the racing world. These flashes include custom numbers on the backs designed after the numbers on race cars, with outlines, shadowing and italicized "movement" to represent a race car's forward motion.

The inaugural Speedway Classic represents the first AL/NL game to be played in Tennessee.

Ed. note: The Braves use their blue alternate jersey as the base for this modified style. Each team also wears a special "Speedway Classic" sleeve patch. The patch location varies based on player handedness, and appears opposite the team's ad patch.

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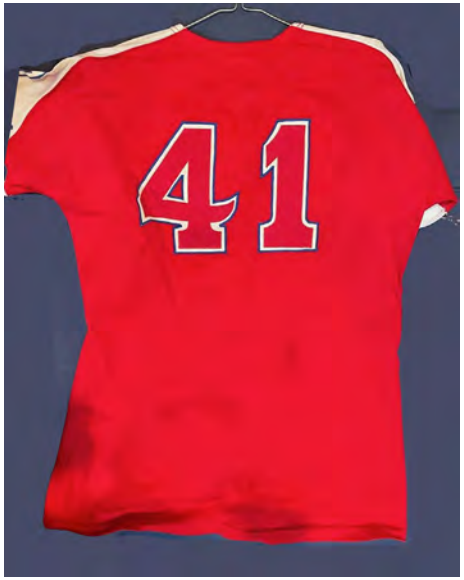
Prototypes and Oddballs

1971 Prototypes for 1972

In earlier editions of this book we had offered that the knits were worn occasionally at home during 1971, and had found a couple of 1971 year tagged examples to use as proof.

Braves collector Tony Ciocci wrote to say, *"The Braves definitely did not wear the knits in 1971. They debuted the new knits on opening day of 1972.* (On the jersey pictured, top of the next page) *the "Aaron 71 Set 1" was most likely done for team owner Bill Bartholomew to give to his insurance clients. I have learned this from Bill Acree and John Holland from the Braves. I have always lived in Atlanta and followed the Braves daily. As a matter of fact the Braves were considering new knit unis and they considered a red based feather-sleeve jersey just like the blue ones. Hank Aaron vetoed it and they went with the blue. A local sportscaster has the red salesman sample of Eddie Matthews (#41)…very cool looking."*

In the last edition of this book we asked if maybe we could persuade Tony to get us photos of all of these jerseys, and he came through for us! Here for the first time is the complete set of Braves 1971 samples for the 1972 season.



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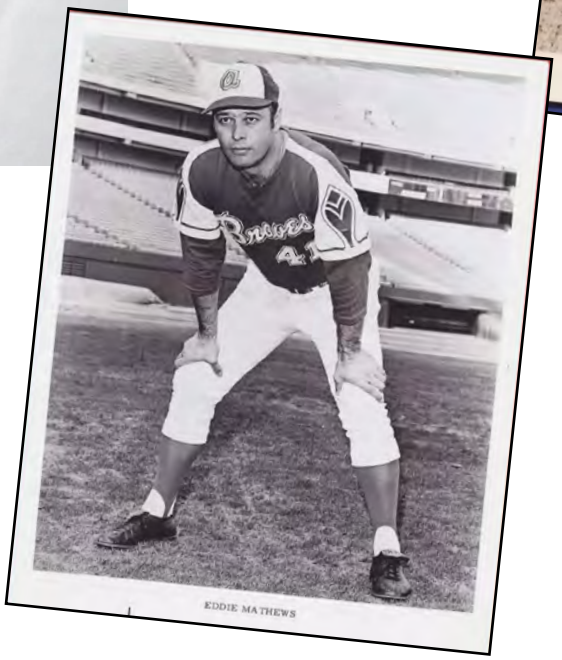
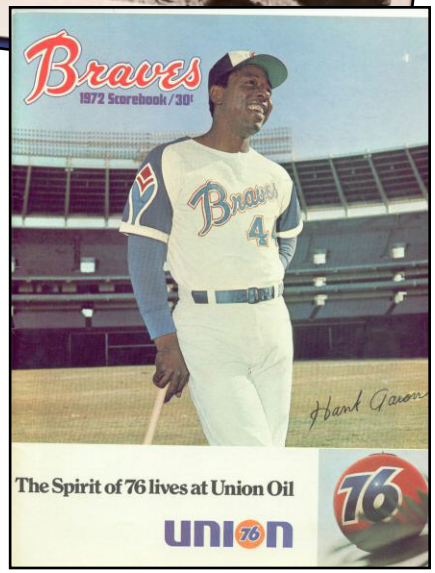
1971 Prototype Tagged Knits





This 1972 All-Star patch was intended for, but never worn on Braves uniforms.

This 1971 tagged blue road jersey is almost certainly a prototype that was created for photo sessions to evaluate the new designs being finalized for use in the upcoming 1972 season, and may have been given as a gift to a friend of the Braves owner. Both Hank Aaron and Eddie Matthews were involved in the new uniform selection process, and they are both seen here in pre-season photos modeling the new looks. Bottom right, one of the color photos of Aaron from this session was used on the cover of the 1972 Braves scorecard.

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1972 Prototype Home

Stephen Kraljic Collection

This is almost certainly a Wilson-submitted prototype to the Braves to consider for their 1972 uniforms; it was little more than a polyester pullover rendition of their oh-so-boring 1971 road grays. Though this looks more like what the team wore from 1980–1986 at home, the date of this sample is taken from the Wilson size tag, which was used through 1973 only. Braves script in navy/red twill on front, crew-neck and wide sleeve end knit trim in red, white and navy blue. The Braves were having none of this, as will be seen on the following pages. It was the 1970s and time to get bold and mod.

(Thanks to collector Steve Kraljic for sharing this find with us)

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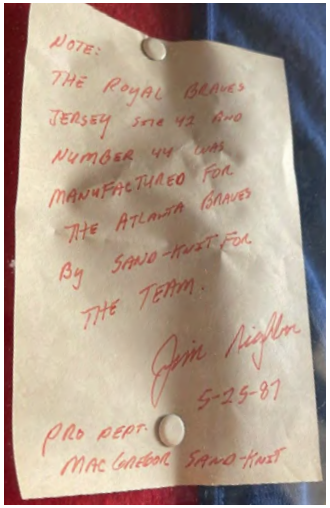
1972-1975 Sample Road

Presented by an auction house as a salesman's sample, this 1972–1975 style Braves road jersey has a major difference from what was worn on-field. While the on-field version used white/red twill attached with a thick, white embroidery stitch to create the three-color lettering. According to the auction house, and verified by photos; this version has "'Braves' in white and red vinyl on white tackle twill [while]...the player number "44" appears below and on the back...in white vinyl on red tackle twill. This style is like some of the Sand-Knit basketball jerseys of the time. Also, front and back numbers here are only two color vs. three. The tagging on the jersey matches Sand-Knit's 1974–1975 style, but Sand-Knit tagging was also somewhat inconsistent during this era. It is possible this was made as a sample for the team, with the vinyl/twill combo letters an example of what the manufacturer could produce. Or, Sand-Knit may have been making a last ditch effort to keep the team's business before the Braves switched to Wilson in 1974. Either way, the auction house noted that the Aaron signature on the jersey could not be authenticated, which adds another layer of mystery (and more questions) about what this is and where it came from.

Above: *A detail of the vinyl-twill combination lettering on the example shown at left.*

Below: *Another example of this type of jersey, with the combination lettering but without Aaron's signature, came to auction after the one at left (based on the stitching around the two tags, these appear to be two different jerseys). This version included a note, dated 1987, from a Sand-Knit employee saying that this style was produced for the team, but does not specify if it was a prototype. It does little to clear up the mystery of these jerseys, or how many others may exist.*



NOTE:
THE ROYAL BRAVES JERSEY SIZE 42 AND NUMBER 44 WAS MANUFACTURED FOR THE ATLANTA BRAVES BY SAND-KNIT FOR THE TEAM.
Jim Nieffer
5-25-87
PRO REPT.
MAC GREGOR SAND-KNIT

© GameWornGuides.com

1972 Braves Game Worn Jersey for $20

Collector's bargains exist out there. This well-worn Sand-Knit 1972–1973 Braves jersey with "Made Exclusively for the Braves" tagging appeared on eBay in late 2011, with a $20 opening bid. I didn't bid as I have one already.

A week later it had sold–for $20. While in heavily-worn condition and shrunken as many of these are, nevertheless–if you were the winner, you got quite a deal and congratulations to you!

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1976 Protype Home Bicentennial-Themed

This red-white-and-blue jersey was suggested as a possible home or alternate jersey to be worn by the Braves during the 1976 season to commemorate the nation's 200th birthday. Flashy businessman Ted Turner was the new owner of the team and he was not opposed to shaking things up. Based on the color of the Wilson tag in the neck, I suspect that this jersey which at first appeared to me to be red-gold-blue, was either photographed in odd light or was possibly somehow stained turning the white elements a shade of tan. I color corrected the tan to white, but in case I am mistaken, I have offered both versions here.

© GameWornGuides.com

1976 Prototype Road?

Both of these are claimed to be Wilson prototypes for the 1976 Braves road jersey, we cannot verify their authenticity but present them here for your consideration.

On the three-color lettering version, the front wordmark is different from the one the team used in 1976, more squat with rounder letters. The wordmark and player numbers appear to be sewn to the jersey with a wide red embroidery stitch (instead of a third color of twill). This is the same method as used for Braves' home jerseys 1972–1986 and road jerseys through 1979 (design as used on the field pictured bottom right). There are feather emblems on both sleeves. In production, the feather was used on the left sleeve only.

On the two color version, the wordmark is very close to the actual 1976 on-field jersey but without the third color, red, outlining the lettering. There is no "feather" adornment on the sleeve. The actual 1976 Braves road jersey is shown below for comparison.

© GameWornGuides.com

Early 1987: Tomahawk Hashmark Variation

An obsessively small detail, maybe, but the very first jerseys—home, road and batting practice—made in the new 1987 “tomahawk style” had one fewer hashmark on the tomahawk head. The hashmark was added during the 1987 season and has remained unchanged since. This detail is the same as found on the 1987 Spring Training “transitional” jersey shown earlier in this chapter.

Ben Farlow photo

© GameWornGuides.com

Mid-1990s Prototype Alternate?

It's entirely possible that this is a homemade creation. The back certainly looks that way, with non-spec team lettering. It is a retail model jersey, not a team issue as is usually the canvas for manufacturer prototypes. The Atlanta front wordmark overlapping the red trim is another clue that this may not be a professional job. But if it is an artistic exercise, someone went to a lot of trouble. Russell tail tag dates it to 1994–1999. Very similar to the 2019–2020 alternate road blue issued by the team. You be the judge.

Joe Varner photos

© GameWornGuides.com

Oddballs

Bill Henderson Collection

Bill Henderson Collection

Left: **Mixed Name Styles:** During the 1990s and 2000s, the Braves used Vertical Arch for player names on their jerseys as their standard. However, more than every once in a while, one sneaks in with a non-vertical arch name font. I have seen team pictures where most of the players had Vertical Arch, and one or two had "regular" Block type names (*see Maddux and Jones example* ***top left****).* At bottom left is a game worn example of a 1990 jersey that does not use Vertical arch. When players were called up mid-season or acquired through trades, the Braves had to make jerseys for them at local shops. That did not have the special vertical arch lettering. Jerseys with the special lettering had to be ordered from the team's official suppliers. Tired of the extra trouble required, and of having players on the field in non-matching jerseys, finally in 2006, the Braves threw in the towel and converted ALL team jerseys' player names to the more plain and simple block type style. It is a shame– the old style looked so much more classy!

Above: **A Coach's Reading Glasses Pocket:** Above, this 1981 road jersey was issued to coach Al Monchak. This cotton pouch pocket is sewn inside, tacked with stitching in three places to the jersey. I would bet money it was to hold his reading glasses.

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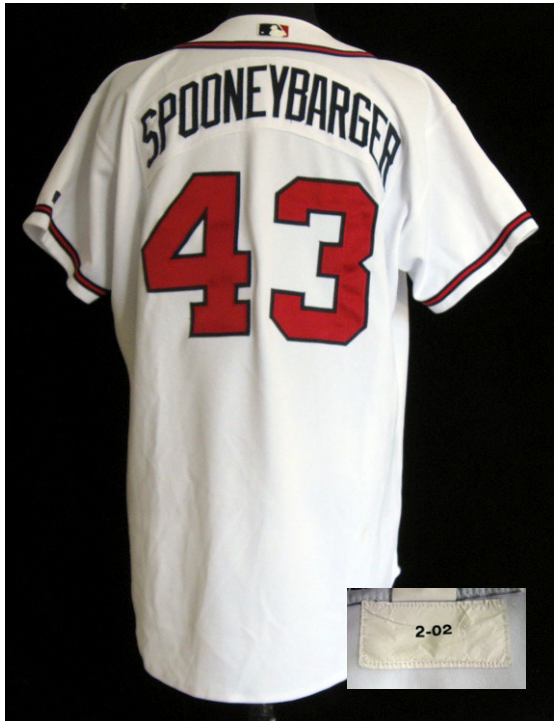
Lonnnnnng name



That's block extra condensed and vertical arched 13-letter name. Rarely seen and surely a labor-intensive project for the tailor.

Oops Name

Hint: that's not how he spells it.

2007: Singular Memorial

Tim Hudson alone wore St. Louis Cardinals' Josh Hancock's initials on his chest on an impromptu gesture on his first start after the death of his friend and former college teammate.

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2005 Unworn Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Atlanta Black Crackers)

Some previous editions of this book listed these as "game worn"

While these uniforms were readied for a game on September 2, 2005, they were never worn by the team. The Braves did have a pregame ceremony honoring Negro League players on this date, but all game photos from this series vs. the Reds show normal uniforms. The press release from the day (and press clips after) also do not mention special uniforms.

Auctions for these jerseys also state that they were unworn.

https://www.huntauctions.com/Live/imageviewer_online.cfm?auction_num=32&lot_num=484&lot_qual

© GameWornGuides.com

2021 Two-Patch Samples

These two jerseys carry the hallmarks of prototypes - with “Player 21” on back (where “21” represents the year for which the jersey will be used), and long codes on each heat-pressed inventory tag. In this case, the blue Spring Training jersey reads AW-STJ-D1-1-2021. AW is Nike’s team code for the Braves, “STJ” is “Spring Training Jersey,” “D1-1” likely indicates it is sample #1 of this style, and “2021” is the year. Likewise, the red alternate has AW-AJ1-D1-1-2021, with all the same indicators as the blue jersey, except for “AJ1” which means “Alternate Jersey 1.

What is most puzzling about these samples is that they are both prototypes of jerseys that already existed for the team, and that were used, without change, in 2021. It is possible that these samples were made so the team could see what they looked like with both the 2021 All-Star Game patch on the right sleeve and the team’s 150th anniversary patch on the left. The laundry tags, shown below, also have handwritten numbers 2 and 3 respectively, which suggests that there was at least one more of these made. Perhaps the team made one of each style jersey they planned to wear to see the patches, in the cloth, for all of them.

Ironically, these two patches only made the field together on the Spring Training jersey for the whole preseason, and on the team’s alternate road jersey for only one game (see next page for more details).

The interior wash tag of each jersey, with handwritten numbers, suggesting at least one more style of jersey had been made, if not one of each of the styles the Braves wore in 2021.

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2021 All-Star Patch Cover-Up

MLB Release April 2, 2021: *Major League Baseball commissioner Robert Manfred announced Friday that the 2021 All-Star Game will no longer be held in Atlanta.*

The decision follows an election bill signed on Wednesday by Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, which opponents say disproportionately disenfranchises people of color. It's one of the first tangible responses to the law, which was denounced by business executives across the United States earlier this week....

..."Just as elections have consequences, so do the actions of those who are elected," Atlanta mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms said on Twitter of MLB's decision. "Unfortunately, the removal of the @MLB All Star game from GA is likely the 1st of many dominoes to fall, until the unnecessary barriers put in place to restrict access to the ballot box are removed."

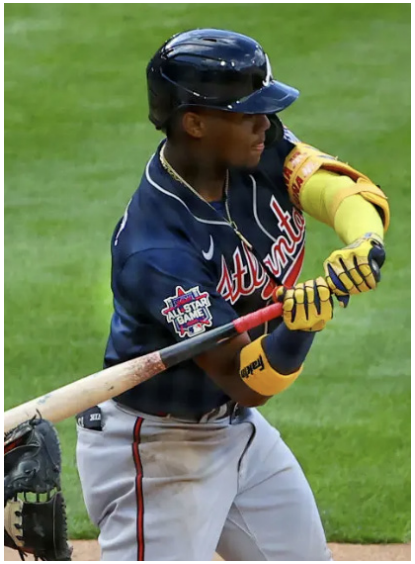
PRESS RELEASE

The Atlanta Braves are deeply disappointed by the decision of Major League Baseball to move its' 2021 All Star Game.

This was neither our decision, nor our recommendation and we are saddened that fans will not be able to see this event in our city. The Braves organization will continue to stress the importance of equal voting opportunities and we had hoped our city could use this event as a platform to enhance the discussion. Our city has always been known as a uniter in divided times and we will miss the opportunity to address issues that are important to our community.

Unfortunately, businesses, employees, and fans in Georgia are the victims of this decision.

We will continue to support the community legacy projects which have been planned and are in process.



April 1 in Philadelphia...

April 5 in Washington.

April 3 in Philadelphia...

Photo credit: Paul Lukas, Uni-Watch

The Braves opened the season on April 1 in Philadelphia, wearing their new alternate blue jerseys with the All-Star patch on the right sleeve. However, for their second game on April 3 their gray jerseys the All-Star patch hastily covered up by a rectangle of matching jersey fabric. By the time the team went to Washington on April 5, they wore their blue alternates again, with the patch now covered on them as well.

The Braves returned home for their opening series starting April 9, and wore throwback uniforms through April 14. They wore red jerseys on April 15–16 that had the Jackie Robinson "42" patch on the sleeve. By April 17 they were back on the road again, in Chicago, and wore the road alternate blues, with no sign of All-Star sleeve patch or a cover-up of one. The road grays were worn again on April 20, without any evidence of the All-Star patch. Home whites never had the patch in view. Knowing how lead-times work, it is a certainty that full sets of all uniforms were made with the All-Star patches sewn on. If this were 1970, or even 1990, there is little question in my mind that the jerseys would have been sent to the local team tailor who would have ripped that patches off of each and every sleeve... but, this was 2021, and everything seems disposable... or collectible. I don't have an answer, but I wonder if the patched and patch-cover-up jerseys were sold as souvenirs and new sets made by Nike? I would probably bet on it.

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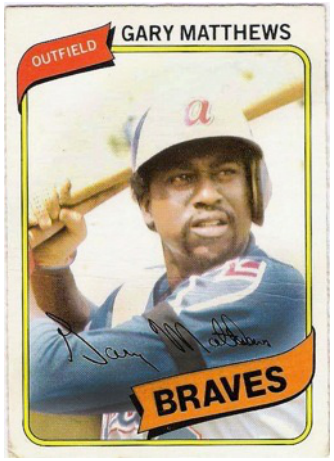
Commemorative Patches

Braves Patches

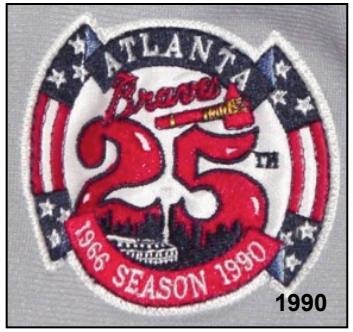


1979

1983

1984

1985



1990

1991

1995

1999

2000

- 1979: Black armband on left sleeve for Bill Lucas, Braves vice president and director of player personnel, who died May 5, 1979.
- 1983: Georgia 250th Anniversary
- 1984: Black Armband for Tommy Aaron after 8/16/84
- 1985: 20th season in Atlanta, home jersey only.
- 1990: 25th Season
- 1991: J.W. Mullen (Braves VP) memorial
- 1995: 30 seasons in Atlanta
- 1999: Hank Aaron 25th Anniversary
- 2000: All-Star Game

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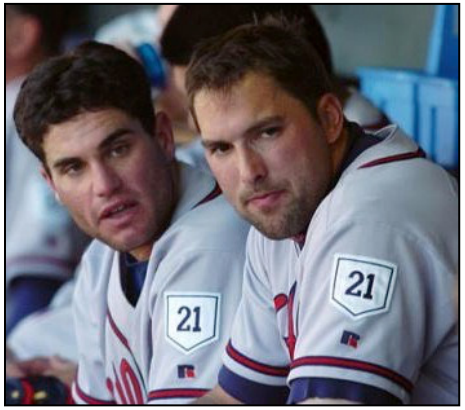
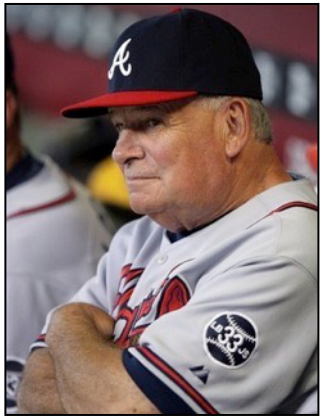
2001



2004

2006

2007



- 2001: #41 Eddie Matthews Memorial
- 2004: #21 Warren Spahn Memorial
- 2006: 40th Anniversary in Atlanta
- 2007: dual memorial, #33 for both Johnny Sain & Lew Burdette, both of whom wore #33 and died before the season. Patch reads “LB 33 JS”
- 2008: Dual memorial patches. On left sleeve “Beach” for Jim Beauchamp, all season long. On right sleeve “SKIP” for broadcaster Skip Carey beginning August 13, 2008.
- 2011: The Atlanta Braves wore "Ernie" patches on their sleeves starting with their August 21 game against Arizona to honor former pitcher and longtime broadcaster Ernie Johnson Sr., who died on August 12 at the age of 87.

2008

2011

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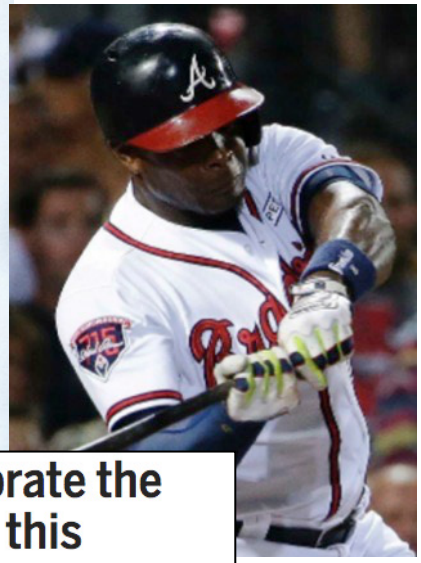
2014



Atlanta Braves to celebrate the life of Pete Van Wieren this weekend

Press Release | August 8, 2014

The Atlanta Braves will celebrate the life of their longtime broadcaster Pete Van Wieren this weekend, which will also feature many of the players he covered because of Braves Alumni Weekend.

The Braves will don a ***"Pete"*** patch on the left chest of their jerseys starting tonight through the remainder of the season.

The team will also observe a moment of silence for their beloved Professor prior to game one of the Braves series versus the Washington Nationals.

On Saturday, the Braves will have a pregame ceremony with the Van Wieren family, John Schuerholz and Joe Simpson.

Van Wieren spent 33 years as a Braves broadcaster, many of those years with his fellow Braves Hall of Fame members Ernie Johnson, Sr. and Skip Caray. He passed away last Saturday after a long battle with cancer.

2014, after August 8

- 2014: All season, 40th Anniversary of Hank Aaron's record breaking 715th home run in 1974, on the right sleeve of all game uniforms except red alternate.
- 2014: After August 8, "Pete" patch on left chest for broadcaster Pete Van Wieren.

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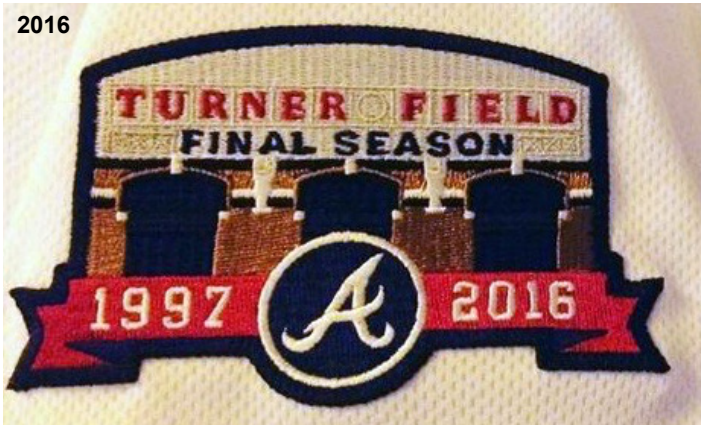
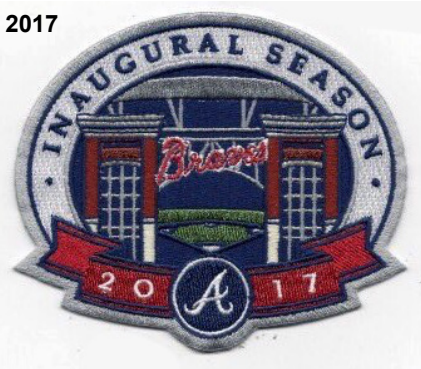
2016 Spring Training



2016

July 3, 2016

2017



April 4, 2018

2021

April 1, 2021

- 2016, Spring Training only, Dewsy patch, for longtime coach Bobby Dews, who passed away in December 2015, left sleeve.
- 2016: Turner Field Final Season patch, worn on right sleeve of home, home alternate, and stars and stripes alternate.
- 2016: July 3: Ft. Bragg game patch
- 2017: SunTrust Park Inaugural Season patch, worn on right sleeve of home, home alternate, and stars and stripes alternate.
- 2018, April 4: MLK, Jr. 50th Anniversary
- 2021: 150th Anniversary Patch, worn on left sleeve of white, red, gray, and blue jerseys. Not worn on cream alternate.
- 2021, April 1: 2021 All-Star Game Patch. Was visible on the right sleeve of the team's blue road alternate for one game only, was subsequently covered for a few games, then removed. MLB moved the 2021 All-Star Game from Atlanta to Colorado early in the 2021 season in reaction to Georgia legislature passing an election law that opponents said disproportionately disenfranchised people of color. See page in "Oddballs" section above for more info.

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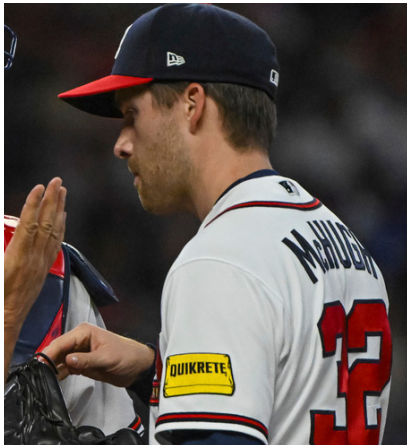
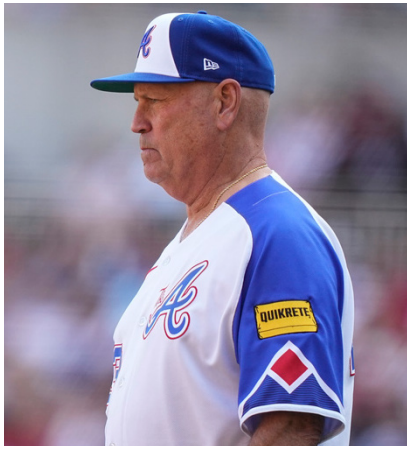
2023-2025 Braves Advertising Patches





With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Braves struck a sponsor patch deal with Quikrete, a building materials company. The patches first appeared on May 19, 2023.

The patch is yellow with "QUIKRETE" in black letters with a black border, made to look like a bag of concrete mix. The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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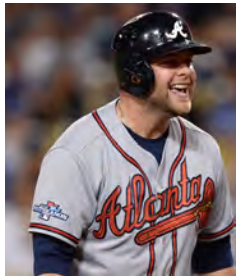
Braves Postseason Patches

1991 World Series (right sleeve)

1999 World Series (right sleeve)

1992 World Series (left sleeve)

2013 NL Division Series (right sleeve)

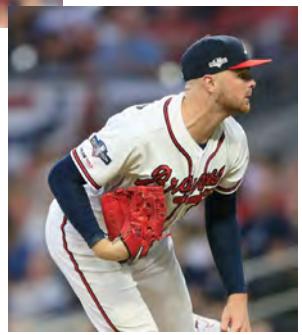


1995 World Series (right sleeve)

2018 NL Division Series (right sleeve)

1996 World Series (right sleeve)

2019 NL Division Series (right sleeve, above MLB150 Patch)



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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Atlanta Braves 1976 Carl Morton "MO" #49 Home Nickname jersey

Examination Date: August 30, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0830J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: In 1976, new Braves team owner media-mogul Ted Turner decided to have some fun with his new teams uniforms. On back, instead of player last names, he added a nickname for every player. Huge, nearly 11" tall football style numbers were added to the back in three colors topped by three-color nicknames. All lettering front and back was Royal Blue over white twill, secured by a red satin embroidery stitch. By the All-Star break, the team abandoned the nicknames and returned to their traditional sized numbers with no names on back.

A frugal organization, the Braves let nothing go to waste. But since these jerseys have mostly disappeared, we suspect they were probably sent to the minor leagues, stripped and reissued, or were perhaps re-numbered and reused in spring training in later years. This particular jersey was discovered as a reissue with a new number, but the ghosts that remained on its back eventually gave away its history as one of the infamous 1976 first-half nickname jerseys.

As received: Wilson size 44 red pinstriped white pullover jersey with red sleeve end and V-neck trim. Inside the neck is Braves hand-chain stitched strip tagging " 76 44" indicating only the year and the jersey size. It is done in the unmistakable hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. On front and back were the late 1976-1977 Braves team specification numerals "46" in blue and white secured by a red embroidery stitch. The jersey displayed ample use and was very dirty, almost beige colored with many extraneous glue stains on the back in odd places far below the bottoms of the current numbers.

A light table examination revealed that the glue marks were actually from much larger numbers that had been on this jersey previously, and knowing the history of the nickname jerseys, we decided to strip the back to try to ascertain who may have originally worn it.

That effort proved successful, and the outline of number 49 emerged, with the faint outline of only the letters "MO" centered above, which we initially assumed were part of a longer name. But researching the 1976 Braves first half roster, we were able to determine that the jersey was worn by pitcher Carl Morton, with the nickname "MO" on back. We located a photo of Morton, and because of the fact that the jersey has pinstripes that serve as a fingerprint of sorts, were able to positively identify that the placement of the back numbers and name were the same, and that this was in fact Carl Morton's first half 1976 Braves jersey.

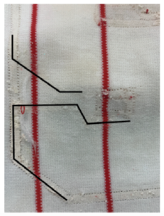
As restored, and being worn by the player in 1976

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

We then also removed the front "6" and quite positively could see where the digit had been flipped over 180 degrees from its original orientation as a "9", then re-sewn. We were initially puzzled by the fact that both front numbers had identically matching red embroidery stitching securing them in place. Generally when one number is replaced, there is a distinguishable difference observed in the stitching between the two numbers, in stitch size, color or frequency, But we also noticed from glue marks on the jersey front that the BRAVES wordmark looked to have been removed and repositioned very slightly then re-sewn on. My only explanation for the restitching of all red elements, front and back, is that after much use and washing in detergent, the red embroidery thread holding the elements on place tended to become so bleached out that perhaps it was unsightly and mis-matched enough that they decided to replace it all so the the jersey looked presentable for game use.

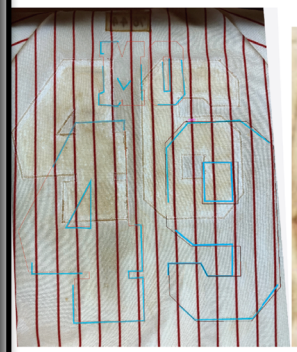
Restoration Performed: With the back lettering removed, we gave the jersey a long presoak and then a good scrubbing followed by machine wash which evened the color and brightened it considerably. Using the ghosts of the original letters combined with historic photos, I was able to recreate the replacement lettering to exactly match the original. To create harmony between old and new elements, the new lettering was both media blasted and organically dyed before being stitched with bleached thread to match the patina of the existing lettering. We stitched the new lettering back with red embroidery thread as closely matching the original as possible.

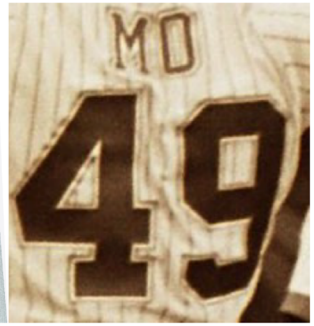
You will notice that, as restored, the back numbers are not stitched at the same height; this is correct, They were originally sewn crooked and misaligned as evidenced both by their ghosts on the garment and as seen in the historic photo. There is some minor fabric puckering under the numbers that replicates the original.



Top, as received. Below, evidence that the front wordmark was restitched at some point in its life. This was not touched in the restoration. At right, ghost evidence beneath the front "6" shows the stitching lines from that digit flipped 180 degrees from its original "9".

Continued, overleaf





Light table view of the jersey as originally stripped with ghost lines of the original lettering highlighted in blue. You can see how dirty it was. At right is the player photo blow-up showing the alignment of the pinstripes with the ghosts.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, restored condition: The front has a previous team repair to the Braves script, and I have restored the configuration of the front numbers. I have restored the back to look exactly as it did when pitcher Carl Morton wore it the first half of 1976. It has its original team-issue tagging and is free of contrivance. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Carl Morton of the 1976 Atlanta Braves.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

1980 Bobby Cox Atlanta Braves Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: September 6, 2020 **Certification Number**: 21-0617J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1980 Wilson size 44 pullover full-weight Atlanta Braves knit jersey of #6, team manager Bobby Cox. The size is appropriate for Cox in 1980. Blue-white-red sewn-in knit trim at each sleeve end and around the V-neck. Team wordmark "Braves" scripted at an angle on the front in blue, outlined with white and then finished with a red satin stitch edging. Front number 4 1/2" Varsity font "6" in the left chest below in the same style. On back, similar blue-white-red 8 3/8" tall numeral. . Above, "COX" in Royal Blue vertically arched and stitched to a white knit nameplate that is un-backed and without a serged edge, zig zag stitched tightly and directly to the jersey (notably slightly crooked). All of these characteristics are typical of Wilson jerseys worn by the early 1980s Braves. Fairly uniquely, the Braves made player jerseys available for purchase by fans in the 1980s, well before the jersey collecting hobby had become popular. 1980 was Cox's third year managing the Braves and the very first time he managed the club where their record was above .500.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson 1980-correct style rectangular Wilson tag showing the size, 44, is stitched inside the back of the neck. On the left lower tail is a 3/4" double-knit square of the same knit material, zig zag stitched to the jersey with an "80" hand embroidered on it in the familiar style of the Wilson factory stitcher. The Braves did not player-tag or set-tag jerseys in 1980. All of these observations exactly match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It is in very good condition but shows heavy wash wear, with some puckering of the twill lettering, very typical on these with the unusual embroidered edges of the letters. The thread holding the blue layer of lettering in place shows fading from detergents /bleach. There is some typical puckering around the edges of the unbacked, un-edged nameplate where it is sewn to the jersey with a zig zag stitch, which is typical of the sewing method and also wash and wear. The jersey body is evenly clean but with some surface dirty spots on back that are probably from improper storage, but no ground in dirt, as would be expected for the uniform of a non-playing coach. All of the durable twill lettering is bright but the stitching is slightly faded and some fraying of the edges of the twill layers of the lettering is evidence of repeated wash wear. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear, and has no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and worn by manager Bobby Cox of the Atlanta Braves during the 1980 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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Letter of Professional Opinion

1981 Dale Murphy Atlanta Braves Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: September 6, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-0905J1

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1981 Wilson size 44 pullover full-weight Atlanta Braves knit jersey of #3, Dale Murphy. Blue-white-red sewn in knit trim at each sleeve end and around the V-neck. Team wordmark "Braves" scripted at an angle on the front in blue, outlined with white and then finished with a red satin stitch edging. Front number 4 1/4" Varsity font "3" in the left chest below in the same style. On back, similar blue-white-red 8" tall "3". Above, "Murphy" in Royal Blue vertically arched and stitched to a white knit nameplate that is un-backed and without a surged edge, zig zag stitched directly to the jersey. All of these characteristics are typical to the early 1980s Braves. Jersey is autographed on the bottom of the front left tail "Dale Murphy" in black Sharpie. (We have no professional opinion on the signature).
Provenance: A letter of attestation from former owner and respected authenticator Dave Grob is included attesting to its originality.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Wilson 1981-correct style rectangular Wilson tag showing the size, 44, is stitched inside the back of the neck. It has come loose on one side. On the left lower tail is a 3/4" double-knit square of the same knit material, zig zag stitched to the jersey with an "81" hand embroidered on it in the familiar style of the Wilson factory stitcher. The Braves did not player-tag or set-tag jerseys in 1981. All of these observations exactly match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It shows moderate wash wear, with little to some puckering of the twill lettering, very typical on these with the unusual embroidered edges of the letters. Compared to other unwashed exemplars the jersey is slightly grayed from washing, and experience tells us this jersey looks like it has been used/washed many times. There is some typical puckering around the ends of the unbacked, un-edged nameplate where it is sewn to the jersey with a zig zag stitch, which is typical of the sewing method and also wash and wear. There are various dirt stains and darker areas of the fabric from ground in dirt. The underarms are stained darker than the rest of the fabric. All of the durable twill lettering is bright but the stitching is slightly faded and some fraying of the edges of the twill layers of the lettering is evidence of repeated wash wear. There are no signs of any repairs.

My Observations: In 1981, Braves players were issued two sets of home and road uniforms to be used all year. This jersey dates from early in Murphy's 18-year career when he was a rising star. Murphy was a size 44 throughout much of his career. In 1981, on-field specification player jerseys were not made or marketed to the public, and while the factory could have been commissioned to make "extras" by the team to use as gifts for important people, the practice was not common. In my estimation, this jersey is lettered at the same place and by the same people who made all the Braves 1981 game jerseys, it is not a one-off. It shows signs of what I would consider honest game use, and has not been abused. The nameplate remains original, somewhat uncommon with MLB Jerseys of the era, when nameplates were routinely stripped to be re-used the next year, and to prepare jerseys to be sent to the minor leagues where they were to be reissued. This jersey was spared that indignity. Also, fairly uniquely, the Braves made player jerseys available for purchase by fans in the 1980s, well before the jersey collecting hobby had become popular.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and has no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was almost certainly worn by Dale Murphy of the Atlanta Braves during the 1981 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

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Letter of Opinion

Dale Murphy Atlanta Braves 1980 Road Game Jersey

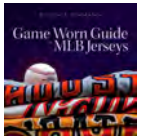
Description: 1980 Atlanta Braves road jersey of #3, Dale Murphy. Wilson size 44 pullover, light blue, full weight polyester warp-knit. "Atlanta" scripted in the team style in royal blue outlined with white. Wilson Varsity numeral "3" on the front left and the back. "MURPHY" name on back properly vertically arched and sewn on a non-hemmed edge nameplate, as is typical with Braves jerseys of this time period. The nameplate is direct-sewn with blue zag stitch to the back of the jersey. Blue-white blue knit trim is sewn-in to the ends of the sleeves and the v-neck. The size is appropriate for Murphy to have worn in 1980.

Team and Manufacturer Tagging: Wilson tag in 1978-1985 style, as correct, sewn inside the center of the back of the neck. Small square of jersey fabric in the same light blue with "80" hand-chain stitched on it, correct for 1980 Braves team jerseys.

Wear and Repairs: Light table evaluation shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. There is clear evidence of a full season's hard use with fading of fabric, stitching and lettering. The thread holding all the adornments on the jersey is exceptionally worn and loose.

Conclusion: The item under in my opinion is an original and unaltered game worn team jersey by Dale Murphy of the Atlanta Braves from the 1980 season. This is a beautiful original example of a MLB road jersey in a desirable style from a star player.

William F. Henderson, Authenticator



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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dale Murphy 1985 Atlanta Braves Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 25. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1125J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia Blue, Wilson-made pullover size 44 Atlanta Braves jersey, #3 Dale Murphy. 2" wide Royal/white/Royal sewn-in knit sleeve end trim, 1 1/4" similarly striped V-Neck trim. Dual-layer tackle twill Royal Blue outlined with white "Atlanta" in stylized team script across the front, with player number "3" on the left side below the script, and on the back. "Murphy" in team-specification single color Royal Blue vertical arch stitched to a non-surged edge nameplate. All elements exactly match the Braves 1985 road jersey template in terms of size, color, placement, outline widths, name arch and nameplate style.

This jersey is autographed in blue Sharpie on the inside of the garment, on the fabric directly behind the back number. A prior owner of the jersey supplied photos of him having Murphy sign it on July 31, 2010, and this jersey is now accompanied by an independent certificate of the signature's authenticity by PSA/DNA. (I have no opinion on the autograph.)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson size 44 locker tag is stitched into the back of the neck in the proper style as used in 1978-1985. A one-inch square of the same blue knit fabric as the jersey is zig-zag stitched to the outside front left tail, with the number "85" properly hand-chain stitched on it, in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. The tagging authentically matches exemplars in style and placement for 1985 Braves jerseys.

(Continued, overleaf)

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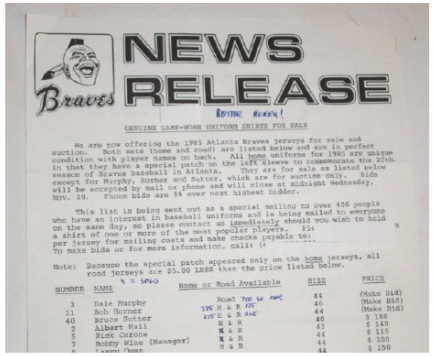
Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of minimal use: minor soil darkening of the fabric on the raised edges of the seams, a few small fabric pulls, and some fuzz that has adhered to the sharp edges of the cut twill lettering, typically picked up when a relatively newly lettered jersey is machine washed with other fabrics. Viewed on a light table, all of the sewn elements are clearly original, and all the twill lettering is crisp and unblemished without puckering; all stitching remains tight.

Provenance: Following the 1985 season, The Braves offered to a small group of interested people the opportunity to buy players' jerseys that had been used in the prior season. Tracing the ownership of this jersey back in time, a prior owner recalls purchasing it with the letter (shown below) accompanying it, and was told that the jersey was purchased at this sale from the team. A statement from him accompanies this letter. We were not able to locate the person who was the original purchaser of the jersey from the team, nor do we have proof positive that this jersey was purchased in that sale, but it seems reasonable.

Notably, during the 1980s, the Braves generally issued players only two sets each of home and road uniforms. I have professionally examined other Dale Murphy 1980s game worn Braves jerseys. I will comment that the ones that show use, indeed show very heavy use and major loose stitching on the inside of the back numbers indicative of an intense full season's wear. I would observe that he was a player who, at least early in his career, seems to have tended to prefer to wear the same jersey all season. Murphy played in all 162 games of the 1985 season, and there were exactly two dates in 1985 that the Braves played double headers as the road team, Murphy playing in both games: June 21 at Reds, August 18 at Padres. While it is purely speculation, it is reasonable that the jersey under examination may have been Murphy's second jersey, and that it could logically been worn these two games out of necessity before he reverted to wearing his primary jersey the next day.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent lightly used condition, is properly lettered and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by Dale Murphy of the Atlanta Braves in 1985.



Braves NEWS RELEASE

ROYTHE MONKEY!

GENUINE GAME-WORN UNIFORM SHIRTS FOR SALE

We are now offering the 1985 Atlanta Braves jerseys for sale and auction. Both sets (home and road) are listed below and are in perfect condition with player names on back. All home uniforms for 1985 are unique in that they have a special patch on the left sleeve to commemorate the 25th season of Braves baseball in Atlanta. They are for sale as listed below except for Murphy, Horner and Sutter, which are for auction only. Bids will be accepted by mail or phone and will close at midnight Wednesday, Nov. 20. Phone bids are $4 over next highest bidder.

This list is being sent out as a special mailing to over 400 people who have an interest in baseball uniforms and is being mailed to everyone on the same day, so please contact as immediately should you wish to hold a shirt of one or more of the most popular players. Fill per jersey for mailing costs and make checks payable to: To make bids or for more information, call: (

Note: Because the special patch appeared only on the home jerseys, all road jerseys are $5.00 LESS than the price listed below.

NUMBER	NAME	Home or Road Available	SIZE	PRICE
3	Dale Murphy	Road TOO SO FAR	44	(Make Bid)
11	Bob Horner	235 H & R 175	46	(Make Bid)
40	Bruce Sutter	235 H & R SOLD	44	(Make Bid)
2	Albert Hall	H & R	40	$ 180
5	Rick Cerone	H & R	42	$ 140
7	Bobby Wise (Manager)	H & R	44	$ 115
		H & R	44	$ 150
		H & R	44	$ 150

Letter of Authenticity

Thursday, October 08, 2020

Certification Number: A5H6485

To Whom It May Concern:

PSA/DNA Authentication Services has examined this Dale Murphy signed jersey. In our opinion, the aforementioned signature(s) is/are authentic.

The signature(s) is/are consistent considering slant, flow, pen pressure, letter size, and other characteristics that are typical of the other exemplars that we have examined in our hobby and professional career.

As part of the authentication process, the item has been permanently marked with proprietary invisible ink that contains a patterned strand of synthetic DNA, which will fluoresce under a calibrated laser. In addition, a tamper-evident label containing a unique alphanumeric certification number has been placed on the item or on this Letter of Authenticity.

Verify the validity of the certification number and exact image at PSAcard.com/DNAcert.

On behalf of the authentication team,

Joe Orlando
President & CEO, Collectors Universe, Inc.

The Foundation of All Great Collections

PSA DNA AUTHENTICATION SERVICES

800-325-1121
PSAcard.com/DNAcert

P.O. Box 6240
Newport Beach, CA 92658

My name is Chris Davis and I owned the 1985 Road Dale Murphy Atlanta Braves jersey from 2004 until I just sold it. The jersey was obtained from long time Braves collector and Atlanta resident Mike Luck via Ebay in the fall of 2004. Mike has owned several Murphy game used jerseys. Included directly from the team included with the purchase was the original price sheet of every game worn jersey sold by the Braves at the end of the 1985 season to the season ticket holders. The Murphy jerseys (both home and away) were priced at $180, the highest for any jersey offered by the team at the end of the season. I have misplaced this original sheet from the Braves but did have it at one time. Mike was also an avid collector of Atlanta Flames and other vintage Braves jerseys. I also obtained one Flames jersey from him along with a Bob Horner home jersey that I later sold to a collector in Arizona. His reputation in the hobby speaks for itself. I hope this helps!

Thanks,

Chris Davis

11/23/2020

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

Letter of Professional Opinion

1976 Phil Niekro Atlanta Braves Road Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: November 28, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1128J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1976 Atlanta Braves #35 Phil Niekro Wilson pullover full-weight knit size 44 jersey, appropriate size for the player to have worn in that period. Gray body with royal blue raglan sleeves with white knit sewn-in sleeve ends. The Braves ornate "feather" patch is prominently sewn onto the left sleeve; the right sleeve is plain. The player's now retired number 35 in three color in the Braves distinctive variant of the Varsity font. The blue and white layers are twill, and then the numbers are affixed to the jersey with a tight red satin embroidery stitch. There is no name on back as is correct with 1976-issue Braves jerseys.

On the front the team road "Atlanta" wordmark has been replaced with a similarly colored and stitched "Braves" one, as this jersey was surely relegated to use in the Braves' minor league system. In the late 1970s, there were six minor league Braves affiliates all named after the parent club, and the organization commonly recycled its gear, even the uniforms of star players. The old Atlanta script shadows are clearly visible on the light table There is also a clear impression left on the right sleeve where the 1976 National League Centennial disk patch was removed (photos on reverse). Niekro has signed the lower front of the jersey with the inscription: "1976 Game Used H.O.F.- 97". I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1976-correct small rectangular Wilson size 44 locker tag is stitched into the center back of the neck. Beneath that is a same-as-jersey gray knit rectangular 1"x 2" swatch of fabric with "76 44" hand chain stitched in blue in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher. The tagging matches exemplars for 1976 Atlanta Braves jerseys, and there are no signs of contrivance.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows good even wear consistent with a season of use in the majors and then subsequent use in the minor leagues. There are no holes or major stains, the white areas of the fabric are muted from many washings. All stitching is tight and complete, including the red embroidery stitch that surrounds the player numbers, though all thread is slightly bleached. The "Braves" replacement wordmark on front is obviously newer than the numbers, with brighter colors of both fabric and thread, as one would expect given its relative age compared to the rest of the jersey. There is some dirt on the lower half of the back of the jersey, likely from storage.

Continued on reverse.

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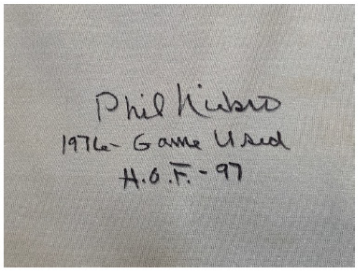

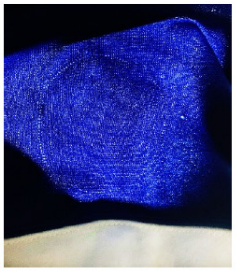

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and numbered. The minor league alteration of the front wordmark is noted and is consistent with what often happened to jerseys of the period. It exhibits strong use and wash wear, and has no contrivances Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Phil Niekro of the Atlanta Braves during the 1976 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Atlanta Braves Rick Camp 1982 Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: April 6, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0406J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves size 44 Wilson made Columbia Blue pullover jersey, blue/white/blue knit sleeve end and V-Neck trim. Blue outlined with white "Altanta" on the front, similarly colored player number 37 on the front left and on back. "CAMP" on a nameplate on back, vertically arched. The jersey remains in very good bright, unfaded original condition, and has not been overused and abused.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey had the script "Braves" across the chest and was missing its nameplate. A light table examination clearly showed that the MLB "Atlanta" script had once been stitched to the front. The missing player nameplate also had left a clear ghost impression where it had been removed. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the Braves regularly sent their used MLB uniforms to the minor leagues Braves teams where they might have been used for several more seasons. Road Jerseys which bore the MLB city name "Atlanta" needed to be modified with a different script to be useful. Number 37 on the 1982 Braves was pitcher Rick Camp, who would have reasonably fit into this shirt. The length of the removed nameplate was also the proper length for his four-letter last name.

I carefully removed the front replacement Braves script, and recreated the Atlanta script using team pattern from my archives. I matched it to the ghost on the shirt and stitched it back in the original style. Using a pair of well-used vintage MLB pants, I cut a nameplate to match the ghost and stitched the player name onto it in the original Braves' vertical arched style. Following the team method, the plate was left un-backed and the edge was left plain and un-serged, then applied to the jersey with a zig-zag stitch.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: "82" is hand chain stitched in blue onto a small square of knit fabric, then zig zag stitched to the outer left front tail, matches exemplars for 1982 Braves jerseys. The Wilson tag is the correct style for 1982.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good restored condition: properly done with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Rick Camp of the 1982 Atlanta Braves.

Continued, overleaf

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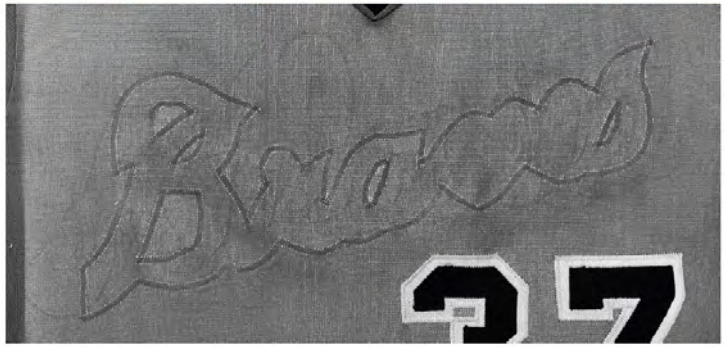

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Lonnie Smith 1990 Atlanta Braves Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: October 30, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1030J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Outfielder Lonnie Smith's 1990 Atlanta Braves, Wilson-made seven-button full weight white knit jersey. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one half inch from each sleeve end. Size 42, which is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. "Braves" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined, with a tomahawk below which includes gold and Navy embroidery. On back, player number "27" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in the same colors. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy blue widely-spaced vertical arched, and on a non-serged-edge nameplate that is simply zig-zag stitched to the jersey, typical of the 1990 Braves. Colorful Braves 25th Anniversary patch is sewn to the left sleeve. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. All these characteristics match other 1990 Braves jerseys in our photo archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement, and outline-widths.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson "Prestige Team" style locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 1990. Centered and pinch-sewn under the right of the locker tag is a small cloth flag size tag. Centered beneath the Wilson locker tag is a 1" square of the same knit material with an "90" machine-embroidered on it in the correct style for 1990. All of these observations match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It shows moderate to heavy wash wear, with some yellowing of the fabric and lining and and notable sweat staining of the linen lining inside, all indicative of long regular use. There is notable puckering around the ends of the unbacked, un-edged nameplate where it is sewn to the jersey with a zig zag stitch, which is typical of the sewing method more so than from wash and wear. All twill lettering is unfaded but slightly puckered and dulled with mildly softened edges from washing. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good and appropriately used condition, is properly lettered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Lonnie Smith of the 1990 Atlanta Braves.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1993 Fred McGriff Atlanta Braves Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: August 4, 2020 **Certification Number**: 200805JH1

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1993 tagged Wilson seven-button full weight home white knit Atlanta Braves #27 home jersey of Fred McGriff. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and 1/2 inch from each sleeve end. Size 44 with extra length, which is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player throughout most of his playing career. "Braves" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined, with a tomahawk below embellished with gold and Navy embroidery. On back, red outlined with Navy player number "27" in the proper Wilson Varsity font, stitched on with both colors of thread showing on the inside of the garment. Name on back above, "McGriff" sewn in one color, Navy blue and vertical arched, and on a non-backed and non-serged-edge double-knit nameplate that is simply zig zag stitched to the jersey, typical of the method used by the 1993 Braves. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. All these characteristics match other 1993 Braves jerseys in our photo archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. Jersey is autographed on the back number "7" "Fred McGriff" and the signature is noted with a PSA/DNA serialized sticker also affixed to the number 7. (We have no professional opinion on the signature). There are no sleeve patches, correct for 1993.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Wilson 1993-correct style rectangular Wilson locker tag with their "Tailored Exclusively for Prestige Teams" tagline is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. There is no size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Centered below the Wilson tail tag are three layered small cloth size flag tags that reads "44", 2" X Length and "F R" (unknown meaning). Centered beneath the Wilson locker tag is a 3/4" double-knit square of the same knit material, zig zag stitched to the jersey with an italic font "93" machine-embroidered on it. The Braves did not player-tag or set-tag jerseys in 1993. All of these observations exactly match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: Jersey: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It shows light wash wear, with little to no puckering of the twill lettering, and some minor evidence of wash and wear on the linen lining inside, especially at the beck of the neck where it contacted the players skin. This lining typically grows more and more yellowed with use, and this is fairly clean indicating that it did not see a full season of use. Compared to other unwashed exemplars the jersey is slightly grayed from washing, and experience tells us this jersey looks like it has been used/washed at least a dozen times. There is some typical puckering around the ends of the unbacked, un-edged nameplate where it is sewn to the jersey with a zig zag stitch, which is typical of the sewing method more-than from wash and wear. All of the durable twill lettering is bright and shows the slightest evidence of wash wear through very minor fraying of the edges. There is some typical puckering of the jersey placket on both edges where the knit trim is sewn, caused by hot water washing. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits some use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was very likely worn by Fred McGriff of the Atlanta Braves during the 1993 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1995 Pedro Borbon Atlanta Braves Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: September 8,2020 **Certification Number**: 200908J1

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1995 Atlanta Braves Wilson seven-button full weight white knit jersey issued to #51, Pedro Borbon. ⅜" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one half inch from each sleeve end. Size 48, which is certainly reasonable for a player 6' 1" and 205 lbs. (In our archives we record him wearing a size 46 in 1993.) "Braves" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined with a tomahawk which includes gold and Navy embroidery. On back, player number "51" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in the same colors. Name on back above, "BORBON" sewn in one color, Navy blue and vertical arched, on a non-serged-edge nameplate that is simply zig zag stitched to the jersey, typical of the 1995 Braves. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. All these characteristics match other 1995 Braves jerseys in our reference archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement, and outline-widths. The 1995 30th Season in Atlanta patch is properly stitched to the right sleeve. The 1995 World Series patch is sewn to the left sleeve, attached with a straight stitch.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Wilson "Prestige Team" style locker tag is sewn on the outer, left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 1995. There is no size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Centered on the bottom edge is a small cloth flag tab that says "48". Centered beneath the Wilson locker tag is a 1" square of the same knit material with a "95" machine-embroidered on it. All of these characteristics match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of what I would estimate as a full season's use, with sweat stains, scuffs and a general graying of the fabric that comes from many washings. A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It shows moderate wash wear. There is light puckering of the twill lettering, with sweat staining/discoloration of the linen lining inside. There is some puckering of the jersey placket where the knit trim is sewn on either side, caused by hot water washing. There are no signs of any repairs.

Observations: Though typically teams made up a complete new set of uniforms for players for the postseason, this one clearly shows a season of use. It was not uncommon for a jersey from the regular-season set to have postseason patches added and kept as a backup jersey if it was needed. Borbon pitched one inning of Game 4 in the 1995 Series at Cleveland's Jacobs Field and received a save for his efforts. As that was a road game, he would not have been wearing this jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits some use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and almost certainly worn by Pedro Borbon of the Atlanta Braves during the 1995 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1991 David Justice Atlanta Braves Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: September 8, 2020 **Certification Number**: 200908J2

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1991 Atlanta Braves David Justice Wilson seven-button full weight gray knit jersey. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one half inch from each sleeve end. Size 44, which is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. "Atlanta" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined, with a tomahawk below which includes gold and Navy embroidery. On back, player number "23" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in the same colors. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy blue widely-spaced vertical arched, and on a perfectly-fabric-matched non-serged-edge nameplate that is simply zig zag stitched to the jersey, typical of the 1991 Braves. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. All these characteristics match other 1991 Braves jerseys in our photo archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement, and outline-widths. 1991-only "JWM" Navy memorial lettering is stitched to the left sleeve end (for J. W. Mullen, Braves VP)

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Wilson "Prestige Team" style locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 1991. There is no size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Centered beneath are two small cloth flags overlaid on top of one another that say "44" and "FX". Centered beneath the Wilson locker tag is a 1" square of the same knit material with an italic "91" machine-embroidered on it. All of these observations match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It shows extremely light wash wear, with only minor wrinkling and minimal discernible discoloration of the linen lining inside. There is some typical puckering around the ends of the unbacked, un-edged nameplate where it is sewn to the jersey with a zig zag stitch, which is typical of the sewing method mores than from wash and wear. All twill lettering is bright and un-puckered without signs of much wear or washing. The white size tabs, usually the first place to show wash wear, are still crisp and new. There are no signs of any repairs.

Observations: The lack of very much visible wash/use wear on this jersey indicates it was either a backup or an extra jersey. Notably, in that time period, it was not at all uncommon for a player to wear the same primary road jersey all year long, wearing the backup only for the second game of a double header. And because it is far more typical for "extra" non-issued jerseys to be in the home style, I would lean towards this one being Justice's backup road jersey for the season.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits some use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue to David Justice of the Atlanta Braves during the 1991 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andruw Jones Atlanta Braves 1996 Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: September 12, 2020 **Certification Number:** 200912J1

This letter will serve as the opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves Russell-made six button, size 42, full weight knit road jersey of #25 "Andruw Jones. "Atlanta" script in red over navy sewn diagonally on front with tomahawk below. Navy/red/navy knit trim on the placket and the sleeve ends. On reverse, "A. JONES" sewn in navy vertical arch on a perfectly fabric-matching hand-serged-edge knit plate that is very tightly zig-zag stitched to the jersey. The player number "25" is sewn below in the proper Braves font and size in red over Navy. There are no sleeve patches. It is autographed on the numeral 5. No attempt has been made to authenticate this autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell did not year or player-tag Braves road jerseys they made for the team in the late 1990s. Russell Diamond Collection tag in the correct style for 1993-1998 is sewn to the outer front left tail. Beneath this is sewn a small "100% Polyester" flag tag, found only on team-issued jerseys. It is un-frayed from washing. As is correct with team-issued spec authentic Russell jerseys there is no size tag flag sewn in the neck. The Russell "R" is embroidered into the end of the right sleeve in red and blue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The jersey is in very good condition and shows signs of wash wear in softening or fraying of the twill edges, and puckering of the twill lettering and curling of the flag-tagging.

Observations: Andruw Jones was called up by the MLB Braves in mid-August, 1996 and played in Atlanta through 2004. The specific Russell tagging style on this jersey was used during Jones' tenure 1996-1998. But since Russell did not player/year tag Braves jerseys 1996-1998, the only way to date the jersey is through its details. There are no commemorative patches on the sleeves, which narrows the jersey' issue to either 1996 or 1998. In our observation this 4-line wash instruction-tag-style is very uncommon to find on a 1998-issued jersey, though I have seen a few (fewer than 5% of all observed). Therefore, most likely this jersey was issued in 1996. Jones was a mid-August call-up in 1996, and the wear on this jersey is appropriate for having been used and washed a dozen or so times. I have examined a large number of Braves game jerseys from the 1990s, and I will note that the nameplate has been made and stitched differently from those created at the start of the season for opening-roster players. For example, traces of red ink that were used to mark its edges to be cut from raw cloth by the stitcher are evident around its perimeter. Additionally, the plate has been hand-surged around its edge with a simple, tight zig zag stitch from a regular sewing machine, and then the plate is straight stitched to the jersey. This the method of edging and attachment of the nameplate is uncharacteristic for other team-issued and Russell factory-made jerseys that used a much looser, wider-spaced stitch. To me, this is reasonable evidence that the nameplate was sewn on remotely from Russell's factory, and possibly by a local supplier or the clubhouse manager, at the time of the player's August call-up.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits no discernible use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and likely game worn by Andruw Jones of the Atlanta Braves during the 1996 season.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Atlanta Braves 2012 Chipper Jones Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 6, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1006J1

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2012 Atlanta Braves #10 Chipper Jones Majestic six-button Cool Base gray knit jersey. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one inch from each sleeve end. Jersey is size 48, which is a consistent size with other jerseys worn by Jones during the later part of his career. "Atlanta" in red and Navy-outlined tackle twill, scripted across the front and underlined with a red tomahawk which includes gold and blue embroidery. On back, MLB silhouetted batter patch sewn on the back of the neck, player number "10" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in red outlined in Navy. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy blue radial arched, stitched on a serged-edge nameplate. The name is sewn with a rather flat arc, typical of the 2012 Braves. The back number is a 9" from the collar. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. All characteristics match other 2012 Braves jerseys in our exemplar archive. The player's autograph is on the "0" on back in silver Sharpie adding,"2012 Game Worn Final Season". It is affixed with a serialized PSA/DNA sticker certifying the autograph. I offer no opinion on the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is heat pressed on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 2012. Beneath the locker tag is sewn a 1"x3" rectangular fabric strip with a surged edge that that is machine embroidered with **48 '12 S20**. During his final season, Jones had multiple sets of each style jersey made that were set numbered; this one is road jersey "set 20". We have seen other sets in all styles with set numbers lower than S20. The Majestic logo is embroidered into the end of the left sleeve above the knit trim, in Navy blue. All of these observations match other examples in our archives. On the inside side seam of the jersey is a white fabric tag that displays the code "0630", the Majestic designator for Cool Base game jerseys made to team spec, rather than for retail sale.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on this jersey is original and unaltered. It shows light wash wear, mostly in the fading/curling of the inside seam tag which has lost its inspection stickers to the wash water. All twill lettering is crisp and unblemished. In the final year of his Hall of Fame career, it is clear that Jones wore each game jersey only a few times so that they could be sold as collectables.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars, and appears to have no alterations of any kind It exhibits wear consistent with use in a few games, is inscribed as "Game Used Final Season". Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and was game worn by Chipper Jones of the Atlanta Braves during the 2012 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Ozzie Albies 2017 Atlanta Braves Home Alternate Jersey - 2nd Career Hit

Examination Date: June 16, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0616J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves size 40 home alternate, cream colored FlexBase jersey with vented tail and side panels, six button front. "Braves" is scripted on front in lightweight twill Navy outlining red. A line of 1/4" Navy knit trim borders the placket. The team patch with crossed tomahawks is sewn to the left sleeve; the 2017 stadium Inaugural Season patch is sewn to the right sleeve.

Player number "1" in sewn in lightweight twill and centered on the back in the same Navy outlining red. The player name "ALBIES" is slightly arched above the back number in Navy in the proper team font for 2017. The red/white/blue MLB silhouetted batter patch in Chromaflex is stitched to the center of the back collar.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic logo is direct embroidered in Navy to the end of the left sleeve in the correct style for 2017. Majestic's FlexBase tag is heat-applied to the outside left tail showing the size as 40, reasonable for this player. On the inside side seam is the manufacturer's white style flag tag showing the style number as 0780, a team issued specification designation. Someone has written 8-6-17 on this tag in black marker. There is a white mylar team/Majestic heat pressed label on the bottom button flap, noting the jersey as 2017 40 Set 1. An MLB-applied hologram is applied above the front locker tag, with the authentication code of JC 051904. Referencing the code back to the database, it lists the jersey as used on August 6, 2017 vs. the Miami Marlins.

Photo-matching and Provenance: Albies was called up by the team on August 1. This jersey has been positively photo matched to the game of Saturday, August 5th, a game in which Albies had his second major league hit. It is not uncommon for jerseys to be authenticated by MLB with a single game's date when it was actually used longer. It is probable that the jersey was removed from use after the game of 08/06; that is generally when the authentication date is registered. This jersey style is generally only worn for weekend games at home.

A photo matching document is attached to this authentication, showing points of positive reference between the item under evaluation and game action on 08/05/2017.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original without contrivance. As appropriate for a weekend-alternate home jersey from a late season call-up player, The jersey shows signs of very light use, with no obvious dirt, scuffs or pulls. The lettering is all still crisp and unblemished. However, the inside tagging shows definite signs of wash and wear, as it is softened, curled and frayed.

Continued, overleaf

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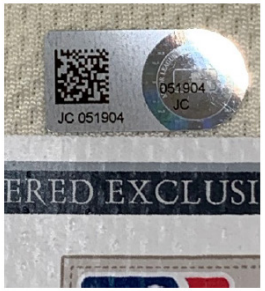

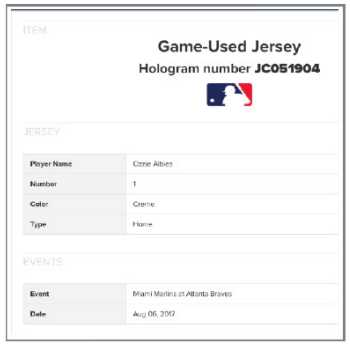

ITEM

Game-Used Jersey

Hologram number **JC051904**

JERSEY

Player Name	Ozzie Albies
Number	1
Color	Creme
Type	Home

EVENTS

Event	Miami Marlins at Atlanta Braves
Date	Aug 06, 2017

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent appropriately used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Ozzie Albies of the 2017 Atlanta Braves.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

"Chipper" Jones Atlanta Braves 2003-2006 Spring Training/BP Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J06

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves #10 "Chipper" Jones Majestic, Navy Blue 2-button Henley-neck batting practice/Spring Training jersey in the style worn 2003-2006. (It is not likely from 2004 as these jerseys had the #21 Spahn memorial patch on them all year) It is made of a then-new moisture-wicking tech fabric, the precursor to Cool Base. The fabric has a wide, almost coarse weave. Underarm insert panels in red in a different, smoother fabric, Red piping sewn in along the shoulder seams Braves crest in red embroidered appliqué stitched on white twill, sewn across the jersey front. Tomahawk similarly embroidered in red, Navy, and gold, sewn beneath. On back is the player number 10, in layered red and white twill. Player name "JONES" above, radially arched and using the distinctive short and bold Braves BP-NOB font 2000-2006, sewn to a serged-edge plate made of the similar fabric. The size is correct for the player, and the jersey matches exemplars in our collection. The jersey is signed on the "0" in silver Sharpie on the back "Chipper Jones #10, BP Jersey!" The jersey is accompanied by as JSA serialized card and sticker authenticating the signature. (I have no opinion on the autograph.)

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: The Majestic M logo is embroidered in white on the end of the left sleeve, as appropriate wit team issue, Majestic's standard BP jersey locker tag for 2003-2006 is heat-pressed to the outside bottom of the left shirt tail, size 48 flag tab below. Inside seam tag bears the code A0065, designating team issue and the use of the special moisture wicking jersey fabric. Braves BP jerseys were not team-tagged in 2003-3006. The MLB silhouetted batter logo in red, white and Navy Blue is sewn to the outside back of the collar.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey and the lettering on it look nearly new, there's no puckering, no fading, no loose threads, and most notably no pulls in the fabric. Noticeably, the front heat-applied majestic tag shows signs of deterioration and cracking, and the inside seam tag shows definite signs of fading and wrinkling from wash. This fabric was notorious for its ability to collect pulls and to fade prodigiously in both the sun and the wash. Just brushing up against an object, or even a brush with a stray fingernail would cause notable snags and pulls in the cloth. Typically, jerseys made of this fabric look very ratty after being worn and washed even a few times. If this jersey was worn, it was worn gently and sparingly, but the wear the the front tag is uncharacteristic. I could only possibly explain this as the heat-pressed tag was improperly applied at the factory, allowing it to deteriorate badly with a single washing or two. A light table examination shows all lettering is original and unaltered.

Conclusion: Signed and inscribed by the player as his BP, and properly tagged and lettered every way as Braves on-field issue, I would conclude with my opinion that this jersey is Braves team-issued and game worn by Chipper Jones. Jones was prolific with his signed/game used jerseys, and likely this was worn once or twice.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1998 "Chipper" Jones Atlanta Braves Pro Model Autographed Negro Leagues Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1101J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves "Negro Leagues" Home Jersey as worn on field in the contest between the Braves and St. Louis Cardinals on August 1-2, 1998. It is an extra-roomy Size 46 and would have been appropriate for the player to have worn. The Braves dressed as the 1940 Negro Leagues Atlanta Black Crackers. Mitchell & Ness "Cooperstown Collection" heavyweight double knit, white with Navy pinstripes, 1/2" wide Navy trim rings the sleeve ends and the placket. Five buttons with supplemental Velcro closure. The inside of the place is lined with nylon mesh. 5" tall bold ABC arched on front, #10 on back. The "0" is signed, and the number bears a serialized JBA authentication sticker A17816 referencing the autograph. No matching certificate was provided to me for examination. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

There are photos available on Getty Images that shows Jones in on-field photos dated August 2, and he is not wearing this particular jersey. However, given the actionability of collectables from these games, and the fact that these were intended to be auctioned for charity, it is not alt all unreasonable to assume that he may have been issued two different jerseys to wear for the two games.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Mitchell & Ness and Cooperstown Collection tail tagging is stitched on the outside left tail, correct for 1998. A machine-embroidered felt tag is stitched their right that reads "Heritage 8-1998", matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey does not show discernible wear, as would likely be expected from a pro-model game jersey worn only once. There is some minor puckering of the placket that could reasonably have been caused by a hot water wash. All tagging is crisp, including the inside seam "Union Made" fabric tag.

Conclusion: This jersey is properly sewn and matches exemplars from the Negro leagues Tribute games of August 1-2, 1998. While it is offered without provenance, it is appropriately sized and lettered, and has the proper tagging as used by the team in the tribute games. Jerseys from those contests wee auctioned by the teams for charity. In my opinion, this jersey is authentic as issued to Chipper Jones of the Atlanta Braves.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Hank Aaron Atlanta Braves 1974 Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: February 15, 2024 **Certification Number**:24-0215J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves pullover jersey. Wilson made, Royal Blue body with white raglan sleeves, customized for #44 Hank Aaron. Size 42 marked, jersey measures very slightly smaller, likely an artifact from washing shrinkage. Aaron wore size 42 jerseys almost exclusively throughout his career. Three-colored sewn "feather" design is sewn on each sleeve. 1" stretchy knit sleeve ends and V-neck. The lettering is two color, dark Royal over white, then is bound to the jersey with a tight "satin" embroidery stitch in red. The same is true of the sleeve adornment, its white edge sewn with a red satin stitch. Red stripe on sleeve trim is woven into the fabric.

A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original to this jersey and is without contrivance. All elements, including team script and numbers match acceptably examples of another Aaron 1974 jersey I have evaluated that was then photo matched to use in the 1974 season. To perform this evaluation I overlaid scans of the jersey in hand with ones from the photo matched jersey (provided here)

1974 was a historic year for Aaron and baseball. in April of that season he broke Babe Ruth's career home run record. While this is not the jersey he was wearing for that event, any bona-fide Aaron jersey is a relic of The Game, especially one from that 1974 season. In 122 games played that season, Aaron hit 20 home runs, finishing the season with a .268 batting average. In a 23 year career he was the middle of consistency from 1954 onwards. He was selected to 25 All Star Games (In some years there were two such games in each season) selected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame on his first ballot in 1982. At the time of his retirement, Aaron held most of the game's key career power-hitting records. He broke the long-standing MLB record for career home runs held by Babe Ruth and remained the career leader for 33 years, until Barry Bonds surpassed his famous total of 755 in 2007. He hit 24 or more home runs every year from 1955 through 1973 and is one of only two players to hit 30 or more home runs in a season at least fifteen times. He was a three-time Gold Glove winner, and in 1957, he won the NL Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award when the Milwaukee Braves won the World Series. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer tag in the proper style for 1974 is stitched inside the back of the neck. Beneath the Wilson tag is a zig-zagged strip of jersey fabric, on which "74 42 Set 3" is chain stitched in white, in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. Research shows that there were at least three sets of Braves road jerseys made for the 1974 season; the earlier sets had simpler tagging, but the Set 3 jerseys have tagging that matches this template. Matching exemplar photos are provided here.

Wear & Repairs: Early knit jerseys had issues with shrinkage and uneven fading, and this jersey shows signs of repeated use and washing. While all lettering is still firmly attached, the knit trim of the V-Neck collar is more faded than the rest of the jersey. All the lettering exhibits mild puckering, caused by washing but is partly an artifact of the unusual method of using a tight embroidery stitch to bind the appliqués to the knit jersey. This method causes puckering along the edges of the letters and numbers, and the puckering gets worse with hot water washing. The back numbers show puckering to a greater extent. I would judge the puckering on this jersey to be less compared to others I have examined. The Braves, like every other MLB team in this period sent their used MLB jerseys to the minor leagues for re-use. Again, based on the condition of this example it seems to have been kindly spared that fate. It is unsurprising that Aaron's jersey would have been pulled and not reissued to a minor league player.

The jersey in review showing stitching detail. A photo-overlay of both the front and back numbers between the jersey in review and an on-hand photo-matched exemplar shows a good pattern match for the (likely) hand cut front and back numbers and their stitching. Exemplars of two other 1974 Set 3 Braves jerseys are provided for comparison.

Here, the "Set 3" jersey under evaluation at the top; below it an earlier-season 1974 road jersey that I had previously authenticated and was later photo matched to game action.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged, and lettered It is consistent with known exemplars. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey was issued and worn by Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves in 1974.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dale Murphy 1987 Atlanta Braves Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: December 13, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1213J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves, Wilson-made seven-button full weight white knit jersey. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one half inch from each sleeve end. Lettered for #3 Dale Murphy. Size 44 (both marked and measured), which is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. The jersey length from collar to tail is 37"; and is tagged +4" extra length tailoring (measurement is correct). "Braves" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined, with a tomahawk below which includes gold and Navy embroidery. On back, player number "3" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in the same colors. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy blue vertical arched, and on a non-serged-edge nameplate that is simply zig-zag stitched to the jersey, typical of the 1987 Braves. Typical of Wilson MLB on-field jerseys, the inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. All these characteristics match other 1987 Braves jerseys in our photo archive. The player lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement, and outline-widths. The jersey is autographed on the left front below the tomahawk. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

1987 was a "career year" for Murphy. He played in 159 games and hit .290 with a career-high 44 home runs and was selected to his seventh All-Star game (*Baseball Almanac*). During an 18-year career in Major League Baseball (MLB) from 1976 to 1993, Murphy played as an outfielder, catcher, and first baseman for the Atlanta Braves, Philadelphia Phillies, and Colorado Rockies; Murphy is best noted for his many years with the Braves. His entire MLB career was spent in the National League (NL), during which time he won consecutive Most Valuable Player (MVP) awards (1982–1983), the Silver Slugger Award for four straight years (1982–1985), and the Gold Glove Award for five straight years (1982–1986). Murphy is a member of the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame, Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, and World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame.(*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson "Prestige Team" style locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 1987. Centered and pinch-sewn under the right of the locker tag is a small cloth flag size tag "44". Centered under the locker tag is a small tag that says 4" X-Length, and the jersey does indeed reflect that special tailoring. Centered beneath the Wilson locker tag is a 1" square of the same knit material with an "87" machine-embroidered on it in the correct style for 1987. All of these observations match other examples in our archives. Wilson was the sole maker of on-field Braves jerseys in 1987, and because in 1987 competitor Rawlings was the newly-licensed manufacturer of

Continued, overleaf

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Authentics, only Rawlings had the right to sell "Authentic" labeled jerseys to the public, and those were sold with the Rawlings script embroidered on the sleeve end. In 1987, Wilson's only legal right was to make jerseys for the team; they could not market them to the public. So, this is a team issue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is original and unaltered. It shows moderate use and wash wear, with loose threads, minor yellowing and notable sweat staining of the linen lining inside, all indicative of repeated regular use. There is notable puckering around the ends of the (correctly) unbacked, non-serged edged nameplate where it is sewn to the jersey with a zig zag stitch, which is typical of the sewing method more so than from wash and wear. All twill lettering is unfaded but slightly burnished with mildly softened edges from washing. There are no signs of any repairs, alterations or contrivances. This jersey shows honest wear: fading, puckering, sweat staining on the lining and graying of the white fabric from repeated washings. It was clearly autographed AFTER such use occurred, else the autograph would be badly faded and washed out. This also points to prior use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition and appears all original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Dale Murphy of the Atlanta Braves in 1987.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rafael Furcal Atlanta Braves 2000 Home Game Jersey, Rookie-Season

Examination Date: December 6, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1206J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves, #1 Rafael Furcal Russell-made, six-button full weight white knit jersey. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one inch from each sleeve end. Size 42 (marked and measured), which is reasonable for the player (5' 8" 195 lbs.) "Braves" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined with a tomahawk which includes gold and blue embroidery. On back, player number "1" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in the same colors. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy blue and steeply vertical arched, on a serged-edge nameplate, these details correct for Braves Russell jerseys of these years. This is a team-issue model jersey, properly lacking neck size tagging and includes the small fabric size/100% polyester tag pinch-sewn beneath the Russell locker tag. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. The MLB silhouetted batter patch is sewn to the back of the neck; 2000 was the first year for this feature. The 2000 All Star Game patch is properly stitched to the right sleeve. The nameplate is serged on only the top and bottom edges, then the ends are trimmed and straight stitched hemmed matching other 2000 examples. While Furcal did not play in the All Star Game that year, the Braves hosted the event so the patch was on all player jerseys that season. This jersey was presented without provenance.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail in the maker's style used in 2000. Stitched beneath and on the bottom of the locker tag is a small cloth flag that says "42 100% Polyester". There is a red and blue Russell "R" logo embroidered on the sleeve, as is correct with 2000 Russell-made Braves jerseys. Sewn beneath the front locker tag is a 1x 2 1/4" mylar fabric tag with the code 1-00 computer printed on in in black (set 1, 2000) This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It shows signs of use; the tagging is slightly puckered and the twill sewn-on lettering is softened and the numbers on back show slight puckering from hot water washing. There are a few extraneous fabric pulls, scuffs and stains on the jersey on the back and around the nameplate area. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review matches exemplars for a game worn 2000 home Braves jerseys, shows evidence of use and is a reasonable size for the player. There are no apparent alterations or contrivances. It is my considered opinion that this is a genuine game jersey prepared for and used by Rafael Furcal of the Atlanta Braves during the 2000 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dale Murphy 1988 Atlanta Braves Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: December 13, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1213J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves, Wilson-made seven-button full weight gray knit jersey. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one half inch from each sleeve end. Lettered for #3 Dale Murphy. Size 44 (both marked and measured), which is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. The jersey length from collar to tail is 36 1/2". Roughly 3 1/2" longer than normal and within the specifications of what Murphy normally received (anywhere from 2" to 4" extra length). "Atlanta" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined, with a tomahawk below which includes gold and Navy embroidery. On back, player number "3" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in the same colors. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy blue vertical arched, and on a non-serged-edge nameplate that is simply zig-zag stitched to the jersey, typical of the 1988 Braves. Customary with Wilson MLB on-field jerseys, the inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. All these characteristics match other 1988 Braves jerseys in our photo archive. The player lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement, and outline-widths. The jersey is autographed on the back between the player name on back an the numbers, and a PSA/DNA sticker (serial number S60587) assumedly related to the autograph is on the front locker tag. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

While he played in 156 games for the 1988 Braves, Murphy's performance was down markedly over 1987, a career year for him. In 1988 he hit only .224 with 24 home runs, 69 average points lower and roughly half his prior year's power output. In career retrospect, 1988 was the first year of his decline from elite status as a major league player, and his production declined markedly from 1988 through the end of his career early in the 1993 season. During an 18-year career in Major League Baseball (MLB) from 1976 to 1993, Murphy played as an outfielder, catcher, and first baseman for the Atlanta Braves, Philadelphia Phillies, and Colorado Rockies; Murphy is best noted for his many years with the Braves. His entire MLB career was spent in the National League (NL), during which time he won consecutive Most Valuable Player (MVP) awards (1982–1983), the Silver Slugger Award for four straight years (1982–1985), and the Gold Glove Award for five straight years (1982–1986). Murphy is a member of the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame, Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, and World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame.(*Wikipedia*)

Continued, overleaf

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson "Prestige Team" style locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 1988. Centered and pinch-sewn under the right of the locker tag is a small cloth flag size tag "44". While on this jersey there is no special tag denoting the extra length that Murphy typically received on his jerseys, the garment does indeed reflect that special tailoring. Centered beneath the Wilson locker tag is a 1" square of the same knit material with an "88" hand-embroidered on it in the correct style for 1988. All of these observations match other examples in our archives. Wilson was the sole maker of on-field Braves jerseys in 1988.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is original and unaltered. It shows moderate use and wash wear, with loose threads, minor yellowing and notable sweat staining of the linen lining inside, all indicative of repeated regular use. There is notable puckering around the ends of the (correctly) unbacked, non-serged edged nameplate where it is sewn to the jersey with a zig zag stitch, which is typical of the sewing method more so than from wash and wear. All twill lettering is unfaded but slightly burnished with mildly softened edges from washing, and very minor puckering. There are no signs of any repairs, alterations or contrivances. This jersey shows honest wear: fading, puckering, sweat staining on the lining and softening of the fabric from repeated washings. It was clearly autographed AFTER such use occurred, else the autograph would be badly faded and washed out. This also points to prior use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition and appears all original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Dale Murphy of the Atlanta Braves in 1988.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

Letter of Professional Opinion

Greg Maddux 2000 Atlanta Braves Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 4, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1004J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2000 year-tagged Atlanta Braves Russell six-button full weight gray knit jersey of #31 Greg Maddux. 3/8" Navy/red/ Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and 1/2 inch from each sleeve end. Size 46 marked, but measures as a 44, reasonably consistent with other jerseys worn by Maddux during this time. "Atlanta" in red and Navy outlined tackle twill, scripted across the front and underlined with a tomahawk which includes gold and blue embroidery. On back, player number "31" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in red outlined in Navy. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy Blue vertical arched, and on a single-needle serged-edge nameplate The name font is somewhat condensed, and arched typical of 2000 Braves jerseys in our photo archive. All lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. The 2000 All Star Game commemorative patch is stitched to the left sleeve, off center compared to the sleeve break; it is sewn about two inches towards the front of the sleeve and not on the natural sleeve break. A straight stitch is used instead of a zig-zag, uncommon but not unheard of. The first-year of use MLB Silhouetted batter patch is stitched to the center back of the neck in red, white and dark blue. The "3" on the back is signed near its top in black marker. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "R" in red and Navy Blue direct embroidered at the end of the left sleeve. Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The jersey model is one that was prepared for team use, it is not a retail-authentic jersey. The manufacturer tag style is usually seen 2001-2004. (Note the ® mark on this one next to the word ATHLETIC, much more commonly seen in 2000 next to the word RUSSELL The only other examples of this tag style in my library on a 2000 jersey are found on jerseys claimed to have been used in the postseason, and jerseys likely made for player signings post-season. Notably, the Braves were in the 2000 postseason. Beneath the locker tag is a small cloth flag tag: "44 100% polyester". The Russell R logo is embroidered into the end of the right sleeve above the knit trim, in red and blue. A rectangular white mylar-cloth tag is stitched pinched below the Russell tail tag, 2-00 is computer-printed on it in black ink. (Set 2, 2000). It is trimmed slightly smaller than the typical tag seen on 2000 Braves jerseys , but there is no sign of any other tag having been sewn there before and it appears that no other tag had been there prior.

Use and repairs: The jersey shows use and wash/wear. The tagging shows signs of fading and wrinkling and is slightly frayed. There are no signs of repairs. The back number was clearly autographed after the jersey was washed/worn.

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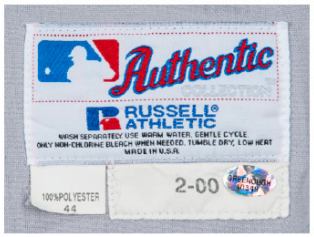
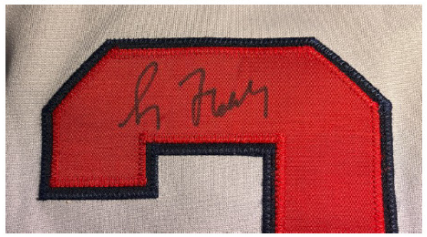
Top row: The tagging on this jersey is the type usually seen 2001-2004. Blow left is an example of typical 2000 Russell tagging. Notice the relative sizes of the words "Russell Athletic" and the ® mark location. Notice also the size, shape and placement of the team tear tag.





Conclusion: This jersey is offered without provenance. This jersey is year tagged 2000 and yet has a Russell manufacturer locker tag in its tail that, in our research is rarely seen on a 2000-issue jersey. The team tagging is appropriately placed but is trimmed smaller than typical on other 2000 Braves jerseys in our exemplar library. The sleeve patch is applied slightly off-center and is stitched differently than other examples. The jersey shows some wash wear and is properly sized and lettered for use by Greg Maddux of the 2000 Atlanta Braves.

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Letter of Opinion/Authenticity

Dale Murphy 1983-1985 Atlanta Braves Batting Practice Jersey

Description: Royal blue double knit pullover v-neck jersey of Dale Murphy, "Braves" team script screened on the front in white. On back, the player number "3" in Wilson Varsity is screened on in heavy Plastisol ink. Player name "MURPHY" is vertical arched sewn in white twill, stitched to a matching blue nameplate then sewn to the jersey back. Murphy has autographed the back number. We have not validated the authenticity of the signature as a part of this authentication.

Pinpointing the exact year(s) of issue and use of Braves spring training / batting practice jerseys from the early 1980s is always a challenge. This plain style without neck or sleeve trim and with back numbers alone was worn 1983-1986, our research supports that the team used a mix of both Rawlings and Wilson BP jerseys on the field at the same time, some with sewn-on lettering, some with screened on lettering. We suspect that the screened on jerseys were produced earlier than the sewn-on ones. The Wilson neck tag tells us that this was made prior to 1986.

Team and Manufacturer Tagging: The Wilson tag in the neck is the style used 1978-1985. There is no other tagging on the jersey. This specific is consistent with other examples in our archives

Wear and Repairs: The jersey shows signs of moderate use, with minor scuffs and checking of the screened on lettering, loose threads and some pulls of the blue fabric. There are no repairs. Overall it is in very good game worn condition.

Conclusion: I conclude that this is a worn and washed, team-issued "game used" BP jersey made for Dale Murphy of the Atlanta Braves. It is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Greg Maddux Atlanta Braves 2000 Autographed Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: October 30, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1030J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Atlanta Braves, #31 Greg Maddux Russell-made, six-button full weight white knit jersey. 3/8" Navy/red/Navy knit trim sewn on the placket and one inch from each sleeve end. Size 46, which is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. "Braves" in red and Navy tackle twill scripted across the front and underlined with a tomahawk which includes gold and blue embroidery. On back, player number "31" in the proper Wilson Varsity font in the same colors, 8" from the collar. Name on back above, sewn in one color, Navy blue and steeply vertical arched, on a serged-edge nameplate correct for Braves Russell jerseys of these years. This is a team-issue model jersey, properly lacking neck size tagging and includes the small fabric size/100% polyester tag pinch-sewn beneath the Russell locker tag. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. The jersey is autographed on the top of the "3" on back. (I have no opinion on the signature). The MLB silhouetted batter patch is sewn to the back of the neck; 2000 was the first year for this feature. The 2000 All Star Game patch is properly stitched to the right sleeve. (Maddux did not play in the 2000 All-Star Game, this patch was on all Braves home jerseys that year.)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail in the maker's style used in 2000. Stitched beneath and on the bottom of the locker tag is a small cloth flag that says "46 100% Polyester". There is a red and blue Russell "R" logo embroidered on the sleeve, as is correct with 2000 Russell-made Braves jerseys. Sewn beneath the front locker tag is a 1x 2 1/4" mylar fabric tag with the code 1-00 computer printed on in in black (set 1, 2000) This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. It show signs of obvious use; the tagging is stained and frayed, all twill sewn-on lettering is slightly edge frayed and the numbers on back show slight puckering from hot water washing. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review matches exemplars for a game worn 2000 Greg Maddux home Braves jersey. It is autographed and shows evidence of use. There are no apparent alterations or contrivances. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine game jersey prepared for and used by Greg Maddux of the Atlanta Braves during the 2000 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1971 Atlanta Braves Game Worn Home Jersey #36

Examination Date: July 30, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0730J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1971 Atlanta Braves, Wilson size 42 (tagged, but measured more like a 44) cream colored seven-button flannel wearing a period-correct but not the original numbers, 36 on the back. 1" spaced Navy chalk pinstripes. Laughing Brave patch sewn to the left sleeve appears original. "Braves" scripted on the front in Navy twill, all original when examined on the light table. Six-hole gusseted underarm panels. All buttons are original. Pitcher Tom Kelley wore 36 on the 1971 Braves, but the current numerals are not original to the jersey. Kelley was 6' 1" and 191 lbs and would likely have worn a larger size shirt.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer tag stitched to the outside left tail showing the size "42" is the correct style for use in 1971. It shows original stitching. A rectangular piece of cream-colored flannel is stitched inside the back of the neck with hand-embroidered chain stitch: "1971" in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher, but lacks a player name and set number below it as seen on other exemplar jerseys. This could signal that this was an extra jersey, unissued at the start of the season. As is correct with an original-issue jersey the neck identification tag has been stitched in place before the collar seams were sewn closed at the factory, making its attachment stitching invisible when looking at the outside back of the collar. Close examination indicates that this tagging is original and untampered with.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in good condition without any serious tears or evidence of repairs. There are a few pulls and a tiny pinhead size hole on the right side two buttons from the bottom, and a few small frayed holes on the tails. The fabric has grown evenly thin from washing and use. On the front it wears its original Navy script wordmark, faded to medium violet from repeated washing. The thread holding it in place is faded to an even violet color from exposure to sunlight and detergents. As was commonly done in the day by most MLB Teams, Braves MLB jerseys were stripped of their player numbers to be prepared for reissue in the minors. 1971 was the last year the Braves wore flannels, and following 1971 spring training, nearly all of the flannels were shipped to the minor leagues for reuse. The numbers that are on it now appear to be "take off" numbers from other jerseys, reapplied to this one in the minors. It was a common practice to remove and then reuse stripped numbers on player jerseys as a time and money saver. Both of these digits appear to have multiple sets of stitching holes on their edges and are worn and faded, typical of this practice.

There is ghost- evidence that several different numbers have been on the back of this jersey. The jersey's current owner declined to have me remove the current numbers to learn more, and the thinning of the jersey fabric make the ghosts faint and determining its history more difficult, but with these numbers still in place I can see faint shadows of what may have been a (different) 3 and a 1 in the first spot, and possibly a 3 and a (different) 6 in the second spot. Besides 36, the three other 1971 - issued Braves number combinations that are possible are: #16 Sonny Jackson 5' 9" 155 lbs- possible; #32 Catcher Earl Williams 6' 3" 220 lbs- would not have fit in this; #12 Dusty Baker 6' 2" 187 - possible. The lack of web-published news photos from the era makes attempting a further match difficult but not impossible, if someone wanted to research the archives of the local Atlanta newspapers of 1971. Since this jersey has pinstripes, photo matching is a not unreasonable task. There is edge-stitching evidence of the presence of a removed large rectangular fabric plate on the back above the numbers. It could have been a player nameplate, but player names in the minor leagues were unusual. Sometimes when MLB jerseys were re-issued in the minor leagues, a plate with the city name was added here. In 1972, the Braves had four minor league clubs, all named "Braves". This jersey was likely re-used in multiple seasons after 1971.

Top, above- the neck tag on the jersey in review simply has the year, 1971. Below it, from an exemplar, player team-issued jerseys from the start of the season in 1971 typically included the player name and a set number.

Conclusion: In my professional opinion, this is an authentic 1971 Atlanta Braves jersey from the last year the team wore flannels on the field. It is free of contrivance and it shows signs of game use, and multiple number replacements that would have occurred, in the minor leagues. I was unable to determine its original number set in this evaluation.

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Chapter 14

Milwaukee Brewers

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys 1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Brewers Uniform History Notes

- The Milwaukee Brewers' first year in Major League Baseball happened like a shotgun wedding. The complete story as related to the team's uniforms is found in the pages that follow. Briefly, the 1970 Brewers were born from the 1969 expansion team Seattle Pilots when the Pilots went bankrupt a mere six days before the start of the 1970 season. The first set of Brewers' home and road uniforms were created—in a hurry—using the existing Pilots uniforms already prepared for the start of the 1970 season.
- "The Milwaukee Brewers, Inc." had existed as a business corporation since 1965, its goal: to attract an MLB club to replace the departing Braves. Likely multiple uniform designs and several prototypes of possible uniforms existed as a part of the planning process. But the sudden way that a team landed on Milwaukee's doorstep didn't leave time to consider new designs. They were forced to use the Seattle Pilots' uniforms on hand, to be ready for the start of the 1970 season, *then less than a week away.*
- The 1970 and 1971 seasons were played in flannels. The Brewers' front wordmarks on home and road uniforms in those two seasons were odd in that they are differently styled from each other. The home jersey has a vertically arched block letter "BREWERS" that could not be plainer. On the other hand, the road jersey features a stylized, bold "Brewers" using a unique combination of lowercase and capital letters in the same word—somewhat resembling the "Seattle" wordmark from the defunct Pilots' uniforms.
- 1972 saw the switch to knit pullovers. The team had the opportunity at this point to change the design to whatever they liked, however they chose to stay with the same simple design and the same colors of royal blue and yellow. "BREWERS" was written now in the same vertical arched font on the fronts of both home and road jerseys.
- Between 1972–1976 the Brewers split their jerseys between Spalding, Wilson, and Sand-Knit. Each company used its own version of Varsity-style numbers on the jerseys they provided.
- The 1977–1986 jerseys were made exclusively by Sand-Knit in nearby Berlin, Wisconsin. These jerseys all featured a type style for numbers I've dubbed "Brewers Varsity," similar to Wilson's standard Varsity, but with some sight differences.
- From 1987–1990, Rawlings made the team uniforms. The number font changed again, this time to the standard Block with Serifs.
- In 1990, names are added to the back of road jerseys, making the Brewers the last team (along with the Red Sox) to do so—though the Yankees still don't.
- 1991–1993 uniforms were an "in between" style featuring a somewhat generic home and road script on the front, with an underline. Block with Serifs continued as the number font.
- 1994 brought a radical change. The team switched to a very stylized uniform with all lettering—including team wordmarks—done in a style that would look at home in a German *Biergarten*: bold, angular letters and numbers, and laid down in a fancy three-color pattern featuring the use of dark green and metallic gold twill. This series of jerseys had two variations. The first, from 1994–1996 had no front numbers. The second, from 1997–1999, featured front numbers. Other differences between the styles are highlighted in the pages ahead. Earlier road uniforms during this period were a pale grayish-green. Alternate navy blue jerseys also appear during this time.
- In 2000, the team changes logo styles again—this time suggesting influence from sponsor Miller Brewing. While this change was meant to coincide with the team's move to brand-new Miller Park, a tragic crane accident killed several workers and delayed the new park's opening by a year. The new uniforms are worn anyway for 2000, the final year at County Stadium.
- A retro-inspired home pinstripe alternate is introduced in 2006, mimicking the popular 1978–1989 style but with a button-down design. The "MB" ball-in-glove logo is used as a sleeve patch. The style lasts through 2019.
- 2020 brings another complete uniform redesign, swapping script and rounded number fonts for squared-off sans-serifs shaped to suggest beer barrels. Yellow replaces metallic gold across the board. Pinstripes return on a home alternate jersey (replacing the 2006–2019 retro inspired version), while the tradition of a navy blue alternate continues with a new angular "Milwaukee" script on front.
- In 2022, the Brewers' City Connect uniforms debut in powder blue with yellow and navy accents—an homage to the team's 1980s road look and local Milwaukee culture. "Brew Crew" appears in bold script across the front, and a grill-shaped sleeve patch celebrates Wisconsin's tailgate traditions. The sleeve patches, hat logo, and jock tag incorporate local identifiers like "MKE" and "414."
- The Brewers like their Turn Back the Clock and special events games, and since 1993 have participated in the most in baseball; by our count 53 from 1993 through 2024.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Style continues onward

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson/McAuliffe
	Road Blue Flannel	No	Varsity variant 2 color	No	-	-	-	Spalding
1971	Home White Flannel	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson/McAuliffe
	Road Blue Flannel	Varsity variant 2 color	Varsity variant 2 color	No	-	-	-	Spalding
1972	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Varsity Variant 2 color	Varsity variant 2 color	No	-	-	-	Spalding
1973	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1974	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1975	Home White	Varsity/Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Varsity/Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson/Sand Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1976	Home White	Wilson or Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Wilson or Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson/Sand Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1977	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	Frisella Armband	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	Frisella Armband	-	Sand-Knit
1978	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1979	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1980	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1981	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1982	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1983	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1984	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Lt Blue	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
1985	Home White	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Gray	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Sand-Knit

Note: There are numerous 1973-1977 year dated McAuliffe-branded Brewers jerseys in the hobby. See them covered in the “Oddball” section of this chapter. Our conclusion is that these were used in spring training and the minor leagues.

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Brewers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1986	Home White	Sand Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	Sully Memorial	-	Sand-Knit
	Road Gray	Sand Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand-Knit Varsity 2 color	No	-	Sully Memorial	-	Sand-Knit
1987	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	H Kuenn Memorial	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	H Kuenn Memorial	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	-	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	-	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	-	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1993	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1994	Home White	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	25th Anniversary	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	25th Anniversary	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Alternate Navy	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	25th Anniversary	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Alternate Navy	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	-	-	Russell
1996	Home White	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Milwaukee 150	-	Russell
	Road Gray	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Milwaukee 150	-	Russell
	Alternate Navy	-	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Milwaukee 150	-	Russell
1997	Home White	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alternate Navy (no sleeve trim)	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	Wisc. Sesqui	Russell
	Road Gray	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	Wisc. Sesqui	Russell
	Alternate Navy (with sleeve trim)	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	Wisc. Sesqui	Russell
1999	Home White	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	County Stadium/ Ironworkers*	Russell
	Road Gray	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	County Stadium/ Ironworkers*	Russell
	Alternate Navy (with sleeve trim)	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	Brewer Gothic 3 color	No	Team Diamond Logo	County Stadium/ Ironworkers*	Russell

* Ironworkers patch added to left chest July 24

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These three styles used without changes, 2000-2019

2006-2019

2010-2015

2013-2015

Brewers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2000	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
2001	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	Home to Heroes	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	Home to Heroes	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	Home to Heroes	Majestic
2002	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	All Star Game	Majestic
2003	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
2004	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
2005	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	Silver Anniv/1982 Pennant	Majestic
2008	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	40th anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	40th anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	40th anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	40th anniversary	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	GV Patch postseason only	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	GV Patch postseason only	Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	GV Patch postseason only	Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	GV Patch postseason only	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
2012	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	"Bruce" patch 9/5 onward	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	"Bruce" patch 9/5 onward	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	"Bruce" patch 9/5 onward	Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	"Bruce" patch 9/5 onward	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	"Bruce" patch 9/5 onward	Majestic
	Gold Alternate	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	-	Majestic
	Gold Alternate	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	-	Majestic

* A special player name and number font is released for the Sunday alternate Retro jersey by the Brewers, published in the Official MLB Style Guide. It is not used on the field however, as this style is lettered with the garden-variety font "Block with Serifs" in actual use. The published but unused font is identical to Giants Varsity 2000-2017.

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All, 2016-2019

Flex Base jersey construction begins with 2016. The top four jersey styles introduced in 2000 carry over from 2015. The navy "Milwaukee" road alternate changes details for 2016.

Brewers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2016	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"		Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo		Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"		Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Retro "Ball and Glove" logo		Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo		Majestic
2017	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"		Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo		Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"		Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Retro "Ball and Glove" logo		Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo		Majestic
2018	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"		Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo		Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"		Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Retro "Ball and Glove" logo		Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo		Majestic
2019	Home White	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Team Disc Logo	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Navy Home	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Miller Park "M"	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Navy Road	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	Miller Gothic 3 color	No	Retro "Ball and Glove" logo 2**	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Retro Alternate	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block w/Serifs 2 color*	Block 2 color*	No	1980's ball/glove logo	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home Cream	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch	50th Anniversary	Nike
	Road Gray	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch	50th Anniversary	Nike
	Alt Home Pinstripe	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch	50th Anniversary	Nike
	Alt Navy Road	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch	50th Anniversary	Nike

* A special player name and number font is released for the Sunday alternate Retro jersey by the Brewers, published in the Official MLB Style Guide. It is not used on the field however, as this style is lettered with the garden-variety font "Block with Serifs" in actual use. The published but unused font is identical to Giants Varsity 2000-2017.

** For 2019, glove webbing on Retro Ball and Glove patch changes from blue to white

A complete team redesign brings a new uniform lineup for 2020, which features 1970-flavor styled home and road jerseys, a refinement to the pinstripe early 1990s retro home alternate, and a new navy road alternate.

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Brewers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home Cream	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch	Hank Aaron Memorial	Nike
	Road Gray	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch	Hank Aaron Memorial	Nike
	Alt Home Pinstripe	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch	Hank Aaron Memorial	Nike
	Alt Navy Road	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch	Hank Aaron Memorial	Nike
2022	Home Cream	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch	-	Nike
	Road Gray	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch	-	Nike
	Alt Home Pinstripe	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch	-	Nike
	Alt Navy Road	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch	-	Nike
	City Connect	-	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Ball in Glove patch	BBQ patch	Nike
2023	Home Cream	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Road Gray	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alt Home Pinstripe	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alt Navy Road	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡*	Nike
	City Connect	-	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	BBQ Patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡*	Nike
2024	Home Cream	stylized 2 color (perf?)	stylized 2 color (perf?)	2" stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	stylized 2 color (no perf)	stylized 2 color (no perf)	2" stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Home Pinstripe	stylized 2 color (perf?)	stylized 2 color (perf?)	2" stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Navy Road	stylized 2 color (perf)	stylized 2 color (perf)	2" stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	stylized 2 color (perf)	2" stylized 2 color	No	BBQ Patch‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home Cream	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch/ Bob Uecker Memorial‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch/Bob Uecker Memorial‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Home Pinstripe	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	Round Baseball stitch patch/ Bob Uecker Memorial‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Navy Road	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	stylized 2 color	No	M/Wisconsin patch/Bob Uecker Memorial‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	stylized 2 color (perf)	stylized 2 color (perf)	No	BBQ Patch/Bob Uecker Memorial‡	Northwestern Mutual Ad patch‡	Nike

* Starting Sept. 15, 2023

‡ Patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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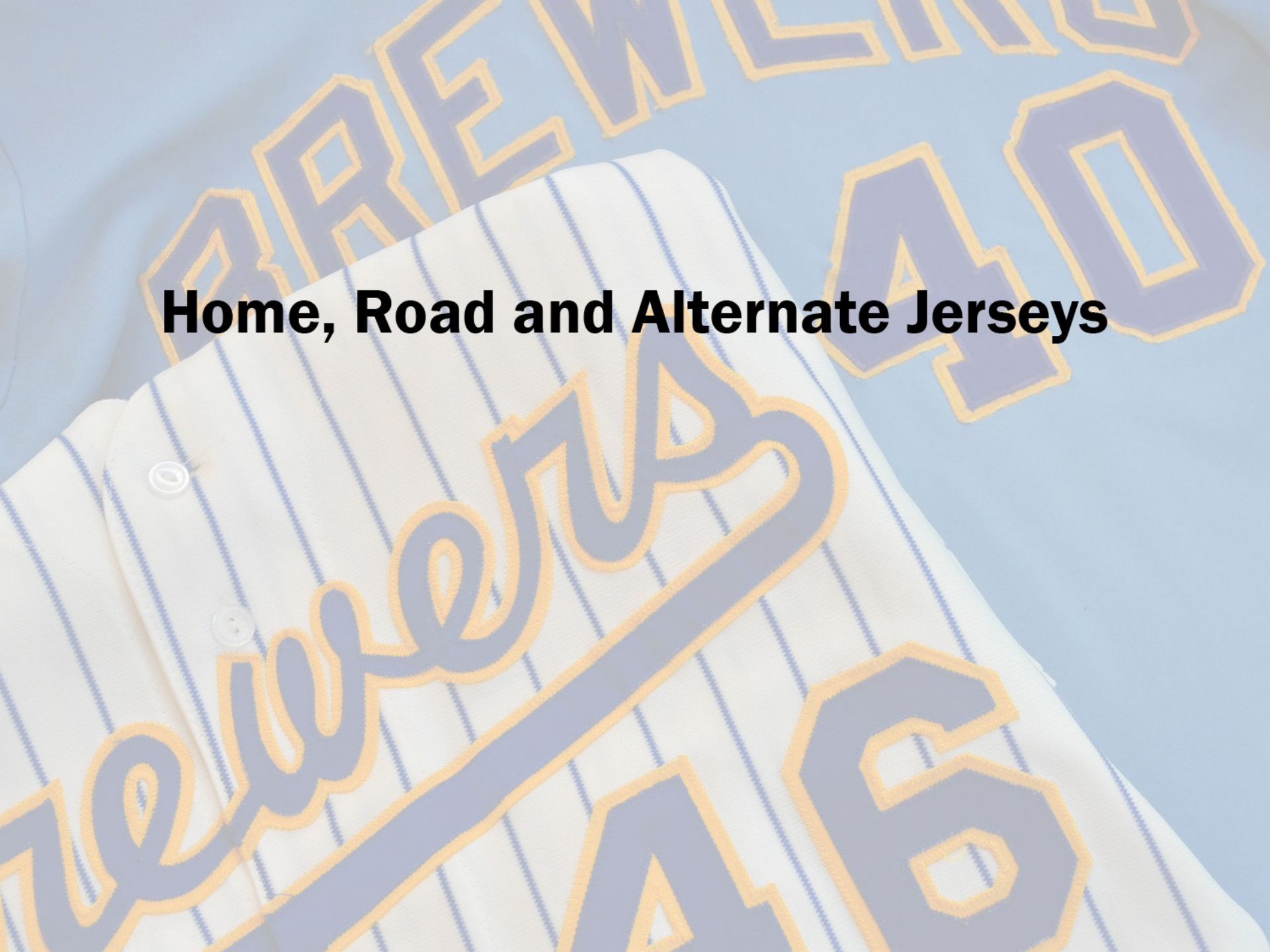
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys



1970 Home

Steve Kraljic collection

Above: *Exhibit 1: 1970-tagged Wilson Brewers jersey featuring the correct wide, nine-banded Pilots-style sleeve trim used in 1970. Note the absence of neck trim and front numbers, and the use of Wilson Varsity back numbers. Its former owner, Guy Hankel, assures us it is in original, unrestored condition in this photo.*

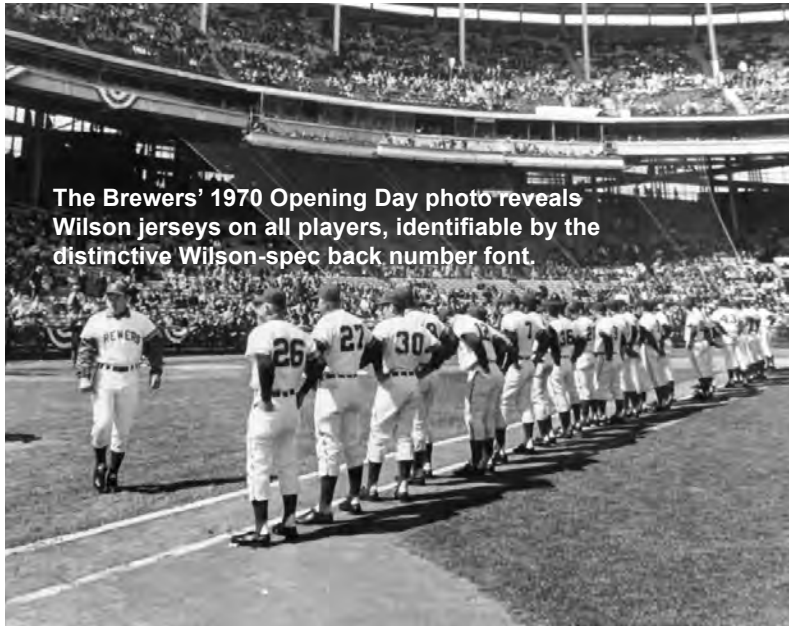
Readers may find it helpful to skip ahead to the end of this chapter and review the pages titled "1970 Brewers Prototypes" to better understand how we arrived at April 1970. For most teams this wouldn't be necessary, but the Brewers are a special case.

1970 Brewers' flannel jerseys are an eclectic collection. A degree in archaeology might help in understanding the varieties a collector can uncover.

Wilson and McAuliffe both produced year-tagged Brewers 1970 home uniforms. Photos and video of the Brewers' first season are uncommon, but the photo below of the team's home opener appears to show everyone wearing Wilson jerseys. There are no set numbers on the Wilson tagging, so we don't know if one or two sets were made. We believe the Wilson jerseys started life as 1970 Brewers uniforms.

Research suggests that many—if not all—of the McAuliffe jerseys began life as planned-for-1970 Seattle Pilots home jerseys, fully lettered for the soon-to-be-bankrupt team. Both manufacturers utilized the same basic template: white flannel button-down jerseys with the Pilots' wide gold and blue banded trim. However, McAuliffe's front wordmark was arched slightly more steeply, and the back numbers used the McAuliffe "Red Sox Font," while Wilson used their standard "Varsity" number font.

Left and right*: Exhibit 2: 1970 Wilson Brewers jersey accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity stating that it had never been a Pilots jersey, but started life as a Brewers jersey.*



The Brewers' 1970 Opening Day photo reveals Wilson jerseys on all players, identifiable by the distinctive Wilson-spec back number font.

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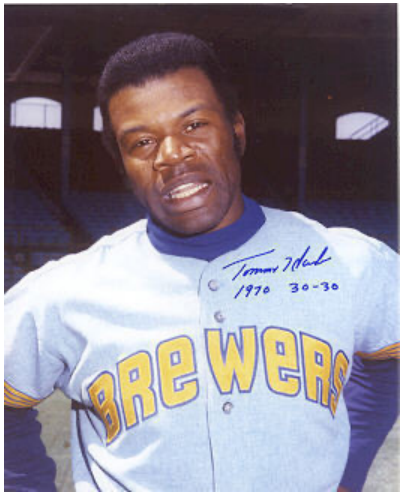
1970 Road

Guy Hankel collection



1969 Pilots road jersey (top)

If you have followed our story so far, there should be no surprise that the Brewers' first road jerseys followed a similarly convoluted path into Milwaukee. All of the road uniforms were made by Spalding. But just like the home jerseys, the first set of Brewers' flannel road jerseys was created by converting Seattle Pilots road jerseys—likely a combination of used 1969 and newly made 1970 jerseys. Interestingly, the road uniforms use a different wordmark than the home set.

The road wordmark is similar in design to the "Seattle" script on the front of the 1969 Pilots' road jersey ***(left)***, especially in the common use of lowercase e's in both designs (a similar, though not identical, font). The 1970 Brewers' road jerseys retained the back number font (a Varsity variant) from the Pilots' uniforms, as well as the wide nine-striped trim at the sleeve ends. No numbers were used on the front of the 1970 uniforms, but 1970-tagged jerseys are sometimes seen with front numbers, because they were recycled into 1971, and front numbers were added to bring them up to spec.

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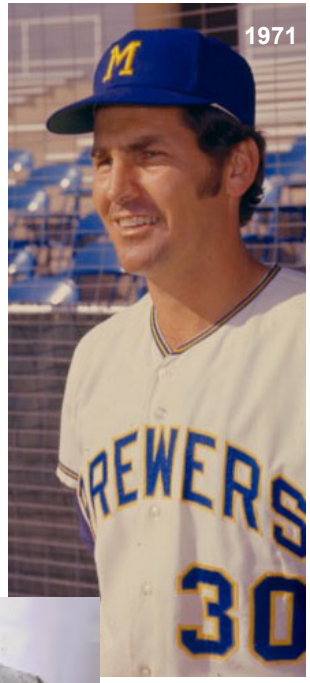
1971 Home

Tim Koberg Collection

- For 1971, the Brewers remove the wide banded trim from their sleeve ends—a holdover from the 1969 Pilots. In its place, narrow blue/yellow/blue knit trim are added one-half inch from the sleeve ends and around the neck. Jerseys remain flannel.
- Two-color Varsity numbers are added to the front on Wilson jerseys.
- Evidence suggests that some 1970 jerseys were recycled and reissued for use in 1971.



Above and right: *Year-tagged 1970 jersey with 1971 specification front numbers suggests 1971 re-issue.*

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1971 Road

Flannel road jerseys for 1971 continue to be made for the team by Spalding.

The only change from the previous year is the addition of front numbers. This font appears on both home and road Brewers jerseys that year and is unique to the 1971 team. It's a wider, differently proportioned variant of Varsity.

The 1971 road jerseys retained the wide sleeve-end trim carried over from the Pilots' days, which had already been removed from the home jerseys.

Back numbers remain a Spalding-specific variant of Varsity, unchanged from the 1969 Pilots.1970-tagged jerseys with added front numbers are not uncommon—they were recycled from the prior year and updated for 1971.

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1972-1977 Home

Wilson 1972-1976

1973

1972

The Brewers' first double-knit jerseys are about as plain and traditional as they come. White pullover body, featuring arched blue and gold lettering across the chest, with royal/gold/royal sleeve-end and V-neck trim.

Numbers appear on both the front and back in blue/gold Standard Varsity style. No names are used on the back. From 1972–1976, the jerseys were likely lettered and numbered at the factory by Wilson, and therefore use Wilson's Standard Varsity font. Sand-Knit also supplied home uniforms from 1975–1977. Due to noticeable design differences, their versions are covered on the next page.

1975

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1972-1977 Home, continued: Sand-Knit 1975-1977

1976

Sand-Knit produced the team's "Set 2" home jerseys in 1975–1976 and was the sole supplier in 1977. These jerseys use a slightly different front wordmark than the Wilson versions, with lettering that is slightly squarer in shape. The numbers use Sand-Knit's own variant of Varsity, which appears bolder and more squat than Wilson's version.

All feature the "Exclusively made for the Milwaukee Brewers" Sand-Knit tagging on the tail, and are player-tagged by Sand-Knit using their distinctive outlined-letter font. The lettering was printed in plastisol ink on long, narrow knit fabric strips stitched to the left outside tail.

1977

Looking for Brewers' McAuliffe home jerseys 1973–1977, as referenced in earlier editions? These are now included in the "Oddball" section toward the end of this chapter.

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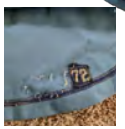
1972-1977 Road

Spalding 1972

The Brewers' first-year road knits are more eye-catching than their home counterparts, made in a darker-than-usual sky blue with blue lettering outlined in yellow. Royal/yellow/royal sleeve-end and V-neck trim completes the look.

No names on back. The blue jerseys are made by Spalding in 1972 only—Spalding's last year in the MLB uniform business. Spalding's jerseys use Wilson's number fonts, leading to speculation that they were lettered at Wilson despite carrying Spalding labels. Most surviving examples in the hobby are in poor condition due to repeated reissue in spring training and subsequent use in the minor leagues, such as the example at bottom right.

Bill Henderson Collection



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1972-1977 Road, continued: Sand-Knit 1973-1977

1975

In 1973, the Brewers turn to Sand-Knit, a Wisconsin-based manufacturer, to produce their uniforms. Well known as a supplier to the NBA, NFL, and many college teams, Sand-Knit made a play for MLB, starting in 1972 with the Braves.

The blue fabric of these jerseys is slightly lighter than the 1972 Spalding issue, and the cut is less tapered at the waist. Sand-Knit's number patterns were inconsistent in these years, and they substituted their own variant of the Varsity number font. No names used on the back. Tagging also varies year to year.

As with the 1972 Spalding jerseys, most examples in the hobby are in fair to poor condition due to severe staining and fading from repeated reissue in spring training and demotion to the minor leagues.

1973

1974

1976

1977

1975

Steve Kraljic collection

1975

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1978-1989 Home

Sand-Knit 1978-1986

These are pullover jerseys featuring blue pinstripes and blue knit V-neck trim. Numbers appear on the left front and back, in two-color royal/yellow. Sand-Knit jerseys (1978–1986) use Sand-Knit Varsity numbers. Names not used on the back during this period.

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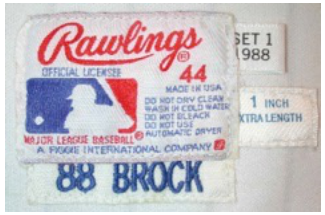
1978-1989 Home, continued: Rawlings 1987-1989

1987

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



1987

1989

In 1987, Rawlings becomes the official supplier of uniforms to MLB, and the Brewers join in, switching all of their uniforms to Rawlings. Number fonts standardized to Rawlings' Block with Serifs. No names used on back. The Rawlings script embroidered on the sleeve ends. A red Rawlings tag used in 1987, with a new white tag introduced for 1988–1989.

1988

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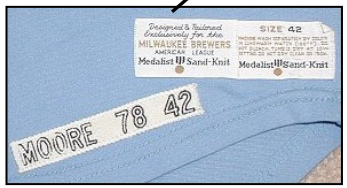
1978-1985 Road

1979

1978



Pullover jerseys made of light blue fabric—a full shade lighter than the 1972–1977 style. The front lettering switches to a "Milwaukee" script.

Numbers appear on the left front and back in two-color royal/yellow, using the Sand-Knit variant of the Brewers Varsity font. Player names not used on the back during this period.

1981

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1986-1989 Road

Sand-Knit 1986

1986

1986

Above: *This 1986 Sand-Knit jersey features Rawlings-style numbers, yet it has been judged to be all-original. Why? Read the linked letter of opinion to find out.*

1986

In 1986, the pullover jersey's body color changes from light blue to gray. Numbers appear on both the left front and back, in two-color royal/yellow. Sand-Knit was the supplier for only the first year of this style, in 1986, and the team continued to use Sand-Knit's version of the Varsity number font. Player names not used on the back. In 1987, Rawlings takes over as the uniform supplier.

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1986-1989 Road, continued: Rawlings 1987-1989

Above: *The #35 Muser jersey features the rarely seen 1987-only Rawlings red tag variant with diagonal stripes.*

In 1987, Rawlings becomes the official supplier of uniforms to MLB, and the Brewers join in, switching all of their uniforms to Rawlings. Uniform fonts standardized to Rawlings' Block with Serifs, and no names used on the back. The Rawlings script logo is embroidered on the sleeve ends. A red Rawlings jock tag used in 1987, with a new white Rawlings jock tag appearing in 1988–1989.

Right: *A comparison of Rawlings sleeve embroidery—1987 version on top, with the 1988–1989 version below.*

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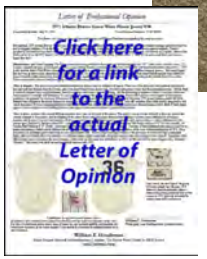
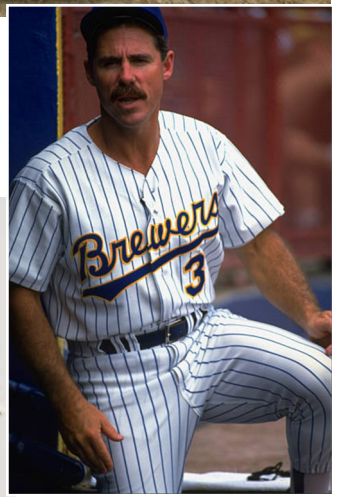
1990-1993 Home

Rawlings 1990-1991

1991

1990





For 1990, the Brewers' uniform redesign was more traditional and closely resembled one of the pre–1970 prototypes shown later in this chapter.

The new button-front design features pinstripes, a script "Brewers" with an underline, and no trim on the sleeve ends or neck. Belted pants also return.

All lettering done in two colors: royal blue and gold. Block with Serifs-style numbers appear on the front and back. Player names not used on back 1990–1992.

In 1992, Russell became the official supplier of uniforms to MLB, and the Brewers switched accordingly. Names on back added in 1993, nameplates not used.

1991

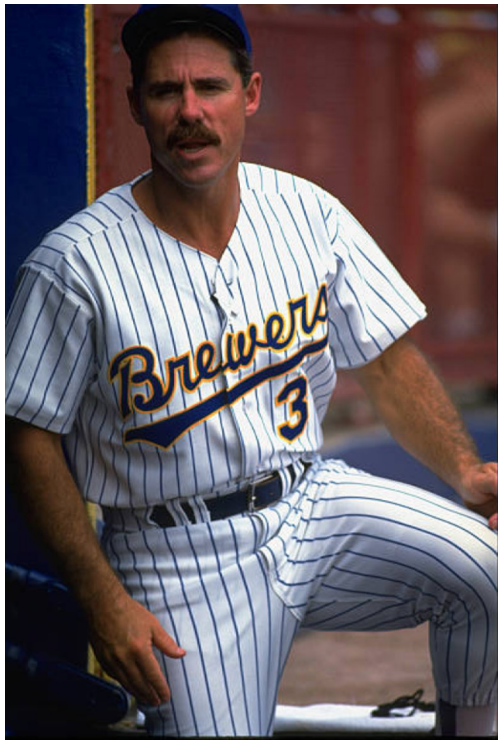
© GameWornGuides.com

1990-1993 Home, continued: Russell 1992-1993

The "S.O.B." designation on this jersey's collar tagging refers to its creation for a Muscular Dystrophy Association promotion—"Shirts Off Our Backs"—a fundraiser in which players gave their game jerseys to winning bidders at the conclusion of the contest.

Steve Kraljic collection

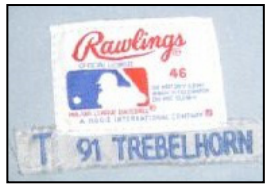
Barry Halper Collection



© GameWornGuides.com

1990-1993 Road

Rawlings 1990-1991



In 1990, the pullover jerseys of the 1980s were replaced by button-front jerseys with slightly narrower sleeve-end trim. The "Milwaukee" script added an underline, matching the design of the home jersey. Player numbers continued to use the Block with Serifs font. For the first time, player names were added to team jerseys—arched on nameplates and also rendered in Block with Serifs. The Rawlings script was now embroidered above the sleeve-end trim on the right sleeve, rather than directly on the trim as in previous seasons.

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1990-1993 Road, continued: Russell 1992-1993

1992

1992

When Russell replaces Rawlings as MLB's official uniform supplier in 1992, the Brewers immediately make the switch. The design remains exactly the same as the Rawlings versions from 1990–1991, and nameplates are still used. Most 1992 jerseys are made of Intera—a short-lived fabric known for wrinkling easily and fading quickly. The use of Intera is discontinued in 1993.

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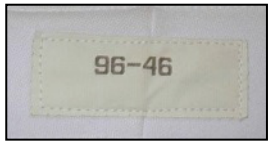
1994-1996 Home



Identify this jersey by the larger, flat-bottom letters **B** and **S** at the beginning and end of "BREWERS.""

Uses unique "German Beer Garden"-esque font—Brewers Gothic—for both player names and numbers.

No numbers on front 1994–1996. Three-color numbers and names—navy/metallic gold/dark green. No nameplates are used.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994-1996 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

- Identify this jersey by the larger, flat-bottom letters **M** and **E** at the beginning and end of the word "MILWAUKEE." This jersey has a pale greenish tint and features thin, dark green knit trim on the front and sleeves.
- Uses the special Brewers Gothic style for both names and numbers.
- No numbers appear on front 1994–1996.
- A three-color number and three-color name—navy/metallic gold/dark green—are used.
- Nameplates are not used. Starting in 1994, team tagging appears on the inside back collar as shown.

1995

© GameWornGuides.com

1994-1996 Alternate

1994

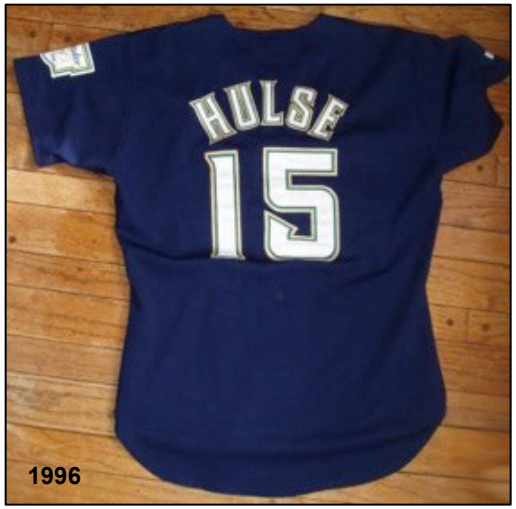
1994

Identify this jersey by the larger, flat-bottom letters **B** and **S** at the beginning and end of the word "BREWERS." It uses the special Brewers Gothic style for both names and numbers. Three-color names and numbers—white/dark green/metallic gold—are used. Nameplates are not used. No numbers appear on the front from 1994–1996; instead, the Brewers logo crest is sewn on the front left.

1994

Bill Henderson Collection

1996



1996

© GameWornGuides.com

1997-1999 Home

1998

Bill Henderson Collection

1999

The navy knit trim on the 1997–1999 jerseys is wider than the trim used from 1994–1996.

1999

1997

Identify this jersey by the equally sized, evenly curved letters at the beginning and end of the word “BREWERS." It uses a special Brewers style for both names and numbers. Numbers are added on the left front from 1997–1999. Three-color names and numbesr—navy/metallic gold/dark green—are used. Nameplates not used. Front and sleeve knit trim is navy blue, and a team logo patch is sewn to the left sleeve.

1997

© GameWornGuides.com

1997-1999 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

1998

Identify this jersey by the equally sized, evenly curved letters at the beginning and end of the word “Milwaukee.” The fabric is no longer greenish; instead, it is a purplish-gray, and the knit trim changes to navy blue.

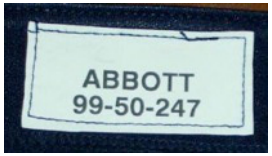
The navy knit trim on the 1997–1999 jerseys is wider than that used in 1994–1996. It uses the special Brewers Gothic style for both names and numbers. Front numbers are added on the left side from 1997–1999. Three-color numbers and names—navy/metallic gold/dark green—are used. Nameplates are not used. A team logo patch is sewn to the left sleeve.

1999

© GameWornGuides.com

1997-1999 Alternate

- Identify this jersey by the equally sized, arched-bottom letters at the beginning and end of the word “BREWERS” (compare to earlier style).
- Only 1997 has plain-ended sleeves; white knit sleeve-end trim is added for 1998–1999.
- Uses the special Brewers Gothic style for both names and numbers.
- Numbers are added to the left front from 1997–1999, and the Brewers logo crest moves to the sleeve.
- Three-color names and numbers—white/dark green/metallic gold—is used.
- Nameplates not used.



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2000-2019 Home

The team adopts a new identity for 2000, originally planned to synchronize with their move to the new stadium, Miller Park. However, construction setbacks and a fatal crane accident delay that opening by a full year, so the Brewers play their final season at County Stadium in the new duds.

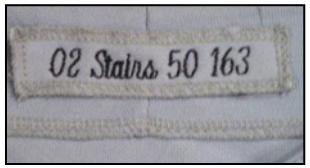
The Brewers' new identity appears to draw somewhat from their sponsor's influence—especially the stylized "M" logo, complete with a stalk of wheat to symbolize brewing. On the team patch, the logo is set against a gold silhouette of Wisconsin and is sewn to the shoulder.

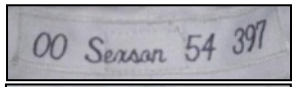
A new, ornate Brewers type style is used for both names and numbers. A three-color name and number—navy/white/metallic gold with a 3D drop shadow—is featured. Nameplates are not used. Team tagging is sewn inside the collar. Sleeves feature three-color knit trim at the ends—navy/gold/navy.

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2019 Road

Bill Henderson Collection





The road gray jersey is very similar to the home jersey. It is made of gray fabric—initially full-weight polyester, later converted to Cool Base. The sleeve patch differs from those on the home and alternate blue jerseys, featuring “Milwaukee” in the team’s new ornate script, laid over the image of a baseball ringed with gold. A three-color name and number—navy/white/metallic gold with a 3D drop shadow—is used. Sleeve stripes are navy/metallic gold/navy, sewn onto knit trim.

With an alternate jersey in the set from the beginning, and the introduction of a road alternate in 2010, this jersey sees less and less use as time goes by.

The Brewers’ new special type style is used for both names and numbers. Nameplates are not used. Team tagging is sewn inside the collar.

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2009 Alternate Navy/2010-2019 Alternate Home Navy

2001

Bill Henderson Collection

Designed identically to the home white jersey—except for the fabric color and the reordering of twill colors—the navy alternate jersey is a team favorite from the very beginning. Designed for use at both home and on the road, it becomes the Brewers' road jersey of choice more often than not, especially after 2000. In 2010, a road version of the navy jersey is added, relegating this navy alternate to home use only.

As with the other jerseys, player numbers appear on both the front and back. Three-color names and numbers—white/navy/metallic gold featuring a 3D drop shadow. The Brewers' special font style is used for both names and numbers. Nameplates not used.

The sleeve ends feature metallic gold knit trim, in contrast to the three-striped trim used on the white and gray versions.

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2006-2019 Alternate Home Nostalgia

Styled to resemble—but not directly copy—the team's home jerseys from 1978–1989, this popular design is brought back at fans' request for use during Friday night home games. That era marked the only sustained period of success in the Brewers' history to that point.

Unlike the original version, this jersey is a button-front design rather than a pullover. It also features the "MB" ball-in-glove logo as a sleeve patch—a detail not present on the original jerseys, but one that had been used on batting practice tops and team caps. The originals did not have player names on the back.

Player numbers appear on both the front and back in the Block with Serifs font. Interestingly, the MLB's official lettering guide calls for a typeface that appears to be identical to the San Francisco Giants' Varsity font, though this is not what the team actually uses. Player names are in Block style, and nameplates are not used.

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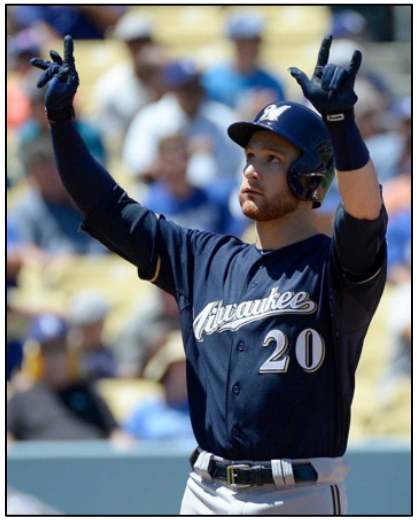
2010-2015 Alternate Road Navy



The Brewers debut a road alternate jersey in 2010 featuring “Milwaukee” on the front—marking the first time the city name appears on a Brewers road jersey since 1999. The lettering is white, outlined in navy, with a metallic gold 3D drop shadow.

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2013-2015 Alternate Gold

The alternate gold jersey is reintroduced to the team's lineup in 2013 with slight modifications, following a surprise appearance in 2011 during a Brewers "Gold-Out" promotion, in which fans were encouraged to wear gold to the park while the team wore gold on the field (this game is included in the "Special Events" section ahead). The uniforms are something less than bright yellow—under the lights, they appear mustard-colored. The lettering is elaborate and multi-layered: navy/white with metallic gold/navy 3D drop shadow, totaling four colors. It is difficult to stitch and is described as being "thick as cardboard" when completed. A white-bordered sleeve patch matches the one found on the navy jerseys. The gold jersey, which is worn both at home and on the road, enjoys a short three-year run.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, made of Cool Base fabric but enhanced with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys feature mesh side panels that run the full length of the torso, along with an additional mesh panel on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic claims is 10–20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck becomes a rubberized patch—called CFX by Majestic—and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from that of earlier Cool Base jerseys.

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

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2016-2019 Alternate Road

Above and below: *a comparison of the new style (left) to the prior version (right). Note the differences in trim color, lettering drop shadow, and the new sleeve patch.*

A major change for 2016: while the alternate road navy jersey transitions to the Flex Base template (along with all of the team's other jerseys), several other updates are introduced as well. The fabric is a noticeably brighter shade of blue than the earlier navy, and the lightweight twill replaces its metallic gold drop shadow with a version made of standard gold twill. The sleeve patch changes to the Brewers' ball-in-glove alternate logo, and the sleeve-end trim changes from metallic gold braid to solid "retro" gold. This jersey quickly becomes the Brewers' preferred road selection.

Steve Kraljic collection

2018

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2020-2023 Home

In time for the Brewers' 50th anniversary as Milwaukee's team, the Brew Crew unveils a complete redesign of their suite of uniforms. The home jersey is now cream-colored and built on Nike's version of the former Majestic Flex Base template, with all lettering presented in a blue/yellow color scheme. The front features a new wordmark in a vertically arched serif font, accompanied by a matching custom-font number on the left side. Player names appear on the back in the same font, radially arched, above custom-font back numbers. Sleeve ends are adorned with wide blue/yellow/blue sewn-in trim, and a new navy, royal blue, and yellow baseball logo—with stalks of wheat subbing in for stitches—is sewn to the left sleeve. During the inaugural season of this set, the team's 50th anniversary patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2021, it is replaced by the Hank Aaron memorial patch.

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2020-2023 Alternate Home

In time for the Brewers' 50th anniversary as Milwaukee's team, the Brew Crew unveils a complete redesign of their uniforms. The home alternate jersey revives the team's nostalgic pinstripe history, echoing the club's 1980s glory. Built on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, this jersey is identical in design elements to the home jersey but applied to a white jersey with blue pinstripes and no sleeve trim. All lettering is again in blue/yellow. The front features the new wordmark in a vertically arched serif font, paired with a matching custom-font number on the left side. Player names appear on the back in the same font, radially arched, above custom-font back numbers. The navy, royal, and yellow baseball logo—with stalks of wheat subbing in for stitches—is sewn to the left sleeve. For the inaugural season of this set, the team's 50th anniversary patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2021, it is replaced by the Hank Aaron memorial patch.

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2020-2023 Road

2020

The newly designed road gray jersey is built on Nike's version of the former Majestic Flex Base template, with all lettering in a blue/yellow color scheme. The front features a new "Milwaukee" wordmark in a vertically arched serif font, paired with a matching custom-font front number on the left side. Player names appear on the back in the same font, radially arched, above the same custom-font back numbers. The sleeves are adorned with wide blue/yellow/blue trim. Unlike the home jersey, however, this trim is not sewn into the sleeve but stitched on top, leaving a half inch of gray fabric visible beneath. The left sleeve features a new patch shaped like the state of Wisconsin, with a blue "M" over a gold brickwork pattern and a baseball roughly indicating Milwaukee's location within the state. For the inaugural season of this set, the team's 50th anniversary patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2021, it is replaced by the Hank Aaron memorial patch.appears on the right sleeve, the Hank Aaron memorial patch takes its place in 2021.

2020

2021

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2020-2023 Alternate Road

The new-for-2020 set's alternate road blue jersey is sewn using Nike's version of the former Majestic Flex Base template. All lettering appears in yellow, outlined in a blue that matches the color of the jersey fabric. The front features a new script "Milwaukee" wordmark, distinct from the standard road jersey, rendered in an angular cursive style. Player names and numbers appear on the back in the same custom font used across the other new jerseys, also in the same yellow and blue color combination as the front lettering. The sleeves are adorned with narrow yellow trim just above the sleeve ends, and the same trim traces the placket and collar. The left sleeve features a new patch shaped like the state of Wisconsin, with a blue "M" over a gold brickwork pattern and a baseball roughly indicating Milwaukee's location. For the inaugural season of this set, the team's 50th anniversary patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2021, it is replaced by the Hank Aaron memorial patch.

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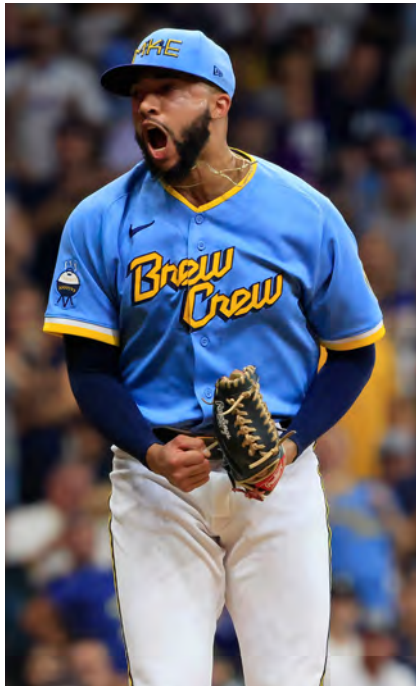
2022-2023 City Connect

2022 Only



Below: *The People's Flag of Milwaukee—designed by Robert Lenz—which served as the inspiration for the color scheme used in the Brewers' City Connect uniforms.*

Milwaukee's entry into the City Connect series draws upon the team's past and present identities. The navy, powder blue, and yellow color scheme is inspired by the People's Flag of Milwaukee—a design known as "Sunrise Over the Lake" by Robert Lenz, which won a 2016 contest and has since gained widespread popularity across the city. The powder blue also pays tribute to the Brewers' 1980s road uniforms, as does the ball-in-glove patch (worn on the left sleeve in 2022 only). For the first time, the team's unofficial nickname, "Brew Crew," appears on the front of the jersey in yellow/navy—with a 3D drop shadow—in a script that echoes the team's current road jersey font. The back of the jersey features the Brewers' standard name and number font, rendered in navy/yellow.A wide yellow braid encircles the neck opening, while yellow/white braid decorates the sleeve ends—an element the team says "represents a beer's foam head." The Brewers also claim that Wisconsinites "wait all year to fire up the grill," and they honor this tradition with a sleeve patch depicting a base-ball-shaped barbecue grill, complete with red stitches and support legs in the shape of an "M." This patch appears on the right sleeve in 2022 and is worn on different sleeves in 2023 based on player handedness. Finally, a small embroidered patch is sewn above the left-front jock tag, combining "MKE" (Milwaukee's airport code) with "414" (the city's area code).

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolls back some—but not all—of these changes for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Brewers home jersey introduced only four seasons before. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Brewers' 2020 redesign already used slightly smaller back lettering than most teams, so the 2024 difference is less pronounced, aside from the more prominent NOB arc Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, and the Brewers lettering now breaks across the "W" over the placket. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering, more research is required.

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2024 Alternate Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Brewers home alternate jersey introduced only four seasons before. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Brewers 2020 redesign actually used back lettering that was slightly smaller than other teams, so the difference in 2024 is less pronounced, aside from the NOB arc. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, and the Brewers lettering now breaks across the "W" over the placket. It is unclear if the team opts for perforated numbering; more research is required.

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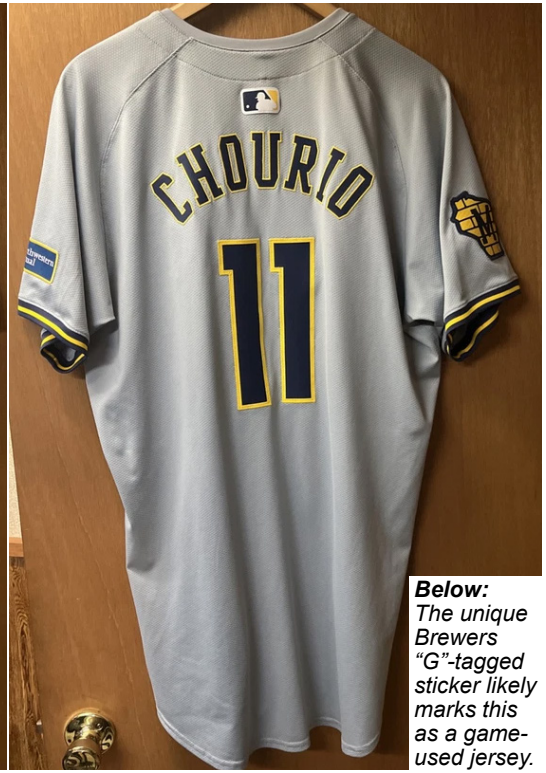
2024 Road



Below: *The unique Brewers "G"-tagged sticker likely marks this as a game-used jersey.*

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Brewers road jersey introduced only four seasons before. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Brewers 2020 redesign actually used back lettering that was slightly smaller than other teams, so the difference in 2024 is less pronounced, aside from the NOB arc. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, and the Milwaukee lettering now breaks across the "A" over the placket. The team does not use perforated numbering on this jersey.

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2024 Alternate Road

Below: *The unique Brewers "G"-tagged sticker likely marks this as a game-used jersey.*

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Brewers road alternate jersey introduced only four seasons before. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Brewers 2020 redesign actually used back lettering that was slightly smaller than other teams, so the difference is not as pronounced in 2024, aside from the NOB arc. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before, though the Milwaukee lettering breaks in about the same place as it did on the prior template—making us wonder why it couldn't be kept consistent across the other jerseys. The team uses perforated numbering for this jersey.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Brewers' popular City Connect jersey introduced only two seasons prior. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Brewers City Connect actually used back lettering that was slightly smaller than other teams, so the difference is not as pronounced in 2024, aside from the NOB arc. Sleeve-end trim was sewn in on the Flex Base version of this style, and it is once again, however, the scale of that trim is now smaller than it had been before. Neck trim, on the other hand, was sewn on before and is now sewn into the collar, though it appears about the same size. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the Brew Crew lettering, which is smaller than before, breaks across the placket slightly differently. The Brewers use perforated numbers on this version of the jersey. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite changes to the rest of the uniform set.

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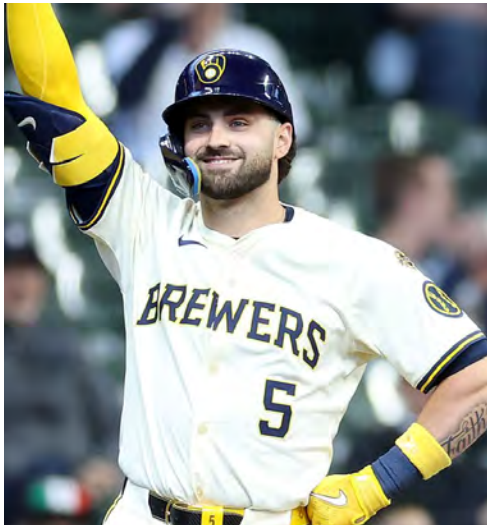
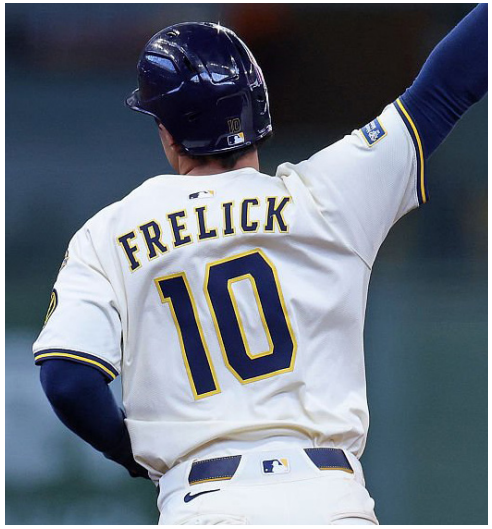
2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. The Brewers, for their part, have always used a smaller name font on this generation of jerseys, so the change back is more apparent on the arc of the name rather than the size. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version of this jersey includes the Bob Uecker memorial patch above the team patch. It also features the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag—an element used on only a handful of jerseys league-wide.





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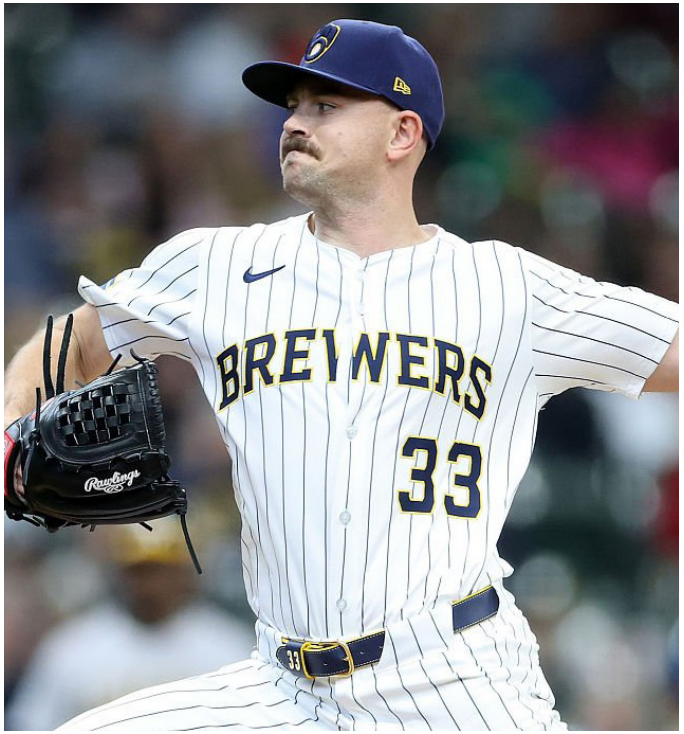
2025 Alternate Home



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back names and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. The Brewers, for their part, have always used a smaller name font on this generation of jerseys, so the change back is more apparent on the arc of the name rather than the size. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, replacing printed or lightweight embroidered patches. This 2025 version includes the Bob Uecker memorial patch above the team patch and features the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag—an element used on only a handful of jerseys league-wide.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. This makes the Brewers’ sleeve-end trim appear narrower in 2025. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. Like other 2025 jerseys, gray jerseys also have back names and numbers enlarged, in most cases reverting to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Brewers, for their part, have always used a smaller name font on this generation of jerseys, so the change back is more apparent on the arc of the name rather than the size. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, replacing printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version of this jersey has the Bob Uecker memorial patch above the team patch.

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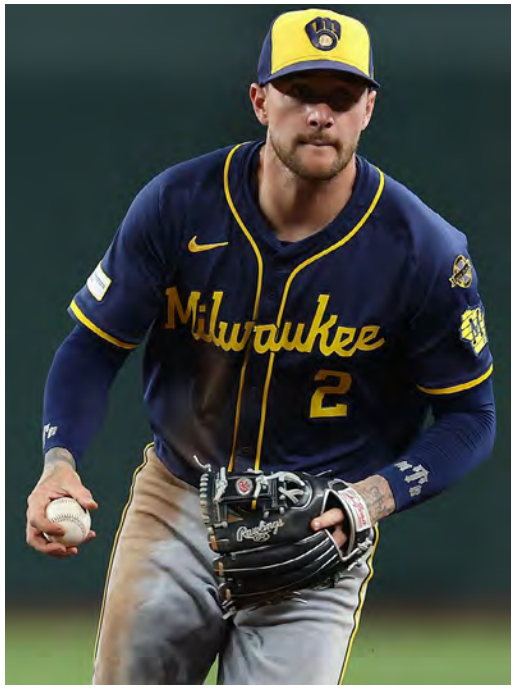
2025 Alternate Road



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back names and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. The Brewers, for their part, have always used a smaller name font on this generation of jerseys, so the change back is more apparent on the arc of the name rather than the size. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, replacing printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version of this jersey has the Bob Uecker memorial patch above the team patch.

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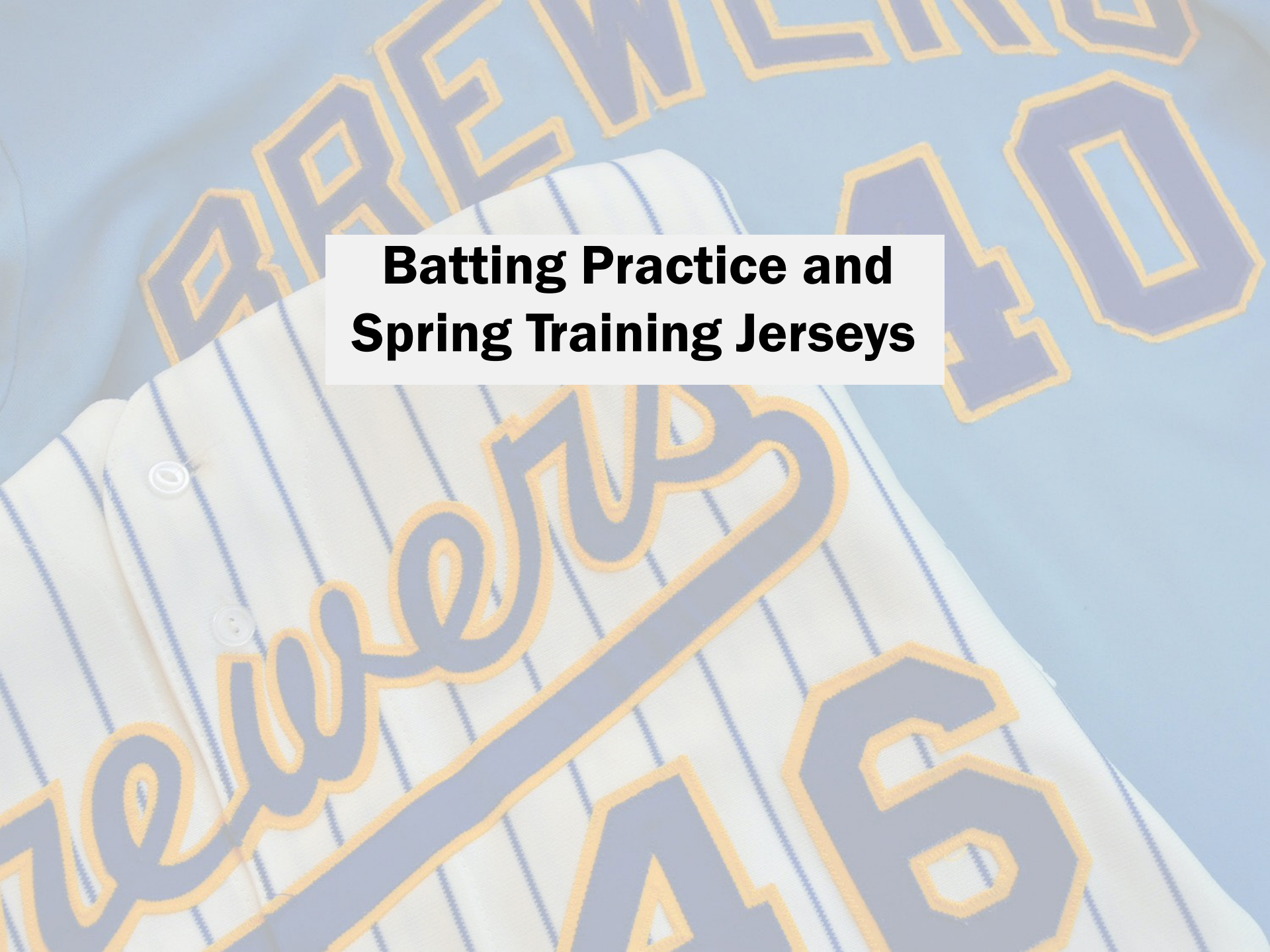
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



Mid-1980s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

These Roman Sport jerseys (***above*** and ***bottom right***) are similar to ones made by Majestic ***(right***) and worn by many other teams—like the White Sox, Pirates, and Padres—in the mid-1980s. Some teams did not wear them on the field at all, while others issued them at player-request to be worn as jackets without names or numbers on the back. I have no photos in my archives of the Brewers wearing these styles of jersey on the field.

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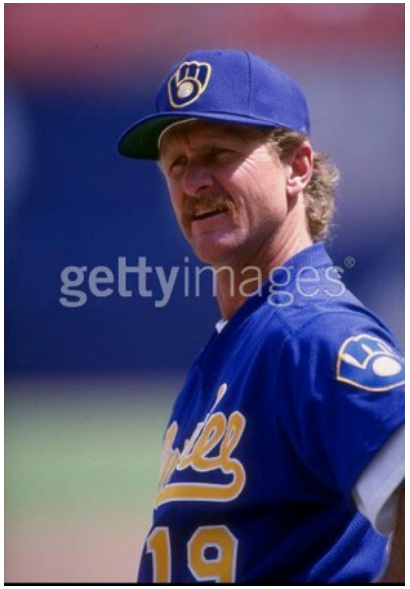
1987-1993 Road Batting Practice

1992

1993
Bill Henderson Collection



- Royal blue mesh fabric with yellow/white “Milwaukee” (road) script on the front
- Two-color yellow/white Block with Serifs numbers on front and back, with front numbers using the jersey-front variation of the font.
- No names on back. Brewers MB/ball-in-glove logo is used on the left sleeve.

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1990-1993 Home Batting Practice

Royal blue mesh fabric with yellow/white “Brewers” (home) script on the front. Two-color yellow/white Block with Serifs numbers on front and back, with front numbers using the jersey-front variation of the font.

No names on back, Brewers MB/ball-in-glove logo patch on the left sleeve. Made by Majestic. Similar jerseys made by AIS are minor league issues.

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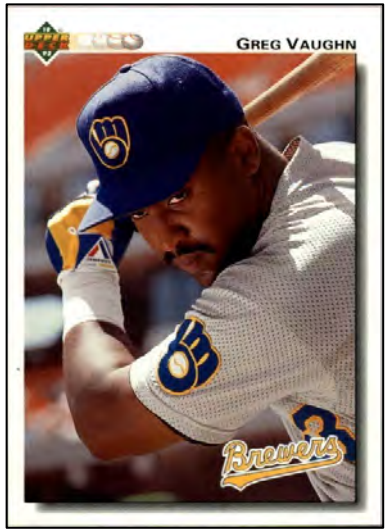
1991 Alternate Road Batting Practice

Guy Hankel Collection



Our research suggests that this gray mesh BP jersey, made by Rawlings, is used only in 1991.

No name on back. Numbers are in two-color Block with Serifs on both front and back.

Brewers MB/ball-in-glove logo patch appears on the left sleeve.

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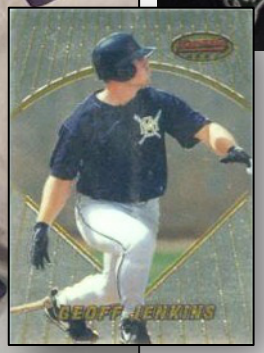
1994-1996 Batting Practice



Navy blue mesh pullover with two buttons at the neck. “Crossed-bats” Brewers logo appears on the left chest in embroidered tackle twill.

Back numbers only, in Brewers “Gothic” style — three-color white/ dark green/metallic gold. Names on back are not used.

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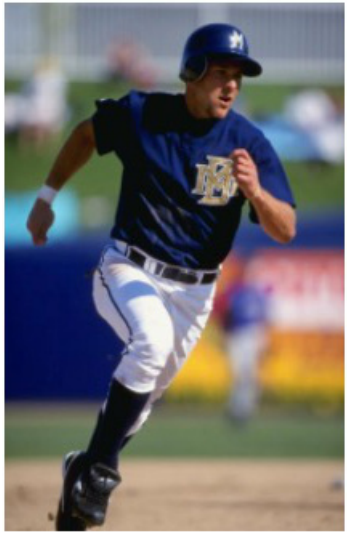
1997-1999 Batting Practice

Navy blue mesh pull-over with a two-button neck. The crossed bats are removed from the front chest logo, and the inter-twined “MB” is enlarged.

Back num-bers only, in Brewers “Gothic” style — three-color white/dark green/metallic gold tackle twill. Names on back are not used.



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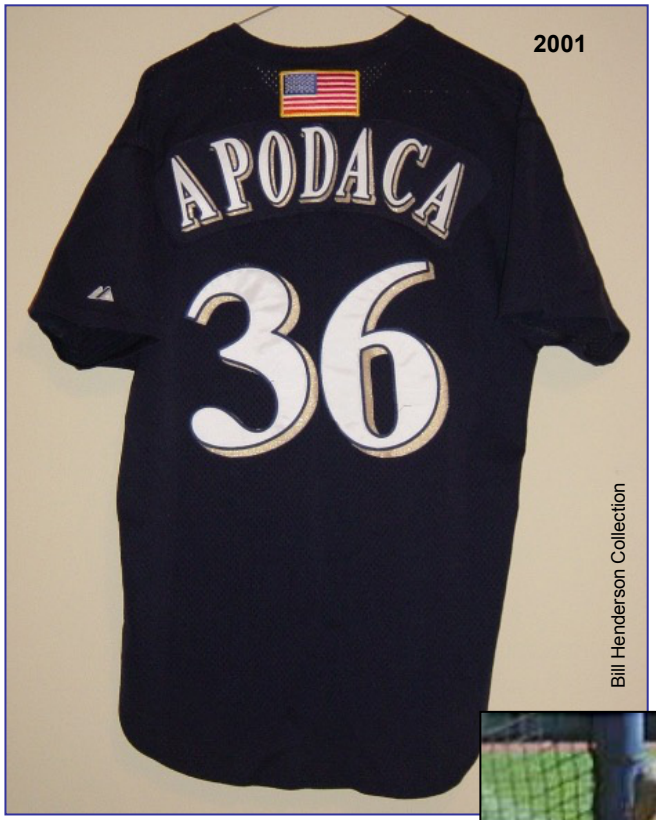
2000-2002 Batting Practice



Navy blue mesh fabric, V-neck. No numbers on front. Names appear on back during the season. Some Spring Training jerseys have NOB, and some do not.

Brewers' new special type style is used for both names and numbers. Three-color numbers — white/navy/metallic gold 3D drop shadow — are identical to those on the blue alternate jersey.

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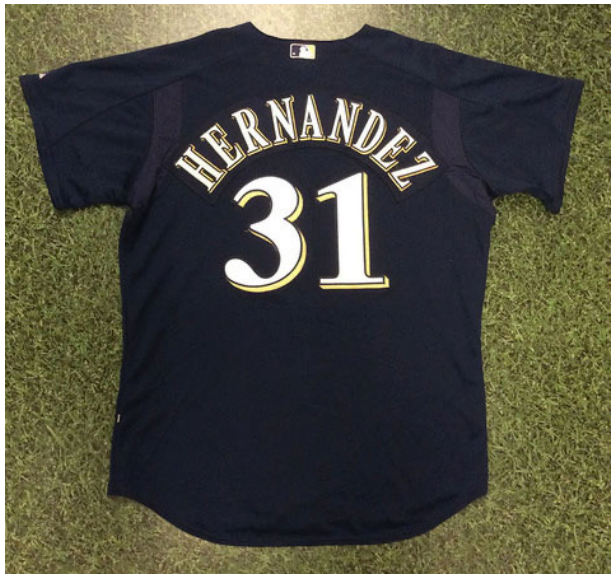
2003-2006 Batting Practice

2004



2003

2006

Uses softer, non-mesh early tech fabric. Underarm sleeve inserts are made of a different fabric. Most jerseys have name and numbers on back; however, some Spring Training jerseys have numbers only. All have three-color white/navy/metallic gold 3D drop shadow. Nameplates are generally used.

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2006-2013 Alternate Home Batting Practice

2006

Added to the Brewers' lineup, this retro BP jersey is intended to be worn prior to games when the team wears its retro pinstripe uniforms. Made of "old fashioned" mesh instead of Cool Base, it is simply constructed, without side panels or contrasting colors.
Block Bold with Serif numbers are used on both front and back, yellow outlined with white — matching the "Milwaukee" script on front. Ball-in-glove retro patch appears on the left sleeve. No names on back.

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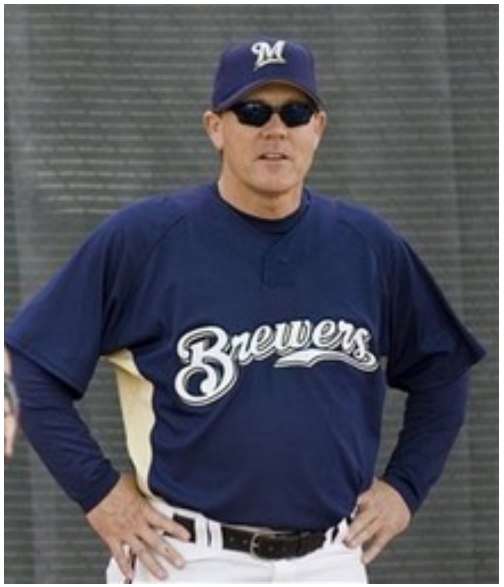
2007-2010 Batting Practice

Like all other teams in Major League Baseball, the Brewers adopt the new, lighter-weight Cool Base fabric batting practice jersey in 2007, made by Majestic.

The jersey features a one-button neck and pale gold insert side panels.

All lettering and designs are single-layer, heat-pressed appliqués, no longer sewn-on multi-layer tackle twill.

While some decried the move away from layered twill, for teams like the Brewers — with three-layer designs front and back — it makes the new garments lighter and more pliable in use.



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2011-2013 Batting Practice

For 2011, the Cool Base batting practice jersey switches from pullover to button-front.

Side panels are now solid darker gold, replacing the previous navy blue/pale gold combination.

The front wordmark remains the same as before and matches the home alternate jersey, though it is an appliqué design rather than tackle twill.

Back names and numbers return to layered and sewn twill, in the same three-color combination as the alternate game jerseys.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

All BP jerseys in MLB are refreshed for 2014, and the Brewers take the opportunity to change theirs. The team's secondary wordmark (or hat logo) is now featured on the left chest, sewn on as an embroidered appliqué. Gold side panels continue as before, but now begin higher on the jersey and extend to cover the entire under-sleeve. Back lettering remains unchanged, using three-color player names and numbers in white/navy/metallic gold 3D drop shadow. Knit trim is now sewn at the sleeve ends and neck — navy with a white center stripe.

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2014-2016 Alternate Home Batting Practice

The Brewers add this retro-styled royal blue BP jersey in 2014, featuring the popular ball-in-glove logo on the left chest. Side panels and back lettering are bright yellow. The back lettering is extra bold, with a thick second yellow outline that fills the centers of normally closed letters (like O, B, and D). It is intended to be worn on days when the retro home game jersey is used. This jersey is also worn occasionally as a game jersey, despite the team's already extensive uniform options.

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2016 Spring Training

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

For the first time, MLB introduces a Spring Training–specific jersey intended for workouts and pre-season games. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Brewers use their regular-season alternate road navy jersey as the basis for their Spring Training design. Name and back numbers are in white patterned twill with blue/yellow 3D drop shadow. Front numbers use the standard white/blue/yellow 3D drop shadow. Sleeve-end trim is changed to "retro yellow" knit, replacing the earlier metallic gold style. The jersey also features a rubberiized CFX patch on the right sleeve during Spring Training in the shape of an Interstate sign with "2016" and "AZ" on it.

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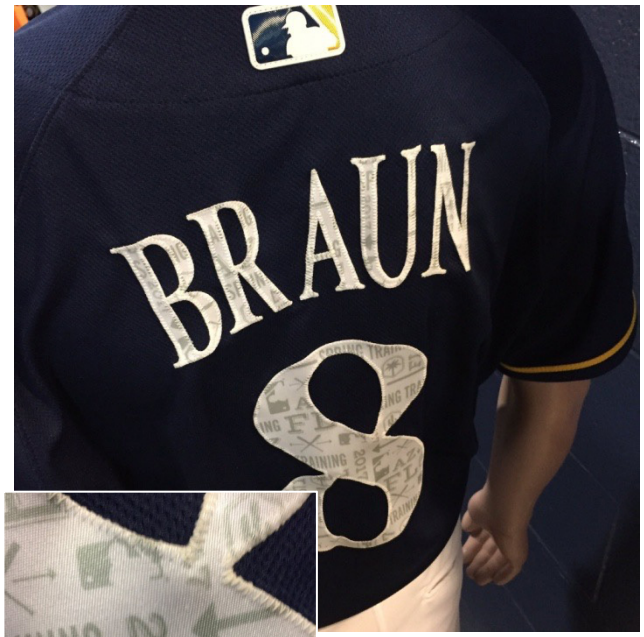
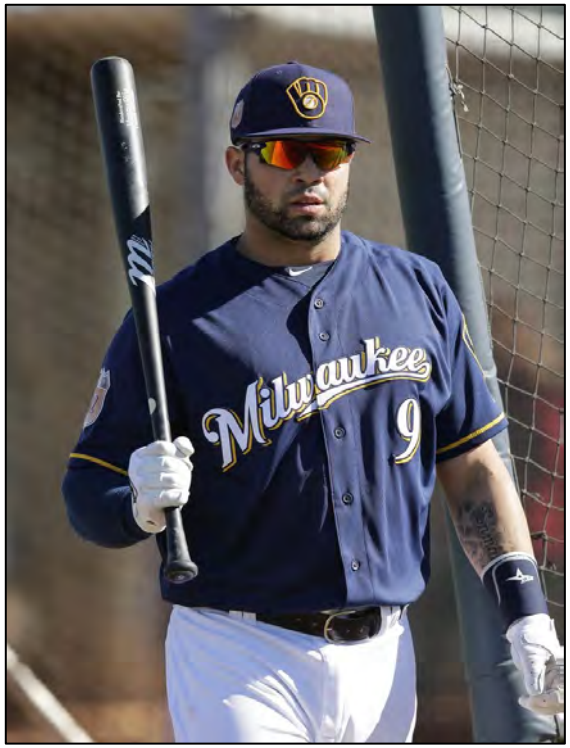
2017 Spring Training





Bottom right: *Non-roster Spring Training invitees are often assigned high-numbered jerseys without names on back*

Spring Training–only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with minor design updates. As in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, now decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. All teams now use the same twill — a single-color white layer with gray printing — replacing the varied team-specific designs used the previous year.

The Brewers again use their regular-season alternate road navy jersey as the base. Name and back numbers are in white patterned twill. Front numbers use the standard white/blue/yellow 3D drop shadow as in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” to represent the Brewers’ Spring Training location.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls "lightweight twill" (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Brewers have two official BP jerseys: the standard version is navy blue with gold underarm gussets and features the "M" cap logo on the left chest; the retro version is royal blue with yellow back and underarm panels, featuring the "ball-in-glove" logo on the left chest. Both versions have blank backs, and player numbers are applied to the middle of the left sleeve.

The Brewers have two official BP jerseys: the standard version (top), and the nostalgia version (bottom), which is worn without sleeve numbers in Spring Training and with them during regular-season games when the retro home uniform is used.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design from the previous year, with all player name and number lettering using each team's regular-season fonts, now simplified into a single layer of twill printed with Spring Training and 2018-specific patterns. The Brewers use their regular-season navy road alternate as the base. Name and back numbers are sewn in white patterned twill. Front numbers use the standard white/blue/yellow 3D drop shadow seen in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate and featuring "2018" and "AZ" to represent the Brewers' Spring Training home, is stitched to the right sleeve.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey introduces another variation on the theme used the previous three years. Single-color printed twill is eliminated, and teams return to regular-season multi-layer twill for player names and numbers — now without the printed patterns seen in 2016. The Brewers use their regular-season navy road alternate as the base. Name and front and back numbers are rendered in white/blue/yellow 3D drop shadow. A new CFX patch appears on the right sleeve, featuring “2019” and “ARZ” to represent their Spring Training location.

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2020-2023 Home Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified across MLB for 2020. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys no longer include a special sleeve patch indicating the year and location, and all lettering now uses the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as in the regular season. The Brewers wear their home jerseys during Spring Training workouts and games, featuring blue/yellow lettering throughout — including the front logo, front and back numbers, and player names. The jersey is cream-colored, using Nike's version of the former Majestic Flex Base template. The front wordmark appears in a vertically arched serif font, with a matching custom-font front number on the left chest. Player names on back are radially arched in the same font, positioned above custom-font back numbers. Sleeve ends feature wide blue/yellow/blue sewn-in trim. A new navy, royal blue, and yellow baseball logo with wheat stalks in place of stitches is worn on the left sleeve. For the set's inaugural season in 2020, a 50th anniversary patch is worn on the right sleeve; in 2021, it is replaced by a Hank Aaron memorial patch.

2020

2021

© GameWornGuides.com

2020-2023 Alternate Spring Training

Beginning in 2020, Spring Training is simplified league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home. The lettering is now the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as used during the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season road alternates. The Brewers use their alternate blue jerseys in Spring Training for some workouts and games, featuring yellow/blue lettering throughout—on the front logo, front and back numbers, and player names.

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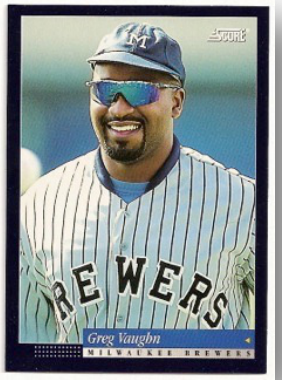
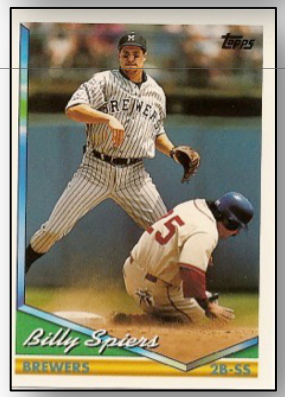
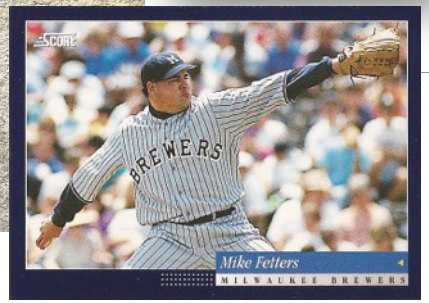
Special Events Jerseys

1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1920s Minor League Brewers

Guy Hankel Collection







- The Brewers met the Rangers twice in 1993 for Turn Back the Clock contests—first at Texas on May 1, then again at home in Milwaukee on July 6.
- Both times the Brewers wore a Mitchell & Ness knit rendition of a 1920s-era Brewers independent league uniform made of gray knit pinstripe, with a navy stand-up-style sun collar and long ¾-length sleeves with navy trim at the ends.
- The uniform design is a fanciful original creation with a 1920s feel (as were the Rangers' uniforms), not a copy of an actual historic uniform.
- All lettering is straight-stitched felt. Navy Varsity-style "BREWERS" is arched on the front, with a white 3D drop shadow. Two-color back numbers are Block with Serifs..

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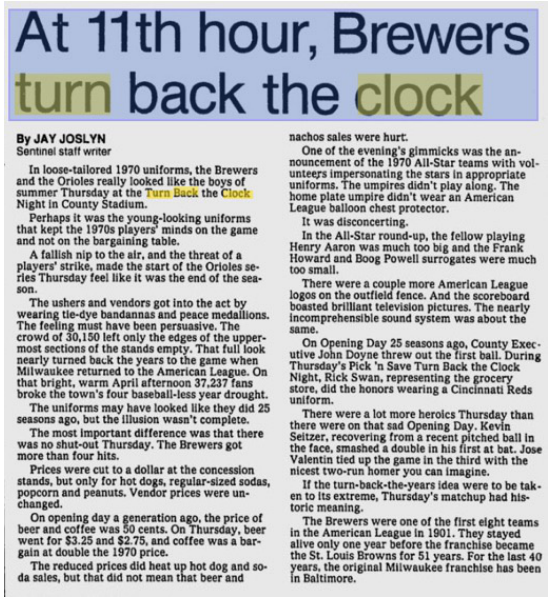
1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1970

Stephen Kraljic Collection



At 11th hour, Brewers turn back the clock

By JAY JOSLYN
Sentinel staff writer

In loose-tailored 1970 uniforms, the Brewers and the Orioles really looked like the boys of summer Thursday at the Turn Back the Clock Night in County Stadium.

Perhaps it was the young-looking uniforms that kept the 1970s players' minds on the game and not on the bargaining table.

A fallish nip to the air, and the threat of a players' strike, made the start of the Orioles series Thursday feel like it was the end of the season.

The ushers and vendors got into the act by wearing tie-dye bandannas and peace medallions. The feeling must have been persuasive. The crowd of 30,150 left only the edges of the uppermost sections of the stands empty. That full look nearly turned back the years to the game when Milwaukee returned to the American League. On that bright, warm April afternoon 37,237 fans broke the town's four baseball-less year drought.

The uniforms may have looked like they did 25 seasons ago, but the illusion wasn't complete.

The most important difference was that there was no shut-out Thursday. The Brewers got more than four hits.

Prices were cut to a dollar at the concession stands, but only for hot dogs, regular-sized sodas, popcorn and peanuts. Vendor prices were unchanged.

On opening day a generation ago, the price of beer and coffee was 50 cents. On Thursday, beer went for $3.25 and $2.75, and coffee was a bargain at double the 1970 price.

The reduced prices did heat up hot dog and soda sales, but that did not mean that beer and nachos sales were hurt.

One of the evening's gimmicks was the announcement of the 1970 All-Star teams with volunteers impersonating the stars in appropriate uniforms. The umpires didn't play along. The home plate umpire didn't wear an American League balloon chest protector.

It was disconcerting.

In the All-Star round-up, the fellow playing Henry Aaron was much too big and the Frank Howard and Boog Powell surrogates were much too small.

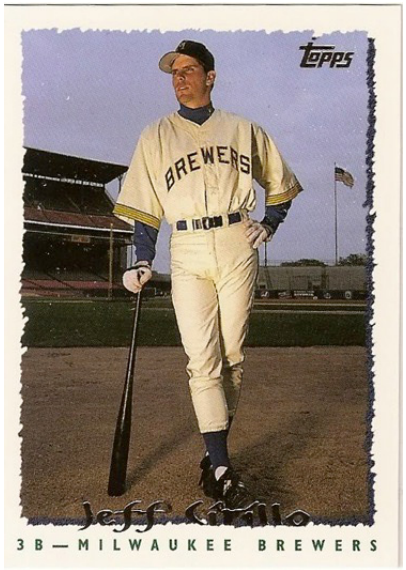
There were a couple more American League logos on the outfield fence. And the scoreboard boasted brilliant television pictures. The nearly incomprehensible sound system was about the same.

On Opening Day 25 seasons ago, County Executive John Doyne threw out the first ball. During Thursday's Pick 'n Save Turn Back the Clock Night, Rick Swan, representing the grocery store, did the honors wearing a Cincinnati Reds uniform.

There were a lot more heroics Thursday than there were on that sad Opening Day. Kevin Seitzer, recovering from a recent pitched ball in the face, smashed a double in his first at bat. Jose Valentin tied up the game in the third with the nicest two-run homer you can imagine.

If the turn-back-the-years idea were to be taken to its extreme, Thursday's matchup had historic meaning.

The Brewers were one of the first eight teams in the American League in 1901. They stayed alive only one year before the franchise became the St. Louis Browns for 51 years. For the last 40 years, the original Milwaukee franchise has been in Baltimore.



The Brewers invited the Orioles to Milwaukee on August 4, 1994, for a Turn Back the Clock game to 1970. Both teams wore replicas of their 1970 uniforms made by Mitchell & Ness. Made to look like flannel, they were actually more of a cotton-twill than real flannel. The cut was sack-like compared to the tailored fit of the actual 1970 jerseys.

Back number font is Block with Serifs, but it should correctly be Wilson Varsity. Otherwise, good copies.

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1995 Turn Back the Clock to 1975

Steve Kraljic collection

These Turn Back the Clock jerseys, worn on June 8, 1995, reproduce the 1972–1977 style and are made by Mitchell & Ness. The lettering is very accurate, as are the sleeve ends. However, the neck trim's yellow band is about twice as thick as it should be. The number font is Block with Serifs, which is inaccurate. The font actually used in those years was Wilson's Standard Varsity or Sand-Knit Varsity, depending on the year and manufacturer. Their opponents that day were the Cleveland Indians, who dressed in 1977 attire.

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1996 Turn Back the Clock to 1946 Minor League Brewers

The July 31, 1996 contest pitted a throwback Brewers team representing the 1946 independent league club against the 1946 Seattle Rainiers (Mariners).

These throwbacks are actually based on the 1947 Brewers uniforms, according to Brewers historian Chance Michaels. The design was inspired by the 1946 Boston Braves' uniforms.

The Brewers' uniforms were made of double knit by Mitchell & Ness, with logos sewn by Ebbets Field Flannels for M&N.

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1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Above: *This claimed game-worn jersey has had the leading "1" removed from its number, originally 15 on both front and back.*

On June 17, 1997, the Brewers Turned Back the Clock to 1982 and wore Rawlings-made uniforms to play the similarly attired 1982 Cardinals, reprising the team's only World Series appearance.

Names on back are correctly omitted, as they were not worn during 1978–1989. Player numbers are Block with Serifs, which would be accurate for 1987 but not for 1982, when the number style would have been Sand-Knit Varsity.

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1998 St. Patrick's Day

A "0006" tag generally indicates a garment made for team use.

The Brewers wore St. Patrick's green in Spring Training 1998. Majestic batting practice jerseys were made in Kelly green, and the logos and numbers were stitched in the same colors used on the navy blue BP jersey from that year.

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1998 Turn Back the Clock to 1958 Milwaukee Braves

- June 2, 1998 was a long-awaited day in Milwaukee. With the Brewers' move to the National League in an offseason reorganization, they would play the Braves as part of the regular season schedule.
- For this first series, the Brewers hatched an innovative idea: the Brewers would dress as the home Braves of the late 1950s glory days, and the visiting Atlanta team could dress as the road version of the same team, wearing gray uniforms.
- Even though this was regarded as a memorable event, during my research I have been able to find only a single color photo of the action in that game. I hope to locate more over time.

Braves' return triggers excitement (June 1, 1998)

The Associated Press
MILWAUKEE (AP) - The Braves are returning to County Stadium today for the first time since they bolted to Atlanta following the 1965 season.
"I'm excited they're coming back. I feel in the end that sort of closes the whole loop on that story," said Brewers owner Bud Selig, who returned baseball to Milwaukee with an American League team in 1970. "It's one of those ironic moments in history. People are excited, and I'm exited," Selig added. Milwaukee returned to the National League this season to accommodate the expansion teams in Arizona and Florida.
When the schedule came out, Selig looked right away for the one home series with the Braves.
"I did, right off the bat. I certainly did. And I'm only sorry they're coming here once. But next year I know they're coming here twice, so it'll be good," Selig said.
Braves chairman Bill Bartholomay, who took his team to Atlanta for the 1966 season, will attend the three-game series that will include a turn-back-the-clock promotion on Tuesday in which the Braves will wear 1958 Milwaukee Braves road uniforms and the Brewers will wear 1958 Braves home duds.

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1999 St. Patrick's Day

For St. Patrick's Day 1999, the Brewers created a mesh, Kelly green–bodied pullover with the alternate jersey wordmark on the front in white/navy/metallic gold, the team patch on the left sleeve, and three-color player numbers on the back with no player names used. Majestic is the supplier.

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1999 Turn Back the Clock to 1969 Seattle Pilots

In this July 20, 1999 game vs. the Chicago White Sox, the Brewers dressed as the 1969 Seattle Pilots—the franchise's origin. The White Sox wore 1969-style road uniforms.

Jerseys were made in double knit by Majestic. They included the 1969 MLB 100th Anniversary patch on the sleeve, which is inaccurate, as the Pilots only wore this patch on their road jerseys—not on the home versions.

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1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

The Beer Barrel Man as he appeared in the 1970s. This is his first appearance ever on a Brewers game jersey

Left: *Team-issued versions have the Russell "R" embroidered on the right sleeve end. This is missing on the retail versions we have seen..*

Used July 23, 1999 vs. the Marlins. This one-game-only jersey features the Beer Barrel Man, a long-standing symbol of the Brewers, but one never before featured on a team uniform.

The back lettering is dark green outlined with yellow and uses the same type font employed by most (but not all) other teams—including the Phillies, Cardinals, Rockies, and Diamondbacks. These uniforms are extremely rare. Very few were made for retail sale, and game-worn jerseys were given to the players who wore them.

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2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1989

1978–1989 style uniforms, made by Rawlings, were worn for a Turn Back the Clock game against the Indians, who were dressed in 1989-style uniforms, on June 6, 2000 in Milwaukee.

Names on back are correctly omitted, as they were not worn from 1978–1989. Player numbers are Block with Serifs, which would be correct for 1989.

Better photographs are always welcome. If you have one of these specific jerseys, we'd love to hear from you.

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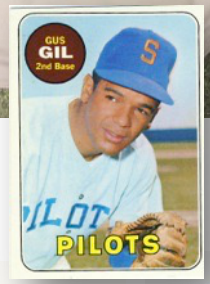
2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1969 Seattle Pilots Spring Training



The Twins hosted a Turn Back the Clock game to 1969 on June 10, 2000, and invited the Brewers to participate. There was only one problem: the Brewers did not yet exist in 1969, as the franchise had previously been the one-year-only Seattle Pilots.

The Brewers wore (slightly inaccurate) recreations of the 1969 Seattle Pilots Spring Training grays—a stark uniform that was only used until the start of the 1969 regular season, when the Pilots' regular and more unconventional uniforms were unveiled. The use of the MLB 100th Anniversary patch on the left sleeve is historically inaccurate, as the Pilots only wore this patch on their road blue uniforms during the regular season. One newspaper account put it humorously:

> ***"The Pilots have finally broken their 30-plus year losing streak! On June 10, 2000, the Brewers wore the Pilots' Spring Training uniforms for Turn Back the Clock Night against the Twins in the Metrodome. Not even the mojo supplied by promotional Harmon Killebrew bobbing head dolls could hold back the Pilots, who took a 5-3 win behind the pitching of Jimmy Haynes"***

Actual 1969 Spring Training jersey

© GameWornGuides.com

2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1970

On June 6, 2001, Turn Back the Clock uniforms representing the 1970 Milwaukee Brewers were worn. These jerseys were made by Rawlings in double knit, though the originals were flannel.

This game commemorated the Brewers' first season of 1970. The opponent that day was the Cincinnati Reds, dressed in 1970-style uniforms.

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2001 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

Steve Kraljic collection

On June 9, 2001, the Brewers visited the Tigers for a Negro Leagues Turn Back the Clock game in Detroit. The Brewers wore road uniforms of the 1923 Milwaukee Bears, made by AIS. The Tigers wore replicas of the pinstriped home uniforms of the 1920 Detroit Stars.

A Note on Brewers Turn Back the Clock games: From 1993–2019, the Brewers scheduled at least one throwback game each year, and have occasionally participated in two or even three such games in a season. In 2006 they announced that each year they would hold an annual Negro League Tribute game. In 2014 there was a road Negro League Tribute game, but none at home. 2019 was the last time the team participated in one.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

1978–1989 style uniforms, made by Majestic. A specific date or opponent for this game has not yet been confirmed, but it appears the team was turning back to 1982 to commemorate their only World Series appearance.

Names on back are correctly omitted, as they were not worn during 1978–1989. Player numbers are Block with Serifs, which would be correct for 1987–1989 but not for 1982, when the uniforms were made by Sand-Knit and used the Sand-Knit Varsity font. A ball-in-glove logo patch is used on the sleeve, but it was not part of the actual 1982 uniform.

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2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1957 Milwaukee Braves

1957 original

The Brewers dressed as the 1957 Milwaukee Braves, May 22, 2002, in period-accurate zipper-front jerseys made by Rawlings using modern double knit fabric.

The reproductions are fairly accurate, though the front script is not an exact match. The construction of the front placket trim differs from the original, although this section tucks in and cannot be seen in use. Oddly, the sleeves on the 2002 jerseys are very long—almost like those on early-1900s jerseys.

Original press releases indicated that the visiting Dodgers would also participate, but they did not. See the Dodgers chapter for further insight into this.

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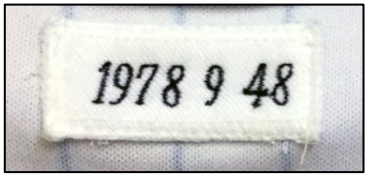
2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

Guy Hankel collection



On July 9, 2003, the Brewers turn back the clock a quarter-century, reprising the 1978 season. The Pirates were the 1978-attired opponents.

These uniforms are made by Majestic and feature the popular—though inaccurate for this jersey—Milwaukee Brewers "MB" ball-in-glove logo on the sleeve. This logo never appears on the sleeve of an actual game jersey.

Names on back are correctly omitted, as they are not used in 1978. Player numbers are in Block, which is inaccurate. The proper font for 1978 is Sand-Knit Varsity.

Trivia fact: This game was the setting for *"Sausagegate."* Details are provided in corresponding page in the opponent Pirates chapter.

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2004-2005 Turn Back the Clock to 1957 Milwaukee Braves

The promotion proves so popular in 1998 that it returns in 2004 and again in 2005. On May 14, 2004, and August 26, 2005, the Milwaukee Brewers dress as the 1957 Milwaukee Braves—and face the Atlanta Braves in Milwaukee...confusing! The Brewers wear the Braves' home whites with a laughing-brave patch sewn to the sleeve in these recreations of the old flannel uniforms, rendered in modern double knit fabric by Majestic. These Majestic replicas use button-front construction, unlike the original 1957 zipper-front jerseys.

The 2004 and 2005 jerseys are identical in appearance, though they differ in collar tagging codes. Jerseys are auctioned after the game, and each auctioned jersey appears to be autographed. As for the *real* Braves, they refused to play along both years, wearing their normal road uniforms instead.

2004

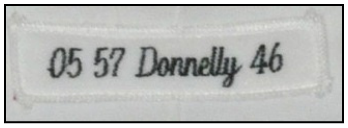
2004

2004

2005

2005

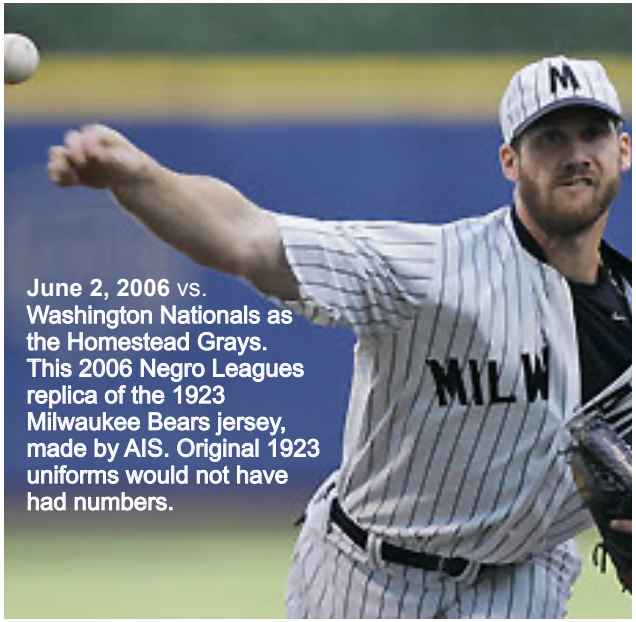
2005



2004 & 2005: Identical Majestic button-front jerseys, distinguished only by their team neck tagging.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears home)



June 2, 2006 vs. Washington Nationals as the Homestead Grays. This 2006 Negro Leagues replica of the 1923 Milwaukee Bears jersey, made by AIS. Original 1923 uniforms would not have had numbers.

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2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears road)

In 2006, the Brewers announce that they will honor the Negro Leagues annually. The Milwaukee Bears—a team that plays only during the 1923 season—become the club's tribute team of choice. The original 1923 uniforms do not include numbers.

The Brewers appear as the Bears in both home and road games in 2006. The road contest takes place on June 25 against the Kansas City Royals, who dress as the 1949 Kansas City Monarchs.

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2006-2008 Hispanic Heritage

Event Dates:
- **July 29, 2006**
- **July 15, 2007**
- **September 6, 2008**

- To celebrate the Brewers' relationship with the Hispanic community, the team annually hosts "Cerveceros Day." Cerveceros is the Spanish translation of "Brewers."
- From the Brewers' press release announcing the event in 2006: "For Cerveceros Day, the Brewers will wear alternate uniforms for their game against the Cincinnati Reds, and plan to transform Miller Park with bilingual public address announcements, Latin-themed music, and videos featuring some of the game's great Hispanic players."
- Aside from collar tagging, the jerseys used in these three years appear identical.

Above: *2006 - For this game only, a fifth competitor joins the nightly sausage race: the Mexican Chorizo. Chorizo joined the sausage race lineup full-time the following year. A Brewers press release explained that he spent the rest of 2006 in the minor leagues "for additional seasoning."*

2007

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2007-2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

On June 23, 2007, the Brewers host the Kansas City Royals, who dress as the 1924 Kansas City Monarchs. On July 5, 2008, they host the Pittsburgh Pirates, who appear as the 1931–1938 Pittsburgh Crawfords.

The Brewers dress as the 1923 Milwaukee Bears of the Negro National League—a team that plays only during the 1923 season. The Brewers wear identical knit pinstripe uniforms, made by AIS. Back numbers are navy, in Block Bold lettering.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Guy Hankel collection

Held August 14, 2007 vs. the St. Louis Cardinals, marking the 25th anniversary of the World Series between these two teams.

The Brewers wore special Majestic retro uniforms for the game and not their usual Friday-night retro alternates. These one-game-only uniforms feature V-neck pullover jerseys, no names on back and no patch on the sleeve. Pants are the old wide stretch waistband style. Jersey sleeve openings seem unnaturally blousy and large.

Observing 1982-style fashion rules, several players wore their pants high with socks showing. But ignoring period style, most players wore the uniforms oversized, half-untucked and with pants too baggy.

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2009-2010 Hispanic Heritage (Alternate Navy)

Trying something a little new, the Brewers celebrated 2009's Hispanic Heritage Day on June 27, 2009 by wearing "Cerveceros" jerseys in alternate blue. The same style uniforms were worn July 10, 2010. These Cool Base jerseys are identical to the team's regular blue alternate jerseys except for the change in the front script.

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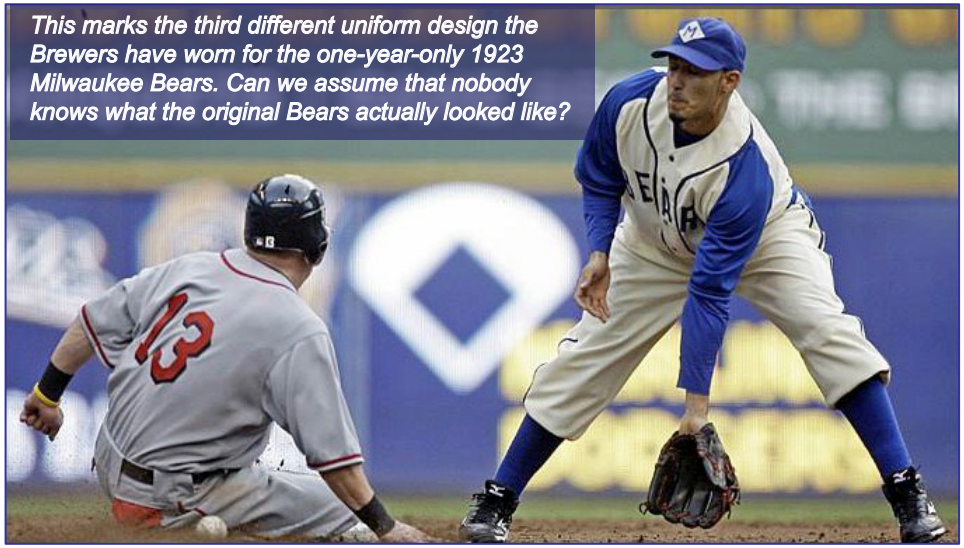
2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

July 25, 2009: The Brewers/Braves hold a Negro Leagues Turn Back the Clock game in Milwaukee.

The Brewers wore the uniforms of the 1923 Milwaukee Bears, the Braves as the 1926 Atlanta Black Crackers.

The Brewers' uniforms were made by AIS and were cream colored with contrasting blue sleeves.



This marks the third different uniform design the Brewers have worn for the one-year-only 1923 Milwaukee Bears. Can we assume that nobody knows what the original Bears actually looked like?

For more info about this, see: http://onmilwaukee.com/sports/articles/milwaukeebears.html

and

http://www.uni-watch.com/2013/07/20/milwaukee-brewers-become-negro-league-bears-today/

© GameWornGuides.com

2010-2015 Hispanic Heritage Spring Training

The Brewers bring their popular Cerveceros jersey to Spring Training starting in 2010. These knit jerseys by Majestic are identical to the 2006–2008 jersey worn in Milwaukee, minus names on back. Several were auctioned off after Spring Training 2015, and they all featured Majestic tagging that was phased out in 2012. Perhaps the same set was recycled annually? More research required.

Confirmed dates worn:
March 26, 2010
March 22, 2011
March 28, 2012
March 11, 2013
March 7, 2014
March 28, 2015

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

May 14: Brewers wore Majestic reproductions of their home 1972–1977 uniforms with "BREWERS" in royal blue Vertical Arched block letters on the front of the jerseys.

Their opponents were the Phillies, who wore baby blue 1970s road throwbacks.

Only the detail-obsessed like us would notice that the font used for player numbers was Block with Serifs instead of the Varsity fonts (either Wilson or Sand-Knit) that were used on the field 1972–1977.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Negro League Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

On May 29, 2010 the Mets and Brewers brought the Negro Leagues back to Milwaukee. The Brewers dressed for the second straight year as the 1923 Milwaukee Bears, in knit uniforms again made by AIS. Simple one-color Varsity numbers on back. The Mets wore the road grays of the 1930s New York Cubans.

Steve Kraljic collection

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Turn Back the Clock to the 1980s

June 25, 2010 the Brewers wore reproductions of the home 1978–1989 uniforms. The uniform is highlighted by pinstripes with "BREWERS" vertically arched Block letters on the front. The uniform recreations? On paper, quite good. But—the way they looked on the field? Totally ridiculous. Uniforms in the early 1980s were worn high-stirruped and skintight, which helped make the wide sans-a-belt elastic waist bands and thick V-neck trim passable (see period photo below). When worn like baggy clown suits, they look, well, stupid. Front wordmarks hanging at waist level? No baseball players from any era looked like this. The Mariners wore their light blue road uniforms of 1981–1984.

Here, Robin Yount, skintight and high-stirruped, back in the day.

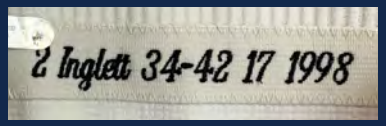
© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1998

The Brewers wore reproductions of their 1998 home uniforms on July 23. The jerseys' tagging does not indicate that this throwback represents 1998, but the tag on the uniform's pants did include that as the year intended. In that regard, the jersey is not 100% accurate, as the Brewers wore a Wisconsin Sesquicentennial patch that year. Of note, every year they wore this style had a different sleeve patch, 1997 had the Jackie Robinson patch, and 1999 had the County Stadium Final Season patch. As such, this jersey better represents the 1997–1999 era than any specific year.

The jersey has "BREWERS" in the fancy *Brewers Gothic* letters on the front and the correct numbers and NOB. Majestic's replicas were as close to perfectly accurate as they could get… if one could not see the Triple Peaks logo on the left sleeve one would probably not know they were reproductions. The one big difference, which was less perceptible unless compared against an original, was that all the lettering was considerably larger than it had been in the 1990s. Perhaps it was to compensate for how much larger players wear their uniforms in 2010 vs. 1998. Even harder to see was that the shade of green used in the throwback was slightly darker than in the original jerseys.

The tag on the pants that match the jersey shown above reveal that 1998 was the intended year for this throwback jersey.



Note the lettering size and color difference between an original 1998 jersey and the 2010 throwback.

Front letters (1998 left, 2010 right)

Front numbers (1998 left, 2010 right)

Back letters (1998 left, 2010 right)

Back numbers (1998 left, 2010 right)

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Hispanic Heritage (Road)

September 18, 2010: The Giants' *Fiesta Gigante* in San Francisco was a second *"Cerveceros Day"* for the Brewers, and their first on the road. The hosting Giants wore "Gigantes" jerseys.

The Brewers' gray Cerveceros jersey is Cool Base, and appears identical to the team's regular road gray jersey save for the different front script.

The 2010 Brewers 40th Anniversary patch is worn on the right sleeve. As I have never seen any of these made for retail sale, it is probably safe to assume any authentics that turn up were team issued.

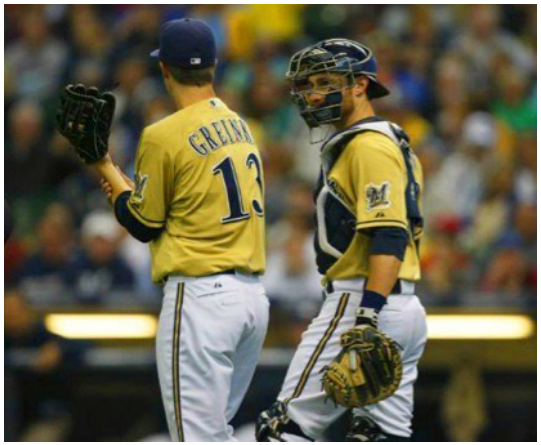
© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Hispanic Heritage

June 11, 2011: The now-annual Hispanic heritage night, again featured *"Cerveceros"* jerseys, this time in lager-colored gold. Collectors can now look for these jerseys from different years in four game-worn colors: white, gray, navy and gold.

Cool Base construction with navy/white/navy lettering, team patch on the left sleeve.

The Cardinals participated in the fun and gamely wore road gray jerseys that said *"Cardenales"* on the front.



© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

July 9, 2011: As they did in 2009 and 2010, the Brewers played their annual Negro Leagues Tribute game as the 1923 Milwaukee Bears. Knit uniforms were again made by AIS. The Brewers played the Reds, who wore very convincing 1937 Cincinnati Tigers uniforms by AIS that looked like wool, even though they were knit.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 German Heritage

August 14, 2011, was the Brewers' German Heritage Day, and for the event this year, the team wore special *"Bierbrauer"* (Beer Brewer) jerseys.

The 2011 edition is navy Cool Base, just like the alternate home jersey, albeit with a different front wordmark.

All other player name and number lettering is identical to the typical blue alternate jerseys.

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2011 “Gold-Out”

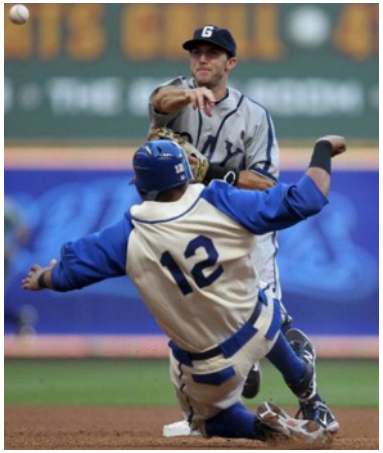
September 10, 2011: The Brewers wore special one-time-only gold “Brewers” jerseys against the visiting Phillies, encouraging all fans to “wear their Brewers Gold” for the game to create a visual statement along the lines of a college football “white-out” or other such fan frenzy events where a sea of fans dressed in one color makes an impression of huge fan support on television.

Fan response to the yellow *Cerveceros* jerseys from earlier in the year was rather positive. But the cynic in me notes that other than June 10, the Brewers have never worn gold before, so the only way that fans could participate in their plea for support was to either wear yellow rain slickers or… yes, buy a new gold Brewers jersey to wear at the game.

These Cool Base gold jerseys are lettered throughout in navy/white/navy 3D drop shadow.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)



July 28, 2012: The Brewers wore the 1923 Negro League Milwaukee Bears tribute uniforms in a game against the Washington Nationals, who dressed as the Homestead Grays. Their AIS knit uniforms appear identical in design to those worn the prior three years, 2009–2011.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012-2014 Hispanic Heritage

June 2, 2012; June 8, 2013; August 10, 2014: the Brewers celebrated their community's Hispanic heritage by wearing these similar gold Cool Base *"Cerveceros"* jerseys. Each set is tagged with the game's date in the collar as shown. All lettering is navy/white/navy 3D drop shadow.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Italian Heritage

Guy Hankel Collection

July 1, 2012: Green, white, and red-themed uniforms to honor the region's Italian-American community. "Birrai" would translate to "Brewers" in Italian. Lettering is white/black/red; side panels are red. The Brewers supplied the visiting Diamondbacks with even stranger uniforms; black ones that said *i-Dbacks* in white and green with one side panel red, the other green. Both teams' jerseys are BP jersey weight and construction.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Chris Reimer collection

August 4, 2012: The Brewers visited the Cardinals for a Turn Back the Clock game to reprise their mutual World Series year of 1982. The Cardinals wore white replica 1982 pullover uniforms. Aside from being worn too baggy, these are pretty accurate to the real thing. Knit sleeve trim is marginally wider than the originals, and the front script is slightly less bold. Front and back numbers surprisingly appear to be a reasonably close copy of the original Sand-Knit Varsity numbers used in 1982.

Left: *A game-worn 1982 Brewers road jersey and the 2012 TBTC version for comparison.*

Photo: Chris Creamer/ www.sportslogos.net

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2013 “Youniform” Fan Designed Uniform Contest

Worn March 22 & 30, in exhibition games, this uniform set was designed by Ben Peters of Richfield, MN, the winner of the Brewers’ “Design the Uniform” contest. Very ornate but still somehow classic “Gaslight Era-themed” Brewers script and player numbers in navy and metallic gold. Navy player NOB font looks like a version of Varsity (as used by the 1990s Montreal Expos and the NFL Dallas Cowboys). Link with more information on the contest can be found here:

http://milwaukee.brewers.mlb.com/mil/fan_forum/youniform.jsp

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1913 Minor League Brewers

May 5, 2013: The Brewers hosted the Cardinals in a Turn Back the Clock to 1913 with these perfect recreations made by Majestic. Cream colored full-weight knit with navy knit trim and a large capital "M" on the left chest. Numbers on back in Varsity Bold, though numbers were not used by players in 1913.

There is an excellent article on the genesis of these throwbacks written by Brewers historian Chance Michaels. http://www.borchertfield.com/2013/04/party-like-it-1913.html

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2013-2014 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

MLB decreed that all teams should wear camouflage-lettered jerseys on Memorial Day, **May 27, 2013 and May 26, 2014.** The Brewers were home both dates, hosting the Twins and Orioles, respectively. Their white jerseys are altered to replace the highly visible navy blue lettering with highly invisible desert camouflage. No surprise, as that is the job of camouflage. The surprise to me is the 2014 repeat of the promotion after many commented on this issue in 2013.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1948 Minor League Brewers

May 30, 2013: Milwaukee at Minnesota (1948 minor league throwbacks). This masterful recreation used a surviving 1948 jersey sourced at auction for the model, differing from the original only in its use of buttons instead of a zipper front. In a somewhat odd occurrence, these home whites were worn at a road game in Minnesota, with the Twins wearing road grays of the St. Paul Saints. Sources report that the original plan was to repeat the use of these uniform sets in Milwaukee, but the Brewers declined, citing too many special uniform days already planned (imagine that!). By my count, the Brewers wore 15 different uniforms in 2013 — counting road and home games, St. Patrick's Day and the special March 22 "Youniform" game).

Original 1948

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Polish Heritage

June 23, 2013: Celebrating the incredible diversity of the Milwaukee region — and the Brewers' insatiable appetite for special uniform days — the team wore these Polish-themed, BP-weight jerseys. The front wordmark appears in navy/white with metallic gold/navy 3D drop shadow; the back lettering is in navy/white/metallic gold 3D drop shadow. The visiting Braves did not participate in the Polish celebration, wearing their navy blue alternate road uniforms.

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2013 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

July 20, 2013: For their eighth annual Negro Leagues tribute game, the Brewers wore the home uniforms of the one-year 1923 Milwaukee Bears, in a game against the 1956-attired Miami Marlins. This is the fourth time the Brewers have worn this identically styled jersey made by AIS, also donning them in 2006, 2007, and 2008. It features simple navy blue lettering on front and back. This represents the 14th different jersey the Brewers wore during the 2013 season!

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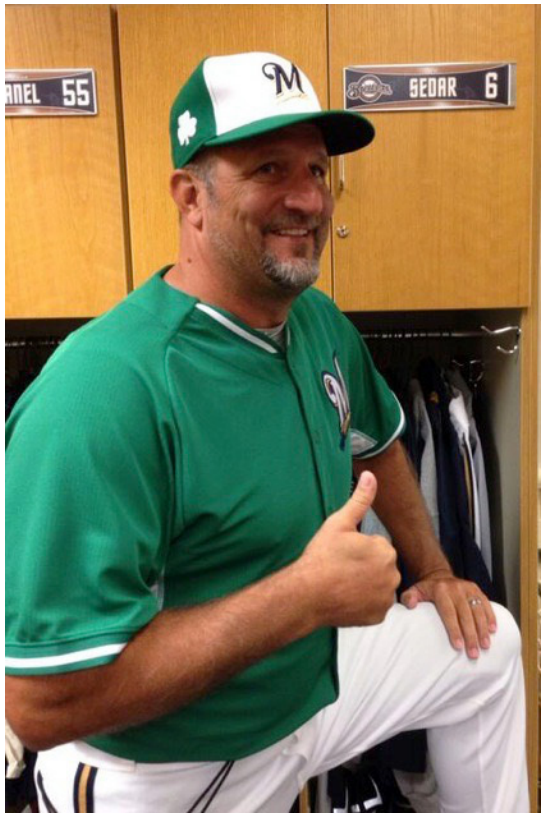
2014 St. Patrick's Day



The Brewers have been infrequent participants in the wearing of St. Patrick's Day green, but they elected to play along on March 17, 2014. They wore a green version of their new-for-2014 batting practice jersey, swapping the navy blue for kelly green, then auctioning off the jerseys later.

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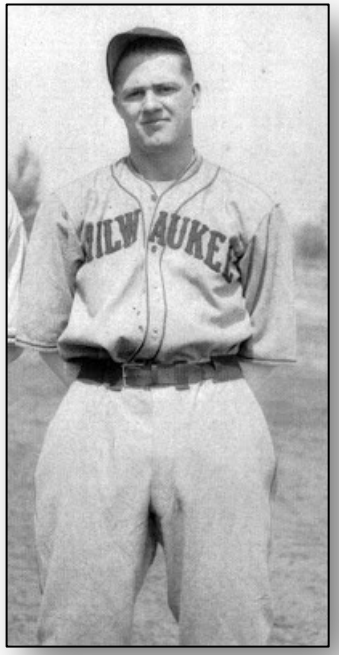
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1937 Minor League Brewers

May 18, 2014: The Brewers visited the Chicago Cubs during their year-long celebration of the 100th birthday of Wrigley Field. The Brewers wore 1937 throwbacks. Close, but the front placket was too wide, creating odd spacing between the letters, and the wordmark is sewn too low. Back numbers are also sewn too low, as if they were leaving a space for player names to be added. These jerseys were made by Ebbetts Field Flannels, Compare with original 1936 Brewers jerseys right and bottom right. Note how long the original's sleeves were!

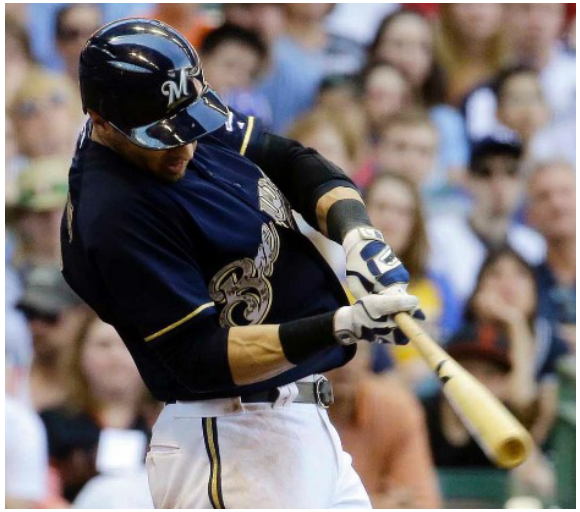


Photos AP/Paul Beaty

Derek Damian collection

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Memorial Day



After two years of nearly illegible camo lettering on white jerseys, the Brewers make a sound decision for Memorial Day 2015. This year, the layer of desert camo replaces the top, white layer of twill on the blue alternate jersey, making for a much more readable product. The front wordmark, with all of its flowing cursive, is still tough to read, especially when complicated with a blue outline and white 3D drop shadow. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors of years past.

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2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palette might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Brewers wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers (all sans 3D drop shadow layers). Two-layer twill replaces the usual four-color front lettering on the jerseys. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

On July 18, 2015, the Brewers once again wear the home uniforms of the Negro League's 1923 Milwaukee Bears, in a game against the Pirates, who don Negro League Pittsburgh Crawfords jerseys. This is the fifth time the Brewers have worn this white jersey with navy pinstripes, but the first time it has been made by Majestic. The full-weight knit jersey features simple navy blue lettering on front and back. The lettering is less bold than the previous AIS versions, and the vintage-style sun collar is smaller and less pronounced on this set.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Hispanic Heritage

Guy Hankel Collection

On August 8, 2015, the Brewers once again celebrate their community's Hispanic heritage by wearing gold Cool Base *"Cerveceros"* jerseys. Previous versions are tagged with the game's date in the collar, but the 2015 jerseys adopt Majestic's QR-coded, heat-pressed tag in the tail instead, which does not specify the date of the game. As before, all lettering is navy/white/navy 3D drop shadow.

Steve Kraljic collection

© GameWornGuides.com

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Mother's Day

Guy Hankel Collection

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Brewers wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. There is no 3D drop shadow on front or back of these jerseys, in contrast to the standard version. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue/gold/blue, becomes dark gray.

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2016-2017 Hispanic Heritage

With the change in template to Flex Base jerseys, the gold Cerveceros jersey follows suit, despite the fact that the Brewers' regular gold alternates are no longer in rotation for 2016. Other than the move to Flex Base, the look of the jersey remains the same as it has since 2011, with all lettering navy/white/navy 3D drop shadow. This jersey is used in 2016 on August 13, and in 2017 on July 1.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Brewers apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering (usually two-color plus a two-color 3D drop shadow) and front and back numbers (usually two-color with 3D drop shadow) are reduced to two colors, woodland camo with a black outline, while player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are rendered in shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The highly stylized bold cursive of the “Brewers” front lettering is slightly muddled by the camo/black treatment, even with its simplification and contrast against the white jersey body.

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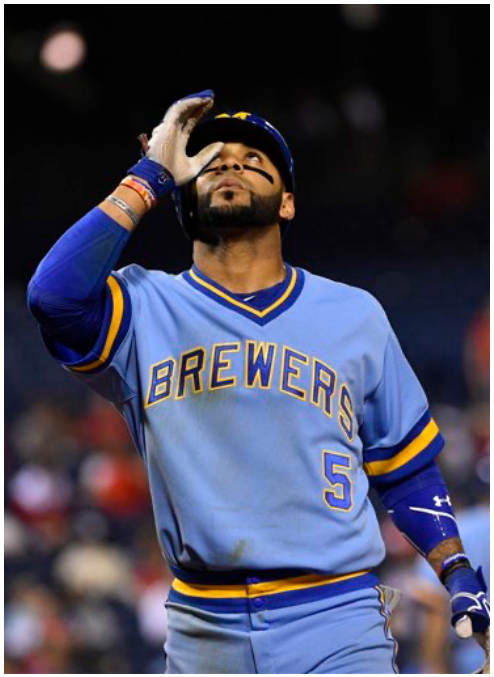
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1976

Guy Hankel Collection

The Brewers throw back 40 years to 1976 for two road games against the 1976-clad Phillies on June 3 and 5. These full-weight knit jerseys by Majestic capture the spirit of the mid-70s Brewers roads very well, even taking care to recreate Sand-Knit's Brewers Varsity style numbers (evident in the oddly shaped #5). Royal blue/yellow numbers appear on both front and back, and the backs correctly lack player names. The sleeve trim here is slightly wider than the originals, but otherwise, a fine-looking throw-back effort.



Steve Kraljic collection

© GameWornGuides.com

2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Brewers wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. There is no 3D drop shadow on front or back of these jerseys, in contrast to the standard version. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue/gold/blue, becomes dark gray.

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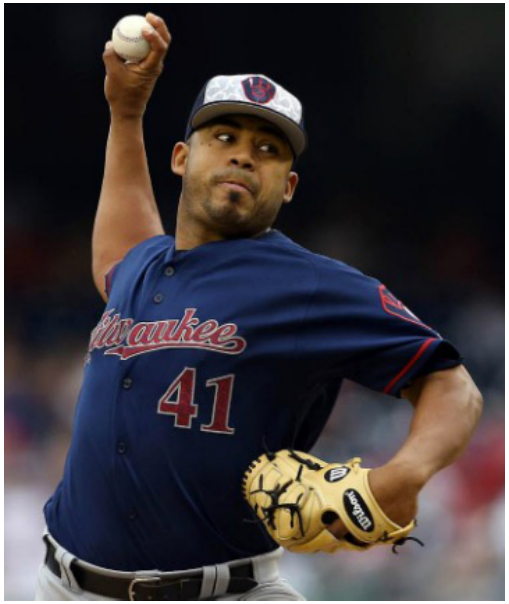
2016 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

On June 25, 2016, the Brewers once again wear the home uniforms of the Negro League's 1923 Milwaukee Bears, this time for a contest against the Nationals, who wear Homestead Grays road uniforms. This knit set, again by Majestic, is identical to the 2015 version. It is the sixth time the Brewers have honored this short-lived Negro League team in this particular uniform.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Brewers are on the road and wear their alternate blue road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Brewers select the red twill version with gray outlines to replace their typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers, with a gray player name on back. There is no 3D drop shadow on these jerseys, in contrast to the standard version. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim, normally gold, becomes single-color red. The highly stylized cursive of the "Milwaukee" front lettering is slightly muddled by the busy red twill/gray treatment, even with its simplification and contrast against the blue jersey body.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016 Turn Back the Clock to the 1990s

Guy Hankel Collection

On July 30, the Brewers throw back to their 1990s “Gothic” set for the second time. This time, however, they represent the 1994–1996 incarnation, rather than the 1997–1999 version worn for the 2010 throwback game. The jersey has “BREWERS” in the fancy Brewers Gothic letters on the front and the correct numbers and NOB. Overall, they are excellent recreations of their on-field look of two decades prior. Incidentally, the Brewers wore commemorative patches on both their 1994 and 1996 sets, so this uniform best represents their 1995 uniforms, since it lacks any sleeve patches.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat-applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued to the left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Brewers wear a white version of their road alternate blue jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally gold, becomes dark gray.

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2017 Memorial Day (Home)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of--collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Brewers apply this style to a white version of their road blue alternate jerseys on May 27–28, 2017.

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2017 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Brewers apply this style to a gray version of their blue road alternate jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Brewers wear a white version of their road alternate blue jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally gold, becomes dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill — appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2–4, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the Brewers wear a white version of their road blue alternate jersey with "Milwaukee" on the front in blue patterned twill, with red front logo lettering and red front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Steve Kraljic collection

With the Brewers' only World Series appearance coming in 1982, it is no wonder that the team likes to relive this era in its nostalgic jerseys. For the 35th anniversary of that season, they break out home white throwbacks in Cool Base fabric, by Majestic, on July 14–16, 2017.

These pinstriped pullovers with blue V-necks look similar to the Sand-Knit originals but do not match well in terms of lettering and numbering. The blue/yellow radially arched front letters are too condensed and widely spaced compared to the 1982 set, and the front and back numbers are in standard Varsity rather than Sand-Knit's distinctive version of Varsity as used during their on-field MLB jersey tenure.

© GameWornGuides.com

2017-2019 Negro Leagues Tributes (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

Steve Kraljic collection

In recent years, the Brewers have taken to honoring the Negro Leagues' 1923 Milwaukee Bears by wearing this uniform often for tribute nights. The same jersey reappears on August 12, 2017; August 3, 2018; and June 1 and 7, 2019. The basic template of the previous versions is repeated here again, though this version is now on Cool Base fabric rather than full knit from prior years.

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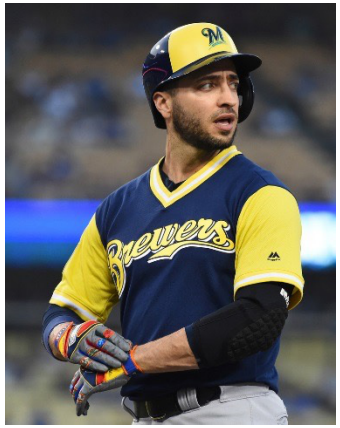
2017 Players Weekend



To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2¾-inch single-color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017, the Brewers wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and yellow sleeves with white nicknames and yellow numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide yellow/white/yellow trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in yellow/blue/white 3D drop shadow kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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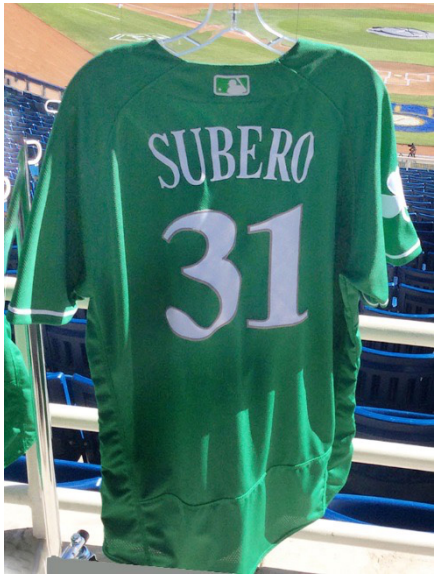
2018 St. Patrick's Day



For a brief time in the 1990s, green served as an accent color for the Brewers. Since then, it has primarily reappeared in the form of special holiday jerseys, and it returned prominently for St. Patrick's Day 2018. The team's first such jersey since 2014, this green Flex Base entry borrows the 'Milwaukee' script from the road alternate jersey, rendered in white/gray on front, with front and back numbers in the Brewers' custom font in white/gray as well. Names on back appear in white in the Brewers font, while white knit trim appears just above the sleeve ends, and the white shamrock patch—a staple of green-wearing St. Pat's teams in recent years—appears on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Memorial Day (Home)

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Brewers apply this style to their home jerseys on May 26–28, 2018.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to the Early 1980s

Steve Kraljic collection

The Brewers again commemorate their early-80s glory on June 2–3, 2018, this time in their road uniform of the era. These Majestic replicas are very well done, much better than the home version the year before—odd because home teams usually purchase sets for both teams in these cases, so it appears perhaps the White Sox paid more attention to detail on the Brewers' behalf than the Brewers did for themselves. These powder blue pullovers with sewn-in blue/yellow/blue trim around the V-necks and sleeve ends have all lettering and numbers in layered blue/yellow. The front wordmark is slightly more condensed than the original, but the key here is the replication of the accurate Sand-Knit Varsity numbers on front and back, especially noticeable on the number "5." The White Sox countered with their 1983 "SOX" uniforms.

2018-2019 Hispanic Heritage

The Brewers last wore a white Cerveceros jersey in the regular season in 2008 (though it did appear, sans names on back, in Spring Training from 2010–2015). But it returns to the regular season on July 7 and September 17, 2018, and July 13 and September 16, 2019. It is identical to the 2008 entry, except it is now executed on the Majestic Flex Base jersey. Like its predecessor, aside from the change in front wordmark from “Brewers” to “Cerveceros,” these are the same as the team’s home jerseys.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Negro Leagues Tribute (1923 Milwaukee Bears)

Steve Kraljic collection

The Brewers have honored the short-lived 1923 Negro League Milwaukee Bears on the road before, just with a different jersey, which is curious because the Bears played less than a full season before disbanding. It is likely that so little is known of that team that discerning their uniforms from photos is challenging, so this may be more of a fauxback than a faithful representation of that team. This road entry from July 13, 2018 is identical to the home version used annually apart from the switch in color of the Cool Base material from white to gray. The blue sun collar and blue front and back lettering all carry over unchanged.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year—a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Brewers wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and yellow sleeves with white nicknames and yellow numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide yellow/white/yellow trim. The front features lettering based on their road alternate jersey script, here rendered in yellow/blue/white 3D drop shadow kiss-cut twill.

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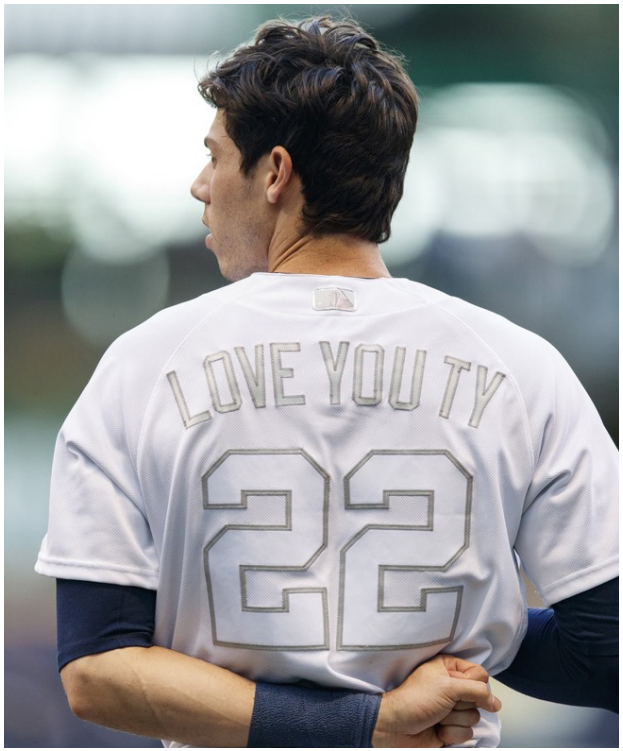
2019 Players Weekend



The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019.

Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Brewers wear a white version of their road alternate jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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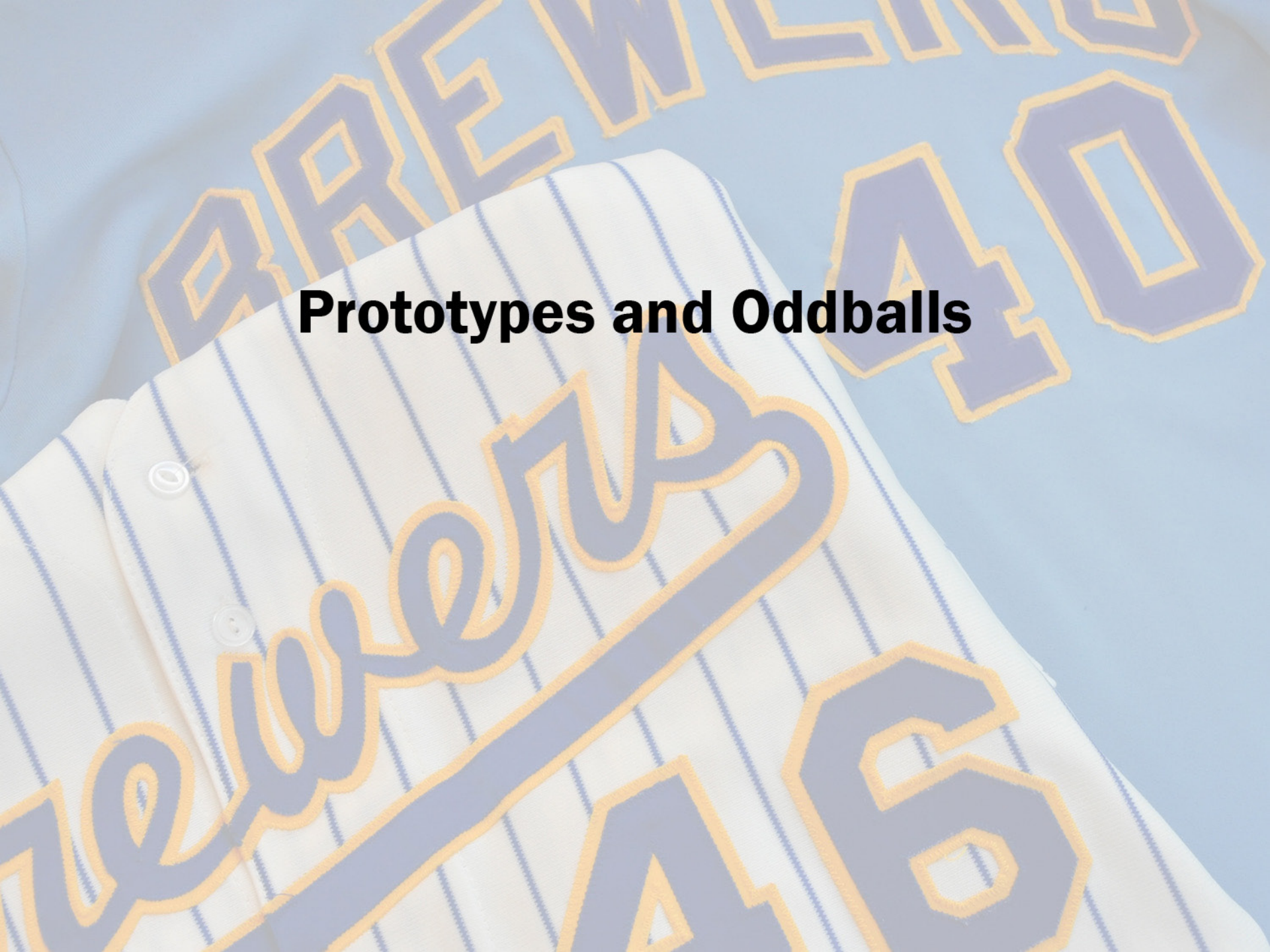
Prototypes and Oddballs



1969 Pilots Prototypes

Despite being the shortest-lived team in MLB history, the Seattle Pilots had several uniform prototypes leading up to their only season in 1969. Their short tenure, and the fact that they never wore knit jerseys, mean that they are not covered with a chapter of their own in this book. However, because they became the Milwaukee Brewers after their lone season, and because we do cover the final flannel examples teams wore before switching to knits, and because (we admit it!) we love to cover oddballs and prototypes, we present the Pilots unusual uniform history here. Credit to Paul Lukas of uni-watch.com who, with the help of other readers and researchers, collected and presented the information we reproduce in these pages.

On October 10, 1968, Pilots' Manager joe Schultz modeled a prototype Pilots road jersey and cap for promo photos that were reproduced in newspapers across the country. Neither the jersey nor the cap he wore that day made the field when the Pilots started their season mere months later. The flannel jersey he wore had "Seattle" rendered straight across the chest, an element that was changed into arched lettering prior to the season. The color of the road jersey (either gray or powder blue) was indiscernible from the black and white press photos. However, in a 2023 column, Lukas published photos of the Pilots' prototype home and road uniforms taken before Shultz' photo shoot, modeled by Jim Kittilsby, assistant to Pilots GM Marvin Milkes. In a podcast interview, Kittilsby said he got the job to model the uniforms simply because they fit him.

> *"I used to order the equipment, including uniforms. I always bought stuff from Wilson Sporting Goods — the Sorianos [the Pilots' owners] always used Wilson Sporting Goods at the time. They sent uniform samples and I was the model and they would take pictures of me, because the samples were always size 38. Most of the people on the staff were bigger — the men, most of the men were bigger than a 38. But at the time, I was five foot seven, I was about 160 pounds, so I was stocky enough to to wear those. And I wasn't selected because of my rank or my importance — it was because they fit me."*

The photos of Kittilsby show the same straight lettering, and confirm the color of the uniform Schultz is wearing in his photos. It is even possible they are the same uniforms.

(continued)

Above: *Pilots Manager Joe Schultz modeling the team's prototype road jersey in October 1968.*
Below: *Pilots Staffer Jim Kittilsby in prototype home and road jerseys in August/September 1968.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1969 Pilots Prototypes Continued

Not long after Schultz' October photo shoot, a different Pilots road jersey was displayed at MLB's winter meetings in December. A press photo of the time showed a partial view of the jersey as part of a Wilson uniform and equipment display. This sample, likely a road jersey given the "Seattle" lettering, used a very angular script that was quite different from the team's eventual rounded lettering style. Curiously, it included the multiple sleeve stripes used in the eventual on-field jerseys, though there appear to be even more of them in the sample than on the final jerseys. Graphic Designer Todd Radom featured this press photo on his blog, and also created a mock-up of a best guess of how the Seattle script may have looked.

After months of these mixed messages, the Pilots took the field for Spring Training in 1969 with...yet another different set of uniforms. Made by Wilson, the home and road Spring Training jerseys screamed "TEMPORARY!" They featured "Pilots" in vertically arched block lettering on both sets and Wilson Varsity numbers on back. By the start of the regular season, they settled on their official, inaugural, and final uniform design that lasted the length of their sole season.

Associated Press

FASHIONED FOR DIAMOND: Gene Mauch, left, manager, and Harry (Peanuts) Lowrey, scout of the Montreal Expos, look over uniforms, from left, of Kansas City Royals, Seattle and San Diego. Also shown in San Francisco, new gloves.

Left: A press photo from December 1968, showing a different prototype jersey, circled in red.

Above: Graphic designer Todd Radom's rendering of the angular script on the front of the jersey in the photo.

1969 Spring Training Home

1969 Spring Training Road

Above: *Game used Pilots 1969 Spring Training home (left) and road (right) jerseys. The color difference between the two styles was clearer in press photos of the day, shown with each example, than it is in the photos of the jerseys themselves.*

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1970 Prototypes

Baseball Hall of Fame –Photo credit: Steve Hovley

When the bankrupted Seattle Pilots became the Brewers just six days before the opening of the 1970 season, the team needed uniforms, and fast. A complete story is told here: (http://www.borchertfield.com/2010/06/back-in-blue.html), but in brief, we will share the condensed version.

Newspapers reported that the Brewers would be wearing the old Pilots' uniforms until their new suits arrived. Other reports indicated that there were navy pinstriped prototype(s) with red lettering being copied for production. It is also quite likely that other prototypes existed. The reason is simple: The Brewers' corporation had existed since 1965, and was on the mission to attract a new big league club for Milwaukee since the Braves' departure was imminent. It is very reasonable that prototype uniforms would have been part of the corporation's business planning collateral. But, the way the Pilots shotgun appearance in Milwaukee actually happened left no time to prepare for the season. Uniforms were needed immediately. The new ownership had to work with what little time and materials they had and do something fast!

(continued, next page)

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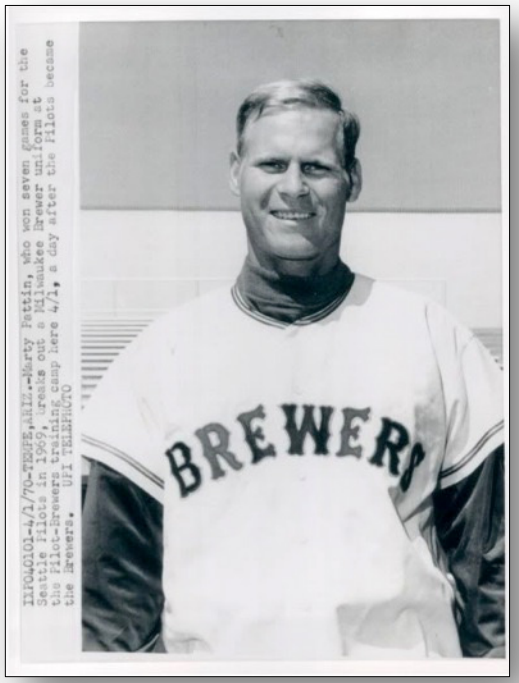
The photo at left shows a newspaper account, this one on April 1 (in a photo dated March 18),with what is claimed to be the uniforms the Brewers would wear on opening day, It looks rather like the design the team eventually adopted for 1990, a *mere* twenty years later! I'd wager that this uniform was the one that had been created far in advance, in preparation for "the day." But also on April 1, just before Spring Training broke in Tempe, AZ,(below, left) pitcher Marty Patin was pictured wearing a different uniform entirely. It features the rather generic MLB "Tuscan" font used by the Red Sox, the Mets (on their road uniforms) and the Angels (up through 1970)

The colors are the familiar blue and gold, as seen on the next page. The photo at left was run by the Associated Press, and the one next to it, a photo of the team plane's stewardess disembarking on its maiden flight to Milwaukee; (April 6) where the team was greeted there by hundreds of new fans. It is quite likely that she is wearing the identical jersey shown in the prior photos. However, by their first workout on April 11 and on opening day, the Brewers actual uniforms were unveiled (far right) – the prior week's Pilots uniforms stripped of their lettering and Brewers' new lettering applied, in the identical combination of blue and yellow lettering. Pilots' sleeve trim still clearly visible ***(below right)***

One wonders: if the Pilots had folded just a month earlier, would the Brewers' have opened their first decade in Milwaukee looking quite differently than they actually did?

March 18…

April 1…



April 6…

April 11

Many thanks to Chance Michaels, whom many would call the Unofficial Brewers Historian, on his help here in getting this story right.

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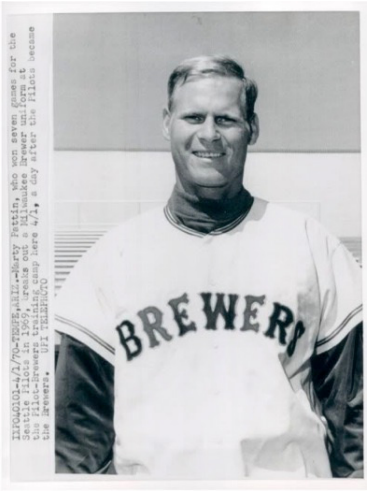
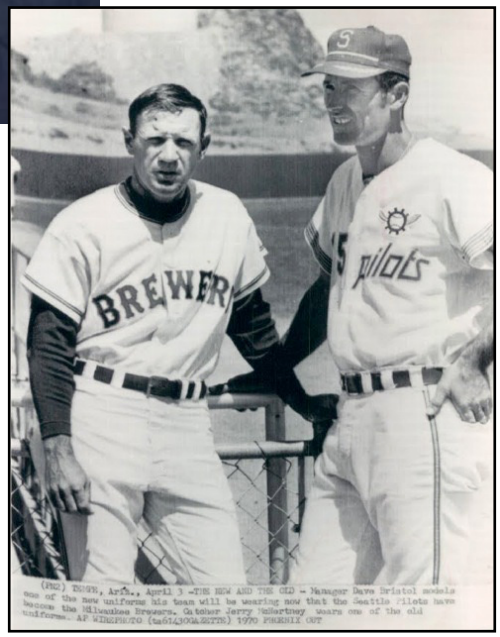
1970 Prototype Home

Clayton Brewer Collection



Just after the publication of the ninth edition of this book, collector Clayton Brewer contacted me with photos of several items from his collection. Of this one, he writes: “I thought you might like color pics of the prototype Brewers jersey that you show in your guide. This is the one that the stewardess and Dave Bristol and Marty Pattin are wearing in your photos. This came from Tommy Ferguson who worked for the Brewers. It is the only one that was made.”



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1970 Seattle Pilots Home

My observations: It appears that the Pilots had switched entirely to McAuliffe to supply their home uniforms for 1970. Notice that the font of numbers changed to the McAuliffe house font (used by the Red Sox and the A's among others), and notice the higher placement of the front numbers.

I will assume that the same thing happened with the 1970 Pilots road jerseys though we have never seen a survivor, they were likely all converted.

Consistent with Clayton Brewer's comments, I have also never seen a 1970 McAuliffe Brewers jersey with a number lower than 50 *(See next page)*

Until I write a full chapter covering the 1969 Pilots, we'll put this here as a placeholder.

This, from the collection of Clayton Brewer, who writes:

"Here are pics of my all original unrestored 1970 Seattle Pilots jersey. I got it directly from Al Federoff who was the 1970 manager for the Portland Beavers. The Beavers were going to be an affiliate for the Pilots but the Pilots became the Brewers near the end of spring training in 1970. Al Federoff was invited to the Pilots spring training in 1970 as an instructor and was issued this jersey which he kept after the Pilots moved to Milwaukee. I have never seen another 1970 tagged Pilots jersey that wasn't stripped and remade to a Brewers jersey. Also I have never seen a 1970 Pilots jersey that was issued a number lower than 50. All of the McAuliffe 1970 Pilots jerseys were stripped and remade into 1971 Brewers jerseys with the exception of this one."

"It is not true that all of the 1970 Brewers jerseys are re-lettered Pilots jerseys. All of the Wilson Brewers jerseys that are tagged 1970 started life out as Brewers jerseys. The only ones that were stripped and turned into Brewers jerseys are the 1970 Pilots McAuliffe and the 1969 Wilson Pilots home jerseys. Some 1970 McAuliffe jerseys actually started life out as Brewers jerseys. So not all 1970 McAuliffe jerseys were stripped Pilots jerseys. I have never seen a 1970 road McAuliffe or a stripped 1969 Spalding road."

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1970 Year-Tagged Converted Pilots McAuliffe Jerseys - Spring Training Use Only?

Next, let's move to the McAuliffe-made Brewers jerseys that bear 1970 year tagging. There have been a few of these offered at auction, and each auction listing has made reference to the fact that each had originally been 1970 Pilots uniforms, with stitching evidence of the Pilots' 1970 sleeve trim, "wings" patch on the upper chest, and player numbers on the right chest. Yet, all of the examples we have seen have been converted to 1971 Brewers-spec, with arched BREWERS wordmark, front numbers and narrow sleeve-end and neck trim.

There is scant photo history available for easy viewing of the expansion team's 1970-1971 seasons, and the only examples of the breed I can find are these, in 1971 livery. All game photos I have located (and there are not many) from 1970-1971 show the team wearing jerseys with the Wilson numbers on the back.

So - what are these? Were the 1970 set of Pilots uniforms converted to 1970-Brewers spec and worn simultaneously (with different, McAuliffe-spec font numbers on both back and front) on the field with the more common Wilson jerseys? Or, perhaps they were they unused in 1970 but converted directly to 1971 Brewers spec? Were they used only in 1971 or 1972 spring training? (the high uniform numbers of the examples found, all 50 and higher, might suggest that). We are fairly certain that some went to the minor leagues. But so far, we have no evidence of McAuliffe-made jerseys being used in 1970, and wonder if these 1971-spec versions were used at all in the regular season.

My research has turned up an authentication done by MEARS of a similar 1970 tagged jersey (#66 for pitcher Wayne Twitchell), and their conclusion is the same as mine—jersey used in spring training only, re-lettered from a 1970-Pilots unused issue.

Perhaps someday we will take the plunge into the digital archives of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, and see what game photos might reveal. From the evidence at hand, I *suspect* these were spring training jerseys with the possibility of one or two sneaking in as emergency regular-season use in 1971.

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More 1970 Prototype Road

Pictured here are two different jerseys that are unlike any that the MLB Brewers wore on the field. The one at left has a 1970 year tag, the one at right has an indecipherable year tag and a 1971 number-on-front style. The Spalding jock tag on both jerseys is of the company's 1969-1970 style.

A reasonable hypothesis is that these are prototypes made by Spalding for the team's consideration.

Recall we noted at the beginning of this chapter that it seemed odd that the 1970-1971 road jersey actually used by the Brewers has a different wordmark from the home one? If the team considered and rejected this design, I suppose we can assume that the Seattle Pilots-flavored wordmark on the front of the road uniform was no accident. Again, guessing, but perhaps the road uniform wordmark design was a compromise for someone who was not satisfied with how plain and seemingly uninspired the 1970-1971 road uniform turned out to be. Decisions by committee usually cause this sort of compromise and inconsistency.

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1972 Prototype Road?

My conclusions about this jersey are educated conjecture. It could quite possibly be a Brewers 1973 prototype road jersey. I have seen it for sale twice on auction sites within a year. One seller said it was made by Wilson, but the numbers (if original) are not a Wilson pattern that I know, and Wilson tagging is not apparent.

I would guess it is made by Sand-Knit judging from the font style of the numbers on both the front and back. It appears to have no wear, consistent with a sample jersey. I have no pictures of its tagging, which might answer some of these questions.

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1973-1977 McAuliffe?

The next few pages feature a few 1973–1977 used Brewers jerseys made by McAuliffe, a small uniform company in Massachusetts, most commonly associated with the Red Sox and the Oakland Athletics. I am unconvinced that McAuliffe jerseys were used by the MLB team on the field in any regular season. McAuliffe-crafted jerseys feature differently angled and spaced front lettering, and sometimes oddly-shaped numbers. They have set-in sleeves vs. the standard raglan style sleeves seen on other Brewers jerseys. And the sleeve end trim is wrapped around and sewn over top of the sleeve end, vs. being a separate knit attachment.

I suspect that McAuliffe supplied samples, or perhaps whole sets of home uniforms to the Brewers, and the frugal team used them in Spring Training, and as extras, such as this one for the bat boy. Their minor league clubs are pictured wearing as well. Is it possible that some players may have worn a McAuliffe jersey in a game? We show a single example on the next page, but the lack of game-action photos from these years makes further research difficult.

Christopher Holtz Collection

Found for sale at auction along with the blue jersey on the prior page, this was billed by its seller as a team-used bat boy jersey. I will assume the seller came to that conclusion from the magic marker “BB” written on the McAuliffe tag inside the front hem. As far as I can determine McAuliffe never made on-field double knit jerseys for the Brewers, and perhaps this was a salesman’s sample jersey that was pressed into service for the bat boy. Whatever, it does exhibit quite a bit of wash-wear and fraying of the front wordmark. The Brewers did indeed switch manufacturers of their home uniforms, but from Wilson to Sand-Knit, and not until the 1976 season.

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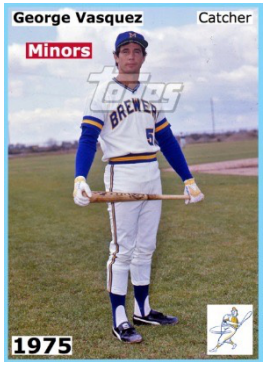
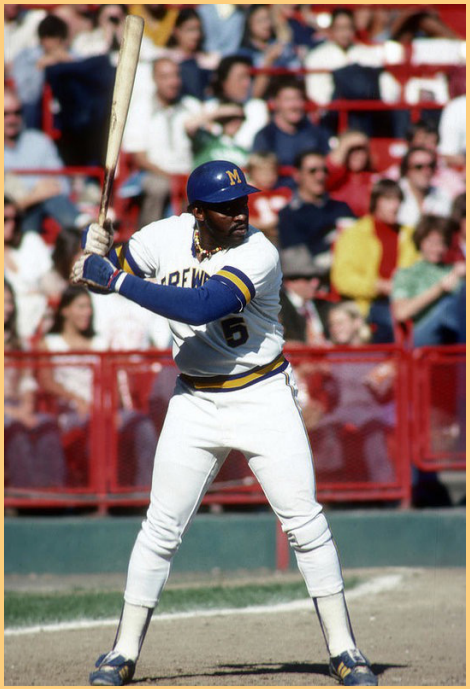


These photos show year-tagged McAuliffe 1973–1977 home jerseys, and players in Spring Training (or in the minors) wearing likely-McAuliffe jerseys with their set-in (vs. sewn on) sleeves, different sleeve end trim and oddly styled front numbers. We have no evidence that the MLB Brewers wore McAuliffe jerseys in these years.



But just when I thought we could close the book on this whole topic, collector Peter Graber sends me this photo of George Scott batting in Milwaukee County Stadium in 1972 wearing a McAuliffe jersey, as evidenced by the font of the “5” on his shirt. So, we have proof that at least one player wore a McAuliffe jersey in a regular season game. This is why I try to “never say never.”

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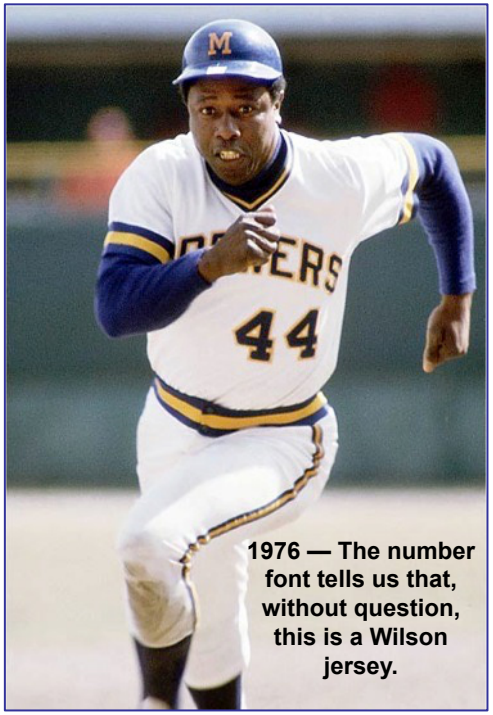
1976: Smithsonian Shenanigans?

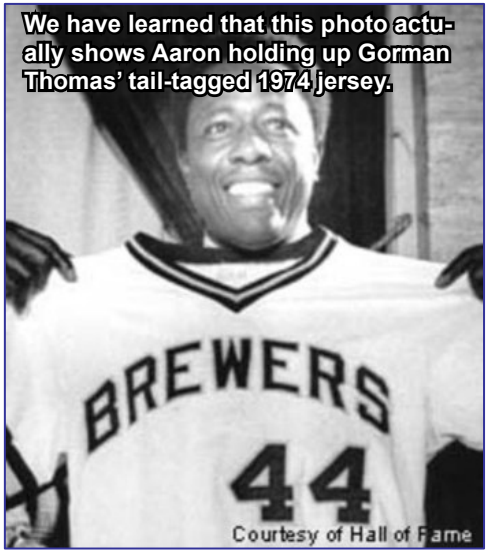
http://americanhistory.si.edu/sports/exhibit/gamemakers/aaron/index.cfm#

The tent card reads: **Milwaukee Brewer's *(sic)* uniform jersey, 1975–1976**. Aaron wore this uniform to finish out the last two seasons of his career.—Gift of Henry Aaron

Left: *Another example of a supposed Aaron-worn jersey has Sand-Knit strip tagging added to a McAuliffe jersey! This would make any authenticator roll his eyes in disbelief.*



1976 — The number font tells us that, without question, this is a Wilson jersey.



We have learned that this photo actually shows Aaron holding up Gorman Thomas' tail-tagged 1974 jersey.

Above left and center: These photos are from the Smithsonian Institution's "Breaking Barriers" exhibit, the photo caption is borrowed verbatim from that site, and from the card in the display case.

Beside the error in spelling the team name, this exhibit draws attention *because so far as we know in 1976 the Brewers did not wear McAuliffe knit uniforms.* Now, we have heard of cases where particular players have supposedly demanded to wear a uniform from a specific maker because of fit or some other reason (Nolan Ryan supposedly requiring Goodman uniforms comes to mind), but the two photos at right clearly show Aaron wearing a Wilson-lettered jersey in 1976, and holding up Gorman Thomas, 1974 jersey (with #44 that would be re-assigned to Aaron in 1975) at his Brewers signing in November 1974.

While this all seems odd, let me note that we have not documented *every jersey worn in every game,* and while we have no other photos of McAuliffe Brewer jerseys, aside from the claimed-Bat boy jersey on the prior page, it is certainly possible that Aaron could have had this one and worn it in games.

See the chapter on team tagging for more information on McAuliffe's practice of making "special order" jerseys on request for anyone who asked, back in the innocent days of pre-Authentic Collection licensed marketing.

*Grateful thanks to Brewers expert **Chance Michaels**, who contributed mightily to the Brewers' research in this section.*

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1976-1979 Prototypes

Guy Hankel photos

The jersey at the top left is a Wilson. The rest are almost certainly Sand-Knit team-submitted prototypes, the manufacturer's tail tag style identifies them as from 1976–1979. Wisconsin-based Sand-Knit desperately wanted to keep the Brewers' business, and offering prototype designs for consideration was one way to show they were deeply committed.

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1978-1985 Rawlings Prototype?

Here is what is likely to be a Rawlings sample for the Brewers 1978–1985 road jersey. The Rawlings tag dates this jersey from between 1973–1984, so knowing exactly when this was made up is a bit of guesswork. Sand-Knit made the version of this style that the team used during those years, so it may have been a sample prepared for the change to the script-front jersey in 1978, which was rejected in favor of Sand-Knit's version. It is also possible that the team was shopping for new manufacturers in advance of their 1986 return to gray jerseys, and Rawlings made this up just to show the quality, if not the color, they could provide. Ultimately, Rawlings did get the contract to make Brewers home and road jerseys from 1987–1991, but by that time, the team had abandoned powder blue on the road.

Note that the "a" in "Milwaukee" was completely filled in with yellow background twill on this example, something that the Sand Knit jerseys of the era did not have, nor did the Rawlings gray road jerseys that followed.

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1992-1993 Russell Prototype

Bill Henderson Collection

- This royal blue alternate jersey from the 1990–1993 era is the only one of these I have ever seen, so far. The Brewers did not wear a game jersey like this.
- It is a size 46 which is an uncommon size, usually not produced for retail sale. It also lacks the garment size tag at the neck that retail sale garments usually have, and does have the extra “Intera fabric” tag on the front Diamond Collection that usually appears only on team issued jerseys. I doubt this one is game worn.
- The team patch on the sleeve is a yellow State of Wisconsin, similar to the gold/green sleeve patch found on team jackets a year or two later.

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1995 Unused MLB Players' Strike: Replacement Player Jerseys

The baseball players' strike of 1994–1995 ended just before the scheduled start of the 1995 season. While most teams prepared to start the season with replacement players and even prepared uniforms for them to wear, they were never needed. Several replacement player jerseys from the Brewers organization have surfaced. The home jerseys have replacement player names sewn on nameplates over the regular roster player names, and the regular roster player names are tagged in the collar. The navy alternate jerseys are sewn without player names at all and seem to have the replacement player names in the collar tags. (Alan Lewis #8 was to have been the replacement starting third baseman, #39 was Dave Fitzgerald, a pitcher). I must imagine that when the season began with regular players on the diamond that the cover-up nameplates were simply removed. I don't know what happened to the nameless blue alternate set. I wonder if anyone who owns a 1995 Brewers game worn jersey might hold it to the light to see if an outline of a nameplate is visible?

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2002 Alternate Batting Practice?

This batting practice jersey carries a store-bought “Majestic Authentic Tag," but instead of using the Brewers script across the front, it uses the Miller Beer inspired stylized-Milwaukee “M” seen on the team’s caps and sleeve patch. The jersey’s mesh construction dates it from 2001–2002.

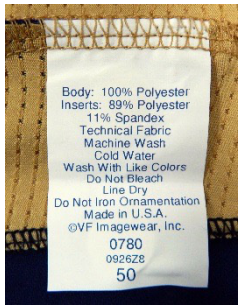
I have never seen one of these on a player, and suspect that they were sold only to fans at retail. Though it is odd for garments with “Authentic” collection tagging to not be issued to players.

2010 St. Patrick’s Day?

Advertised for retail sale as a 2010 St. Patrick’s jersey, this item is not game worn. Did the Brewers wear green jerseys in Spring Training in 2010? We do not believe so, but put that on the “more research required” list.

© GameWornGuides.com

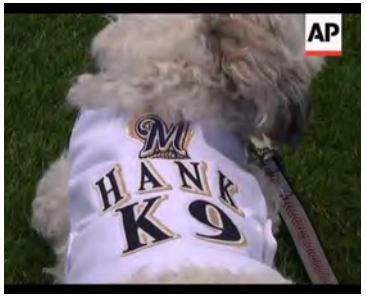
2011-2013 Overflow Spring Training Batting Practice



Left: *"0780" tag code tells us that this jersey was made to be team-issued.*

One must imagine the player issued this three-digit uniform number in spring training knew that he had very little chance of making the squad.

Hank the Dog's Uniform



Offered at auction on MLB.com, complete with official hologram, the "uniform:" of Brewers' clubhouse mascot Hank the Dog. Hank was a stray taken in by the team and assigned clubhouse companionship duty, to the delight of the press and fans.

© GameWornGuides.com

Oops!

"How's That Again?" July 20, 2013: Proving that these jerseys are sewn by real people, and that people are human and make mistakes, the Turn Back the Clock jersey of Brewers' Manager Ron Roenicke featured some creative spelling.

2007 Shirt Off Your Back Promo

September 24, 2007: Several teams feature annual "Shirt Off Your Back" games to raise money for charities, and we document them when we find examples.

© GameWornGuides.com

2019: Two-For-One

When 2018 NL MVP Christian Yelich fractured his kneecap in September 2019, ending his season prematurely, Ryan Braun saluted his teammate on September 11, 2019 by wearing Yelich's jersey underneath his own. Perhaps it worked, because while wearing them, Braun hit a two-run home run. The Brewers won that game 7-5. The two jerseys seen above were auctioned on MLB.com as a set.

Thanks to UniWatch.com for this one!

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2020 Nike Sample Home

Though Nike's 2020 entry into MLB jerseys resulted only in the rebranding and relabeling of Majestic's previous Flex Base jersey template, it appears that Nike still produced sample jerseys for team inspection. Here is one such example, made up for the Brewers.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the name "PLAYER" and number "20" are also typical for samples, where 20 represents the year for which the sample was made. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "BRE-HJ-D1-1-2020" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a Brewers (BRE) home jersey (HJ).

Outwardly, this home white jersey appears just as it did on the field prior to 2020, even thought the team completely redesigned its uniforms for that season. It is likely this was done before those changes were finalized (or perhaps even considered) so this does not represent what the Brewers actually wore that season.

There are other, smaller details in this sample that were also updated before the full run of 2020 jerseys went into production. First, a heat-pressed neck tag which was not used in on-field jerseys. Next, an interior heat-pressed tag, almost twice as tall as the ones used by Majestic before and Nike after, appears inside the placket with the sample coding. This location was used by Majestic for team tagging, but Nike versions moved these tags below the jock tags on the lower front of the jerseys.

Finally, the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag is the same used for Majestic's version of the Flex Base template. By the time Nike's jerseys were released in 2020, the product code had been updated to "0890" to reflect the new Nike jerseys, and the Brewers had all-new uniforms to debut that season.

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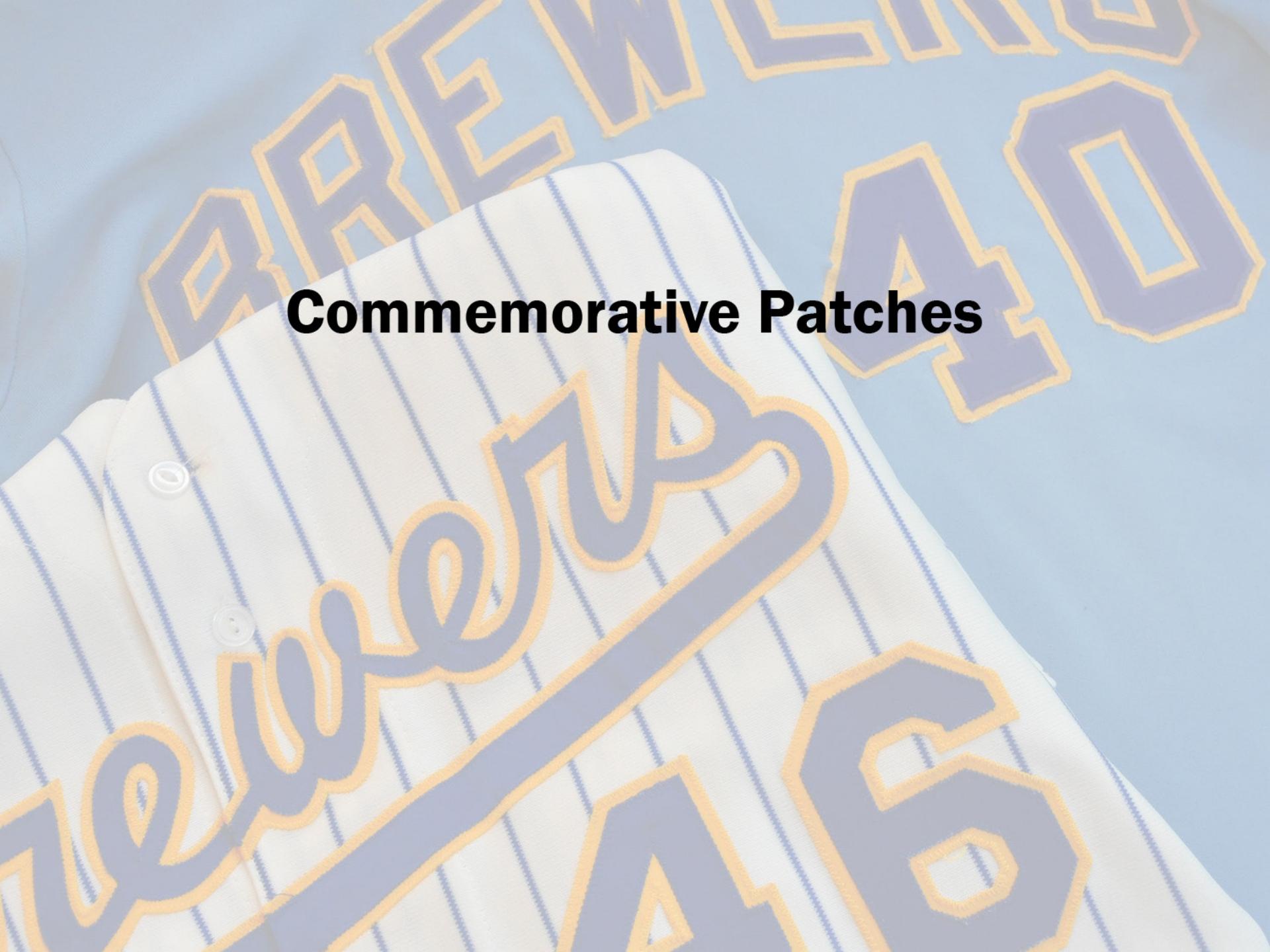
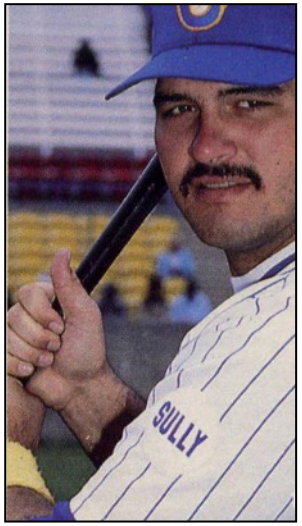
Commemorative Patches



Brewers Patches

1977



1986

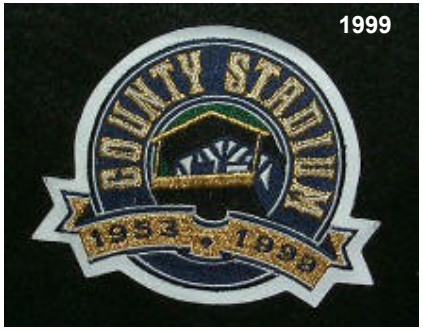
1988

1994

1996

1996

1998



1999

1999, starting July 24

- 1977: Danny Frisella Black armband
- 1986: Sully Memorial patch (in white and gray)
- 1988: Harvey Kuenn Patch
- 1994: 25th Anniversary
- 1996: Milwaukee 150th (navy patch worn on road and home jerseys, white patch worn on alternate navy jersey)
- 1998: Wisconsin Sesquicentennial
- 1999: County Stadium Final Season
- 1999, Starting July 24: Ironworkers Memorial Patch (left chest, starting July 24, honoring iron workers killed in an accident building the new Miller Park, delaying its opening one year)

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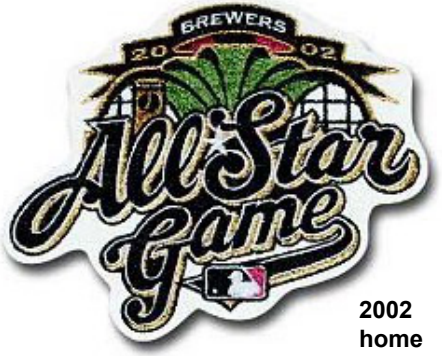


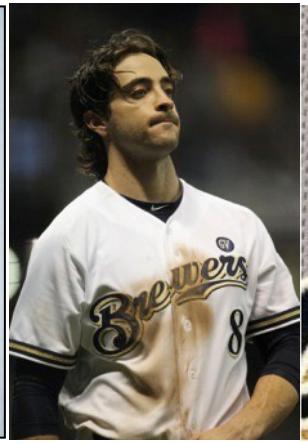
2002 home

The Brewers team-worn All-Star patch differed slightly from the ones worn by the players in the All-Star game

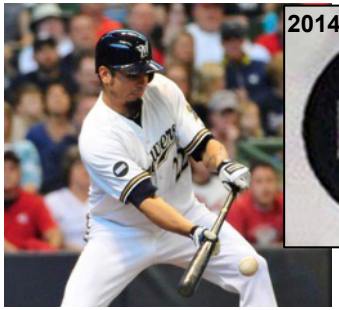
2002 road

2007

2010



2011 post-season only



2014

- 2001: Home To Heroes – a salute to the people of Wisconsin and their history. It ties into 25 murals throughout the stadium that pay tribute to Wisconsin baseball history and to state commerce, such as agriculture, brewing, manufacturing, paper-making and, recreation.
- 2002: All-Star Game (Both gray and white background versions produced)
- 2007: Silver Anniversary of 1982 Pennant worn on alternate nostalgia jersey only.
- 2010: 40 Years in Milwaukee
- 2011 (postseason only): The Brewers honored longtime groundskeeper Gary VandenBerg with this navy blue patch with the initials “GV” in the front left of their uniforms. (VandenBerg died on October 12)
- 2014 after September 5: “Bruce” for Amateur Scouting director Bruce Seid, a 17-year veteran of the front office

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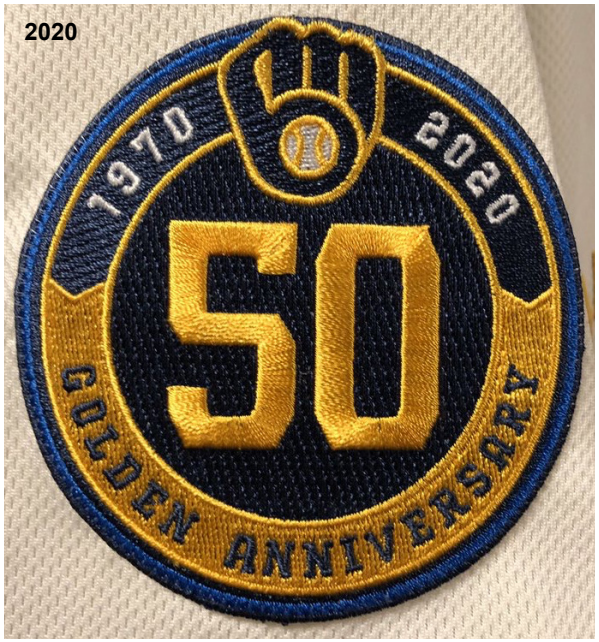
June 21-24, 2018

2020



- 2018, June 21–24: “Nellie” memorial patch for former coach Dave Nelson, right sleeve. The logo below his nickname is that of Open Arms Home for Children in South Africa, a charity Nelson supported by serving on its board of directors.
- 2020: Brewers 50th anniversary patch, right sleeve on all jerseys
- 2020, February 27: Black ribbon pinned to left chest of jersey to honor victims of Molson Coors company shooting, which occurred in Milwaukee.
- 2020, February 28–March 1: “MC” patch on left chest to honor victims of Molson Coors company shooting, which occurred in Milwaukee.
- 2021, and May 6–7, 2022: #44 patch to memorialize the passing of Hank Aaron, also worn May 6–7 2022 against the Braves (both teams for which Aaron played)
- 2025: Bob Uecker Memorial patch, worn above the team logo sleeve patch

2021 and
May 6–7, 2022

2025

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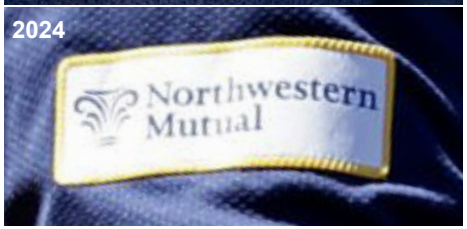
2023-2025 Brewers Advertising Patches

2023

2024



With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Brewers struck a sponsor patch deal with Northwestern Mutual, a financial services company. The patches first appeared on September 15, 2023.

The patch is navy with white lettering for the team's home, road, home alternate, and City Connect jerseys. It is white with navy text on the team's road alternate jersey, with a white border in 2023, and a gold border in 2024.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

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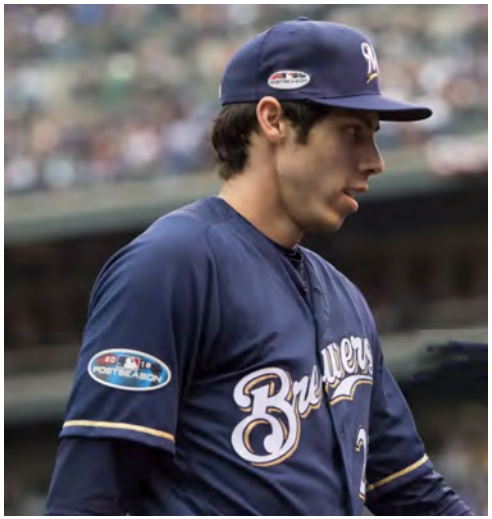
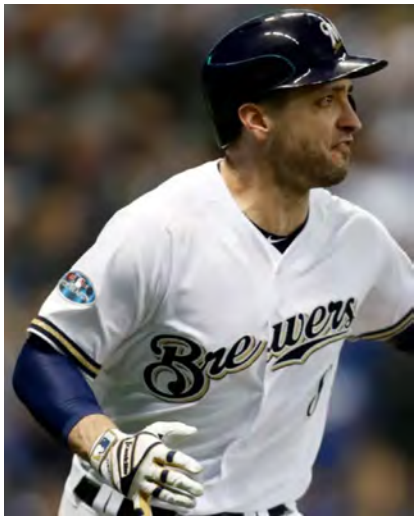
Brewers Postseason Patches

2018 NL Division Series
2018 NL Championship Series
(right sleeve)





2019 NL Wild Card
(right sleeve, above MLB150 patch)

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Milwaukee Brewers 1972 Harvey Kuenn Game Worn Coaches' Road Jersey

Examination Date: August 14, 2020 **Certification Number**: 200814JR1

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Milwaukee Brewers first-year Spalding-made double-knit road blue jersey. "Brewers" Vertically arched on front with the Varsity-style number 60 below on the left chest. 7 7/8" tall Varsity 60 on the back, all lettering in Royal Blue outline with bright gold. V-Neck pullover jersey has two-inch blue/yellow/blue sewn-in knit elastic sleeve ends, and similar colored 7/8 wide knit V-Neck trim.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Spalding Professional manufacturer tagging inside the center of the back tail, with a square embroidered "72" tag beside it, matching exemplars in our database. Spalding made the Brewers' knit road uniforms in 1972 only, and the color was a distinct darker share of blue than the power blue uniforms worn by other teams or even the Brewers in the years after 1972. There is no size tag, but the chest measurement is 42".

Inside the back of the neck are the remnants of what had been a light blue felt rectangular team tag, stitched in place with a tight zig zag. The whole center of the tag is torn away leaving frayed remnants of felt still attached around the perimeter. This is typical of other 1972 Brewers road jerseys we have seen; the felt tags were either cut out or simply disintegrated and fell apart after hundreds of machine washings. In fact, we have never seen one with the collar tagging still intact.

Wear and Repairs: While it is still intact with all seams secure, this jersey shows heavy wear as is typical of surviving 1972 Brewers road uniforms. Some of the finish topstitching on the sleeve and side seams is coming out. The jersey is a shade darker below the belt line where the tail was tucked in, sparing it exposure to the sun. These uniform sets were used in spring training and/or minor leagues for likely several more seasons. The front Brewers wordmark is still tightly

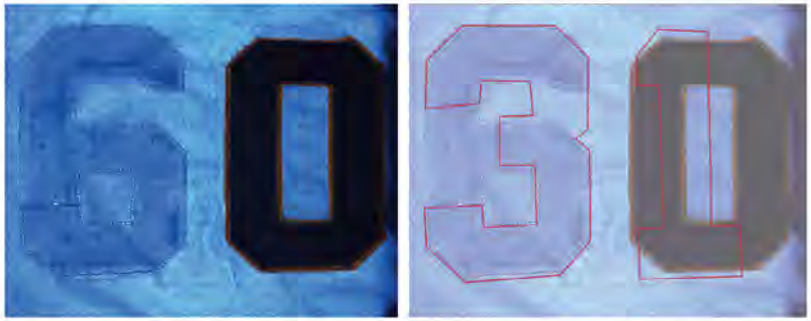
William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

stitched with thread lightly wash-faded, and the twill colors are still bright. The player numbers, however, have clearly been replaced with "take off" MLB numbers, a common practice for minor league teams who, when changing numbers on MLB jerseys that were to be reissued, re-used numbers that had been stripped from other jerseys, not new one. The evidence of this shows in the tattered edges of the numbers, even with places where the gold edges of the twill have been torn away from being roughly pulled off of other jerseys. The numbers were applied with a great deal of glue, and stitched multiple times around the edges, including with a set of straight basting stitches (generally laid down first to position the numbers for final sewing) then with as many as two corses of zig-zag stitching.

When we first examined this jersey one the light table, it was clear that both numbers had been replaced and were unoriginal to the MLB jersey. The second digit clearly had been a "1", its telltale outline visible in the center opening of the "0" that occupied that spot now. There was also inexactly covered outlines of a prior number in the first position that we could not discern with the current "6" in place. We were asked by its owner to carefully remove the leading "6" on the back to determine the jersey's original configuration. When we did, we saw evidence of the outlines of original number, as well as the unfaded, much darker silhouette of the newly-removed 6. This tells us that while the jersey spent a single year in the sun with its original numbers, it spent two or probably several more seasons in the sun with its replacement numbers in place.

Removal of the 6 clearly showed on the light table that the original number in that spot had been a "3" (see photos) confirming that this jersey had been issued and worn in 1972 by #31, Harvey Kuenn, in his first year as a Brewers coach after having retiring as a player on the team at the start of the 1970 season. In 1982, Coach Kuenn was named manager of the Brewers mid-season and led them to their only World Series berth, and was named AL Manager of the Year. He managed the Brewers through the end of 1983. When he died in 1988, the Brewers wore a commemorative patch for him on their sleeves all year

After verifying the jersey's original player number on the light table, the "6" was carefully repositioned atop the clearly visible shadow outline and restitched as original.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is consistent in every way with known exemplars of game worn 1972 Brewers road jerseys. It exhibits game use and wash wear, with the original front wordmark but numbers on both front and back changed by the minor league team. Therefore, it is my considered opinion of that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Harvey Kuenn of the Milwaukee Brewers during the 1972 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Pete Vuckovich 1986 Milwaukee Brewers Game Worn Road Jersey, Final Season

Examination Date: May 24, 2023 **Certification Number**:23-0524J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Sand-Kint made road gray size 48 Milwaukee Brewers pullover jersey #50, issued to pitcher Pete Vuckovich in his final MLB season. "Milwaukee" scripted across the front at an angle, with the number 50 below on the left side. The same number is on the back, 6" from the collar with no player name above as was correct for the 1986 Brewers. Wide, 2 1/2" sewn-in kit sleeve end trim in blue/gold/blue. 1" V-Neck knit twin in the same colors. Wisconsin-based Sand Knit was the supplier for the 1986 Brewers, the number font is correct for the that year, and all lettering is stitched in dark Royal Blue over gold. Vuckovich played wearing 2-3" extra length jerseys through almost all of his career, yet this one is standard length. The 1986 SULLY memorial disk is stitched to the left sleeve and it appears original.

Pete Vuckovich did not start the 1986 season on the Brewers roster. Only 33 years old but battling arm problems, he had contemplated retirement. Midseason he accepted a long rehab assignment in AAA Vancouver where he pitched well. The MLB club called him up in September, and in my estimation, this jersey was likely prepared for him hurriedly, perhaps in the clubhouse. The lettering is stitched somewhat sloppily reminiscent of clubhouse work; his name is written in the jersey tail in magic marker and not embroidered, and the jersey does not have the extra length that the player customarily specified for his jerseys his entire career.

Vuckovich appeared in only six games, all as a starter for the 1986 Brewers, in September - October, going 2-4 with only 32.1 innings pitched. He retired at the end of that season, caping an 11 year career in which he appeared in 298 games, and went 93-69 with a career 3.66 ERA. He won the 1982 AL Cy Young Award. (Baseball Almanac) Despite a notable 12-year career as a professional baseball player, in popular culture he is known mainly for his role as fictional Yankees slugger Clu Haywood, the chief nemesis of Charlie Sheen's character Ricky Vaughn, in the popular 1989 film *Major League*. (Wikipedia)

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Sand-Knit tagging is sewn to the outside left front tail of the jersey, and properly consists of two tags, stitched on the side edges only, side by side. The left tag is the "Exclusively tailored for the Milwaukee Brewers:, and the right tag is the Sand-Knit/MacGregor locker tag showing the size as 48. Sand Knit changed its tagging frequently over the years, and this tagging set is accurate and specific to 1986. Inside the back tail are two more tags: white knit fabric sewn around all four sides. The left tag 2"x3/4" has 86-48S machine embroidered on it in black thread. This stands for 1986, size 48 with standard tailoring. (Special tailoring was designated with a "Z" in place of the "S"). The second tag is 2 1/2" long and is plain white with "VUCKOVICH" hand-written on it in black marker in handwriting familiar when compared to other Brewers mid-season call-up jerseys. Normally, the player name is also machine embroidered, but multiple examples in our exemplar library have the name hand written, often when the player did not start the season with the club.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows wear that would be in excess of the six games that Vuckovich appeared in for the 1986 Brewers. The lettering is burnished and somewhat frayed around the edges with much

Brewers exemplar tagging- at the top is the tag of the jersey in review. Note "S" designation for standard tailoring and player hame handwritten on a blank white swatch. Below are two other examples from 1986, showing standard team tagging for players on the roster as of the start of the season. The tagging on the Porter jersey shows 42Z; it was made with extra length. The bottom tag is from 1984 and shows an example of another Brewers jersey with a clubhouse handwritten tag, for pitcher Bob Gibson, a mid-May 1984 call-up.

Conclusion: After careful review, in my opinion this jersey is all original and without contrivance. It shows use and is an official team issue. I believe it was issued to and worn by pitcher Pete Vuckovich during his final MLB season in 1986.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Robin Yount 1991 Milwaukee Brewers Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: February 9, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0209J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings 1991 Milwaukee Brewers Robin Yount size 44 (correct for the player) six-button full weight white/blue pinstriped knit jersey. "Brewers" scripted in Royal Blue outlined with gold tackle twill across both panels of the front and underlined. Player number "19" on the left chest and on the back in the proper block with serifs (sometimes called full-block) font in the same colors. Properly with no name on back, all lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings locker tag sewn on all four sides showing jersey size 44 is placed on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The tag style is correct for 1991, There is no size flag tag in the neck as is generally correct with team issues. Beneath the locker tag is 1/2" x 2 1/2" white twill tag with 91 YOUNT machine embroidered on it, matching exemplars. The Rawlings script logo is embroidered in blue into the end of the right sleeve. There is no special tailoring marked.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the this jersey is unaltered and free of contrivance. It shows very light wash wear, with very mild puckering of the locker tag and the fading/fraying of the small player name/year beneath. All twill lettering is crisp and unblemished with generally un-frayed edges and no evident puckering. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and was worn by Robin Yount of the Milwaukee Brewers during the 1991 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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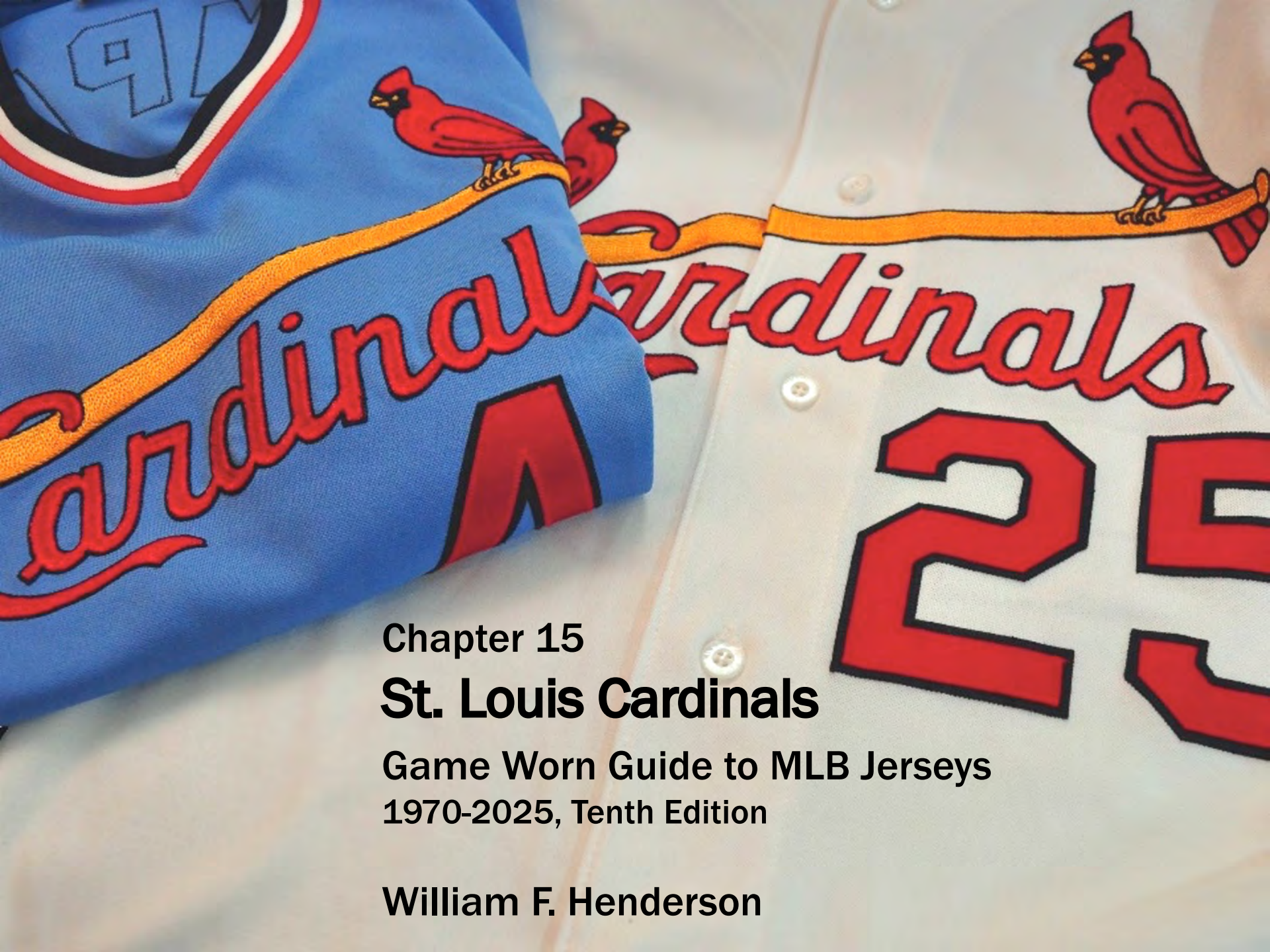

Chapter 15

St. Louis Cardinals

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Cardinals Uniform History Notes

- To the casual observer, the Cardinals jersey has remained unchanged for decades, The “Birds on a Bat” logo has existed in different versions since 1924, and is arguably one of the most traditional and recognizable uniform designs in all of American sports. But there are subtle year-to-year uniform jersey changes that we will point out, starting here with the 1970 season.
- Cardinals jerseys through 2002 are made by hometown St. Louis-based Rawlings. Rawlings’ near-exclusive’ relationship with the Cardinals was one of that company’s proudest jewels. While other licensed manufacturers may have made the “Authentic Diamond Collection” jerseys offered for retail sale, the Cardinals exclusive on-field supplier was Rawlings. The Cardinals finally switched to Majestic exclusively in 2003.
- The 1970 flannel Cardinals jersey was identical to those worn by the team since the 1957 season. The logo is intricately chain-stitched directly to the uniform’s front. While two other teams, the Phillies and the Houston Astros, have employed chain stitching for their team wordmark, only the Cardinals’ and Astros’ versions had been directly embroidered. The Phillies embroider their designs onto white cloth patches that are then sewn to the uniform (for 2013, the Astros went back to twill and dropped chain stitching entirely).
- Names on back are used on both home and road jerseys, a practice begun in 1962, rather early compared to other teams.
- In 1971, the Cardinals are one of the earliest teams to adopt double knit uniforms, leaving flannels suddenly behind. Only the Pirates and Orioles had converted ahead of them (1972 was the year than most teams switched). The 1971 home and road jerseys were identical pullovers except for the color of the fabric; white for home, gray for road use. The 1971–1972 jerseys have a rounded crew neck with red/white/blue knit trim. Similar tri-color trim is also sewn on the sleeve ends. Front numbers are a rather tall 5-plus inches, and all numbers and names are in tackle twill, replacing the earlier felt.
- Numbers are always two-color red/navy. Names on back are the same two-color, using a special Rawlings Block through 1988 (also seen on Rawlings jerseys like the Orioles and Royals) then switches to regular Block Condensed for 1989. Extra Condensed used for longer name.
- 1973 jerseys adopt a V-neck design, both home and road
- For 1976, road jerseys change to powder blue, one of the later teams to adopt the trend (along with the 1976 Cubs and 1980 Braves)
- For 1979, the front numbers are removed, and football style “TV numbers” are added to both sleeves, a unique touch. That lasts only two years, and the numbers revert to the jersey fronts. The 1981–1984 jerseys look identical the 1976–1978 versions.
- 1985–1991, the road jersey switches back to gray, looking very much like the 1973–1975 design.
- For 1992, button-front jerseys return to replace the pullovers that had been worn for the prior 21 years. These then remain unchanged through 1996.
- For 1997–1998, front numbers disappear, but return in 1999.
- In 1998, the Birds on a Bat wordmark is refreshed for the first time since 1966. The birds become a bit plumper, their position on the bat shifts slightly, the team name writing a bit thicker/bolder, but the changes are minor and barely noticeable. In 1998 (only), the birds have red beaks and navy feet, eliminating the yellow that had always been used in these two details. The yellow returns to the beak in 1999, the legs remain navy.
- When front numbers return for 1999, they are notably smaller than when last seen in 1996. The Cardinals change front number fonts, and now use the same font (Front Block) for front numbers as several other teams (Marlins, Mets, and White Sox). Again, a subtle change that few would notice.
- The birds are updated again, very slightly, in 2003, prior to a more major refresh for 2013 when the birds are made larger, logo moves up by more than two inches on the jersey front, and front numbers become smaller still.
- In 2013, the Cardinals introduced their first alternate jersey—a cream-colored home design with “St. Louis” across the chest, modeled after a 1932 throwback. The jersey featured red-trimmed placket and sleeves, and a slightly smaller version of the updated Birds on a Bat logo.
- Powder blue returns to the rotation in 2019, with a full blue alternate uniform featuring the “St. Louis” version of the “Birds on a Bat” logo on front.
- The switch to Nike’s Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template eliminates the direct-sewn chain-stitched embroidery for embroidery applied to patches that are sewn to the jersey front.
- 2024 brings a City Connect uniform, marking the first time in team history a red jersey is used as a regular season alternate. The design features a chain-stitched script “The Lou” wordmark over the Birds on a Bat, paying tribute to St. Louis’s local culture and musical roots. The uniform incorporates subtle river-themed pinstripes representing the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, along with a “STL”/fleur-de-lis sleeve patch.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year to Year Summary

Continues onward

Cardinals Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home Flannel	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Flannel	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1971	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1972	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1973	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1974	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1975	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1976	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	NL Centennial	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	NL Centennial	-	Rawlings
1977	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1978	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1979	Home White	3 1/2" Block 2 color (sleeve)	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	Player Numbers	Player Numbers	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	3 1/2" Block 2 color (sleeve)	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	Player Numbers	Player Numbers	Rawlings
1980	Home White	3 1/2" Block 2 color (sleeve)	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	Player Numbers	Player Numbers	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	3 1/2" Block 2 color (sleeve)	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	Player Numbers	Player Numbers	Rawlings
1981	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1982	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	Ken Boyer armband	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	Ken Boyer armband	-	Rawlings
1983	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1984	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1985	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1987	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Cardinals Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes		-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes		-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	AAB Jr. Memorial	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	AAB Jr. Memorial	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings

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1998: One-year only red beaked jerseys

1999-2012

General Cardinals notes: Compared to other teams, the Cardinals use a very narrow outline (roughly half thickness) around all numbers, front and back.

** The Block NOB font used by the Cardinals in these years is a shorter, bolder variation than standard, with a thin outline to match the numbers. I have named it the "Rawlings Block Alphabet" (see typestyles section).

*** This Patch worn only in Spring Training.

2013-2025

2013-2025

2013-2025

2016 : Change to Flex Base

* Red Schoendienst memorial beginning June 11
^ Starting Sept. 11

2019-2025

Cardinals Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1992	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	100th Anniversary	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	100th Anniversary	-	Rawlings
1993	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1994	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	MLB 125th Anniv	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	MLB 125th Anniv	Rawlings
1995	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1996	Home White	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	Busch Stadium 30th Anniv	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	front block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1997	Home White	none	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Rawlings
	Road Gray	none	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Rawlings
1998	Home White	none	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	Roger Dean Stadium***	Rawlings
	Road Gray	none	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	Roger Dean Stadium***	Rawlings
1999	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
2000	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
2001	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
2002	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	DK 57 Memorial after 6/22	JFB Memorial after 6/18	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	DK 57 Memorial after 6/23	JFB Memorial after 6/19	Rawlings
2003	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2004	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2005	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	Busch Stadium Final	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	Yes	Busch Stadium Final	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	World Series Champs	#32 J. Hancock Memorial	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	#32 J. Hancock Memorial	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	2009 All Star Game	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	2009 All Star Game	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2012	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	2011 WS Champs	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stan Musial memorial	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stan Musial memorial	-	Majestic
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stan Musial memorial	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	OT - Taveras Memorial	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	OT - Taveras Memorial	-	Majestic
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	OT - Taveras Memorial	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Red Schoendienst memorial*	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Red Schoendienst memorial*	-	Majestic
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Red Schoendienst memorial*	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Powder Blue Road	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Lou Brock memorial^	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Lou Brock memorial^	-	Nike
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Lou Brock memorial^	-	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue Road	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Lou Brock memorial^	-	Nike

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Cardinals Game Jerseys

These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bob Gibson memorial	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bob Gibson memorial	-	Nike
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bob Gibson memorial	-	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue Road	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bob Gibson memorial	-	Nike
2022	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bruce Sutter memorial*	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bruce Sutter memorial*	-	Nike
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bruce Sutter memorial*	-	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue Road	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Bruce Sutter memorial*	-	Nike
2023	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡^	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡^	-	Nike
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡^	-	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue Road	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡^	-	Nike
2024	Home White	Nike Block, 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block, 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block, 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	Whitey Herzog Memorial‡**	Nike
	Road Gray	Nike Block, 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block, 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block, 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	Whitey Herzog Memorial‡**	Nike
	Alternate Home	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	Whitey Herzog Memorial‡**	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue Road	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	Whitey Herzog Memorial‡**	Nike
	City Connect	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	Whitey Herzog Memorial‡**/STL Fleur de Lis‡	Nike
2025	Home White	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Home	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue Road	Front block, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Condensed 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color (perf)	Nike Block, 2 color	No	Stifel Ad patch‡	STL Fleur de Lis‡	Nike

*worn through April 19

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

^Starting May 2, 2023

** Starting May 17

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Cardinals Chain Stitching

Through 2023 the Cardinals' *Birds on a Bat* logo was embroidered directly on the front of the jersey using a technique called chain stitching, as it has been done for more than 70 years. It is a looped embroidery stitch sewn by a special machine. The thread shines and gives the feeling of real depth to the lettering.

Once used by many teams, only the Cardinals and Phillies have used the technique in recent years, with the Phillies embroidering the logo onto patches that are sewn down, rather than the direct embroidery used by the Cardinals. However, starting in the 2024 season with Nike's new Vapor Premier Elite template, the tradition for both teams changes.

After fighting Nike to retain chain stitching, the Cardinals logos are still rendered this way, but they are sewn to patches that are then stitched to the jersey rather than direct embroidered as before. Starting in 2024, some regular embroidery stitching is mixed in, mostly on outline elements.

The Phillies, for their part, apparently did not put up a similar fight, and their logos are no longer chain stitched, leaving the Cardinals as the sole remaining example of this beautiful, nearly lost art.

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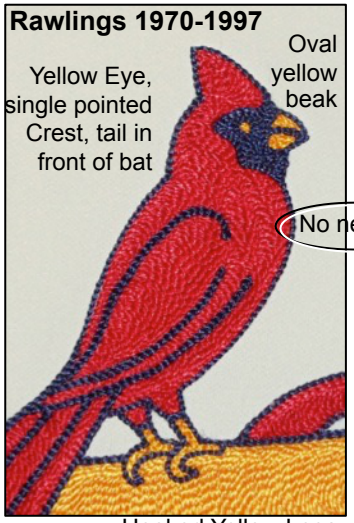
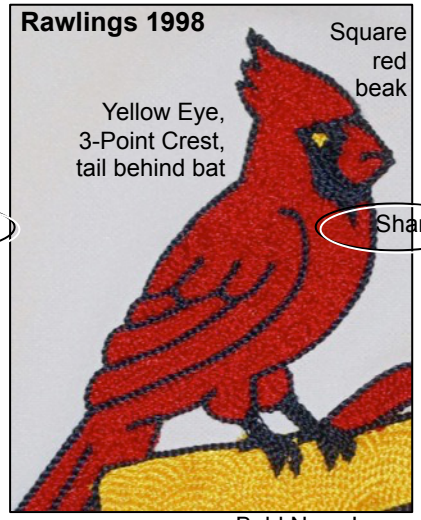
A Familiar But Changing Face

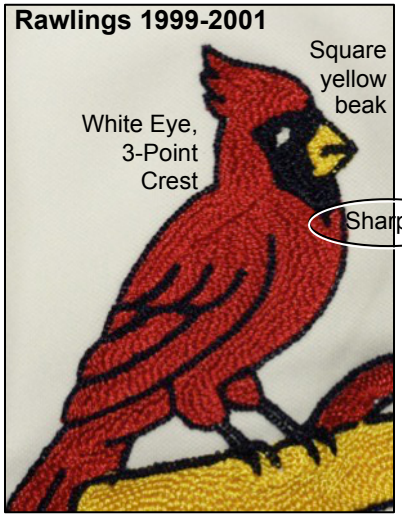
One of the most recognizable mascots in all U.S. sports, the Cardinal, has gone through a number of minor changes over the years. These examples are from team spec jerseys only; retail-sale jerseys don't always strictly follow this progression. They tend to be sold until stock is used up, and only then the design changes.



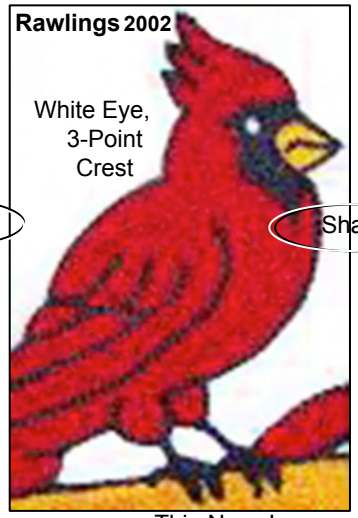
Hooked Yellow Legs



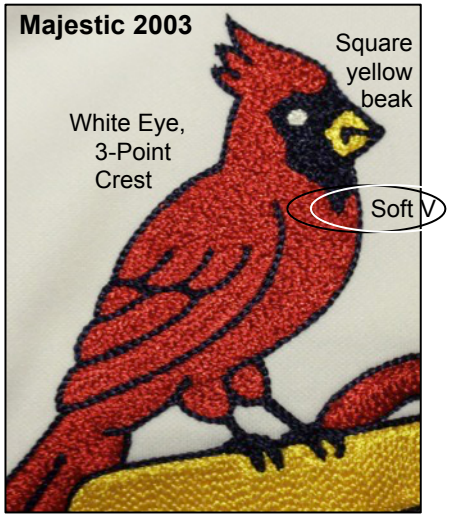
Bold Navy Legs



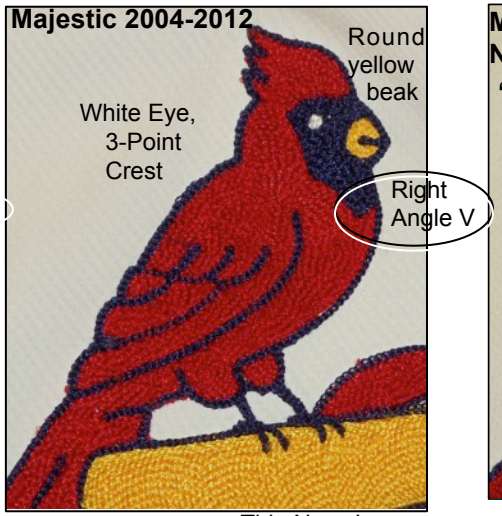
Bold Navy Legs



Thin Navy Legs



Thin Navy Legs



Thin Navy Legs

Very Thin Navy Legs

Thin Navy Legs

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Birds on a Bat - An Interview with Gary Kodner, St. Louis Cardinals Designer

By Phil Hecken

(Article originally posted on www.uniwatch.com, August 8, 2013 and Reprinted here with permission)

http://www.uni-watch.com/2013/08/08/birds-on-a-bat-an-interview-with-gary-kodner-st-louis-cardinals-designer/

Today I have another really special article for you fine readers. Like many guests whose stories I feature on here, the story of this began with a simple e-mail following a different guest writer's article. This one stemmed from a recent post on the controversy over the "pointed W" on the Washington Senators caps. Reader Oliver Kodner originally sent me this e-mail after reading that article.

"It got under my skin because I know how frustrating it is with MLB, Majestic, New Era, and most other companies who make 'authentic' items that really aren't all that authentic," said Oliver. He further went on to explain that this is not uncommon in MLB. Then came the sections that really piqued my interest:

"It is more common to see incorrect logos these days than correct logos, and it's getting out of hand.

I first started to notice it in Marc Okkonen's book 'Baseball Uniforms of the 20th Century', the same graphics used on Dressed To The Nines. Bill DeWitt III started a major project to ACCURATELY catalog the history of St. Louis Cardinals graphics and this was a good source to start with. However it was noticed how many things Okkonen got wrong. To his credit though, he has put in more research than anyone else in that field, and some inaccuracies are expected. This project has been spinning behind the scenes for about 2 years and the amount of errors, extending way past Okkonen's book, is unbelievable. Unfortunately my knowledge stretches just to the Cardinals organization, as I have seen XL sized binders of logos and uniform designs being created."

XL sized binders? Wait…what?!?!? He continued,

"What we're finding these days is that Majestic themselves are making merchandise that doesn't look a damn thing like the real graphics. We're seeing things like this, where the birds are way too small, and the bird on the right is too far away from everything. Or these birds. I see those birds come into Busch every single home game. The bad graphics and bad merchandise is coming straight from the top, from Majestic and MLB.

One of the problems here is that MLB doesn't care. When the Cardinals went to MLB to fix the jerseys for 2013, we kind of had to push and shove to show Majestic and MLB how their stitching of the jerseys before 2013 was wrong. Even when trying to update the style guide, MLB pushed it aside and failed to see what the problem was. It took a lot of work to get inside MLB's ear and tell them what they were posting on their style guide was wrong, and their response to all of this was something along the lines of, "there are 30 teams in MLB, and you guys are the only ones who seem to care this much about it."

"OK," I thought, "this guy is a fountain of knowledge and this is totally worth pursuing." I e-mailed Oliver back and asked him if he could get in touch with the Cardinals' "go-to" designer.

Oliver immediately replied with, "I talked to Bill's go-to graphic designer a few seconds ago, he's my father."

Fantastic! This is going to be a gem of an article I mused, and I was not disappointed. I asked Oliver if he could "interview" his father and provide an article detailing everything we'd discussed, and he has obliged. One last bit from Oliver before the article as a final setup:

I know about it first hand watching my dad work with Bill DeWitt and exchanging numerous phone calls and emails with Major League Baseball about getting the graphics correct. Being able to watch my father work with Bill DeWitt on these projects for the past 15 years or so, and see him accurately recreate historical graphics provided me with a lot of knowledge on the subject of St. Louis Cardinals graphics. After contacting you, you recommended that this would be a good story to write about, so I went to my father and told him that no one has really heard his story.

To this point not many people know who the freelance graphic designer is that has been working with the Cardinals since his days in the 80s at Busch Creative. He wrote up those paragraphs about his work directly with the organization starting in 1997 with the rebranding project. And is still working with the organization on numerous projects today. He sounds pretty level headed and articulate by the way he writes, but this is a man who has always referred to himself as a "simple caveman artist."

So, with that, please sit back and enjoy a chat with ……

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Gary Kodner Interview

by Oliver Kodner

"It's an honor and privilege to design for the best franchise in baseball, the St. Louis Cardinals. And it helps to have a client who shares my interest in tradition, design, application, and preservation of a great brand. It also helps to be working with one of the most colorful and successful franchises in MLB history."

–Gary Kodner

The Birds on Bat

The "Birds on Bat" is one of the most recognized and prominent graphics in all of sports. It is synonymous with a great and storied franchise. Originally called the Perfectos in 1899 and out-fitted with red striped stockings along with red-trimmed uniforms, sportswriter Willie McHale overheard a fan remark, "what a lovely shade of cardinal. The name caught on when McHale used this new nickname in his column. In 1900 the team officially changed their name to Cardinals, however it wasn't until 1922 that a Cardinal bird first appeared on a uniform. The birds have remained on the front of the jersey to this day, with the exception of the 1956 season.

From 1922 through 2013 there were many changes to the birds on bat, some intentional, some accidental. A study of history will reveal that some changes were due to the manufacturing process, change in vendor, or evolutionary drift. These circumstances occurred through the early years as well as modern times. A prominent example being from 2002 to 2011, as Rawlings and Majestic were both used to create what was supposed to be the same graphic on the jersey.

The birds have had a red beak, a yellow beak, pointed and round beaks. The bat has been black and it has been yellow. The birds have perched in different angles and positions, and the rendering of the birds has evolved throughout history. But the basic design of the jersey remains intact.

How I Got Involved

In 1997 I was contacted by Bill DeWitt III to consult with him on his idea and desire to refresh and contemporize the Cardinals catalog of logos. He had already kicked off a design process with MLB and sought my input on the preliminary designs that were being presented. Rather than critique some one else's work, or tell a designer in New York how to design the Cardinals logo, I suggested that we design the logo here in St. Louis. Bill and I would work through the details, draw the birds, and present the new logo to the Cardinals ownership and MLB for approval and adoption.

There are a few reasons why the Cardinals went through a branding update in 1997 and '98. One, a new ownership group headed by the DeWitt Family acquired the Cardinals. Two, the logo graphics throughout the catalog were inconsistent. Different Birds were being used for various logo applications; primary logo, uniform logo, print logo, etc. And third, merchandising. The Cardinals needed graphics that would be stronger on various apparel applications and promotional merchandise.

In 1998 when the Cardinals first donned the new current design, the beaks were red. I argued that real Cardinal birds have red beaks, not yellow. I won that argument for only one season as we changed back to yellow beaks in 1999. We also made the birds legs thinner. In 2013 the birds became larger, and a new computerized process allowed the embroidery to become more accurate and include details in the eyes and bat that had been left out in previous years due to the limited ability of older stitching capabilities. Due to the hand embroidery technique the Cardinals have traditionally used, the birds on bat was simplified. Details such as the birds eye, the lines on the bat barrel and knob are less detailed than the print version. The updated technology being used in 2013 lead to a gorgeous reproduction of the graphic that is still chain stitched onto the jersey.

Another "tweak" to the logo catalog will come with the single bird on bat graphic. We designed an alternate version where the bat is rotated counter clockwise to create more of an X shape design. This provides greater balance to this logo for use other than its placement on the two tone, red brimmed "Sunday Cap."

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Something that often isn't talked about is our minor league affiliates. They're graphic identities are just as important to the big league club and a winning tradition. The Springfield Cardinals and Palm Beach Cardinals graphics were updated sometime around 1999 or 2000 to follow and emulate the graphics of the updated Cardinals.

Creating a Historical Catalog

Uniforms of the past are often lost to history. Few are kept, but many are known by archival black and white photographs. Those that have survived are often bleached and tattered. Tracing the Cardinals uniform history takes us back to pre-1900. Uniforms were far different in those days. They lacked color, variety, special emblems, etc. Like most teams of that era, the Cardinals featured a "type only" solution for the jersey. Simple block fonts or a fancier Victorian, Celtic, or Olde English looking fonts were used.

Recent years have experienced a resurgence in the use of old and nostalgic graphics. MLB features a Cooperstown Collection in their style guide catalog. Many merchandise licensees have created a variety of products, mostly apparel that feature nostalgic Cardinals graphics. This has not only spawned renewed interest and merchandising opportunities it has also produced a number of misrepresentations, mistakes, and poor graphics that lack accuracy to the originals.

Most fans who are not familiar with the original graphics often end up buying and wearing something that is far less than authentic. The Cardinals, under DeWitt's leadership and persistence have set out to restoring authenticity and respect for historical accuracy. This will be accomplished by two major initiatives. One, acquiring vintage uniforms for their museum collection, and two, researching each uniform and graphic so they can be redrawn using contemporary digitized techniques. These newly created, correct and authentic, graphics can be accurately displayed and reproduced.

We all owe a lot to Mark Okkonen, who has done the most research and brought us closer to authenticity of MLB uniforms of the past. His catalog of illustrations and documentation give us a solid platform to build on when we embark on recreating an accurate history of the logos and uniforms. The Cardinals historic catalog took more than a year to produce. Working closely with Cardinals president and their museum curators, digital vector drawings were created of each Cardinals logos and emblems that appeared on uniform jerseys, jackets and sweaters, caps, sleeve patches, and pins. All done with the purpose of restoring historic accuracy, a respect for Cardinals tradition, and an insistence that the vendors, merchandisers, and MLB would get it right.

. . .

Wow. And there you have it readers. Fantastic job by both Oliver and his dad, Gary. And a tremendous "Thank You!" from me is due for this interview. We here at Uni-Watch greatly appreciate ALL you do and a tip of the cap to the St. Louis Cardinals organization for having such caring and quality people working for the club.

My thanks to friends Paul Lukas of Uni-Watch and ESPN, and writer Phil Hecken. You can read the original article here: http://www.uni-watch.com/2013/08/08/birds-on-a-bat-an-interview-with-gary-kodner-st-louis-cardinals-designer/

And on the odd chance that you are unfamiliar with Uni-Watch, please allow me to introduce you!

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Cardinals Back Number Outlining through 2023

Starting in 2024, Cardinals back numbers are standardized by Nike and no longer feature this trait.

Cardinals number outlining: This is a fine point, and that's what this Guide is about. Numbers below illustrate the Cardinals' uniform-back number outlining rules. The numeral on the left, "A," is a standard number with a typical outline, used by most teams. Numeral "B" in the center is the pattern that the Cardinals use. *Note that the dark outline is exactly the same size on both of these numbers "A" and "B." The difference is on "B" that the red layer has been made just slightly bolder, so it covers up more of the outline layer it is sewn over.* For comparison, the number on the right, "C" is commonly and incorrectly rendered for a Cardinals jersey. Here, the red layer is the same as "A," and the dark outline is simply made thinner. Front numbers get 1/8" outlines too, even though the front numbers are smaller.

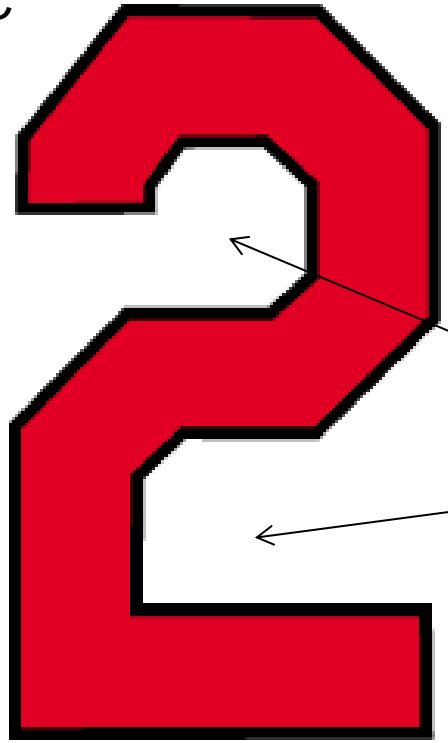
A

As used by other teams with this font: Standard 7 ½" red number with standard ¼" outline

B

Correct Cardinals design: slightly **bold** 7 ¾" (or so) red number with narrower, 1/8"- 5/32" navy outline

C



Having trouble seeing it? Look at the shape of these two open spaces, comparing examples B & C.

Incorrect but often seen: Standard (un-bold) number with narrow 1/8" outline

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The Ebb and Flow of the Birds on a Bat Wordmark

1987– 3 ½” from shoulder seam to top of bird’s head

1989 – 4”

2000 – 5”

2009 – 6”

2013 – 3 3/4”

- At first I thought it might be an illusion caused by players wearing their uniforms more loose and baggy than the old days. But finally I had to check and see for myself. Measurements from the top of the shoulder seam proved that the position of the ‘Birds on a Bat’ wordmark that adorns the front of every Cardinals jersey had indeed been drooping lower and lower with each passing year. See for yourself.
- Read this excellent interview of Cardinals President Bill DeWitt by Paul Lukas. Your author would like to imagine that his publication had some small part in the Cardinals’ jersey wordmark restoration, whether it is true or not.

http://www.uni-watch.com/2012/11/29/talking-uniforms-with-cardinals-president-bill-dewitt-iii/

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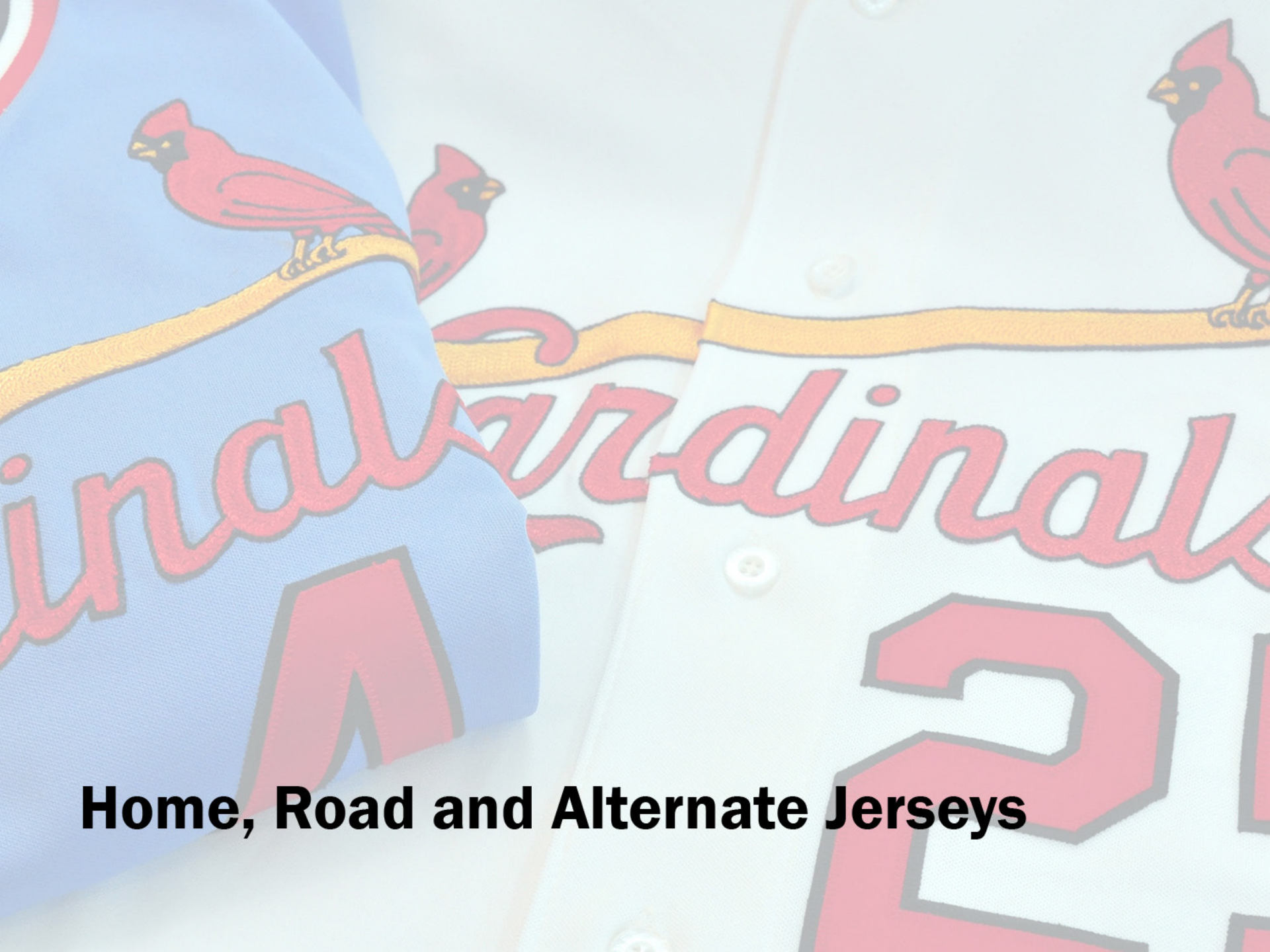
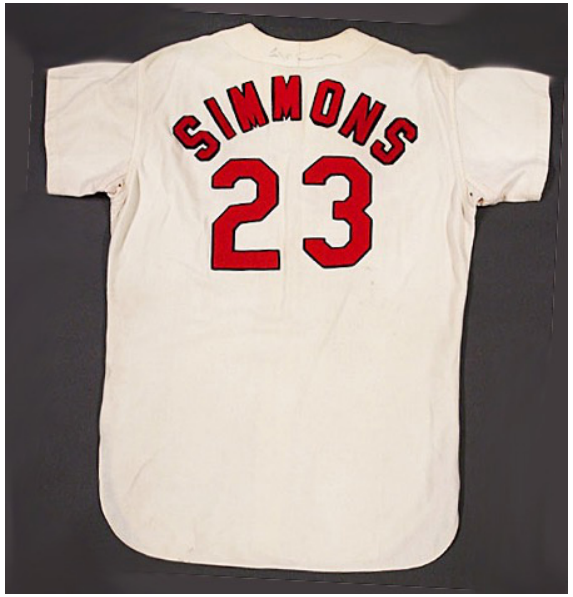

Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970 Home



The Cardinals flannel home jersey is identical dating back to 1957, its first year of use in this version. It features the beautifully embroidered “Birds on a Bat” team logo with two-color felt player numbers front and back.

Player names have been used on Cardinals’ jerseys since 1962. The lettering font is Rawlings’ own version of Block, which is common to the other teams’ uniforms made by Rawlings (like the Orioles).

Cardinals game jerseys of the 60s and 70s are heavily recycled through the minor leagues, and thus have usually had the original player names and numbers stripped from them, meaning most jerseys seen today have been restored.

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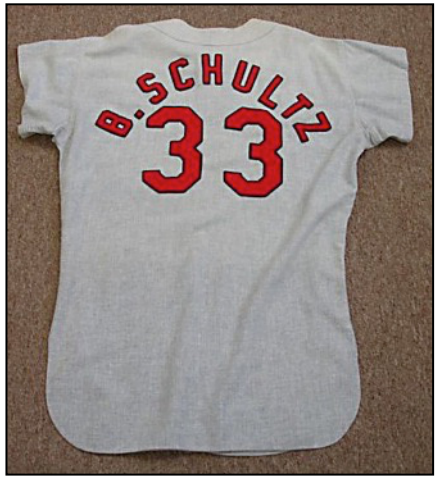
1970 Road



Below: *#23 jersey has not had its player name restored. Most jerseys of this vintage have had at least name and often numbers stripped from them.* ***Bottom center:*** *Smallish-Ted Sizemore probably tailored his own shirt by chopping off the tails.*

- Cardinals flannel road jerseys of 1970 are identical to their home jerseys with the exception of the color of the jersey fabric being gray instead of cream color.
- St. Louis-based Rawlings had long been exclusive supplier of Cardinals uniforms, a tradition that had continued for decades, and ended only when the Cardinals switched to Majestic in 2003, two years ahead of the league-wide switch.

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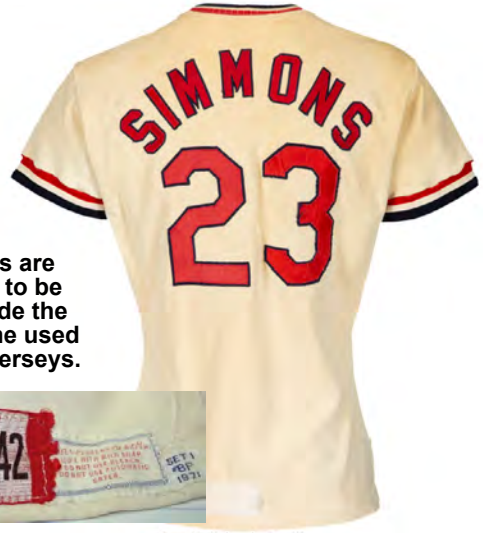
1971-1972 Home

1971



Jock tags are specified to be sewn inside the tail on game used Cardinals jerseys.

1972

Steve Kraljic Collection

1972

Top left: *The pre-1972 style "Rawlings Action Tailored" tag, usually associated with the flannel era, is found on 1971 Cardinals knit jerseys.* ***Left:*** *By 1972, the tag had been modernized to this now very familiar design featuring "The Mark of a Pro" trademark.*

The Cards adopt double knits a year earlier than most other teams. Only the Pirates and Orioles switched sooner. The jersey collar and sleeves have red/white/blue trim. The collar is a rounded crew-neck for these two years only. Notice the flat-bottom shirt tails. Front numbers are extra tall 5". NOB is in special Cardinals Block Font, and red numbers are slightly bolder than regular, with a narrower-than-usual navy blue outline.

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1971-1972 Road

The Cards adopt double knits in 1971, a year earlier than most teams, only slightly behind the Pirates and Orioles. Road grays are a very pale gray, almost looking like a dirty white. Jersey collar and sleeves have red/white/blue knit trim. The collar in these two years only is a rounded crew-neck. Notice the flat-bottomed shirt tails. Front numbers are extra tall. Nearly all examples in the hobby today have had their names on back replaced, as the Cardinals stripped them all on their way to the minor leagues. The Torre example on this page appears to have a name on back that is a bit too tall compared to original.

NOB is in special Cardinals Block Font, Rawlings' "house font" (also used by the Orioles) and all numbers are slightly bolder than regular, with a narrower-than-usual navy blue outline.

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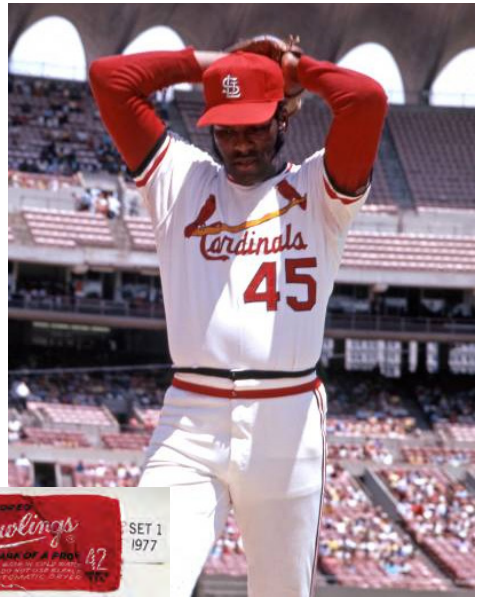
1973-1978 Home

1974

1976

1978



Rounded crew neck collar of the 1972 jersey becomes a V-neck for 1973. Red/white/blue knit trim continues at neck and on sleeve ends. Cardinals team script continues directly chain stitched to the jersey. Through 1988, player name on back is direct-sewn using Rawlings Block font and in a steep, rounded arch. Front numbers during this period are rather large, back numbers continue in slightly-bold with narrow outline format, as explained at the start of this chapter. Rawlings Block names are just under 3" tall. Nearly all surviving examples in the hobby have had their names on back replaced as the Cardinals regularly stripped all jerseys of player names before sending them to the minor leagues.

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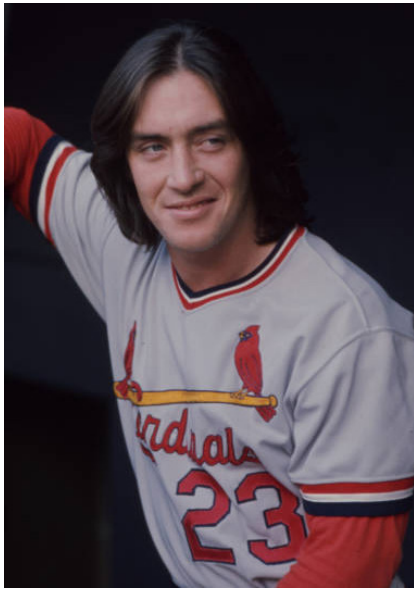
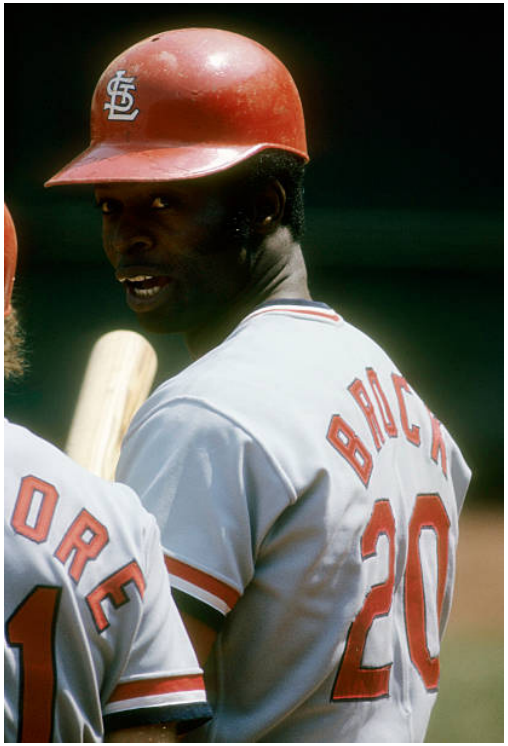
1973-1975 Road





No manufacturer sleeve logo before 1987. 1987 only has Rawlings script embroidered above the trim, 1988 and after embroidered into blue stripe of sleeve end trim.

Identical to the white home jersey on the prior page except for the gray jersey body fabric. Through 1988, the player name on back is sewn directly using Rawlings-style Block and in a steep, rounded arch. In 1989, the name font changes from the former Cardinals Block version sewn directly to the jersey to Block Condensed, and is now sewn on a nameplate. The gray jersey was interrupted by a nine season change to light blue 1976 –1984. When the gray jerseys returned for 1985, they were practically identical to how they had been in 1975.

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1976-1978 Road

1977

1978

Pullover road jersey changes in 1976 from gray body to the newly popular powder blue style (that some thought looked better on color television). Otherwise identical to the gray pullover style it replaced. V-neck, blue/white/red stripes at neck and on sleeve ends, identical lettering to prior year, Rawlings Block NOB in a steep arch.

1976

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1979-1980 Home

1979

Identical jersey body to 1973–1978 style, except *during these two years only*, player numbers are moved from jersey front, to now be sewn on both sleeves, like football "TV numbers," as this treatment is often called. Knit trim on sleeve ends and around V-neck openings continues as before.

Player names remain Rawlings Cardinals Block style, and no nameplates are used. As with all Cardinals jerseys, number font is Cardinals "slightly Bold with narrow outline" as described earlier in this chapter.

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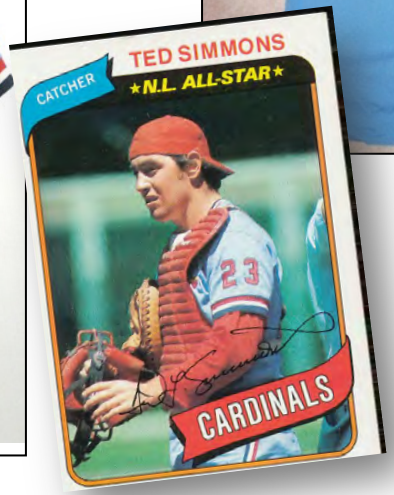
1979-1980 Road

1979

1979

1980



Identical to 1973–1978 jersey body style, except, just like on the home jerseys of this period, numbers are deleted from jersey front, and sewn on both sleeves, football style. Names remain Cardinals Rawlings Block style in a steep arch, no nameplates used.

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1981-1991 Home

1981

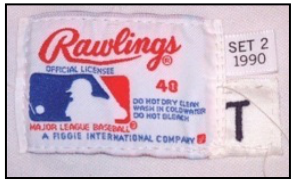
1990

The 1981-1988 jersey is identical to the 1973-1978 style, as player numbers leave the sleeves and return to their former location on the left front of the chest. Rawlings logo appears on the right sleeve just above the knit sleeve end in 1987, then for 1988 the logo moves down into the sleeve trim itself.

1989

Bill Henderson Collection

Note the name on back font change in 1989. ***Top left:*** *On the 1981 example Rawlings Block is used.* ***Left and top right:*** *Beginning in 1989 taller Block Condensed is used and nameplates are added.*



In 1989, player name font is changed to Block Condensed, and is now sewn on a nameplate. Front numbers during this period are rather large, back numbers continue in slightly-bold with narrow outline format, as explained at the start of this chapter. Pre-1989 Rawlings Block names are just under 3” tall, grow by a half inch after that.

No manufacturer logo on sleeves prior to 1987. In 1987 only, on both home and road jerseys, the Rawlings sleeve script is embroidered immediately above the striped sleeve-end trim.1988–1991 logo is embroidered into the blue stripe of the trim.

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1981-1984 Road

1981

1982

1984

The Columbia Blue road jersey of 1981–1984 is identical to the 1976–1978 version, as the player numbers leave the sleeves and return to the front left chest.

1982

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1985-1991 Road

1987

Above: *This jersey has the rare oddball 1987-only Rawlings variant red tag.*

1987

1990

No manufacturer sleeve logo prior to 1987. 1987-only has Rawlings script embroidered into sleeve above the trim, 1988 and after embroidered into blue stripe of sleeve end trim.

1990

The 1985–1991 jersey returns to the 1973–1975 style, as Columbia Blue is ditched in favor of traditional gray, and player numbers leave the sleeves and return to their former location on the left front of the chest.

Rawlings logo appears on the right sleeve just above the knit sleeve end in 1987 only; in 1988 the logo is stitched nto the sleeve trim.

In 1989, player name font is changed to Block Condensed, and is now sewn on a nameplate. Front numbers during this period are rather large, back numbers continue in slightly-bold with narrow outline format, as explained at the start of this chapter. Pre1989 Rawlings Block names are just under 3" tall, grow by a half inch after that.

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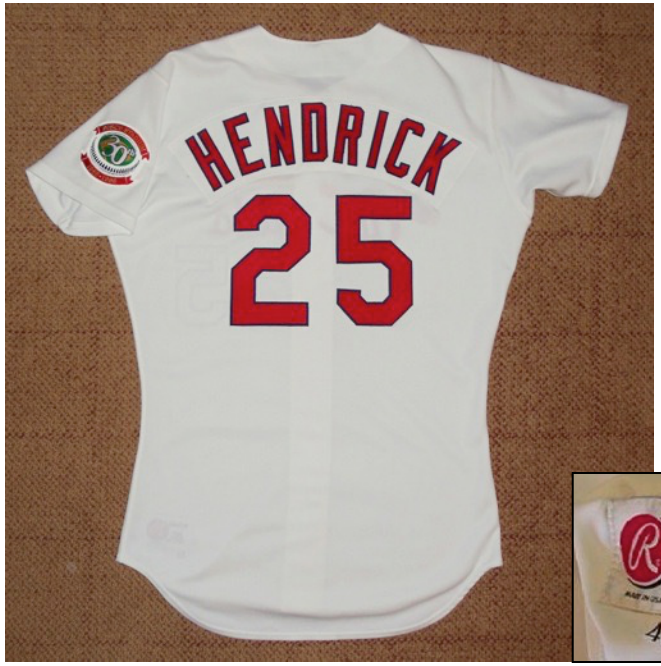
1992-1997 Home

1996



1992

Both styles of Rawlings tags are used in 1996.

- The jersey returns to classic button-front design, with all collar and sleeve end trim removed, reviving the style last seen on the final flannel jerseys of 1970.
- Names and numbers are all red/navy, with thinner-than-normal navy blue outlines. Nameplates are used.
- Numbers on front 1991–1996, no numbers on front in 1997.
- Front numbers are a tall 4 ¾”.

1997 only, no front number is used

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-1997 Road

1995

Same changes on road grays as noted for the home jersey on the previous page. The jersey returns to button front, with all collar and sleeve end trim removed, a style last seen on the last flannel jerseys from 1970. Names and numbers are all red/navy, with thinner-than-normal navy-blue outlines. Nameplates are used. Numbers on front 1991–1996, except 1997 when for a single year they are left off.

1997

1995

Bill Henderson Collection

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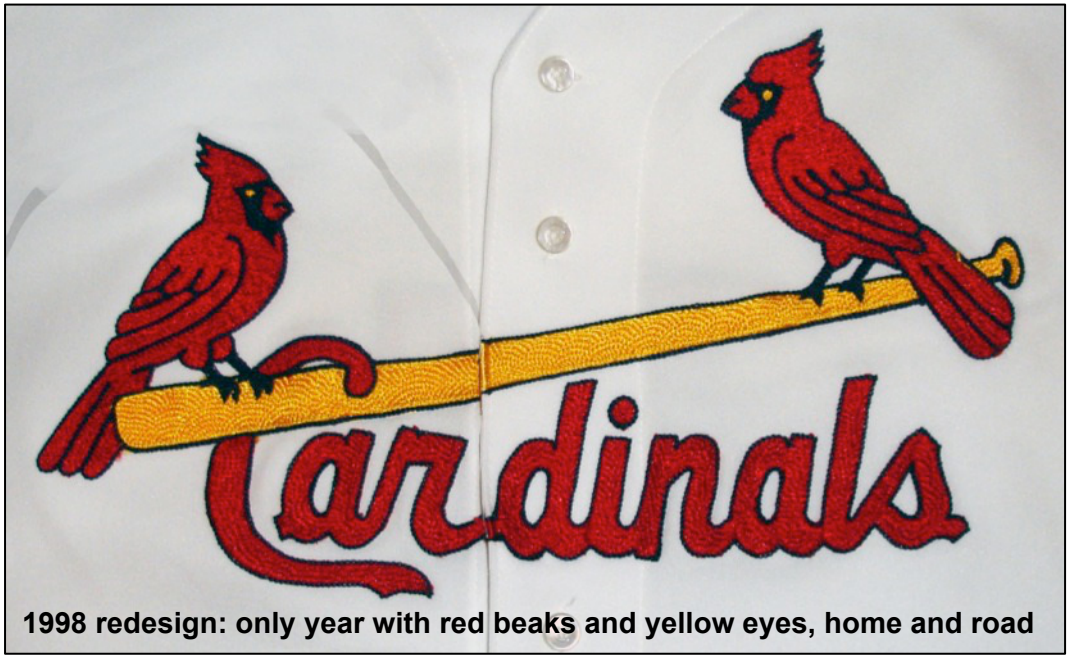
1998 Wordmark Change: Home and Road



1998 redesign: only year with red beaks and yellow eyes, home and road

In 1998, the Cardinals logo undergoes a modernization, after 40 seasons of stability:

- Prior to 1998, the left bird's tail is in front of the bat and the right bird's tail is behind. That order is switched in 1998.
- The pre-1998 birds had yellow legs outlined with navy. Post 1998 birds have navy-only legs. In 1998 only the birds have red beaks. The beaks go back to yellow in 1999.
- The shape and appearance of the birds changes. They are slightly shorter and fatter .
- 1998 jerseys, like 1997, have no numbers on the front. Front numbers return for 1999. Pre-1998, front numbers are 4 ¾". Starting 1999 they are 3 ¾".

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

1998 jerseys have a special cachet among collectors because it was the year the Mark McGwire broke the single-season home run record. During that time, dozens of McGwire "game worn" jerseys were optimistically listed on auction sites at any one time, surely many of them were not game worn.

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1999-2012 Home

1999

An ultra tiny detail—but worth pointing out since Majestic did not reliably year tag Cardinals jerseys in 2003–2004. Up through 2003, notice the wide shadow at the knob of the bat. Starting in 2004, the pattern changes and the line in that spot is noticeably narrower.

2000

The 1998 redesign is modified only slightly, with the change of the birds' beaks back to yellow and the eyes to white, after unfavorable fan reaction. Rawlings remains the Cardinals' on-field supplier through 2002, but in 2003 it moves to Majestic for all uniforms, both for on-field jerseys and retail authentics.

Note Extra Condensed lettering for a longer name.

Up through 2002: Year and size flags, team tagging is sewn inside the shirt tail, not visible from the outside. 2003 and after: Majestic tagging is on the outside of the shirt tail with a simple year flag beside the size flag.

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1999-2012 Road

2002

2003

- The road jersey changes for 1999 are identical to those made to the home jersey as detailed on the previous page. Birds get yellow beaks and white eyes again.
- Rawlings is the manufacturer 1998–2002, Majestic 2003–2015.
- Names on nameplates through 2004. Player numbers use special Cardinals variant that is slightly bolder than standard, with a slightly thinner outline. No nameplates on either home or road jerseys after 2005.

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2013 Jersey Changes, Close-Up

After being freshened for 1998, the "Birds on a Bat" wordmark is refreshed again for 2013. There are numerous changes made to the jersey that frankly only a purist would notice. The birds get plumper and gain black pupils in their previously white eyes. The whole logo is made noticeably larger and is moved up a full 2 ¼" higher on the chest, bringing it back to where it had been placed last in 1987. Front numbers are made even smaller to deemphasize them, shrinking another ¼" to 3 ½". Your author approves wholeheartedly of the changes made, but messing with anything on the Cardinals' uniforms seems to rankle fans, and some post-announcement comments on web forums were strongly opposed, saying that the birds now looked too cartoonish.

Our favorite blog, Uni-Watch, printed an outstanding interview with Cardinals' designer Gary Kodner on these changes and some history of this iconic logo. With permission, this entire article is reprinted near the start of this chapter.

Above: *Old 2012 birds toward the center, new birds for 2013 on the outside.*
Below: *2012 front numbers are 3 ¾," new for 2013 front numbers are marginally smaller at 3 ½".*

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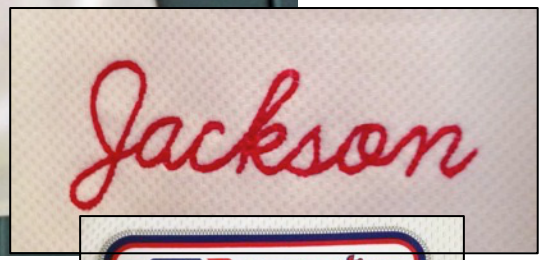
2013-2023 Home

Left: *This is the 2013 postseason jersey of manager Mike Matheny. It sports the Stan Musial memorial patch on the left sleeve, and the 2013 MLB Post-season patch on the right sleeve. Players' last names are embroidered on the right front tail by the Cardinals, this is not done by Majestic. Note it is a full knit jersey as well.*



While to the untrained eye it appears that the 2013 jersey is identical to the 2012 version, there are several changes, all highlighted in detail on the previous pages. In brief, compared to 2012, the birds are larger and more clearly defined, the logo is moved 2 ¾" higher on the jersey front, the front numbers are ¼" smaller. While Majestic and Nike QR code tagging is used, an old-timey touch is added on team issued jerseys with the player's last name embroidered in script on the right front shirt tail, done by the team, not the manufacturer. The jersey back continues on unchanged, with the same special "slightly bold" Cardinals numbers with their extra-narrow outlines. Player names direct sewn in Block condensed, with extra-condensed type face used for very long names. Nike takes over as manufacturer in 2020.

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2013-2023 Home, continued

2017

Note the change in style code from SCH1 for Majestic to SC11 for Nike.

2020

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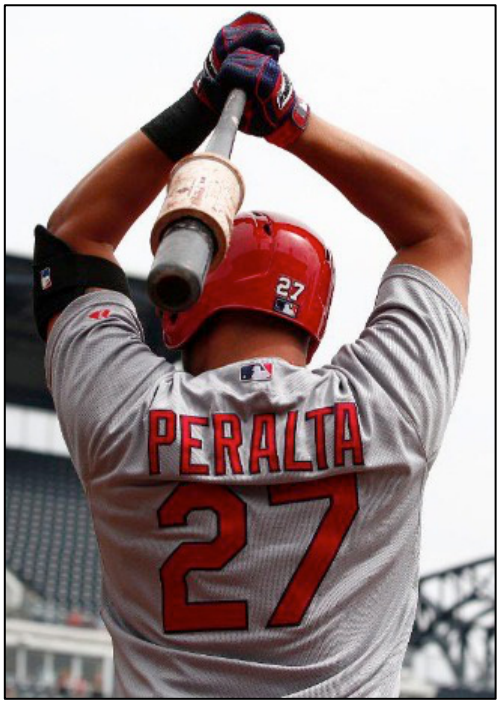
2013-2023 Road



The road jersey for 2013 receives all the same updates as the home jersey shown on the prior page, differing only in the gray color of the jersey's fabric. The team's standard jerseys are made of Cool Base fabric. Embroidered player names in 2014 are added by the Cardinals, and not done by Majestic. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020, and the embroidered names continue.

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2013-2023 Road, continued

Note the change in style code from SCR2 for Majestic to SC22 for Nike.

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2013-2023 Alternate Home

The Cardinals unveil their first alternate jersey, a home flannel-look cream-colored Cool Base version with “St. Louis” spelled out across the front. It is designed to resemble the 1932 team jersey that last featured the city’s name (pictured inset) and includes 1940s-style red knit trim on the placket and sleeve-ends.

It is designated to be worn during Saturday home games only. At announcement time, the team claimed that the Cardinals had been one of only four MLB teams that had never worn an alternate jersey, naming the Yankees, Dodgers and Tigers as the other three. Readers of this book know for sure that the Tigers (1995) and Dodgers (1999) did in fact both wear an alternate jersey in their recent histories. The new jersey also features the same 2013 enhancements to the *birds on a bat* logo as highlighted on previous pages. Front numbers are a new, smaller 3 ½” on all jerseys in 2013. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.

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2013-2023 Alternate Home, continued

2016

Representative tag, not from this jersey. Note the change in style code from SCAA for Majestic to SC3A for Nike.

2023

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 1020% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2019-2023 Alternate Road

2019

Jason Scott Collection

Almost 40 years after disappearing from the Cardinals' uniform rotation, powder blue makes a resounding comeback in 2019, one of a handful of similarly hued jersey making a nostalgic return around the big leagues. The Cards' new blue entry is identical to their cream home alternate save for the color of the Flex Base jersey itself. The recent "St. Louis Birds on Bat" chain stitched logo appears on front, with all other lettering, front and back, in red/blue. Red knit trim is sewn near both sleeve ends and the collar/placket. The jersey is paired with matching blue pants, offering a complete alternate uniform look rather than a stand-alone jersey to be paired with existing pants. Majestic is manufacturer for 2019 only, Nike takes over in 2020. Note the style code changes from SCAU for Majestic to SCH9 for Nike.

2020

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cardinals classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, distinct font as in years past. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the Cardinals "birds on bat" and lettering is also made slightly smaller so that the design can still split between the "r" and the "d" of the script. Most disappointing, is that the "Birds on Bat" chain stitching is now applied to a jersey-color patch which is sewn to the jersey, rather than directly embroidered to the jersey front as in years past. This style has been used on the team's BP jerseys for years, but Nike's drive toward simplification and speed finally forced the changes on the game jerseys as well. Luckily, in a nice nod to tradition, the team still embroiders the player name on the front, right tail. The Cardinals do not use perforated numbers on their home jerseys in 2024. The 2024 jersey included the Whitey Herzog memorial patch, first as a heat-pressed transfer starting on May 17, and moving to an embroidered patch on June 22.

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2024 Alternate Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cardinals cream-colored alternate home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, distinct font as in years past. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before and the Cardinals "birds on bat" and St. Louis lettering is also made slightly smaller so that the design can still split between the two words of the script. Most disappointing, is that the "Birds on Bat" chain stitching is now applied to a jersey-color patch which is sewn to the jersey, rather than directly embroidered to the jersey front as in years past. This style has been used on the team's BP jerseys for years, but Nike's drive toward simplification and speed finally forced the changes on the game jerseys as well. The Cardinals use perforated numbers on their home alternate jerseys in 2024. The 2024 jersey included the Whitey Herzog memorial patch, first as a heat-pressed transfer starting on May 17, and moving to an embroidered patch on June 22.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cardinals classic road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, distinct font as in years past. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the Cardinals "birds on bat" and lettering is also made slightly smaller so that the design can still split between the "r" and the "d" of the script. Most disappointing, is that the "Birds on Bat" chainstitching is now applied to a jersey-color patch which is sewn to the jersey, rather than directly embroidered to the jersey front as in years past. This style has been used on the team's BP jerseys for years, but Nike's drive toward simplification and speed finally forced the changes on the game jerseys as well. The team does not use perforated numbers on these road jerseys in 2024. The 2024 jersey included the Whitey Herzog memorial patch, first as a heat-pressed transfer starting on May 17, and moving to an embroidered patch on June 22.

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2024 Alternate Road

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cardinals powder blue alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, distinct font as in years past. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before and the Cardinals "birds on bat" and lettering is also made slightly smaller so that the design can still split between the two words of the script. Most disappointing, is that the "Birds on Bat" chain stitching is now applied to a jersey-color patch which is sewn to the jersey, rather than directly embroidered to the jersey front as in years past. This style has been used on the team's BP jerseys for years, but Nike's drive toward simplification and speed finally forced the changes on the game jerseys as well. Luckily, in a nice nod to tradition, the team still embroiders the player name on the front, right tail. The Cardinals use perforated numbers on their these jerseys in 2024. The 2024 jersey included the Whitey Herzog memorial patch, first as a heat-pressed transfer starting on May 17, and moving to an embroidered patch on June 22.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The Cardinals and Nike fit a lot of storytelling into the team's City Connect identity, as is the custom for most teams. Rather than explain it ourselves, let's hear what they had to say about this new style in these excerpts from their joint press release:

- Jersey Front—Birds on the Bat and "The Lou": Featuring a modern take on the traditional "Birds on the Bat", the chain-stitched jersey lettering showcases a familiar nickname for St. Louis that gained mainstream popularity through use by STL-native and Grammy Award-winning rapper Nelly.
- Lower Jersey & Cap Lettering: Reviving a classic Cardinals font, the "STL" cap and "ST. LOUIS CARDINALS" lower jersey font pay homage to the team's 1920–1921 jersey lettering, the final seasons before the "Birds on the Bat" were introduced.
- Circle Arm Patch: The sleeve patch is a salute to The Lou's two most enduring historic symbols: the fleur-de-lis commemorating St. Louis' French founding and heritage, along with a civic icon, the Gateway Arch.
- Jersey & Pants River Pinstripes: Introducing a new twist on a traditional baseball uniform standard, the river pinstripes represent St. Louis' historic role as a river city, situated at the confluence of the Missouri and the mighty Mississippi. It marks the first use of pinstripes on a Cardinals uniform since 1929.
- 1882 Inside Collar: Commemorating the official birth of the franchise through the founding of the American Association's St. Louis Brown Stockings, the jersey features a vintage "1882" on the inner collar.
- Red Jersey: The team's City Connect jerseys marks the first time in franchise history that a red jersey is being produced for regular season play.

The team uses perforated numbers for this style of jersey. The 2024 version has the Whitey Herzog memorial patch. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. This is the case for the Cardinals, which is especially visible in the front numbers, which are a separate font from the back numbers. In 2024, the front numbers were just smaller versions of the back set. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. This is the case for the Cardinals, which is especially visible in the front numbers, which are a separate font from the back numbers. In 2024, the front numbers were just smaller versions of the back set. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team's front logo is still chain stitched to a patch before being applied to the jersey rather than being directly embroidered.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. This is the case for the Cardinals, which is especially visible in the front numbers, which are a separate font from the back numbers. In 2024, the front numbers were just smaller versions of the back set. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team’s front logo is still chain stitched to a patch before being applied to the jersey rather than being directly embroidered.

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2025 Alternate Road

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. This is the case for the Cardinals, which is especially visible in the front numbers, which are a separate font from the back numbers. In 2024, the front numbers were just smaller versions of the back set. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team's front logo is still chain stitched to a patch before being applied to the jersey rather than being directly embroidered.

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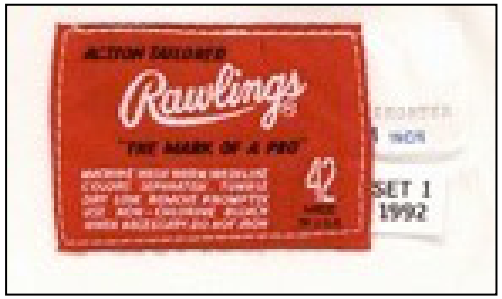
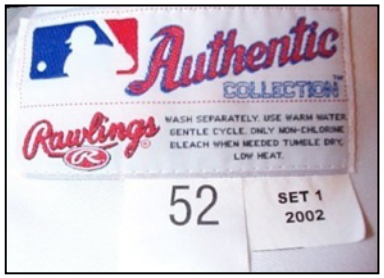
Cardinals Home Team Tagging





The Cardinals stayed loyal for decades to St. Louis-based manufacturer Rawlings, who took pride in stitching the Cards' uniforms (including all player numbers and names). Finally, in the 2003 season, St. Louis finally switched to Majestic and away from *"The Mark of a Pro."*

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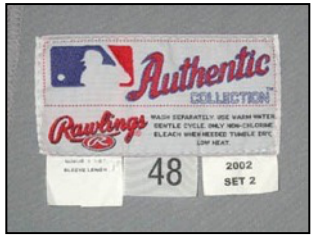
Cardinals Road Team Tagging



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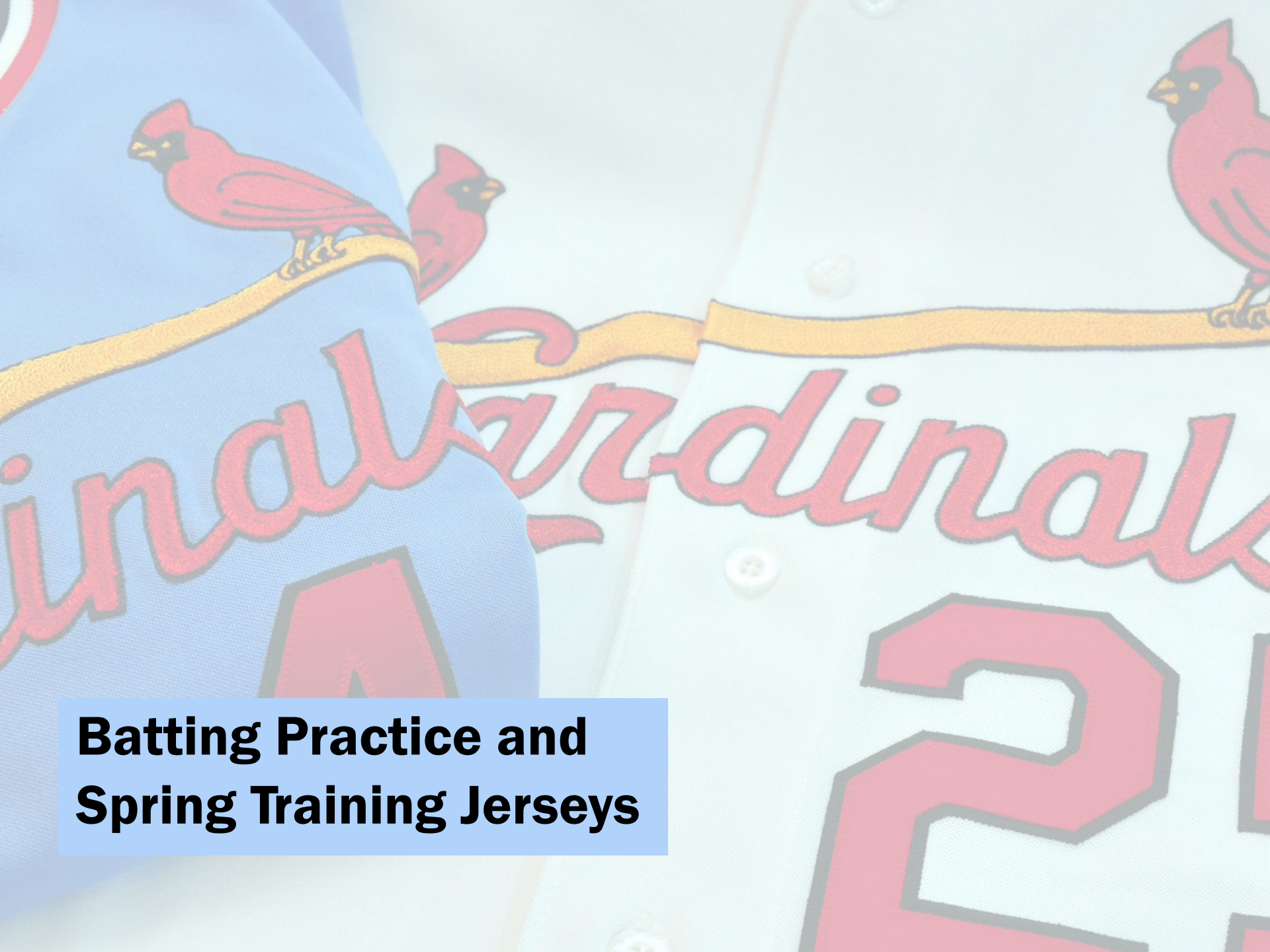
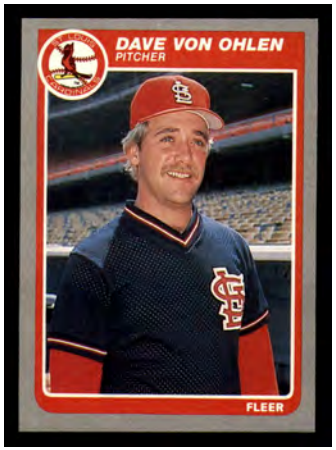

Batting Practice and
Spring Training Jerseys

1980-1984 Blue Batting Practice



Top left: *1980s Majestic game worn BP jersey of Tito Landrum.* ***Bottom Left:*** *George Hendrick BP jersey,*

The Cards wear navy blue batting practice jerseys for several years in the early 1980s, then wear similar looking—but not identica—navy blue BP jerseys again in the 1990s. In a rare departure from their exclusive relationship with Rawlings, these early Cardinals BP jerseys are made by Majestic. This style jersey is worn between 1980–1984. They have Majestic Varsity two-color (red/white) numbers on the back and no names. Notice the sleeve and neck trim is a sewn-on thin red/white knit braid.

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1983-1997 Red Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

The Majestic jerseys at top are from the early 1980s (probably 1983 or 1984); Sand-Knit version is below. Notice the slightly less ornate front logo and the Majestic Varsity font numbers used on the back, compared to the Sand-Knit jersey variations, below: more ornate front logo and Rawlings' Block/Serifs number font.

The jersey at right is from 1986, made by Sand-Knit, and carries an *Exclusively made for the St. Louis Cardinals* tag. Notice the odd shape of the 1, probably a Sand-Knit-specific in-house pattern.

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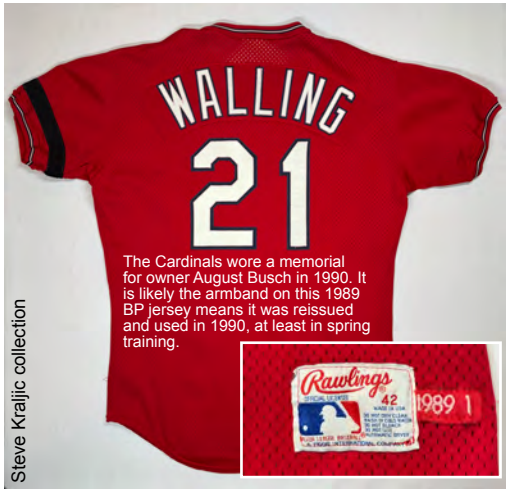
1987-1997 Red Batting Practice, continued

Examples of the red "STL" batting practice jersey are made by Rawlings, Russell, Majestic, and Sand-Knit. Not all manufacturers supplied the team in all years. These jerseys feature the two-color logo on the front. In two variations of design, some jerseys have the logo made from two-layered tackle twill; others have it embroidered with thread on a cloth backing. Numbers on back are in Cardinals style of Block, names are two-color and only sometimes with nameplates and sometimes without. Names on back appear in 1987, at least when used in the regular season. Rawlings uses mesh nameplates.



The Cardinals wore a memorial for owner August Busch in 1990. It is likely the armband on this 1989 BP jersey means it was reissued and used in 1990, at least in spring training.

Steve Kraljic collection

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Late 1980s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

In the late 1980s, Majestic offered this zip neck, short-waisted alternate mesh warmup jersey to all MLB teams. It featured elastic at the waist, wide knit trim at the collar and the sleeve ends and small slash pockets. The "STL" logo on the left chest is an embroidered patch. While some players may have worn these, it was not a popular choice and we have never seen a team-player lettered example.

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1993-1996 Road Batting Pratice

These navy jerseys are worn between 1993–1996, made by both Rawlings and Russell, and have two-color Block numbers. When names are used they are single-color white, both on nameplates and direct sewn. Notice that the knit sleeve and collar trim is red, white and blue, different from the trim used on the 1980–1984 blue batting practice jersey.

© GameWornGuides.com

1998-2002 Batting Practice

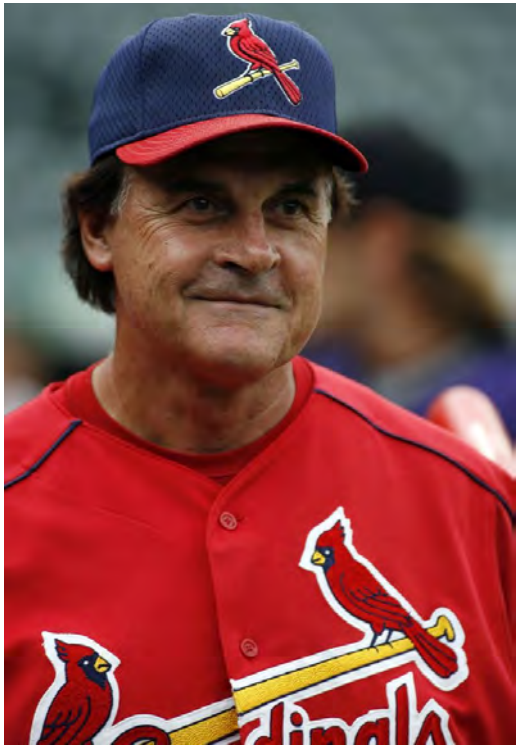
Steve Kraljic collection

Red mesh fabric with navy blue knit trim on front and sleeve ends. On Cardinals game worn BP jerseys, the lettering is chain stitched embroidery, just like game jerseys, applied to a white background patch. On store-bought versions, even those tagged “authentic,” the lettering is usually a plainer (cheaper), machine-stitched non-chain stitched embroidery. Two-color name and number, white/navy. Player nameplates used.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Batting Practice

Softer, non-mesh fabric, the earliest version of a tech fabric. It fades in the sun and when washed, and quickly collects fabric pulls. Chain stitched embroidery applied to a white patch that is sewn to the jersey. Blue piping inset along sleeve-top seams.
Two-color name and number, white/navy. Nameplates used.



There are blue variants of this style jersey floating around. I do not believe these were ever worn by the MLB Cardinals, despite the fact that they have an “0065” coded Majestic tag on the inside seam. This particular one was sent to me for authentication, and while it shows some wash wear, a scan of the player name and number fonts used on the back overlaid with the official team template do not match. There is also no use of a nameplate as is found on the red version. To date I have never seen a period photo of a MLB player wearing this jersey. I suspect they were either an unused proposed variant or were made for minor league use.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

Taking part in the all-MLB 2007 batting practice jersey makeover, from a distance, the Cardinals' new jersey looks very much like it has in years past. However, it is now a Cool Base ultra-sheer fabric with a one-button neck design, the front insignia is a textured appliqué, two-color names and numbers are all heat pressed on, not sewn or embroidered. Jersey has a full-length navy blue side panel that stops before the end of the sleeve. Very lightweight perhaps, but it looks and feels cheap with its iron-on lettering.

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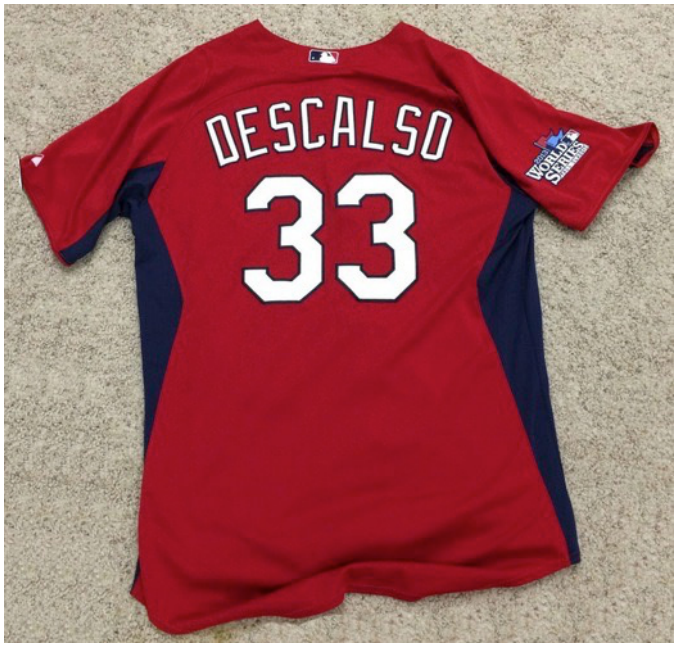
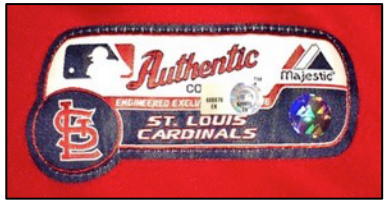
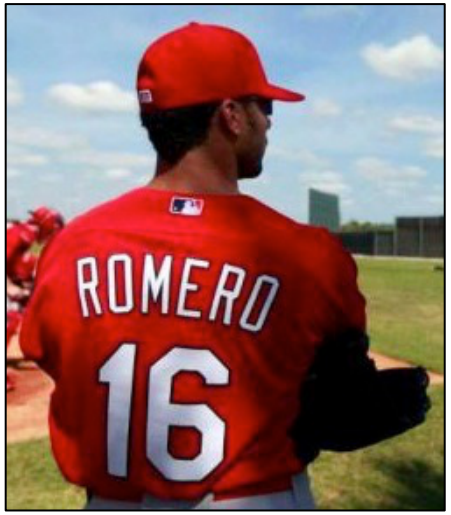
2011-2013 Batting Practice







All of MLB changes to button-front batting practice jerseys for 2011, and the Cardinals make the change along with the rest.

Nothing much changes from the 2007–2010 version. The side panels continue in solid navy blue, though the panel now extends completely under the sleeve.

The front emblem is an embroidered patch sewn on white twill. It is not chain stitched like the game jerseys. The Majestic jock tag on the front tail is now a sewn patch with the Cardinals' cap logo incorporated in a blue disk.

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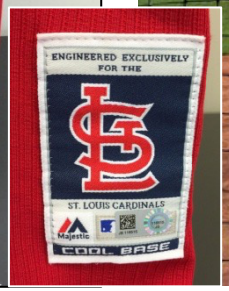
2014-2015 Batting Practice



MLB redesigns all team batting practice jerseys for the 2014 season, but the Cardinals' changes are minimal. Knit sleeve and collar trim featuring a blue stripe is added, and the new-style blue side panels begin higher up on the side and continue up completely through to the sleeve ends. The front design is a embroidered (but not chain stitched) applique, and back numbers and name are sewn white over navy twill. The new style Majestic jock tag with the alternate team logo is sewn to the tail, and the new style majestic "M" is applied to the left sleeve end.

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2016 Spring Training

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Cardinals use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, reminiscent of their regular-season batting practice jerseys as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill/blue. The Cardinals are the only team to carry the special twill to the front numbers as well, here represented in white patterned twill/blue. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Cardinals spend Spring Training.

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2016-2023 “Spring Training-Style” Batting Practice

The Cardinals opted to issue these spring training-model jerseys starting in 2016 for pregame activities instead of the standard Majestic ¾ sleeve BP jerseys worn by most other teams. All player lettering is outlined with navy blue and the white twill has a sublimated pattern listing all the team’s World Championship years. The 2019 version of the jersey has the MLB 150 patch on the right sleeve. Made by Majestic 2016–2019, Nike takes over 2020–2023. Note the change in style code from SCAS (Majestic) to SC3S (Nike).

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Cardinals again use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, reminiscent of their regular-season BP jerseys as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The Cardinals are the only team to carry the special twill to the front numbers as well, here represented in white patterned twill/blue. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Cardinals spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Alternate Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys.

Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Cardinals jersey is red with red back and blue underarm gussets. The single "cardinal on bat" logo, from their alternate cap, appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white/blue Block on the left sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Cardinals use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, a red jersey with their iconic "Birds on Bat" logo sewn on a patch on front rather than directly embroidered. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. The Cardinals are the only team to use the special twill on the front numbers as well, here represented in white patterned twill/blue. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The 2019 numbers are white with navy outlines. The Cardinals use a jersey design not included in their regular-season standard game set. It is a red jersey with their iconic "Birds on Bat" logo sewn on a patch on front rather than directly embroidered, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The player name and front and back numbers are white/blue twill.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill. For 2020, the Cardinals use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, a red jersey with their iconic "Birds on Bat" logo sewn on a patch on front rather than directly embroidered, with white/blue name, and white/blue front and back numbers.

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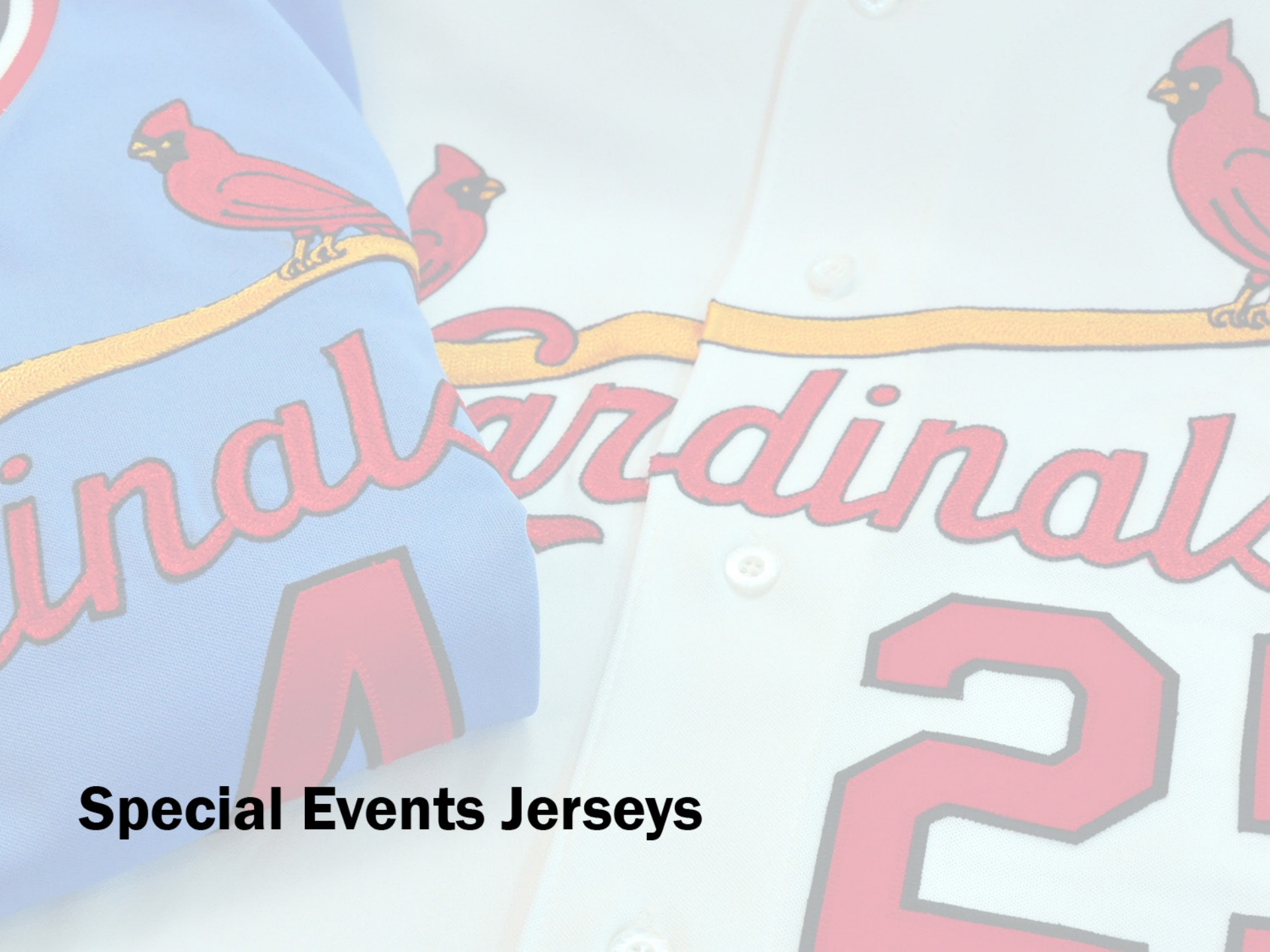

Special Events Jerseys

1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Bill Henderson Collection

- One must give the Cardinals credit for being much more history-conscious than most other teams. This early Turn Back the Clock uniform is incredibly accurate compared to the original, with the help of long time supplier Rawlings, which actually made the original jerseys in 1982 and the reproduction used on June 17,1997.
- Notice how this 1997 Turn Back the Clock example uses the old 3" Cardinals (Rawlings) Block name font, with no nameplate, as would have been done in 1982. It also sports the 1982-correct Ken Boyer black memorial armband.
- The Cards played the Brewers that day, who wore recreations of their 1982 pinstriped home uniforms, in a rematch of their 1982 World Series pairing.

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1997 Negro Leagues Tribute (St. Louis Stars)

July 4, 1997: As part of Major League Baseball's year-long salute to Jackie Robinson's 50th anniversary of integrating baseball in 1947, the Cardinals invite the Pirates for a Negro Leagues Tribute game in St. Louis. The Cardinals dress as the Negro League's St. Louis Stars, and the Pirates dress as the Homestead Grays. Rawlings made the Cardinals' uniforms of knit fabric with simple twill lettering, minimal trim and longish sleeves. Rawlings tag in both the neck (with size) and inside the left front tail. This is the only Negro Leagues game in my memory that had modern player names on back (which both teams used).

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1998 Negro Leagues Tribute (1928 St. Louis Stars)

Jason Scott Collection

In 1998, the Cards played two road games honoring the Negro League's 1928 St. Louis Stars, with knit (not flannel) uniforms made by Mitchell & Ness. The games were held in Atlanta on August 1 and 2, 1998. The home team was the Atlanta Braves, who dressed as the 1940 Atlanta Black Crackers.

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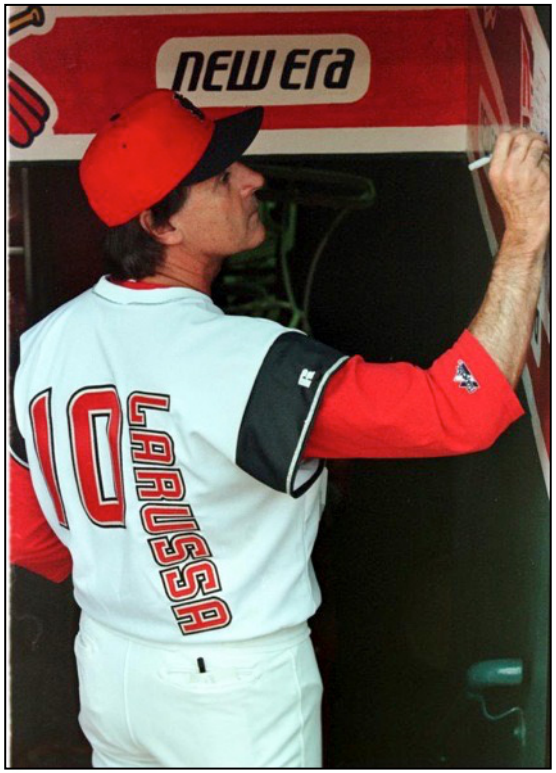
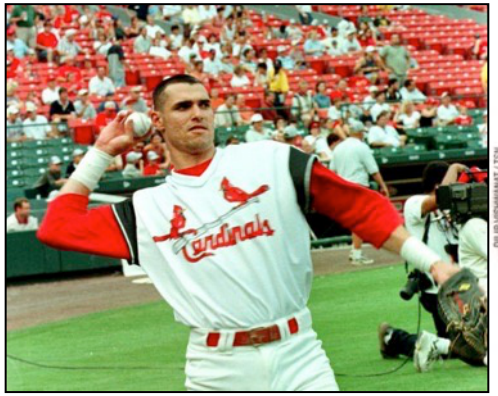
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

Jason Scott Collection





DILIP VISHWANAT / TSN

July 30, 1999 Turn Ahead the Clock—worn for one game against the Colorado Rockies at home. Sleeve and collar trim are made of sparkly silver trim that would look at home on a ball gown. The Birds on a Bat are cleverly drawn to look like small mechanical robots. Three-color red/silver/navy name and numbers using one of the special TATC fonts. Team-issued jerseys have embroidered Russell "R" on right sleeve. Retail versions usually do not have it.

© GameWornGuides.com

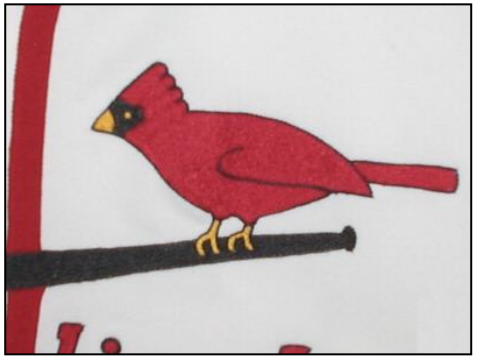
2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1944

Jason Scott Collection

Below: *Majestic's tagging on the prototype jersey, from my collection, also in "Prototypes and Oddballs" section later in this chapter.*

Uniforms made by Majestic honoring the 1944 Cardinals—actual 1942 uniform for comparison ***(bottom right)***.

June 7 opponents are the Orioles who dress as the 1944 St. Louis Browns in a rematch of the 1944 World Series.



Original
1942

© GameWornGuides.com

2003 Negro Leagues Tribute (1928 St. Louis Stars)

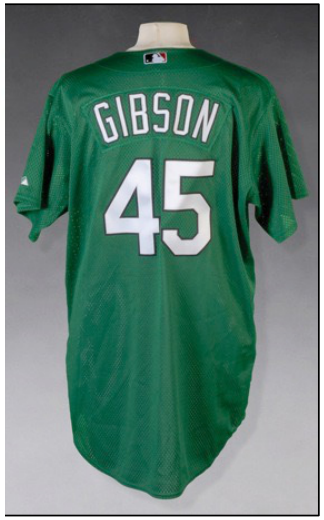
This game was played in Kansas City June 29, 2003 against the Royals (who dressed as the Kansas City Monarchs).

Knit replicas of the original flannel uniforms made by AIS, a manufacturer that other teams had started to use as their throwback uniform vendor. Five-button pullover with felt lettering throughout, thick navy knit trim on placket and sleeve ends, Varsity numbers on back in navy/red.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2006 St. Patrick's Day

2005



2006

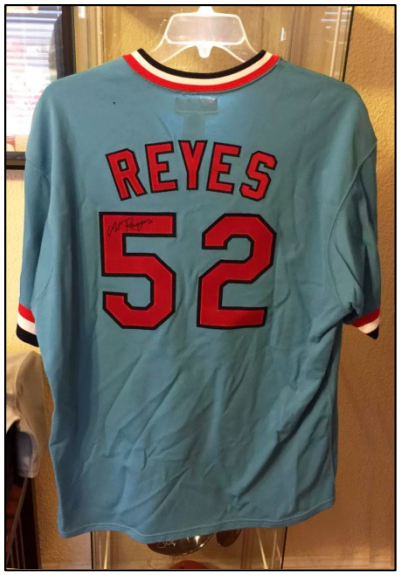
- The Cardinals wear mesh green jerseys on St. Patrick's Day in 2005 and 2006, both alike and made by Majestic.
- Embroidered Cardinals front design is sewn on white cloth, then the cloth is sewn to the jersey front.
- Numbers and player name are white/navy. Names on nameplates.

2005

© GameWornGuides.com

2005 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Jason Scott Collection



Game was played June 18, 2005 in Tampa vs. the Devil Rays. 2005's throwback knits are made by Mitchell and Ness, and they are fairly accurate reproductions of the originals. The Cardinals script used by Mitchell & Ness is not quite correct as it has slightly less spacing and is a little bolder, compared to the earlier 1997 Turn Back the Clock Rawlings jersey, which has the benefit of having been made by the original 1980s manufacturer.

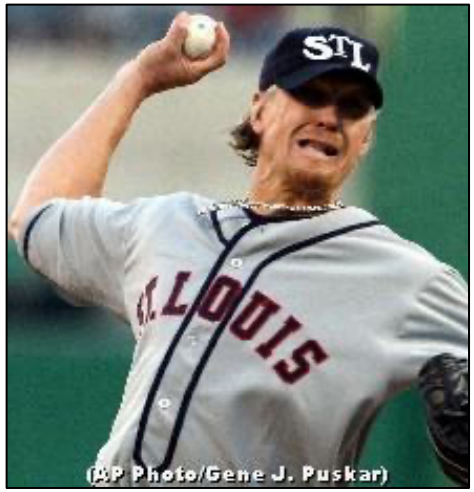
Retail versions of this jersey have the text on the date tag in red stitching, while team issued jerseys have it in black.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1928 St. Louis Stars)

August 12, 2006 (at Pittsburgh): The Cardinals were the guests of the Pirates who outfitted them in 1928 St. Louis Stars uniforms made by AIS, the Pirates' recent supplier of choice for Negro Leagues Tribute games. These are almost identical to 6/29/2003 jersey, except letters and numbers were tackle twill, not felt, and the front has four buttons, not five. These knit uniforms feature "St. Louis" arched on the front, navy trim on the placket and sleeve ends, and navy/red Varsity numbers on back. The Pirates dressed as the 1935 Homestead Grays in uniforms made by AIS as well.

Jason Scott Collection



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2007 Civil Rights Game

March 31—An exhibition game, this contest was played between the Indians and Cardinals in Memphis, TN at AutoZone Park the day before the start of the regular season.

Players wore special uniforms that bore the Civil Rights Game patch on the left sleeve, but featured only the team's city name on the front. The Cardinals jerseys are white with a bold red St. Louis on the front; the Indians' grays had a plain, blue Cleveland sewn there. These uniforms were not made to copy any specific style of past uniform.

No player names are on the back, and player numbers are large Block style and also one-color.

From a MLB press release:

"The Major League Baseball Civil Rights Game Presented by AutoZone, which will be held annually, will pay tribute to one of our country's most significant eras of social change and honor Major League Baseball's involvement in the historic struggle through which legendary African-American players broke barriers and made important contributions to American society. The inaugural Civil Rights Game Presented by AutoZone will be played on March 31st, 2007, at AutoZone Park in Memphis, Tenn., home of the Triple-A Memphis Redbirds"

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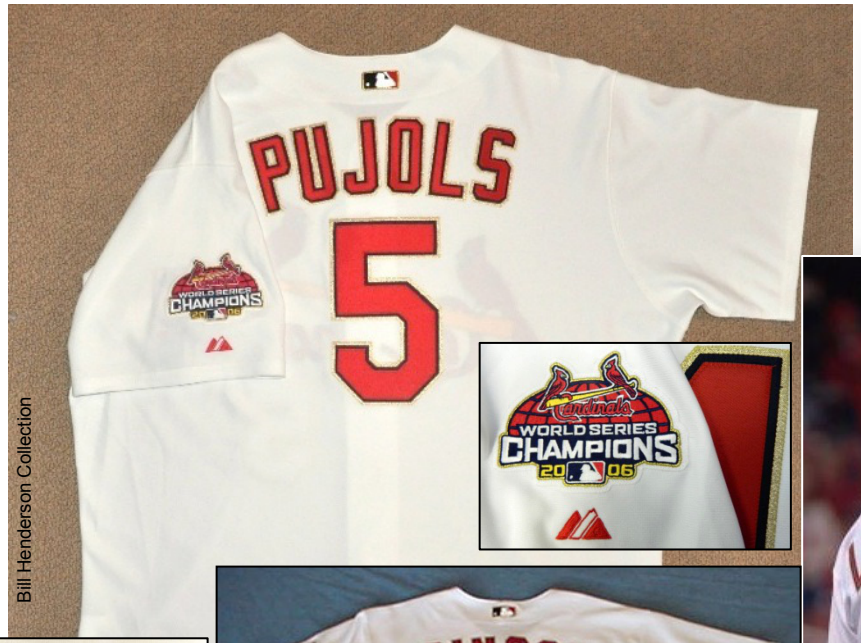
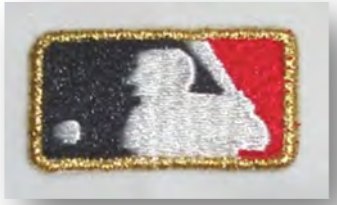
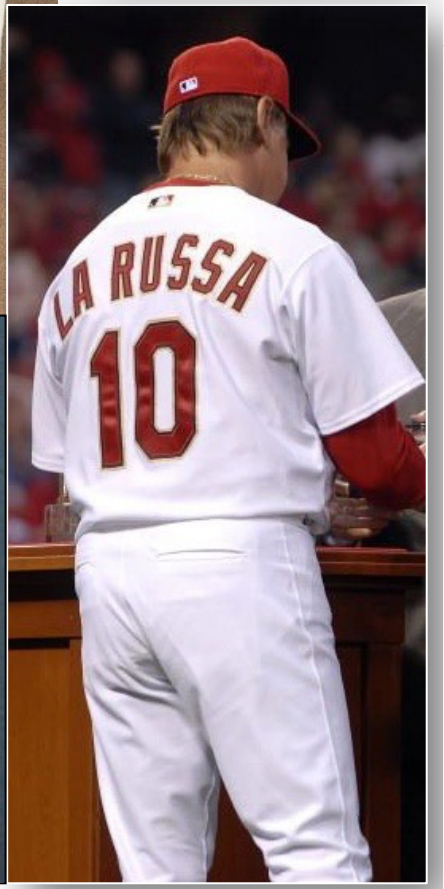
2007 Special Opening Series Gold Trimmed



Bill Henderson Collection





These jerseys were worn only in the *first three games* of the 2007 season vs. the Mets, to celebrate the Cardinals winning the 2006 World Series. They are like the regular home jerseys in every way except that they have an additional gold layer of twill surrounding the player numbers and player name on back. There is no change to the team logo script. The change subtle and is hardly visible from more than ten feet away. The Cardinals 2006 World Series Champs patch is sewn on the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back of the neck is also edged in gold.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1972

Jason Scott Collection

These uniforms were worn on May 11, 2007 at San Diego against the 1972-attired Padres. They are gray Majestic pullovers and feature a rounded crew neck which the Cards wore only in 1971–1972 before switching to V-necks for 1973. That part is an impressive detail. However, quite unimpressively they feature incorrect front art which is a variant of the **1998 and later birds on a bat wordmark**, incorrectly embroidered on a white patch sewn to the jersey front instead of being directly embroidered as would have been correct. This is quite likely the 2007 batting practice jersey's wordmark and was surely done as a cost saving measure. Only two months later, this same patch was sewn on the 1982 Turn Back the Clock blue jersey worn in Milwaukee that is shown in horrendous detail two pages ahead.

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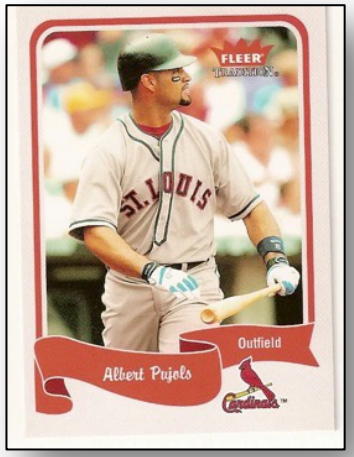
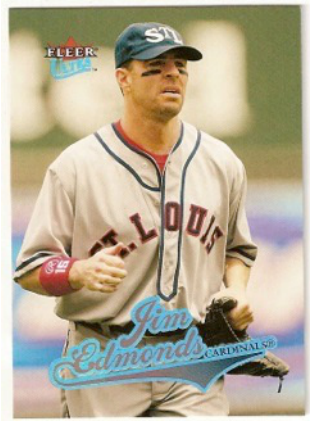
2007 Negro Leagues Tribute (1928 St. Louis Stars)

Jason Scott Collection

Left: *Identify the 2007 version from the nearly identical 2006 edition by the small flag tag on the AIS label. Fabric is a slightly lighter shade of gray.*





Road game played August 3, 2007 as the 1928 Negro league St. Louis Stars, in Washington, D.C., against the Nationals, who dressed as the 1940s Negro League Grays. AIS knit uniforms look identical to those used in the 2003 and 2006 contests shown on prior pages, though many of this year's have a small flag tag under the AIS front tag.

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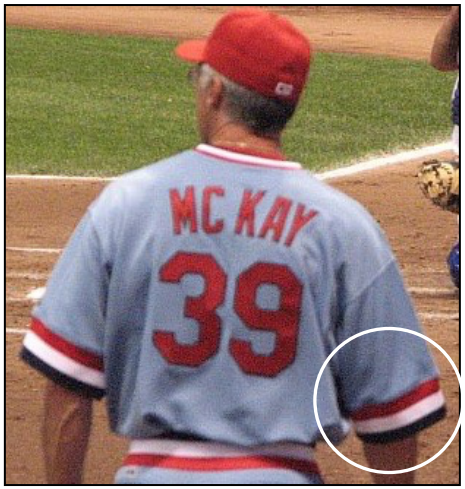
2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

Jason Scott Collection

On August 14, 2007 the Cardinals and Brewers reprised the look of the 1982 World Series between their two teams by dressing in period uniforms. Judgmentally, I will call this the worst-ever effort of TBTC outfitting in MLB history. Starting with the most egregious offenses first, the Cardinals jersey featured the birds on a bat sewn onto a white patch, creating a thick non-authentic white outline around the team design. They used the wrong version of the birds on the bat, choosing the 1998 and later artwork as compared to the earlier, period-correct design. The sleeve end stripes were almost comic in their over-sizing, equally as wide as the pants' waistbands. Likely the same material was used for both. Sleeves were much too long. Finally, the 1982 Ken Boyer memorial armband was missing from the TBTC jersey

Above: *1982 game photo; note black arm-band and narrow sleeve trim.*



Compare these jerseys to the Rawlings TBTC jerseys worn by the Cardinals in 1997 (shown several pages back) recreated with pride by Rawlings, their original manufacturer from 1982. Those are dead-on accurate replicas.

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2008 St. Patrick's Day

Jason Scott Collection

After a year hiatus, the Cardinals return to wearing green jerseys for St. Patrick's Day, 2008. This version mirrors the then-current, one-button BP jersey template, rendered in green rather than the usual red with white side panels, replacing the typical blue. White/blue name and number sewn on back. The Cardinals logo is embroidered on a patch, which is then sewn on front. Unlike the batting practice jersey from this period, which use heat-applied appliqués for logos and letting, the birds on a bat logo and name and number are all sewn on.

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2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1988

Jason Scott Collection

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jVHC2A90co

The Cardinals and Indians matched up for Major League Day in Cleveland on June 13, 2009, recreating the 1988 jerseys from the film Major League. This time Majestic did a nice job with the replicas, though the players mostly wore the uniforms far baggier than any players would have been caught dead doing in the 1980s!

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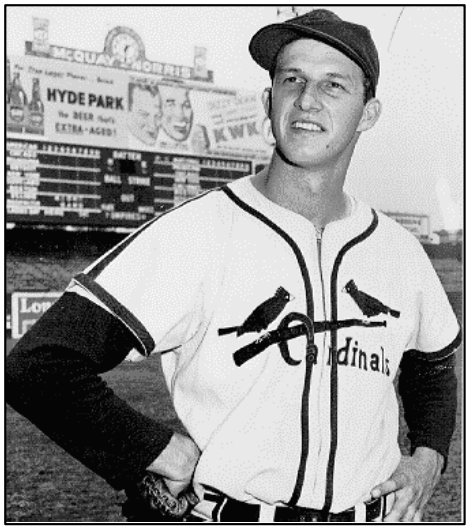
2010 Civil Rights Game (1947 Road)

Jason Scott Collection



The Cardinals and the Reds matched up for the 2010 Civil Rights game on 5/15/2010. No longer an exhibition contest, this was a regular season scheduled game. Both teams wore knit replicas of their uniforms from 1947, signifying the year of racial integration of MLB. The Cardinals' uniform was beautiful and accurate in every way, down to the chain stitching used to create the birds on a bat front art.

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2011-2013 St. Patrick's Day

Jason Scott Collection

2011–2013 version of the green jersey is button-front with white side panels and a white panel above the player name. Front wordmark/logo is the same patch as sewn on the normal red batting practice jerseys. Names and numbers on back are white twill outlined with navy blue.

In 2011, some of the St. Patrick's Day shirts don't have sewn-on NOBs, but instead have heat-pressed letters like those used on the 2007–2010 BP jerseys. The pictured Adron Chambers jersey is an example of the heat-pressed numbers. I'm assuming that's something they did on the fly for the younger players who perhaps weren't anticipated to still be around by March 17.

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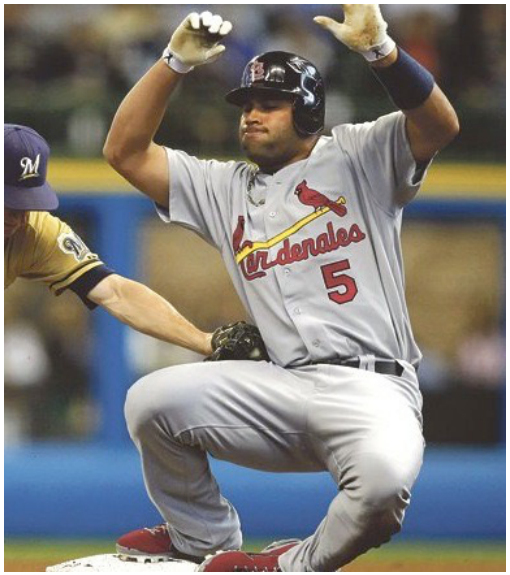
2011 Hispanic Heritage (Road)

Jason Scott Collection



When the Brewers hosted Hispanic Heritage night at Miller Park on June 11, 2011, they invited the visiting Cardinals to play along. The Brewers uniform script for these events reads "*Cerveceros,"* Spanish for "brewers of beer." The Cardinals uniforms that night read "*Cardenales,"* Spanish for "Cardinals." Except for the different script (which was nicely chain stitched just as one would hope) these suits were identical in every other way to their regular road gray uniforms.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1951

Jason Scott Collection

On July 2, 2011 the Tampa Bay Rays played host to the St. Louis Cardinals in a Turn Back the Clock game. The Rays, with little team history to draw on, dressed as the Tampa Smokers of the 1951 Class B Florida Instructional League.

The Cardinals uniforms are an absolute work of art by Majestic, as you can see here, when compared to an original 1952 Cardinals jersey.

Chain stitching is used for the entire front design. And while these reproductions were rendered in modern full-weight double knit, instead of old-time flannel, and lacked the zipper front of the originals, I give these an A for authenticity. Many (though not all) Cardinals players actually wore their pants and socks like they would have in 1951. Bravo!

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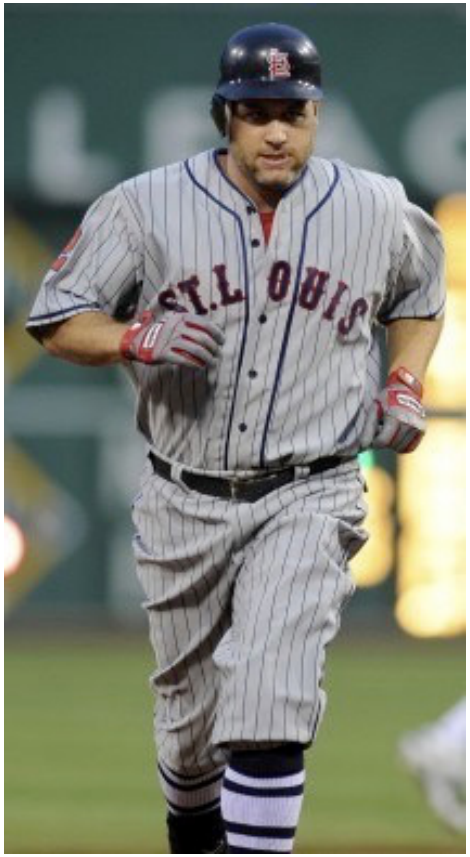
2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1931 St. Louis Stars)

Jason Scott Collection



This contest pitted the Cardinals against the Pirates on July 23, 2011 in Pittsburgh. The teams dressed as Negro League contestants; the Cardinals as the 1931 St. Louis Stars (road jersey) and the Pirates as the 1935 Homestead Grays, in home uniforms. The uniforms were made by AIS and seemed to be reasonably good replicas, comparing to the fuzzy photos that are available of the 1931 Stars.

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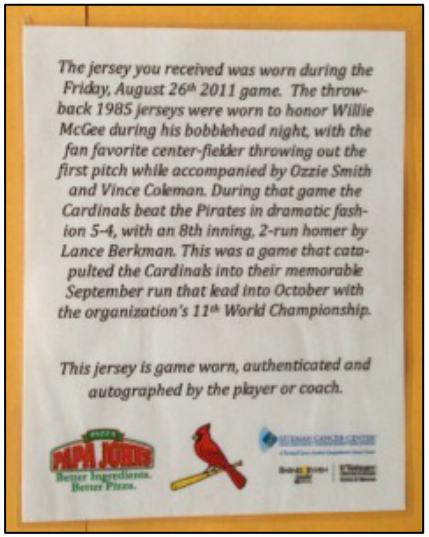
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1985

Jason Scott Collection



The jersey you received was worn during the Friday, August 26th 2011 game. The throwback 1985 jerseys were worn to honor Willie McGee during his bobblehead night, with the fan favorite center-fielder throwing out the first pitch while accompanied by Ozzie Smith and Vince Coleman. During that game the Cardinals beat the Pirates in dramatic fashion 5-4, with an 8th inning, 2-run homer by Lance Berkman. This was a game that catapulted the Cardinals into their memorable September run that lead into October with the organization's 11th World Championship.

This jersey is game worn, authenticated and autographed by the player or coach.

PAPA JOHN'S Better Ingredients. Better Pizza.

August 26, 2011: The Cardinals played the Pirates and gave fans a Willie McGee bobblehead figure. Majestic clearly has the "drill" perfected by now, as its Cardinals Turn Back the Clock replica jerseys were perfect in execution, except that, again, the players wore them two sizes too big (while probably the players in the 1980s wore them two sizes too small).

Right: *Willie McGee, back in "the day"— one of the skinniest men who ever put on a Cardinals uniform!*

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2012 Special Opening Series Gold Trimmed

Jason Scott Collection

Several years prior, when they became MLB champs in 2006, the Cards opened the 2007 season wearing jerseys (shown on a prior page) that had player names and numbers trimmed in gold as a subtle celebration. Perhaps too subtle, as the highlighting could not be noticed from more than a few feet away.

That was certainly addressed with the 2012 edition of the celebration jerseys. Everything that is normally red (except the birds themselves) was changed to metallic gold outlined with navy blue, including the chain stitched Cardinals wordmark. Hard to read from the seats? Too bad. This was their party. Worn two games, April 13–14.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1982 (Home)

August 4, the Cardinals hosted a two-game series against the visiting Milwaukee Brewers, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the 1982 World Series meeting between the two teams. For this game, the Brewers wore replicas of their 1982 powder blue road uniforms. These Majestic Cardinals replicas are nearly indistinguishable from the originals, and feature a special commemorative sleeve patch as well as the 1982 Ken Boyer memorial armband.

(continued next page)

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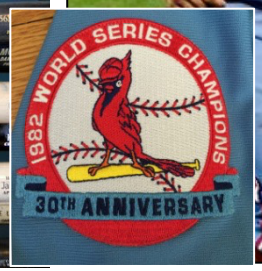
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1982 (Road)



(Continued from previous page) The next day, August 5, the teams continued the nostalgia weekend and simply switched colors. The Cardinals wore copies of their road blues. Except for the jersey color, this jersey is identical to the prior day's white one, and also includes the commemorative sleeve patch. For both Cards jerseys, only team issued versions have the Ken Boyer armbands, retail versions do not. The Brewers wore their current set of home nostalgia jerseys, which bear a reasonable resemblance to the Brewers 1982 pinstriped home jerseys in that the lettering is the same, but the 1982 jersey was a pullover with a blue V-neck and the current nostalgia jersey is a button front with no neck trim.

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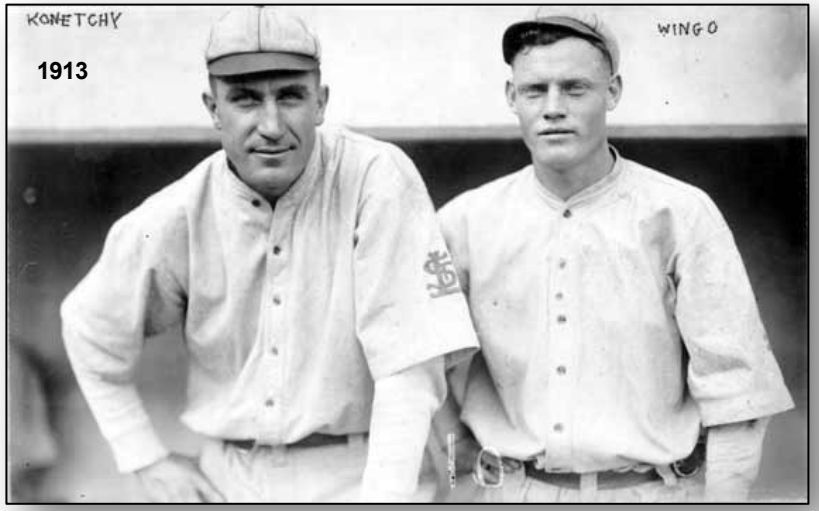
2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1913

Jason Scott Collection

May 5, 2013: St. Louis visited Milwaukee for a Turn Back the Clock game, to 1913. The Cardinals replica uniforms were stark in their plainness, featuring a completely blank front, with only the intertwined "ST.L" letters on the left sleeve for decoration. Red Varsity numbers on the back, though players did not wear numbers in 1913. The striped red and gray socks were an important part of the Cardinal uniform.



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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013 Memorial Day

Jason Scott Collection

With all MLB teams wearing camouflage trimmed jerseys on May 27, 2013, the Cardinals visited the Royals and wore these suits. Front wordmark is military desert camo, edged with a navy embroidery stitch; the birds have yellow beaks. The front logo is rendered in twill rather than in the usual chain stitch embroidery. The writing on these uniforms was very hard to see from the seats.

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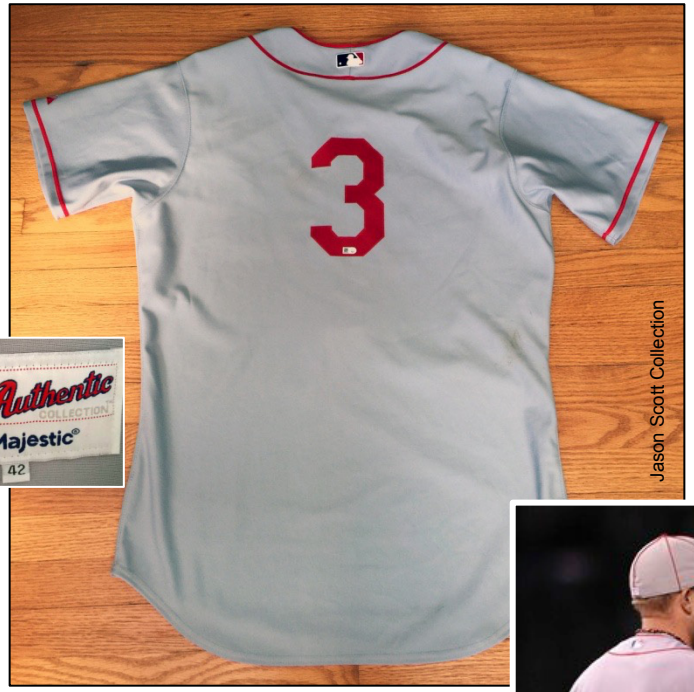
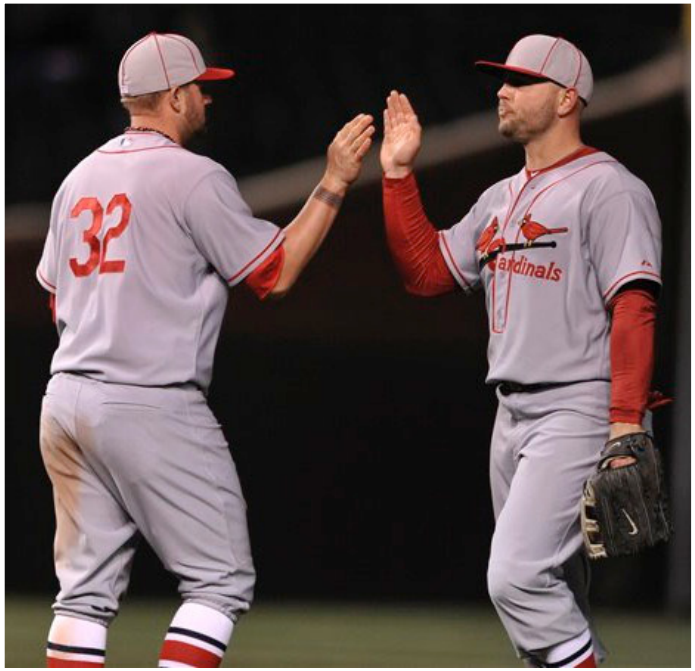
2014 Turn Back the Clock To 1929



Jason Scott Collection

Original
1929

May 4, 2014 visiting Chicago for the' "Turn Back the Clock to 1929" day, as part of the Cubs' year-long celebration of the 100th birthday of Wrigley Field. The Cardinals wore these excellent reproductions of their 5-button pullover 1929 road uniforms (example of an original shown inset, top right). Though back numbers were not worn by the Cardinals in 1929, these throwback jerseys have simple, red Block-style numbers on back.



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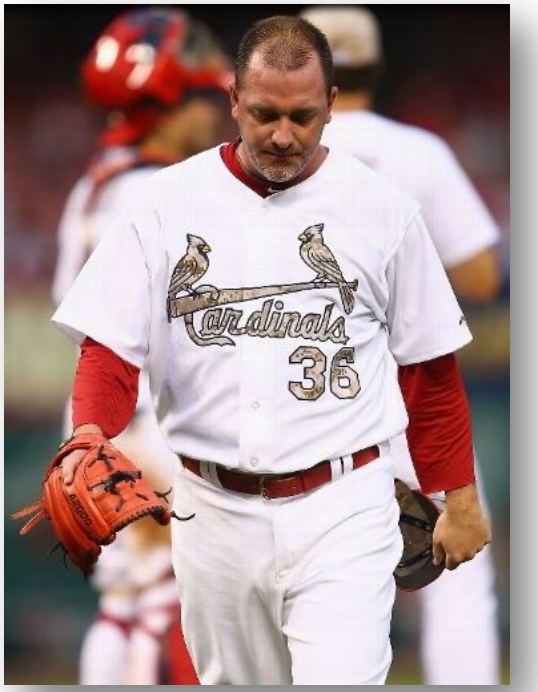
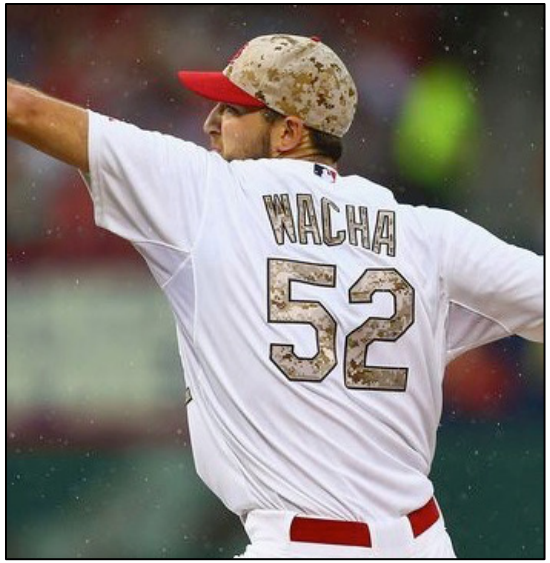
2014 Memorial Day



Jason Scott Collection



In a near repeat of the MLB-dictated costumes worn for 2013's game, the Cardinals played the Yankees for Memorial Day on May 26 at home and wore home white uniforms with camouflaged twill wordmarks outlined and embellished with a navy blue embroidery stitch (for this jersey, the front logo is rendered in twill rather than in the usual chain stitch embroidery). The birds have yellow embroidered beaks. Player names and numbers are desert camouflage outlined by navy blue.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

July 27, 2014: Visiting Chicago for a second date in the Cubs' year-long 100th birthday celebration for Wrigley Field, we had a "road-on road" game. The Cardinals wore 1970s-styled road gray jerseys while the Cubs dressed in their 1978 powder blue pinstriped road uniforms. The Cardinals' uniforms were made by Majestic surely using the same perfect patterns as had been used for the Cards' own 2012 throwback games of just two seasons before (a conscious decision was made for the Cards to wear gray instead of the correct-for-1978 powder blues; had the Cards worm their 1978 powder blues, both teams on the field would have been wearing the same colors, a confusing prospect).

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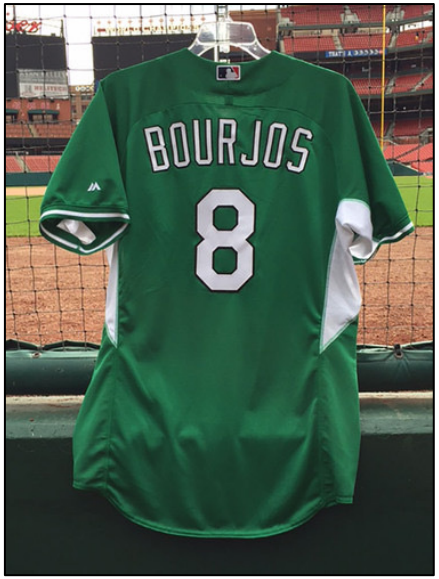
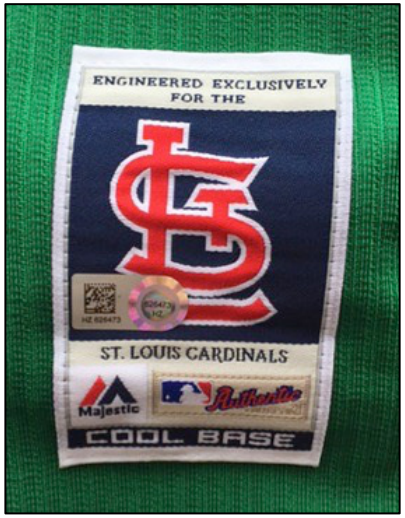
2015 St. Patrick's Day

Jason Scott Collection



This is the 2015 edition of the Cardinals' green St. Patrick's Day jersey. Cool Base BP jersey with team-logo tagging on the front tail. All twill lettering on back in white outlined with navy. Hologrammed, these went up for auction on MLB.com immediately after the game.



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2015 Memorial Day

The Cards are home again for Memorial Day on May 25, 2015. However, they alter their jerseys slightly from the year before, this time outlining the layer of desert camouflage twill in red embroidery stitch instead of navy blue. Names on back and front and back numbers are also outlined in red twill. This detail, contrary to most teams that just replace their top layer of twill and leave their remaining outlines intact, actually makes the camo lettering slightly less legible from a distance than the blue outlines, which provided more contrast. For this jersey, the front logo is rendered in twill rather than in the usual chain stitch embroidery. The jersey also has the Oscar Taveras memorial patch on the left sleeve. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1961

Jason Scott Collection

In June 19 and 21 road games against the Phillies, who wear 1969 home jerseys, the Cardinals throw back to their 1961 road set. The Cards, of course, have been fairly consistent in their style over the years, so these jerseys are easily mistaken for their regular road jerseys by the casual observer. However, the absence of both the name on back and front number certainly distinguishes these, as does the vaunted Cardinals logo itself. Though the logo is chain stitched like the current models, it is smaller overall, with narrower lettering, and less detailed, smaller birds. Some of the fine points of the birds differ from an authentic 1961 jersey, but overall, a good recreation. The jersey does display two anachronisms, the Father's Day ribbon hovering over the shoulder of the right bird (June 21 was Father's Day in 2015), and the Oscar Taveras memorial patch on the left sleeve.

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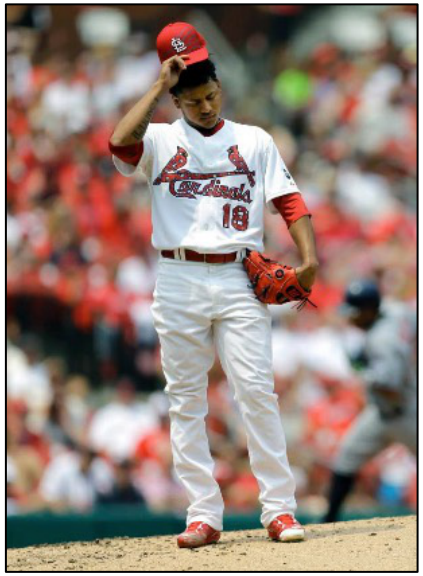
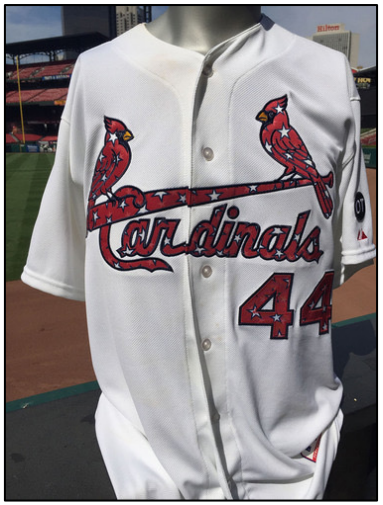
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

Jason Scott Collection



For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Cardinals wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. For this jersey, the front logo is rendered in twill rather than in the usual chain stitch embroidery. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve and the Oscar Taveras memorial patch is on the left.



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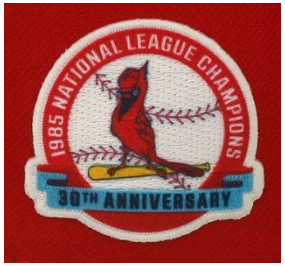
2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1985

Jason Scott Collection

OT



Thirty years after, the Cards and Royals relive their matchup in the “I-70” 1985 World Series on July 23, and both teams wear throwbacks to honor the occasion. The Cards’ white, knit pullovers, made by Majestic, are very faithful reproductions of the originals, even down to the size and arc of the names on back. A period-appropriate Cardinals logo is chain stitched on front, with red/blue twill front and back numbers and name on back, sans nameplate. Contrary to the originals, this jersey also features a 1985 NL Champs anniversary patch on the right sleeve, and the Oscar Taveras memorial on the left.

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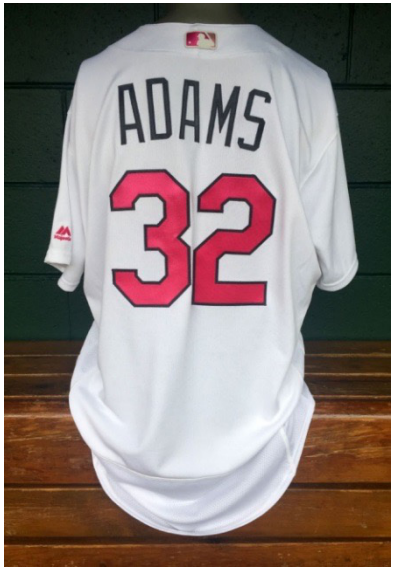
2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Cardinals wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The baseball-bat perch on which the birds sit displays in lighter pink, also with a gray outline instead of the usual yellow. As a result of these modifications, the front logo is rendered in twill, and displays none of the chain stitch embroidery of the team's typical uniforms. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The style returned for 2017.

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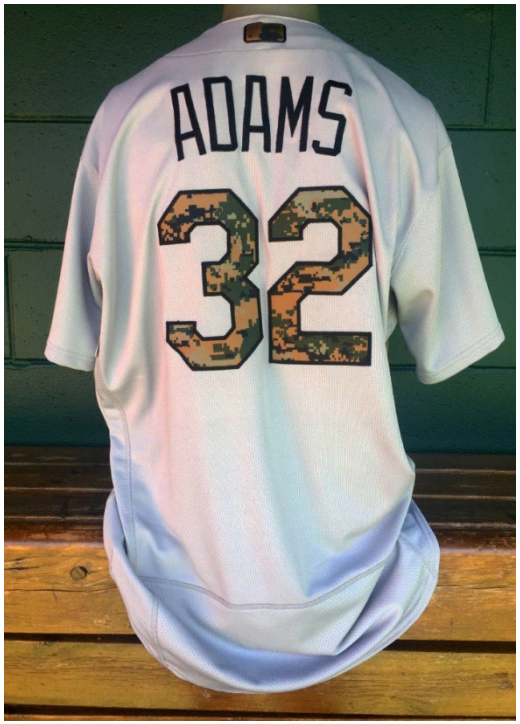
2016 Memorial Day



The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Cardinals apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. The two iconic cardinals on front shed their namesake color for the camo treatment as well (perhaps more effective for protection in nature than their natural coloring would be), and their baseball bat perch changes from yellow to tan. As a result of these modifications, the front logo is rendered in twill, and displays none of the chain stitch embroidery of the team's typical uniforms.

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2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Cardinals wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The baseball-bat perch on which the birds sit displays in lighter gray, also with a gray outline, instead of the usual yellow. As a result of these modifications, the front logo is rendered in twill, and displays none of the chain stitch embroidery of the team's typical uniforms. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1984

For a June 25 matchup against the Mariners in Seattle, the Cards and Mariners both wear 1984 throwbacks. The Cards' 1984 entry is a blue, knit road jersey by Majestic. Basically a powder blue road version of the 1985 throwback they wore the year before, this jersey is equally as accurate in most details, including the red/blue front and back numbers and name on back, without nameplate. The arc and spacing of the player names was closer on the home version from the year before, perhaps because the Mariners likely purchased this set, and may not have paid the same attention to detail to the road team's uniforms.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Cardinals are at home and wear their home jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Cardinals select the red twill version with blue outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with a blue player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. From a distance, the front of the July 4 jersey looks very similar to the typical Cardinals home jersey, since the star pattern on the red twill disappears a few feet away. The birds' baseball bat perch changes from yellow to gray. As a result of these modifications, the front logo is rendered in twill, and displays none of the chain stitch embroidery of the team's typical uniforms.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1956

Jason Scott Collection

Rare is the Cardinals uniform that doesn't feature the classic "birds on bat" logo, which has occupied the front of their jerseys every year since 1922—except 1956. At home against the 1956-clad Dodgers on July 23, the Cardinals relive this outlier in their uniform history. The cream-colored full-knit Majestic jerseys sport the script "Cardinals" wordmark in red/blue twill on front and a matching player number on back. A lone Cardinal, "at bat" rather than "on bat," appears as a patch on the left sleeve (the original was chain stitched). Though it only existed one year in its original form, this look screams "classic baseball" and is truly beautiful in its simplicity.

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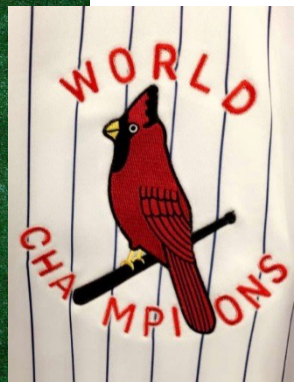
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1927

Derek Damian Collection



Recent World Series champions have celebrated their victories with gold-trimmed jerseys for the following home opener. Bolder teams might wear a sleeve patch for a season. After the Cardinals won their first series title in 1926, they let everyone know about it in 1927, with a beautifully boastful uniform for the whole season. To honor the 90th anniversary of the win, the Cards brought back the look in a pinstriped, full-knit throwback by Majestic against the A's on August 27. The Cardinals are proud of their uniform and logo history, and it shows in these jerseys that are as spot-on as modern reproductions can be. Single bird-on-bat, surrounded by "World Champions" all chain stitched on front left chest, with Old English "StL" in red/white twill on the left sleeve. Anachronistic player numbers in red Block adorn the back.

Steve Kraljic collection

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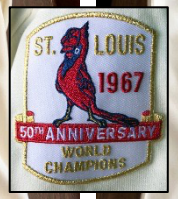
2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1967



Original
1967

To recognize the 50th anniversary of their 1967 World Series victory over the Red Sox, the Cardinals donned full-knit cream throwbacks of their 1967 home set, against the visiting Boston club on May 16. Made by Majestic, these beauties featured one anachronistic element – a 50th anniversary patch on the left sleeve. These Majestic jerseys are very well done, not a surprise for a team very proud of its aesthetic traditions, down to the elaborate embroidered front logo and squat, Rawlings' 1967-style squarish NOB lettering, which mimic the original almost exactly. Many players also wore high-cuffed pants as their predecessors from a half-century before had done. A spectacular display.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Cardinals apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017 and May 26–28, 2018.

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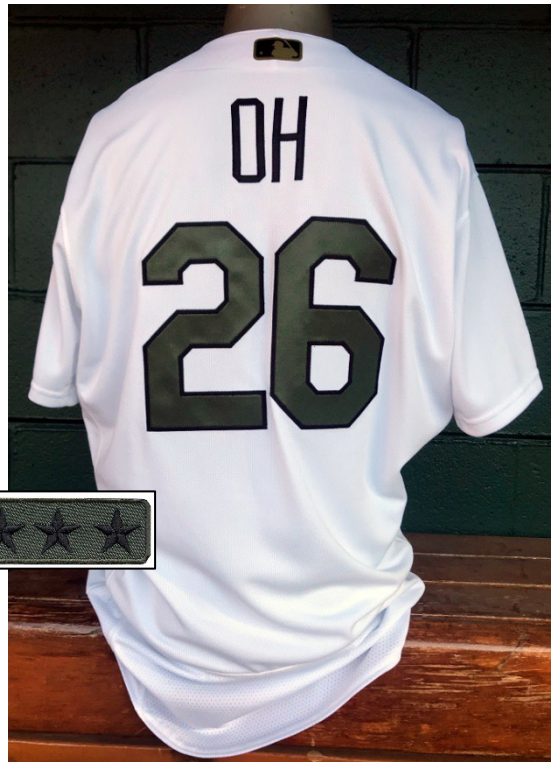
2017 Memorial Day (Home)



The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Cardinals apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017.

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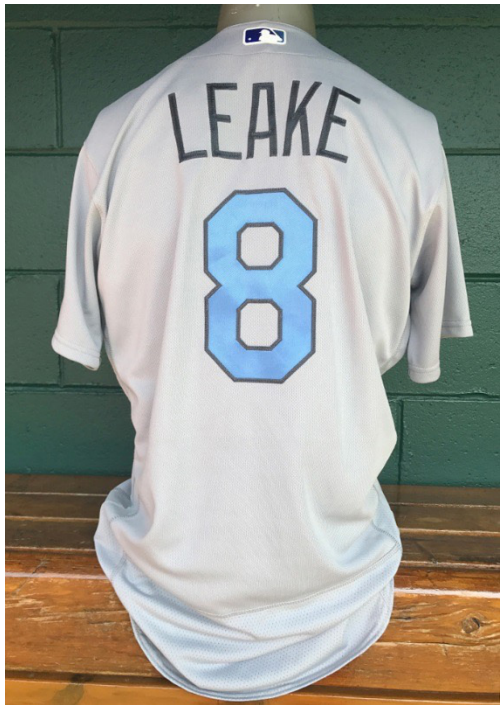
2017 Father's Day



Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Cardinals wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering and front and back numbers in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of different two color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–4, 2017, the Cardinals wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Cardinals wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their classic birds-on-bat design, rendered as a patch rather than directly chain stitched to the jersey.

This jersey was also worn on August 20, 2017 for the Little League Classic with this patch on the left sleeve.

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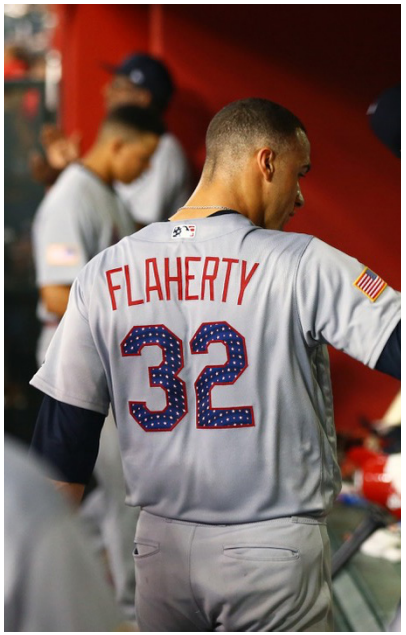
2018 Independence Day (Road)



The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the lettering—red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2–4, 2018, the Cardinals wear their road gray jerseys with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Cardinals wear jerseys with red bodies and navy blue sleeves with white nicknames and navy blue numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features lettering based on their classic birds-on-bat design, rendered as an embroidered patch rather than direct-sewn chain-stitching.

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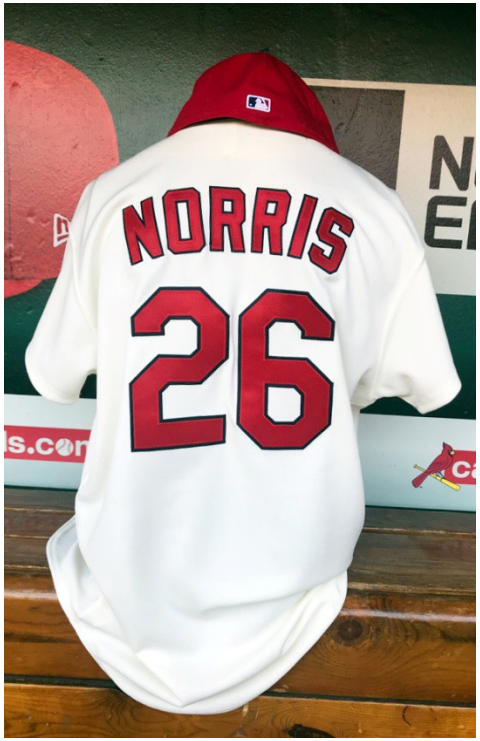
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1968



Just a year after throwing back to 1967 to honor the 50th anniversary of their World Series win, the Cardinals throw back 50 years again, this time, to recognize a World Series they lost. Of course, it was at the behest of that's series' winner, the Tigers, who flipped the script by wearing road throwbacks at home, making the Cardinals wear these home versions. Aside from the lack of an anniversary patch, these are the same gorgeous uniforms from the year prior, and the full knit replicas are exacting in nearly all regards, including the iconic front logo and stout NOB lettering.

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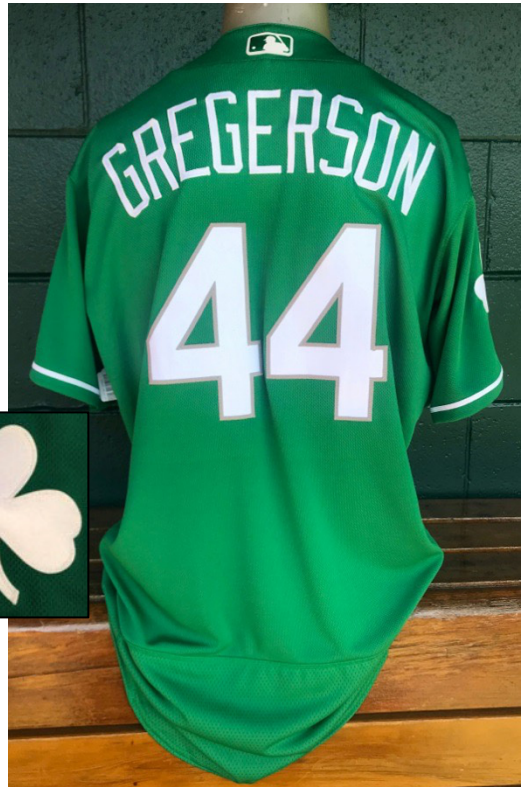
2019 St. Patrick's Day



The Cards return to green for St. Patrick's Day in 2019, taking on a similar Flex Base approach as many other teams who take part in the same holiday observance. The green jersey features the iconic birds on a bat logo and "Cardinals" lettering rendered in white/green/gray, with white/gray front and back numbers and white name on back. White knit trim encircles both sleeves near the ends and the familiar white shamrock patch adorns the right sleeve.

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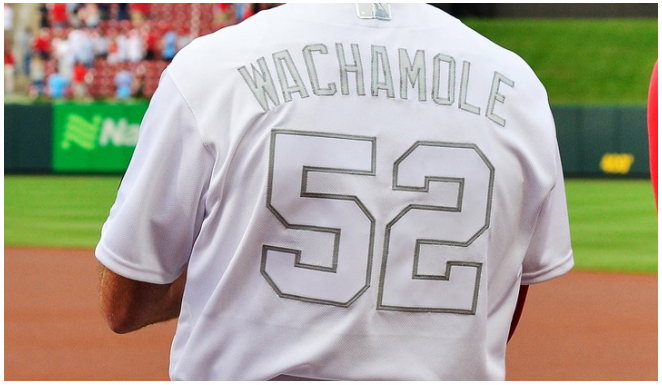
2019 Players Weekend



The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Cardinals wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2019, 2022 Hispanic Heritage

In 2019, the Cardinals recognize St. Louis' Latino community with a uniform tribute for the first time on September 15. Identical in all respects to their Flex Base home white jerseys, save for the use of "Cardenales" in the front wordmark, these Majestic jerseys likely went unnoticed by many at the ballpark given this set's similarity to their usual home togs. They return, this time made by Nike but otherwise identical, on August 28, 2022.

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2020, 2022 Negro Leagues Tributes (St. Louis Stars)

The Cardinals throw back to the Negro League's St. Louis Stars twice in three years with the same style of road jerseys, first against the Royals on September 22, 2020, and again on September 9, 2022 against the Pirates. Both sets are gray, full-weight knits by Nike featuring "St. Louis" arched on the front in navy/red, navy trim on the neck opening, placket, and sleeve ends, and navy/red Varsity numbers on back. The "SCKC" code on the Nike tag is curious. The "SC" prefix is on all Cardinals jerseys (for ***S***t. Louis ***C***ardinals), but perhaps the "KC" is a reference to the first of these games having been played in Kansas City. Home clubs usually purchase special uniforms for both teams, and since the style remained unchanged for the second game, the same code may have been used again. Odd to see one team's jersey reference another team in this way.

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2024 Negro Leagues Tribute/Rickwood Field (St. Louis Stars)

Rickwood Field, the oldest professional ballpark in the United States and former home of the Birmingham Black Barons of the Negro Leagues, was the site of a special regular season game between the Cardinals and Giants on June 20, 2024. To honor the occasion, both teams wore Negro Leagues throwback jerseys that they had donned before—here, the Cardinals return to the St. Louis Stars that they represented most recently in 2020 and 2022. The jersey design is identical to those previous games, however, this version is made in Cool Base fabric rather than full knit. Despite the league-wide change to Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) for regular jerseys, these throwbacks are still made on a knit template. Knit trim is sewn on rather than into the neck and sleeve ends. Numbers are not perforated. Surprisingly, this jersey still has the "SCKC" style code of the knit iteration of the jersey, and a 09B0 code on the wash tag, which would indicate a VPE jersey. The game occurred just two days after Willie Mays' passing, so both teams wore memorial patches to honor him on the left chest of the jerseys. Mays played for the Black Barons at Rickwood Field in 1948 before his debut with the Giants. This iteration also features the MLB logo on back collar and the sponsor sleeve patch—neither of which was included on the earlier versions.

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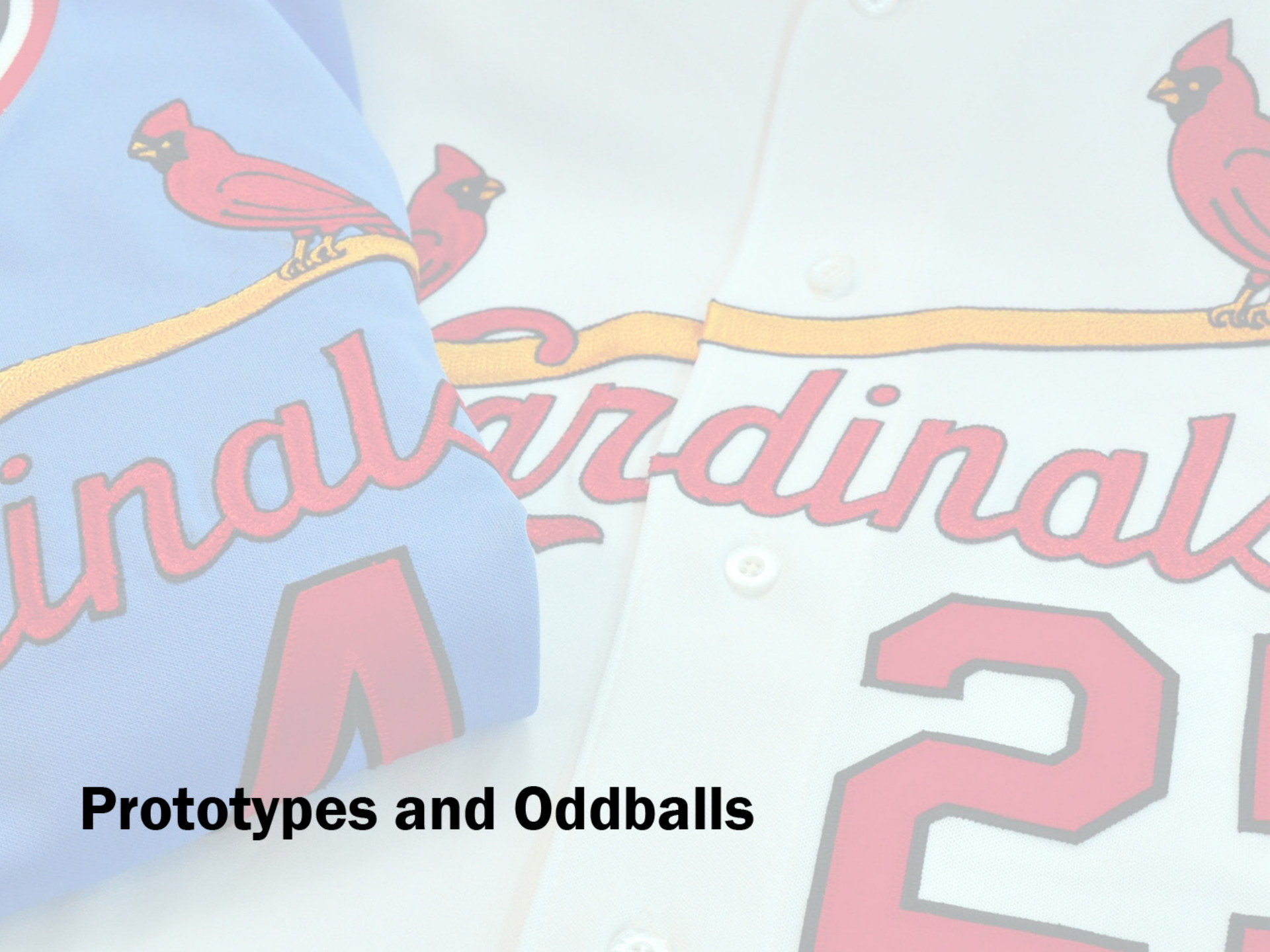

Prototypes and Oddballs

1968 Double-Knit “Overalls” Concept

Found by Cardinals uniform and logo historian Oliver Kodner, who runs the incredible Cardinals Uniforms and Logos blog and website (cardinalsuniformsandlogos.com), are these concept drawings for Cardinals home and road uniforms around 1968. They appear to show sleeveless uniform “overalls”—a single-piece top and bottom with ankle-length stirrup pants, not unlike a male gymnasts’ uniform. This screenshot was taken from an industrial film about the miracles of new, man-made fabrics like polyester, and predate the team’s switch to knits in 1970 by two years. Vest jerseys were also having a moment in baseball at that time, which may explain their presence here. The rest of the film shows two “designers” reviewing these concepts at a factory, and later, the same two drawings are shown to Cardinals manager Red Schoendienst and GM Bing Devine, who review them with outfielder Floyd Wicker at the team’s Spring Training facility. At right, we share mock-up of the road version created by Kodner for his site. It is unknown if these prototypes were ever seriously considered by the team, though the presence of Cardinals leadership and players in the film does lend credence to these unusual, and mercifully rejected, futuristic designs.

1969 OVERALLS VEST

cardinalsuniformsandlogos.com

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 MDA-Day Jersey

The Cardinals did not wear front numbers on their jerseys in 1997. But nobody reminded the seamstress of that fact when the set of 1997 MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) Cardinals Care Jerseys are made up for use on Labor Day of 1997. These jerseys were auctioned off to raise money for the charity. I have seen multiple examples with the 1997 Jackie Robinson Patch, 1997 year tags, and numbers on the front, so obviously the entire set was sewn this way. This shows again that the rules “always” and “never” should be avoided when human error is possible.

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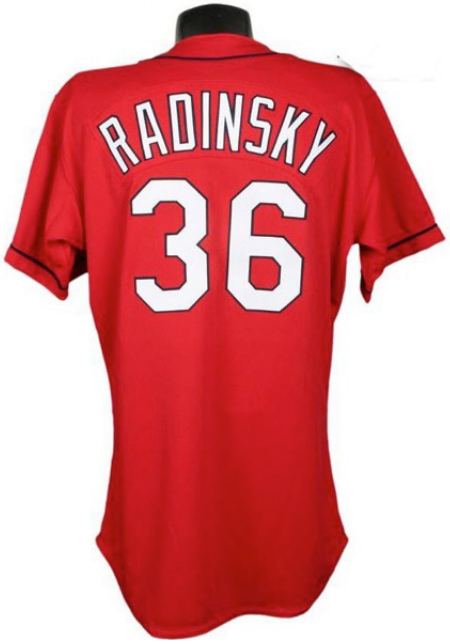
1999 MDA-Day Red Jersey

1999: The Cardinals wear solid fabric red jerseys (not mesh fabric, like their BP jerseys) on August 28 (the team was on the road on Labor Day in 1999). Jerseys were auctioned off to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy Association research. The front wordmark is completely chain stitched onto a white cloth backing, and then this cloth is sewn to the jersey front. This is like the 1998-2002 batting practice jersey, and not like the team's white and gray game jerseys. These were auctioned off as a "Jerseys Off Their Backs" promotion.



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Prototype St. Louis Stars Negro Leagues Throwback?

The Cardinals have honored the Negro League's' St. Louis Stars several times over the years, using a few different uniform designs, some of which were not very representative of what the Stars wore. This example, made by AIS, dates between 1999–2015 based on the manufacturer tagging. AIS did make several Stars throwbacks for the Cardinals, but this specific style was never worn by the Cardinals, and is, at best, an interpretation of the Stars' uniforms of the late 1920s and early 1930s. It is possible that it was made up as a sample for one of the throwback games that went unused. Note the presence of the AIS logo on the sleeve, which would not have been allowed on-field by MLB. The sleeve logo, and the unusual XXL size for a prototype, could point to this having been a Minor League issue, though we have not been able to confirm this.

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2003 Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1944

Before taking on the Orioles for a 2003 throwback to the 1944 World Series (when the Orioles were the Browns), the Cardinals were presented with this sample jersey for approval. Though the “5” on back may suggest Cards superstar Albert Pujols, it is actually a common back number for sample jerseys, as is the size 46 of the jersey. Finally, the tell-tale sample tag sewn inside the placket, reading CARH44J (for Cardinals home 1944 jersey) seals the origins of this item. Ultimately, the team must have liked what they saw—and the Cardinals are very particular about their uniform history, so that is high praise—as this is the same style that took the field for game.

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Not In Alignment

When Majestic delivered the Cardinals' the first set of game uniforms for 2011, it was immediately apparent that the front embroidery was misaligned when the shirts were buttoned.

The Cardinals returned this set of uniforms to Majestic. What happened to them afterwards is, so far, unclear.

Source: www.uni-watch.com

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Prototype Batting Practice

Jason Scott Collection

Each time MLB changes the league-wide batting practice jersey templates, Majestic provides prototypes to teams to see the various available options "in the cloth." Here is one such example, a Cardinals batting practice jersey made in advance of the 2011 season, with blue shoulder and side panels. Like most of these recent samples, the back names and numbers are "Player" and a number representing the year, here 11. A strip tag inside the button placket reads "CAR-BP-D1-1-2011" with "D1" representing that this was design number one. It is likely there were at least one or two others, with the all-red version the team chose (see above, right) being one of those options.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Blues NHL Hockey-Style Batting Practice

Derek Damian Collection

As cross-town and cross-sport promotions become more popular, long-time neighbors the St. Louis Cardinals and Blues get into the act in 2015. For batting practice before the September 21 game, the Cards wear Majestic knit jerseys that are based on the Blues' white road sweaters. The details are fairly accurate, down to the rounded back tails of current NHL jerseys, allowing for the difference in construction of baseball jerseys, such as short sleeves. Names on back are in royal blue with numbers in royal/yellow/navy Varsity, just like the Blues wear on the ice (though the NHL nameplates are not present here). The left sleeve features the Cardinals' single bird on bat logo, while the right has the team's STL cap logo. The jerseys were later auctioned off for the Cardinals Care Charity.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016 Blues NHL Hockey-Style Batting Practice

For the second year, the Cards promote their cross-town neighbors the St. Louis Blues. In batting practice before the September 29 game, the Cards wear Majestic knit jerseys that are based on the Blues' blue home sweaters. The details are fairly accurate, down to the rounded back tails of current NHL jerseys, allowing for the difference in construction of baseball jerseys, such as short sleeves. Names on back are in white with numbers in yellow/royal blue/white Varsity, just like the Blues wear on the ice (though the NHL nameplates are not present here). The left sleeve features the Cardinals' single bird on bat logo, while the right has the team's STL cap logo. The jerseys were auctioned off for the Cardinals Care Charity.

© GameWornGuides.com

2017 Blues NHL Hockey-Style Batting Practice

Continuing an annual tradition of honoring the crosstown St. Louis Blues hockey team, the Cardinals take to the field for batting practice on September 20 sporting these hockey-style jerseys. A new design this year (as is the custom) features a Majestic full-knit powder blue base with white/blue/yellow/blue/white sleeve and body striping mimicking a hockey jersey. The Cards' typical home jersey logo appears on front of this pullover, with yellow neck trim, yellow/blue/white Varsity numbers and yellow name on back. Oddly, no St. Louis Blues logo appears on the jersey, as it has in the past (and will, again, in the future).

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Blues NHL Hockey-Style Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic collection

Ice hockey returns to the baseball field in St. Louis on September 21 when the Cardinals repeat the gesture of saluting the St. Louis Blues in batting practice. This year's entry makes direct reference to hockey and the Blues, which was not the case the year before. The Blues won the Stanley Cup later that season, so perhaps this helped! This year's entry is a full-knit white Majestic pullover with two sets of blue/red/blue stripes, separated by a wide white stripe, on sleeves and body. Blue/red/blue trim also surrounds the V-neck, while the chest is adorned with a single bird on a bat, like the Cards' alternate cap logo, but with his baseball-bat perch replaced with a yellow hockey stick. The Blues logo returns as a patch on the left sleeve. Red/white/blue back numbers complete the look with a blue name on back.

© GameWornGuides.com

2019 Blues NHL Hockey-Style Batting Practice

Whomever gets to design these Cardinals hockey jerseys must be allowed quite a bit of artistic freedom, as these special batting practice togs are different every single year. Worn on September 13, here's the fifth incarnation of the tribute to the St. Louis Blues, a navy pullover with red shoulders, and white/blue/red stripes on sleeves and body. The Majestic full-weight knits cop the Cardinal's alternate "St. Louis" bird on a bat logo for front decoration, with red/blue/white numbers on back below a white player name. Once again, the Blues' own music-note logo adorns the left sleeve. The Cardinals were quite committed to this promotion, even if it was only worn before the games began. One wonders if the MLB mandate that players tuck in their jerseys prevented this one from being worn on the field during a game.

© GameWornGuides.com

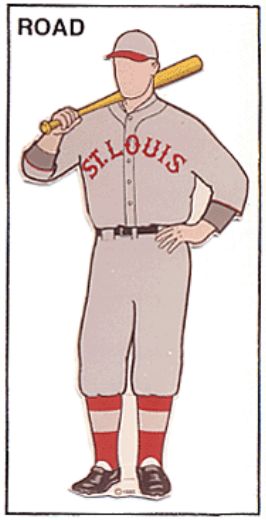
2020 Unused Field of Dreams Game

Team Issued Jersey

Hologram number **VT180307**

Event	
Cardinals Club Authentication	
Date	
Mar 15, 2022	
Additional Information	
Grey St. Louis Cardinals 1920-1921 style road Jersey	

MLB's annual Field of Dreams game, in which two teams play a regular season game in Dyersville, Iowa, adjacent to the shooting location of the famous film, was supposed to debut in 2020 with a showdown between the White Sox and Yankees. After being postponed because of COVID, the Cardinals were named to replace the Yankees since games in the shortened season were scheduled only between teams in the same divisions across both leagues. After an outbreak of COVID-19 among Cardinals coaches, the game was canceled and made its first appearance in 2021 instead, with the original White Sox and Yankees match up. This Cardinals throwback was most likely made for the canceled 2020 affair. Described by MLB authentications as "1920-1921 style" these Cool Base material jerseys feature "St. Louis" arched across the front in red in a font similar to what the Red Sox wear today. A handful of these jerseys were sold by the Cardinals Authentics shop, but none feature any back numbering or lettering so we do not know for sure how that would have looked. Based on Marc Okkonen's research, these are reasonably tolerable copies of the originals, though 100 years prior, the jerseys featured a sun collar and red knit trim around the end of the three-quarter sleeves, a style that would not be tolerated by today's players.



Left: *The Cardinals' original 1920-1921 uniforms, courtesy of Marc Okkonen's research. These jerseys were likely chosen to throwback 100 years from the 2020 Field of Dreams game, and to be roughly analogous to the White Sox 1919 jersey from the game, and the film. These plain jerseys gave way to a radical 1922 design that, for the very first time, featured the legendary "birds on bat" logo, some version of which has appeared on almost every Cardinals jersey to this very day.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2022 Unused St. Patrick's Day

Steve Kraljic collection

Offered here are 2022 green Cardinals St. Patrick's Day jerseys, which were made for the team but we believe were not worn. Spring Training was delayed that season during labor negotiations. Though games started on March 17 for some teams, the Cards' first spring game of 2022 was on March 18. As a result, even though Nike made up a full set of these, we believe that they were scrapped when the Cards started a day too late for them to be worn.

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Footnote: Jason Scott's Collection of Cardinals Turn Back the Clock Jerseys

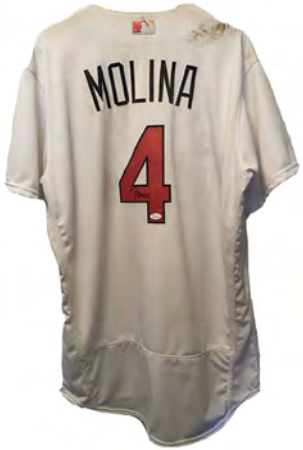
Cardinals collector Jason Scott has an incredible collection of Cards memorabilia, including this complete run of Cardinals TBTC jerseys. (These photos were taken at the end of the 2015 season, so it represents all of the Cards' throwbacks through that year.) Many of these jerseys are quite hard to find, so assembling the full collection is quite a feat!

Many of the photos in this chapter feature items from Jason's collection, and he has been extremely generous sharing his time and expertise, helping update and edit this chapter.

© GameWornGuides.com

Yadier Molina Prefers Full-Weight Knits...

This fact was called to our attention by reader Michael Roman. It seems that catcher Yadier Molina seems to prefer wearing full-weight knit jerseys (top) instead of the standard issue Flex Base ones (bottom left), and the team caters to his wishes. Notice the old-style construction with the heavier fabric and without the side vents and breathable tail. His full-weight jersey receives old-style tagging on the tail as well. The tradition continued even with jerseys made by Nike in 2021 ***(above)*** and 2022.This special modification does not seem to have extended to one-off holiday jerseys like the 2016 Mothers Day and Memorial Day jerseys ***(below)*** which are Flex Base.



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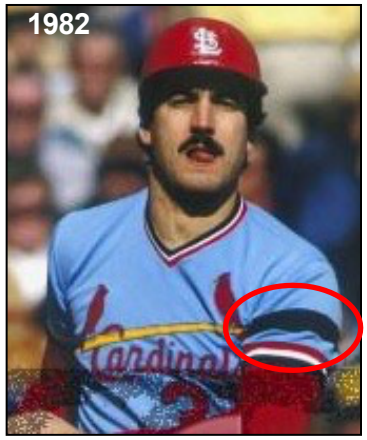
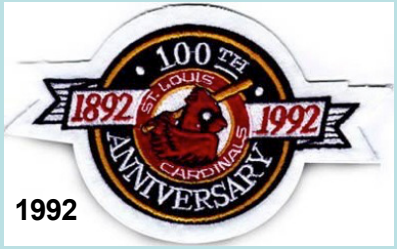
Commemorative Patches

Cardinals Patches



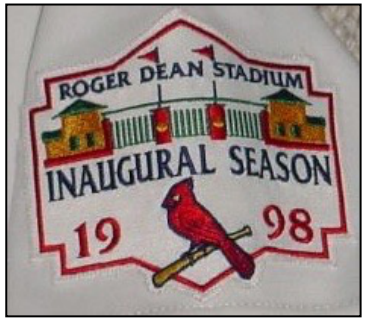


The Fine Print: In earlier editions of this book I had incorrectly listed the AAB JR patch as being from 1989. I was certain of this, since several photos in my collection clearly show the patch on jerseys with 1989 year tags. I was corrected by Cardinals' collector Bob Bower, who noted that the patch was worn in 1990. The "evidence" I had collected pointed instead to another fact: that the Cardinals were still heavily recycling game jerseys into the next season as late as the early 1990s!

1997-1998-1999 MDA Patches

- 1982, after September 7: Black armband for Ken Boyer
- 1989, September 29-October 1: Black armband for August A. Busch, Jr.
- 1990: AAB JR on sleeve, memorial for Augustus Bush (letters machine embroidered on a white or gray poly knit rectangle, then sewn to the sleeve), also black armband on BP jerseys
- 1992: 100th Anniversary of Cardinals
- 1996: Busch Stadium 30 Years (home jerseys only)
- 1997-1999:The Cardinals wore Muscular Dystrophy/Cardinals Care patches on Labor Day games *only in these years*.
- 1997 Spring Training: Thank You,
- St. Petersburg
- 1998 Spring Training: Roger Dean Stadium
- 2002, after June 18: JFB for broadcaster Jack Buck on right sleeve
- 2002, after June 22: DK 57 disk for Darryl Kyle on left sleeve

1997 Spring Training



1998 Spring Training

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2005

2006

2007

2007, after April 29

2009

2011, June 17-19

2012

2013

2015

April 17, 2015

- 2005: Busch Stadium Final Season
- 2006: New Busch Stadium Inaugural Season (Home uniform only)
- 2007: “World Series Champs 2006” worn on home jerseys
- 2007, after April 29: #32 memorial disc for Josh Hancock
- 2009: All Star Game patch
- 2011, June 17-19: Both the Royals and Cardinals wore patches during their interleague series that remembered the May 22 tornado that struck Joplin, Missouri, killing more than150 people. The patches feature an outline of the state of Missouri, both teams' logos and the words "TEAMS UNITE FOR JOPLIN"
- 2012: “2011 World Series Champs” on home uniform only
- 2013: Stan Musial “6” memorial patch, three versions for the three uniform colors
- 2015: OT Memorial on left sleeve for Oscar Taveras
- 2015, April 17: Red Schoendienst “70 Years in Uniform and Counting”

This 2017 125th Anniversary patch was found on retail-sale Spring Training jerseys, but they were not worn by the team on the field. Strictly a souvenir fan-item.

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Aug. 20, 2017

2020, starting September 11

2018, starting June 11

2021

Feb. 23, 2018

2022, through April 19

- 2017, August 20: Little League Classic patch on Players Weekend jersey
- 2018, February 23: MSD oval for Marjorie Stoneman Douglas school shooting
- 2018, starting June 11: Memorial for Red Schoendienst, made in white, gray, and cream to match each jersey color.
- 2020, starting September 11: Lou Brock memorial patch, left sleeve, made in white, gray, cream, and powder blue to match each jersey color.
- 2021: Bob Gibson memorial patch, left sleeve, made in white, gray, cream, and powder blue to match each jersey color.
- 2022, through April 19: Bruce Sutter memorial, left sleeve, made in white, gray, and cream to match each jersey color
- 2023, June 24-25: MLB World Tour London Series patch for games in London

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2024: The Whitey Herzog Memorial Patch Saga

cardinalsuniformsandlogos.com

Hall of Famer and legendary former Cardinals manager Whitey Herzog died on April 15, 2024. As the beloved architect of the team's 1982 World Series championship season, Herzog seemed like a likely figure to be honored with a memorial patch The Cardinals essentially standardized their memorials for team legends starting in 2013, using a circle patch with a wide, red border, and the honoree's uniform number overlaid with his autograph on a background that matched each of the team's different jersey colors. As expected, the Cardinals added such a memorial for Herzog starting on May 17.

What was not expected this time around was the use of a heat-pressed, printed decal of sorts on each uniform sleeve. For a team that works hard to adhere to tradition and old-time flourishes, like chainstitch embroidery, the printed patch seemed very modern, and perhaps even cheap as a result. Over the course of the next five weeks, these heat-pressed "patches" remained, and were likely not noticed by many to be any different from memorials of the past. However, eagle-eyed Cardinals uniform and logo historian Oliver Kodner, who runs the invaluable Cardinals Uniforms and Logos blog and website (cardinalsuniformsandlogos.com), caught on, and also noticed that the decal used on the road gray jerseys was either the white version, or the gray background was so light that it appeared white in comparison.

The heat-pressed version on the gray road uniform, which looks like it has a white background, or a gray background so light it appears white against the jersey.

However, when the Cardinals took to the field on June 22, the heat-pressed memorial had been replaced by a new, embroidered version of the patch. Similar to other patches used on 2024 Nike Vapor Premier Elite uniforms, it was not as thick or richly embroidered as patches of the past, but it was still an upgrade from the thin, rubbery decal of weeks prior.

Now that the Cardinals have added a red City Connect jersey, they have included this colorway as a fifth version of memorial patches, keyed to the colors used on the new jersey set. Artwork for all five versions, as originally presented on Kodner's site, are presented here.

Temporary, heat-pressed sponsor "patches" for one-off special events, like MLB World Tour games in different countries, are one thing. But one hopes this will be the first and last time any team chooses to honor one of its legends in this manner.

We have yet to see a 2024 Cardinals jersey "in the cloth" with the heat-pressed patch. Perhaps they were taken out of circulation, or the decal was covered with the embroidered patch? Any info would be greatly appreciated. .

Heat-pressed style
May 17–June 21, 2024

Embroidered style
2024, starting June 22

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2023-2025 Cardinals Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Cardinals struck a sponsor patch deal with Stifel, a financial services company. The patches first appeared on May 2, 2023.

There are five versions of the ad patch, each designed to match the base color of the team's home, home alternate, road, powder blue, and City Connect jerseys. The patch features the word "STIFEL" in red, outlined in navy, except on the City Connect version, where it is white outlined in navy.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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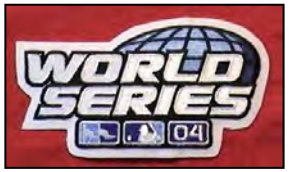
Cardinals Postseason Patches

1987 World Series (right sleeve)

2011 World Series (left sleeve)



2004 World Series (right sleeve)

2013 NL Division Series

2013 NL Championship Series (right sleeve)

2006 World Series (right sleeve)

2013 World Series (right sleeve)

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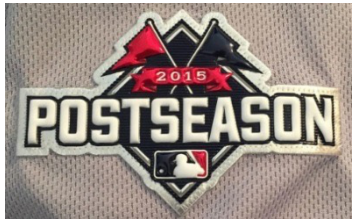
Cardinals Postseason Patches Continued

2014 NL Division Series
2014 NL Championship Series (right sleeve)



2015 NL Division Series (right sleeve)

2019 NL Division Series,
2019 NL Championship Series (right sleeve, above MLB150 patch)

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Letter of Restoration/Professional Opinion

Dwain Anderson 1972 St. Louis Cardinals Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 6, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0106J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home pullover with rounded crew-neck, white body with flat tails (both typical for 1972) Rawlings size 42 (tagged and measured) St. Louis Cardinals jersey of Cardinal backup infielder Dwain Anderson. Red/white/Navy sewn in crew neck trim and 1 1/2" sewn-in sleeve-end knit trim. The size of this jersey is reasonable for the player. The Cardinals team wordmark logo with two cardinals sitting on a bat with "Cardinals" scripted directly underneath in a cursive custom team font is all-directly chain stitched in red, navy and gold. Number "19" in red outlined in Navy two layer tackle twill, is direct-sewn on the front and centered on the back. As received, the ghost of the removed name ANDERSON is clearly visible on the light table. All fonts/outline widths are correct, matching the period Rawlings Cardinals template.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings size 42 red-label manufacturer tag correct for 1972 (first year of use of this style tag) is sewn on the front inside tail of the jersey. This tagging matches exemplars for team-issued 1972 Cardinals jerseys. There is no flag tag designating the year or set, and it does not appear that one was ever present. While there is no year tagging, Anderson played on the Cardinals in only 1972-1973, and in 1973 team jerseys changed to a V-Neck, isolating the year of issue to 1972 for this one.

Wear & Repairs A light table examination reveals that player numbers are original without change or contrivance. Showing extensive use, with ground in dirt stains above the waist noted on front, besides missing the player name on back, the top (red) layer of the back numbers was in tatters. As was the practice then, the Cardinals typically sent their used MLB uniforms to the minors for re-use, and player names were stripped for their use there. There are no signs of any repairs, and it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed excessively, causing moderate fading to the embroidery of the Cardinals crest on front. There is notable puckering of the fabric around and behind the team front crest from hot water washing. Numbers and letters on the jersey show signs of puckering, burnishing and faded and loose threads around the edges from repeated wash and wear.

Restoration performed: In an effort to preserve originality as much as possible, its owner decided to replace only the top (red) layer of the back numbers. The player name was lifted from using the ghosts seen on the light table and matched to the 1972 Cardinals player name font. The name was re-cut along with the top layer of the back numbers, and they were were aggressively media blasted to make them better match the color and patina of the front lettering. All lettering was stitched in place with suitably faded thread to match the appearance of extreme wash-wear.

Continued on next page

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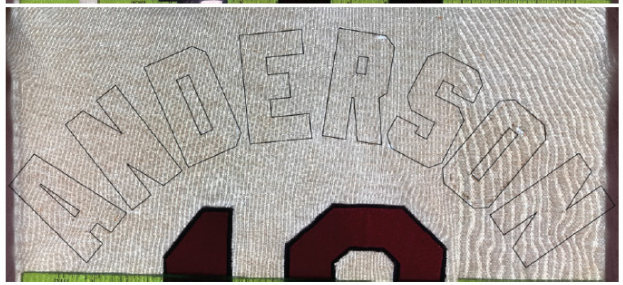

Top, as received. Below, the light table images of the name on back ghosts that were used in the accurate restoration.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits very heavy use and wash wear, and noting the accurate restoration of the back name and numbers as described, appears to have no other alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was worn by Dwain Anderson of the St. Louis Cardinals during the 1972 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Ted Simmons 1977 St. Louis Cardinals Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 6, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0706J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road-style, Columbia Blue Rawlings size 42 (tagged and measured) V-neck pullover St. Louis Cardinals jersey of Cardinal' catcher Ted Simmons. Red/white/Navy sewn in v-neck and 1 1/2" sewn-in sleeve-end knit trim. Simmons alternated between size 42 and 44 jerseys at this stage of his career. The Cardinals team wordmark logo with two cardinals sitting on a bat with "Cardinals" scripted directly underneath in a cursive custom team font is all-directly chain stitched in red, navy and gold. Number "23" in red outlined in Navy two layer tackle twill, is direct-sewn on the front, and also below the radially arched name "SIMMONS" on the back. Jersey is signed by Simmons on the front below the numbers (I have no professional opinion on the signature). All fonts/outline widths are correct, matching the period Rawlings Cardinals template.

Simmons is considered one of the best hitting catchers in MLB history. In 1977, Simmons appeared in 150 games for the Cardinals, hitting .318 in 516 at bats with 21 home runs. In his 21 year career, he played the first 13 years for the Cardinals. At the time of his retirement, Simmons led all catchers in career hits and doubles and ranked second in RBIs behind Yogi Berra and second in total bases behind Carlton Fisk. He also retired with the National League record for home runs by a switch-hitter despite playing several years in the American League. Simmons hit .300 seven different times, hit 20 home runs six times, and caught 122 shutouts, eighth-most all-time. He was elected into the Baseball Hall of Fame in December 2019. On July 31, 2021, he was honored by the Cardinals with the retirement of his jersey number along with the dedicattion of a statue. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings size 42 red-label manufacturer tag correct for 1977 is sewn on the front inside tail of the jersey. A flag tag "Set 1 1977" is pinch sewn under the right border. This tagging matches exemplars for team-issued 1977 Cardinals jerseys.

Wear & Repairs A light table examination reveals that all lettering is original without change or contrivance. There are no signs of any repairs, and it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times, though all stitching remains bright and tight. There is notable puckering of the fabric around the team front crest from hot water washing. Numbers and letters on the jersey show signs of puckering, burnishing and loose threads around the edges from repeated wash and wear. The tops of the shoulders and the lower sides show some extra wear: ground in dirt and fabric pulls typically related to the wearing of catcher's equipment.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits strong use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was issued to and worn by Hall of Fame catcher Ted Simmons of the St. Louis Cardinals during the 1977 season.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Pete Vuckovich 1978 St. Louis Cardinals Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date:April 27, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0427J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: St. Louis Cardinals size 46 with 2" extra length tailoring marked and measured), road Columbia Blue Rawlings jersey of pitcher Pete Vukovich. Heavyweight knit pullover with 2" red/white/blue banded knit trim on both sleeve ends and 1" ribbed knit trim around the v-neck. The Cardinals "Birds on a Bat" wordmark is fully chain-stitched on the front in red, navy and bright yellow. The number "46" is sewn on the left chest and on back, and the player's name is steeply arched, all in red outlined with navy. All the lettering fonts, sizes and outline thicknesses are correct for the 1978 Cardinals, following the team template exactly. Vuckovich preferred jerseys with extra-length tailoring this, from his first-year on the Cardinals, is marked for 2" extra length, but it is actually 3" longer with a 37" back tail.

Pete Vukovich, 6' 4" 220 lbs, enjoyed an 11 year MLB career with the White Sox, Blue Jays, Cardinals and Brewers. In 1978 he went 15-12 for the Cardinals, appearing in 45 games and finishing with a very respectable 2.54 ERA. (*Baseball Almanac*) Despite a notable career as a professional baseball player, he is known in popular culture mainly for his role as fictional Yankees slugger Clu Haywood, the chief nemesis of Charlie Sheen's character Ricky Vaughn, in the popular 1989 film *Major League. (Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The red Rawlings locker tag (1972-1984 style) is sewn inside the front left tail. A small white flag tag is sewn underneath and to the right; "SET 1 1978". A second flag tab below reads "2 INCHES EXTRA LENGTH" This jersey's year of issue pre-dates manufacturer logos being sewn on sleeves, and authentic-spec team jerseys being available for retail sale. Cardinals jerseys from this period were not player-tagged.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original to the jersey, which is free of repairs of contrivances. The jersey is in very good condition and shows wash wear and use consistent with what one would expect from a season's use by a pitcher. There are signs of minor puckering of the embroidery and lettering and fading of the outline thread of the lettering caused by washing. The tails are somewhat dirty from use and storage as are the tops of the sleeves. Several narrow brown vertical stripes and spots on the front could be from tobacco juice.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and appears to have no other alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Cardinals' pitcher Pete Vuckovich during the 1978 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/ Letter of Restoration

Pete Vuckovich 1979 St. Louis Cardinals Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: June 15, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0615J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: St. Louis Cardinals size 46 with 3" extra length (marked and measured), home white Rawlings jersey of pitcher Pete Vukovich. heavyweight knit pullover with 2" red/white/blue banded knit trim on both sleeve ends and 1" ribbed knit trim around the v-neck. The Cardinals "Birds on a Bat" wordmark is fully chain-stitched on the front in red, navy and bright yellow. In 1979-1980 the Cardinals temporarily abandoned their traditional front numbers and instead added small numbers on both sleeves. Player name sewn on the back in a steep arch above the numbers, with player numbers on both sleeves, all in red over Navy Blue.

Pete Vukovich, (6' 4" 220 lbs.), enjoyed an 11 year MLB career with the White Sox, Blue Jays, Cardinals and Brewers. In 1978 he appeared in 34 games, all as a starter, for the Cardinals and went 15-10, and finishing with a 3.40 ERA. (*Baseball Almanac*) Despite a notable career as a professional baseball player, he is known in popular culture mainly for his role as fictional Yankees slugger Clu Haywood, the chief nemesis of Charlie Sheen's character Ricky Vaughn, in the popular 1989 film *Major League. (Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The red Rawlings locker tag (1972-1984 style) is sewn inside the front left tail, displaying the size as 46. A small white flag tag is sewn to the right; "SET 1 1979" with a second tag above reading "3 inch extra length". This jersey's year of issue pre-dates manufacturer logos being sewn on sleeves, and also pre-dates team-spec jerseys being available for retail sale. Cardinals jerseys from this period were not player-tagged.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey had been treated to a well meaning but amateurish restoration. The original numbers had been stripped from the back and sleeves, as had the player name on back. Replacement lettering was sewn in its place, but using incorrect fonts and not directly over the ghost outlines of the original lettering. For good measure, front numbers were added; these had never been there in the first place.

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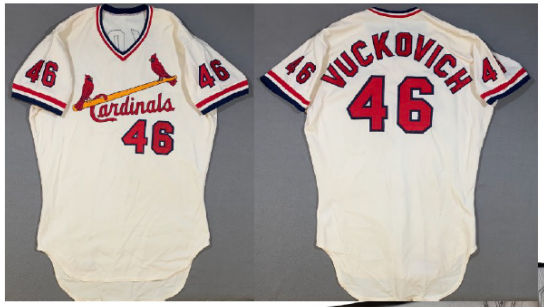
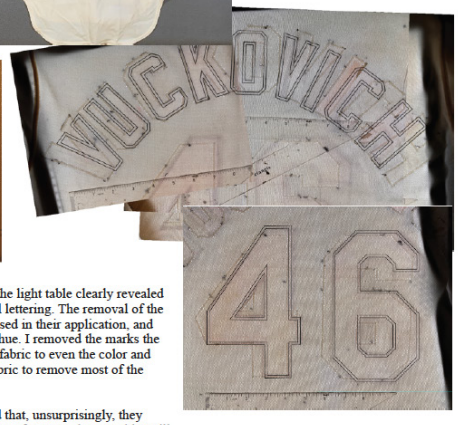


At left, as received, with incorrect lettering plus the incorrect addition of front number that were never present as originally issued. Below, after being stripped the superimposed team fonts match the ghosts remaining on the fabric from the original lettering.



The removal of the incorrect lettering and placement on the light table clearly revealed the proper size, shape and placement of all of the original lettering. The removal of the incorrect lettering left some staining from the glue/heat used in their application, and the white jersey body itself was stained a pale yellowish hue. I removed the marks the best I could and followed by lightly bleaching the jersey fabric to even the color and lighten the yellowing, then laundered and steamed the fabric to remove most of the marks from the incorrectly-applied lettering.

Superimposing the official team fonts from 1979, I found that, unsurprisingly, they covered the original ghosts perfectly. I cut and stitched them from two-layer tackle twill using the same materials and methods as would have been employed in 1979.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that besides the formerly-incorrect lettering, the garment itself is free of repairs of contrivances. The jersey is in good condition and shows wash wear and use consistent with what one would expect from a season's use by a pitcher. There is significant puckering of the Cardinals front crest embroidery caused by overly-hot-water washing. But all embroidery is still intact and bright without fading. Now, placing the garment on the light table, the impressions of the mis-applied lettering from the prior restoration are still somewhat visible.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tailored, tagged and lettered; player lettering has been professionally restored to the original appearance. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and has no other alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Cardinals' pitcher Pete Vuckovich during the 1979 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mark McGwire 1998 Autographed Home Game Jersey and 1999 Pants

Examination Date: November 27. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1127J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: St. Louis Cardinals 1998 Home white jersey, Mark McGwire #25. Rawlings-made, size 52, six-button front with special flat-bottomed tails and extra-length sleeves as used by McGwire. One-year only 1998 front "birds on a bat" design; birds have red beaks (not yellow), yellow eyes, and Navy feet (not yellow). 1998 jerseys also were used minus front numbers, a change after many decades. On back, the player's number, 25 and name, "McGwire" both in red over navy layered twill, using the unique and correct fonts/outline widths of the St. Louis Cardinals. The name is correctly arched and sewn to a surged edge knit plate. The jersey is autographed in blue Sharpie on the front left chest, and has a MLB serialized hologram on it that links it to a 2004 signing event. (I offer no opinions on the authenticity of autographs.)

It is accompanied by a pair of Rawlings Cardinals home pants, 1999 year tagged for McGwire. With a 36" waist and 39" length, the pants are a reasonable size for the 6' 5" player and show good wear.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings locker tag, correct for 1998 is sewn inside the front left tail. Pinched under the right side of the tag is a flag tab, "Set 1 1998". Pinched under the bottom of the tag in the center is a size 52 flag tab. No Rawlings sleeve logo, as contractually restricted in 1998. The tagging style matches exemplars and is correct for 1998. There are two Steiner hologram tags adhered to the team tagging, though neither is serialized, and no accompanying Steiner certificates were provided to me.

The pants have the sewn Rawlings locker tag and strip tagging inside the waist, machine embroidered as "McGWIRE 25 36-39 37 99 1"

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Jerseys

Hologram number **MT00441471**

Wear & Repairs: This jersey had been professionally tailored at the time of manufacture to have a flat-tailed bottom, as McGwire preferred his jerseys to be made. It also has sleeves that are at least 2" longer than normal, though neither of these modifications is noted with any special tagging on the garment. It shows signs of moderate wear, especially in the puckering of the chain-stitched embroidered front team mark, and in the notable puckering of the twill lettering on back. The fabric is soft and moderately weathered, and slightly grayed indicative of use and repeat laundering. There are a few accidental black marker dots on outside of the jersey near the location of the team tagging. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations.

Comments: 1998 was a historic year for McGwire and MLB, as it was the year that McGwire broke Roger Maris' single-season home run record that had stood for four and a half decades, ending the season with 70 home runs. The home run race between McGwire, Sammy Sosa and Ken Griffey Jr. was watched avidly all season by sports fans, and many credit this spectacle with helping revive the popularity of MLB that had been damaged by the players' strike of 1994-1995. The collector market was flooded with McGwire "game worn" jerseys in the years that followed, some real, many not. Photo matching 1998 McGwire jerseys is not easy, and the effort was not attempted with this authentication. But consider the following facts that bear consideration: The jersey is the proper size and has McGwire's customer tailoring. It shows clear signs of use and wash/wear, and it has been autographed after that wear occurred. It has a serialized MLB hologram certifying when it was signed.

Conclusion: This jersey is the proper size for the player with all custom tailoring. It has correct team tagging and shows signs of use and wear. It has an MLB certification of its signature. While without further photo research and provenance, it is not realistic to positively certify this as "McGwire game used", It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Mark McGwire of the St. Louis Cardinals.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Jim Edmonds St. Louis Cardinals 2004 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 16, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0316J01R

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic size 48 six-button, full-weight knit St. Louis Cardinals home jersey of outfielder Jim Edmonds. Direct embroidered birds-on-a-bat team wordmark on front in red, gold and Navy Blue, in the proper style for these years. Edmonds' #15 is below in the correct font and size in red outlined with Navy Blue. On back in the same colors is the player number with his name above, sewn on a surged-edge nameplate. Birds on bat detail is correct for 2004. All fonts are correct for the 2004 Cardinals. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in red, white and blue is properly stitched to the center of the back of the neck. The jersey is autographed in black Sharpie on the lower right front tail with the inscription "Jimmy Ballgame" below. I have no opinion on the autograph. There is a JSA certification sticker on the inside of the jersey on the reverse of the locker tag validating the autograph, but no matching certificate was provided.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Edmonds played for the Cardinals 2000-2007. While there is no team or year tagging on this jersey, we can narrow down its year of issue by the lack of sleeve patches and the fact that it is made by Majestic. 2003 and 2004 are the only two years that meet these criteria. Notably, the Cardinals year tagged only occasionally in 2004. The Majestic "M" logo is direct embroidered on the end of the left sleeve in red. Authentic Collection locker tag in the proper style for these years is stitched to the outside lower left tail. Centered on the bottom of the tag, a flag-tab is pinch-sewn beneath showing the size as 48, correct for Edmonds' use. On the inside side seam is Majestic's style tag, which designates this jersey as 0062: the correct code for team-spec issue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching on this jersey is original and without alteration or contrivance. The jersey is in very good condition but has clearly been worn and washed multiple times. The fabric is softened and there are many tiny pulls and piling on the fabric indicative of use. The inside-seam tagging is similarly faded and wrinkled.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jim Edmonds of the St. Louis Cardinals in 2004.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
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Letter of Professional Opinion

Albert Pujols St. Louis Cardinals 2002 Autographed Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: September 29, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0929J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings size 48 six-button, full-weight knit St. Louis Cardinals home jersey of 3B/LF/RF Albert Pujols in his second year of MLB service. Direct embroidered birds-on-a-bat team wordmark on front in red, gold and Navy Blue, in the proper style for this year. Pujols' #5 is below in the correct font and size in red outlined with Navy Blue. On back in the same colors is the player number with his name above, sewn on a serged-edge nameplate stitched to the jersey. All Cardinals specific fonts/sizes/outline widths are correct. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in red, white and blue is properly stitched to the center of the back of the neck. The jersey is autographed in black Sharpie on the back between the nameplate and the player numbers, "A. Pujols 05". (I have no professional opinion on the autograph.) There are two sleeve patches on this jersey. On the left is the JFB memorial patch for broadcaster Joe Buck. On the right is the DK57 memorial disk for pitched Darryl Kyle. Both of these patches were added to Cardinals jerseys in late June of 2002.

Pujols played for the Cardinals 2001-2011. In his rookie season of 2000, He was unanimously named the NL Rookie of the Year after setting an NL rookie record with 130 RBI (fifth in the league) and becoming the fourth MLB rookie to hit .300 with 30 home runs, 100 runs and 100 RBI. (*Wikipedia*) In 2002, he batted .314 with 34 home runs including two grand slams.

Provenance: The jersey is accompanied by a signed letter dated 6/8/21, from private collector Ric Anello , claiming that the jersey had been purchased by him from Todd Perry, CEO of the Pujols Foundation. The letter is signed by Anello alone.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings "Oval R" logo is direct embroidered on the end of the left sleeve in red. The Rawlings Authentic Collection locker tag in the proper style for 2002 is stitched correctly to the inside of the lower left tail. Centered on the bottom of the tag, a flag-tab is pinch-sewn beneath showing the size as 48, correct for Edmonds' use. Pinch-sewn on the right side of the tag is a well-worn, frayed flag tab, "SET 1 2002".

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching on this jersey is original and without alteration or contrivance. It shows moderate wear with a few small fabric pulls and clearly was regularly used. All stitching remains tight and the embroidery and fabrics are clean and bright.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good, game-worn condition, is the proper size and is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was worn by Albert Pujols of the St. Louis Cardinals in 2002.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Scott Rolen 2005 St. Louis Cardinals Green "St. Patty's Day" Game Worn Jersey, Auto'ed.

Examination Date: May 18, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0518J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Green heavyweight mesh six green button Majestic size 50 (marked and measured) "St. Patrick's Day" jersey of #27, third baseman Scott Rolen. Jersey is autographed on the top of the back number 7. (I have no professional opinion on the autograph.) Chain-stitched "Birds on a Bat" front wordmark is embroidered onto a white knit fabric patch in red, gold and Navy Blue, then the chest patch is sewn to both front panels of the green jersey. No trim, and with red/white/Navy MLB logo Silhouetted Batter patch stitched properly to the back of the neck. On back, Rolen's name and number 27 are stitched in the properly sized and outlined unique Cardinals font, white over Navy. The name is sewn to a properly serged-edge nameplate made of a double layer of the same green mesh fabric.

A comparison to exemplars shows Rolen was wearing size 50 jerseys at this point in his career. The MLB box score shows that this game on March 17, 2005 lasted only 2 1/2 innings before it was cancelled (assumedly by rain). There was not much play that day. I was unable to ascertain if Rolen was in the lineup that day.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic locker tag is stitched to the outer left front tail in the proper style for 2005. A small flag tab noting the sizer as 50 is centered and pinched under the bottom hem of the tag. Next to it is a small white flag tab with 2005 printed on it. The Majestic triple peaks logo is direct embroidered in white to the end of the left sleeve. Inside the garment, a white flag tag is found that carries Majestic's style codes and patent information. This jersey properly has the team-issued style code "0006" that is reserved for team-spec heavyweight mesh fabric jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation does not reveal any alterations to this jersey, and it appears to be without contrivance. It shows very light use, perhaps being washed at most once, as would be appropriate for a single-game-use jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Scott Rolen of the 2005 St. Louis Cardinals.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mark McGwire 1999 Autographed Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: October 18, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1018J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: St. Louis Cardinals 1999 home white jersey, Mark McGwire #25. Rawlings-made, size 52, six-button front with special tailoring noted, 2" shorter length (the jersey is 34" long, normal for a size 50 is 35-36") It also has approximately 2" extra-length sleeves as used by McGwire, but that tailoring is not noted on the tagging. While earlier in his career when he wore a significantly smaller sized jersey and he then wore 2" extra length jerseys, starting around 1997 his jerseys began featured shorter tail tailoring, essentially making them the same length as his early, smaller jerseys were. New for 1999 front "birds on a bat" design; birds yellow beaks, white eyes and no yellow used in the legs. Front numbers returned in 1999 after a two-year absence, now in a new, smaller size than when they last were used. On back, the player's number, 25 and name, "McGwire" both in red over navy layered twill, using the unique and correct sized fonts/ outline widths of the St. Louis Cardinals. The name is correctly arched and sewn to a double-needle serged edge knit plate. The jersey is autographed in black Sharpie on the center of the back, between the name and numbers, adding the number "70" (home runs) (I offer no opinions on the authenticity of autographs.) There is no hologram or serial numbering on this jersey. That MLB program began in 2001. This jersey was presented without provenance.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings locker tag, correct for 1999 is sewn inside the front left tail. Pinched under the right side of the tag is a flag tab, "Set 1 1999". Pinched under the bottom of the tag is a size 52 flag tab, and a 2 inch shorter length tag. No Rawlings sleeve logo, as contractually restricted in 1999. The tagging style matches exemplars and is correct for that year.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs of generally light use. The tagging is still relatively crisp, and there is minimal puckering of embroidery and sewn elements and all stitching is tight. The fabric is still bright white, but it is stained in several places with reddish scuffs of an unidentified substance (resembles lipstick) There are some dirt spots and stains on the sleeves, tail and above the nameplate. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations.

Comments: In 1998 McGwire had broken Roger Maris' single-season home run record that had stood for four and a half decades, ending the season with 70 home runs. In 1999 McGwire appeared in 155 games and hit 65 more home runs while batting .268. It was his fourth consecutive season with 50 or more home runs. Consider the following facts that bear consideration: The jersey is the proper size and has McGwire's customer tailoring. It shows clear signs of use and wash/wear, and it has been autographed after that wear occurred. McGwire game worn jerseys were in great demand, and it would not be unreasonable that this one was worn a handful of times before being retired, autographed and passed to the collector market.

Conclusion: This jersey is the proper size for the player with custom tailoring. A light table examination shows no signs of alteration or contrivance. It has correct team tagging and shows signs of reasonable and appropriate use and wear, for Mark McGwire of the St. Louis Cardinals.

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Chapter 16

Chicago Cubs

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Cubs Uniform History Notes

- Relatively few teams remain as true to their design heritage as the Cubs. Starting with colors, the team has stayed with red, white, and blue since 1916. The circular Cubs logo, while it has had refinements over the years, is easily recognizable from its first use in 1909.
- The current home jersey (as of 2025) is still nearly the same pinstriped model as the home jersey from 1957. To the careful eye, there are actually many small detail changes that differentiate one year from another. Things like the use of front buttons (or not), use of trim, patches, the number of colors used, and the presence of names on the back distinguish one year's jerseys from another.
- Road jerseys on the other hand, change frequently. There are 11 distinct styles of road jerseys used since 1970. While most simply spell out the word "Chicago" on a gray fabric base, there are several oddities worth noting.
- 1972 was a one-year design with flashy red, white, and blue trim at the neck and on the sleeve ends, featuring bold, two-color "Chicago" arched on the front, and an oddly placed central front number on the player's stomach. Overall, these uniforms were attractive, but perhaps they were considered too flashy for a visiting team. Because for 1973, all lettering was once again one-color (blue) on a gray fabric background. The fancy tri-colored knit trim was replaced with plain solid blue. Front numbers remained, but moved to a more traditional location on the left chest.
- In 1976, the road jersey base color changes from gray to powder blue, a trendy pick for the time. This style lasts two seasons.
- In 1978, the fabric was changed to a rather gaudy white-pinstriped powder blue. The Cubs had now become full fledged victims of the disco era, but thankfully, only on the road. At home, tradition still reigned.
- 1982–1989 the Cubs used a solid royal blue pullover "softball style" jersey for road games that looked just like the home jersey with the Cubs' disc on the left chest.
- 1990 reintroduced button-front jerseys for both home and road, and 1990–1993 returned the road jersey to traditional gray with the word "CHICAGO" spelled out, but this time in a straight line with no arch. The 1990 road jersey is a one-year design with short, wide letters that grew taller for 1991–1993.
- For three years (1994–1996), the Cubs tried out both road and alternate jerseys that feature a cursive script of "CUBS" that to critics was almost indistinguishable from the word *"Cuba"* as used on the front of the uniforms of the Cuban National Baseball team. Given the United States' frosty relationship with Cuba, this was not a popular fashion statement, and for 1997, the *Cuba/Cubs* was replaced again with a more traditional design.
- By 1994, the home jersey had lost all sleeve end and neck opening trim, returning in appearance close to the look of the 1970 jersey.
- A blue alternate jersey with a patch on the chest featuring a walking cub is introduced for 1997, and the team wears it frequently both at home and on the road through 2008, before it becomes a strictly road alternate in 2009. Road jerseys continue with "CHICAGO" across the front, with a couple of variations of type font.
- Names on back disappear from home-use jerseys for two years (2005–2006) before making a return.
- In connection with Wrigley Field's 100th anniversary, 2014–2015 brings a nostalgia inspired "mashup" gray road alternate jersey that is worn often, but retired after two seasons.
- The Cubs 2014 centennial year celebration for Wrigley Field and subsequent numerous Turn Back the Clock games meant that they team wore an incredible *17 different* game uniform variations that year combined at home and on the road, leading your author to seriously contemplate whether he had the stamina to compile it for the guide.
- In 2021, the Cubs debuted their City Connect uniform, featuring a navy blue jersey with "Wrigleyville" across the chest. The design drew inspiration from Chicago's municipal flag, incorporating light blue accents and six-pointed stars on the sleeves, along with a custom number font modeled after CTA signage. The uniform aimed to highlight the neighborhood feel of Wrigleyville and the connection between the team and the city's North Side community. It is retired after the 2024 season.
- In 2025, a powder blue button-down alternate jersey is introduced, another nostalgia-inspired outfit that seems to draw inspiration from the Cubs 1976–1981 road colors and Chicago blues era typography. The design includes a sleeve patch shaped like a guitar pick. The ultimate result is a look that rekindles memories of the 1970s Expos.
- For decades, Cubs game jerseys have featured a distinctive, Cubs-specific round number font not used by any other team.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1973-1975 1976-1977

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub Head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub Head	-	Wilson
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub Head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub Head	-	Wilson
1972	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Cubs font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
1973	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
1974	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
1975	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
1976	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Chicago 1976	NL Centennial	Wilson
	Road Light blue	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Chicago 1976	NL Centennial	Wilson
1977	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head/Wrigley armband+	-	Wilson
	Road Light blue	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head/Wrigley armband+	-	Wilson
1978	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
	Road PS Lt Blue	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Cub head	-	Wilson
1979	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road PS Lt Blue	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1980	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road PS Lt Blue	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1981	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road PS Lt Blue	Cubs font 1 color	Cubs font 1 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1982	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color**	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1983	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color**	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1984	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color*	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1985	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color**	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1986	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Wilson
1987	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Rawlings
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Rawlings
1988	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Rawlings
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Rawlings
1989	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Rawlings
	Road Royal Blue	No	Cubs font 1 color	Block 2 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	-	Rawlings

+ Wrigley armband after April 14
* Period game photos seem to show mostly Block style lettering in all years. But, I have verified two sets of 1984 jerseys exist. The ones sewn for the Cubs' playoff appearance in 1984 have Vertically Arched names on back, the regular season versions all appear to have standard Block names.
** It appears that originals have Block standard two-color names. However, there are some in the hobby that have vertically arched names on back. Some of these may have been restored to the whim of the current owner, reflecting the look of the popular 1984 playoff jerseys.

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Continues onward

Continues onward

Cubs Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1990	Home PS	No	Cubs font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	All Star Game	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Cubs Font 3 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Round Frowning Cub	All Star Game	Rawlings
1991	Home PS	No	Cubs Font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Cubs Font 3 color	Cubs Font 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	Round Frowning Cub	Rawlings
1992	Home PS	No	Cubs Font 1 color	No	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Cubs Font 3 color	Cubs Font 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	Round Frowning Cub	Russell
1993	Home PS	No	Cubs Font 2 color	Block 2 color	-	Round Frowning Cub	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Cubs Font 3 color	Cubs Font 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	Round Frowning Cub	Russell
1994	Home PS	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	MLB 125th	Russell
	Road Gray	Cubs Font 3 color	Cubs Font 3 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	MLB 125th	Russell
	Royal Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home PS	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Cubs Font 3 color	Cubs Font 3 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	-	Russell
	Royal Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	-	Russell
1996	Home PS	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Cubs Font 3 color	Cubs Font 3 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	-	Russell
	Royal Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	New Frowning Cub	-	Russell
1997	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Jackie Robinson	NL Crest	Russell
1998	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub/Hey hey*	Harry Carey Disc	Russell
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub/Hey hey*	Harry Carey Disc	Russell
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Harry Carey Disc	NL Crest/Hey Hey*	Russell

* Hey Hey patch added after August 6

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1997-2025

1997-2025

1999-2025

2014-2015

*** Russell jerseys tagged "2000" may have been leftover 1999 and re-tagged, since Majestic became the Cubs supplier in 2000.
**** The home and road blue alternate jerseys are identical, EXCEPT that the set used for home jerseys have no names on the back! When used on the road, the set with player names on back (NOB) is used.
***** The Cubs did not wear their alternate blue jerseys at all in the 2007 season, and we have now seen at least one 2007 year tagged blue alternate jersey, so apparently the team made some. Any jersey tagged "2007" might be team issued but cannot be game worn.

Cubs Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1999	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Russell
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Russell
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Russell
2000	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic/Russell***
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2001	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2002	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2003	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2004	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Blue Alt	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2005	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	No	-	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue HOME****	No	Cubs font 2 color	No		-	NL Crest	Majestic
	Alt Blue ROAD****	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2006	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	No	-	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue HOME****	No	Cubs font 2 color	No	-	-	NL Crest	Majestic
	Alt Blue ROAD****	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2007	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue*****	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2008	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2009	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2010	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2011	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	10 disc (Santo memorial)	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	10 disc (Santo memorial)	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	10 disc (Santo memorial)	NL Crest	Majestic
2012	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2013	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub		Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub		Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2014	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	Wrigley Field 100 Years	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub		Majestic
	Alt Road	special font 2 color	special font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub		Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2015	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	14- Ernie Banks Memorial	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	14- Ernie Banks Memorial	Majestic
	Alt Road	special font 2 color	special font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	14- Ernie Banks Memorial	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	14- Ernie Banks Memorial	NL Crest	Majestic
2016	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	Anniversary Patch	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Anniversary Patch	NL Crest	Majestic
2017	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2018	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Majestic
2019	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary/ NL Crest	Majestic
2020	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Nike

Change to Flex Base

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These three styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Cubs Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	No	Chicago Y Patch	-	Nike
2022	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Crest	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	No	Chicago Y Patch	-	Nike
2023	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub	-	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	No	Chicago Y Patch	-	Nike
2024	Home	No	New Cubs font 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub‡	Motorola Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Road	New Cubs Font 2 color (no perf)	New Cubs font 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub‡	Motorola Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	New Cubs font 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	-	Motorola Ad patch‡*	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 1 color (perf)	2" Custom 1 color	No	Chicago Y Patch‡	Motorola Ad patch‡*	Nike
2025	Home	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road	Cubs Font 2 color	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Walking Cub‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	Cubs font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue	Fancy 2 color	Fancy 2 color	Fancy 2 color	No	Guitar pick patch‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike

*Starting August 1

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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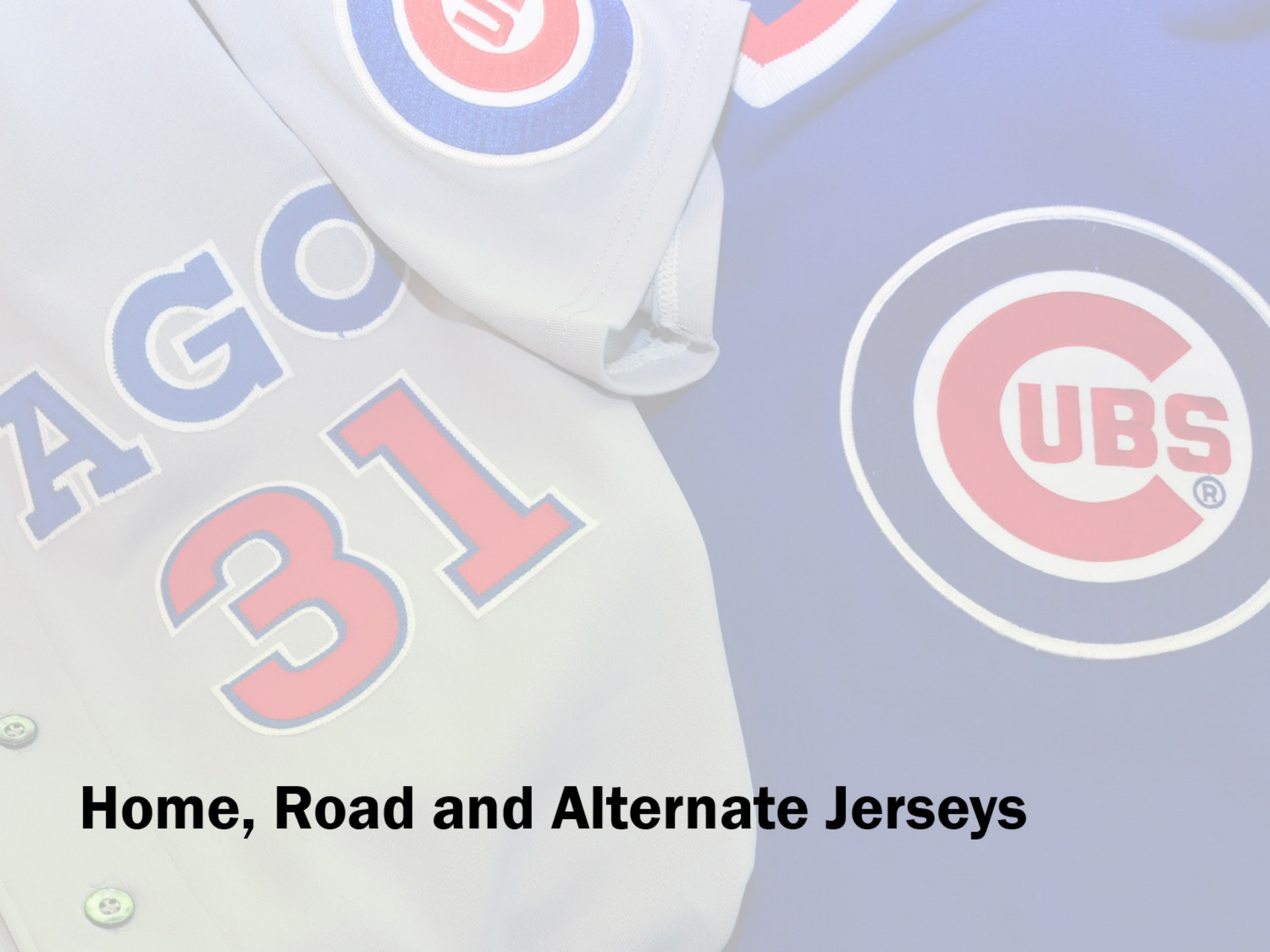

Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home

1971

- Like those of the Dodgers, Yankees, and Tigers, the Cubs' home uniform is a sacred design that seems untouchable to the whims of changing styles.
- Though it has undergone some refinements through the years, the round, recognizable Cubs disc has been on the left chest of the team's home uniforms since 1937.
- 1971 is the Cubs' last year in flannels. The home jersey is a white pinstripe button-front, devoid of any knit trim and featuring the Cubs' cartoon mascot on the left sleeve.
- "Cubs Style" numbers are used on the back—a distinctive, yet plain, font that the club has used for decades and continues to use through 2025.

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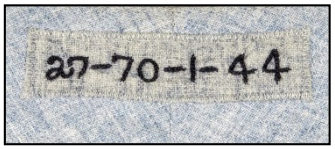
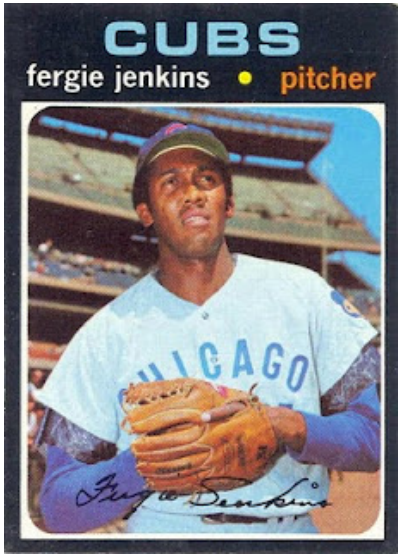
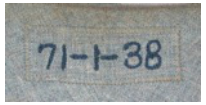
1970-1971 Road







- While Cubs home jerseys are sacrosanct and have kept the same basic design for decades, the Cubs frequently change their road jerseys.
- The 1970–1971 flannel road jersey features plain blue lettering on light blue fabric. It is introduced in 1969 and changes again after 1971.
- “Cubs Style” numbers appear on both front and back, single-color (blue), with no player name on back

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1972-1978 Home

1976

1972

1973

In 1972, the Cubs switch to double knits, along with most other teams in MLB. The home jersey becomes a pullover, replacing the traditional button front, with wide royal blue sleeve-end trim and a royal blue V-neck. Blue pinstripes, and the familiar Cubs disc on the left chest. Identify by the tan/blue Cub patch on the sleeve, and the narrow 3/8" blue border around the Cubs crest on the front. One-color royal blue numbers appear on the back only, in the special Cubs number font. No player names are used.

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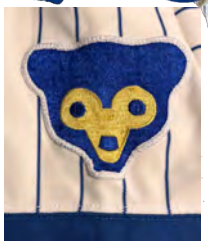
1972-1978 Home, continued

1977



Derek Teets Collection

1978

Cubs jerseys are consistently tagged during the lengthy Wilson era. A detailed tag (usually player number, year, set, size) is sewn inside the collar. A small square with the year is sewn on the outside bottom of the shirt tail.

1978

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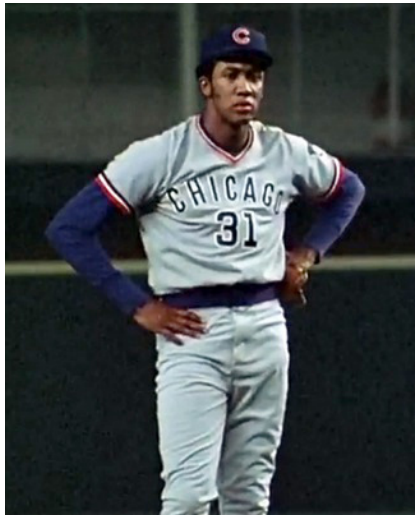
1972 Road



- As much as the Cubs' home jerseys are untouched by change, the team's road jerseys change every few years.
- 1972 is the team's first year in double knits, and, like the home jersey, the road version switches to a pullover design.
- Blue/white/red knit trim appears on the sleeve ends and at the neck.
- While "Chicago" remains arched across the front and Cubs-style numbers appear on both front and back, the numbers are now two-color blue/white.
- The front numbers are placed almost in a football-style position, centered in the middle of the jersey.
- The cartoon Cub patch appears on the left sleeve. No names on the back.

© GameWornGuides.com

1973-1975 Road

1974

1973

1973

After just one season, the road jersey changes again in 1973. The new design closely resembles a pullover version of the 1971 button-front flannel road jersey. It is plainer, with the blue/white/red trim replaced by simple one-color blue. Cubs-font front numbers return to the left chest, with single-color numbers on the back as well. The cartoon Cub head patch appears on the left sleeve. No player names on the back.

1973

1974

Steve Kraljic Collection

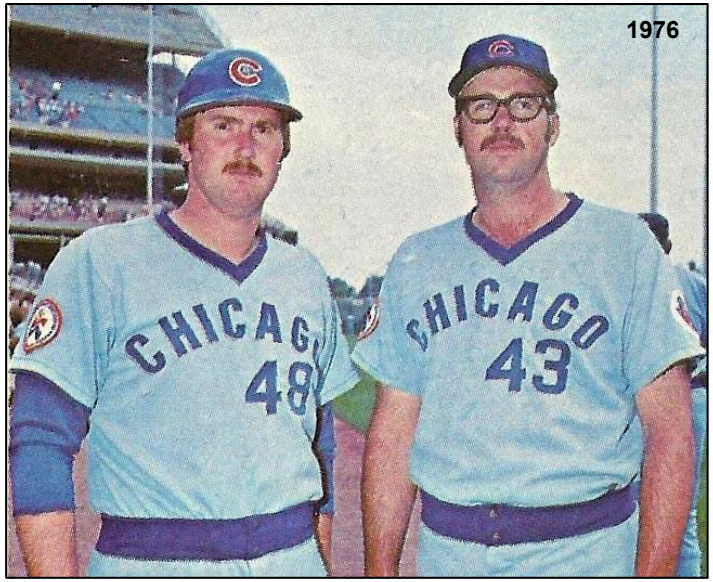
© GameWornGuides.com

1976-1977 Road

1977

In 1976, the Cubs join the growing list of teams adopting light blue road jerseys. Aside from the base color changing from the previous year's gray, the lettering and trim remain the same. Single-color Cubs-font front and back numbers are used, with no player names. In 1976, the jersey features the Cubs' 100th Anniversary patch on the left sleeve and the NL Centennial patch on the right. The Cartoon Cub head patch returns to the left sleeve in 1977, while the right sleeve is blank. The black armband for William K. Wrigley is added after April 14, 1977.

1976



1976

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1978-1981 Road

1980

1978 only

1979-1981

Steve Kraljic Collection

1978

Fabric becomes a trendy disco-era pinstriped powder blue that quickly becomes dated looking. Older style Cub head patch on sleeve 1978, new Round Cub with thick red border on sleeve 1979–1981.No names on back in 1978; names are added in 1979 in vertically arched, one-color style. Names not vertically arched are generally restorations. Special Cubs-style numbers used both front and back. All lettering one-color royal blue.

Above: *baseball card photo from Spring Training 1982*

1981

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1979-1989 Home

1982

1987

1985

This design is nearly identical to the 1978 version but can be identified by the wide blue circle around the Cubs logo. Oddly, the ® registered trademark symbol now appears on the jersey logo. No player names appear on the back. Numbers are one-color royal blue in the special Cubs font. A round Cub patch with a thick red border is placed on the right sleeve. Rawlings becomes the uniform supplier in 1987, and their script appears on the right sleeve-end trim. The sleeve-end trim narrows slightly (1" instead of 1½"). Rawlings back numbers are proportioned slightly differently than the Wilson font, with flatter sides and squarer shapes.

1988

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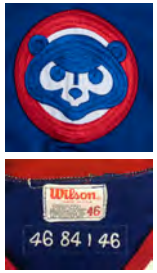
1982-1989 Road

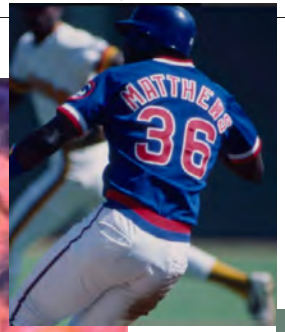
Wilson 1982-1986

1984 playoffs use



1984 regular season use

1982



Name on back variations, 1982–1984

The jersey features solid blue fabric with white/red knit trim at the sleeve ends and V-neck. Wilson is the team's supplier from 1982 through 1986. Player names and numbers on the back are two-color red/white. A red-bordered Round Cub face patch appears on the right sleeve. Special Cubs-style numbers are used.

Player name formats on the back are inconsistent during 1982–1986. Some sets feature vertically arched names, while others have radial arching—or none at all. Period news photos show both styles being worn simultaneously on the field. Some examples feature radial arch names sewn in a straight line. Vertical arching appears to be more common. These names are hand-crafted by Wilson's artist, with a narrower red layer and extra-wide white outlines—unlike most teams.

A very high percentage of these jerseys in the hobby have unoriginal names on the back, as they were often sent to the minors once their MLB service ended.

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1982-1989 Road, continued: Rawlings 1987-1989

1987

Rawlings takes over as the team's supplier in 1987, and all player names are now radially arched. The white Rawlings script is embroidered at the end of the right sleeve. The sleeve-end trim narrows slightly (1" instead of 1½"). Rawlings back numbers are slightly differently proportioned than Wilson's—featuring flatter sides and squarer shapes.

1987

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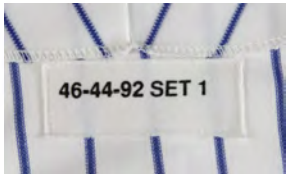
1990-1993 Home

1990

1992



Note the slight changes to the Russell Diamond Collection tag between 1992 and 1993.

The jersey changes to a button-front style. It retains the same Round Cub patch on the sleeve, the wide blue border around the Cubs front crest, and the royal blue sleeve-end trim. The blue neck trim is removed.

The 1990 example shown above is made by Rawlings, with the logo embroidered into the sleeve-end trim. The 1992 example at top right is made by Russell, featuring the Russell "R" embroidered on the pinstriped sleeve, just above the sleeve-end trim. From 1990 to 1992, the back numbers are one-color royal blue, in the special Cubs font. No player names appear on the back from 1990 through 1992.

In 1993, names are added to the back (without nameplates), and both names and numbers are now two-color blue/red.

1993

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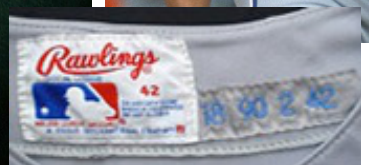
1990 Road

This one-year style is identified by the small "CHICAGO" wordmark on the front. The letters are nearly square in proportion and measure 2¼" high. The front features three-color red/blue/white numbers, while the back has two-color royal blue/white names and numbers. The team disc/logo patch appears on the left sleeve. All game-worn examples of this jersey include the 1990 All-Star patch sewn to the right sleeve.



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1991-1993 Road

1991

1993

Top right: *1993 jersey made by Russell.*

Left and below: *1991 jerseys made by Rawlings.*

Rawlings is the uniform maker in 1991; Russell takes over in 1992 and 1993. Note the differences in manufacturer tagging styles.

- Identified by a new, taller 3¾" "CHICAGO" wordmark with small serifs, sewn straight across the front.
- Numbers are three-color red/royal blue/white on both front and back. During this three-year period, back numbers are a smaller-than-standard 7½" tall. Block name is two-color royal/white.
- The team disc/logo patch appears on the left sleeve; a Round Frowning Cub patch appears on the right.

1991

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1994-1996 Home

1995

1996

1996

The jersey is a button-front style, identified by plain sleeve ends. All blue trim is eliminated beginning in 1994. From the front, the design closely resembles the 1970–1971 style. A new version of the Frowning Cub sleeve patch is introduced. Player names, first added in 1993, continue to appear on the back in two-color royal blue/red. No nameplates are used.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994-1996 Road

1994

1995-1996

Back numbers are smaller in 1994 (7½") and increase to 8½" in 1995–1996. The shapes also differ slightly. The front numbers are differently proportioned than the back numbers and are slightly larger from 1994–1996 than they were in 1993.

During the strike-shortened 1994 season and the two following years, the Cubs wore these unpopular road jerseys. These jerseys featured a Cubs script with an underline and three-color red/blue/white numbers on both front and back. Player names are two-color royal blue/white. A new version of the Frowning Cub sleeve patch appears on the sleeve.

Fans often complained that these uniforms resembled those of the Cuban National Team. After 1996, they were dropped in favor of a more traditional design.

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A Phantom: The 1994-1996 Blue Alternate Jersey

__Top left:__ a "team issue" style jersey sent to me to customize. Above, Sandberg is wearing a mesh jersey—evident when looking at this photo in high resolution.

__Top right:__ Chris Creamer's notation of the May 2, 1994 game uniforms At left- a game worn mesh BP that looks all but identical. Bottom left, two screen grabs from the video of that game make the Zapruder film look like HD. Below, the Cubs wore this style in 2014 the season that they celebrated the 100th birthday of Wrigley Field.

This jersey style has long been a mystery to me. For every official style of jersey listed, we look for two important documents to back them up: game photos of them being worn, and examples that have been sold at auction, credibly authenticated—but preferably authenticated by me. In the case of this jersey style, a solid blue bodied jersey with red/white/blue knit sewn-in sleeve ends, and the short-lived CUBS script across the front, it was listed as an alternate jersey to be worn both at home and on the road. There is just one problem…and that is in over 25 years of searching, we have zero photos of the Cubs wearing these in games, and zero bona fide credible auctions of team-issued/game worn examples.

Many similar jerseys have been bought and sold by collectors over the years, with some claiming to be game-worn. "Team-issued" versions exist—like the one shown at top left—featuring a small 100% Polyester flag tab under the Russell tail tag, and no size tag in the neck. Some have an additional Velcro closure on the front — while not a definitive sign of team issue, this feature is generally not added to retail jerseys.

An additional factor adds to the confusion. In those years, the team also wore a blue mesh batting practice jersey that looked exactly like this solid-bodied game jersey. These were sometimes issued with player names on the back. Some Getty Images photos have been cited as evidence of the solid jerseys being worn in games, but further analysis of the low-resolution images revealed that the examples were actually mesh jerseys worn during pre-game warmups.

Chris Creamer (sportslogos.net)—perhaps even more obsessed with detail than I am—tracked the uniforms worn for EVERY GAME by the Cubs in 1994. He concluded that the team wore their blue BP jerseys in a game on May 2, 1994. This 30-second video highlight clip shows the Cubs players wearing the blue jersey without names on back. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_z3NZYUfK-M&ab_channel=SW561. Unfortunately there are no close-ups that show whether the jerseys are mesh or solid fabric. Chris concluded that they were BP jerseys, but we can't be sure. One thing is for sure—I have never come across a credibly game-used one. The Jim Bullinger example I had been using in past editions as my example of the back of a game worn jersey is too low-resolution to confirm the fabric type, but I can see that it uses a nameplate on the back. Since the Cubs used nameplates on their 1994–1996 BP jerseys—but not on any game jerseys—I've concluded that the Bullinger jersey shown is a 1994 mesh BP jersey.

Thousands of these jerseys were likely produced for retail, based on how frequently they appear for sale online. Collectors frequently send them to me for customization. Even more strangely, when the Cubs celebrated Wrigley Field's 100th anniversary in 2014, this phantom jersey was the one they chose to wear to represent 1994. Go figure.

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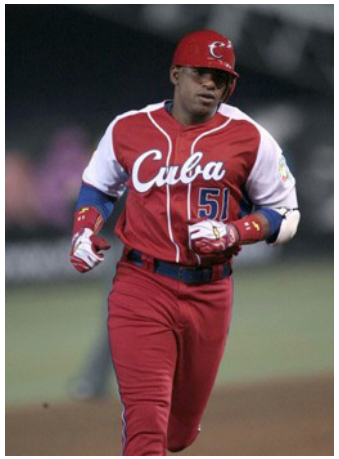
1994-1996: "*Cubs*" or "*Cuba*"?

The 1994–1996 Cubs game jersey design was relatively short-lived, lasting only three seasons. Many fans thought it resembled the Cuban national team's uniforms—an unfortunate but understandable comparison. The Cubs jerseys are shown at center, surrounded by images of various Cuban national team uniforms used over the years.



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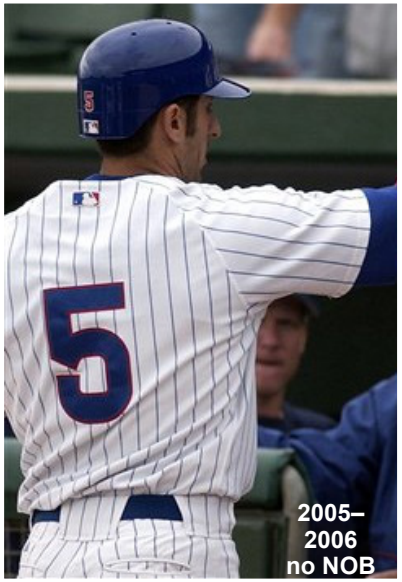
1997-2023 Home

1998

Identified by plain sleeve ends (no blue trim) and a Walking Cub patch on the left sleeve. Two-color royal/red name and number appear on the back only. Numbers use the Cubs' special font.

Player names are used from 1997–2004. No player names appear on the back in 2005–2006. Names return in 2007.

Russell manufactures the jerseys from 1997–1999, Majestic from 2000–2019, and Nike from 2020–2023.



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1997-2023 Home, continued

2001

Note Sosa's captain's "C" and sleeves with elastic bands as per Sosa's specifications

Left: *This jersey features extra-long custom sleeves, as per the player's request.*

2003

2004

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1997-2023 Home, continued

2011

2015

2018

2021

While the appearance of the Cubs home jersey remains unchanged during this 27-year period, the garment construction evolves. Shown here are the full-weight knit (2004, previous page), Cool Base (2011 and 2015), Flex Base with vented side panels and tail (2018), and Nike's version of Flex Base (2021). Note the style code change from Majestic's EJHH to Nike's EJ1H.

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1997-1998 Road

When the Cubs debuted new road uniforms in 1997, Russell was the manufacturer, and the 'CHICAGO' wordmark on the front was decidedly bold. Game photos from 1997–1998 clearly show the team wearing jerseys with thick lettering. Starting 1999, game photos show the team exclusively wearing thin-letter jerseys.

However, I have seen examples of the Russell "thick letter" jerseys year team-tagged 1999. And, I have also seen year--tagged "thin letter" variations from as early as 1998. This is puzzling, as game photos contradict the tagging. Perhaps older thick-letter jerseys were sold at the team shop as 1999 issues (see right example with LOA). They may have been used for Spring Training—but that's purely speculation.All thick-letter jerseys I have seen are made by Russell.

There is no difference on the backs of these two jersey variations. Two-color numbers on front and back, red/white in special Cubs font. Two-color Block names in royal/white.

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1997-2006, 2008 Alternate/2009-2023 Alternate Road

1999

1997–2022:See note on sleeve patch variations later in chapter.

2004

2005–2006
home version
No NOB

This new design features the Walking Cub logo on the left front of the jersey. A National League patch appears on the right sleeve through 2022. Red/white numbers in the Cubs' special font are used, along with matching red/white player names. No nameplates are used. Russell manufactures these from 1997–1999, Majestic from 2000–2019, and Nike from 2020–2023.

Above: *2005–2006: Without making official note of it, the Cubs used two sets of these blue jerseys. Road have player names on back, while home have none! There is no reference to this in the official MLB Style Guide.*

What happened to 2007? In 2007, Cubs management decreed the team would wear only white or gray uniforms. While the blue alternate remained in the team style guide, it was never worn on the field. I have since seen examples of 2007-tagged blue jerseys, so it's likely that a set or two were produced! No surprise, really.

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1997-2006, 2008 Alternate/2009-2023 Alternate Road

While the appearance of the Cubs alternate jersey remains unchanged during this 27-year period, the garment construction evolves, as illustrated here: including full-weight knit (2010), Cool Base (2015), Flex Base with vented side panels and tail (2018), and Nike's version of Flex Base (2020). Note the style code change from Majestic's EJAA to Nike's EJ3A.

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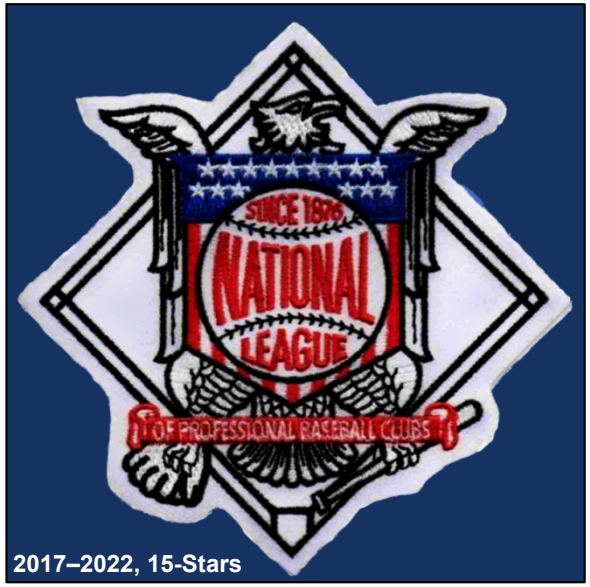
1997-2022 Sleeve Patch Detail Changes

1997, 14-Stars

1998– 2016, 16-Stars



2017–2022, 15-Stars

From 1997–2022, the Cubs wore the National League logo patch on the right sleeve of their blue alternate jersey. It also appeared on their BP jerseys from 1997–2006, and again on Spring Training and BP jerseys from 2016–2022.

The number of stars on the crest represents the number of National League teams. In 1997, the patch featured 14 stars. The total increased to 16 in 1998, when the Diamondbacks and Brewers joined the National League. When the Astros moved from the NL to the AL in 2013, the official crest was updated from 16 to 15 stars. The Cubs continued wearing the outdated 16-star patch through 2016, before updating to the 15-star version for 2017–2022. The patch was discontinued after 2022 to make room for an advertising patch—which had not yet been sold—leaving the sleeve blank for all of 2023.

Aside from star count changes, a 1997 BP jersey variant features a much larger red scroll at the bottom. The patch is removed after the 2022 season.

1997 Batting Practice, with larger red scroll

2017

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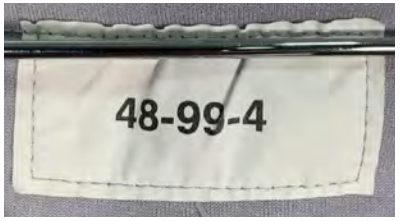
1999-2023 Road

In 1999, the road jersey's "CHICAGO" wordmark changes to a thinner-stroke, lighter font. No other elements are changed from 1998. Russell produces the jerseys in 1999, followed by Majestic from 2000–2019, and Nike from 2020–2023.



Game-worn Sammy Sosa jerseys feature custom elastic at the sleeve ends, made to his specifications.

Tagged 1998, but..?

I've seen some jerseys in this style with '1998' team-year tags, including the Sosa example shown at right (top and bottom). I don't believe these were worn on the field. More likely, they were marketing pieces created to capitalize quickly on demand. It's just a hunch—but 1998 was a huge year for Sammy Sosa. When the supply of authentic 1998 jerseys ran out, it's possible that 'Team Issued' 1998 tags were added to 1999 jerseys to increase appeal. I could be wrong—but it's the most plausible explanation I've found.

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1999-2023 Road, continued

2000

Scott Jackson Collection

2001

2004

© GameWornGuides.com

1999-2023 Road, continued

While the appearance of the Cubs road jersey remains unchanged during this 27-year period, the garment construction evolves, as illustrated here: full-weight knit (2010 shown), Cool Base (2015), Flex Base with vented side panels and tail (2018), and Nike's version of Flex Base (2020). Note the change in style code from Majestic (EJRR) to Nike (EJ2R).

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2014-2015 Alternate Road Nostalgia

Steve Kraljic collection

In conjunction with their 100th birthday celebration for Wrigley Field—during which they wore nine different throwback home uniforms in one season—the Cubs also announced a road throwback jersey that they wore frequently during 2014. It is modeled after road jerseys worn by the team in the 1920s.

This gray Cool Base jersey features royal blue/white "CUBS" lettering across the front in tall letters, along with small red/white numbers on the front in a new custom font—a narrow variation of Varsity. The same number font appears on the back in red/white, with player names in Block Condensed in blue/white.

1922 Road Jersey

© GameWornGuides.com

2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric with several added elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable.

The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, along with one on the back tail called the "Air Belt" by Majestic. They also use kiss-cut layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10–20% lighter than traditional layered twill.

Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from earlier Cool Base jerseys.

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2021-2023 City Connect

City Connect hits the North Side of Chicago in 2021, with the Cubs adding an uncharacteristically dark blue Flex Base jersey that Nike says represents "all 77 of Chicago's distinct neighborhoods."

It features "Wrigleyville" in an elegant arch reminiscent of a bridge, rendered in white/powder blue—colors drawn from the city's flag—across the front in lettering similar to Wrigley Field's famous marquee. Both front numbers (in powder blue) and back numbers (in white) use a custom, angular font. Each sleeve is ringed with wide powder blue braiding, while the left sleeve displays a patch with the "Chicago municipal device"—a "Y"-shaped symbol found throughout the city, representing the confluence of the north and south branches of the Chicago River.

"Respect Our Neighborhood"—oddly singular, given the "77 neighborhoods" theme—is embroidered in red above the jock tag, in a font that mimics signage found around Wrigley Field.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys, with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a one-and-done season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Due to negative feedback—especially from MLB players—Nike rolled back some, but not all, of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys changed from earlier versions in several key ways:

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or a light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Road grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now sewn into the seams. Placket trim adornment remains, though the trim is now spaced more closely due to the narrower placket.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower—down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, with a steeper arch—nearly semi-circular in shape.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is always a reduced version of the back numbers. Previously, most teams used a font variant for front numbers—smaller but often wider and bolder than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches—and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches—change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or sublimated cloth/twill.
- All lettering is done using a new, more lightweight (thinner), matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all, jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforations on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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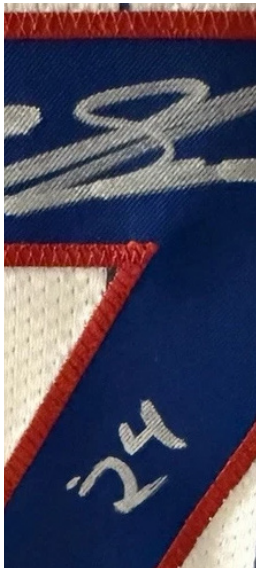
2024 Home



Above: *The Cubs logo with the registered trademark symbol and the team's rounded number font, used through 2023.*

Below: *The 2024 version of the logo without the registered trademark symbol, and the new number font that is more square-shaped than before.*

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cubs classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Less visible was a change in back number font to align more closely with the squarer version that had been listed as the club's font in the MLB Style Guide for more than 20 years, but had not been used on-field before. Even more minuscule, the longstanding registered trademark ® symbol, which appeared on the front logo patch since 1979, is also now gone. The Cubs do not use perforated twill on their home jersey numbers in 2024. Note the change in style code from Nike Flex Base (EJ1H) to VPE (EJHO). To start the season, the team patch varies sleeves based on each players' handedness. After August 1, the team adds a sponsor patch opposite the team sleeve patch.

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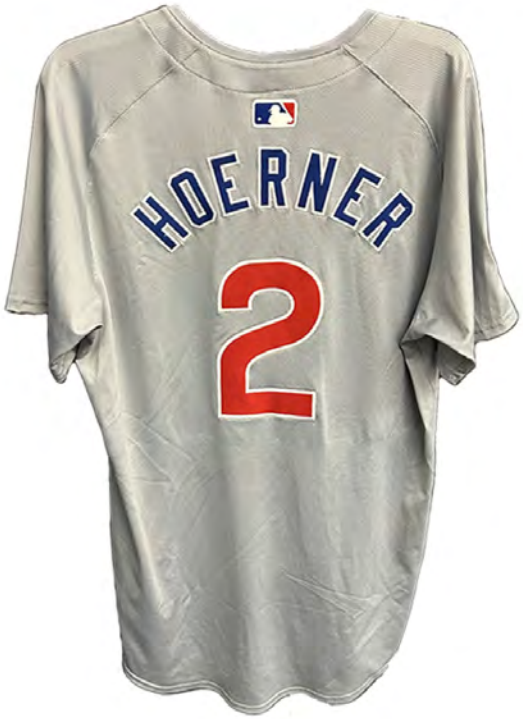
2024 Road



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cubs classic road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Less visible was a change in back number font to align more closely with the squarer version that had been listed as the club's font in the MLB Style Guide for more than 20 years, but had not been used on-field before. See the 2024 Home jersey page for more information on the new font. The Cubs do not use perforated twill on their road jersey numbers in 2024. To start the season, the team patch varies sleeves based on each players' handedness. After August 1, the team adds a sponsor patch opposite the team sleeve patch.

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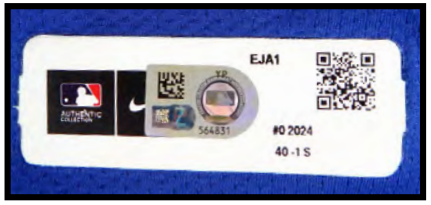
2024 Alternate Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cubs longstanding alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Less visible was a change in back number font to align more closely with the squarer version that had been listed as the club's font in the MLB Style Guide for more than 20 years, but had not been used on-field before. See the 2024 Home jersey page for more information on the new font. The Cubs use perforated twill on their alternate jersey numbers in 2024. Note the change in style code from Nike Flex Base (EJ3A) to VPE (EJA1). To start the season, the team patch varies sleeves based on each players' handedness. After August 1, the team adds a sponsor patch opposite the team sleeve patch.



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2024 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Cubs' City Connect jersey that was introduced only three seasons prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim was sewn-in on the Flex Base version of this style, and now it is sewn-in, and the scale of the trim is now smaller than it had been before. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Wrigleyville" lettering, which is smaller than before, breaks across the placket slightly differently, though the new template allows for lettering to split on the natural break between the "L" and "E" where the split divided the "L" on Flex Base. This is a rare upgrade for letter splitting on VPE. The Cubs use perforated numbers on this version of the jersey. To start the season, the team patch varies sleeves based on each players' handedness. On August 1, the team adds a sponsor patch opposite the team sleeve patch. The style is retired after the 2024 season.

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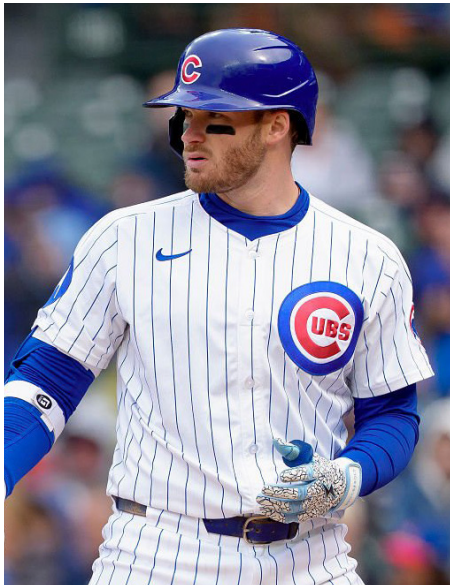
2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. This is the case for the Cubs, who return to the more rounded version of their number font, contrary to what was used in 2024. The registered trademark ® symbol, however, does not return to the team's front logo. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Note also the use of the white Nike jocktag on front, one of a handful of uses of this new tag, which was typically black, and showed through white pants easily.



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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. The Cubs have neither on this jersey. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. This is the case for the Cubs, who return to the more rounded version of their number font, contrary to what was used in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Road

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. This is the case for the Cubs, who return to the more rounded version of their number font, contrary to what was used in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home

The Cubs introduce a brand new alternate jersey for the 2025 season, and they lean into powder blue, a color they last wore in 1981. Though this is not a City Connect jersey (the team will introduce a City Connect 2.0 in 2025, replacing the "Wrigleyville" 1.0 set) the Cubs still utilize storytelling about their history and city to explain the design choices for this new entry. According to the team's press release: "The jersey's chest patch combines details from early Cubs uniforms with typography inspired by blues-era instruments. The sleeve patch features custom lettering within a guitar pick, split by an electric bolt, representing Chicago's legacy as the birthplace of the electric blues. The custom numerals and nameplate take cues from early generation Cubs designs and decorative flourishes from blues-era typography." Though Chicago-inspired, the overall look is very reminiscent of the Montreal Expos road sets from 1969 into the 70s, which is certainly not a bad thing. This jersey is built on the VPE template, including the redundant jersey-color trim around the neck opening. However, it uses larger player names and numbering, and numbers are not perforated.

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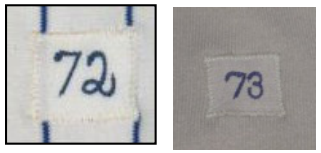
Cubs Team Tagging



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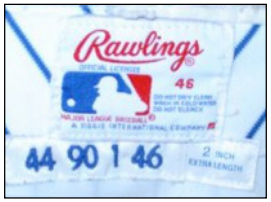

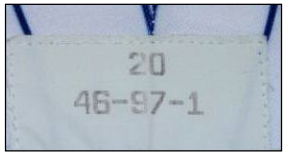

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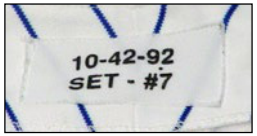

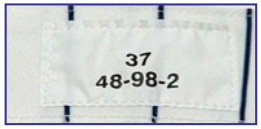

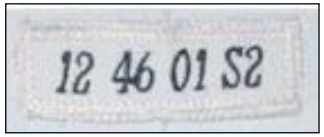

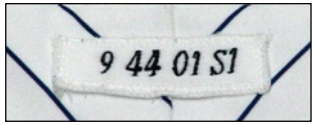

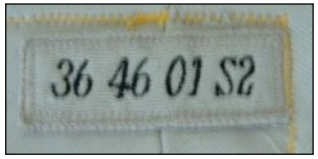

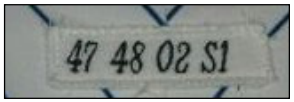

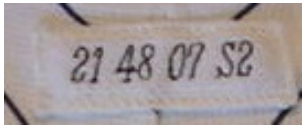

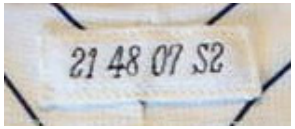

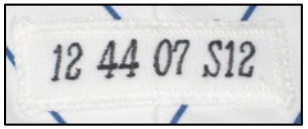

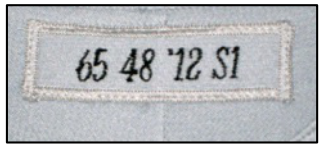

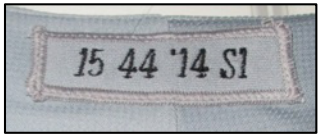

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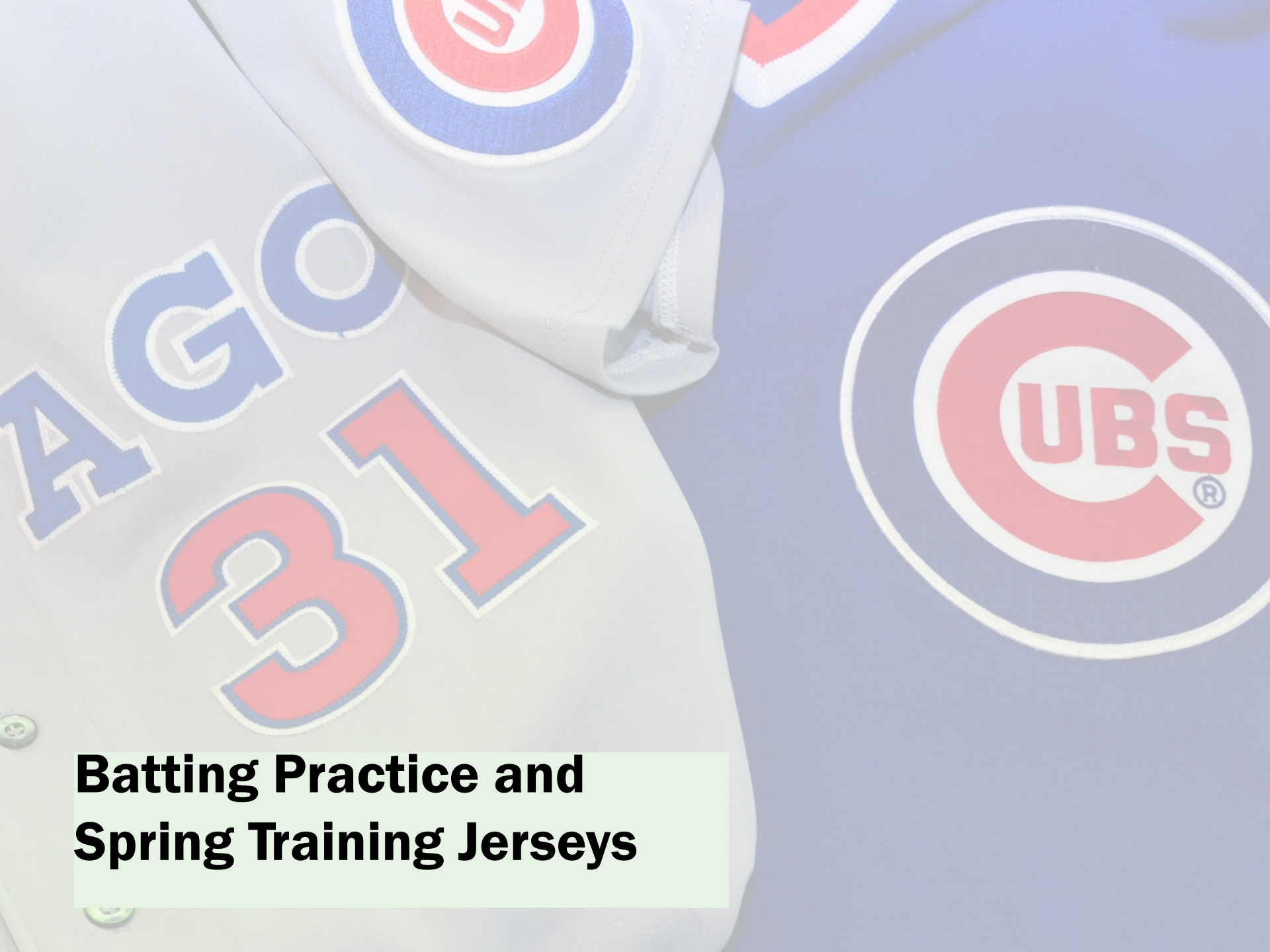

Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1980s-1993 Batting Practice

Earlier issues are seen with one-color, white, extra-bold Varsity numbers on the back. No names are used. BP jerseys are seldom date tagged, making it difficult to determine the specific years of use.

Later versions are sometimes seen with numbers in the Cubs style font, as with the two examples shown at bottom center and bottom right. It seems that font consistency on the back was not a priority for these team-issued jerseys, and each manufacturer followed their own standards.

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August 8, 1981 — Batting Practice Jersey Worn in Game

On August 8 (an exhibition game against the White Sox), the Cubs wore blue Wilson batting practice jerseys in the game—verified after finding video of these games online. These jerseys had the Cubs' special font for the back numbers, not the Varsity style numbers usually seen. I doubt that a special set of jerseys was made for the players to wear; rather, this points to the lack of consistency and documentation of BP jerseys from that era. The Wilson-made jersey shown here is said to be from then, though I have no definitive proof.

Thanks to collector Steve Kraljic for this find.

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Mid-1980s/1992 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

There were several styles of half-zip pullovers made for the Cubs and worn by some players.

The example at left is made by Roman Sport and appears unused. Notice the colorful waist trim.

The bottom-left version was made by Starter for 1992 and carries Diamond Collection tagging; the only other one I've seen by Starter was an Expos jersey. This is also the only one I've seen lettered and numbered for a player.

The bottom-right example is made by Majestic using a mesh fabric, with different sleeve-end trim, no waist trim, and slash-style "pocket" trim.

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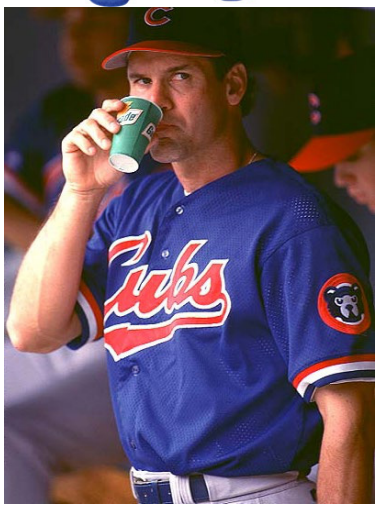
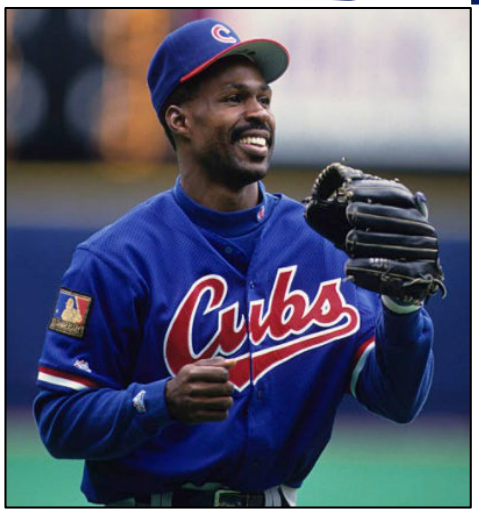
1994-1996 Batting Practice

1994

1994

Bill Henderson Collection





These jerseys feature a royal blue mesh body with red/white/blue sleeve ends. They were made by both Russell—using nameplates and game-style player name and number—and by Majestic, which used simple Varsity-style numbers on the back with no name. These were worn at least once in a regular-season game—on May 2, 1994, at home vs. the Reds.

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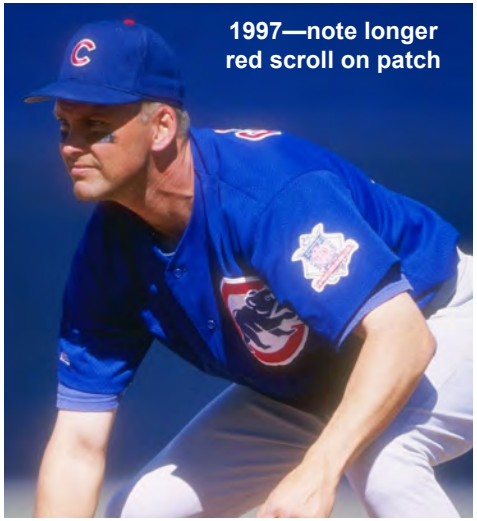
1997-2002 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

This Majestic button-front mesh jersey features a National League patch on the left sleeve in 1997, and on the right sleeve in other years. The NL patch used in 1997 also features a longer red scroll reading "OF PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL CLUBS" than those used in other years or on alternate blue game jerseys from that season. The back features a two-color red/white name and number, with player numbers in Majestic's Varsity style. The name font is a Majestic house variant of Block Standard—it is slightly bolder and wider than the standard version. The team-issued jersey in my collection is made of a noticeably heavier mesh fabric than the retail ones, even though there are no markings that indicate a difference.Worn on April 6, 1997, at Atlanta—and possibly in other regular-season games as well.

1997—14 stars

1998– 2002—16 stars



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2003-2006 Batting Practice

Majestic's tech fabric debuts in a redesigned line of button-front BP jerseys for all clubs in 2003. Oddly, the Cubs opt for a very dark blue for theirs—unlike the royal blue hue they had used for years.

These are identifiable by the dark color, non-mesh fabric, and textured sleeve/underarm inserts. They feature player numbers but no names. In 2003, BP jersey numbers switch to the Cubs' special game-jersey font in two-color red/white.

16-star patch is used on this jersey.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007-2010 Batting Practice

The Cubs adopt Majestic's new Cool Base batting practice jerseys in 2007, joining the rest of MLB. The fabric color returns to royal blue, last used in 2002. Side panels feature contrasting red and white fabric inserts.

The Cubs logo and back numbers are heat-applied appliqués, and are no longer sewn using tackle twill or embroidery as in the past. There is no player name on the back, but the Cubs do standardize their game-uniform number font on BP jerseys.

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2011-2013 Batting Practice

The batting practice jersey for 2011–2013 changes to a button front from the earlier-style one-button pullover. Side panels are now solid red compared to the prior version, which had been red/white. The same walking cub logo that has been used on batting practice jerseys since 1997 continues on. Cubs-font numbers in two-color appear on the back, with no player names. Back numbers return to twill, replacing the previous heat-applied ornamentation.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

All teams in MLB have their batting practice jerseys altered for 2014, but the Cubs' alterations are very minor—simply shrinking the size of the red side panels compared to the prior design. Cubs-style red/white numbers appear on the back, and no player names are used.

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2016 Spring Training

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Cubs use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey, including the NL logo patch on the right sleeve. The name and back numbers are red patterned twill/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the left sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Cubs spend Spring Training.

16-star patch in 2016.

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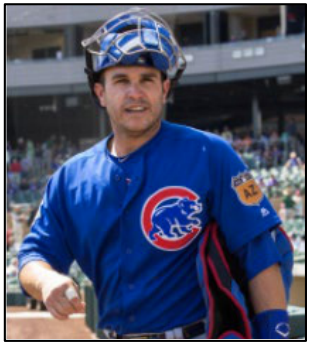
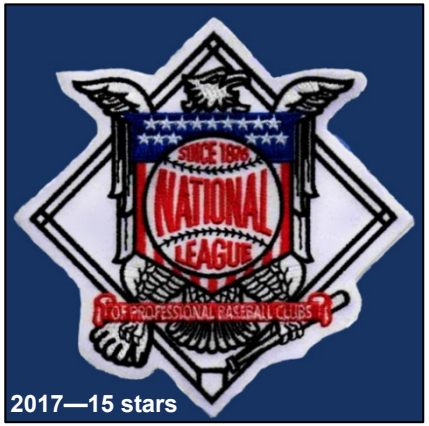
2017 Spring Training



Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. The Cubs again use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their spring training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the left sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Cubs spend spring training. A very-slightly revised 15-star version of the NL patch replaces the 16-star version used previously (detailed on an earlier page).



2017—15 stars

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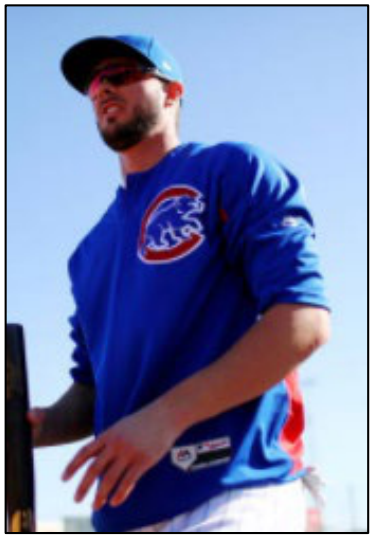
2017-2019 Batting Practice



With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Cubs jersey is royal blue with red back and underarm gussets. The walking cub logo, also on their alternate jerseys, appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank, and the Cubs do not personalize these with player numbers on the sleeve as most other teams do.

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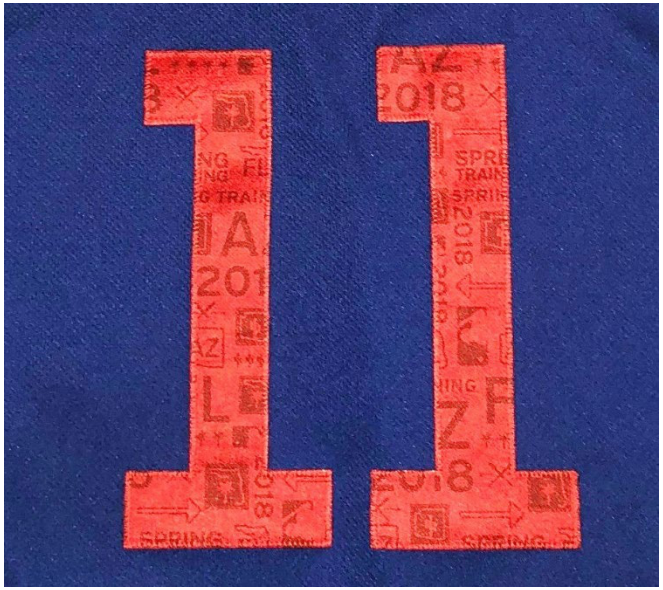
2018 Spring Training



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, but now simplified using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Cubs use their regular-season blue alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in red patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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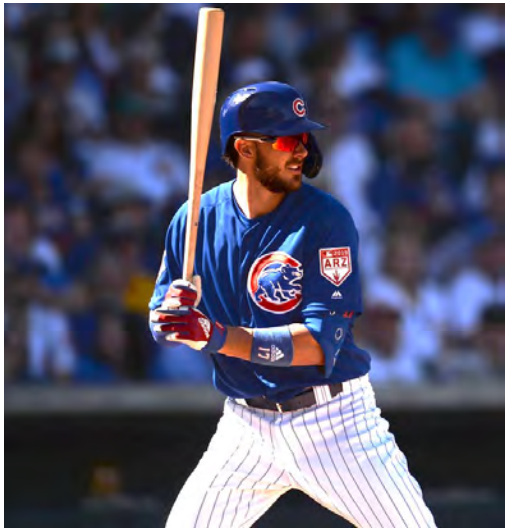
2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey back names and numbers abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Cubs use their regular-season blue alternate as the base for this design, adding a new-for-2019 CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "AZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are red/white.



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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training jerseys are simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020–2023, the Cubs use their regular-season blue alternate, with red/white name and back numbers. The NL logo patch is sewn on the right sleeve through 2022 only.

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Special Events Jerseys

1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1948

Steve Kraljic collection

1948 Original

The Cubs visited the Phillies on June 21, 1992, for a Turn Back the Clock to 1948 game. The double-knit uniform is made by Russell, and all ornamentation is felt. It uses very tall Cubs-style numbers, with no names on the back. The Russell "R" logo is embroidered on the right sleeve in blue/red. An original 1948 road jersey is shown at left. The lettering on the replica is bolder than that on the original.

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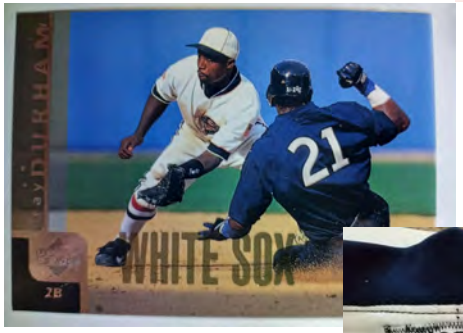
1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1912

These blue jerseys are replicas of the Cubs' 1911–1912 road uniform, worn on June 16, 1997, against the White Sox. Knit uniforms were made by Wilson. Player numbers were not worn in 1912, but these replicas include back numbers in a font called NCAA.



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2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1948

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Cubs television broadcasts on WGN-TV, the team and the visiting Braves staged a “Turn Back the Clock to 1948” day on June 12, 2008. The TV broadcast began in black and white with 1948-era camera angles (no center-field batter shots, no instant replay), but switched to a modern format in the later innings. The Cubs and Braves dressed accordingly, and this was the first TBTC game at Wrigley, as the Cubs had played their previous TBTC games on the road. Back numbers are one-color royal blue, in the Cubs’ traditional number font. Overall, the uniforms were close to the originals but not exact, as the inset of an original 1948 jersey shows. The Cubs disc on the replica is larger than on the original, with more space between the letters.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1944

On May 4 vs. the Dodgers, both teams turn back the clock to 1944.

The uniforms for both teams are made by newcomer Bobcat Athletic. These are accurate replicas, featuring Cubs-style numbers on the back and a Ron Santo memorial patch on the right sleeve. The jerseys feature unusually long sleeves, despite this not being typical of 1944 styles.

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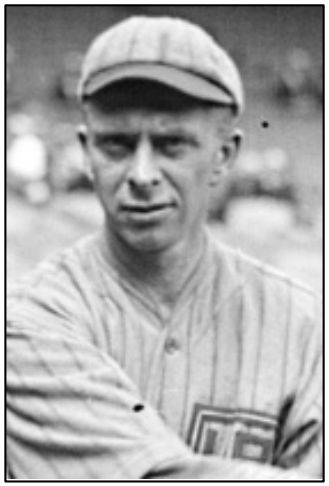
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1918



1918

On May 21, the Red Sox and Cubs wore 1918 uniforms to mark the Cubs' first visit to Fenway Park since the 1918 World Series. Based on the few available photos of the 1918 Cubs, this appears to be a masterful recreation by Majestic. The original uniforms did not have numbers on the back, but the replicas use one-color navy blue Varsity Bold numbers.

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2012 “Turn Back the Century” to 1912

1913

1911

The Giants staged a rather elaborate *“Turn Back the Century”* game on a bright afternoon in San Francisco, June 2, 2012. The large scoreboards were turned off, and organ music replaced the usual fare. The Cubs’ uniforms—navy blue 1912 road suits—were masterfully recreated by Majestic, featuring a pullover design with a four-button front. They appear highly accurate, aside from the addition of back numbers, which were not worn in 1912.

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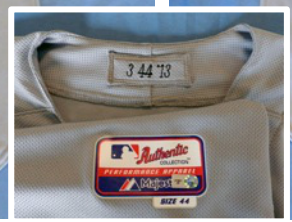
2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



Playing the cross-town White Sox and participating in this all-MLB May 27, 2013 spectacle of teams wearing camouflage-trimmed uniforms, the Cubs were among the unlucky teams whose gray jerseys featured desert camo twill outlined with white—resulting in nearly "invisible" uniforms. As game photos show, the jerseys appeared completely blank from the stands.

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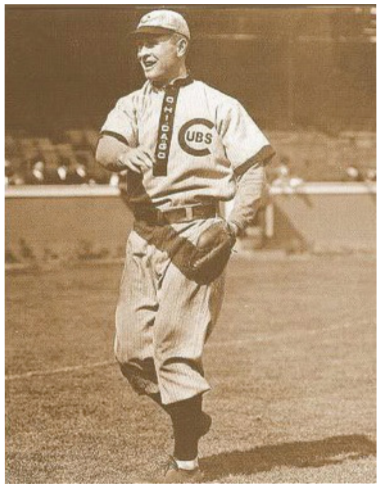
2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1909



Original 1909 home jersey

On June 29, 2013, the Cubs took part in the Seattle Mariners' Turn Back the Clock to 1909 game, wearing replicas of their 1909 road uniforms—gray with navy pinstripes and the unusual feature of the city name "CHICAGO" spelled out vertically on the placket. Photos of surviving 1909 uniforms suggest these replicas are as accurate as possible, with most players obligingly wearing their socks high, as was customary in that era. The only nod to modern times was the addition of back numbers, which were not worn in 1909.

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2014 Memorial Day/Military Day

For Memorial Day on May 26, 2014, the Cubs—again on the road—wear their new alternate nostalgia road uniforms, with desert camouflage twill replacing the navy and red lettering on both front and back. Unhelpfully outlined with white, the result was again invisibility—perhaps fitting, as that is the actual purpose of camouflage. Cubs players appeared, from the seats, to be wearing blank gray suits.

These same uniforms were worn in Pittsburgh on June 10 for the Pirates' Military Appreciation Day game, where the Pirates again wore their Memorial Day camouflage-accented uniforms.

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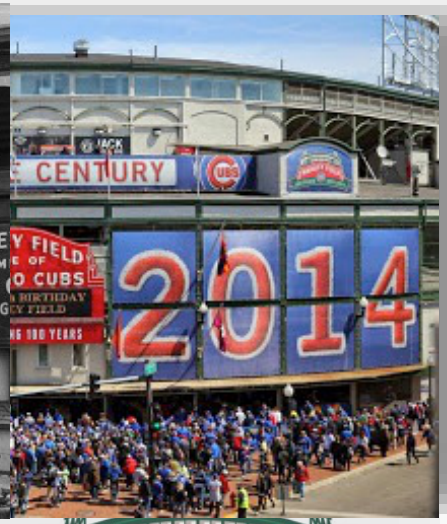
The 100th Birthday of Wrigley Field

The 2014 season marked the 100th anniversary of Wrigley Field's opening in 1914. To celebrate the well-loved park's history, the Cubs teamed with Majestic to create ten different sets of throwback uniforms—one for each decade of the park's existence. The first uniform worn was that of the 1914 Chi-Feds, debuted during the 100th birthday game at the stadium on April 23. The other nine uniforms are worn on "Throwback Sundays" throughout the rest of the season.



Above: *Some Photoshop fun, 1937 vs. 2014*

Additionally, a new alternate road uniform (pictured earlier in this chapter) was also released and was designed to resemble the team's road uniforms of the 1920s. The quality of the Cubs' research and of the resulting Majestic reproductions is simply outstanding. On each page that follows, we have provided photos of an actual uniform from the era being honored for your comparison. This exercise showswhat passionate research and careful execution can accomplish. In each of the Turn Back the Clock games, the visitor wore period uniforms as well, and these teams' uniforms are depicted in the chapters devoted to each of those teams.

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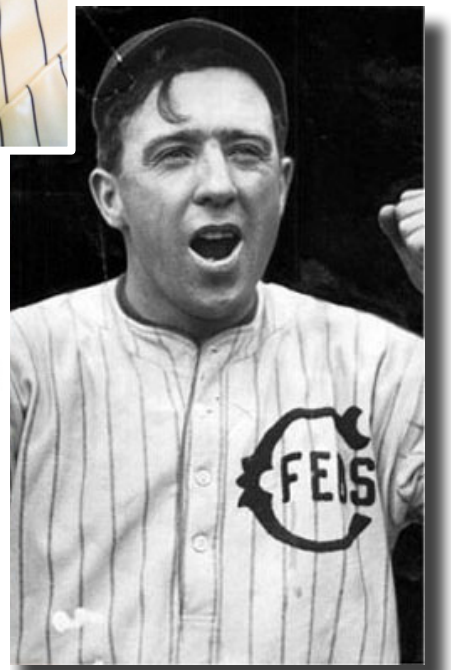
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1914 Federal League Chi-Feds



While the Cubs existed in 1914 (Wrigley Field's first year), the park was home to the Chicago team of the Federal League, known as the Federals or "Chi-Feds." Great care was taken by the Cubs in the accuracy of all the uniforms created for the 2014 celebration. This game on April 23 showcased the first decade of the ballpark, and the pinstriped cream-colored uniforms appear to be perfectly recreated when compared to period photos. Player numbers on the back were added as a modern touch, although they did not come into use until the 1930s.

The guest Diamondbacks obligingly dressed in the uniforms of the Kansas City Federal League team. After all, Arizona had only become a state in 1912, and if any baseball was being played there, it likely didn't involve road trips to Chicago—nearly 1,500 miles away!

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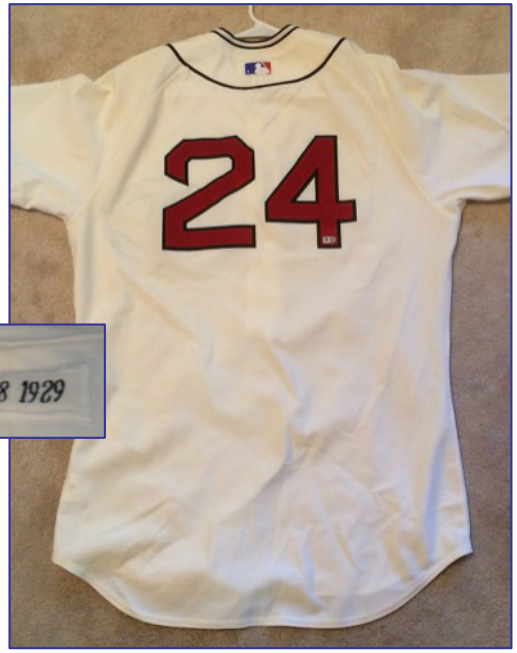
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1929



On May 4, 2014, the Cubs and the visiting 1929 St. Louis Cardinals played a Turn Back the Clock game in period uniforms representing the 1920s. The photographs show that Majestic once again did a masterful job recreating the teams' uniforms. The Cubs' uniforms were made of cream-colored knit fabric. They were pullovers with five-button fronts and period-correct two-tiered "sun collars."

Back numbers were added in red/blue using the historic McAuliffe font, though numbers were not used in 1929. The font was once common across MLB but is now associated with the Red Sox, the only team that still uses it.

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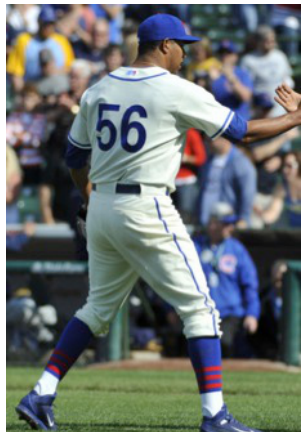
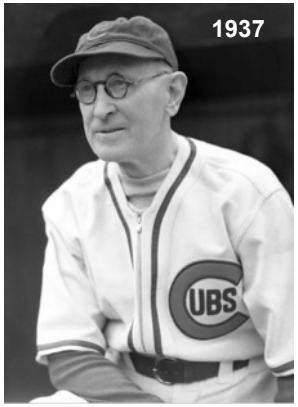
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1937





On May 18, 2014, the Cubs and Brewers participated in a Turn Back the Clock game honoring the 1930s. A comparison with an original period jersey shows just how accurate the Majestic reproductions are. They use a zipper front and a strip of blue knit trim on both the placket and sleeve ends.

1937 Original

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1942

On June 8, 2014, the Cubs wore a vest-style uniform replicating their 1942 home design. The jersey includes two notable details that enhance its realism. First, it features the “HEALTH” shield patch on the right chest, worn by most MLB teams in 1942 as part of the war effort—encouraging all U.S. citizens to stay healthy so they could contribute to the war effort. Second, specially made undershirts featured bold red striping with white sleeve tops. Players completed the look by showing their striped socks.

The visitors were the Miami Marlins, who were outfitted in the gray uniforms of the 1940s Miami Sun Sox minor league team.

© GameWornGuides.com

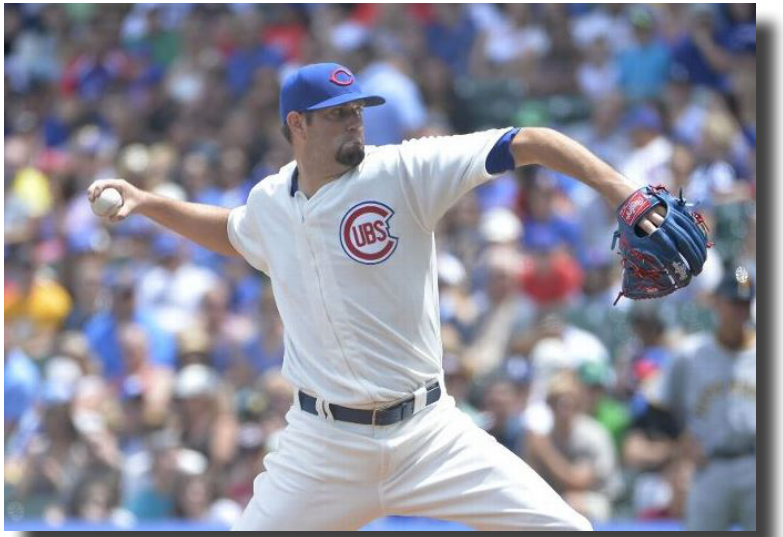
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1964

As if the Cubs didn't have enough uniform variety in 2014, the Phillies commissioned a set of knit replicas of the Cubs' 1964 uniforms for the Turn Back the Clock to 1964 game in Philadelphia on June 13, 2014. As you can see from the photos, the uniforms were masterfully recreated by Majestic in every detail. "CHICAGO" lettering on the front and player numbers on the back were sewn in blue over red twill. The cartoon Cub patch appeared on the left sleeve. Blue/red/blue knit trim was used around the collar and near the sleeve ends, as it was on the originals

1964 Original

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1953



On June 22, 2014, the Cubs and Pirates wore knit reproductions of their 1953 uniforms for a game at Wrigley Field. The Cubs' were near-exact replicas, as seen in these comparison photos. These 1953 uniforms closely resemble—but are not exact copies of—the Turn Back the Clock uniforms worn by the Cubs in 2008, which featured a slightly smaller team disc wordmark on the left chest.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

On July 13, 2014, the Cubs and the visiting Atlanta Braves reprised the 1960s with 1969 uniforms. As has been the case with all the other uniforms worn during this yearlong party, the uniforms were spot-on in detail, including the Cartoon Cub sleeve patch and the 1969 100th anniversary MLB patch. Cream-colored, blue-pinstriped fabric was used to resemble the flannel that served as standard issue in 1969.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

On July 27, 2014, the Cardinals visited and the Cubs switched things up, wearing replicas of their road uniforms from 1978. Cubs' home uniforms remained nearly unchanged, to the untrained eye, for many years, but road jerseys were changed several times to match the styles. The 1978 road jersey was a very "1970s" powder blue pullover with white pinstripes. The word "Chicago" is arched on the front, with single-color blue numbers in the Cubs' special font on both front and back. Good research is evident again, as these uniforms feature the Cartoon Cub patch on the left sleeve and no names on back, as was correct for this style, which was worn only in 1978. The visiting Cardinals wore 1978 throwback home white pullovers.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1988

On August 10, 2014, to the casual observer, Cubs home uniforms appear unchanged from 1972 to the present. Looking more closely, the 1988 home uniform was a pullover design with a royal blue knit V-neck and sleeve ends, featuring Cubs font numbers on back but without player names, and the round cartoonish Frowning Cub on the left sleeve. Again, nostalgia is faithfully executed by Majestic, with the tiniest exception—the little "TM" mark on the Cubs disk used in 1988 was missing from these copies. The visiting Tampa Bay Rays wore pretend "faux-back" softball-style uniforms in bright yellow and two shades of blue that presuppose how the team might have dressed in the 1980s, before they existed.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1994

Truly an odd choice—since while this was officially listed as a jersey for the 1994–1996 Cubs, there is no evidence that they were worn or even issued to players. We suspect that they never made it to the team issue stage in 1994. Nevertheless, the MLB 125th anniversary patch, as worn on the right sleeve during that strike-shortened season, is present, along with the re-vised-for-1994 Frowning Cub patch on the left sleeve. Player names appear on the back, with numbers in Cubs-style font, all in red outlined in white.

The Orioles visited on August 24, 2014, and wore copies of their 1994 road uniforms.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 2008

This uniform variant barely deserves a footnote, as the Cubs uniform from 2008 is identical to the ones worn in 2014. But on September 7, 2014, the Cubs commemorated their rare (and very brief) trip to the playoffs in 2008 anyway, wearing the current team home pinstripe uniform—but on that day simply without the Wrigley Field birthday sleeve patch on the right sleeve. These were a **separate set of uniforms** made for the day, tagged in the collar as "2008"—because by 2014, no team bothers to remove and then re-sew patches on uniforms for the whole team for a single day's use, as they would have in 1980 or earlier. These were surely marketed to fans in the "game worn" Cubs team store. The visiting Pirates did not throw back to 2008, when they would have been wearing road gray vests—and it's unlikely anyone noticed.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1990

When the Cubs announced 10 throwbacks to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Wrigley Field in 2014, it seemed like a lot. Apparently, the team *truly* thought the throwbacks were successful, as they started participating in turn back the clock games at a rapid pace after that. The Cubs kicked off their 2015 TBTC slate on April 24 in a road game against the Reds. Both teams wore 1990 uniforms. The gray Majestic knit jersey is an excellent copy of the one-year-only "small CHICAGO" style. Front numbers are red/royal blue/white; names and Cubs-font numbers on the back are royal blue/white—just like the originals. The 1990 All-Star Game patch appropriately adorns the right sleeve, while the Cubs logo patch appears on the left.

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2015 “Pink Out” Batting Practice

On May 11, Cubs Charities held their annual “Pink Out” event to promote breast cancer awareness. Fans in the bleachers received pink t-shirts to wear, and other fans were invited to wear pink to “Pink Out” the stands at Wrigley. The pink extended to the field as well, with all Cubs players wearing a pink BP jersey during warm-ups to honor the occasion. The jersey’s front panels—including the sleeves and portions of the side panels—were rendered in pink, while the rest of the jersey and the logos and lettering remained the same as the usual version. The Ernie Banks memorial patch appeared on the right sleeve. Cubs Charities auctioned the jerseys after the game, with proceeds going to a charity that provides mammograms for underinsured and uninsured women.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Memorial Day

Note an odd feature: While Cubs home jerseys have had the small "Registered" mark "® " embroidered near the bottom of the "C" in the team jersey logo since 1979, that mark is strangely absent on all of the Cubs jerseys that have special colored twill, like this one and the home special events jerseys shown on the following pages.

After two straight Memorial Day road games, the Cubs hosted the 2015 Memorial Day game at Wrigley Field on May 25. Like all other teams, the top layer of their back lettering twill was replaced with desert camo, outlined in red. The "Cubs" wordmark on the front logo patch also received the camo treatment, while the rest of the patch remained unchanged. Overall, the effect was marginally better than the past two years of camo on road gray, though the camo-on-white front logo was still difficult to discern. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag was changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than the typical color scheme from 2014. The Ernie Banks memorial patch adorned the right sleeve.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1915 Federal League Whales

Derek Damian Collection

Steve Kraljic collection

The Cubs throw back to the 1915 Federal League Chicago Whales in a May 31 home game against the Royals, who are attired as the 1915 Federal League Kansas City Packers. These cream-color, half-button knit jerseys by Majestic feature a red/blue "C" with a blue whale sewn on the front and blue numbers in block on the back—which the Whales did not wear in 1915. Note also the navy blue sun collar on the jersey, a period-appropriate touch. With this throwback game, the Cubs have now worn every single Chicago Federal League home jersey in history—all two of them.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palette might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Cubs wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which is decorated with large white stars.

For the front of the jersey, the word "Cubs" in the logo patch is in this twill on a white field, and the thick border is in blue. This setup makes the Cubs one of a few teams (along with the Reds and Marlins) to have more than two colors on their front logo for this promotion. Back numbers are in the star twill outlined in blue. The front logo patch also lacks the registered trademark symbol seen on typical home jerseys. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve, while the Ernie Banks memorial patch—usually located there—is moved to the right front chest of the jersey.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1958 (Home)

Both Chicago clubs lost legendary figures before the 2015 season—Ernie Banks for the Cubs and Minnie Minoso for the White Sox. When the two teams met for interleague games in each ballpark, they honored both players with throwback uniforms. For the July 12 game at Wrigley, the Cubs wore this Majestic knit 1958 home jersey. A testament to the Cubs' relative consistency with their home uniforms, this is an accurate and well-rendered version of the team's 1958 uniform. Numbers on the back are royal blue/red in the Cubs' signature font, and all players wore number 14 that day to honor Banks.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1958 (Road)

For the August 14 interleague road game on the South Side against the White Sox, the Cubs wore full-knit replicas of their 1958 road jerseys by Majestic. These uniforms were almost identical to the Turn Back the Clock to 1964 road jerseys the team wore the year prior, minus the cartoon Cub patch on the left sleeve. They were excellent reproductions of the originals, featuring “Chicago” lettering on front and player numbers on back in blue/red twill. Blue/red/blue knit trim circles the collar and the sleeve ends, as it did on the real thing.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1945

The Cubs wrapped up their five-game Turn Back the Clock series in 2015 with a 1945 home throwback in an August 19 game against the Tigers, who wore 1945 road uniforms. The game recreated the 1945 World Series matchup. The Majestic knit jerseys featured royal blue numbers on the back in the Cubs' traditional number font, though the numbers are rendered in a bolder style than on the originals. In 1945, the Cubs did not wear the WWII "Stars and Stripes" shield patch on their jerseys, as several other teams did—and this absence is faithfully recreated here.

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2015 Gold Batting Practice

On September 28, the Cubs created a similar fundraising promotion to their breast cancer “Pink Out” from a few months earlier. This time, the beneficiary was childhood cancer charities, and the jerseys adopted the movement’s signature gold color. Contrary to the Pink Out jerseys—where the new color was added to the front—the gold appears on the back and underarm panels. The rest of the logos and numbers remain the same as the normal jerseys. The Ernie Banks memorial patch is on the right sleeve. The jerseys were auctioned off, with proceeds benefiting childhood cancer charities via Cubs Charities, the Anthony Rizzo Family Foundation, the Jason Motte Foundation, Jon Lester’s NVRQT campaign, and Joe Maddon’s Respect 90 Foundation.

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2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wore special pink-trimmed uniforms on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys were made in Flex Base construction, with a rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also featured the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on the left chest (a holdover from prior seasons), while the Majestic sleeve logo was rendered in pink, and the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the collar appeared in dark pink/light pink/white. The Cubs home white jerseys have the front logo lettering sewn in pink with dark gray circle on a white field. They were one of a few teams (along with the Reds and Marlins) to have more than two colors on their front logo for this promotion, which helped increase the legibility of the logo's small details. Notably, the front logo also lacked the registered trademark symbol found on regular home jerseys. Player names on back were sewn in single-color dark gray, while back numbers were pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches were also changed to shades of pink, gray, and white.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at the back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template—with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines—makes this set more legible than those from prior years. The Cubs apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The red lettering on the front Cubs logo patch becomes woodland camo, while the blue circle around the team name turns black. Oddly, the front logo also loses the registered trademark symbol that is evident on the typical home jerseys. Player names appear in single-color black, and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black.

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2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms on Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with a rubberized tag applied to the left front tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back-of-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Cubs wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue, surrounded by a dark gray circle on a white field. They are one of two teams (along with the Marlins) to have more than two colors on their front logo for this promotion, which improves the legibility of the logo's small details. Oddly, the front logo also loses the registered trademark symbol that is evident on the regular home jerseys. The player names on back are sewn in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB introduces a new Independence Day jersey template for 2016, now built on Majestic's Flex Base jersey construction. Each jersey includes a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Cubs are at home and wear their home jersey. All clubs had a choice of two styles of star-spangled twill for lettering, and the Cubs selected the red twill version with blue outlines for both front lettering and back numbers, along with a blue player name on back. From a distance, the July 4 jersey appears very similar to the standard Cubs home jersey, as the star pattern on the red twill fades from view a few feet away. Oddly, the front logo also loses the registered trademark symbol that is evident on the regular home jerseys. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve, which here replaces the Wrigley Field anniversary patch. Team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors. However, the difference is almost indiscernible, with the walking cub logo only slightly darker blue than usual.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1916

When the Federal League Chicago Whales folded after the 1915 season, their now-vacant ballpark quickly found a new occupant. The NL Cubs moved right in and played their first game at what is now Wrigley Field on April 20, 1916, against Cincinnati. Some argue that the Cubs also inherited the Whales' uniforms, as the 1916 Cubs jersey looked quite a bit like the Whales' 1915 entry — which had also been worn as a throwback in 2015.

For this July 6 game—appropriately against the Reds, who also wore 1916 uniforms—the Cubs donned a Majestic knit half-button jersey with a black sun collar, black knit trim on the sleeve openings, and black block numbers on the back. These numbers, of course, were not historically accurate for the era. A red/black wishbone "C," inhabited by the first appearance of a "Walking Cub" logo, adorns the left front chest.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1988

On July 20, in a Wrigley Field day game between the Cubs and Mets, both teams wore 1988 throwback uniforms. The Cubs' Majestic knit pullovers are identical to the 1988 home throwbacks worn in 2014, and are spot-on recreations of the originals—minus one tiny detail: the "®" registered trademark symbol that appeared on jerseys starting in 1979. Neither TBTC version of that jersey includes the symbol.

However, all other details—including the absence of names on back, royal blue back numbers in the special Cubs font, and the round "Frowning Cub" patch on the left sleeve—are all accurate.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1981

On August 6 in Oakland, the Cubs and A's both throw back to the 1980s. The Cubs wear a Majestic knit replica of their 1981 road blue jersey with white pinstripes, featuring royal blue letters throughout, with front and back numbers in the Cubs' special font. Oddly, the numbers here appear more squared than on the originals, and the front lettering looks narrower. During this jersey's original run, names were vertically arched, although here they are applied in a simple radial arch.

The Cubs are usually very detail-oriented and accurate with their many throwbacks, but since they were the road team for this game, it is likely the A's were responsible for ordering the uniforms—and may not have paid attention to the small details in the same way the Cubs do.

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2017 Special Opening Series Gold Trimmed

The Cubs wore gold-trimmed jerseys to celebrate their 2016 World Series win for their home opening series on April 10 and 12, 2017. The front disk had a subtle extra embroidered gold border. The back numbers are metallic gold twill outlined with royal blue, and the MLB logo patch on the back of the neck is gold/red/blue. The 2016 World Series Champions patch is on the right sleeve.

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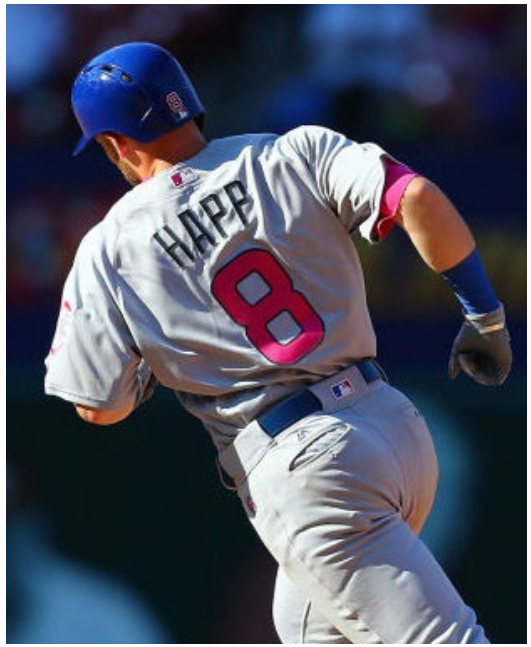
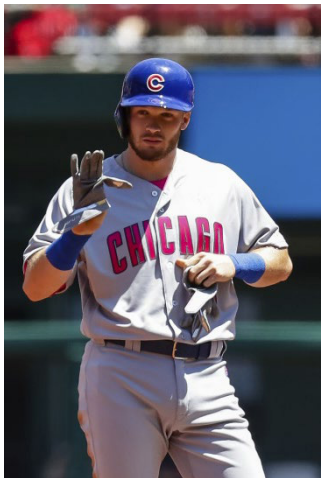
2017 Mother's Day



Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left-tail Majestic heat-applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on the left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter appliqué stitched on the back of the collar.

All multi-colored lettering uses the lightweight twill style. The Cubs wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white.



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2017-2018 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are difficult to distinguish, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch appears on the right sleeve, featuring five black stars representing the five branches of the U.S. military. All trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Cubs apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017, and May 28, 2018.

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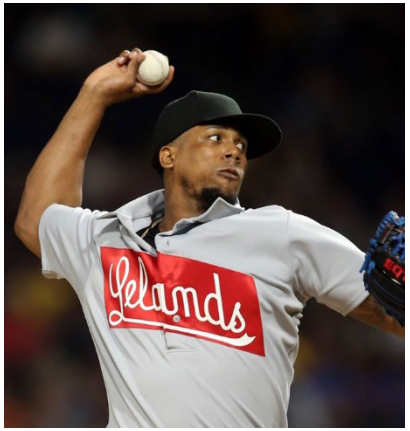
2017 Negro Leagues Tribute (1910s Leland Giants)



An independent Negro League team that called Chicago home, the Leland Giants were named after their player/manager/owner Frank Leland—and their uniforms were unique. The Cubs took to the field in Pittsburgh on June 16, 2017, for a Negro Leagues tribute game wearing these striking jerseys from the mid-1910s. Gray full-knit, half-button-downs with collars, made by Majestic, proclaimed the team name in white, downward-slanted cursive on a similarly slanted bright red field. Red block numbers on back—though these were likely not worn by the team originally—complete a look that might seem improbable if not confirmed by period photography, as shown in the team photo above right.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left-tail Majestic tagging and set tagging inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on the left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back collar in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Cubs wear road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.

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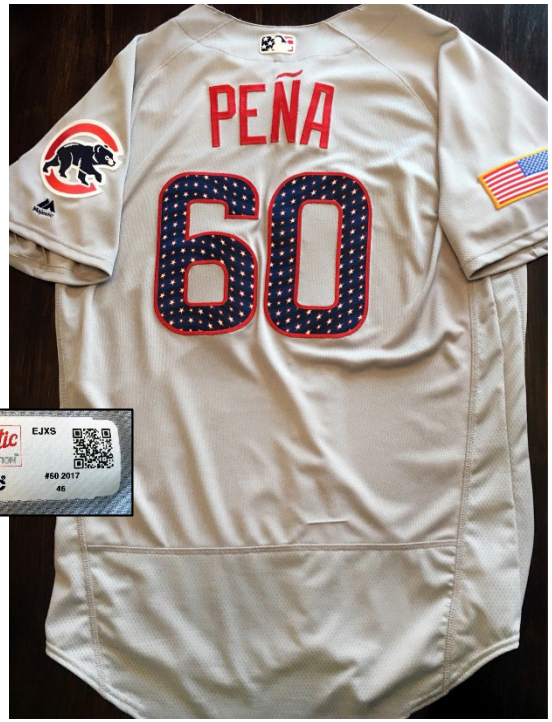
2017 Independence Day (Road)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, with a slightly less busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill — appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 1–2, 2017, the Cubs wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering, with front and back numbers also in blue patterned twill/red. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. While other teams modify their team sleeve patches to make them embroidered in red, white, and blue, the Cubs can use their standard sleeve patches without alteration.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, with a slightly less busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill — appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base, with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 4, 2017, the Cubs wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. The front logo also loses the registered trademark symbol that is evident on the regular home jerseys. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. The Cubs' sleeve patch remains unaltered, as it is already red, white, and blue.

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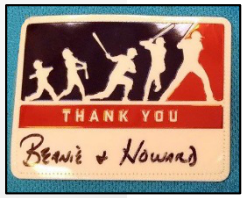
2017-2018 Players Weekend



To highlight players' personalities and appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard colors and designs for cleats, bats, and other gear, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a right-sleeve patch where players can honor special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch and the back-of-collar logo feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood.

Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied to the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are rendered in single-color Varsity, and the player names in 2¾″ single-color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, and August 24–26, 2018, the Cubs wear jerseys with royal blue bodies and powder blue sleeves, featuring white nicknames and powder blue numbers on the back. The sleeves and V-neck opening are trimmed in wide powder blue/white/powder blue bands. The front features their "C-ubs-in-a-circle" logo from their home jerseys, here rendered in red/white/powder blue kiss-cut lightweight twill. The front logo also loses the registered trademark symbol that is evident on their regular home jerseys.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern introduced in 2017, featuring printed twill with a design of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the lettering — red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 2–4, 2018, the Cubs adjust the front of the previous year’s Independence Day jerseys, changing the “C-ubs” logo to red, set inside a blue patterned twill circle. The front logo also loses the registered trademark symbol that is evident on the regular home jerseys. Jersey backs are the same as in 2017, with red names and blue patterned twill/red numbers. As before, the Cubs’ standard team sleeve patch is used, already embroidered in red, white, and blue.

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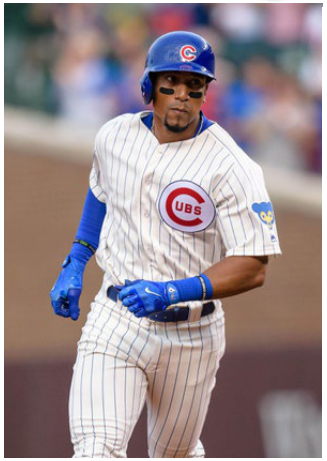
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1969



On July 16, 2019, the Cubs throw back 50 years to their classic 1969 home jersey. Compared to the original shown at left, these are highly accurate reproductions. Aside from the slightly lower placement of the back numbers compared to the original 1969 set, these cream-colored, full-knit replicas by Majestic match in every respect—including the 1969 MLB 100th anniversary patch on the right sleeve and the correct 1969 Cartoon Cub patch on the left.

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2019 Little League Classic

The Little League Classic, an MLB game played in Williamsport, PA, home of the Little League World Series, was a major element of the Players Weekend promotion when it started in 2017. The game served as a preview, of sorts, of the colorful, Little League-inspired uniforms worn for the Major League promotion a week later. Then, 2019 brought a stark monochrome version of the Players Weekend look, so to stick to its roots, the Little League Classic had to change….to stripes. Wide chest stripes with team nickname inside, not unlike the Cubs' crosstown rival White "SOX" wore in the 1980s. On August 18, the Cubs sport these gray Majestic Cool Base pullovers for the Classic, with red/white "CUBBIES" emblazoned on front, centered in the powder blue/royal blue/powder blue horizontal chest stripe. A blue V-neck and sleeves complete the look, while back numbers appear in red/white in the Cubs usual font, and royal blue player nicknames (a holdover from Players Weekend) surmount the back numbers. Also returning from previous Players Weekend games is the right-sleeve CFX patch, featuring an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood, with a space for the player to personalize with names of people instrumental in his life. A CFX Little League Classic logo patch appears on the right sleeve.

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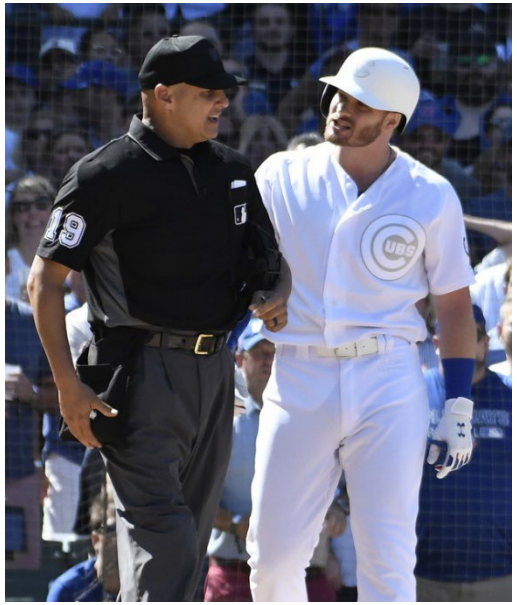
2019 Players Weekend



The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Cubs wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back. The front logo also loses the registered trademark symbol that is evident on the regular home jerseys.

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2022 Field of Dreams Game

For the August 11, 2022 incarnation of the Field of Dreams game in Dyersville, Iowa, the Cubs throw it back to their late-1920s/early-1930s look. And in a way, to 2014 as well, which is when they last wore a turn back the clock design just like this. Nike made this latest version -- half-pullovers in a cream-colored Cool Base material, with a five-button front and period-correct two-tiered “sun collars.” The left chest sports the Cubs’ former “wishbone C” logo in red/navy with a navy patch featuring a quaint bear cub holding a baseball bat. Sleeve ends and the collar are ringed with a wide navy/white/navy braid, while the neck and short placket have navy knit trim. Though they would not have been used at the time this jersey represents, back numbers are added here in red/navy in McAuliffe font, once worn by many teams, but now only seen regularly on the Red Sox. Similarly anachronistic are the MLB and Nike logos, which are a sign of our times.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1976-1977 Prototype Road

This prototype of the Cubs' powder blue 1976–1977 road jersey is so very close to what the team wore on the field with one important exception—all of the lettering is two-color blue/white rather than single-color blue. What these photos don't show is if the Cartoon Cub patch is on the left sleeve like the jerseys that were used on the field. It is likely if it had been there, it would have been documented by the auction house that had this item, so it was probably never applied for this sample. The jersey's tag is appropriate for the 1974–1977 era of Wilson jerseys.

The Cubs'1976–1977 road jersey as worn on the field.

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1977 Prototype Road

Bill Henderson Collection

This powder blue with white pinstripes road jersey carries a team-spec 1977, set 1 tag on the tail. Number 44 in 1977 was pitcher Dave Giusti, who at 5' 11" and 195 lbs. would have been a perfect fit in this Wilson pro-tagged size 44 jersey.

But wait - the Cubs did not start to use this style road jersey until 1978. The 1976-1977 road jersey was solid powder blue with royal blue trim. The powder blue chalk pinstripe jersey didn't appear until 1978, and the 1978 version was the only one with this tan and blue style Cartoon Cub patch on the sleeve. There is no name on back on my example, nor does one ever appear to have been sewn there. Yet the player number is sewn low to leave room for one (names on back would not appear on Cubs road jerseys until 1979).

A critical eye will note that the "CHICAGO" lettering on the front is slightly less bold than the normal for either 1977 or 1978. Finally, there is an odd felt rectangle sewn on the spot inside the collar in the normal place that the Cubs sew team tagging. What is this? My best guess is that it is a Wilson prototype submitted to the team for consideration of a new style for 1977; one that was delayed until 1978.

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1990: Oops.

The caption reads *"**When things go wrong…** Charles Blatt, manager of a sports store in North Pier, displays some of the 14 misspelled Cubs jerseys the manufacturer wants returned. Blatt, however, says he will sell them as memorabilia."*

Below, a photo of a surviving example, with store hang-tag still attached.

Note: In the last edition we included a page showing Cubs jerseys with 2002 Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) "Jerseys off their Backs" patches on the chest. My Cubs experts inform me that this was not an MLB event, and likely these were Iowa Cubs jerseys.

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2000-2001: Six Cubs Captains

Captain's patches are a more familiar element of hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, but there have been occasions where they've been worn by baseball players, too.

In 2000–2001, the Cubs made the unprecedented move of naming six players as captains, and honoring each with a captain's "C" on their jersey sleeves. Usually, a team has no more than one captain, or perhaps a captain and one or two assistant captains, so naming four each year was unusual, and giving them all the "C" was even more unorthodox.

Sammy Sosa and Kevin Tapani were captains in both 2000 and 2001. Mark Grace and Rick Aguilera were captains in 2000, while Eric Young and Joe Girardi were captains in 2001.

The images here show examples of all six players donning the captains "C" across those two seasons, including home, road, and alternate jerseys.

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2001-2003 Prototype Home?

While the Cubs have not altered their home jersey design in decades, that doesn't mean they have never considered alternatives.

I have no confirmation that this vest-look jersey with sewn-on raglan-style sleeves is a prototype, and it could be home-made or have been made for a minor league Cubs affiliate, but the presence of the 2001–2003 Russell Authentic Collection tag with the red markings on it is enough to pique my curiosity and warrant its inclusion. Red-marked tagging generally indicates an item not intended for retail sale that was rejected for on-field use and sent to the discounters. A close-up of the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch reveals that, oddly, it is black and green as would have been used on a Rays uniform.

The Cubs actually wore vests that looked similar to this in the early 1940s (see photo, above at right). The idea was that the vest allowed better freedom of movement for players than a traditional sleeved jersey.

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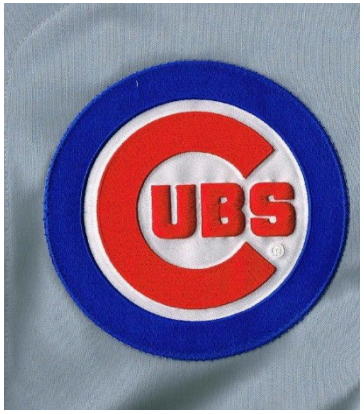
2001-2003 Prototype Road?



It's an educated guess, but this attractive gray-bodied jersey with red, white and blue trimmed sleeve ends (identical to the 1992–2004 Montreal Expos road jersey body) *could* have been a proposed design for a Cubs road jersey as offered by Russell for the team's consideration. The Russell tail tag is in the 2001–2003 style, and the small size/100% nylon flag tag beneath coupled with the lack of a neck size tag make it look like a team-issue blank. The Cubs disk on the chest oddly has the R trademark symbol embroidered in nearly-invisible white thread on a white background. Red staining on the tail tag looks like it had been marked for discard with a red marker that someone tried to remove.

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More Oddballs

Below: The very definition of minutia! The Cubs' wore a sleeve patch with 14 stars at its top in 1997 only before it switched to 16 stars in 1998 (one star for each NL team that existed that year) .... so why does Sammy Sosa's 2004 jersey have the 1997-only 14-star patch on the sleeve? My guess is that he had extra jerseys made for himself to sell as game worn memorabilia, and these were made off-cycle by Majestic in a special order, and they simply used the older version of the patch by mistake. After all, who would notice, besides us? Recently we received one of these to authenticate. That document is linked below.

Above: 2013 or 2014 home jersey with a pale desert camouflage wordmark was not used by the Cubs. Perhaps they were made in anticipation of a Military Appreciation game that did not occur? Retail tagging indicates that perhaps a quantity was made for resale. The Cubs were on the road for camo-themed Memorial Days of both 2013 and 2014, and so wore road grays in both games. This photo is from 2014, so it was not the 2015 jersey.

Right: Andre Dawson appearing at the 1991 All Star game in Toronto shows that, with team patches on both sleeves of his road jersey that he has run out of real estate to apply the All-Star patch, and it is sewn nearly on the top of his shoulder.

Above: In 2013, unexplained, one of the home uniforms worn periodically by David DeJesus is missing the ® on the chest logo.

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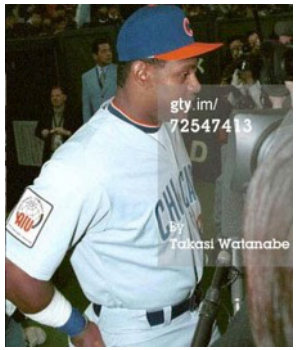
Commemorative Patches

Cubs Patches

1976

2000 Opening Series in Japan



1984

1984 NLCS only, home version above, road version below. *(courtesy Jared Wheeler, Mitchell & Ness)*

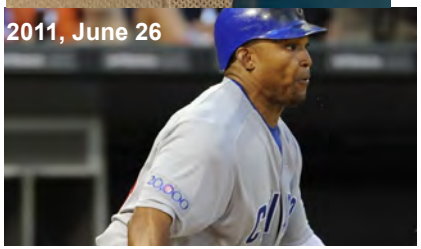
- For all their years of history, the Cubs have worn relatively few commemorative patches.
- 1976: Team 100th Anniversary patch
- 1976* (see comment on next page): Black armbands are sometimes found on Cubs jerseys
- 1977: William K. Wrigley armband after April 14
- 1984 Postseason: Patch worn on the right sleeve to commemorate winning the NL Eastern Division
- 1990: All-Star Game
- 1998: Two memorial patches. Harry Caray round patch on left sleeve, Jack Brickhouse "Hey Hey" memorial patch above the NL Crest on right sleeve of blue alternate. On home and road, Caray on right sleeve and Brickhouse on left, above the Walking Cub patch. Brickhouse memorial worn after August 6, 1998.
- 2000, March 29–30: Opening Series in Japan vs. Mets - AIU Insurance Co. sponsorship worn on right sleeve of road jersey. Likely removed afterward.
- 2001, June 26: "20,000" patch to mark the Cubs' 20,000th regular season game, worn right sleeve of road jersey. The Cubs were the first MLB team to reach this mark.

1990

Harry Caray Memorial Patch, worn all season

1998

Brickhouse passed 08/06/98. Patch was worn after that date



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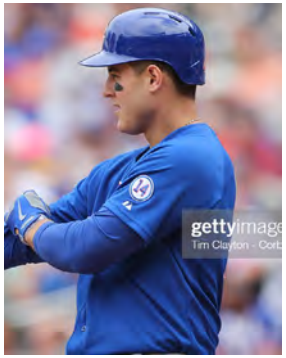
- 2011: “10” Patch for Ron Santo (all season)
- 2012, July 22 and 27: Ron Santo special Hall of Fame Patch worn the day of his HOF induction and on “Ron Santo Day” at Wrigley. It is different from the one worn the whole prior year. This patch was seen on the home (7/27) pinstripe and blue alternate jerseys (7/22) only.
- 2014: Wrigley Field 100th Anniversary, worn all season on home pinstripe jersey only.
- 2015: “14” disc for Ernie Banks, all season, also worn on batting practice jersey. Normally worn on the home jersey right sleeve, and blue alternate left sleeve, but also shown here worn above the postseason patch, and on the chest during the All-Star game by Cubs participants.



Regarding unknown armbands found on some 1976 game worn jerseys, One of our most knowledgeable Cubs experts comments: “In 1977, the Cubs wore a black armband in honor of P.K. Wrigley, who died April 12, 1977. But that wouldn’t have gone on a jersey with the 1976 patch—not even in spring training, since Wrigley didn’t pass away until after the season had started.

Speculation: Longtime Cubs PA announcer Pat Pieper died October 22, 1974. The black armband MIGHT have been worn in 1975, with a 1976 patch added to that jersey for spring training 1976. That’s strictly speculation with no facts to back it up.”

None of this adds up for me. Notice on photo of the armband on the prior page, the armband overlaps the 1976 patch, and this is consistent with other examples we have seen. This means the armband was sewn after the 1976 patch was already present.

The only other thought we have is that the armband was added for the death of former Cubs manager/ scout/coach Lou Klein, who passed June 20, 1976. Or, they could simply be incorrect restorations.

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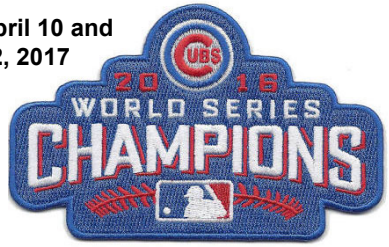
2016

April 10 and 12, 2017



August 18, 2019

- 2016: A Century of Cubs at Wrigley Field on home pinstriped jersey only.
- 2017, April 10 and 12: 2016 World Series Champions
- 2018, March 29–April 1: MSD ribbon in memory of victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting 2019, August 18: Little League Classic patch on the special Little League Classic jersey.
- 2022, May 20: Patch to honor the dedication of a Fergie Jenkins statue at Wrigley Field
- 2023, June 23–24: MLB World Tour London Series patch and Advocate Health Care sponsor patch for two games in London only
- 2024, April 6: ”Otis” patch for Cubs clubhouse manager Tom Otis Hellmann, who died in January of that year
- 2024, June 23: Ryne Sandberg statue dedication patch
- 2024: August 17: Cubs for a Cure patch, part of a fundraising effort for cancer research
- 2025, March 18-19: Tokyo Series patch and Nippon Express sponsor patch for games in Japan, team disc patch removed for series.
- 2025, starting July 30: Memorial for Ryne Sandberg

March 29-April 1, 2018

May 20, 2022

Cubs pitcher and former Phillie Cole Hamels wears a Phillies David Montgomery memorial patch in Philadelphia on August 14, 2019

June 23-24, 2023

April 6, 2024

June 23, 2024

August 17, 2024

March 18-19, 2025

2025. starting July 30

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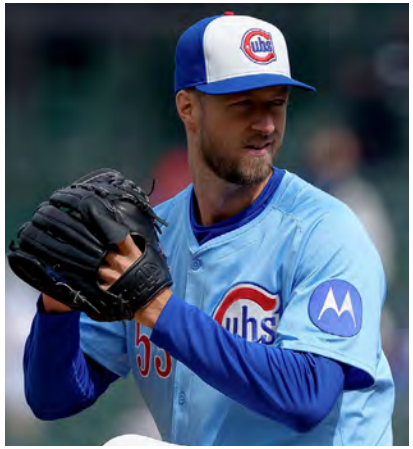
2023-2025 Cubs Advertising Patches



Home, road, and home alternate (powder blue)

Road alternate and City Connect

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Cubs did not make a deal with a jersey patch sponsor in 2023. However, perhaps in a move to accommodate a future ad patch, the team removed the National League logo patch from the right sleeve on its blue alternate jerseys prior to the 2023 season. The Walking Cub patch still remained on the left sleeve of the home and road jerseys in 2023.

In 2024, the Cubs struck a sponsor patch deal with Motorola, a telecommunications company. The patches first appeared on August 1, 2024. There are two versions of the patch. One is a blue circle with a white Motorola logo, used on the home, road, and powder blue jerseys. The other is a white circle with a blue Motorola logo used on the alternate and City Connect jerseys. The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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Cubs Postseason Patches

2015 NL Wild Card, 2015 NL Division Series, 2015 NL Championship Series (right sleeve home and road jerseys, left sleeve blue alternate, with "14" patch above on all)

2017 NL Division Series 2017 NL Championship Series

(right sleeve home and road jerseys, left sleeve blue alternate)

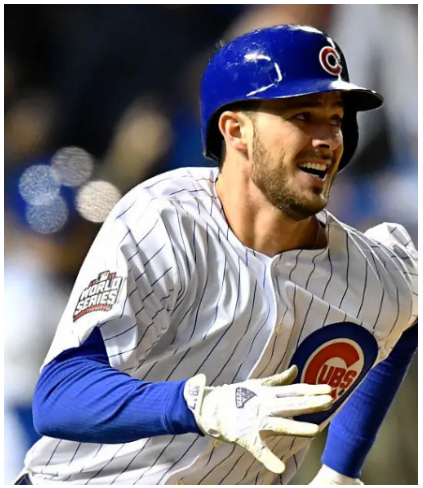
2016 NL Division Series

2016 NL Championship Series

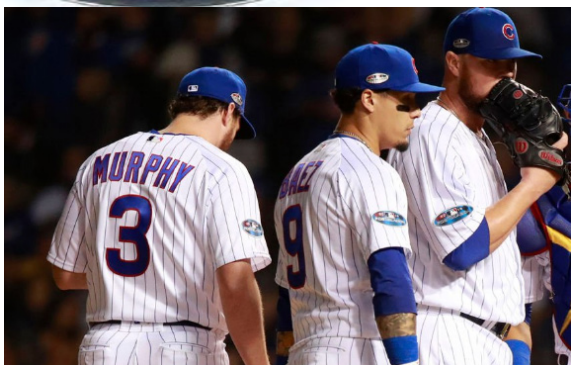
(right sleeve home jerseys, replacing anniversary patch; right sleeve of road jersey; left sleeve of blue alternate)

2016 World Series

(right sleeve home jerseys, replacing anniversary patch; right sleeve of road jersey; left sleeve of blue alternate)



2018 NL Wild Card (right sleeve of home jersey)



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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Mark Grace 1988 Cubs (Rookie) Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J08

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White pullover Rawlings size 42 jersey with royal blue engineered pinstripes, blue V-neck trim, Chicago Cubs jersey. Issued to Mark Grace in the 1988 season. The Cubs red and blue embroidered twill team disk patch is sewn to the left chest, and the proper for 1988 cartoon frowning cub-face patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Number "17" in red outlined in white, no name on back. The font is correct for the 1988 Cubs, size 42 which is a consistent size for those Grace game jerseys worn only very early in his career. Grace has signed the jersey on the upper left chest. I have no opinion on the autograph, but it comes with a Beckett letter of authenticity certifying the signature.

Grace was called up by the Cubs in May of 1988, and he was assigned #28. He switched to #17 later in the season, and kept that number for the rest of his career. This jersey has always been numbered #17, there has been no number change.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawling manufacturer tag sewn inside the neck is in the proper style for 1988. Team index tagging "17 88 2 42" (which decodes to player number 17, 1988 season, set 2, size 42) is machine-embroidered on a twill strip (not knit, as is correct for 1988) into the collar directly below the Rawlings manufacturer tag. A flag tab is sewn pinched under the right side of the Rawlings tag. "Set 2 1988". Both the sleeve ends and collar are trimmed with 3/4" sewn-in royal blue knit trim. "Rawlings" is embroidered into the right sleeve in white using the company's logo script.

Wear & Repairs: There are no signs of any team repairs, and it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed, but wear is very light. As a set 2, this may have been his secondary jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Mark Grace of the Chicago Cubs during the 1988 season.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Rick Sutcliffe 1984 Chicago Cubs Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1984-tagged Chicago Cubs, Rawlings-made road blue full-weight knit V-neck pullover jersey. Red and white striped sewn in knit trim at the sleeve and neck openings. Issued to and worn by Rick Sutcliffe. The Cubs team disk patch is sewn to the left chest, and the proper for 1984 cartoon frowning cub-face patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Number "40" in red outlined in white, direct sewn radially arched name on back. All fonts are correct for the 1984 Cubs; during these years, the Cubs interchangeably used both radial and vertically arched player names. It is a size 48, which is a consistent size for Sutcliffe game jerseys in this point of his career. There is no evidence of the 1984 post-season patch having been sewn to the right sleeve. (And images of Sutcliffe pitching in the postseason show him clearly wearing a different jersey than this one.)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer tag sewn inside the neck is in that maker's proper style. Team index tagging "84 2 48" (which decodes to 1984 season, set 2, size 48) is embroidered on a knit strip of the same fabric as the jersey, stitched into the back of the neck directly below the Wilson manufacturer tag. A square knit tag sewn on the outside left front tail has the two-digit year, "84" in the same chain stitch handwriting. Both sleeve ends and the collar opening are trimmed with wide sewn-in red and white knit trim.

Wear & Repairs: There are no signs of any team repairs, and it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times. The back lettering has softened, and the edges are slightly frayed and the white outlining has been laundry-stained so that it is no longer bright white.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Rick Sutcliffe in the 1984 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andre Dawson 1987 Chicago Cubs Game Worn Blue Road Jersey

Examination Date: January 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-20201J06

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road Royal-Blue pullover V-neck full-weight Rawlings-made Chicago Cubs jersey, issued to Andre Dawson in the 1987 season. Both sleeve ends and collar are trimmed with wide sewn-in red and white knit trim. The large red, white and blue Cubs team disk patch is sewn to the left chest, and the proper for 1987 cartoon frowning cub-face patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Number "8" in red outlined in white, direct-sewn radially arched "DAWSON" name on back. All fonts are correct for the 1987 Cubs. It is a size 44T (tapered) which is a consistent size for Dawson game jerseys in this point of his career.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawling manufacturer tag sewn inside the neck is in that manufacturer's proper style; 1987 was the final year for the rectangular red embroidered tag. Team index tagging "11 87 1 44T" (which decodes to player number 11, 1987 season, set 1, size 44 tapered) is machine-embroidered on a strip of royal blue tackle twill (as is correct for 1987 Cubs jerseys) , into the collar directly below the Rawlings red size 44 manufacturer tag. "Rawlings" logo script is embroidered into the right sleeve an inch above the sleeve-end trim. 1987 was Dawson's first year with the Cubs, and he was a very late signing, inking his contract on March 6 when the team had already begun spring training. Notably- Dawson wore #8, not #11 as noted in the collar tag. Backup catcher Jim Sundberg, who had also joined the Cubs in the 1987 season, was assigned #11. Dawson and Sundberg were listed at the same weight and approximate size (though Dawson had longer legs), and in my estimation it would be completely reasonable for the Cubs to have designated any jersey already ordered and tailored for Sundberg to be duplicated for use by Dawson, as the opening day uniform orders to Rawlings were likely already in the process of being submitted by the time Dawson arrived on site.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. There are no signs of any team repairs, and it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed. There is some yellowing of the white twill on the back lettering outlining, and definite minor discoloration of the white sleeve end trim that comes from washing. There is no puckering of the back lettering that occurs after heavy use and washing. The jersey shows light, even use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and worn by Andre Dawson of the Chicago Cubs in 1987.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Ryne Sandberg 1987 Chicago Cubs Game Worn Blue Road Jersey

Examination Date: January 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J07

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road Royal-blue pullover V-neck full-weight Rawlings-made Chicago Cubs jersey, issued to Ryne Sandberg in the 1987 season. Both sleeve ends and collar are trimmed with wide sewn-in red and white knit trim. The large red, white and blue Cubs team disk patch is sewn to the left chest, and the proper for 1987 cartoon frowning cub-face patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Number "23" in red outlined in white, direct-sewn radially arched "SANDBERG" name on back. All fonts are correct for the 1987 Cubs. It is a size 42T (tapered) which is a consistent size for Sandberg game jerseys in 1987.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawling manufacturer tag sewn inside the neck is in the (three line wash instructions) style used 1972-1984, but it is not generally seen after 1984, and does not appear on any other Cubs 1987 jerseys in my exemplar collection. It is odd, but not impossible that an obsolete tag would appear here. Team index tagging "23 87 1 42T" (which decodes to player number 23, 1987 season, set 1, size 42 tapered) is machine-embroidered on a strip of royal blue tackle twill (as is correct for 1987 Cubs jerseys), into the collar directly below the Rawlings red size 44 manufacturer tag. (I will note that there are two different machine-fonts used on Cubs' 1987 tagging, this matches one of them) "Rawlings" logo script is embroidered into the right sleeve an inch above the sleeve-end trim.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. There are no signs of any team repairs, and it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times. There is some yellowing of the white twill on the back lettering outlining, and graying of the white sleeve end trim that comes from washing. There is notable puckering and burnishing of the back lettering that occurs after heavy use and washing. The sheen of the lettering is definitely diminished. The jersey shows moderate, even use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. Aside from the odd use of the older collar Rawlings tag, it is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and worn by Ryne Sandberg of the Chicago Cubs in 1987.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Ryne Sandberg 1996 Chicago Cubs Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J08

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White with blue pinstripes, home full-weight six button Chicago Cubs jersey, Ryne Sandberg #23. On the back, "SANDBERG" radially arched with his number "23" below, in Royal Blue outlined in red. in the proper fonts and twill colors for the 1996 Cubs, It is a size 46, which is a reasonable size for Sandberg game jerseys at this point of his career. The Cubs team disk-patch is sewn to the left chest, and the 1996 cartoon frowning cub style patch is sewn to the left sleeve. A velcro closure is added between the second and third buttons. The jersey is autographed on the back between the name and numbers with the inscription 9/14/96. (I have no opinion on the autograph.) A box score of that date shows the Cubs played the Phillies in Chicago, the Phillies won 6-2, Sandberg hit a one-run home run run the 7th inning, going 1-4 for the game. Because I have seen another Cubs jerseys autographed in the same way, including the added date 9/14/1996, we might conclude that this was an organized uniform auction or give-away event.

While we did not locate any photos of this game, a photo of Sandberg dated on the day prior shows him wearing a jersey that has possibly identical alignment of the sleeve patch and Cubs crest when compared to the jersey in hand. It also appears to have extra-length sleeves. This is not enough evidence for a photo match (Getty Images #450113608) but it is worthy of consideration.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Team collar tagging "46-96-2" (which indicates size 46, 1996 season, set 2,) is printed onto a piece of white mylar fabric and is then sewn into the collar. From our exemplar library, This tag style is the most commonly used in 1996. A few players had their uniform number on the team tag, but most did not. Russell Diamond Collection manufacturer tag is sewn on the outside front left tail of the jersey, with a "100% Polyester" flag tag centered below, then two more layered flags: 1" extra length and 1" extra sleeve length. (Note: The Russell tail tag is of the style generally seen 1992-1994, with the "flat" slope-angled DIAMOND word. It is unusual but not impossible for it to be found on a 1996 jersey.) Russell blue and red "R" logo is embroidered into the right sleeve end.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the lettering on this jersey is original and without alteration. The jersey has very little wear, as all elements are still crisp including the back and flag tags. However, it appears to be in as-worn, unwashed condition, with ground in dirt stains on the right sleeve, the right shoulder, and under the right arm, as well as on the back lower right side.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits the signs of wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my the considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and issued to and worn by Ryne Sandberg of the Chicago Cubs in the 1996 season.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Sammy Sosa 1996 Chicago Cubs Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J09

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Russell six-button white with blue pinstripes Chicago Cubs size 46 home jersey of #21, Sammy Sosa. Red, white and blue Cubs disk on the left chest, player number "21" in the Cubs signature font on back with SOSA radially arched above, both in Royal Blue outlined with red. Red white and blue frowning cub patch on the left sleeve. A velcro closure is added between the second and third buttons. The jersey is autographed on the back, between the name and numbers, "#21 Sammy Sosa 09-14-96." (I have no opinion on the validity of the autograph.)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection tagging appropriate for 1996 is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinched beneath the tag is a small 100% Polyester flag tag, and correspondingly there is no flag size tag in the neck. These are the hallmarks of Russell team-spec (as opposed to retail sale) jerseys, However, there is no team tagging inside the back of the neck that would normally appear there. Cubs player-issued game jerseys in 1996 had a rectangular mylar-fabric tag inside the back of the neck with the code, *uniform size-two digit year-set number* (as in "46 96 01,"). Notably: We have evaluated another Cubs jerseys with an autograph on the back and the same date signed below. From this, we suspect a signing event, a fundraiser jersey auction, such as a "shirts off their backs" promotion may have happened on that day, which was a Saturday day game. Given that the jersey shows no signs of wear, it is entirely possible that Sosa offered an unworn, untagged jersey for the signing event, preferring to keep his tailored jersey to wear again.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows no discernible signs of wash/wear. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent unused condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. While it lacks team tagging, given the inscription on back, It is my considered opinion that this jersey was team issued for Sammy Sosa of the 1996 Chicago Cubs.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Greg Maddux 2004 Chicago Cubs Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 30, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0630J01

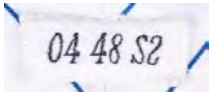
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic six-button white with blue pinstripes full-weight double knit Chicago Cubs size 48 home jersey of #31, Greg Maddux. This is the correct size for him to have worn. Red, white and blue embroidered Cubs disk on the left chest, player number "31" in the Cubs signature font on back with MADDUX radially arched above, both in Royal Blue outlined with red. Red white and blue walking cub patch on the left sleeve. The red/white/blue MLB silhouetted batter logo is on an embroidered patch sewn to the center of the back of the neck, correct for 2004.

Maddux started his career with the Cubs in 1986, then was traded to the Braves in 1993. He won four consecutive (1992, 1993, 1994, 1995) Cy Young Awards, and was the first pitcher in Major League history to ever win four in a row. He returned to the Cubs for the 2004 season to much fanfare, and stayed for three seasons before moving to finish his career illustrious 22-year Hall of Fame career with the Dodgers and Padres.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic "M" logo is direct embroidered on the end of the left sleeve in Royal Blue. Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag appropriate for 2004 is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinched beneath the tag is a small size 48 flag tag. Pinched inside the side seam is the Majestic style code tag, with the designation "0062" signifying that this is a jersey model made to team specifications rather than for retail sale. Inside the back of the neck is a 1"x 3" double knit tag with serged edge, with direct machine-stitched embroidery: "04 48 S2" (2004, size 48 set 2), Comparing this tagging to exemplars in our archives, I will note that the common nomenclature for 2004 Cubs tagging is a set of 4 pairs of numbers, the first set being the player's number. (Following that example, this jersey would more commonly have been tagged "31 04 49 S2") The only other example we have of a jersey so tagged is another Maddux jersey, that one a 2004 road jersey.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. The jersey shows more than moderate wear, with burnishing of the twill numbers, wash puckering of the sewn elements and a slight but notable overall graying of the fabric from its original bright white. There are tiny fabric pulls scattered across the the jersey's surface. It is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. While its tagging differs slightly from other 2004 Cubs player examples, it is clearly a team prepared and issued jersey and shows strong use. It is the correct size for Maddux to have worn. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was team prepared and used by Greg Maddux of the 2004 Chicago Cubs.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Greg Maddux 2004 Chicago Cubs Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 3, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0803J01R

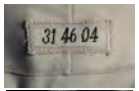
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic six-button solid gray full-weight double knit Chicago Cubs size 46 road jersey of #31, Greg Maddux. Maddux wore both size 46 and 48 jerseys at this point in his career. Blue over white CHICAGO arched in the team font across both panels of the chest, player number "31" in red over white in the Cubs signature font on both the left front and back with MADDUX radially arched above, both in Royal Blue outlined with white. Red white and blue walking cub patch on the left sleeve. The red/white/blue MLB silhouetted batter logo is on an embroidered patch sewn to the center of the back of the neck, correct for 2004. Maddux has signed the back "3" in black ink, I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Maddux started his career with the Cubs in 1986, then was traded to the Braves in 1993. He won four consecutive (1992, 1993, 1994, 1995) Cy Young Awards, and was the first pitcher in Major League history to ever win four in a row. He returned to the Cubs for the 2004 season to much fanfare, and stayed for three seasons before moving to finish his career illustrious 22-year Hall of Fame career with the Dodgers and Padres. In August 2004 Maddux registered his 300th career win wearing a road jersey identical in appearance to this one.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic "M" logo is direct embroidered on the end of the left sleeve in Royal Blue. Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag appropriate for 2004 is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinched beneath the tag is a small size 46 flag tag. Pinched inside the side seam is the Majestic style code tag, with the designation "0062" signifying that this is a jersey model made to team specifications rather than for retail sale. Inside the back of the neck is a 1"x 3" double knit tag with serged edge, with direct machine-stitched embroidery: "31 47 04" (Player 31, size 46, 2004), Comparing this tagging to exemplars in our archives, I will note that it does not follow the common nomenclature for 2004 Cubs tagging, which is a set of 4 pairs of numbers, the first set being the player's number. (Following that example, this jersey would more commonly have been tagged "31 04 46 S2") The only other examples we have of a jersey so tagged are two other 2004 Maddux jerseys. It is entirely possible the team or the player ordered extra jerseys that year that were made separately from the team's regular sets.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. The jersey shows very light wear, without discernible wear to the fabric and lettering, but mild wash-wear evident on the tagging.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent lightly worn condition, is properly lettered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. While its tagging differs slightly from other 2004 Cubs player examples, it is clearly a team prepared and issued jersey. It is the correct size for Maddux to have worn. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was team prepared and used by Greg Maddux of the 2004 Chicago Cubs.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Todd Van Poppel 2000 Chicago Cubs Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: July 16, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0716J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic six-button solid gray full-weight double knit Chicago Cubs size 52 road jersey of #47, pitcher Todd Van Poppel. The size is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player in his career. Blue over white CHICAGO arched in the team font across both panels of the chest, player number "47" in red over white in the correct Cubs font on both the left front and back with VAN POPPEL radially arched above, Royal Blue outlined with white. Red, white and blue walking cub patch on the left sleeve. The red/white/blue MLB silhouetted batter logo is on an embroidered patch sewn to the center of the back of the neck, correct for 2000.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic "M" logo is not direct embroidered on the end of the left sleeve as is usually seen, instead it is sewn-on as a small embroidered patch that is stitched to the jersey sleeve, but this matches many other 2000 Cubs jerseys. (2000 was the first year for Majestic to make Cubs jerseys, assuming the contract from Russell, and there are a few oddities like these seen on 2000 season Cubs jerseys in our exemplar library.) Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag appropriate for 2000 is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinched beneath the tag is a small size 52 flag tag. Pinched inside the side seam is a Majestic wash instruction tag, but unlike other Majestic tag I can recall seeing. It does not have a jersey style designation number of any kind printed on it. Inside the back of the neck is a 1"x 3" gray double knit tag, with direct machine-stitched embroidery: "52 00 1" (Size 52, 2000, set 1), and stitched directly to its left is a separate smaller tag with a *very slightly* different machine embroidered number 47 on it. This tagging was all stitched in the back of the neck before the placket was stitched closed, as is correct.

One interesting characteristic of this jersey is that all of the lettering is double-color stitched, that is: both colors have been stitched through to the shirt. This is not common on jerseys that were made at the factory for the beginning of the season. But research shows that Van Poppel was a May 12, 2000 call-up from the Iowa Cubs. This can explain the different stitching on the player lettering, and also the unique configuration of the team tagging in the back of the neck; this jersey was very likely made after the start of the season and was not part of the initial set of jerseys made for the club out of spring training by Majestic. And while I have never seen this style of the inside seam wash instruction tag before, the jersey seems wholly authentic and I would simply list this as an example of a unique item that has not crossed my path before.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. The jersey shows normal wear for a season of use without repairs.

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Above left, a characteristic of many 2000 season Cubs jersey is the Majestic logo stitched on a patch to the sleeve versus direct embroidered. Above right notice the team tagging in the back of the collar which has a separate sewn element for the player number, 47, at its left. This indicates to me that this jersey was an extra at the beginning of the season that was customized for the player after the season began. Notice the detail of stitching of the player name which shows both colors stitched through to the shirt, another characteristic of jerseys stitched separately from the team's initial order from spring training. At right the inside wash instructions tag which is unlike Majestic's usual tagging.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good game worn condition, is properly lettered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. While its tagging differs slightly from other 2000 Cubs player examples, it is clearly a team prepared and issued jersey. It is the correct size for Van Poppel to have worn. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was team prepared and used by Todd Van Poppel of the 2000 Chicago Cubs.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Dave Guisti 1977 Chicago Cubs Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: August 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0823J02

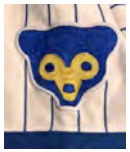
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1977-tagged Chicago Cubs, Wilson-made home pinstripe full-weight knit V-neck pullover jersey. Royal blue sewn in knit trim at the sleeve and V-neck openings. Royal Blue numbers on the back. The Cubs team disk patch is sewn to the left chest, and the correct-for-1977 cub-face patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Wilson tag in the back of the neck lists the size as 46. Team index tagging "44 77 1 46" (which decodes to Player 44, 1977 season, set 1, size 46) is embroidered in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher on a white knit strip of fabric stitched into the back of the neck directly below the Wilson manufacturer tag. A square knit tag sewn on the outside left front tail has the two-digit year, "77" in the same chain stitch handwriting.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey wore #35 on the back; the light table revealed multiple number changes. Collar tagging indicated the original number had been 44; and removal of the numbers 35 and placement on the light table on back revealed that besides having originally been #44, it had also likely been worn as #46. The Cubs were a frugal organization that typically reissued jerseys in both spring training and in the minor leagues after their MLB service was through. Of the Cubs' five minor league affiliates in 1978, four were named "Cubs".

Pitcher Dave Guisti was issued #44 in 1977, and at 5' 11" and 195 lbs he would have fit well in this size 46 jersey. 1977 was the final season of his 15-year MLB career, and he spent the full season with the Cubs as a middle reliever, pitching 85.2 innings and compiling a 3-5 record with a 3.91 ERA.

After removing the numbers 35, I cleaned the glue from the other number changes the best I could. I cut new numbers 44 that both matched the team patterns and the ghosts on the jersey, then media blasted and dyed them to age them appropriately to match the rest of the jersey. I stitched them in place directly over the original ghosts. Slight outlines of the other number changes are still visible on close inspection.



Continued, overleaf

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Above: jersey as received; at right the ghosts of the numbers that had been on this jersey in its past include the original 44, 25 and possibly also 46.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Dave Guisti of the 1977 Chicago Cubs, in the final year of his MLB career.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Sammy Sosa 2004 Chicago Cubs Alternate Blue Game Jersey

Examination Date: June 16, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0616J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic six-button Royal Blue full-weight double-knit Chicago Cubs size 48 road jersey of #21, Sammy Sosa. The size is consistent with other jerseys worn by the player late in his career. Large red white and blue embroidered walking Cub patch stitched to the left chest, player number "21" in red over white in the correct Cubs font at 8 ¼" on back, with SOSA radially arched above in the same colors. Oddly- the embroidered 14-star National League patch on the right sleeve, is the version that was used only in 1997. In 2004 the standard issue patch had 16 stars on it, and looking a dozens of media photos, the team was wearing the correct patch. However, in a single photo of Sosa I found, dated August 12, 2004 (Getty #51164099), his jersey has the old 14-star patch. Sosa's captain "C" in the correct font and also in red over white is stitched to the left sleeve. The red/white/blue MLB silhouetted batter logo is on an embroidered patch sewn to the center of the back of the neck, correct for 2004. The sleeve ends are tailored with elastic ends, a feature Sosa preferred in the later years of his career.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic "M" logo is direct embroidered on the end of the left sleeve; Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag appropriate for 2004 is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinched beneath the tag is a small size 48 flag tag. Pinch-sewn inside the side seam is a Majestic wash instruction tag with the code number 0062 on it, the proper designation for a team-issued style jersey vs. "6200" an Authentic made to be sold at retail. Stitched into the back, inside of the collar is a machine-embroidered blue jersey fabric tag, "21 48 04" (player 21, size 48, 2004) sewn there before the placket was stitched closed, as is correct. The tagging as well as all other specifics matches exemplars for other Sosa game jerseys from 2004. This jersey was presented without provenance. I will add that someone, perhaps an owner of the jersey, has affixed a piece heavy gray vinyl tape inside the back of the jersey and has written on it in blue ink "*Cubs at Brewers 7-26 2004 Cubs 3 Brewers 1*". This is not a recognized team tagging addition.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. The jersey shows perhaps very light use. 2004 was Sosa's final season with the Cubs and as a fan favorite, his game jerseys were high demand. While the MLB Authentication Program had been in place for several years at that point, very few team jerseys were tagged/hologrammed in 2004 unless they were part of a significant event like the World Series or a notable record-breaking game of some kind. From my experience, and from the number of period-claimed game used Sosa Cubs jerseys that are offered for sale in the hobby, it is likely that he was wearing a jersey only briefly at this point before it was circulated into the collector market.

(Above) the sleeve patch on this jersey with 14 stars. (Below) exemplar standard issue 2004 Cubs patch with 16 stars.

Conclusion: While this jersey was offered without provenance and shows minimal wear, it is properly lettered, player-sized and team tagged and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was team prepared for use by Sammy Sosa of the 2000 Chicago Cubs.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
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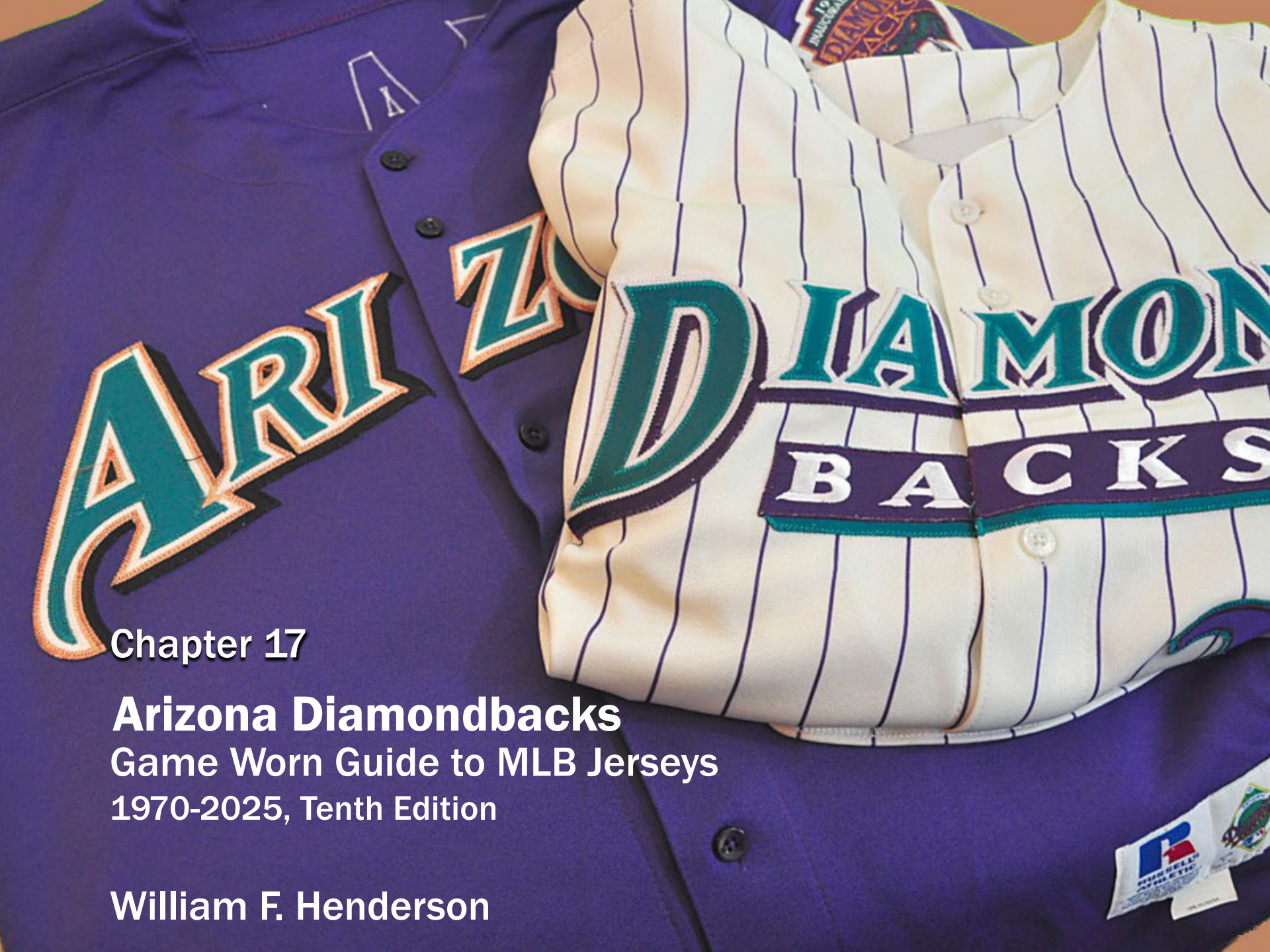

Chapter 17

Arizona Diamondbacks

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Diamondbacks Uniform History Notes

- For a team in existence just 27 years at this writing, the Diamondbacks have had more different uniforms than most teams that have been around for decades longer.
- In their inaugural 1998 season, they first take the field in home uniforms that featured purple pinstripes and wordmarks in purple, turquoise, metallic copper, and black. These designs distinctly capture the 1990s era through their bold colors and style.
- Road uniforms are gray, also with purple pinstripes. “Arizona” wordmark is in fussy, four-color twill including a drop shadow. Three different alternate jerseys are featured in the opening year set, including a white pinstriped vest, a black jersey, and a purple-bodied jersey as well.
- Fiddling begins almost immediately. The player numbers on the purple alternate jersey are deemed too difficult to read, so the colors of the twill are switched around for 1999.
- The home, road, and black alternate jerseys all received new designs in 2001.
- The purple jersey was retired after the 2002 season, though the rest of the lineup remained unchanged until 2006.
- In 2007, the team revamped its colors and overall look, adopting *Sedona red*, black, and *sonoran sand* as primary colors. Some, but not all, team wordmarks were updated.
- Full name of *Diamondbacks* is replaced on all team apparel with the nickname *D-backs*. The only remaining original elements were the alternate “A” wordmark and the coiled snake “D” logo, though all colors and trim were updated.
- Note that while they changed their colors, the team kept two of their primary logos, so that the team would not have to register new trademarks.
- After a nine-season run from 2007–2015, the Diamondbacks again overhauled their identity for 2016. They kept a single jersey concept based on the earlier black alternate, thought modified it with sublimated patterned fabric on the sides.
- The new uniforms for 2016 are like nothing else seen before in MLB. The Flex Base uniforms have shaded graphics patterns sublimated into the fabric, on shoulders, sides, and back. There are a choice of six game jerseys blending all sorts of unusual color combinations of maroon, tan, gray, turquoise, and black. Road jerseys are mostly a very dark charcoal gray, again with patterns of black sublimated into the jersey back or side panels. The player number font changed to a somewhat severe, angular design, replacing the curved fonts of prior years. Fan reaction is mixed. These jerseys would be rather difficult for counterfeiters to reproduce, and at least through 2019, MLB even forbid the sale of the team’s special colored twills to anyone other than Majestic. Slowing the counterfeiters may have been a side motivation for the complex designs.
- After four years, the team simplifies its busy 2016 set for the 2020 season, retaining colors and fonts, but ditching printed patterns, odd shades of gray fabric, and truncated striping. There are now (only) five different jerseys in regular rotation, down from six, but that doesn’t include a new “Los D-Backs” jersey that is introduced with the new set that is, technically, a special event jersey.
- City Connect uniforms debut in 2021 featuring a sand-colored base inspired by Arizona’s desert landscape. “Serpientes” was scripted across the chest in tribute to the region’s Hispanic community, with black numbers, player names, and a custom front number font. The right sleeve includes a stylized Arizona state flag, while the left sleeve bears a black-and-sand version of the team’s “A” logo. Initially worn with white pants, the jersey switched to matching sand-colored pants in 2022.
- For 2024, the Diamondbacks debut a full new uniform set with the arrival of the Nike VPE template, replacing their previous designs and dropping sand as a primary color. The updated set includes cream home jerseys, gray road jerseys, and red and black alternates—all unified by red/black/teal color schemes and consistent typography. The cream home jersey features the team’s “A” logo on the left chest, while the road jersey revives the full “Arizona” wordmark in arched block lettering. The red alternate displays a vertically arched “Diamondbacks” wordmark, and the black alternate mirrors the home layout with the “A” logo on the chest.
- A City Connect 2.0 jersey is rolled out in 2025, replacing the original version with a bolder, more vibrant design. The new look features a deep purple base with teal accents, a nod to the team’s 1998–2006 origins, and the return of “Serpientes” in a stylized turquoise script, now with a visible snake head detail on the “S”. Sleeve trim evokes snakeskin while subtle tonal pinstripes add texture to the fabric.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngui des@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1998-2000

1998-2000

1998-2000

1998-2006

1998-2002

Diamondbacks Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1998	Home White PS	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Dbacks Inaugural	-	Russell
	Road Gray PS	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Dbacks Inaugural	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Dbacks Inaugural (on undershirt)	-	Russell
	Alternate Purple	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Dbacks Inaugural	-	Russell
	Alt Black "A"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Dbacks Inaugural	-	Russell
1999	Home White PS	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Road Gray PS	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Alternate Purple(x)	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Alt Black "A"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Russell
2000	Home White PS	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray PS	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alt White PS Vest	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Purple	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black "A"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
2001	Home White "A" PS	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 4 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alt White PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black "Arizona"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Purple	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
2002	Home White "A" PS	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 4 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alt White PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black "Arizona"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Purple*	Dbacks Font 2 color	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Rawlings
2003	Home White "A" PS	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray PS vest	No	Dbacks Font 4 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt White PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black "Arizona"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2004	Home White "A" PS	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray PS vest	No	Dbacks Font 4 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt White PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black "Arizona"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2005	Home White "A" PS	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray PS vest	No	Dbacks Font 4 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt White PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black "Arizona"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2006	Home White "A" PS	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray PS vest	No	Dbacks Font 4 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt White PS Vest	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black "Arizona"	No	Dbacks Font 3 color	Dbacks Font 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic

* In its last year, the purple jersey was worn frequently in 2002 Spring Training, then seldom after the start of the season.
** Although I have seen an "authenticated" 2001 Russell jersey, I can't say for sure if it is real, and it is the only tagged example I have seen. More research required. (x) For 1999 and later colors of numbers front and back change. 1998's numbers have turquoise as their main color. 1999-2002 use metallic gold.

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All four of these jersey styles used in all years, 2007-2015

Diamondbacks Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2007	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red***	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	10th anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	10th anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Red***	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	10th anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	10th anniversary	Majestic
2009	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	All Star Game	Majestic
2012	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	“19” for firefighters*	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	“19” for firefighters*	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	“19” for firefighters*	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	“19” for firefighters*	Majestic
2014	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	“DB” Snake logo	-	Majestic

*** In 2007 only, red jersey has tan numbers outlined in black, and black names outlined in tan.
These color combinations are completely reversed in the years that follow.
* From July 19 on. See patches page for details.

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Diamondbacks Game Jerseys

All six of these jersey styles used in all years, 2016-2019

Change to Flex Base

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2016	Home White/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Home White/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Road Gray/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
2017	Home White/Red (+)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Home White/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Road Gray/Blue (Alt) (+)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Majestic
2018	Home White/Red (+)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	20th Anniversary Patch	Majestic
	Home White/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	20th Anniversary Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	20th Anniversary Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray/Blue (Alt) (+)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	20th Anniversary Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	20th Anniversary Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	20th Anniversary Patch	Majestic
2019	Home White/Red (+)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Home White/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray/Blue (Alt) (+)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White/Red (+)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Gray Snakehead	-	Nike
	Home White/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	-	Nike
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Gray Snakehead	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Gray Snakehead	-	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Gray Snakehead	-	Nike

+ Player name and front number lettering colors are reversed from prior year.

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These five styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Diamondbacks Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	Home White/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	-	Nike
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	City Connect	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 2 Color	Special Font 2 color	No	Recolored "A" Logo	Recolored State Flag	Nike
2022	Home White/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	Home White/Blue (Alt)	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead	-	Nike
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead	-	Nike
	City Connect	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 2 Color	Special Font 2 color	No	Recolored "A" Logo	Recolored State Flag	Nike
2023	Home White/Blue	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray/Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Red	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/White Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 2 Color	Special Font 2 color	No	Recolored "A" Logo‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
2024	Home Cream "A" Front	No	New Special Font 3 color (perf)	2" Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray "Arizona" Front	No	New Special Font 3 color (perf)	2" Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Red "Diamondbacks"	New Special Font 2 Color (perf)	New Special Font 3 color (perf)	2" Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Black "A" Front	No	New Special Font 3 color (perf)	2" Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	New Special Font 2 Color (perf)	New Special Font 2 Color (perf)	2" Special Font 2 color	No	Recolored "A" Logo‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home Cream "A" Front	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray "Arizona" Front	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Red "Diamondbacks"	New Special Font 2 Color	New Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Black "A" Front	No	New Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Red/Teal Snakehead‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	No	New Special Font 3 color	Special Font 2 color	No	"A" Flag‡	Avnet Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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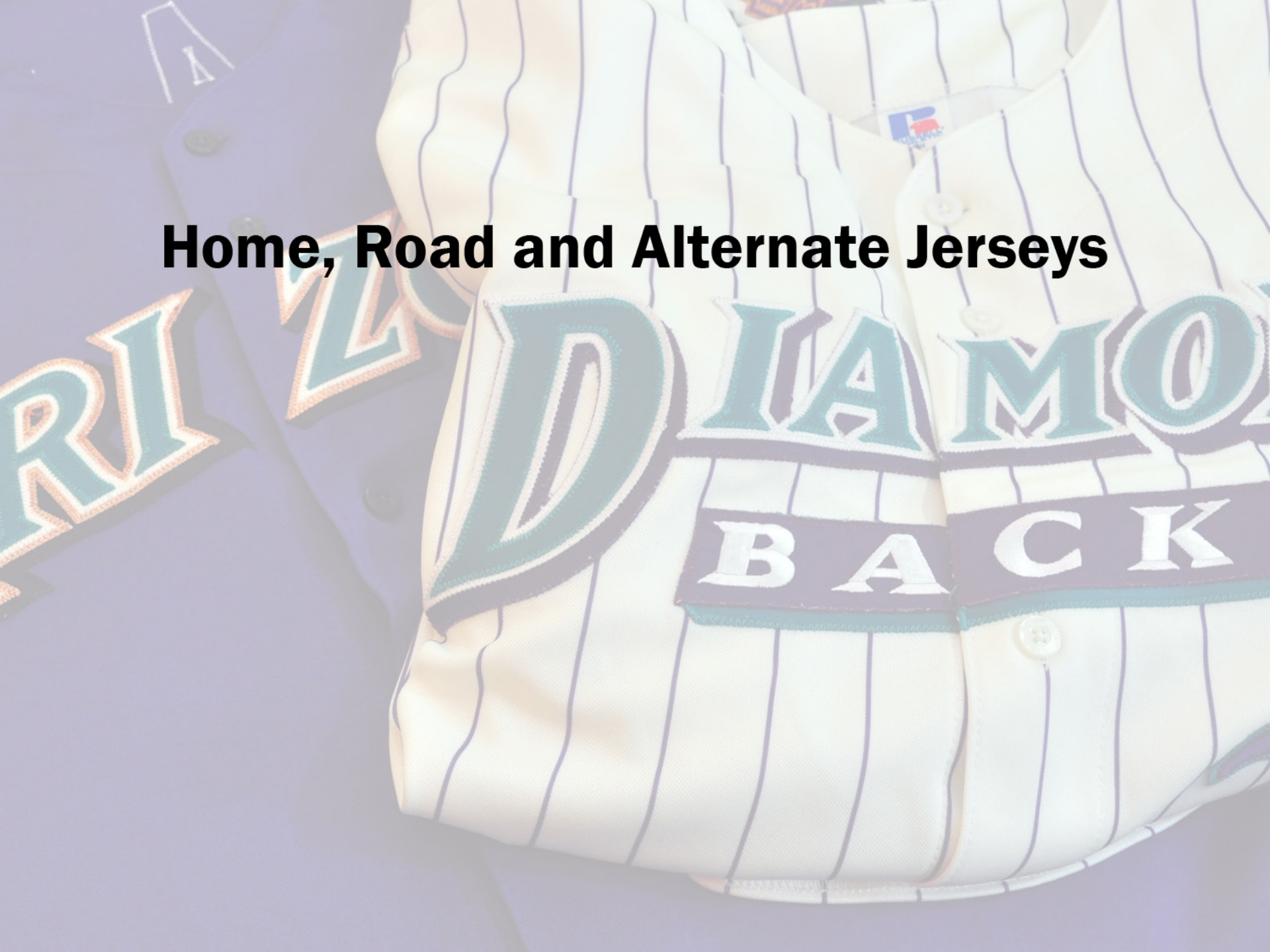
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys



1998-2000 Home

Steve Kraljic Collection

The fabric color for this pinstriped jersey is defined as "off white," though it is not as yellow-tinted as those described as "cream colored" (like the Giants). The Diamondbacks' original primary wordmark is slanted across the front, with purple pinstripes.

Two-color front-left numbers: purple/turquoise.

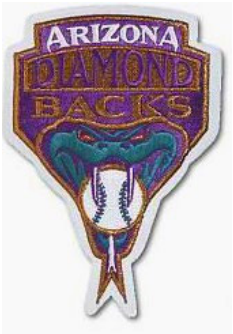
Three-color back number: purple/white/turquoise.

Two-color name on back: turquoise/purple. No nameplates used.

Russell makes the 1998–1999 uniforms; Rawlings makes the 2000 version.

Bill Henderson Collection

Above,: *Note custom shirt-bottom tailoring for Bernard Gilkey.* ***Below:*** *Team patch (right) iis used on all Diamondbacks sleeved jerseys—including BP jerseys—from 1999–2006. Inaugural Season patch (left) is used in its place for 1998 only.*



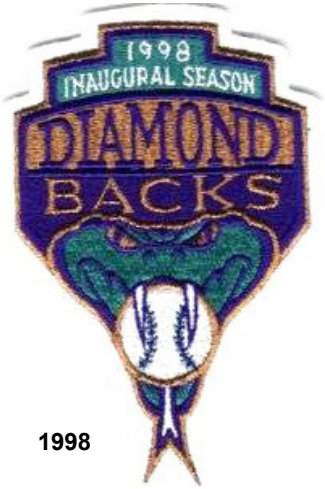
© GameWornGuides.com

1998-2000 Road

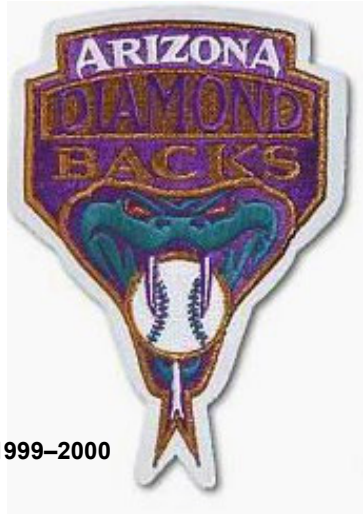
1999

2000

- Gray jersey with purple pinstripes. “Arizona” appears on the front.
- Two-color front number: turquoise/purple.
- Three-color back number: turquoise/white/purple.
- Two-color name on back: purple/white. No nameplates.
- In 1998, the team’s Inaugural Season patch appears on the left sleeve; in 1999–2000, the regular team patch is used instead.
- Russell makes the 1998–1999 uniforms; Rawlings makes the 2000 version.



1998



1999–2000

1999—with All-Star Game patch

© GameWornGuides.com

1998-2000 Alternate Black

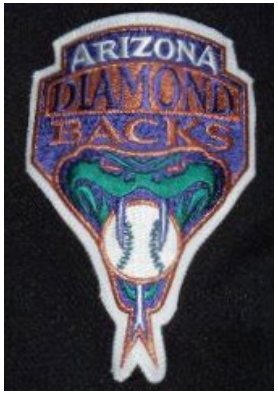
Bill Henderson Collection

Black jersey with a large three-color "A" logo on the left chest. Features fancy knit trim in purple/metallic copper/turquoise on the sleeve ends.

No front number. Three-color back numbers: turquoise/white/purple.

Two-color name on back: purple/white. No name-plates.

Russell makes the 1998–1999 uniforms; Rawlings makes the 2000 version.



1999–2000

© GameWornGuides.com

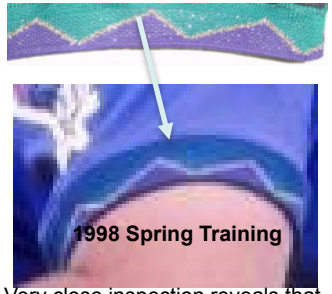
1998-2002 Alternate Home Purple

Bill Henderson Collection

The purple alternate jersey is used as the team's home Spring Training jersey 1998–2002.

Player lettering and NOB colors—1998 only

Above: the norm; ***Below :*** early production



Very close inspection reveals that some early 1998 purple jerseys had turquoise and purple trim (bottom) instead of standard turquoise and black trim (top)

2002 player number and NOB lettering representative of 1999–2002

1998 only has the Diamondbacks Inaugural patch on the left sleeve. 1999–2002 has the standard team patch. See the page for the home jersey several pages back for team patch photos.

- In their first year, the Diamondbacks include a purple alternate jersey and wear it frequently.
- The jersey features fancy turquoise/metallic copper/black trim on the sleeve ends.
- "Arizona" lettering on the front is rendered in turquoise/white/metallic copper/black 3D drop shadow.
- The 1998 Inaugural Year patch is sewn to the left sleeve.
- For 1998 only: front numbers appear in a custom Diamondbacks font, turquoise outlined in metallic copper.
- Back numbers are three-color in Diamondbacks font: turquoise/metallic copper/white.
- Names on back are also in Diamondbacks font, two-color turquoise/white. No nameplates.
- These lettering colors proved difficult to read from a distance, and all player name and number colors were changed for the 1999 season.
- For 1999–2002: front numbers are metallic copper/white.
- Back numbers are three-color in Diamondbacks font: metallic copper/turquoise/white.
- Names on back are two-color: metallic copper/white.

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1998-2006 Alternate Home Vest

White jersey with purple pinstripes Features the same “A” patch as the black alternate jersey. No front numbers. Three-color back number: purple/white/turquoise.Two-color name on back: turquoise/purple. No nampleates.

Team guides show this jersey is always worn with a purple undershirt.

Team patch is worn on the left sleeve of the undershirt from 1998–2002; no patch is used from 2003–2006.

This is the longest-lasting jersey from the original 1998 set; all others are discontinued by the start of the 2003 season.

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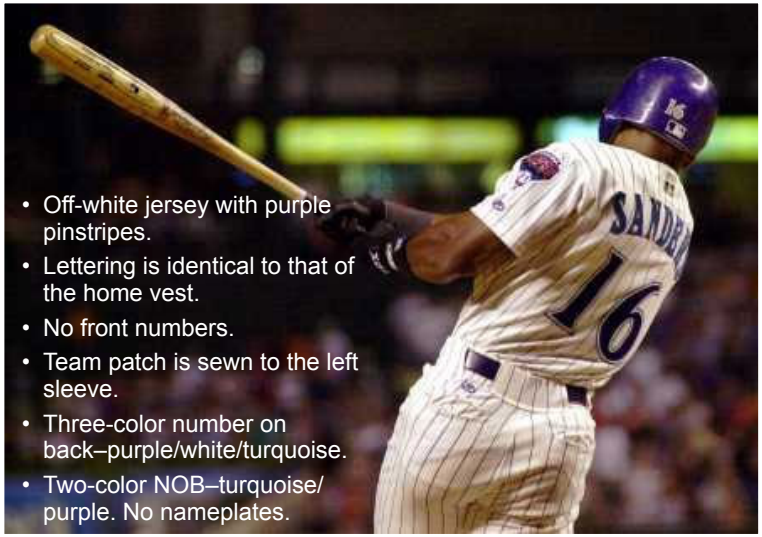
2001-2006 Home

2001 with World Series patch

2001

2005



- Off-white jersey with purple pinstripes.
- Lettering is identical to that of the home vest.
- No front numbers.
- Team patch is sewn to the left sleeve.
- Three-color number on back–purple/white/turquoise.
- Two-color NOB–turquoise/purple. No nameplates.

2003

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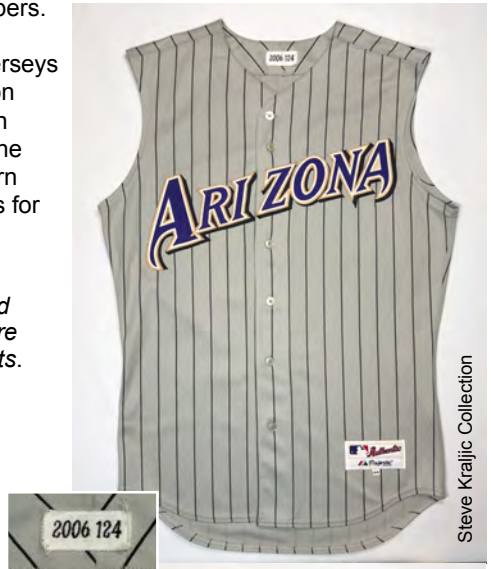
2001-2006 Road Vest

Gray jersey with purple pinstripes.No front numbers. Four-color back numbers: purple/white/metallic copper/black drop shadow.Only the road gray jerseys use drop-shadowed numbers.Two-color name on back: purple/white, no nameplates. Usually worn with a black undershirt. Team patch is sewn to the left sleeve in 2001–2002; no sleeve patch is worn from 2003–2006.Rawlings supplies the uniforms for 2001–2002; Majestic takes over afterward.

Below: *Retail version of jersey has the Rawlings logo on the back, just below the Silhouetted Batter logo. On-field jerseys do not. Players were expected to wear manufacturers logo undershirts.*



Steve Kraljic Collection

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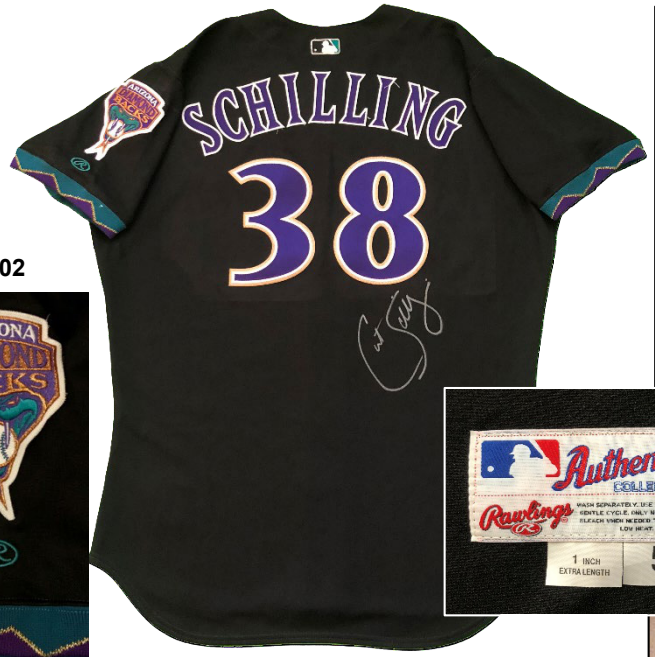
2001-2006 Alternate Black

2002



"ARIZONA" appears across the front in purple/white/metallic copper. Turquoise/copper/purple sleeve trim. No front numbers. Three-color back numbers: purple/white/metallic copper. Two-color name on back: purple/white, no nameplates. Team shield patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

This style is mostly worn on the road and rarely at home.

2001

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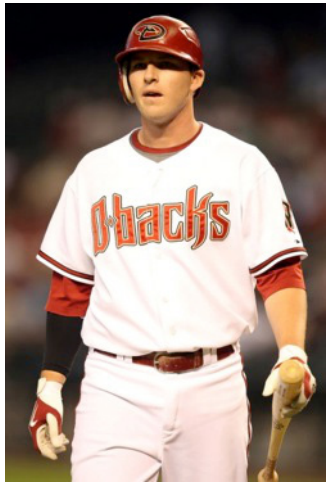
2007-2015 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

Left: *2007 sleeve patch.*

Right: *2008–2015 slightly changed patch.*

- For 2007, the Diamondbacks completely redesign their uniforms, even changing their colors.
- The team drops the purple and metallic copper that had been its mainstays, deeming them "too 90s."
- New colors are very similar to those introduced in the Astros' 2000 redesign.
- The team nickname "D-backs" replaces any use of the full team name.
- Jersey trim is very simple and restrained, with thin black and red knit trim on the sleeve ends only.
- A clever new "DB" sleeve patch, designed to graphically represent a snake head, adorns the left sleeve.
- Sleeve patch design changes slightly in 2008 (see "Oddballs" section later in this chapter).
- Player names appear on the back; numbers are on the back only. No nameplates are used.
- Names are red/black; numbers are black/red. Both use the custom Diamondbacks font, which resembles Block Standard at a glance.



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2007-2015 Road

- The standard road jersey is much more traditional and restrained compared to the previous design.
- Purple pinstripes are removed. A new three-color “Arizona” wordmark appears on the front.
- The “DB” patch is used on the left sleeve in 2007.
- Sleeve patch design changes slightly in 2008 (see “Oddballs” section later in this chapter).
- Player names appear on the back; numbers are on the back only.
- Names are red/black; numbers are black/red. Both use the custom Diamondbacks font.
- No nameplates are used.

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2007-2015 Alternate Red

2007 only patch

2008-2015 patch

- The alternate jersey is a deep red, chosen to reflect a Southwest theme. It is very similar in color to the Astros' "Brick" red alternate jerseys.
- Simple black/tan/black knit trim appears on the sleeve ends only.
- The snake head "DB" patch is sewn to the left sleeve.
- Player names and numbers appear on the back only.
- In 2007 only: numbers are sand/black; names are black/sand. From 2008–2015: numbers are black/sand; names are sand/black.
- Both name and number fonts are custom to the Diamondbacks; no nameplates are used.
- Sleeve patch design changes slightly in 2008 (see "Oddballs" section later in this chapter).

2007 back lettering colors…

…are reversed for 2008-2015

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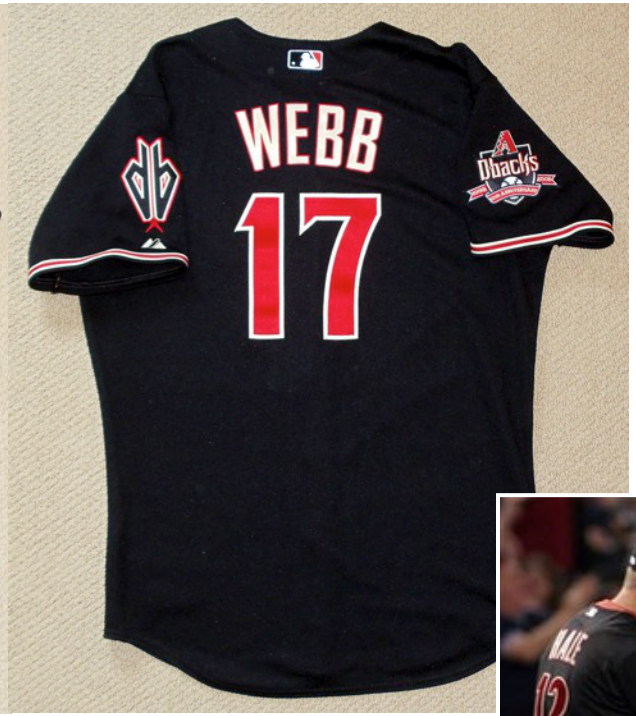
2007-2015 Alternate Home Black

Bill Henderson Collection

2008



- The black alternate jersey features the same stylized “A” logo on the front as the 1998–2006 alternates, now updated in the team’s new colors.
- MLB Properties encourages teams to retain key design elements across redesigns whenever possible; the Diamondbacks retain this logo, which also remains on their hats and helmets.
- Very simple tan/red/tan knit trim adorns the sleeve ends.
- The snake head “DB” patch is used on the left sleeve.
- Sleeve patch design changes slightly in 2008 (see “Oddballs” section later in this chapter).
- Player names and numbers appear on the back only. Names are sand/red; numbers are red/sand. Both use the custom Diamondbacks font. No nameplates are used.

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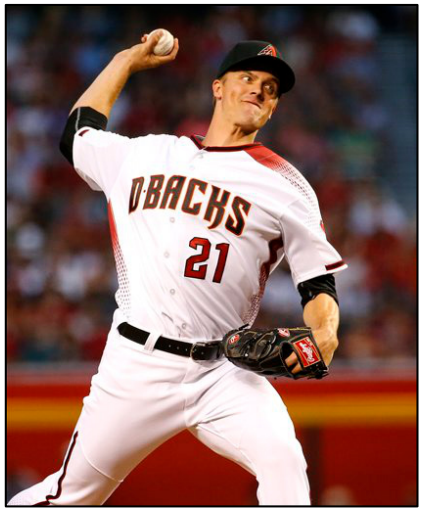
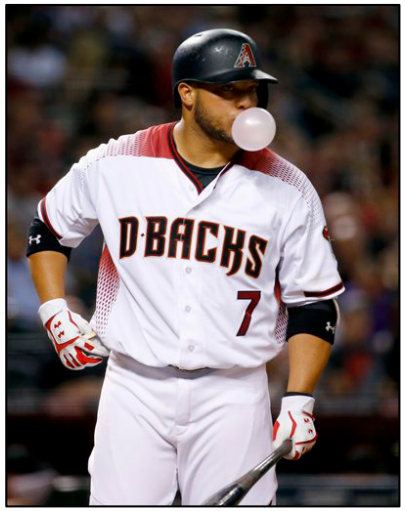
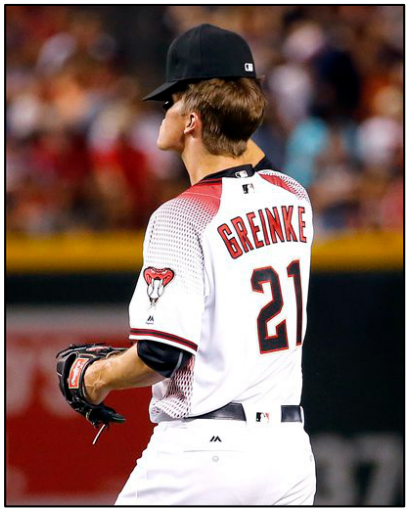
Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

2016-2019 Home







The Diamondbacks' 2016 redesign is a radical departure from traditional baseball looks, taking full advantage of the Flex Base template's multiple panels and materials. The primary home jersey features a white base with sublimated diamond-pattern gradient designs that fade from red to white on the shoulders and side panels.

Team name and back numbers are black/red/sand. Player name and front numbers are red/black. All elements are rendered in the team's custom font. Red/black/red braid appears on the outer half of the sleeve ends, but does not continue underneath the sleeve.

The red/white version of the team's snake head patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

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2016-2019 Road

2016

2016

The primary road jersey uses a dark charcoal gray base—noticeably darker than that of other teams—and features sublimated diamond-pattern gradient designs fading from black to gray on the shoulders and side panels.

In 2016, team name and back numbers are black/red/sand. Player name and front numbers are red/black, all rendered in the team's custom font.

Starting in 2017, the player name and front number colors are changed to sand/red to improve legibility.

Black/red/black braid appears on the outer half of the sleeve ends, but does not continue under the sleeve.

The red/white version of the team's snake head patch appears on the left sleeve.

2017

Player NOB and front number colors are changed for 2017 to improve legibility.

Jackie Robinson Day version, 2016, without NOB

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2016-2019 Alternate Home

The home alternate jersey features a white base with sublimated diamond-pattern gradient designs fading from gray to white on the back.

Team name and back numbers: black/red/teal. Player name and front numbers: black/teal. All lettering uses the team's custom font.

Teal/black/teal braid appears on the outer half of the sleeve ends but does not continue underneath the sleeve.

The red/teal version of the team's snake head patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

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2016-2019 Alternate Road

Player NOB and front number colors are changed for 2017 to improve legibility.

The alternate road jersey features a dark charcoal-gray base with sublimated diamond-pattern gradient designs fading from black to gray on the back.

In 2016: Team name and back numbers: black/red/teal. Player name and front numbers: black/teal.

In 2017, the player name and front number colors are changed to teal/black for improved legibility.

Teal/black/teal braid appears on the outer half of the sleeve ends, but does not continue under the sleeve.

The red/teal version of the team's snake head patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

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2016-2019 Alternate Red

The red alternate jersey features a dark red base with sublimated diamond-pattern gradient designs fading from black to red on the shoulders and side panels.

Team name and back numbers: black/red/sand. Player name and front numbers: black/sand. All lettering uses the team's custom font.

Sand/black/sand braid appears on the outer half of the sleeve ends, but does not continue under the sleeve.

The red/white version of the team's snake head patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

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2016-2019 Alternate Black

The black alternate jersey features a black base with sublimated diamond-pattern gradient designs fading from red to black on the shoulders and side panels.

This is the only jersey in the set to retain the team's "A" logo from previous seasons and the only one that does not include a front number.

Back numbers: red/black/sand. Player name: sand/red. All lettering uses the team's custom font.

Red/black/red braid appears on the outer half of the sleeve ends, but does not continue under the sleeve.

The red/white version of the team's snake head patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

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2020-2022 Home

The Diamondbacks have shifted between bold and traditional uniform designs over the years. The 2020 home jersey represents a “market correction” back toward baseball tradition, eliminating the patterns and gradients of the prior set.

This version uses Nike’s adaptation of the Majestic Flex Base template. It features a solid white base with black/red/sand front wordmark and back numbers. Front numbers and player names are red/black, all rendered in the same custom font introduced in 2016.

Red/black/red trim encircles the neck opening and runs just above the sleeve ends—now wrapping fully around the sleeve, unlike in the previous set. The red/white version of the “Snake with Ball” patch appears on the left sleeve.

The style is discontinued after the 2022 season.

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2020-2023 Road

The simplification of the Diamondbacks' uniforms carries over to their primary road jersey—eliminating the bold patterns and gradients of the previous set. Now using Nike's adaptation of the Majestic Flex Base template, the road jersey returns to a traditional solid light gray base, replacing the darker charcoal-gray of the prior version.

Front wordmark and back numbers: black/red/sand. Front numbers and player names: black/red. All lettering continues in the custom Diamondbacks font used since 2016.

Red/black/red trim encircles the neck opening and appears just above the sleeve ends, now wrapping fully around the sleeves (unlike in the prior set).

The red/white version of the "Snake with Ball" patch appears on the left sleeve.

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2020-2022 Alternate Home/2023 Home

Despite the jerseys themselves becoming more traditional, especially in the removal of the patterns and gradients from the last set, the D-Backs still maintain their own tradition of a multitude of on-field options, including this second home jersey. Now on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, the alternate home jersey becomes much simpler with a solid white base, black/red/teal front wordmark and back numbers, and teal/black front numbers and player names, all continuing with the same custom font from the 2016–2019 sets. Teal/black/teal trim encircles the neck opening and appears just above the sleeve ends (going all the way around the sleeve now, contrary to the last set). The red/teal version of the "Snake with Ball" patch returns here, on the left sleeve. In 2023, the team elevates this style to its home jersey, after eliminating the version with the red/black numbers.

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2020-2022 Alternate Red/2023 Alternate Road Red

Steve Kraljic Collection

The D-Backs have had a red alternate for more than a decade, and this 2020–2023 entry continues that tradition, while stripping away the unusual patterns and gradients of their previous jerseys. Now on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, this simplified alternate has black/sand wordmark and front and back numbers, and sand/black player names, all continuing with the same custom font from the 2016–2019 sets. Sand/black/sand trim encircles the neck opening and appears just above the sleeve ends (going all the way around the sleeve now, contrary to the last set). The red/white version of the "Snake with Ball" patch returns here, on the left sleeve. Unlike other years, in 2023 only, the jersey is exclusively a road alternate.

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2020 Alternate Black/2021-2023 Alternate Home Black

No matter their color scheme, the D-Backs have always maintained a black alternate jersey, and the 2020–2023 period is no exception, though this incarnation is simpler, removing the patterns and gradients of their previous jerseys. Now on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, this black alternate has a red/black/sand version of their "A" cap logo on front with no front numbers. Red/sand numbers and sand/red names appear on back, all continuing with the same custom font from the 2016–2019 sets. Sand/red/sand trim encircles the neck opening and appears just above the sleeve ends (going all the way around the sleeve now, contrary to the last set). The red/white version of the "Snake with Ball" patch returns here, on the left sleeve.

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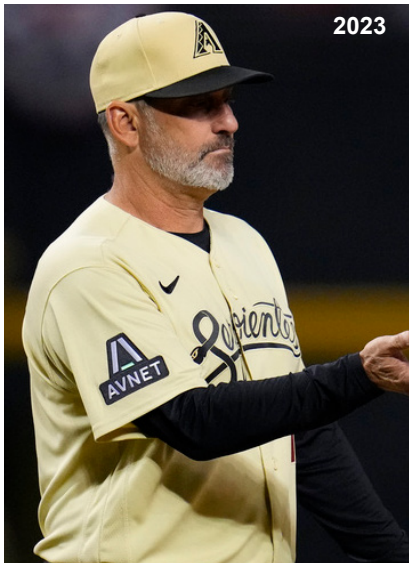
2021-2023 City Connect

Steve Kraljic Collection

The Diamondbacks' entry into City Connect leans heavily on the Arizona motif (vs. a single city, as the promotion name would suggest). According to the team, "These jersey colors bring forward the Sonoran desert sand from the D-backs' brand and have 'Serpientes' winding across the chest. Serpientes, the Spanish translation of Snakes, was used to pay tribute to the Hispanic Culture so prominent in Arizona." As this description indicates, these Nike Flex Base jerseys are a sandy color (similar to what the Padres once wore) with black/sand "Serpientes" script on front and player numbers on back. Front numbers and player name are in the team's custom font in red/sand. The left sleeve has a black/sand version of the team's "A" logo, while the right has a recolored version of the Arizona state flag. Starting in 2023, the Arizona flag is replaced by a sponsor patch, and the location of both the sponsor and "A" patches vary based on the handedness of each player. Above the jock tag, a V-shaped snake surrounds a stylized red circle, all of which represents Phoenix's nickname of "The Valley of the Sun." In their first year, they were paired with regular team pants, but in 2022, they return to the field with matching sand-color pants.



We have seen examples of this jersey bearing two different style codes - DKC2 (right, top) and 03VM (right, bottom). We believe DKC2 was used in 2021–2022, while 03VM was used in 2023. This is based on the different shapes of the tags, which Nike quietly changed for the 2023 season. See the Manufacturer Tagging chapter for more info.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Note that the Diamondbacks changed all of their uniforms before the 2024 season, so both the styles and template differ between these sets of photos.

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The advent of the Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template for 2024 coincides with a new set of uniforms for the Diamondbacks, bringing back teal and abandoning sand as a primary color. The Diamondbacks' 2024 home jersey is on a cream-color base, returning to a style they last used in 2006. The front-left chest sports a red/black/teal "A" logo, with black knit trim around the neck and placket, and cream/black trim on the sleeve ends. Player name is on back in black/teal, while player numbers are red/black/teal. Back numbers are perforated. A red/teal version of the "Snake with Ball" patch appears on one sleeve, while the team's sponsor patch resides on the other.

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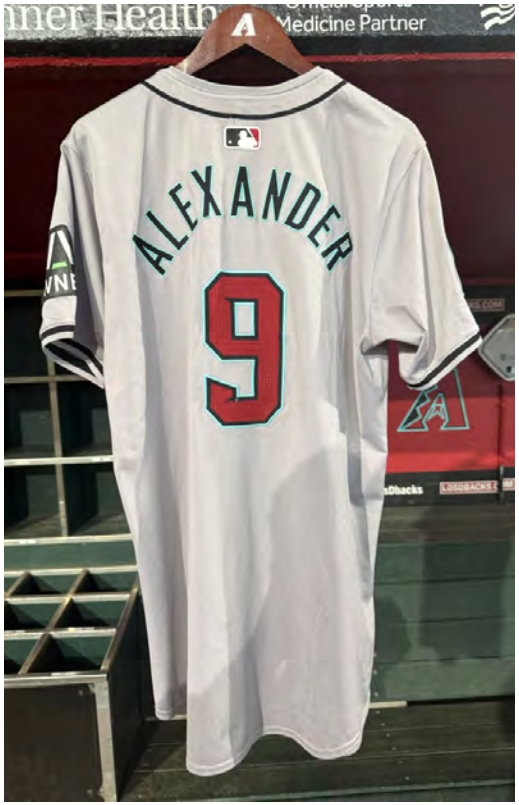
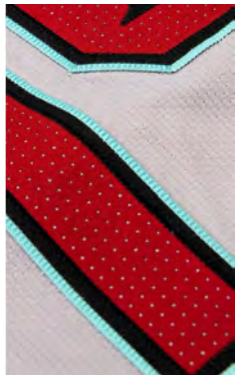
2024 Road



The advent of the Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template for 2024 coincides with a new set of uniforms for the Diamondbacks, bringing back teal and abandoning sand as a primary color. The Diamondbacks' 2024 road jersey is something of a recolored version of the previous set, now on a gray Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. The chest features the "Arizona" lettering in red/black/teal, with black knit trim around the neck and placket, and gray/black trim on the sleeve ends. Player name is on back in black/teal, while player numbers are red/black/teal. Back numbers are perforated. A red/teal version of the "Snake with Ball" patch appears on one sleeve, while the team's sponsor patch resides on the other.



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2024 Alternate Red

The advent of the Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template for 2024 coincides with a new set of uniforms for the Diamondbacks, bringing back teal and abandoning sand as a primary color. The Diamondbacks' 2024 Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) red alternate jersey features a new black/teal vertically arched "Diamondbacks" wordmark and teal/black player number on front. Black/teal/black trim encircles the neck opening and sleeve ends. Player name on back in teal/black and back number in black/teal. Back numbers are perforated. A red/teal version of the "Snake with Ball" patch appears on one sleeve, while the team's sponsor patch resides on the other.

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2024 Alternate Black

The advent of the Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template for 2024 coincides with a new set of uniforms for the Diamondbacks, bringing back teal and abandoning sand as a primary color. The 2024 black alternate jersey takes its cues from the home jersey, with a different color scheme. On a black Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) base, the jersey's front-left chest sports a red/black/teal "A" logo, with teal knit trim around the neck and placket, and black/teal trim on the sleeve ends. Player name is on back in teal/red, while player numbers are red/teal. Back numbers are perforated. A red/teal version of the "Snake with Ball" patch appears on one sleeve, while the team's sponsor patch resides on the other.

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2024 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Diamondbacks; sand-colored City Connect jersey (even though sand was de-emphasized as a team color in 2024). All of the storytelling elements outlined on the 2021-2023 version return, minus the original state flag patch, which was replaced in 2023 by a sponsor patch. Back names and numbers are smaller, as is expected, and numbers are also perforated. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "Serpientes" lettering breaks across the placket at the same place as it did before - a rarity on most VPE jerseys.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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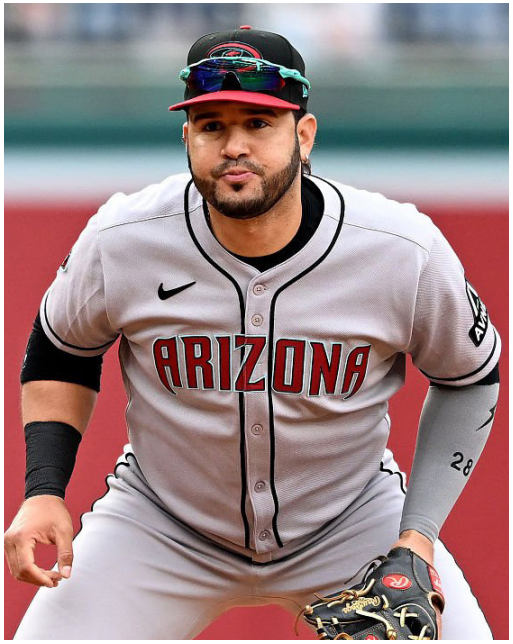
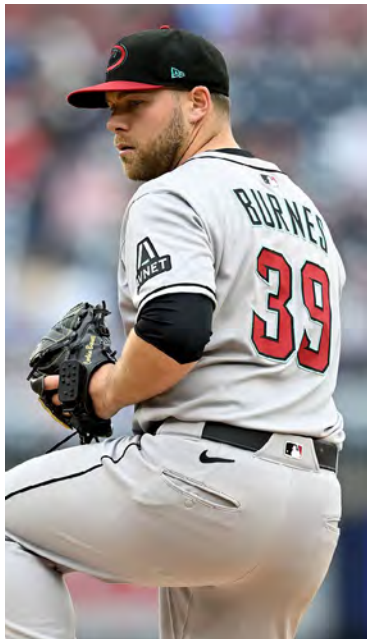
2025 Road





The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Arizona” lettering breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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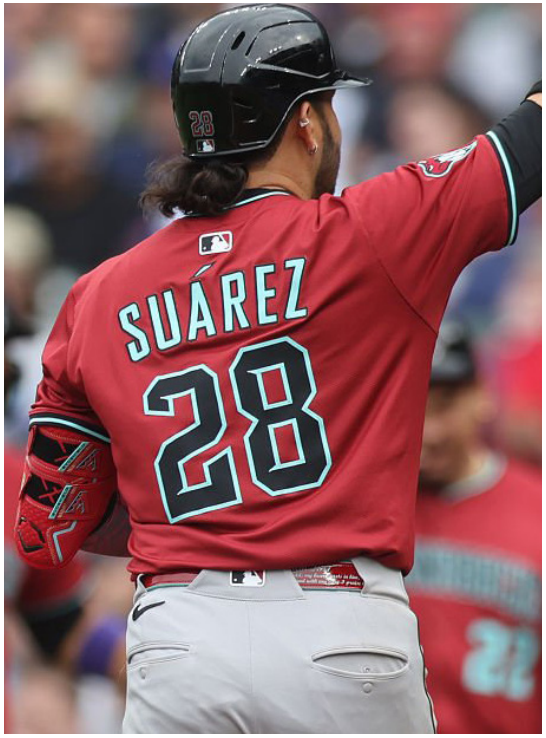
2025 Alternate Red



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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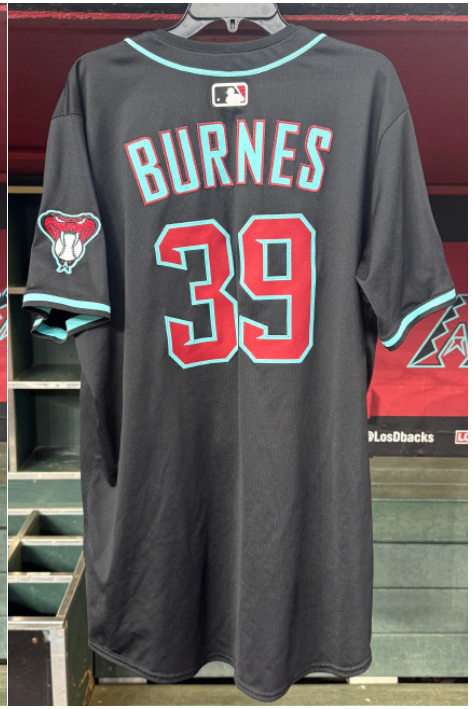
2025 Alternate Black



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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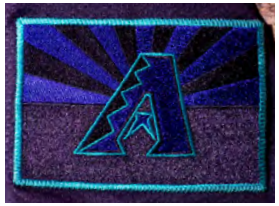
2025 City Connect 2.0



The Diamondbacks introduce a City Connect 2.0 in 2025, which takes elements of its CC 1.0 and applies some throwback touches according to the team's press release, selections of which follow:

"Arizona Born" Collar Graphic: The only major sports team born with Arizona in its name, this motto pays homage to a legacy rooted in the desert and built for the entire state.

"Flag" Patch: The flag patch unites the team and its state, a symbol of its unwavering connection.

"Established" Jock Tag: The mark celebrates the establishment of the team (1998) and Arizona (48th State)

Jersey Details: The jersey pays tribute to the team's history, blending elements of the original pinstripes with a snakeskin pattern.

Sleeve Trim: The sleeve features a modern interpretation of the distinctive braiding from the team's classic alternate uniforms.

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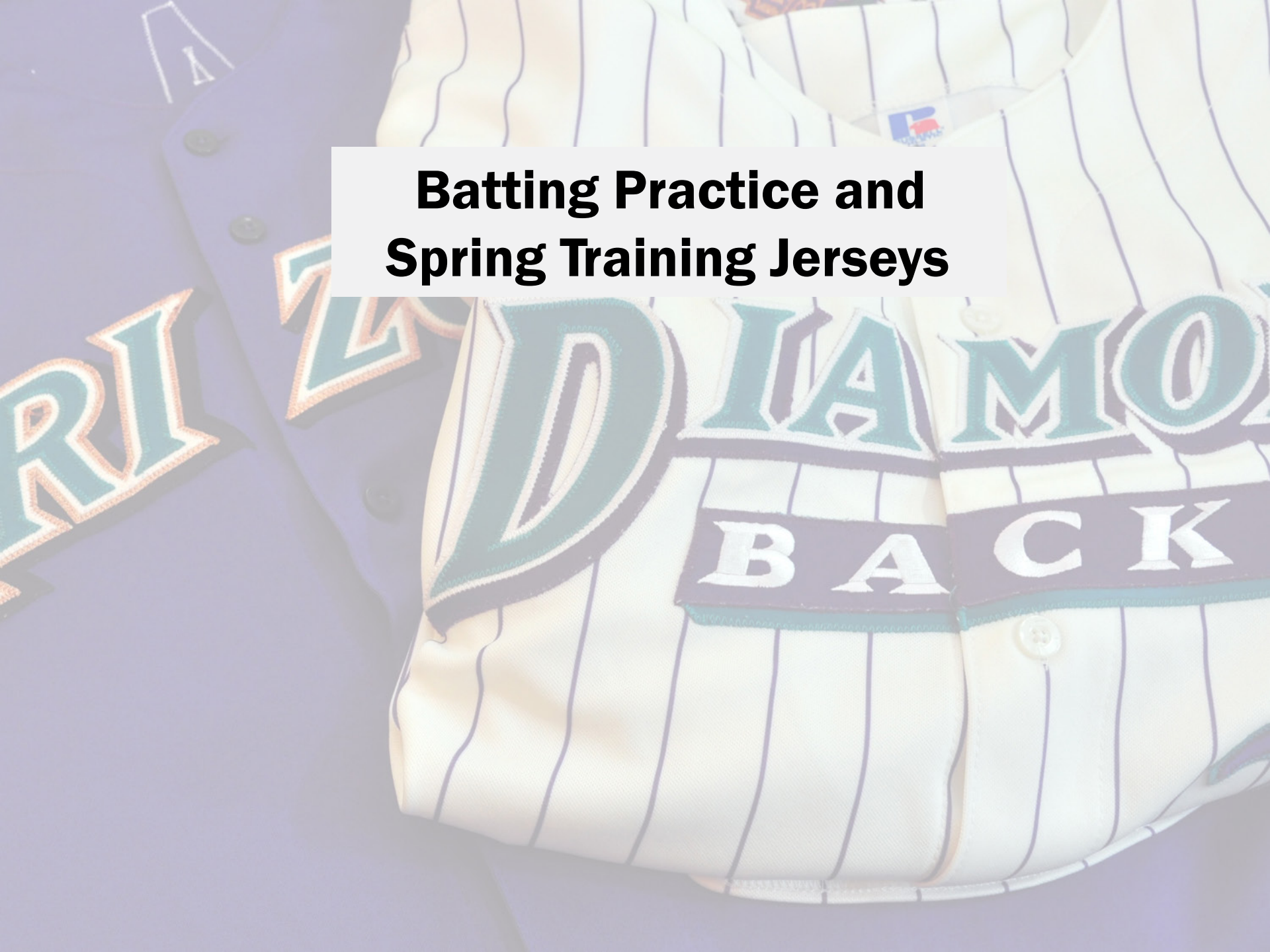
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



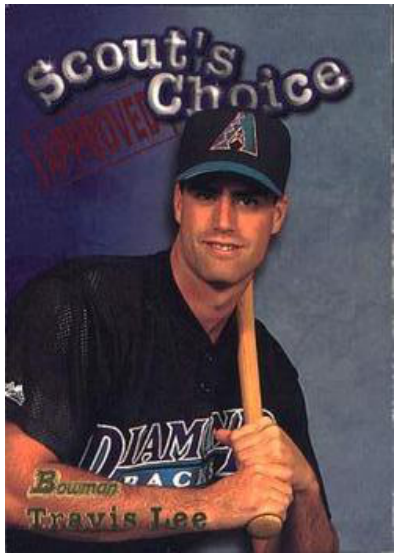
1998 Batting Practice/Spring Training only

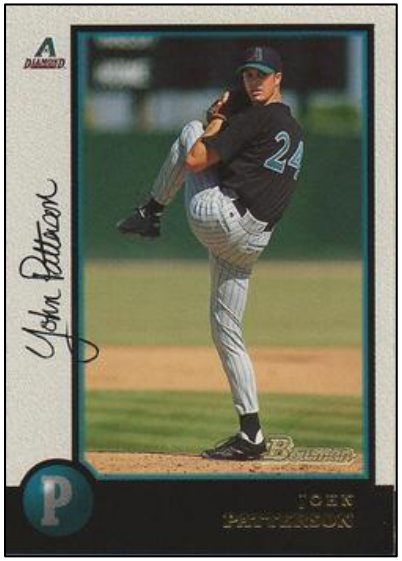
Photo at far left shows this jersey worn at the team uniform unveiling on November 5, 1995.

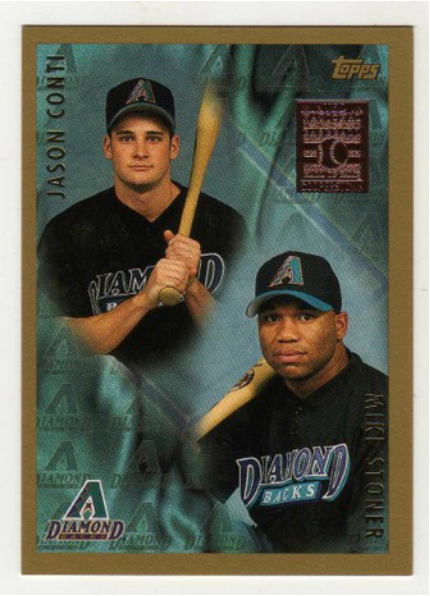
This mesh jersey has two buttons at the neck; **Diamondbacks wordmark has purple as the top color in the word "DIAMOND,"** turquoise used for "BACKS." There are no sleeve patches.

Three-color number, turquoise/white/purple (the purple is difficult to see). We have no photos of these jerseys with NOB and suspect that they may have only been used during 1998 Spring Training, before the team played its first official game.

Note that Travis Lee studio-portrait card ***(bottom left)*** shows him wearing a retail-sale model of the jersey, identifiable by its decal sleeve logo—unlike the embroidered version typically found on team-issued models. No team-issued jerseys of this style have been found with an embroidered sleeve logo or player NOB.







© GameWornGuides.com

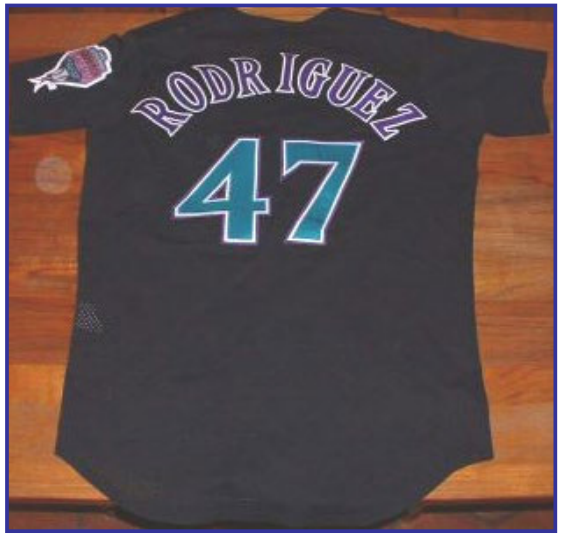
1998 Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic Collection

This button-front black mesh jersey, featuring plain sleeve ends, was also worn during 1998 Spring Training road games. An inaugural season patch appears on the left sleeve.

Team-issued jerseys feature an embroidered Majestic logo on the sleeve; retail models have a heat-pressed decal instead. Back numbers are three-color: turquoise/white/purple. Names on back are two-color: purple/white.

Rawlings-made versions of these jerseys—often seen with visible Rawlings sleeve logos—are minor league issues.



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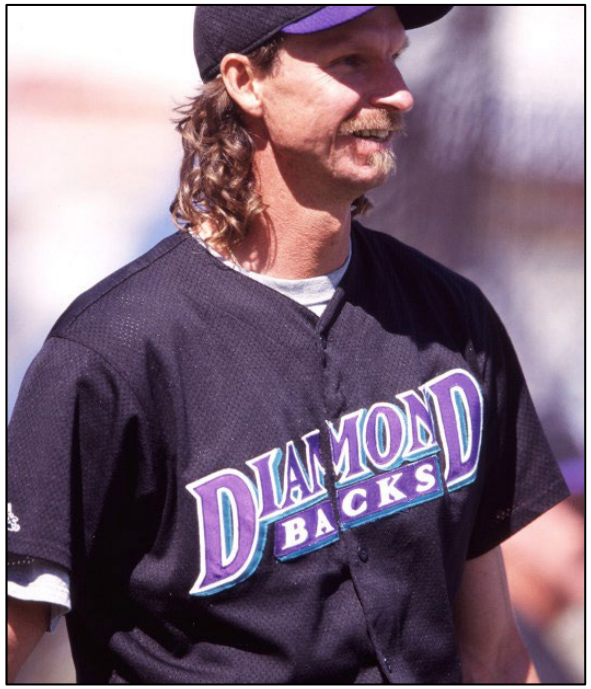
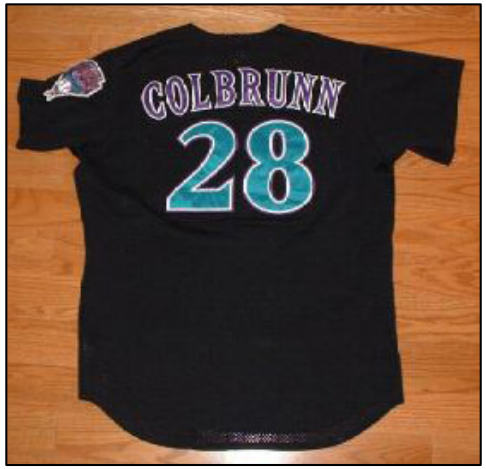
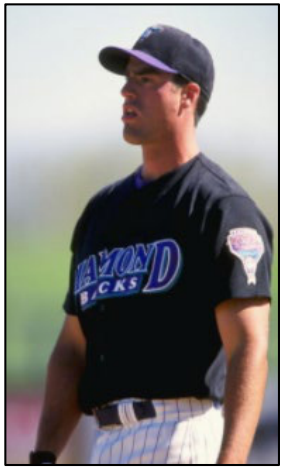
1999 Batting Practice/Spring Training







The jersey design changes from a 2-button Henley pullover to a full button-front style. A very minor change is made to the front lettering from the 1998 style—both “DIAMOND” and “BACKS” are now purple, used only in 1999.

Also worn during 1999 Spring Training road games.

Back lettering remains the same as in 1998. Numbers are three-color: turquoise/white/purple (with the purple difficult to see). Names on back are two-color: purple/white. A team patch is worn on the left sleeve.

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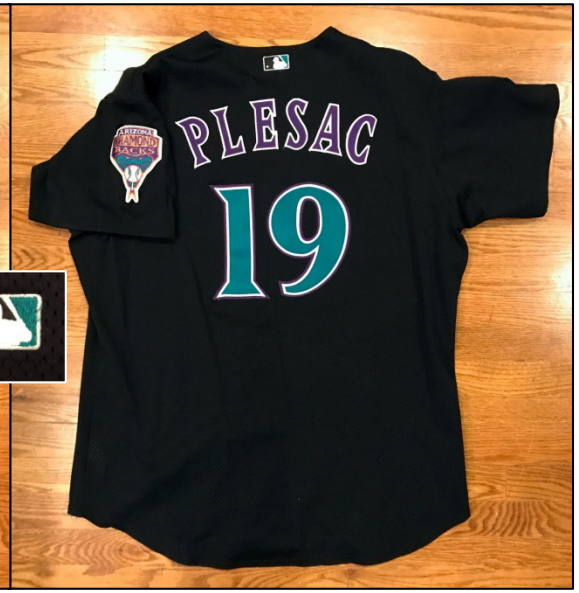
2000 Batting Practice



A minor change is again made to the team logo lettering on the front, applied in 1999. “DIAMOND” is sewn in turquoise, and “BACKS” is sewn in purple.

The back remains unchanged, with a three-color number: turquoise/white/purple (the purple is hard to see), and a two-color name: purple/white. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo is added to the back neck of all MLB jerseys in 2000. A team patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

Left: *Team-issued BP jerseys feature an embroidered sleeve logo in white and gray;* ***Above:*** *“0006” tag inside the side seam.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2002 Batting Practice

Mesh button-front jersey with a team patch on the left sleeve. Back lettering remains unchanged since 1998 and matches that of the black game jerseys.

Back numbers are three-color: turquoise/white/purple. Names on back are two-color: purple/white.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Batting Practice

Although the jersey appears the same, it is now made from a new, softer, moisture-wicking "tech" fabric. It is non-mesh and features a button front. A team patch appears on the left sleeve, and a black and turquoise silhouetted batter logo is added to the back of the neck.

Back lettering remains the same as before. Back numbers are three-color: turquoise/white/purple. Names on back are two-color: purple/white.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

*2007 back lettering color scheme **(top center and top right)** is reversed for 2008–2010 **(above)***

MLB's introduction of new batting practice jerseys in 2007 coincides with the Diamondbacks' uniform redesign. The D-backs' new BP jerseys feature the stylized coiled-snake "D" logo, previously used on BP jerseys since 2001, but now rendered in new team colors.

The jerseys feature a one-button neck and are deep red, with contrasting black and light tan split side panels. All lettering is heat-applied.

In 2007, custom D-backs back numbers are two-color: sand outlined in black. Player names on back are black outlined in sand. All lettering uses the team's custom font.

For 2008, black numbers are now outlined in sand, while sand-colored names are outlined in black. With updated team colors, solid jersey construction, matching side trim combinations, and similar number fonts, the new Diamondbacks look remarkably similar to the Astros!

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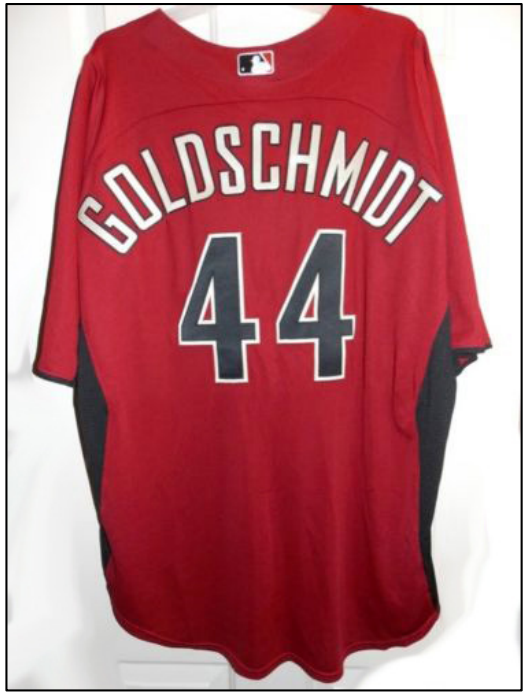
2011-2013 Batting Practice



In 2011, MLB changes all teams' batting practice jerseys to a button-front format. The Diamondbacks' version remains nearly identical to previous years', except the side panels are now solid black instead of two-toned black and tan.

Player names and numbers on the back are once again made of multi-layered twill. Names are sand with black outlines, while numbers are black with sand outlines.

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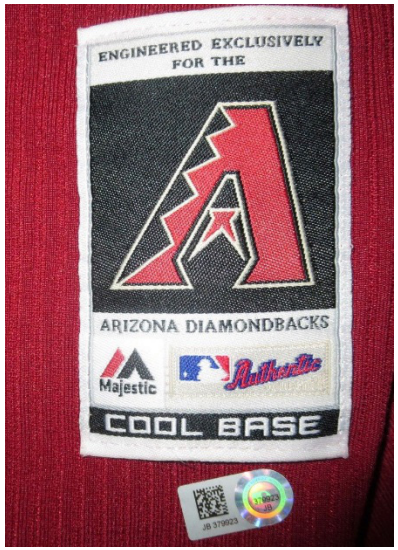
2014-2015 Batting Practice

All MLB teams received redesigned batting practice jerseys for 2014, and the Diamondbacks' version was altered to closely resemble their red alternate game jersey. Red and black knit trim bands are sewn to the neck opening and sleeve ends. Under-sleeve and side panels are black.

Player name and number on the back are sewn twill and match those of the red game jersey. Names are tan outlined in black; numbers are black outlined in tan. The jock tag is changed to a vertical rectangle featuring the team's secondary "A" logo in the center.



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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team.

The Diamondbacks use their regular season red alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are black patterned twill/red/tan. The name on back is black patterned twill/tan. Front numbers are the standard black/tan. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Diamondbacks spend Spring Training.

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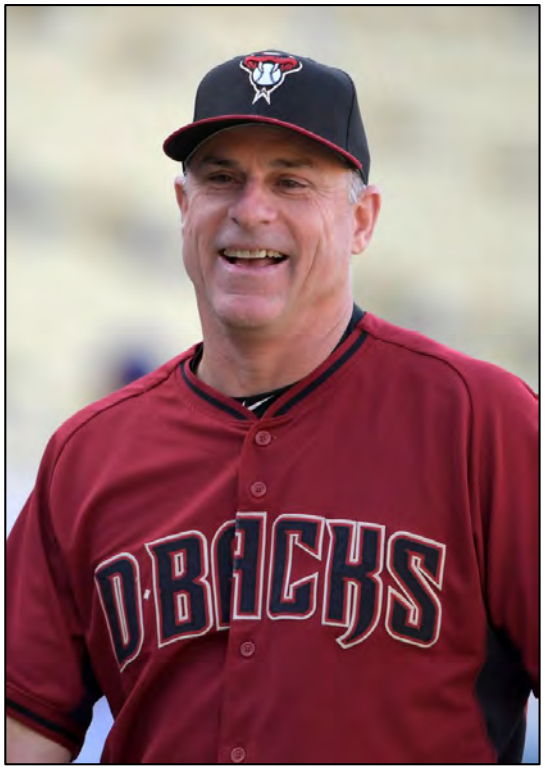
2016 Batting Practice



The D-backs update their batting practice jerseys at the same time as their other uniforms. For as radical as the new uniforms are, the BPs are still built on the same template as the 2014-2015 BP jersey. Knit red and black trim bands are sewn to the neck opening and sleeve ends. Under-sleeve and side panels are black. Redesigned "D-BACKS" wordmark and back numbers are black/red/sand, player name is black/sand, all in the custom team font, identical to the new red game jersey.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Diamondbacks again use their regular season red alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard black/tan, as is used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing the Diamondbacks’ spring training home.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Diamondbacks jersey is black with Sedona red back and underarm gussets. The snake with ball logo, normally a sleeve patch on their standard uniforms, appears here on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank, and the Diamondbacks also do not wear the player number on the left sleeve as several other teams do.

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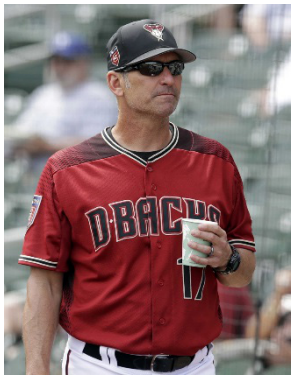
2018 Spring Training



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general theme of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, but this year simplified using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns.

The Diamondbacks again use their regular-season red alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard black/tan, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns.

The Diamondbacks again use their regular-season red alternate as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. Player name and front numbers are black/tan. Back numbers are black/red/tan.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Patch used 2022 only

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates.

For 2020–2023, the Diamondbacks use their new regular-season red alternate as a base, with black/tan front and back numbers. The name on back is tan/black. The 2022 version has a black, circular "RH" memorial patch for baseball-lifer and former Diamondbacks' staff member Roland Hemond. The 2023 version adds a square ad patch.

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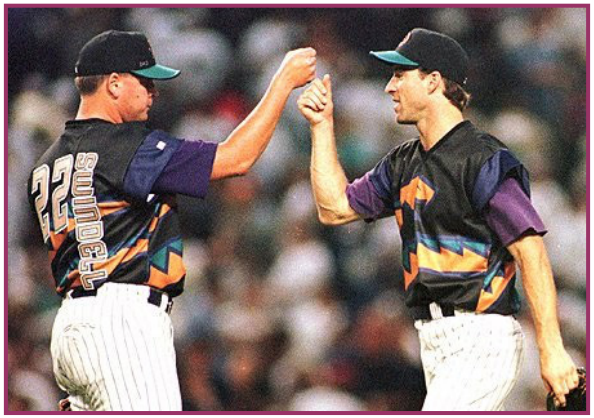
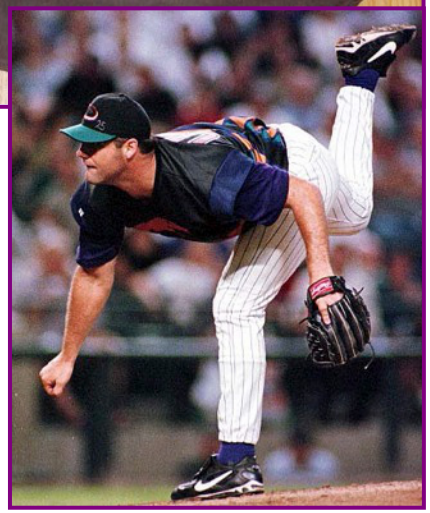
Special Events Jerseys

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock





Bill Henderson Collection

- 1999 Turn Ahead the Clock promotion. Worn twice: August 20 on the road vs. the Pirates, and September 11 at home against the visiting Phillies. Of all the teams that participated in this maligned event, the Diamondbacks' design was one of the few that showed real creativity—with a snake wrapping around the shirt, front and back.
- The game photos at right are the only ones located. They show player names sewn vertically along the right side in MLB's "Future Font," using three colors: metallic copper, turquoise, and white.
- Player numbers are bold and three-color.
- Actual game jerseys were auctioned by the Diamondbacks after the 1999 season and are now all in private hands. Team-issued jerseys have an embroidered Russell "R" logo on the right sleeve, while retail versions usually do not.

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2008-2015 Hispanic Heritage

These black "Los D-backs" jerseys are visually identical across all years. Made of Cool Base fabric, they feature sand/red front lettering and player names, with red/tan numbers on the back. The sleeve ends are banded with tan/red/tan knit trim. The team's "DB" snake-head patch consistently appears on the left sleeve. Depending on the year, the right sleeve is either blank or features a sewn memorial patch.

As a border state with Mexico, Arizona has historically experienced heightened political tension surrounding immigration issues , and in many years there has been ome controversy in the local media around this game. In 2010, the team stated that the event was intended to recognize its Hispanic fan base, and not as a statement against Senate Bill 1070, which restricted immigration.

2008: August 30 (10th Anniversary patch)
2009: September 10
2010: September 4
2011: September 24 (All-Star Game patch)
2012: September 16
2013: September 14 ("19" memorial disc)
2014: September 27
2015: August 21, October 3

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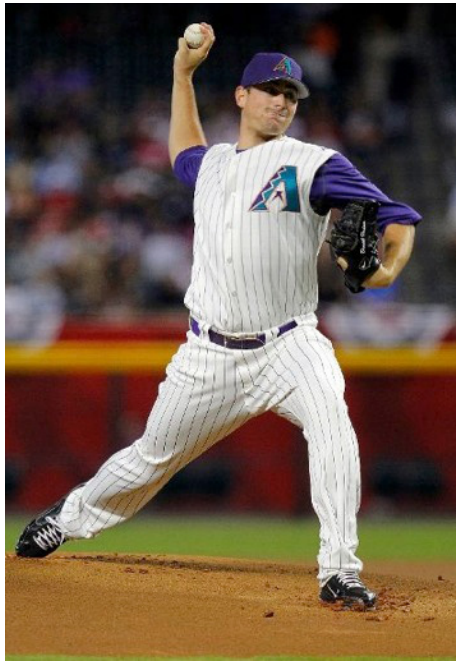
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 2001



- Until this point, the Diamondbacks had never participated in a Turn Back the Clock game—understandable, as the team was only 14 years old. On September 9, 2011, they celebrated their 2001 World Series title—won in just their fourth year of existence (a fact that still riles many other teams' fans)..
- They chose to wear the 2001 home white vest with purple pinstripes and the "A" logo. This was one of the uniform tops the club wore from 1998 through 2006, when its color scheme was purple, turquoise, copper, and black.
- The flag patch on the back of the neck was added in 2001 after the 9/11 attacks..
- In a press release about the game and reunion weekend, D-backs president and CEO Derrick Hall said: ***"The players on the 2001 team will always be remembered by D-backs fans for our proudest achievement. So we want to make sure we have as many of them return to Chase Field in September to recreate those special memories."***

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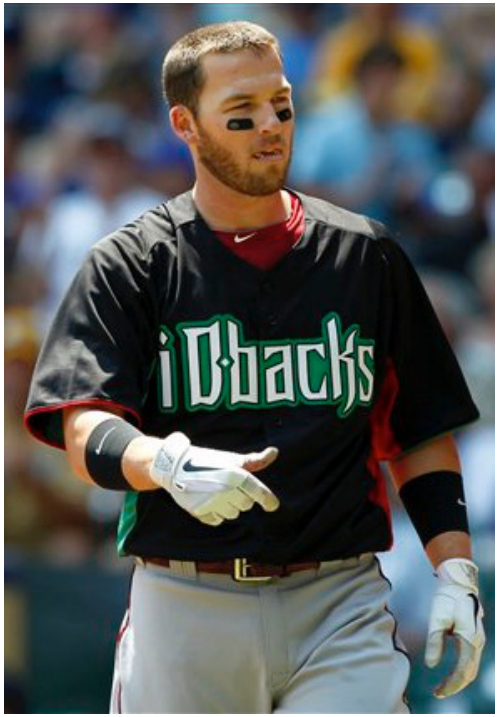
2012 Italian Heritage



On July 1, 2012, the Diamondbacks traveled to Milwaukee for the Brewers' on-field celebration of Italian Heritage Day. The Brewers are perhaps the all-time kings of special-uniform game days, and the Diamondbacks agreed to participate by wearing Italian-themed jerseys for the game.

The jerseys are Majestic BP-style in both weight and construction, with a distinctive feature: one red and one green side panel, representing the colors of the Italian flag. The unusual "i D-backs" wordmark appears in white/black/green. Back numbers are white/green, and player names are white. The Brewers also wore very flashy red and green jerseys.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1999-2002

Steve Kraljic Collection

On September 15, 2012, the Diamondbacks turned back the clock with flawless replicas of their purple jerseys. These were distinguishable from the originals—worn just a decade earlier—only by the addition of a Majestic tag on the tail and the "M" logo on the left sleeve.

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2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

On May 27, 2013, all MLB teams wore camouflage-lettered jerseys for Memorial Day as part of a league-wide initiative. The Diamondbacks served as the home team against the visiting Texas Rangers.

The desert camouflage on white was difficult to read, but the D-backs improved visibility with black outlines on the wordmark and player names, and red outlines on the numbers. These details made the design more legible on the field.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Firefighters Tribute

A wildfire ignited by lightning and driven out of control by high winds killed 19 elite firefighters on June 30, 2013, in Yarnell, Arizona. The tragedy was deeply felt throughout the state.

In response, the Diamondbacks issued the following press release:

D-backs Honor Fallen Firefighters

The Arizona Diamondbacks are honoring the memory of 19 firefighters from Prescott, Ariz., who perished fighting the Yarnell fire with a series of tributes and a memorial patch that will remain on the team's jersey throughout the season.

During the July 5-14 homestand, D-backs players and coaches will wear newly-created black tribute jerseys with "Arizona" across the front and a white patch over the heart bearing the No. 19. These one-of-a-kind, game worn tribute jerseys and nameplates from the D-backs clubhouse are signed by the players and will be up for auction until Sunday, July 14 at dbacks.com/auctions. Proceeds from the online auction will benefit the fire relief efforts through the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation.

Inset below: *Prototype or mock-up used for promotional purposes shows reversed lettering colors compared to what was actually worn on the field, as seen in all other photos.*

This, along with the Red Sox home "BOSTON" jersey worn after the Marathon bombing, marked the first time an MLB team created and wore a unique memorial jersey to honor a tragic event, rather than simply wearing an armband or patch. The jerseys were worn in every game from July 5 through July 14, after which they were auctioned as planned.

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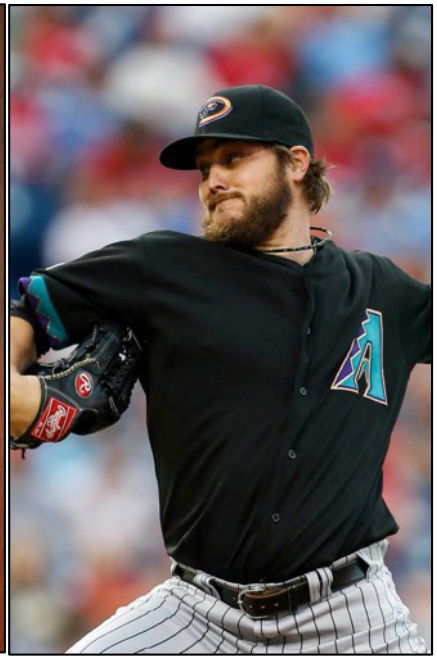
2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1998



These spot-on replicas of the Diamondbacks' 1998 alternate black jerseys were worn twice: on the road at Philadelphia on August 23, 2013, for the Phillies' Turn Back the Clock to the 1990s game, and at home on August 31, 2013, vs. the San Francisco Giants. They lack the 1998 Inaugural Season patch on the sleeve, using the 1999–2000 regular team patch instead. The "19" disc on the right sleeve is a memorial for the 19 firefighters killed earlier that summer in a wildfire-fighting accident in Arizona. Full-weight polyester jersey, exact replica lettering; numbers are turquoise/white/purple, and NOB is purple outlined with white.

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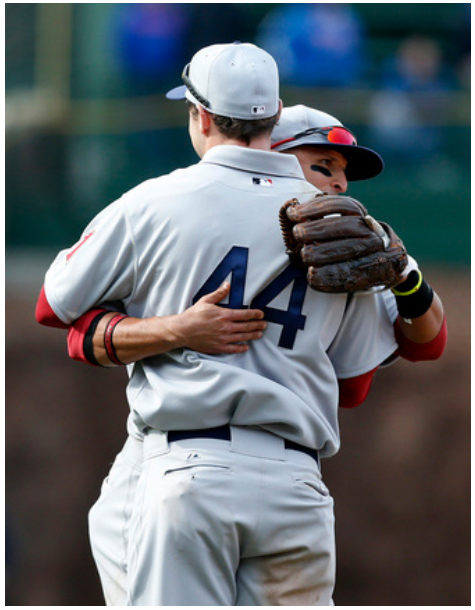
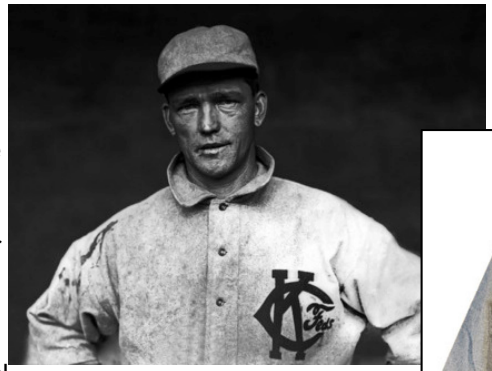
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1914 Federal League KC Packers



The Diamondbacks deserve credit for playing along with this scheme. On April 23, 2014, they visited the Chicago Cubs for the first of ten throwback games the Cubs held in 2014 to mark the 100th anniversary of the opening of Wrigley Field. In 1914, the Diamondbacks would not exist for another 84 years, Arizona had been a state for just over two years, and the city of Phoenix itself had been incorporated only 33 years prior. So, the D-Backs gamely donned the uniforms of the 1914 Kansas City Packers of the Federal League for the occasion, though they retained the team's alternate logo on the left sleeve. Knit jerseys have a full collar, but sleeves were kept short, though actual uniforms of 1914 had three-quarter length sleeves. In the past, when uniforms have been supplied with these awkward-length sleeves, players angrily hacked them off before the game started. Navy Block-style numbers on back, no player names are used.



Original Kansas City Packers jersey

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Memorial Day

For May 26, 2014's Memorial Day, when all teams in MLB again wore camouflaged wordmark jerseys, the D-backs *pulled a fast one*. They resurrected the general design of their 2013 special firefighter memorial jersey and rendered it in camo twill. No other teams in MLB created a special jersey design just for Memorial Day. In my estimation, it was a wise move. At least the camo twill is visible—and even unusually attractive—against the black background and outlined with dark red. The visitor that day was the San Diego Padres, who wore gray jerseys featuring camo lettering that was barely visible. Their usual team patch remains on the left sleeve.

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2014 Alumni Night: Turn Back the Clock to 1999

On August 30, 2014, the Diamondbacks staged a throwback game to 1999 for Alumni Night, with former players attending pregame ceremonies. They wore a replica of the 1998–2000 "primary" home jersey, though historically, this style of jersey was worn far less than the other choices in those years. The Majestic uniforms are nearly identical to the Russell originals, with the only differences being the Majestic tagging and sleeve logos replacing Russell's. The team also revived the seldom-used white hats, which had rarely been worn by the club.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015-2016 TBTC: “Throwback Thursdays” to 1998-2006

Worn eight times in 2015 and five times in 2016, the D-Backs brought back the 1998–2006 alternate vests for Thursday home games. These Majestic knits are very faithful reproductions—after all, it had only been a decade—and were almost certainly made using the same patterns used for the 2011 Turn Back the Clock game. There are no numbers on front. Back numbers are rendered in three-color purple/white/turquoise, with two-color turquoise/purple names on back.

By Steve Gilbert/MLB.com

March 5, 2015 — SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The D-Backs will wear throwback uniforms for every Thursday home game during the 2015 regular season.

The retro jersey will be the alternate home vest uniform with purple pinstripes that the team wore from 1998 through 2006, and the team will incorporate the colors purple and teal in every game element at Chase Field. The Throwback Thursdays will mark the sixth time the D-Backs have worn a retro jersey in franchise history.

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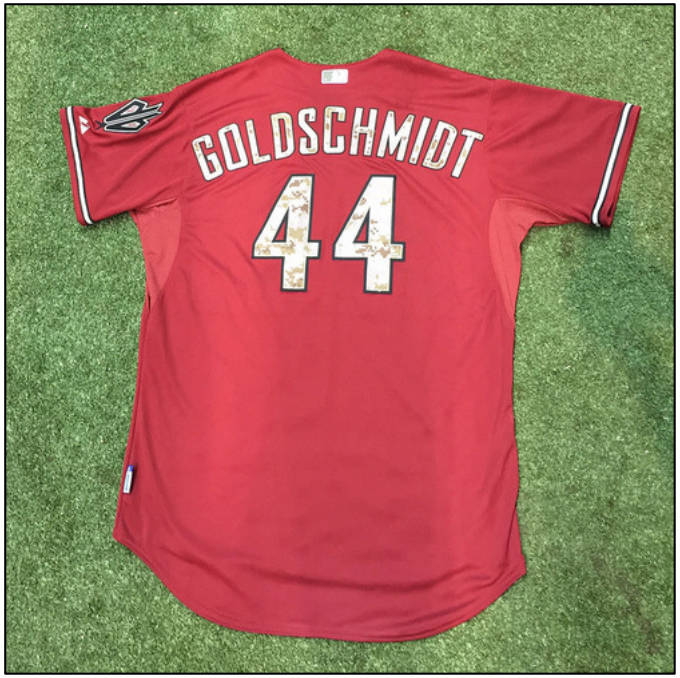
2015 Memorial Day



In as many years, the Diamondbacks have worn three different Memorial Day jerseys. The May 25, 2015 incarnation applies camo to the team's alternate red jersey for the first time. Given the red jersey and the black outlines throughout, the camo is legible. The front wordmark and back names, typically rendered in sand/black, closely resemble the normal design due to the sandy desert variety of camo used. The back numbers, usually black/sand, appear here in camo/black. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is colored in dark green/khaki/white instead of the usual red/white/blue.

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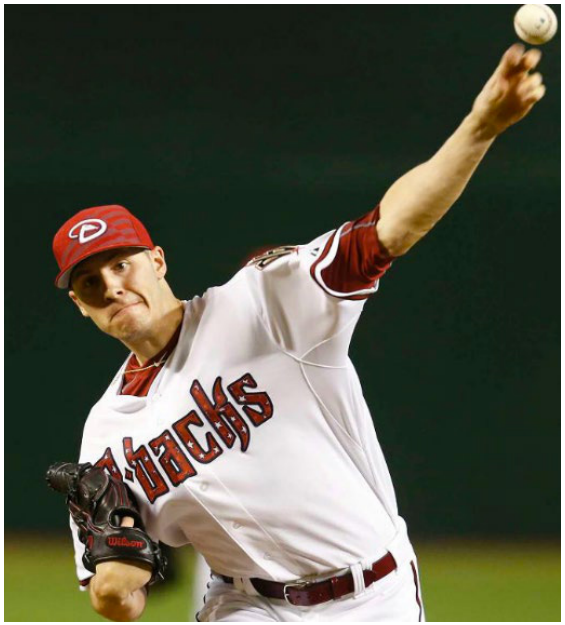
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day



For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Diamondbacks wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as back numbers. Two-layer twill replaces the usual three-color front lettering on the jerseys. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016 St. Patrick's Day

The Diamondbacks go green for St. Patrick's Day 2016 in a Spring Training game held March 17. This Majestic Flex Base jersey is in solid green, with front logo and back numbers in white/gray, and player name in white—all in the Diamondbacks' special font. The gray layer is thin and light enough to disappear at a distance. The left sleeve has a version of the D-backs' snake patch reduced to shades of black, gray, and white. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams as part of the 2016 promotion. White knit trim encircles both sleeves.

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2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Diamondbacks wear road gray jerseys (minus sublimated patterns, so not strictly either the road or alternate road) with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines, reduced from the typical three-color lettering. The player names on back are rendered in single-color pink, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. The Joe Garagiola right-sleeve memorial patch is used on this jersey as it was on their other standard jerseys. All jersey trim becomes pink.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Diamondbacks apply the camouflage trimmings to their alternate home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers are here rendered in two-color woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. The gray gradient on the jersey back is light enough that it does not interfere greatly with the similarly colored lettering, though it is not as legible as a plain jersey back. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from the usual teal/black/teal configuration. The Joe Garagiola right-sleeve memorial patch is used on this jersey as it was on their other standard jerseys.

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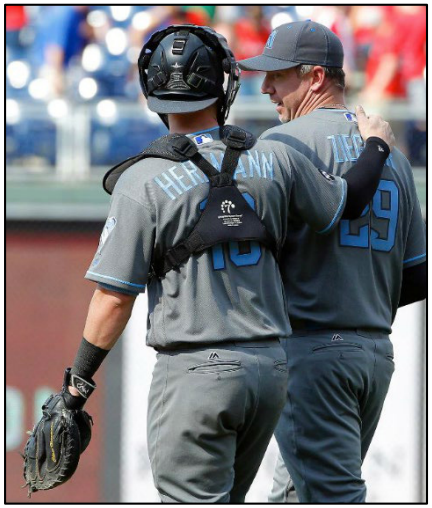
Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Father's Day

2016

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Diamondbacks wear their road gray jerseys (minus sublimated patterns, so not strictly either the road or alternate road) with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines reduced from the typical three-color lettering. The player names on back are rendered in single-color light blue, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. The Joe Garagiola right-sleeve memorial patch is used on this jersey as it was on their other standard jerseys. All jersey trim becomes light blue. The style returns in 2017 without the memorial patch.

2016 only patch



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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Diamondbacks are at home and wear their home alternate jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Diamondbacks select the red twill version with blue outlines to replace their typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers, with a blue player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim, normally teal/black/teal, becomes single-color red. The Joe Garagiola right-sleeve memorial patch moves to the left chest in deference to the flag patch.

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2016 Hispanic Heritage

The D-Backs continue their long-standing tradition of “Los D-Backs” Hispanic Heritage jerseys after updating their team look. The new version is based on the team’s alternate black jersey, with the “A” logo replaced by “Los D-Backs” on front, and the addition of a sand/red front number. The rest of the jersey remains unchanged, including the “JOE” patch used on all jerseys in 2016. Worn September 16, 2016.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Diamondbacks wear a simplified version of their alternate home white, minus sublimated patterns, with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All trim, normally teal/black/teal, becomes gray.

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2017 Memorial Day

Jersey front and tag photos from the collection of Keith de Laet

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Diamondbacks apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag.

Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill–appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017 and July

2–4, 2018, the Diamondbacks wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

Keith DeLaet Collection

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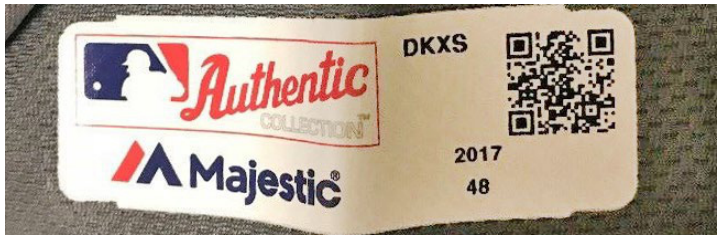
2017 Independence Day (Road)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 4, 2017, the Diamondbacks wear their road charcoal-gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Diamondbacks wear jerseys with black bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in white/teal kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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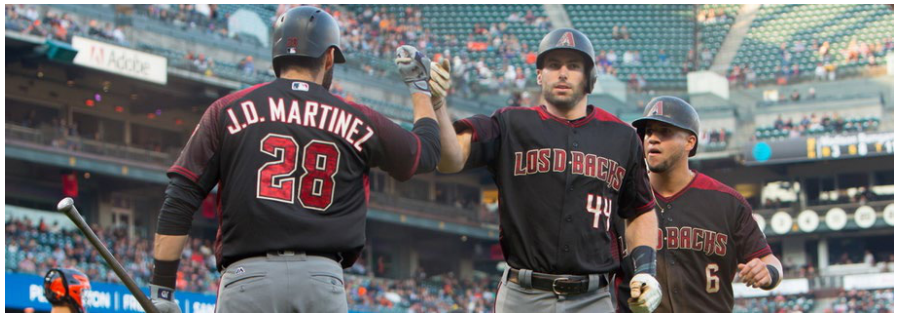
2017-2019 Hispanic Heritage



The D-Backs have honored Hispanic heritage with special uniforms since 2008, and starting in 2017, the team adds subtle patterned lettering to their black alternate to extend the recognition beyond just the "Los D-Backs" team name on front. Similar to the recent Spring Training jerseys, these feature sublimated printing on the main twill layer on the front wordmark, and back numbers, representing the flags of many Latin American countries. The effect is difficult to discern from a distance—likely for the best, given the team's already busy jerseys.

In 2018, they featured the D-Backs' 20th anniversary patch on the right sleeve. These were worn on September 9, 16, and 23 (with a gold ribbon patch on the left chest for pediatric cancer), 2017; May 5, and September 8 and 14, 2018; and August 31, and September 14, 16, and 28, 2019. The 2019 version omits the MLB150 patch on the right sleeve.

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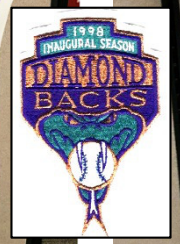
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1998



As part of their season-long 20th anniversary celebration in 2018, the D-Backs threw back to several of their past uniforms—and despite only two decades of existence, they had many to choose from. On March 31 and April 19, they went back to the beginning with their inaugural 1998 home jersey. In terms of accuracy, these are spot-on as would be expected for a throwback of such recent vintage. Aside from the Majestic logo on the left sleeve of these full-knit jerseys and the anachronistic 20th anniversary patch on the right sleeve, they are indistinguishable from the originals.

The one-year-only “Inaugural Season” patch is also present on the left sleeve. Just like the originals, they feature the team’s first primary wordmark slanted across the front, with purple pinstripes and purple/turquoise front numbers, purple/white/turquoise back numbers, and turquoise/purple direct-sewn player names on back.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1999

Collection of Keith de Laet

As part of their season-long 20th anniversary celebration in 2018, the D-Backs throw back to their 1999 alternate purple jersey on May 3. As with all the retro jerseys in the series, these full-knit jerseys are spot-on accurate, as would be expected for a throwback of such recent vintage, aside from the Majestic logo on the left sleeve and the anachronistic 20th anniversary patch on the right sleeve.

Just like the originals, they feature distinctive turquoise/metallic copper/black trim on the sleeve ends and a 3D drop shadow “Arizona” wordmark in turquoise/white/metallic copper/black across the chest. Front numbers are metallic copper/white, back numbers are metallic copper/turquoise/white, while player names are metallic copper/white.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018-2019, 2021, 2023 Turn Back the Clock to 2001

collection of Keith de Laet

Steve Kraljic Collection

Players were also provided with base layer shirts with the Diamondbacks sleeve patch glued, not stitched, on the left sleeve.

Steve Kraljic Collection

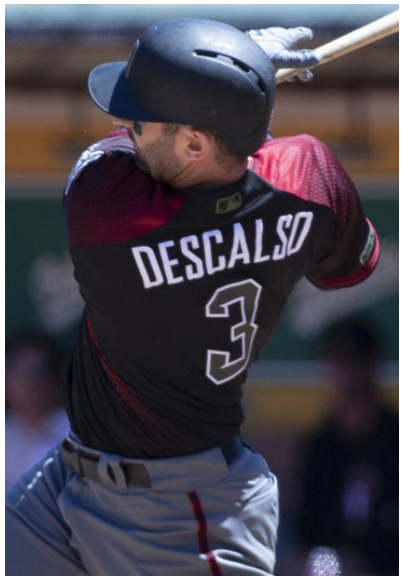
As part of their season-long 20th anniversary celebration in 2018, the D-Backs throw back to their 2001 alternate home vest on May 10. As with all the retro jerseys in the series, these full-knit, purple pinstripe jerseys are spot-on accurate, as would be expected for a throwback of such recent vintage (a design worn through the 2006 season), aside from the new-style Majestic logo above the left sleeve opening. Just like the originals, they feature the team's "A" cap logo on front in turquoise/metallic copper/purple, with purple/white/turquoise back numbers and turquoise/purple player names on back.

As a happy reminder of the team's 2001 World Series win, this same set returned as a "Throwback Thursday" style worn in 2019 and 2021, and for one weekend only, August 11–13, 2023. The 2023 version included a sponsor patch on the base layer sleeve. The 2018–19 versions were by Majestic; the 2021 and 2023 versions were made by Nike.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Memorial Day

Jersey front and tag photos from the collection of Keith de Laet



The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 for most teams, but the D-Backs go in a different direction on May 26–28, 2018. Where most teams use dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back, the D-Backs employ an olive green/black/white version of their “A” logo on front of their black alternate, with white player names and olive green/white numbers on back. Unlike most teams, the D-Backs also retain their typical jersey trim for this holiday, here in red/black/red. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 2002

As part of their season-long 20th anniversary celebration in 2018, the D-Backs throw back to their 2002 home jersey on June 14. As with all retro jerseys in the series, these full-knit jerseys are spot-on accurate, as would be expected for a throwback of such recent vintage, aside from the new-style Majestic logo on the left sleeve and the anachronistic 20th anniversary patch on the right sleeve.

Just like the originals, they feature the team's "A" cap logo on front in turquoise/metallic copper/purple, with purple/white/turquoise back numbers and turquoise/purple player names on back.

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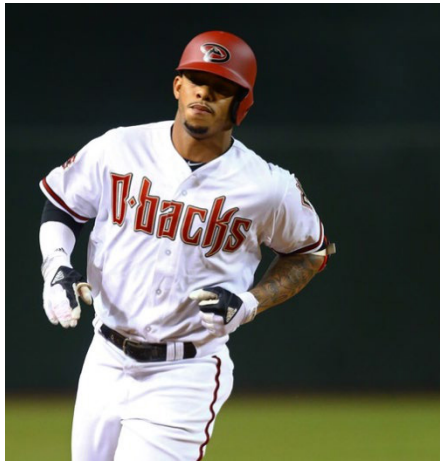
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 2007

photos from the collection of Keith de Laet



As part of their season-long 20th anniversary celebration in 2018, the D-Backs throw back to their 2007 home jersey on July 5. As with all the retro jerseys in the series, these Cool Base jerseys are quite accurate, as would be expected for a throwback of such recent vintage, aside from the new-style Majestic logo on the left sleeve and the anachronistic 20th anniversary patch on the right sleeve.

Just like the originals, the front lettering is red/sand/black with black/red/black braid slightly above the sleeve ends. Player names are red/black, and numbers are black/red. One very small error—if these are supposed to be the 2007 version of this set as the team says, the snake head logo on the sleeve should be different, as this jersey features the version used in 2008 and later. The D-Backs changed the logo in response to pressure from magician David Blaine, who has a similar logo (discussed in the Oddballs section), so the change was likely intentional to avoid conflict.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 2011

From the collection of Keith de Laet

As part of their season-long 20th anniversary celebration in 2018, the D-Backs throw back to their 2011 alternate red jerseys on August 2. As with all the retro jerseys in the series, these Cool Base jerseys are quite accurate, as would be expected for a throwback of such recent vintage, aside from the new-style Majestic logo on the left sleeve and the anachronistic 20th anniversary patch on the right sleeve.

Just like the originals, the front lettering is sand/red/black with black/sand/black braid slightly above the sleeve ends. Player names are sand/black, and numbers are black/sand. For this game only, the team adds a black “KT” memorial patch for recently deceased former GM Kevin Towers, who oversaw the team during the era this jersey was used.

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2019 Players Weekend

collection of Keith de Laet

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Diamondbacks wear a black version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

Pre-1998 Oddities

Three full years elapsed between the time the Diamondbacks were awarded their franchise on March 9, 1995 and the time the team first took the field, opening day of 1998. This gap explains a lot of oddball Diamondbacks gear one finds, including dead-stock official white New Era game caps worn (we believe) only once by the team.

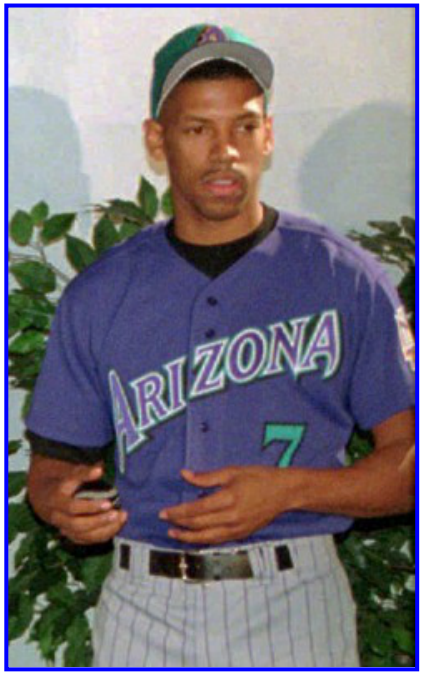
Let's start with pages from the team's first official MLB style guide, reproduced here. Looks OK, right? Well, not exactly. On the next couple of pages we will look at some of the changes that took place between the November 5, 1995 uniform unveiling and opening day in April 1998, approximately 28 months later.

In this photo from the event (below) players from the Phoenix Suns NBA franchise are used as models for the new team's uniforms!

1. The inaugural sleeve patch: they never used this one on the field, yet this style patch found its way onto nearly every retail replica.
2. The purple alternate uniform top has lettering that has a completely different color combination from what was used in 1998.
3. The black warm-up top shown here may never have been used by the team on the field in the regular season. Many 1998 Diamondbacks baseball cards feature players wearing this jersey in studio shots, and the few game-action photos on baseball cards all appear to be from Spring Training, 1998.

Members of the NBA Phoenix Suns model the Diamondbacks new uniforms in a media event on November 5, 1995

© GameWornGuides.com



Bill Henderson Collection

On this page and the next are examples of the as-originally-planned purple jersey of 1995 that never saw action on the field. These purple jerseys have “Arizona” on front in purple/white/turquoise/black 3D drop shadow, a color combination that was never actually used by the team. Colors were shuffled and the main color used on field ended up being turquoise green. There is no sleeve end trim on this jersey style. Two-and-a-half years elapsed between the time that these uniforms were unveiled on November 5, 1995, and the first game was played. That’s a lot of idle time for management to fiddle with things!

Above at left is a photo of the prototype purple jersey at the team’s official uniform introduction. The front number is teal outlined with black. An reliable source supplied the photo at right to confirm the colors of the back numbers. The #51 jersey above shown front and back is from the author’s collection, and has had the numbers and name sewn on in showing what these would have looked like, following the “rules” that have been used on other team jerseys for color selection and order.

Below: *a game worn 1998 purple jersey to remind us what the original ended up looking like.*

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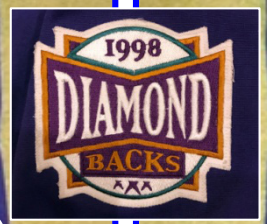

A small white flag tag under front tail tag (circled) generally is a good indicator of a team-issue spec jersey and not one made for retail sale. This jersey's different letter coloring could have been another team experiment, or it could be someone's recreation, we don't know.

Both of the jerseys on these two pages have Russell Diamond Collection tagging, the example on the previous page shows the collar size tag usually seen on jerseys destined for retail sale, the one on this page has the tiny flag tagging usually found on team issued jerseys. They all sport the prototype team inaugural patch that was never used on the field but that found its way onto the retail jerseys sold during that period to expectant fans.

Compare the to the "Williams" jersey above, claimed to be game worn by its seller, with the other prototype and the actual game jersey on the prior page. We know this cannot be game worn because this variant of the purple jersey was never worn by the team on the field. But the lettering on the jersey *might* be team-authentic, as the team clearly was fiddling with things before their first game. For more food for thought on that topic, look at the home jersey two pages ahead which also is claimed to be original but has player numbers that are the wrong colors compared to those eventually used by the team on the field.

Consider that Russell was making authentic team merchandise for retail sale as early as Christmas 1995, and they certainly made a quantity of these purple jerseys before actual on-field designs were finalized. Remaining inventory was eventually dumped to the discounters. Examples of these are rather uncommon and a first-year oddity that have collector interest. They appear for sale on auction sites now and then. Rarely do sellers ever note that they are oddly-made early jerseys, probably because the sellers do not realize it themselves!

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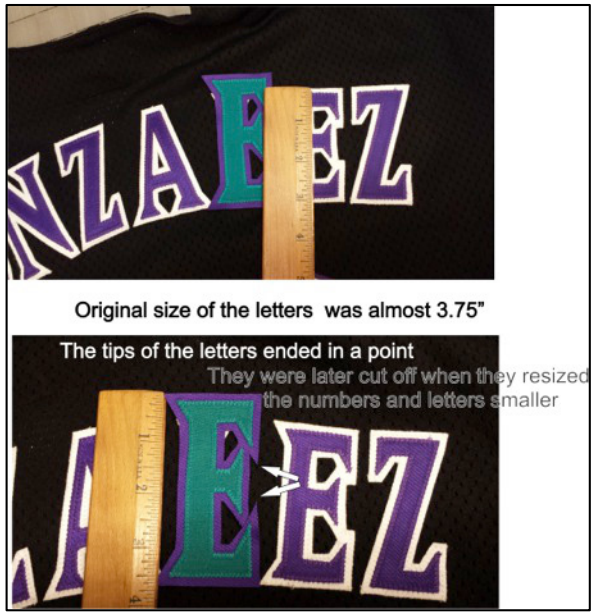
Besides the pre-opening day change to the inaugural patch, notice that huge, clunky number on the front of Danny Klassen's team portrait (far right). In these stock, posed photos, players were outfitted in sample uniforms that were not their own. Klassen actually opened the season with #65 on his uniform, not #4 as seen here. Diamondbacks seamstress Patsy Elmer relates this tale:

"Did you know that from day one, the Diamondbacks had very large (front) numbers and player name letters? I can't remember exactly when it happened, but they changed the sizes on both. I had just made a box FULL of their twill #'s and letters and I couldn't use them anymore because of that change. Then I had to start making the new smaller size. I was irritated because my stock was now useless to the team but it was much easier now getting those long names to fit on the jerseys."

Patsy went back to her files and produced some more historical oddities.

"I found an old set of cut-out numbers from the original larger size, and the back numbers with both outlines were 8" tall. The player name letters were much larger too and we used to leave points at the end of certain letters…..L, C, E, F, Z, N, T. At some point after the season started, the team asked that this be changed and we started cutting the sharp points off the letters, but I'm not 100% positive exactly when that happened. May have been the same time they made the letters smaller. The larger letters for the player names made it very difficult to lay out longer names, and get the right-looking arch because of the large flat bottoms on many of the letters, and so I was glad for the change. The front numbers were made smaller too, but by less than a half-inch. These changes were made after the season started"

Above: *Early 1998—pitcher Willie Blair wearing the Diamondbacks white hat in possibly the only game in which it was used.*



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Above: *This team-spec style home jersey (note the tiny flag tag attached to the Russell jock tag) has nonstandard color player numbers both front and back, but has the proper inaugural patch as used on the field. More evidence of last-minute fiddling? We don't know.*

I showed Patsy the photos of this #33 BELL jersey, from the auction archives of a major auction house, advertising it as a game used 1998 jersey. It has the Inaugural patch on the sleeve that was actually worn on the field, not the "pre-approval version" shown on the prior page. Notable is that the player numbers twill colors (both front and back) are swapped around, making Mariner Green (turquoise) the top color, not purple as was used on every game jersey I had seen since the beginning. Her response:

> *"The green color used on the Diamondbacks jerseys is called Mariner Green, and it is the same color twill as used on the Seattle Mariners' uniforms. I don't have evidence that the Mariner Green was ever on the top of the white jersey. I'm even looking at the huge spacing between the 3's. Russell was making sample jerseys as well, and this is probably one that they did, not me. I would never have let the jersey go out with that kind of wide spacing between the numbers; it's not right."*
>
> *When I asked Patsy if this was perhaps an early season example, she responded, "Here's a photo of the jerseys that were hung up as we finished sewing each name that was announced at the expansion draft party in November of 1997. We were behind the stage during the event at the Civic Center. As players were drafted we sewed their names on jerseys and hoisted them up to the rafters. You can see that the numbers are purple, and the front numbers were the same (purple too)."*

The front numbers on the Bell jersey shown seem to be the original too-large size, but Patsy notes that the player names are clearly the smaller size on this example and have the points cut off.

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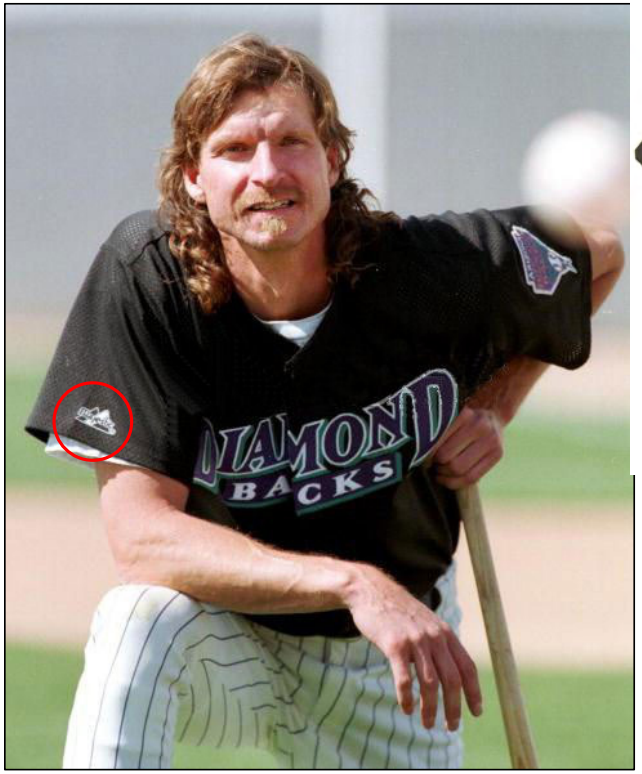
More Oddballs



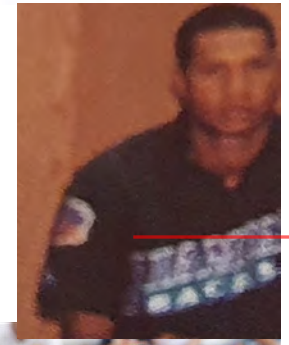
Left: Even if you are an expert, you will probably look at this BP jersey and say *"so what?"* But it is indeed an oddball...Notice: it has 1997-1999 style tail tagging, but it uses the color combination on the wordmark only seen on the pre-1998 inaugural season spring training BP...and yet it is a button-front when those early jerseys were 2-button pullovers; so the 4-piece split down the middle embroidered patches for the front were not something that would have been lying around because no other jersey used this color combination! It also has the 1999-and-after sleeve patch. The back is blank, but it has an embroidered Majestic sleeve logo that is only found on team-issue BP jerseys.

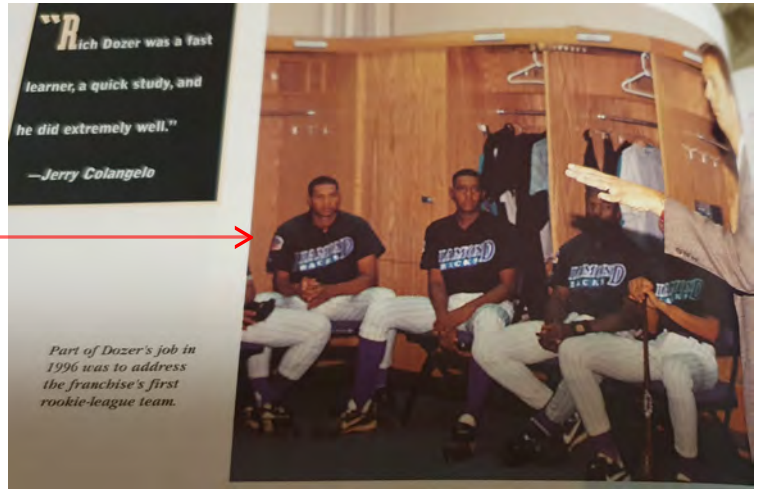
This page provides proof that not everything on the field always follows the rules.

Above: Randy Johnson wears a retail store batting practice jersey, noticeable because it clearly has a decal-style Majestic logo on its sleeve (circled).

Right: Strictly non-standard *block* style NOB on Chico's batting practice jersey.

Imagine trying to convince knowledgeable buyers that either of these items is truly "game used".





Above: The Diamondbacks' first season was 1998. There was no team in 1997. So what is the explanation for these players wearing the early BP jersey style—with the 1997-only Jackie Robinson sleeve patch? According to the caption, this is a rookie league team that pre-dated the MLB Diamondbacks playing a single game!

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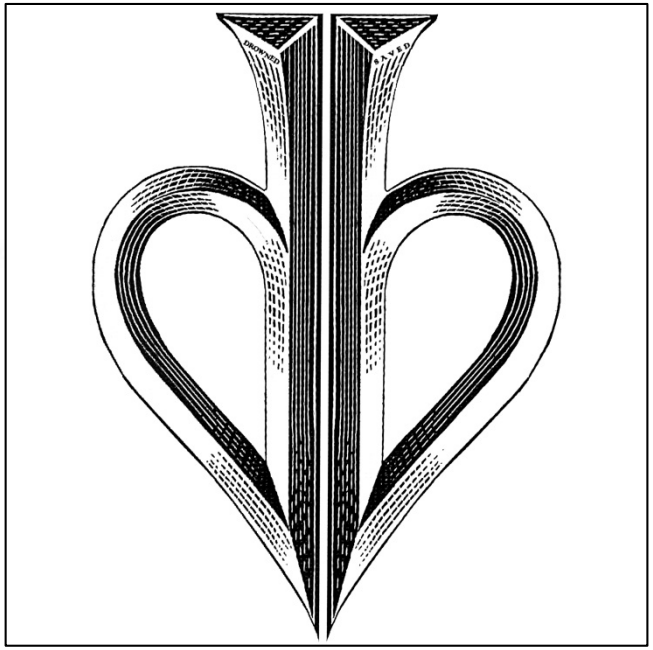
The Lawyers and the Oddball File:

Magician David Blaine v. Arizona Diamondbacks?

2007 Diamondbacks Logo



David Blaine Logo

Revised 2008 Diamondbacks Logo

- A dispute over the Diamondbacks' new logo for 2007 arose when magician/illusionist David Blaine claimed that the D-backs stylized DB/snake head logo used on sleeve patches for all the team's new game jerseys looked just like his DB/"Split Club" logo, trademarked a decade earlier.
- In what appears to be a gentlemanly settlement, the Diamondbacks slightly modified the logo for 2008, adding "snake eyes," changing the color of the tongue, and moving the tongue closer in to the bottom of the "D" and "B."
- Did this fix the problem? You be the judge. Apparently David Blaine was satisfied and decided not to sue.

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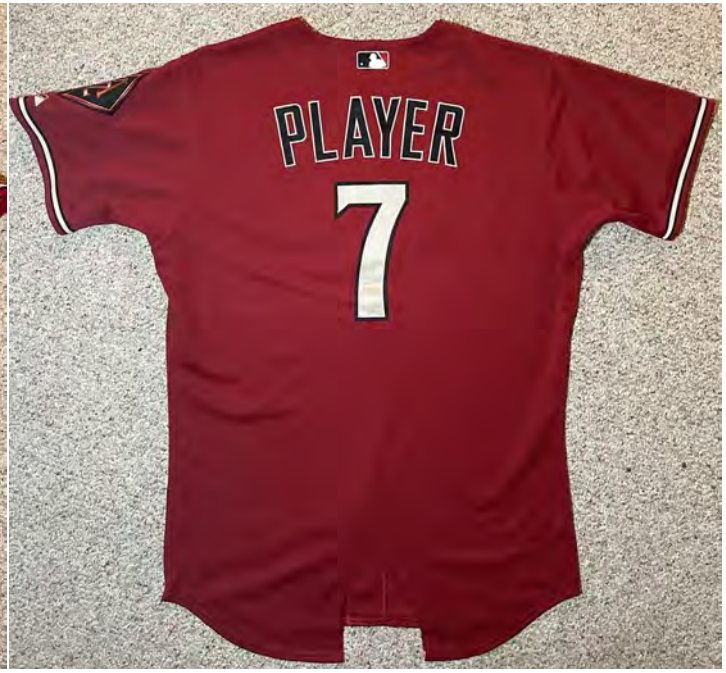
2007 Prototype Alternate Red

Photos: Gary Taylor



Here's a prototype for the Diamondbacks uniform revisions of 2007, in this case, a sample of the team's alternate Sedona red ersey. As we have often seen in such examples, the use of "PLAYER" and "7" (where "7" stands for "2007") is typical of prototypes, as is the size 46. Further, note the presence of the interior sample tag that reads DIAAJ-07 B" for Diamondbacks Alternate Jersey, 2007, (version) B." The only difference in this prototype from what the team wore on-field in 2007 is the left sleeve patch. Here, the eventual db/snake-head-shaped patch was swapped out for a diamond-shaped patch with an "AZ" ligature in it. Given the legal hot water that the team got it from magician David Blaine because of that snake-head/db patch, they may have been better served adopting this option B.

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2011: Size XXXX

2016 Prototype Alternate Black

Photos: Gary Taylor

The Diamondbacks laid it all out on the table with their 2016 redesign, introducing bold, printed patterns to their jerseys, pants, and caps. Here is a sample of one of the six(!) jerseys they introduced that year, their black alternate. Though atypical, the use of a player's name and number (rather than "PLAYER" and a year for the number) does occur, and Paul Goldschmidt was a team star at the time. However, the size 46, and the tell-tale sample tag heat-pressed inside the placket tell us the full story. The tag reads "DBKS-AJ-BLACK-D1-3-2016 (ND)." That means Diamondbacks Alternate Jersey, Black, Design 1, (version) 3, 2016." The "(ND)" is a mystery, perhaps it relates to the diamond patterns on the shoulders and sides? Similar samples of pants designs for the 2016 season (see photos at right) show that the team was looking at different iterations of the printed patterns, which may have also been present on other iterations of the jerseys. More research is required on that element. However, this sample closely represents what the team chose for 2016, with the exception of the missing team sleeve patch, and the lack of the embroidered "Majestic" text under the manufacturer logo on the left sleeve.

Above: Photos of sample pants, with slightly different printed diamond gradient designs, that the team reviewed when choosing their 2016 uniform sets. These indicate that at least two different diamond patterns were considered.

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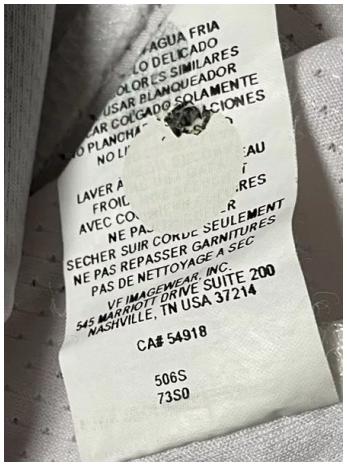
2017 Sample Home?



If you've spent any time with this publication, you know that when you see "PLAYER" and a number representing the year on the back of a jersey, you're probably looking at a prototype. But for this example, it isn't quite so simple. By all accounts, this is identical to what the Diamondbacks wore as one of their home jerseys from 2016-2019. And, here, we see "PLAYER" and "17" on back. But if this jersey were introduced in 2016, why a 17? The team did change the lettering on their two road jerseys in 2017, but not on their home, and this sample shows no changes from the 2016 version. Also curious, the jersey is size 44 (samples are often 46) and the wash tag code is the unusual 73S0. Flex Base were usually 0730 for team issue and 7300 for retail. However, because these complex Diamondbacks jerseys had to be made differently, they were assigned a separate code of S730 for team issued and 73S0 for retail. So it seems likely that this is a retail authentic that was lettered with "PLAYER" and "17" for reasons that are unclear. Any reader help on this one would be appreciated!

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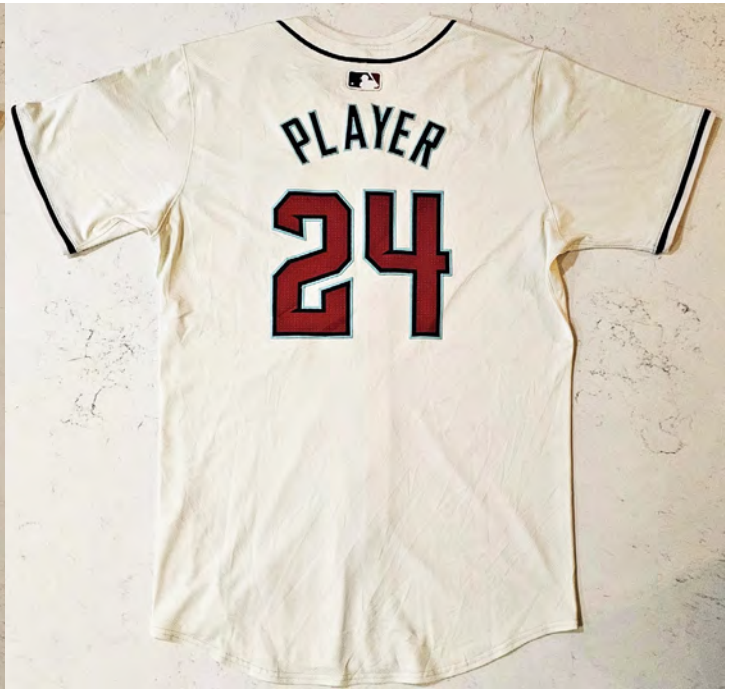
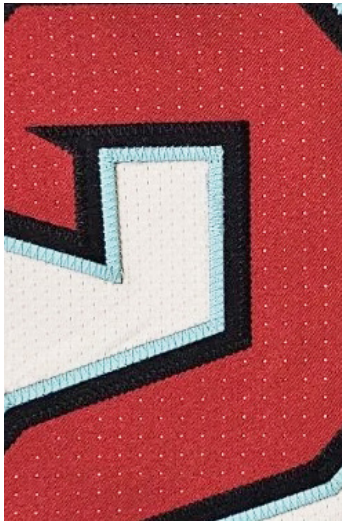
2024 Prototype Home





In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of existing jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the one shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. This Diamondbacks home version is one of those examples, but with a twist. The team also changed its uniforms for the 2024 season, so this prototype was a sample for both a new style and a new template.

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads “DBACKS HOME JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT”, with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. There is also a small, handwritten “6” on the corner of the tag, which we have seen in many other Nike sample tags, though the numbers differ, and this may be the highest one we have seen. Also, the designation of “regular fit” was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use “bucket sizing” on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike’s 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the “FZ3164-115” text on the front tag means. It is likely it is an internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

We don’t know if all prototypes of the team’s new-for-2024 jerseys were mocked up in VPE, or if some were early enough to have been on Nike Flex Base. What we do know is that this version must have been later in the process, and must have been to the team’s liking, as it mirrors exactly what they wore on-field at home in 2024, including the perforated numbers.

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2024: Whoops!

As if 2024 weren't eventful enough for the Diamondbacks (with a whole new uniform set) and Nike/Fanatics (for all of the issues with the uniforms), D-Backs infielder Kevin Newman took to the field on May 7 with his road jersey missing the knit trim around the collar and placket. Nike took all the blame for the other 2024 uniform "enhancements" that were later reversed, since they designed this template. But this error is on Fanatics, who produces the uniforms, and clearly dropped the ball on this one.

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2025 Prototype City Connect 2.0

The Diamondbacks introduce a City Connect 2.0 in 2025, which takes elements of its CC 1.0 and applies some throwback touches that nod to the team's (and state's) history. Here we have an unchosen version of that jersey, which was presented for the team's review.

The details of the chosen jersey are described earlier in this chapter, and this prototype conforms closely to them except for two details. First, the final version of this jersey bears "Serpientes" lettering across the chest, picked up from the team's CC 1.0, rather than the "Arizona Diamondbacks" lettering shown on this sample. The front lettering here is a nod to the team's original jerseys and lettering from their earliest BPs. Second, because the prototype was likely made up at least a year or two in advance, the assumption by Nike was that the numbers would be perforated. We have seen many Nike samples that defaulted to perforated numbers (perhaps in an effort to get teams to go along with them). However, given the backlash to Nike uniforms in 2024, many teams reverted back to non-perforated numbers in 2025. When the final version of this jersey appeared on field during the season, it no longer had perforated numbers, and had much larger player name lettering, likely victims of the "market correction" against many of the reviled 2024 changes.

As we would expect, the jersey uses "PLAYER" and "25" on back, where 25 stands for the year the jersey will be used. This practice is almost universal for Nike samples of the era. Note also the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads "DBACKS CC JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Here, "CC" stands for City Connect, and there is also a small, handwritten "5" on the bottom corner of the tag, something that many Nike samples of the year have, though the numbers differ. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the "HJ4614-545" text on the front tag means. It is likely it is an internal production codes, as all 2025 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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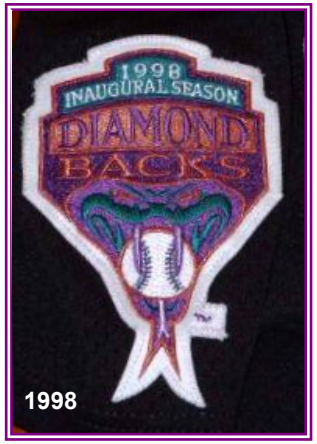
Commemorative Patches

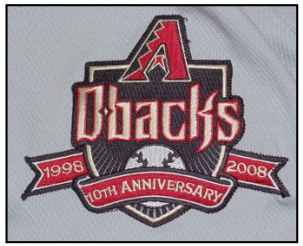
Diamondbacks Patches

- 1998: Inaugural Season on left sleeve in place of team patch for this year only
- 2004, July 11: Red AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure Day in San Francisco
- 2008: 10th Anniversary patch worn on right sleeve during the team's 11th season
- 2011: All-Star Game patch on right sleeve all season
- 2013, July 1-4: 19 elite firefighters were killed in a tragic accident while battling wildfires in Yarnell, AZ in June
- 2013, July 5-14: A white "19" disc was sewn on left chest of special tribute black alternate with "Arizona" on front
- 2013, starting July 19: the "19" disc was sewn to the right sleeve of white, gray and red and black alternates. A white version was used on the alternates, the black version was used for the other jerseys.



1998

July 11, 2004



2008

2011

July 1-4, 2013

July 5-14, 2013

2013, starting July 19

World Champions 2001 DIAMONDBACKS

Never used as a sleeve patch was the team's 2001 World Champions logo. The Diamondbacks made no statement on their uniforms in 2002 about their accomplishment; this expansion team winning its first World Series in only its fourth year of existence was frankly unheard of and admittedly unsettling to fans of teams who have been waiting decades for a championship of their own. I am sure this was a consideration in the team's decision to downplay its status as MLB Champs.

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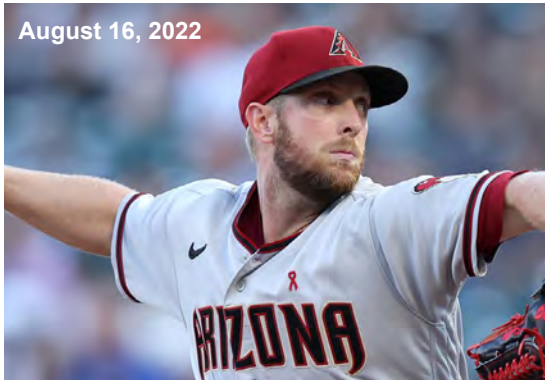
2018

- 2015, August 8: Randy Johnson number retirement patch worn on BP jerseys and black alternate jerseys
- 2016, March 3-8: KAYLA patch, worn in honor of Kayla Mueller, a humanitarian aid worker and Arizona native who was killed in Syria.
- 2016: Joe Garagiola memorial patch worn on all jerseys all season.
- 2018: 20th Anniversary patch on all jerseys
- 2018, August 2: KT memorial patch for former general manager Kevin Towers
- 2022, Spring Training Only: Memorial patch for Roland Hemond, whose career spanned eight decades, culminating with 19 years with the Diamondbacks.
- 2022, August 16: Red AIDS ribbon for “Until There’s a Cure” Day in San Francisco



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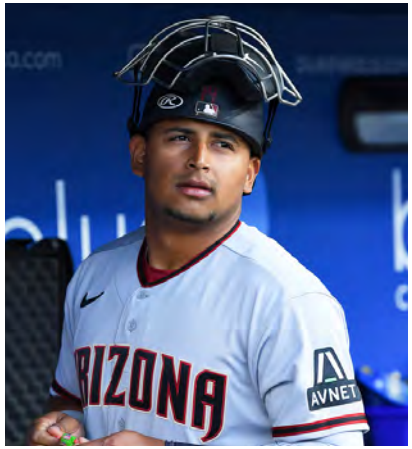
2023-2025 Diamondbacks Advertising Patches



Spring Training 2023

Regular Season 2023

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Diamondbacks struck a sponsor patch deal with Avnet, an electronic components company. The patches first appeared in Spring Training 2023 and were square. By Opening Day, the shape of the patch was changed to outline the company logo more closely. .

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

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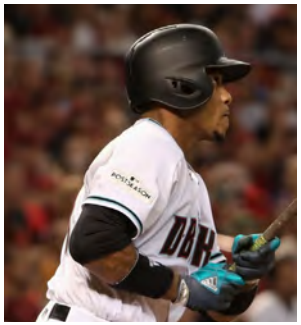
Diamondbacks Postseason Patches

2001 World Series
(right sleeve of undershirts for home and road vests, right sleeve of black alternate)



2017 NL Wild Card
2017 NL Division Series
(right sleeve)

2023 World Series
(left chest)

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Curt Schilling 2003 Arizona Diamondbacks Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: March 2, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0302J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2001-2006 style Rawlings size 50 (marked and measured) white with purple pinstripes full-weight knit six-button home jersey, lettered for #38, pitcher Curt Schilling. Purple, metallic copper and dark blue-green team stylized "A" crest on the left chest, #38 on back in purple, white, and the same green. "SCHILLING" arched above in green outlined with purple. All lettering matches team templates and is original and unaltered. Team patch is sewn to the left sleeve. MLB silhouetted batter patch at the center of the back of the neck in white, green, and purple. Schilling has signed his name boldly in blue sharpie on the back. (I have no professional opinion on the signature).

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn to the outside left tail, below is a flag tag: "50" denoting the size. Schilling jerseys often are marked to show 1" extra length; this one does not and is a standard 34" length for a size 50 jersey. The inside seam tag shows Majestic's code of "0006", a style designation for jerseys prepared for team issue. The Majestic logo is embroidered in purple on the left sleeve end. While the jersey is not team tagged (typical of Diamondbacks jersey of this vintage) this style with the Majestic sleeve logo could have been worn by Schilling in only 2003, his final year on the team.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is the correct size for Schilling though without his custom tailoring included, and is prepared identically to team issue. All elements are still crisp and new. It shows very light use, the wrinkling of the tags inside the garment suggest it was washed a time or two before it was signed.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion this jersey was issued to and worn by Curt Schilling in 2003.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Chapter 18

Los Angeles Dodgers

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys 1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Dodgers Uniform History Notes

- Without question, the Los Angeles Dodgers are second only to the New York Yankees when considering the tradition and consistency of the team's uniforms throughout the decades. A reference to people who "dodged trolleys" in the streets of Brooklyn in the early years of the 20th century, the nickname first appeared in the now familiar script on the front.
- Dodgers' road jerseys over the years have had but a few changes: they began the use of a front cursive script for 1938 using the city name of "Brooklyn" on road jerseys. These changed to "Dodgers" for the 1946 season. This style remained from 1946 through 1958, the team's first year in Los Angeles.
- The bold, red front numbers first appeared on home jerseys for the 1952 season, making the Dodgers the first team to display player numbers on the front of uniforms. In 1959, numbers were added to the fronts of road jerseys, and the script on the road gray jersey changed to read "Los Angeles." The team's home and road uniforms remained consistent from 1959–1969.
- For 1970, the road jersey changed to say "Dodgers" once again. For 1971, white/blue/white knit trim was added to the road jerseys on the sleeve ends, shoulders, and collar. 1971 is a one-year style, which included blue player numbers with white outlines on the back—no longer in the signature Dodger Block font, but in a standard two-color block style used only that year.
- The Dodgers slipped into the double-knit era almost unannounced in 1972, as the home 1972 knit jerseys are nearly indistinguishable from the 1971 flannels they replaced, except for the addition of player names.
- For 1972, road jerseys featured a few changes. They remained button-front, but were stripped of the knit trim they had prior, becoming a plain, solid gray similar to the 1970 road jerseys. The team logo script and back numbers—which had been outlined in white for a single year in 1971—reverted to a plain, one-color blue design. Player names were added in 1972
- Since 1972 through to this writing in 2025, home jerseys have remained identical to the casual observer. Only a very critical eye would notice the variations pointed out in the following pages.
- Road jerseys change occasionally, adding and subtracting trim elements and white outlines; 1977 brought trim to the sleeve ends and thick white outlines to the Dodgers wordmark, back numbers, and player name lettering, giving the classic staid jersey additional visual interest. Whether coincidental or not, the Yankees—their AL counterpart in tradition—had done a similar upgrade to their road jerseys four years prior in 1973 (sans player names on the back).
- After 30 years, "Los Angeles" script was brought back to the road jersey for the 1999 season. There were several minor alterations to the road jersey script, trim, and outlines between 1999–2012.
- A blue alternate jersey was introduced in 1999, inspired after the team had worn its blue batting practice jerseys for a few games in the middle of the 1998 season (called the "Think Blue" series). The team wore them sparingly in 1999. Though this uniform remained as an official alternate in the MLB Style Guide for the Dodgers through 2006, and some were made for retail sale, the blue jerseys were not seen on the field again after 1999. A blue alternate (the same as the Spring Training jersey of 2016) returned to the team catalog for 2017, but it was used only in Spring Training and occasionally for batting practice.
- A City Connect uniform was introduced in 2021—a lazy design that seemed like an afterthought—essentially replicating the solid blue Spring Training jersey but with "Los Dodgers" replacing the "Dodgers" script wordmark, and the addition of what looked like black spray paint around the sleeve ends, a nod to "the city's street art culture and murals." The jersey was initially paired with matching blue pants, later changed to a white pants pairing, reportedly to address negative feedback.
- In 2024, the Dodgers became the first team to release a City Connect 2.0 uniform, replacing their uninspired "Los Dodgers" look with a cream-colored jersey jumbled with symbolic design elements. "Los Angeles" is written in a modern typeface inspired by 1950s LA Memorial Coliseum signage, while the font of the number and player name—oddly placed below the back number—references mid-century Brooklyn aesthetics. A unique touch includes a galaxy-of-stars speckled fabric (resembling confetti).
- The Dodgers did not participate in any Turn Back the Clock games until the 2005 season. There were lingering hard feelings between club ownership and management over the circumstances surrounding the team's departure from Brooklyn after the 1957 season, and the Los Angeles Dodgers refused to pay nostalgic homage to their roots in New York. But starting in 2005, the team's new ownership embraced nostalgia and Turn Back the Clock games—with Brooklyn references now commonplace.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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The Iconic Dodgers Jersey

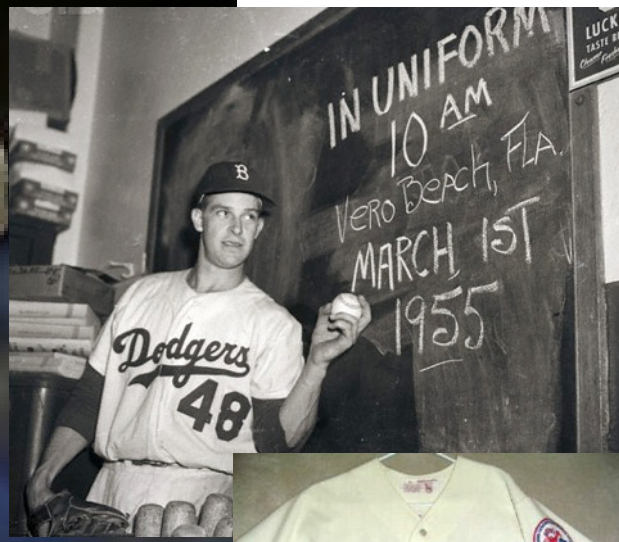
The Dodgers uniform is the icon of the National League. Basically unchanged since 1938, the Dodgers' look has been rivaled in consistency only by the Yankees of the American League. Only the most critical observer would notice any differences in the jerseys in the period between 1972 and today. But there are all sorts of minor changes and clues that distinguish years from each other.

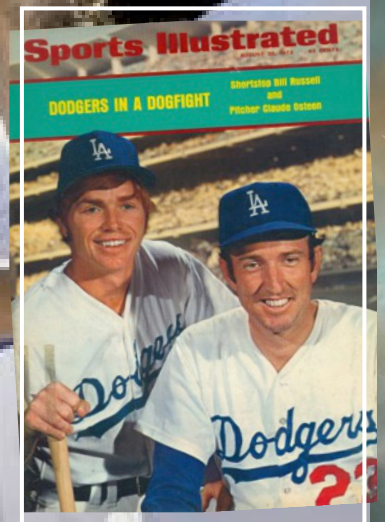
From 1978 through the end of 1998, the Dodgers did not use tackle twill lettering on their jerseys. They used a special polyester fabric they called "Dodger Twill" that was more like the fabric of the jersey itself—thinner, not as shiny, and with more stretch. The idea was that similar fabrics would look better together—perhaps similar to how felt lettering looked on vintage flannel jerseys. The team finally switched to standard tackle twill in 1999.

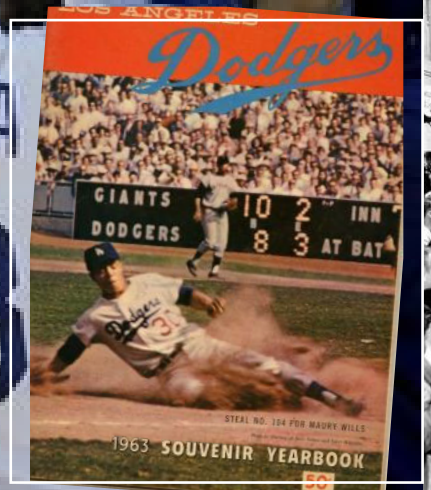
Dodger front numbers use a distinct font referred to as Dodger Front Bold, and front numbers are a very prominent 5" in height. The same font style is used on home jersey backs from 1972–1977 and on road jersey backs from 1972–1976. After these dates, Dodger back numbers switch to the more universally used Block style

The team experimented by adding a blue alternate jersey in 1999, but it was seldom worn and eventually banished.

Your author will admit a fascination with the Dodgers—maybe it's the tradition, or maybe it's the Hollywood connection that caused uniformed Dodger players to appear occasionally as guest stars on TV shows like *The Brady Bunch*, *Mr. Ed* and *The Munsters* back in my childhood in the 1960s. Somehow, even though their uniform design has gone basically unchanged for decades, I have managed to fill 141 pages documenting those variations.







Year by Year Summary

While the home jersey appears to be unchanged for decades, there have been tiny variations over the years. See pages ahead for details.

Continues onward

Continues onward

Dodgers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home Flannel	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	No	-	-	-	Goodman/Spalding
	Road Flannel	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1971	Home Flannel	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	No	-	-	-	Goodman/McAuliffe
	Road Flannel	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1972	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1973	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1974	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1975	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1976	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	NL Centennial	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	NL Centennial	-	Goodman & Sons
1977	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1978	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1979	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Dodgers Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1980	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	All Star Game	-	Goodman-Mizuno
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	All Star Game	-	Goodman-Mizuno
1981	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	LA Bicentennial	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	LA Bicentennial	-	Goodman & Sons
1982	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1983	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	25th Anniversary	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	25th Anniversary	-	Goodman & Sons
1984	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	1984 Olympics	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	1984 Olympics	-	Goodman & Sons
1985	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1986	Home	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
	Road	Dodgers Block 5"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman & Sons
1987	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodger Stadium 25th	MAC Memorial	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodger Stadium 25th	MAC Memorial	Rawlings
1988	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	see note *	-	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	see note *	-	Rawlings
1989	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings

* In Spring Training only: team wore Vero Beach Patch

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Dodgers Game Jerseys

Worn 1999 only

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Rawlings
1990	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers 100 Years	-	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers 100 Years	-	Rawlings
1991	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodger Stadium 30th	-	Rawlings**
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodger Stadium 30th	-	Rawlings**
1993	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	52 Memorial	39 Roy/53 Don	Rawlings**
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	52 Memorial	39 Roy/53 Don	Rawlings**
1994	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	MLB 125th	-	Rawlings**
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	MLB 125th	-	Rawlings**
1995	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Russell
1996	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodger Stadium 35th	-	Russell
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodger Stadium 35th	-	Russell
1997	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers Jackie Robinson	-	Russell
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers Jackie Robinson	-	Russell
1998	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	40th Anniversary	-	Russell
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	40th Anniversary	-	Russell
1999	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Heroes/Pee Wee	LA Team Patch	Russell
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Heroes/Pee Wee	Dodgers Script	Russell
	Blue Alt	Dodgers Block 4 7/8” 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Heroes/Pee Wee	LA Team Patch	Russell
2000	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	LA Team Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers Script	-	Rawlings
	Blue Alt***	Dodgers Block 4 7/8” 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	LA Team Patch	-	Rawlings
2001	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	LA Team Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers Script	-	Rawlings
2002	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	LA Team Patch	Dodger Stadium 40th	Rawlings
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers Script	Dodger Stadium 40th	Rawlings
2003	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	LA Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers Script	-	Majestic
2004	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	LA Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Dodgers Script	-	Majestic
2005	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	No NOB	No	LA Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	No NOB	No	Dodgers Script	-	Majestic
2006	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 2 color	No NOB	No	LA Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8”	Block 3 color	No NOB	No	Dodgers Script	-	Majestic

** The Dodgers continued to use Rawlings jerseys during 1992-94, even though MLB had named Russell the official supplier of Major League baseball. Therefore, no manufacturer logo appeared on game worn jersey sleeves these years.

*** A team set was made by Rawlings in 2000 but never worn on the field. No team issue blue jerseys were made after 2000, yet they were still listed in the official MLB Style Guide through 2007!

Use continues onward

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Dodgers Game Jerseys

Change to Flex Base

Listed for 2017 only but worn only in pregame

Dodgers shrunk their front numbers by 1/8" in 2011 and later so that they would fit better on the front of the BP jersey, whose side panels interfered with placement of the 5" numbers. Even after the BP jerseys changed and lost the side panel interference, the numbers stayed the same smaller size.

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Rawlings
2007	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
2008	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	50th Anniversary in LA	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	50th Anniversary in LA	Majestic
2009	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
2010	Home	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	55 Years since 1955	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 7/8"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	55 Years since 1955	Majestic
2011	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	"4" Disc, Duke Snider	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	"4" Disc, Duke Snider	Majestic
2012	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Dodger Stadium 50th	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Dodger Stadium 50th	Majestic
2013	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
2014	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
2015	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
2016	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
2017	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Majestic
2018	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	60th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	60th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	60th Anniversary	Majestic
2019	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary/ Don Newcombe memorial	Majestic
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary/ Don Newcombe memorial	Majestic
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary/ Don Newcombe memorial	Majestic
2020	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	2020 All Star Game Patch (+)	Nike
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	2020 All Star Game Patch (+)	Nike
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4"	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	2020 All Star Game Patch (+)	Nike

+ The Pandemic-shortened season forced the cancellation of the 2020 All-Star Game. While the team wore the All-Star patch in Spring Training and a set of game uniforms was prepared with the patches affixed, by opening day the patch had disappeared.

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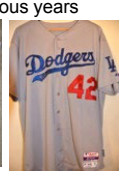
These three styles continue from previous years



Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Dodgers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Rawlings
2021	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Tommy Lasorda and Don Sutton Memorials	Nike
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Tommy Lasorda and Don Sutton Memorials	Nike
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Tommy Lasorda and Don Sutton Memorials	Nike
	City Connect	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Tommy Lasorda and Don Sutton Memorials	Nike
2022	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Vin Scully** and Maury Wills*** Memorials	Nike
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Vin Scully** and Maury Wills*** Memorials	Nike
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Vin Scully** and Maury Wills*** Memorials	Nike
	City Connect	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	Vin Scully** and Maury Wills*** Memorials	Nike
2023	Home	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Nike
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Nike
	City Connect	Dodgers Block 4 3/4”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	1 Color LA Patch	-	Nike
2024	Home	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	1 Color LA Patch‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	1 Color LA Patch‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Road	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	1 Color LA Patch‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt. Blue*	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No		Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Custom 1 color (no perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 1 color	No	LAD Ligature‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home	Dodgers Block 4 1/2”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	Fernando Valenzuela Memorial/1 Color LA Patch‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road	Dodgers Block 4 1/2”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	Fernando Valenzuela Memorial/1 Color LA Patch‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Road	Dodgers Block 4 1/2”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	Fernando Valenzuela Memorial/1 Color LA Patch‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt. Blue*	Dodgers Block 4 1/2”	Block 1 color	1 color Block	No	Fernando Valenzuela Memorial‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Custom 1 color (no perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 1 color	No	Fernando Valenzuela Memorial/LAD Ligature‡	Guggenheim Ad patch‡	Nike

* The Dodgers added their Spring Training/BP jersey as an official alternate in the MLB Style Guide starting in the 2024 season.

** Starting August 3, 2022

*** Starting September 21, 2022

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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More Dodgers Notes

1939 Dodger team script is more rustic than the current version.

The Dodgers call the royal blue shade they use for their lettering "Dodger Blue." It is a shade darker than royal blue.

Front numbers are always red, back numbers always Dodger Blue (outlined with white 1980–2007 home, and 1977–2007 road; returning to plain blue with no outline in 2008).

Front numbers are an extra-bold, shorter version of the full Block font, approximately 4¾" tall. Although they are similar, the front numbers are a slightly different design than the back. In other words, shrinking the back numbers to put them on the front does not look right—because it is not.

- No nameplates ever used
- Dodger team tagging and manufacturer labels are often found hidden inside the garment, sometimes on the inside of the back shirt tail.

Comparison of front number with post-1979 back number—close, but not identical, as the proportions differ. Up through 1979, the Dodgers front number style was also worn on jersey backs.

Dodgers team tagging usually found inside the shirt tail, inside the neck, or even inside the back shirt tail. It is seldom visible on the outside of the garment.

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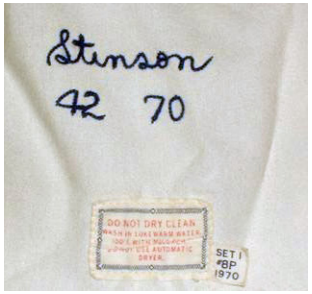
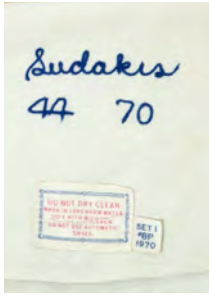
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home





Six of the seven Dodgers farm teams in 1970–1971 were also named "Dodgers." While the parent club supplied some teams with used uniforms, many were made specifically for the minor league clubs without having seen MLB duty.

1970

The 1970–1971 Dodgers home uniforms are the team's final flannels. They feature the iconic Dodgers script with underline, rendered in felt on the front, used on home uniforms since 1938.

Numbers on the front and back are in the Dodgers' own variation of the Block font—red on the front and blue on the back.

Goodman and Spalding produced the 1970 Dodgers home jerseys; Goodman alone in 1971. Each used a slightly different version of the Dodger script.

1970

Barry Halper Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1970 Road

The 1970 Dodgers road jersey is made of flannel and was produced exclusively by Rawlings. All lettering is felt.

Aside from the color of the jersey fabric, it is identical to the team's home jersey.

The font for the numbers on both the front and back is the Dodgers' special version of Block.

Nearly all of these saw hard duty in the minor leagues and Spring Training, and finding one in good condition is difficult.

© GameWornGuides.com

1971 Road

Barry Halper Collection

1971 was the final year of flannels for the Dodgers. The road jersey is a one-year style variation, also made by Rawlings.

Retaining the look of prior years, the 1971 edition adds white outlining to the team script.

Back numbers are no longer in Dodger Block. They are two-color Block Standard—blue outlined with white—used for this year only. Lettering is two-color felt.

White/blue/white trim is added to the sleeve end, collar opening, and also across the tops of the sleeves.

Baseball cards from 1972–1975 show that these one-year uniforms continued to be worn in Spring Training for several more years.

© GameWornGuides.com

1972-1977 Home

1973

1972 marks the first year that double knits replaced flannels. All lettering is now tackle twill, and player names on back appear for the first time.

Local manufacturer Goodman & Sons exclusively made the Dodgers' home uniforms from 1972–1986. Goodman's manufacturer tagging is sewn in the back of the neck.

Jerseys from 1972–1975 are usually year- and set-tagged in the tail. Jerseys from 1976 and 1977 are not team-tagged.

The Dodgers script during these years is often rendered in a lighter weight (skinnier letters). Most hobby examples have had their player names—and sometimes numbers—replaced, as they were usually stripped for reuse in Spring Training or the minor leagues.

1973

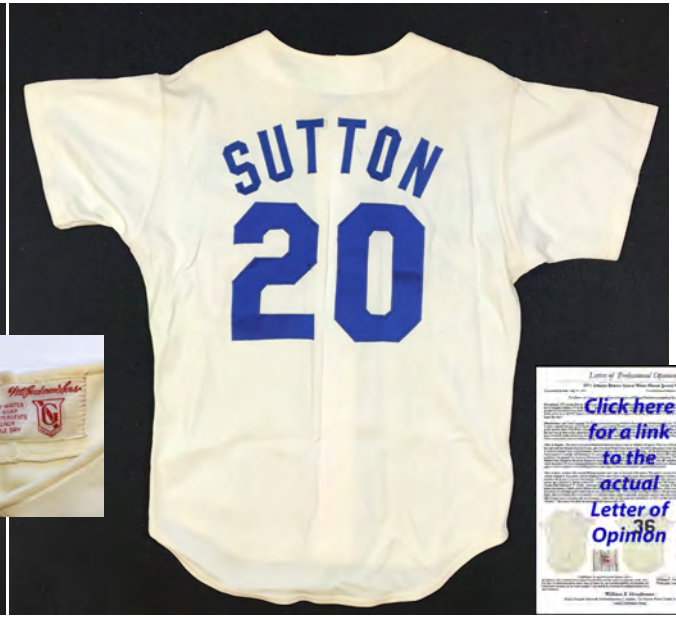
1972

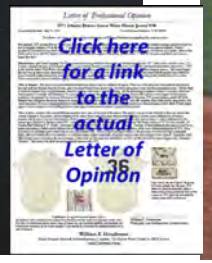
1974 1975

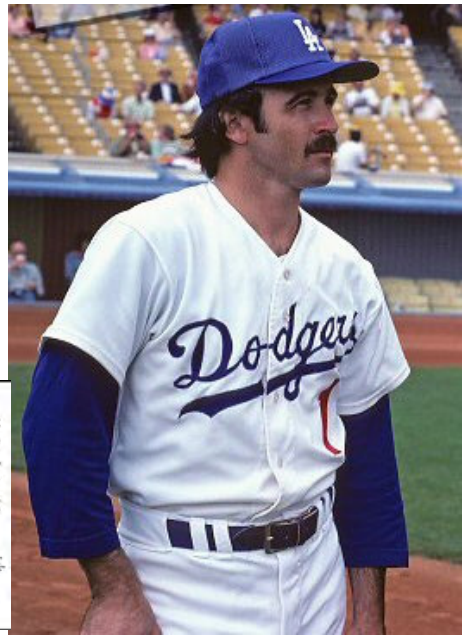
© GameWornGuides.com

1972-1977 Home, continued

1972, 1974, 1975, 1976 jerseys from the Barry Halper Collection







© GameWornGuides.com

1972-1973 Road

For 1972, the first year of Dodger knits, Rawlings was selected to supply the team's road jerseys. All lettering is tackle twill. Note the extra-long tail under the front "Dodgers" script.

Bold back numbers use the same font as the front. Jerseys are flag-tagged and also chain-stitch embroidered with the two-digit year. Some—but not all—also have the player's last name embroidered. A red Rawlings tag is stitched inside the neck.

Most were sent to the minors, stripped of names—and sometimes numbers—and heavily worn; finding one with its original name and number intact is unusual.

© GameWornGuides.com

1974-1976 Road

In 1974, the Dodgers switched their road jersey supplier from Rawlings to Goodman and Sons, unifying both home and road uniforms under the same manufacturer.

At a casual glance, the Goodman issues appear identical to the earlier Rawlings versions. However, there are several variations. The Dodgers script on the front has a lighter stroke, the tail is shorter, and the number fonts are slightly different.

Goodman used dark buttons, and the player name font was their own variation of block—narrower and with a lighter stroke than Rawlings'. Tail tagging from 1974–1976 is machine-stitched on satiny fabric sewn to the jersey tails.

***Above**: "P '74" tagging is for 1974 playoffs*

© GameWornGuides.com

1974-1976 Road, continued

April 8, 1974: a one-day armband was worn—see the Patches section.

1976

1974 and 1975 jerseys are year/set tagged; 1976 jerseys have no team tagging. 1976 jerseys had the National League Centennial patch on the left sleeve Most jerseys today have replacement patches, as originals were stripped after the season or during 1977 Spring Training.

© GameWornGuides.com

1977-1979 Road

Steve Kraljic collection

n 1977, Goodman added subtle white/blue/white knit trim to the sleeve ends of road jerseys. Beginning that year, all blue lettering is outlined with white.

The back number font changes to a lighter stroke and is proportioned differently from the front numbers.

Starting in 1978, all blue lettering fabric is changed to a matte-finished, stretchy double-knit that informally becomes known as “Dodger Twill” (see two pages ahead). The white and red twill lettering remains the standard tackle twill.

We believe “Set C 78” tagged jerseys (not pictured) were sewn for the postseason.

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1978-1979 Home

1978 Set B

1978 Set A

1979

The Dodgers front script gets slightly bolder for 1978. The tail beneath the wordmark is marginally shorter. All blue lettering changes to Dodger Twill (see next page).

Continuing the style started in 1972, back numbers use the same font as the "Dodgers Front Bold" style, only larger.

Even though the road jerseys changed to two-color lettering for 1978, home jersey lettering remained one color.

1978

Left: *This 1978 home jersey has the Joe Gilliam #19 memorial patch on the sleeve, as was worn in the 1978 World Series.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1978-1998 “Dodger Twill” Blue Lettering

While most MLB teams had switched to using the more durable tackle twill for team and player name/number lettering on their flannel jerseys during the 1960s, the Dodgers had steadfastly stayed with layered, stitched felt through 1971. While they switched to tackle twill lettering in 1972, concurrent with the change to double knit jerseys, starting in 1978 they chose to use a different fabric for their blue team name and back number lettering, which has become known as “Dodger Twill.” It is less shiny and has a more stretchy, open weave than tackle twill. A fine detail for sure—the team aesthetically found it more harmonious to match the finish, stretch, and texture on the jersey’s knit cloth than using the stiffer, shinier, less stretchy tackle twill lettering. Oddly, Dodger Twill was used only for the blue elements of the lettering. The red front numbers as well as lettering white outlines (when used) were all made of standard tackle twill.

The difference is so subtle that one must examine the blue lettering very closely to tell at all. It is all but undetectable in still-photo viewing. The main difference is seen when the fabric is in motion. Tackle twill reflects the light differently depending on its angle to the viewer, while Dodger Twill is flat and totally non-reflective.

While the team demanded the change, uniform makers tolerated it. Dodger twill was harder to work with: harder to cut, place, and stitch without fraying. I can tell you for a fact it was not always used on team on-field uniforms. I have examined and restored several Goodman jerseys that used all tackle twill lettering. But Dodger Twill was generally used on the field through 1998.

Rawlings attempted to get the team to accept tackle twill lettering when they took over the team uniform contract in 1987, but the Dodgers refused the request. However, they did ask Rawlings to sew the dark royal blue Dodger Twill lettering on with darker navy blue thread, complaining that in repeated washings, the matching dark royal blue thread would bleach to purple and look unsightly. Examine Dodgers on-field game jerseys of the 1987–1990s and you will notice this detail.

1987 was the first year that “authentic” on-field jerseys were made for retail sale. While distribution was very sparsely limited from 1987 through Russell’s assumption of the league contract in the early 1990s, Authentic Collection Dodger jerseys made specifically for retail sale from 1987–1998 featured lettering that was indiscriminately either tackle twill or Dodger Twill.

For the 1999 season, the Dodgers changed their road uniform and added a short-lived blue alternate, and finally ceased using Dodger Twill—adopting tackle twill in a shade called “New York Blue.”

Above: *The jersey at left uses blue Dodger Twill stitched with team-spec navy blue thread. At right is the 1999 on-field road jersey which for the first time used tackle twill lettering. The difference was so slight that uniform manufacturers wanted the team to standardize on tackle twill.*

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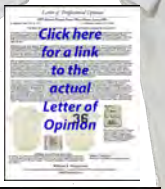
Dodgers Jerseys in Spring Training/Minor Leagues

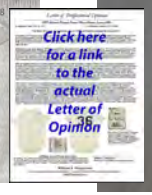


During the 1970s and ’80s, Dodger home and road jerseys both bore the team name, making them ideal for reuse in Spring Training and the minor leagues. In most years, the team had at least four—and sometimes as many as seven—minor league clubs, and the majority of these clubs wore the name “Dodgers” on their chests.

The collector market for game-worn jerseys was virtually nonexistent during this era. As such, even jerseys worn by star players were sent to the minors and used to the point of destruction.

The Dodgers used names on the back of all jerseys starting in 1972, and team policy was never to use nameplates. When jerseys were sent down from the majors, names had to be removed one letter at a time. Sometimes that process was not done carefully, resulting in weakened fabric, slices, and holes. Sometimes both names and numbers were removed.

Today, decades later, some of these jerseys are being painstakingly restored. Shown here are three examples that have been painstakingly restored.



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1980 Home

Jerry Reuss Collection and photos

1980 Dodgers jerseys are a strange lot.

- Many, but not all, of the jerseys issued in 1980 carried a unique tag in the collar that said, "Manufactured Exclusively for W.A. Goodman and Sons by Mizuno Corporation, Osaka, Japan."
- They had a small flag tab noting the size. Others had the standard Goodman tag; these may have been holdover jerseys from 1979 that were still in stock to be used up.
- Back lettering is now blue over white, and the numbers are skinnier, matching the font used on the road jerseys.
- The buttons on most (but not all) are a rubbery plastic, two-hole design with "World Win" debossed twice into each one.
- All 1980 jerseys used Dodger Twill for the blue lettering. Some 1980 jerseys had the front Dodger script outlined in white twill, but not all did.
- The 1980 All-Star Game patch was sewn on the left sleeve.
- Variations are shown on this page.

*Reuss jersey **(above)** and Garvey in All-Star game **(right)**, both have white-outlined script, Sutcliffe **(left)** does not, nor does Lasorda **(far right)**. The Reuss jersey has clear buttons; Sutcliffe's has Mizuno ones.*

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1980 Road

Left: *This jersey had its 1980 All-Star Game patch removed. It was worn on the left sleeve of all Dodgers jerseys that season.*

All 1980 Dodgers road jerseys feature blue Dodger Twill over white tackle twill lettering, with red tackle twill front numbers. They also have white/blue/white sewn-on knit trim at the sleeve ends.

Many of the same oddities noted in the home jerseys carry over to these as well. For example, even though this jersey has the special Mizuno one-year “World Win” buttons, it bears a standard Goodman collar tag—not the Mizuno version.

© GameWornGuides.com

1980 Road, continued

Photos courtesy Jerry Reuss

Pitcher Jerry Reuss has generously provided us with many photos of his own game-worn jerseys. He wore this one when pitching his no-hitter in 1980. Notice the 1980-only Mizuno/Japan tagging.

The Dodgers' extra-wide white outlining of player name and number is nicely shown on this example.

Left: *1980 Mizuno button detail, "World Win" is de-bossed in script*

Lined jerseys for cool weather use: Former Major League pitcher Jerry Reuss has taken the time to go through his collection of game worn jerseys and has provided photos to share. I noticed a mesh lining inside this jersey, and when I asked him about it, he noted that two of his other Dodgers jerseys also had this feature—one worn June 27, 1980, at chilly Candlestick Park in San Francisco, another issued for the 1981 World Series, and one of his road uniform tops from 1981. Conversely, he notes that his 1980 home jersey does not have the lining inside.

The Dodgers apparently lined some uniforms this way to help keep players warmer in cold-weather games. The mesh lining is designed to trap a thin layer of body heat against the skin. It's not surprising that the home jersey in his collection is unlined, given Los Angeles' welcoming climate.

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1981-1986 Home

1981

Examples with set B or C tags typically come from years when the Dodgers participated in the postseason. Collectors have suggested that these fresh sets may have been created to help the team look good on national television—a believable theory.

1982

Goodman continues as the sole maker of Dodgers jerseys through 1986.

The blue front wordmark is no longer outlined in white, while the back name and number are. All blue lettering is Dodger Twill.

Commemorative patches are used in 1981, 1983, and 1984.

1983

1984

1985

© GameWornGuides.com

1981-1986 Road

1985-1986

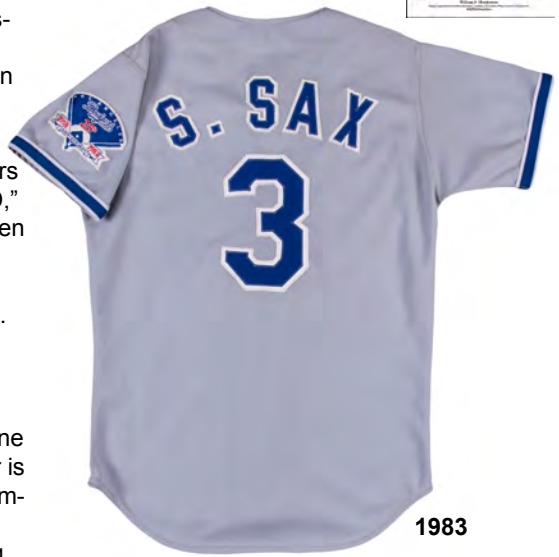
Goodman road jerseys from 1981–1986 are very similar to those made from 1978–1980. Comparatively, the team script on the front is more even and "corporate" looking after 1980, with more consistent outlines on lettering—everything looks less hand-cut than it did in the pre-1981 period.

The use of Rawlings-style block numbers with white outlines on the back continues.

Goodman continues to use filled-in centers on letters like "A," "D," "R," "O," and "U," even though these letters are typically open in standard block fonts.

Team tagging (year and set) ends after 1981, so one of the few ways to determine a jersey's issue year is by identifying the commemorative sleeve patches—something the Dodgers used frequently.

1983



1983

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1994 Home

Steve Kraljic collection

When Rawlings became the official uniform supplier to MLB in 1987, the Dodgers made the switch. The home jersey is made exclusively by Rawlings from 1987–1994.

A minor change—the white outlines around the back numbers and names were now consistently narrower than Goodman's had been. Rawlings' logo script was embroidered in blue at the end of the right sleeve from 1987–1991. However, from 1992–1994, while Rawlings still made the Dodgers' jerseys, the sleeve end was plain, as Russell took over the contract of "official" supplier to MLB. Contractually, Rawlings jerseys could no longer display their branding.

The Dodgers specified that manufacturer and team tagging be sewn inside the back tail, out of view. Rawlings included year/set tags in team-issued jerseys—a change from Goodman, who had not done so from 1982–1986.

Long-time Dodgers team art director Ross Yoshida tells us: "Sometime in the '80s, we asked Rawlings to sew the blue lettering on our jerseys using the darkest shade of navy, so that the thread wouldn't look as bad when it faded in the wash. From my understanding, it was an experiment. Look at your Dodger jerseys and see what kind of thread they use!"

1988 World Series

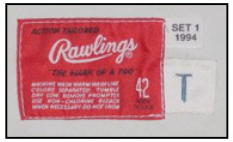
© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1994 Home, continued

1992

1992

1992 tagged, worn 1993



1994

© GameWornGuides.com

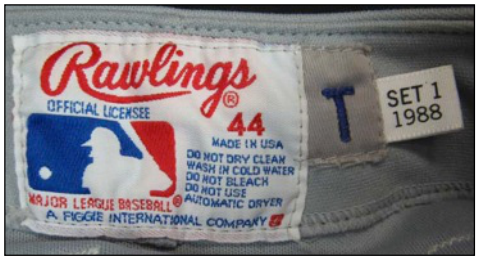
1987-1994 Road

1987

Rawlings becomes the official uniform supplier to MLB and the Dodgers make the switch. The road jersey is made exclusively by Rawlings from 1987–1994.

A minor change—the white outlines around back numbers and names were now narrower than Goodman's had been. Rawlings' logo script was embroidered in white on the blue trim at the end of the right sleeve from 1987–1991.

However, from 1992–1994, while Rawlings still made the Dodgers' jerseys, the sleeve end was plain, as Russell had taken over the contract as the official supplier to MLB. Contractually, Rawlings jerseys could no longer display their branding.



Above: *This 1987-only Rawlings tag variant, seen on a few jerseys from various teams that year.*

1987: Shows first year of Rawlings logo on right sleeve, and the 25th Anniversary Dodger Stadium sleeve patch on the left.

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1994 Road, continued

1990

1991

1993

This array of Rawlings tags shows how their style evolved from 1987–1992.

Also note the many commemorative sleeve patches the Dodgers wore in these years.

For a complete list, see the patches section at the end of the chapter.

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1995-1998 Home

1997

Russell takes over as the supplier of Dodgers jerseys starting in 1995, and other than the small "R" added to the right sleeve end, there is no visible change to the jersey design. The front numbers remain Dodger Front Block Bold, back names and numbers are two-color Block blue/white. As in the past, manufacturer's tags are usually (but not always) hidden inside the garment, out of view. Retail sale jerseys have the tags sewn to the outside front shirt tail.

1998

1997

1998

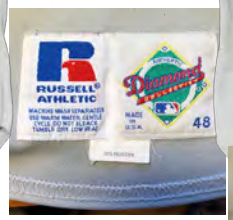
© GameWornGuides.com

1995-1998 Road

1995

Russell-made road jerseys are visually nearly identical to the Rawlings-made ones of 1987–1994. The blue lettering is still Dodger Twill, but now the blue Russell "R" appears embroidered into the end of the right sleeve.

Manufacturer tagging on Dodgers jerseys is almost always hidden inside the front or back tail. It is rarely visible on the outside of the jersey.



1995 as worn in the All-Star Game

1997

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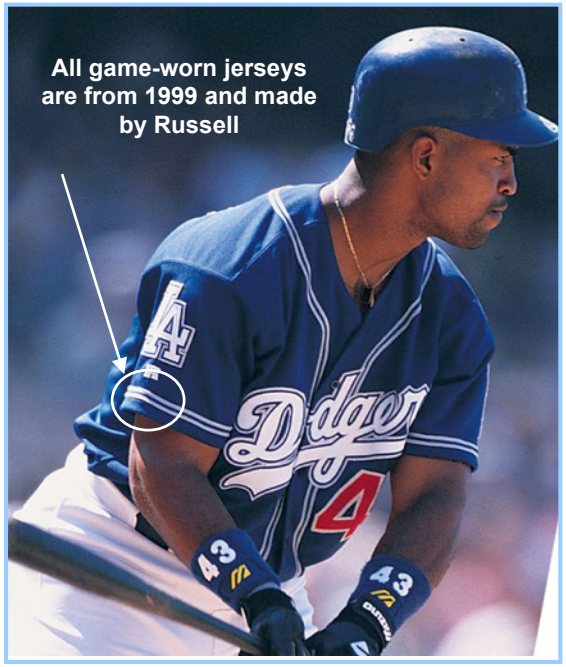
1999 Alternate

For a few games in June of 1998, the Dodgers had worn their blue BP jerseys as game jerseys in a promotional stunt named “Think Blue.” Management decided to capitalize on the idea by introducing an alternate blue jersey for use during the 1999 season.

Unlike the team’s crisp BP, this jersey was a rather busy affair, with a three-color, double-outlined front team script and back numbers, along with two-color red/light gray front numbers. The team LA patch was sewn to the right sleeve, also layered in three colors, and the placket and sleeve ends were trimmed in gray/blue/gray knit. Topping things off was the 1999-only Dodger Heroes patch sewn to the left sleeve.

This jersey was worn only during the first week of June 1999 at home. (That included the interleague series with the Angels best remembered for the brawl between the Dodgers and visiting Angels, which featured Chan Ho Park’s infamous “jump-kick.”)

Steve Kraljic collection



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Dodgers Wordmark: Obscure Lettering Facts

In 1999, the team logo was slightly "tweaked" without the team's authorization… the slant of the lettering was increased, the spacing between the letters widened, and the tail under the logo grew too long. The Dodgers' art department took action with their apparel suppliers to repair the logo, though the changes did not take effect until 2003.

The Dodgers sent this internal communication to their apparel suppliers in 2002, giving them specific instructions to correct the team's logo script on all jerseys and to discard any old patterns.. *(Courtesy Los Angeles Dodgers)*

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Dodgers Wordmark: Obscure Lettering Facts, continued

You would have to be a real eagle eye to spot the problem in this picture. Dodgers' art director Ross Yoshida has such an eye. In this 2006 publicity picture showing manager Grady Little with newly acquired player Rafael Furcal, the two jerseys are different. The one on the right is the unacceptable and banished "tweaked logo" style jersey, with its uneven letter thicknesses, too-wide spacing, and too-long tail under the wordmark.

Rafael is holding the jersey with the correct logo at the left. Other than the tail length and letter thicknesses, the most noticeable differences are the shapes of the letters "o," "e," and "r."

As for Grady, I guess a few of the old jerseys were sitting around the clubhouse. *"Waste not want not."*

Think anybody else beside Ross noticed this? I doubt it.

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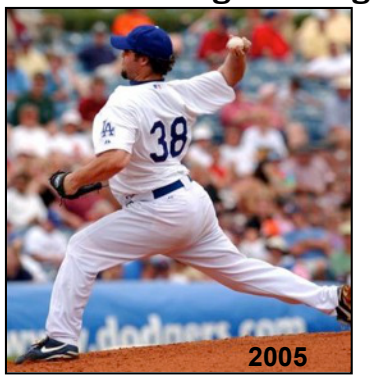
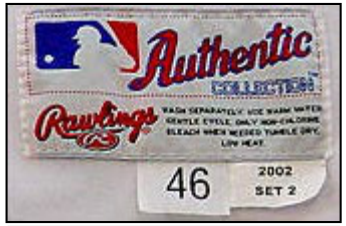
1999-2002 Home
and
2003-2006 Home





As referenced on the prior pages, we are showing the two variants side by side here because otherwise you would be hard-pressed to notice the differences. Team royal/white/gray LA patch is added to the left sleeve (except in 1999, when it is sewn to the right sleeve while the "Heroes" patch occupies the left sleeve). Russell makes the 1999 version; Rawlings, 2000–2002; then Majestic, 2003–2006.

The team crest and number/lettering fabric is changed from the former Dodger Twill to regular tackle twill beginning in 1999, which is shinier and less flexible. Back names and numbers are two-color Dodger blue outlined with white. Front numbers are not outlined.

NOB is eliminated for 2005 and 2006. However, even with more room on the back, the numbers remain the same size as before.

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1999-2006 Home, continued

1999

2000

2002

© GameWornGuides.com

1999-2001 Road

Steve Kraljic collection

1999

2001

2000

The “Los Angeles” script, last used in 1970, returns to the front of the road jersey. Logo script is now a busy three-color blue, gray, and white. The 1999 jersey is made by Russell; 2000–2001 by Rawlings. These jerseys have dark royal blue buttons, as specified by the team.

Front numbers are red; back numbers are three-color blue/light gray/white. NOB is blue/white. A small “Dodgers” script patch is added to the left sleeve (except in 1999, when it is moved to the right sleeve while the “Heroes” patch is worn on the left). Logo script and number/lettering fabric is changed from “Dodger Twill” to regular tackle twill.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Road Wordmark Change

The Dodgers sent this internal communication to official apparel suppliers in 2002, providing specific direction to correct the team's logo on all jerseys and to discard old patterns.

Notice the following small changes made to ensure that the road jersey lettering matches the home jersey's Dodgers script:

- *Loop added to the inside of the letter "o".*
- *Tops of the letter "s" have been modified in shape.*
- *The underline is altered to make it shorter and more curved at the end.*

(Courtesy Los Angeles Dodgers)

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2002-2006 Road

Left: *Note the less-than-neat hack-job tailoring on the bottom of Rickey Henderson's jersey.*

The "Los Angeles" wordmark script changes slightly in 2002, redesigned to better match the home script, as shown on the prior page. At left, note the small points of differentiation in the Los Angeles script when comparing pre- and post-2002 versions.

Rawlings is the manufacturer in 2002; then Majestic takes over for 2003–2006.

Player NOB is used from 2002–2004; no NOB is present on 2005–2006. jerseys.

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2007-2023 Home

2008 Knit

2008 Cool Base

Both home and road jerseys lose their two-layer blue over white tackle twill player numbers on the back. Back numbers are now one-color Dodger blue. The last time Dodger jerseys had bold, single-layer back numbers was 1979. However, the numbers were bolder back then. The 2007 version simply uses the top layer of the block font, which no other team in baseball uses as a single-color design.

Single-color player names return to the back of both home and road jerseys. The “LA” patch on the sleeve of both jerseys is also simplified, losing all the outlining. It is now solid blue.

Majestic is the team supplier from 2007–2019. Nike takes over in 2020, and other than the new Nike tail tagging and the addition of the Nike logo on the chest, the jerseys are identical.

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2007-2023 Home, continued

2014

2015

2016

2020

Note the change in style code from Majestic's LDHH to Nike's LD1H.

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2007-2023 Road

2008

2013

For 2007, the road gray jersey is simplified. It loses its neck and placket blue knit trim and now has "Los Angeles" spelled out across the front in plain, single-color blue twill, resembling the classic flannel jerseys used from 1959 through 1969 (see image***, right)***. Like the home jersey, all lettering is now one color without outlining. Player names return to the back after a two-year absence.

Majestic is the team supplier from 2007–2019. Nike takes over for 2020, and other than the new Nike tail tagging and the addition of the Nike logo on the chest, the jerseys are identical.

2007 jersey is modeled after the 1959–1969 uniform shown below

Illustration by Marc Okkonen

2007

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2007-2023 Road, continued

2014

2015

2017

2020

Note the change in style code from Majestic's LDRR to Nike's LD2R.

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2014-2023 Alternate Road

For 2014, the Dodgers "reintroduce" the gray jersey with home Dodgers script, now as a road alternate jersey. Except for the "LA" patch on the sleeve, it replicates the look of the 1972–1976 road jersey nearly exactly; it lacks the narrow blue knit sleeve end trim that is present on the standard road jersey.

Majestic is the team supplier from 2014–2019. Nike takes over for 2020, and other than the new Nike tail tagging and the addition of the Nike logo on the chest, the jerseys are identical.

2014

2019

2020

Note the change in style code from Majestic's LDAB to Nike's LD3B.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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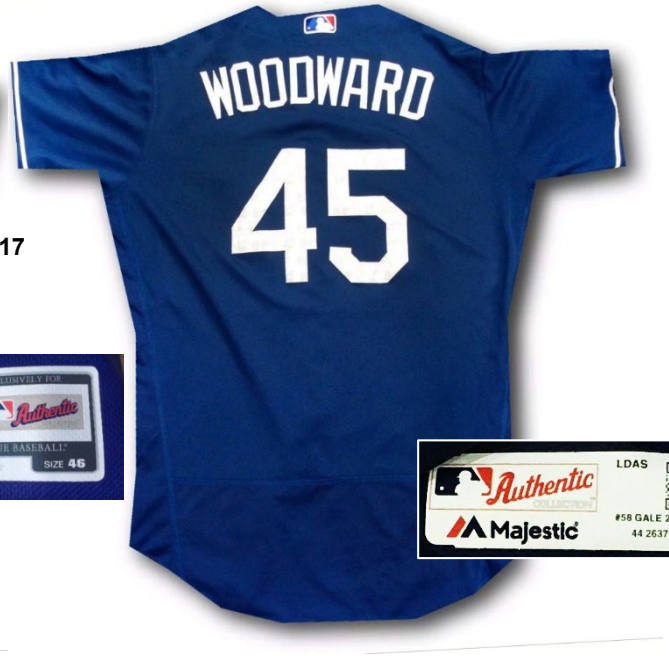
2017 Alternate Home

2017



2019 — as used in Spring Training and as a BP jersey.

In 2016, the Dodgers were one of a few teams (like the Yankees, Phillies, and Cardinals) that “created” a new jersey for use in Spring Training, rather than basing it on a current alternate in their lineup. The Dodgers lacked a solid-color alternate, which forced this move, and the team opted for a style reminiscent of their 1995–2002 batting practice jerseys.

In 2017, the team officially lists the Spring Training model (minus the highway sign sleeve patch and special patterned twill) as a new home game alternate. According to our Dodgers sources, it was never worn in a game in 2017. It was removed from the alternate jersey list for 2018, though it remained in use as a Spring Training jersey and was worn by only a few players during the season as a pregame BP jersey.

Decidedly less ornate than the team’s last blue alternate from 1999–2000, this Dodger Blue Flex Base jersey features single-layer white twill for the front team script and back numbers and name. The front number is in red, like their other jerseys. White knit trim encircles the sleeve ends.

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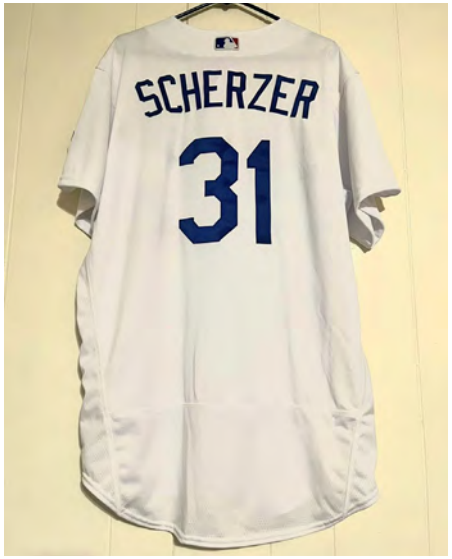
2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023



Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2021-2023 City Connect

The Dodgers are all about Dodger Blue, and their City Connect jerseys (and pants!) are no exception. These Nike Flex Base jerseys read “Los Dodgers” in white in the team’s familiar script, honoring their Latino fan base. Player name and back numbers are white, while the iconic red front numbers remain unchanged.

The left sleeve sports the team’s “LA” cap logo, with each sleeve end highlighted by a black spray-paint pattern—“a nod to the City’s street art culture and the murals which add color to buildings throughout Los Angeles,” according to the team.

The 2021 jersey bears the Lasorda and Sutton memorial patches on the right sleeve. The 2022 entry started with the right sleeve empty, but added the Vin Scully memorial on August 3 and the Maury Wills memorial on September 21.

In advance of the 2024 season, the team announced that they were retiring this design and replacing it with a new one, making them the first team to update a City Connect design.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Dodgers classic home jersey.

The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, large and distinct font as in years past. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the Dodgers lettering splits the second "d" rather than splitting between the "o"and "d" as before. The Dodgers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Dodgers primary road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, large and distinct font as in years past. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in top the end of the sleeve rather than on it, making the blue portion seem wider than before. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the front script is reduced in size so it still splits between the "A" and "n" of "Angeles." The Dodgers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

Above: *The Dodgers use small, heat-pressed tags like the one above in their jerseys for inventory, affixed to the inside of the front button placket. This one indicates it is jersey #5 for player #57.*

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2024 Alternate Home

After a seven-year absence from the MLB Style Guide as an official alternate for the Dodgers, their blue jerseys, most often seen in batting practice and Spring Training, return. As far as we know, these were not worn on-field for any games in 2024 and were used, once again, as a batting practice jersey and in Spring Training—despite their designation in the Style Guide.

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to this jersey vs. the previous version. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, large and distinct font as in years past. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in top the end of the sleeve rather than on it, making the white portion seem wider than before. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the Dodgers lettering splits the second "d" rather than splitting between the "o"and "d" as before. The Dodgers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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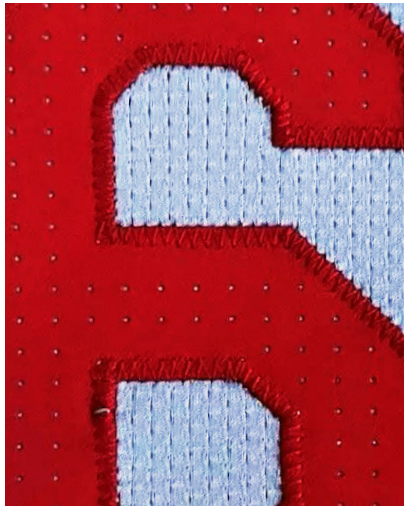
2024 Alternate Road



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Dodgers alternate road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The front numbers are also now smaller version of the back numbers, rather than their own, large and distinct font as in years past. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the Dodgers lettering splits the second "d" rather than splitting between the "o"and "d" as before. The Dodgers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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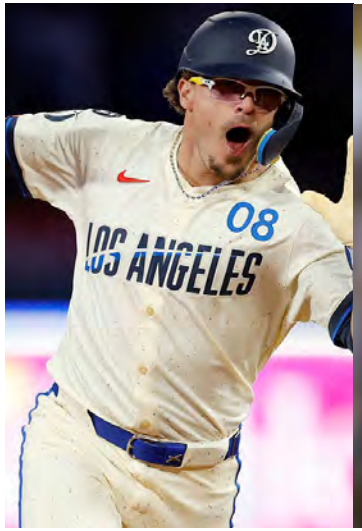
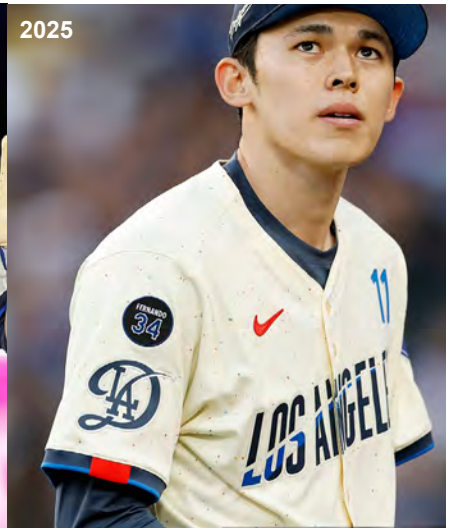
2024-2025 City Connect 2.0

Jersey below is a retail authentic, but the tag is from a team-issued jersey.





The Dodgers are the first MLB team to receive a second iteration of a City Connect jersey, which the MLB Style Guide lists as "City Connect 2.0"—yes, seriously. While the team's "1.0" version stuck close to their usual look with some color changes, the 2.0 goes way outside—looking nothing like what we typically associate with the Dodgers. Elements like player names below the truncated back numbers and a front number above the city name almost literally flip the traditional Dodgers look upside-down. What unites this set to the city is the story behind all of the individual elements, which were explained by the club as follows:

The front wordmark: The typeface is inspired by signage of the LA Memorial Coliseum, which served as the first home of the Dodgers in 1958. The contract and upward trajectory is intended to speak to the city's pursuit of the beyond.

The hashtag #ITFDB: "It's Time for Dodger Baseball" are the words said just before every Dodgers home game. It is also paying homage to the legendary Hall of Fame voice of the Dodgers, Vin Scully.

The mark: A mashup of the trademark LA interlocking logo and the swooping "D" of the logo script, it all combines to form the Dodgers' LAD team code.

The numbers: They are inspired by mid-century typefaces popular when the Dodgers moved to Los Angeles from Brooklyn.

The fabric: In perhaps the most unique part of the uniform, it focuses on the "galaxy of stars," which is rendered in the color palette of Dodger Stadium, hoping to represent the diversity in Los Angeles.

The colors: The Dodgers are known for their Dodger Blue, but the City Connect uniforms go with a different colorway -- Cobalt and Electric Blue -- with a hint of "Chili Red," which serves as a nod to the red numbers on the Dodgers' primary uniforms.

In other words, like a lot of other City Connect styles, it is a whole lot of little things thrown together.

These jerseys use perforated numbers. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season. The 2025 version has the Fernando Valenzuela memorial patch above the team patch.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Notice that the Dodgers' front script still breaks awkwardly in the middle of the second letter "D" as was started in 2024. In 2024, the MLB Style Guide only noted that the Dodgers would change their back number style, and made no mention of player name lettering or front number. However, all lettering and numbering did get smaller in 2024. For 2025, the Dodgers do increase their lettering and number sizes, but the front numbers, while larger than in 2024, are not as big as they were in 2023. They are now 4 1/2" high vs. their earlier 4 3/4". The change is made to keep the numbers proportional to the smaller front script of the VPE jerseys. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version has the Fernando Valenzuela memorial patch above the team patch. The jersey has the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag, which is used on a handful of jerseys around the league.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB, and because the Dodgers have two road gray jerseys, the changes are applied to both. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Los Angeles” lettering breaks in the same place as in 2024. For 2025, the Dodgers do increase their lettering and number sizes, but the front numbers, while larger than in 2024, are not as big as they were in 2023. They are now 4 1/2” high vs. their earlier 4 3/4”. The change is made to keep the numbers proportional to the smaller front script of the VPE jerseys. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version has the Fernando Valenzuela memorial patch above the team patch.

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2025 Alternate Home

The Dodgers blue alternate, used as a Spring Training and batting practice model, returns to the MLB Style Guide in 2025. With it come the minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. In 2024, the MLB Style Guide only noted that the Dodgers would change their back number style, and made no mention of player name lettering or front number. However, all lettering and numbering did get smaller in 2024. For 2025, the Dodgers do increase their lettering and number sizes, but the front numbers, while larger than in 2024, are not as big as they were in 2023. They are now 4 1/2" high vs. their earlier 4 3/4". The change is made to keep the numbers proportional to the smaller front script of the VPE jerseys. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version has the Fernando Valenzuela memorial patch on the sleeve opposite the sponsor patch.

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2025 Alternate Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB, and because the Dodgers have two road gray jerseys, the changes are applied to both. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Dodgers” lettering breaks in the same place as in 2024. In 2024, the MLB Style Guide only noted that the Dodgers would change their back number style, and made no mention of player name lettering or front number. However, all lettering and numbering did get smaller in 2024. For 2025, the Dodgers do increase their lettering and number sizes, but the front numbers, while larger than in 2024, are not as big as they were in 2023. They are now 4 1/2” high vs. their earlier 4 3/4”. The change is made to keep the numbers proportional to the smaller front script of the VPE jerseys. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version has the Fernando Valenzuela memorial patch above the team patch.

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Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1995-1998 Batting Practice/1999-2002 Home Batting Practice

While "Authentic"-labeled pullover and button-front BP jerseys were sold in stores during the 1980s and 1990s, the Dodgers were actually the last team to adopt and wear an official pre-game batting practice jersey — not until 1995!

This jersey is royal blue mesh fabric, with a red Dodgers-style number on the front and white Majestic Block numbers on the back. NOBs are always present on batting practice jerseys. Sleeve end trim is a knit braid sewn on top of the jersey fabric, not a knit sleeve end.

Russell makes team BPs from 1995–1996, Russell/Majestic from 1997–1998, and Majestic only from 1999–2002.

Above: *These jerseys were worn as game uniforms at least twice in 1998 at home—on June 24 and again on June 27 (photo above is from the latter date).*

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1999-2002 Road Batting Practice

Royal blue mesh, no number on front. In 1999, the main color of the front "LA" crest and the back numbers is shiny metallic silver. From 2000–2002, this is toned down and replaced with solid gray twill.Starting in 2000, jerseys include the MLB "Silhouetted Batter" patch on the back of the neck. The 1999 jerseys are plain without the patch.

The Dodger sleeve script patch is white/royal blue/gray. It is worn on the left sleeve from 1999–2000 and moved to the right sleeve from 2001–2002.

Back number is three-color—metallic silver/blue/white (1999) or gray/blue/white (2000–2002). Back name is one-color white throughout. No nameplates are used.

Above: *These jerseys were worn as game uniforms at Pittsburgh on July 20, 1999, at the request of starting pitcher Kevin Brown.*

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2003-2006 Home Batting Practice

2005

Bill Henderson Collection

2005

2005

2003

2004

Blue tech fabric with shiny sleeve inserts. Front number is two-color—red/white. Back number is two-color—blue/white. Name on back is one-color white, no nameplate. Names should be 3½” tall. However, many were incorrectly lettered in 2003 only, with 3” names and inconsistently sized number outlines, to the team’s displeasure. NOB was eliminated for 2005–2006.

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2003-2006 Road Batting Practice

- New blue air-knit tech fabric with shiny underarm sleeve inserts.
- Jersey features road “Los Angeles” script on the front.
- Front number is two-color—red/white; back number is two-color—blue/white.
- Name on back is one-color white, no nameplate.
- Names should be 3½” talll.
- NOB in 2003–2004; no NOB in 2005–2006.

© GameWornGuides.com

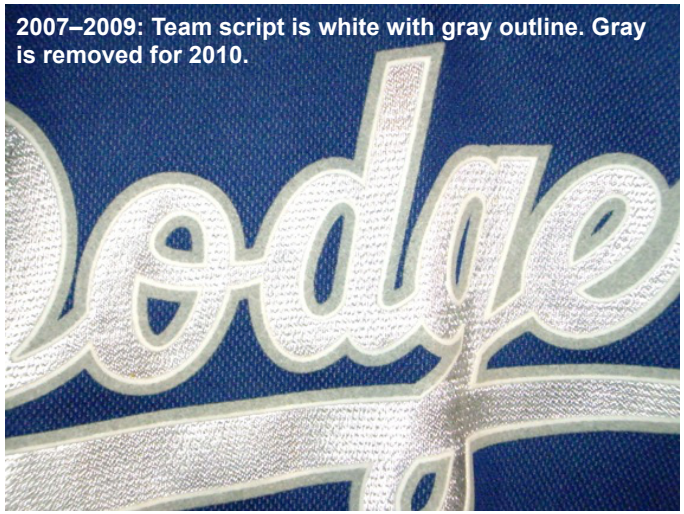
2007-2010 Batting Practice

Above and below: *2010 only—gray outline is removed from both the wordmark and back lettering.*

Like every other MLB team, the Dodgers adopt a new Cool Base batting practice jersey for 2007. Very sheer in construction, all lettering is a flock appliqué as shown in detail at right.

Side panels are pale gray. Player names and numbers are white/gray from 2007–2009.

In 2010, the front script and back numbers lose the gray outline and are now solid white.



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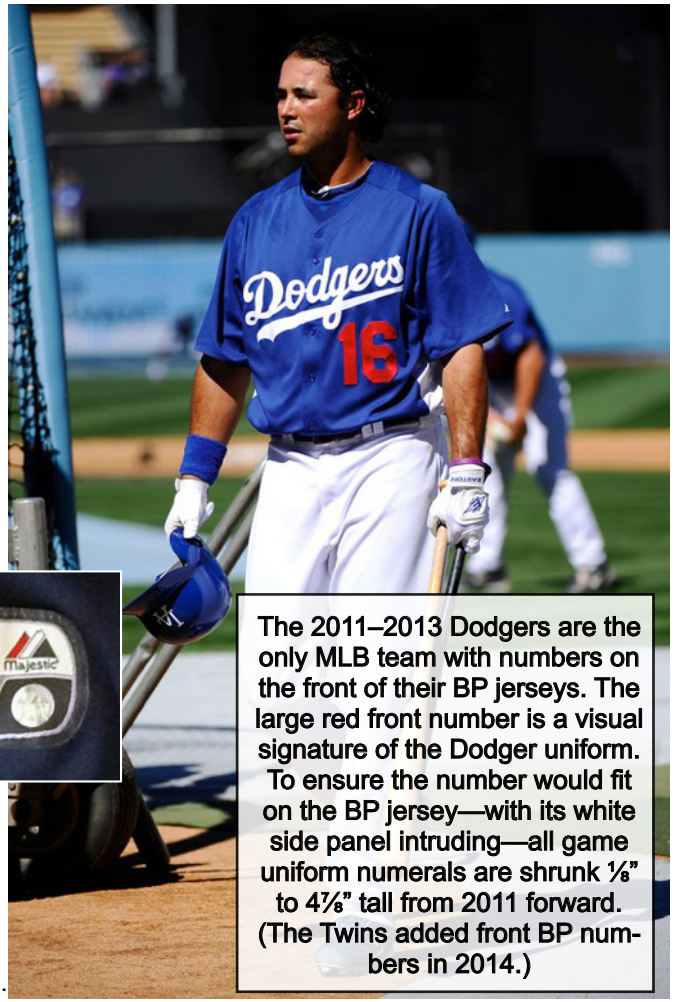
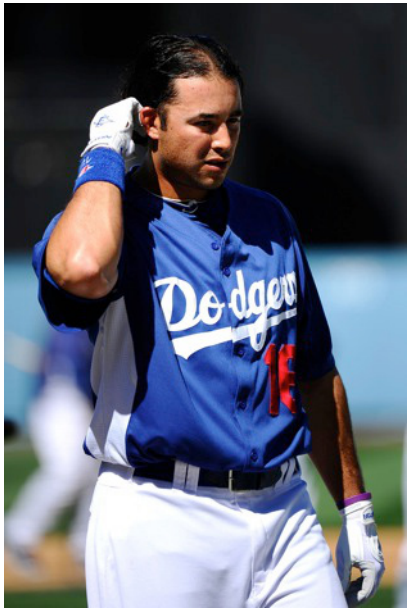
2011-2013 Batting Practice



The 2011–2013 Dodgers are the only MLB team with numbers on the front of their BP jerseys. The large red front number is a visual signature of the Dodger uniform. To ensure the number would fit on the BP jersey—with its white side panel intruding—all game uniform numerals are shrunk ⅛" to 4⅞" tall from 2011 forward. (The Twins added front BP numbers in 2014.)



- For 2011, all of the batting practice jerseys in MLB that are changed to button-front designs from earlier pullovers.
- The front script remains plain white, as introduced in 2010. Side panels are solid white. Sleeves are fully blue and no longer have white underneath.
- Player names and numbers are used on back in Block style. Front numbers are in Dodger Block in red, all done in twill.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

The changes to the Dodgers' 2014 batting practice jersey are minor. Look for the addition of knit white/blue/white neck and sleeve opening trim. White side panels now extend beneath the sleeves and only halfway down the sides, instead of all the way down as they did in 2013.

All lettering is one-color white, except for bold red front numbers. Even though the side panels no longer interfere, the front numbers remain 4⅞" tall.

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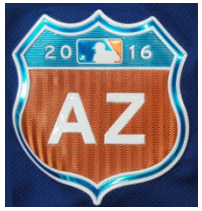
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training



For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for work-outs and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team.

The Dodgers use a design separate from their regular season standard set, reminiscent of their regular sea-son batting practice jerseys, as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are red. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Dodgers spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with "2017" and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. The Dodgers are one of the few teams with single-color back numbers anyway, so the league-wide change to single-color numbers did not matter to them at all. Except for the twill pattern and the sleeve patch, their 2017 Spring Training jerseys are indentical to 2016 versions.

The Dodgers again use a design that is sometimes referred to as their "alternate home" jersey, though it was only worn during Spring Training or occasionally for batting practice. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are red, as used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve—in the style of an Interstate highway sign—reading "2017" and "AZ," representing where the Dodgers spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional batting practice jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Dodgers jersey is Dodger Blue with white back and underarm gussets. The interlocking "LA" logo from their caps appears on the front left chest in white. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white Block on the left sleeve.

Notably, the Dodgers rejected these jerseys for on-field use. According to team sources, they wore them briefly in 2017 before switching to an alternate Majestic pullover warmup shirt with small player numbers on the right chest for 2018.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design theme of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, using twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns.

The Dodgers use a design separate from their regular-season standard set as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are red, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to plain twill.

The Dodgers use a design separate from their regular-season standard set as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring “2019” and “ARZ,” referencing their Spring Training home. Front logo, player names, and back numbers are white. Front numbers are red.

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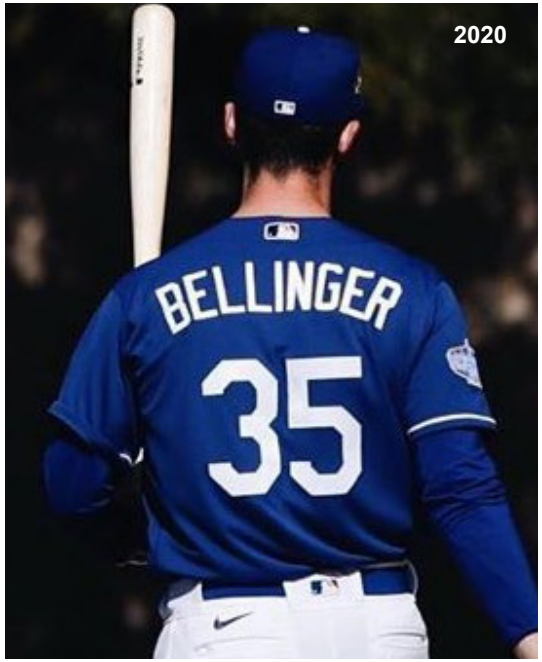
2020-2023 Spring Training

For 2020, Spring Training uniforms are simplified league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home. Lettering is now the same non-patterned twill as teams wear in the regular season.

From 2020–2023, the Dodgers use a design separate from their regular-season set, which also served as regular-season batting practice jerseys. These jerseys feature white name and back numbers and red front numbers. In 2020, the All-Star Game patch is sewn on the right sleeve. The 2021 version includes the Tommy Lasorda and Maury Wills memorial patches on the right sleeve.



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Special Events Jerseys

Turn Back the Clock — or Not?

Through the end of the 2004 season, the Dodgers had not yet participated in a Turn Back the Clock game wearing old-time uniforms.

Why? It seems the O'Malley family ownership wanted nothing to remind anyone of the team's identity in Brooklyn; the break had been made, and the team was to be known only as the LOS ANGELES Dodgers. This mindset continued during the relatively short Murdoch ownership.

In one incident, the Dodgers played the Giants on national TV. The Giants wore throwback uniforms and asked the Dodgers to wear Turn Back the Clock "Brooklyn" road uniforms to commemorate Bobby Thomson's "Shot Heard 'Round the World." Retro-styled uniforms were even ordered from Mitchell & Ness, and it was all set to be a Turn Back the Clock day.

After belatedly becoming informed of this—and realizing the place of that dark day in Dodger history—the Dodgers' PR department nixed the whole thing and told the Giants there was no way the Dodgers would help celebrate that moment—even though it had occurred 40 years earlier.

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2005 Turn Back the Clock to ???! Brooklyn Dodgers

Under new ownership in 2005, the Dodgers suddenly embraced Brooklyn and dove blindly into the past—creating Turn Back the Clock uniforms that would make any uniform purist cringe.

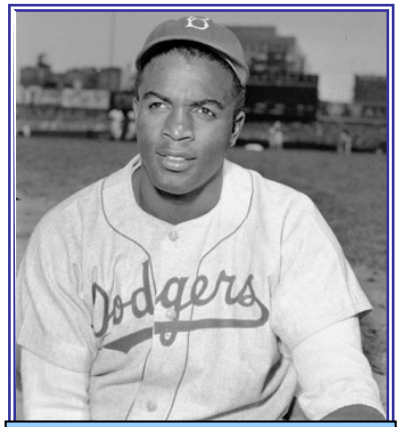
The April 15, 2005 game was intended to commemorate the 58th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's first Major League game in 1947. Yet during his playing years, the Dodgers never wore jerseys that said "Brooklyn" on the front, having dropped that wordmark two years before Robinson joined the team.

Further, the Brooklyn Dodgers never wore "Brooklyn" on a white home jersey. That design was used on gray road jerseys only, from 1939–1945.

In my opinion, the uniforms' polyester fabric just looked wrong with the old-fashioned Brooklyn script. The uniforms bear little resemblance to anything the team ever actually wore on the field.

The opposition for that game was the San Diego Padres, who wore their standard 2005 uniforms.

I would go so far as to say the goal of this event was to re-link the Dodgers with Brooklyn as a marketing exercise. That is certainly not a bad thing—but there is so much authentic history to draw on. Why contrive something?

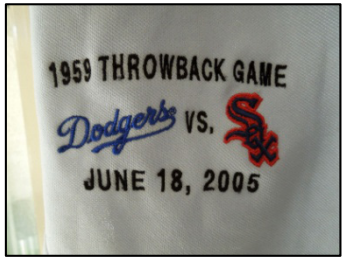


Jackie Robinson wearing his real Brooklyn Dodgers road uniform, circa 1947

© GameWornGuides.com

2005 Turn Back the Clock to 1959

Turn Back the Clock Day in Chicago*, June 18, 2005**, commemorated the 1959 World Series matchup—46 years prior—between the "Go-Go Sox" and the Los Angeles Dodgers. Pictures of the Dodgers are scarce for this event, and when I looked at the few photos available, I thought that the Dodgers simply had declined to participate in the Turn Back the Clock festivities. I noticed there were no player names on back, but dismissively recalled that the Dodgers ditched them for 2005 on all uniforms anyway. But before I turned the page and moved on, I realized that the Dodgers TBTC uniforms on this date looked nearly identical to the road uniforms that I had become accustomed to but introduced ***two years later for the 2007 season, but here simply minus the "LA" patch on the sleeve and a slight difference in trim.



Note that the wordmark lettering is completely unadorned—without outlines. In 2005, the Dodgers' road uniforms featured white outlines on the team script and on the numbers on back. The back numbers appear larger than the standard 8", which would be appropriate when there are no names on back—an omission already committed by the Dodgers on their everyday 2005–2006 uniforms.

Blue knit trim is used on the sleeve ends and on the placket, just as it was in 1959 ***(see inset).***

1959

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2007 St. Patrick's Day

Green Majestic mesh jerseys were worn for St. Patrick's Day in 2007. There were no numbers on the front; names and numbers on the back were single-color white. A blue shamrock patch was sewn on the left sleeve.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 Brooklyn Dodgers

On Saturday, June 23, 2007, the Dodgers played the Devil Rays in an Interleague game honoring members of the 1955 Brooklyn Dodgers, including then-current Devil Rays coach Don Zimmer—a member of that 1955 team.

The Dodgers wore full flannel uniforms produced by Ebbets Field Flannels. However, the last uniform to feature the "Brooklyn" script on the front was worn in 1945. The team was aware of this but chose the jerseys to celebrate Brooklyn nonetheless.

Steve Kraljic collection

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2009-2010 St. Patrick's Day

Left: *Retail version without shamrock on the sleeve.*

Green pullover jersey with a one-button neck, silver/white wordmark on the front, and a white spandex side panel. There are no front numbers. Names on the back are white, as are the block numbers. All lettering is heat-pressed, not sewn twill—including the shamrock on the left sleeve.

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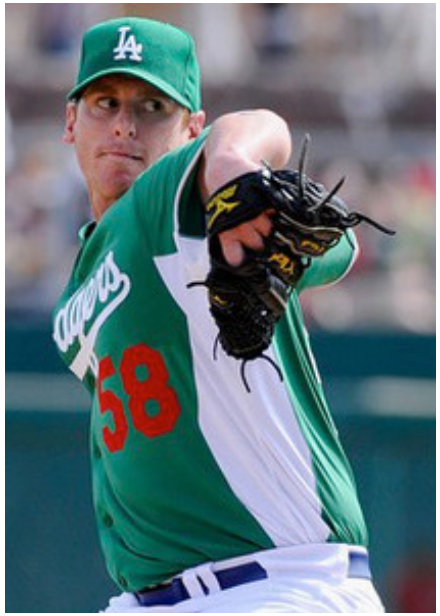
2011-2013 St. Patrick's Day



St. Patrick's Day jerseys for 2011, 2012, and 2013 are button-front, replacing the earlier pullovers. The green jersey body features white spandex side panels. A white panel appears above the player name on the back, serving as a background for the NOB. Red twill Dodgers-font numbers are used on the front. On the back, names are white twill, and numbers are in Block style.

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2011 Dodgers' Nostalgia Uniform Contest

1911 Road Uniform
One hundred years ago, fine narrow pinstripes accentuated the uniform pants and the gray shirts, which featured a "cadet" collar and the BROOKLYN name displayed vertically in small capital letters down the button panel. Known as the "Superbas," the Brooklyn team played its second-to-last season in 1911 at Washington Park.

1931 Road Uniform
Among the many uniform designs of the 1930s, the 1931 Road Uniform was the only variety to sport a block capital "B" on the front of the jersey. The dominant trim color was blue with some accents of red.

1940s Road Alternate Uniform
With the advent of night baseball at Ebbets Field in the 1940s, this uniform style used a highly reflective satin fabric with the idea it would be more visible under the lights. The blue-colored uniform features the trim and DODGERS script in white.

Source: Los Angeles Dodgers

The Dodgers hosted a contest in February 2011 asking fans to pick a nostalgia uniform from the team's past to be worn during six mid-week home day games that season.

From Dodgers' Press Releases:

February 7: The uniforms to choose from:

1. The 1911 Brooklyn Dodgers road uniform featuring narrow pinstripes and the name "Brooklyn" running down the button panel.

2. The 1931 road uniform with a large capital "B" on the front of the jersey.

3. The 1940s era "satin" road uniform which is blue and white and features the word "Brooklyn" in script

February 25: After nearly 50,000 votes, the 1940s satin uniform edged out the 1911 Road option by less than 2,000 votes. Though the original uniform worn in the 1940s was made of a highly reflective satin fabric to make it more visible under the lights for night games, the 2011 throwback jerseys will be made of the same material and maintain the same feel as those worn by the Dodgers throughout the season. The jerseys will be available for purchase by fans at Dodger Stadium beginning on the first date they are worn, April 21, when the Dodgers welcome Atlanta to Chavez Ravine. That date marks the anniversary of the franchise's first victory, which also came against the Braves in 1890.

1911

1931

Original
1944

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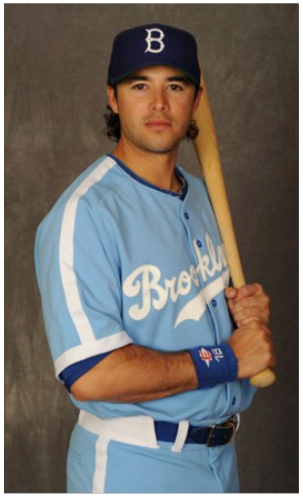
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1944 Brooklyn Dodgers *(Bobcat)*



There were two manufacturers used to make the 1940s nostalgia uniforms worn in 2011. The first uniform set was made by Bobcat Athletic, a newer manufacturer at the time, and these were used in the first two games—April 21 vs. the Atlanta Braves and May 4 vs. the Chicago Cubs—both of whom also dressed in 1944 styles made by Bobcat.

The Bobcat uniforms used in the team's preseason promo shots ***(top right)*** are made of a smoother, more traditional double-knit fabric compared to the Majestic Cool Base ones used later in the season. The "Brooklyn" logo closely matches the original, and the numbers on the reverse are white twill McAuliffe font, as was used back in the day.

The 2011 Duke Snider #4 memorial patch appears on the right sleeve of all game-worn uniforms. Notice that there is no manufacturer logo on the left sleeve—Majestic—the official supplier to MLB—was the only manufacturer allowed to display its logo.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1944 Brooklyn Dodgers *(Majestic)*

Majestic made the Dodgers' nostalgia uniforms that were used for the final four 2011 throwback games.

These games were played against the Reds (June 15), Tigers (June 22), Phillies (August 10), and Padres (August 31). The Reds and Tigers participated in the Turn Back the Clock theme, while the Phillies and Padres wore their regular uniforms.

Majestic's uniforms are made of their Cool Base fabric and, on close examination, appear more textured than the smoother Bobcat Athletic versions. They use the same front scripts and rear player numbers in McAuliffe font, which is slightly different from the modern Red Sox version. Player tagging is sewn inside the back of the collar.

Majestic's "triple peaks" logo is embroidered on the left sleeve.

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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013-2014 Memorial Day

Above: *2013 and 2014 jerseys are year-tagged in the neck.*

The Dodgers were at home on both May 27, 2013, and May 26, 2014, for Memorial Day. MLB had all teams wear camouflage-lettered jerseys, and both years the Dodgers wore these white jerseys with all lettering—including the sleeve logo patch—rendered in camo. While other teams retained their standard sleeve logo patch, the Dodgers' version was uniquely rendered in camouflage.

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2015 Memorial Day

For the third year in a row, the Dodgers are home for Memorial Day, but for May 25, 2015, they correct issues from the previous two years. This version adds an extra layer to the Dodgers' traditionally single-layer twill, inserting a blue outline around the desert camo, making the jersey significantly more legible than its predecessors. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white, replacing its standard red/white/blue color scheme.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue—regardless of what the team's normal color palette might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar.

The Dodgers wear their home white jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars. All lettering—including the front logo and both front and back numbers—is outlined in red. The Dodgers are one of four teams (with the Royals, Yankees, and Tigers) whose lettering goes from one layer to two for this special promotion. Player names appear in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve. The left sleeve patch remains the same.

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2016 St. Patrick's Day

The Dodgers trade Dodger Blue for Kelly green (a team color briefly used in 1937) for St. Patrick's Day 2016 in a Spring Training game held March 17. This Flex Base jersey is white, with the front logo, back numbers, and player name in green, and the traditionally red front number in gray. The right sleeve features a green shamrock—a detail shared by many teams in the 2016 promotion. Green knit trim encircles both sleeves.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Mother's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back-of-the-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Dodgers wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo, player names, front and back numbers, and the team's "LA" sleeve patch all changed to pink. All jersey trim, normally blue, also becomes pink. Several other teams incorporated dark gray elements into their jerseys—both home and road—for this promotion, but the Dodgers' version sticks with the pink throughout. The style returned for 2017.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at the back of the neck is rendered in black and dark gold for all teams. The new league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Dodgers apply the camouflage trimmings to their “Los Angeles” alternate road jerseys for the game on May 30.

All lettering and numbering—front and back—is rendered in woodland camo, devoid of black outlines or black player names that other teams use. Without the outlines, the lettering is slightly harder to read on the gray jersey than on versions used by teams that included outlines. However, it remains more legible than the desert camo used in previous years. The Dodger blue interlocking “LA” sleeve patch and trim elements are also changed to single-color black.

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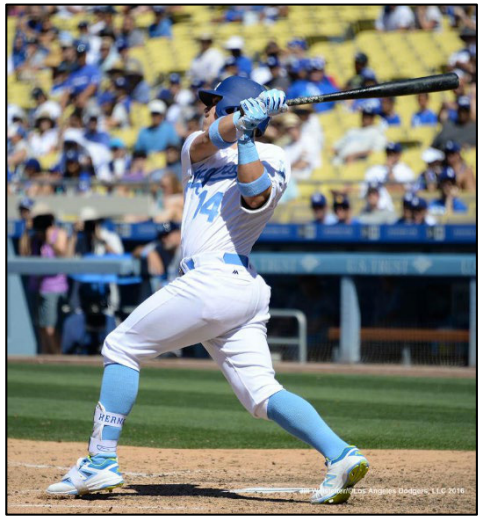
2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue–trimmed uniforms for Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back-of-the-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Dodgers wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering, player names, and front and back numbers all in light blue. The team's "LA" sleeve patch, typically Dodger blue, is also changed to light blue. Aside from the change from a red front number, these jerseys are very similar to what the Dodgers wear at home on a regular basis.



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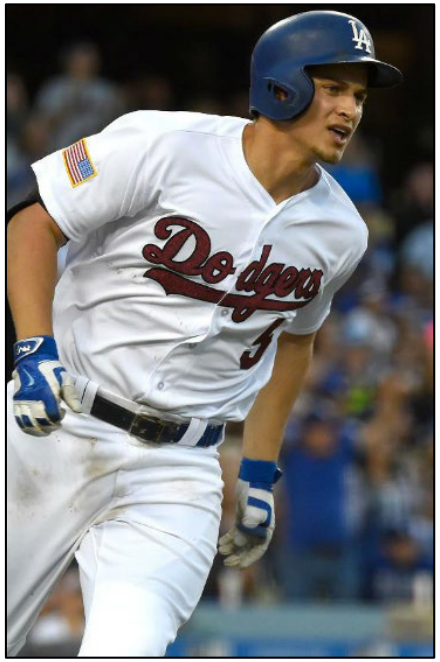
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each jersey features a ChromaFlex rubberized MLB appliqué with a "stars and stripes" pattern sewn on the back of the neck.

The Dodgers are at home and wear their home jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill, and the Dodgers select the red twill version with blue outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with player names in blue. The Dodgers are one of only three teams (with the Padres and Royals) to have additional layers of twill added to their typically single-layer jerseys. Several other teams, by contrast, simplify their multi-layer designs to two-color. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. The Dodger blue interlocking "LA" sleeve patch is also changed to a darker shade of blue.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Home)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green throughout the Dodgers version of this jersey. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve. The Dodgers apply this style to their home white jerseys worn May 27–28, 2017, and May 26–28, 2018.

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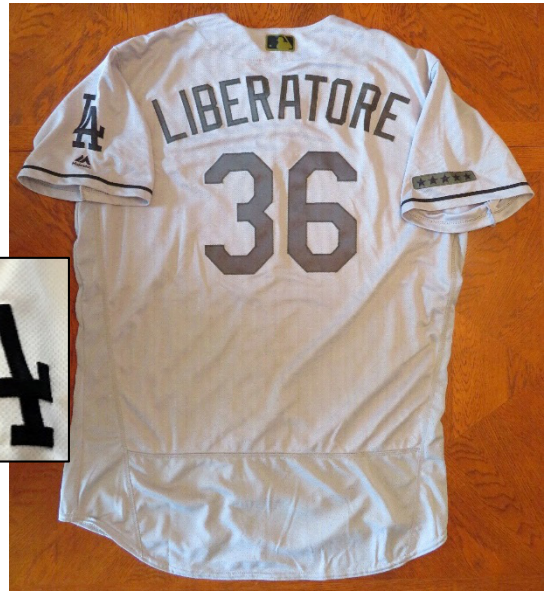
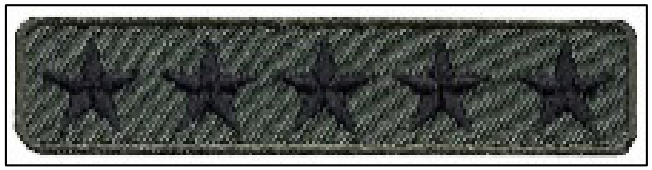
2017 Memorial Day (Road)





The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green throughout the Dodgers version of this jersey. The back-of-the-collar MLB and team sleeve patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Dodgers apply this style to their “Los Angeles” road gray jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue–trimmed Father's Day jerseys return for the Dodgers on Sunday, June 18, 2017, at Cincinnati. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys feature the standard front left tail Majestic tag, along with set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well are the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on the left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch.

The Dodgers wear their "Los Angeles" road gray jersey with all front and back lettering and numbers in light blue. The team's "LA" sleeve logo, typically Dodger blue, is also changed to light blue. Other teams in MLB also wore Father's Day jerseys the prior day, Saturday, June 17, 2017, but on that day, the Dodgers were playing the Reds, who wore their regular home whites along with a patch commemorating the dedication of a Pete Rose statue. As a result, the visiting Dodgers wore their standard road gray jerseys bearing the "Los Angeles" script instead.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill–appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 1–2, 2017, the Dodgers wear their "Los Angeles" road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. The team's "LA" logo on the left sleeve, normally Dodger Blue, is here rendered in navy twill. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes evoking a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 4, 2017, the Dodgers wear their home white jersey with red front logo lettering and front and back numbers rendered in blue patterned twill. Player names on back are in solid red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. The team's "LA" logo on the left sleeve, normally Dodger blue, is rendered in navy twill for this game.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team--standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, and August 24–26, 2018, the Dodgers wear jerseys with royal blue bodies and powder blue sleeves with white nicknames and powder blue numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide bright blue/white/bright blue trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in white lightweight twill.

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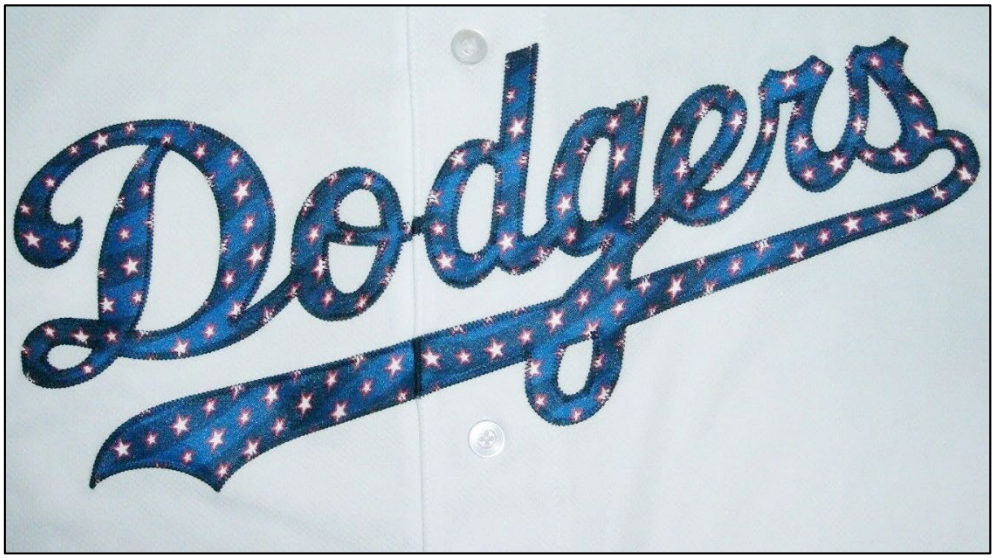
2018 Independence Day



The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the lettering—but the Dodgers modify their 2017 version by removing the red trim from the blue patterned twill.

The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB appliqué patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 24, 2018, the Dodgers wear their home white jerseys with the blue patterned twill for all front and back lettering. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. The team’s “LA” logo on the left sleeve, normally Dodger blue, is instead rendered in navy twill for this game.

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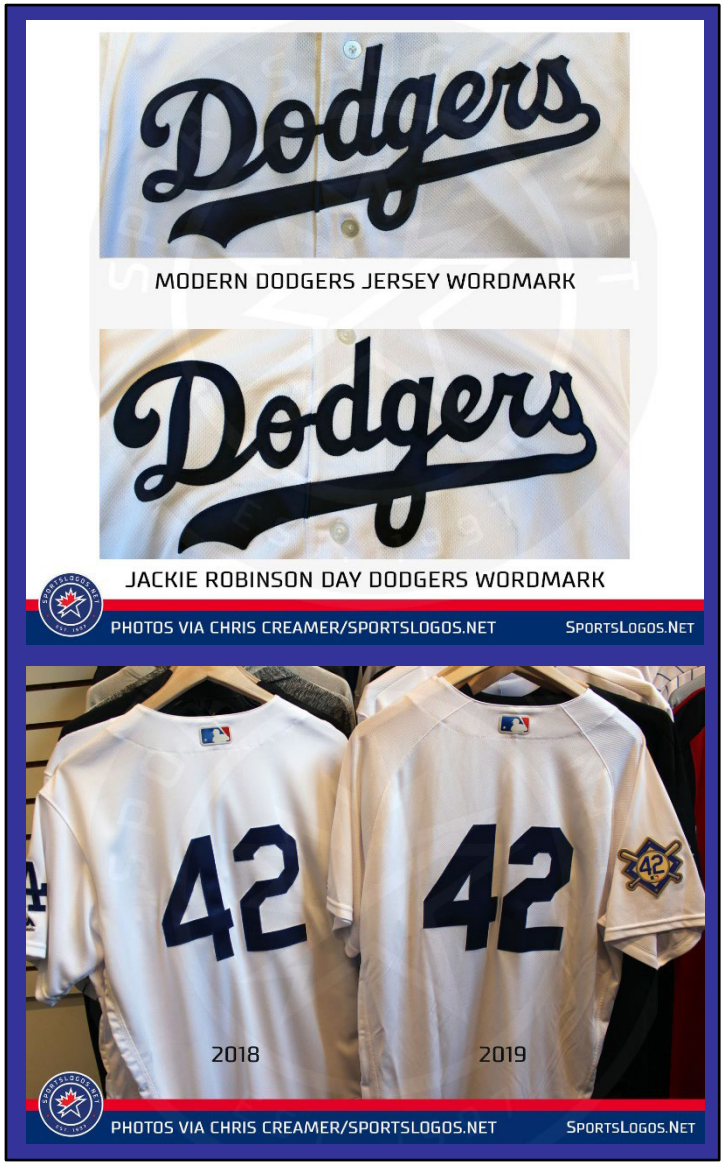
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1947 Brooklyn Dodgers

For the casual fan, this is a “blink-and-you’ll-miss-it” change to the Dodgers’ home uniform for April 15, Jackie Robinson Day. This subtle throwback is intended to replicate the Brooklyn Dodgers’ 1947 home set, which is clearly much the same as the Dodgers’ current uniform. The wordmark is slightly different—most noticeable in the script “G”—and the back number is 1947 style, much bolder than the team wears now. The jersey sleeves are also cut and attached differently. Notice the different sleeve tailoring in the photo below right.

Of course, there is no name on back, as names are absent from every team’s jersey on April 15. For the 2019 entry, the league-wide “42” patch to honor Robinson and the MLB150 patch reside on the right sleeve, while the Dodgers also add their “NEWK” memorial patch in memory of Don Newcombe, replacing the usual “LA” sleeve logo, which did not appear in 1947.



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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Dodgers wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2021 World Series “Gold Program”

Like many teams before them, the Dodgers boasted gold-trimmed jerseys for a few games in 2021 to celebrate their 2020 World Series championship—specifically the opening home games on April 9–11, and again for their first game with full post-COVID attendance capacity on June 15 (dubbed “Reopening Day”). Based on their normal home jerseys, these “Gold Program” jerseys (as Nike calls them) add a layer of gold metallic outline to all front and back lettering. The effect is very subtle—modest, almost—and is very difficult to see on the field.

What was obvious were the sleeve adornments: the left sleeve features an embroidered Roman numeral “VII” above a blue star to represent the team’s total number of World Series titles—a detail also seen on the Nationals’ jerseys the year prior. The right sleeve carries a special World Series Champions patch, with the two season-long memorial patches for Tommy Lasorda and Don Sutton placed side-by-side above the champions patch.

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2022 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 Brooklyn Dodgers

Steve Kraljic collection

On August 13, 2022, the Dodgers visit the Royals for a “Salute to the Negro Leagues” game. While the Royals wore Negro League throwbacks, the Dodgers chose 1955 Brooklyn Dodgers road jerseys to honor Jackie Robinson 75 years after he broke into Major League Baseball. The front of the gray Nike Flex Base jerseys was very slightly different from the Dodgers’ current set—subtle enough that a casual fan might not notice. The back was easier to spot, with much bolder numbers and no player names on back.

These jerseys also featured a Vin Scully memorial patch on the right sleeve—applied as adhesive rather than sewn—and many players struggled to keep them affixed during the game..

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2025 World Series “Gold Program”

Three years after they last celebrated a World Series victory with Gold Program jerseys (as Nike calls them), the Dodgers introduce a new style in 2025. This version essentially reverses the colors of the 2021 entry, using gold twill as the primary layer and outlining it in what would normally be Dodgers blue or red (for the front number). The result is far bolder than the previous version. The MLB logo on the back of the neck also appears in a special gold version.

One sleeve bears the special World Series Champs patch as well as the Fernando Valenzuela memorial, while the other carries the sponsor patch. Patch placement varies depending on the handedness of each player. Note that this jersey also uses Nike’s new-for-2025 white jock tag, seen at right. Only a handful of jerseys across the league adopt this new tag in 2025.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1971-1972 Prototype Home

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Though Rawlings had made road jerseys for the Dodgers during their late-flannel and early–double-knit era, they had not been able to crack Goodman and Sons' monopoly on manufacturing the team's classic home jerseys. These two samples (and yes, they are different—note the differences in stitching patterns between the sample and Rawlings tags) appear to be their attempt to gain that business when the team transitioned to the new uniform material in 1972.

Aside from the base jersey color, it mirrors the design Rawlings used for the team's road set in that era, including the bolder "Dodgers" script and longer underscore compared to what Goodman used. The sample tag in the neck is a giveaway of this jersey's intended purpose and is similar to other Rawlings samples of that time period. Both examples are #19, which was worn by former Dodgers player and coach Jim Gilliam.

Left: *A Rawlings road jersey;* ***Right:*** *A Goodman home jersey—for comparison to the Rawlings samples above.*

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1970s “Coach’s” Spring Training?

- The Dodgers have sometimes used jerseys in Spring Training that feature letters of the alphabet on the front instead of player numbers. This example from the double knit era was found on eBay.
- The seller said that the “C” on the front stood for “Coach”, and that the Goodman and Sons mesh jersey had been issued to Roy Hartsfield a long time Dodgers coach.
- Notice the different Dodgers’ script on the shirt. While the numbers and the “C” appear to be twill, it is possible that the team script is screened on.
- This garment sold for the princely sum of $29 at the end of the auction.

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Pre-1992 Prototype Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck?

Our Dodgers contact tells us that he does not remember this jersey, and suggested that someone may have made it at home using the version of the script that was used on Starter jackets, noting that the two-tone blue trim would never have been an option for the team. Since it is already in the “oddball” category, I’ll not remove it completely, in hopes that I may find another one, or that someone else may know something about this item.

- Majestic made this *“Gamewarmer”* line of pullover zip-neck batting practice jerseys with slash pockets (or sometimes faux pockets) and distributed them to MLB teams. This one is made of mesh fabric.
- Majestic once offered this alternate style of batting practice jersey to every MLB team during the mid 1980s through the mid 1990s, and some teams (like the White Sox) used them frequently. Many teams issued them as an alternate, or perhaps at individual players’ request, but a few teams (like the Phillies and Yankees) did not use them at all. The Dodgers so far as we know did not use these at all, and in fact as highlighted in the batting practice jersey section, the Dodgers were the last team in the majors to issue batting practice jerseys of any kind, in 1995.
- The front script is interesting, as it is unlike any other we have seen. The letters lean at different angles, and the tail under the word is very short. It is certainly not team spec. Also interesting the use of two shades of blue on the trim, when the Dodgers do not use light blue as a team color.

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1992-1993 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Compared to the one of the prior page, this Majestic *Gamewarmer* zip-neck jersey uses the team's standard wordmark on the front. It is made of a lightweight solid fabric, not mesh, and has simpler knit blue and white neck and sleeve end trim.

This particular jersey appears to be a manufacturer's sample, as it bears a showy promotional "Diamond Collection" patch on its sleeve in the 1992 style that we have seen sewn on what we think are samples of this style jersey just a couple of times.

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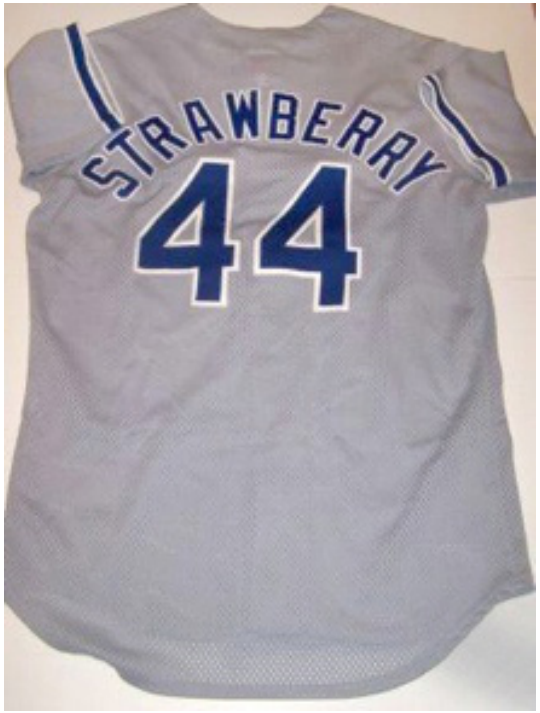
Early 1990s Custom Batting Practice/ 1993 Tour of Asia Mesh Jerseys

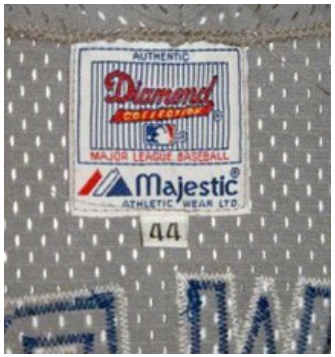
In prior editions, we reported that the Dodgers were the last team in MLB to issue batting practice jerseys to their players, in 1995—lagging more than a decade behind the rest of the league. We stand by that claim, even though bright blue retail-sale Dodgers batting practice–style mesh jerseys were sold by Majestic and Russell, with manufacturer tagging dating them to around 1992.

According to our sources in the Dodgers clubhouse, several players who came to the team from elsewhere were unhappy about the absence of lightweight warmups and having to wear their full-weight game jerseys during practice. Our inside source recalls that Darryl Strawberry (1991–1993) and Brett Butler (1991–1994) were two players who asked for—and received—mesh warmup jerseys, custom-made for them in white mesh for home games and gray mesh for road games.

With this explanation, the photos we've had in our archives now make sense.

(continued next two pages)





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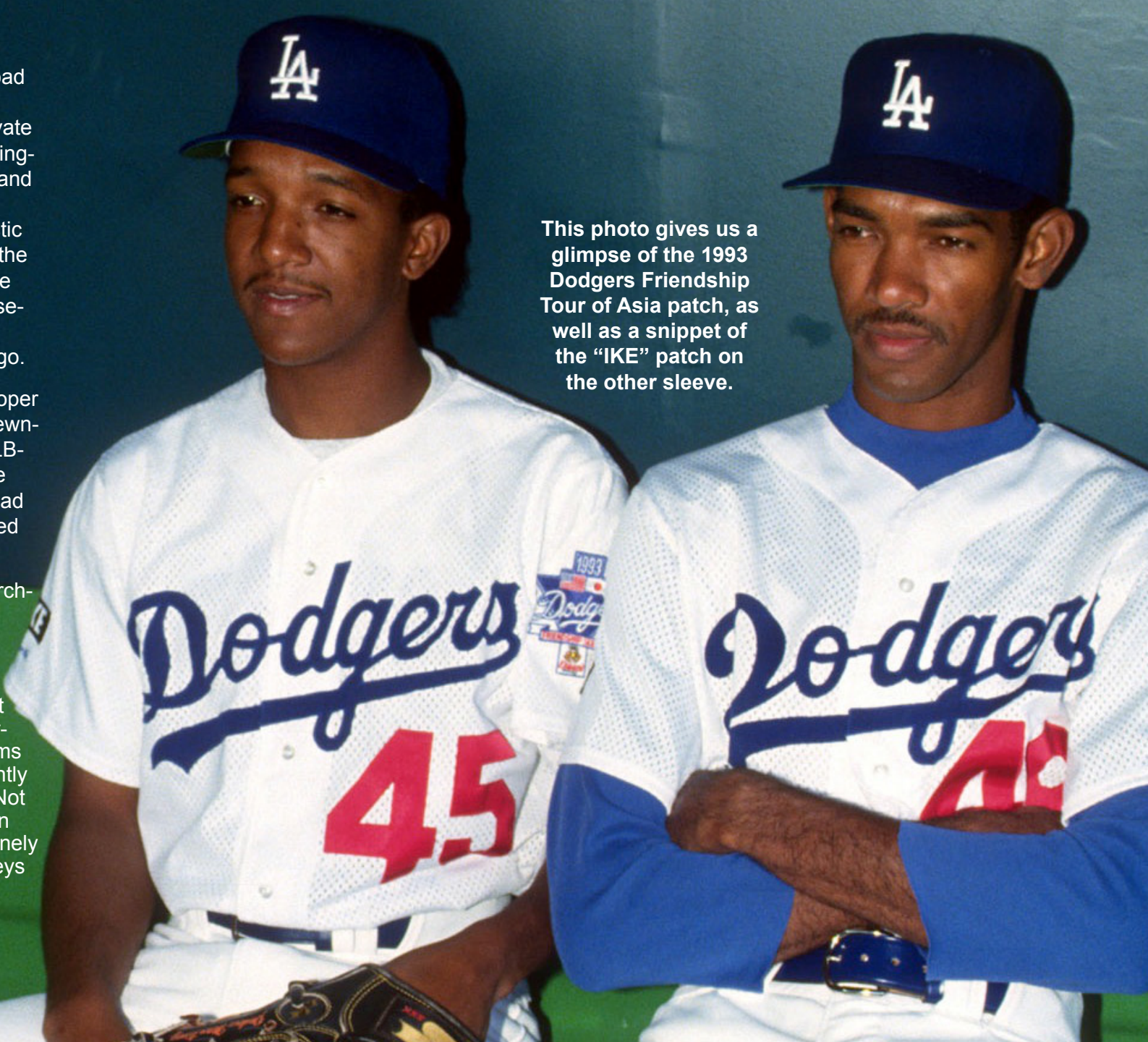
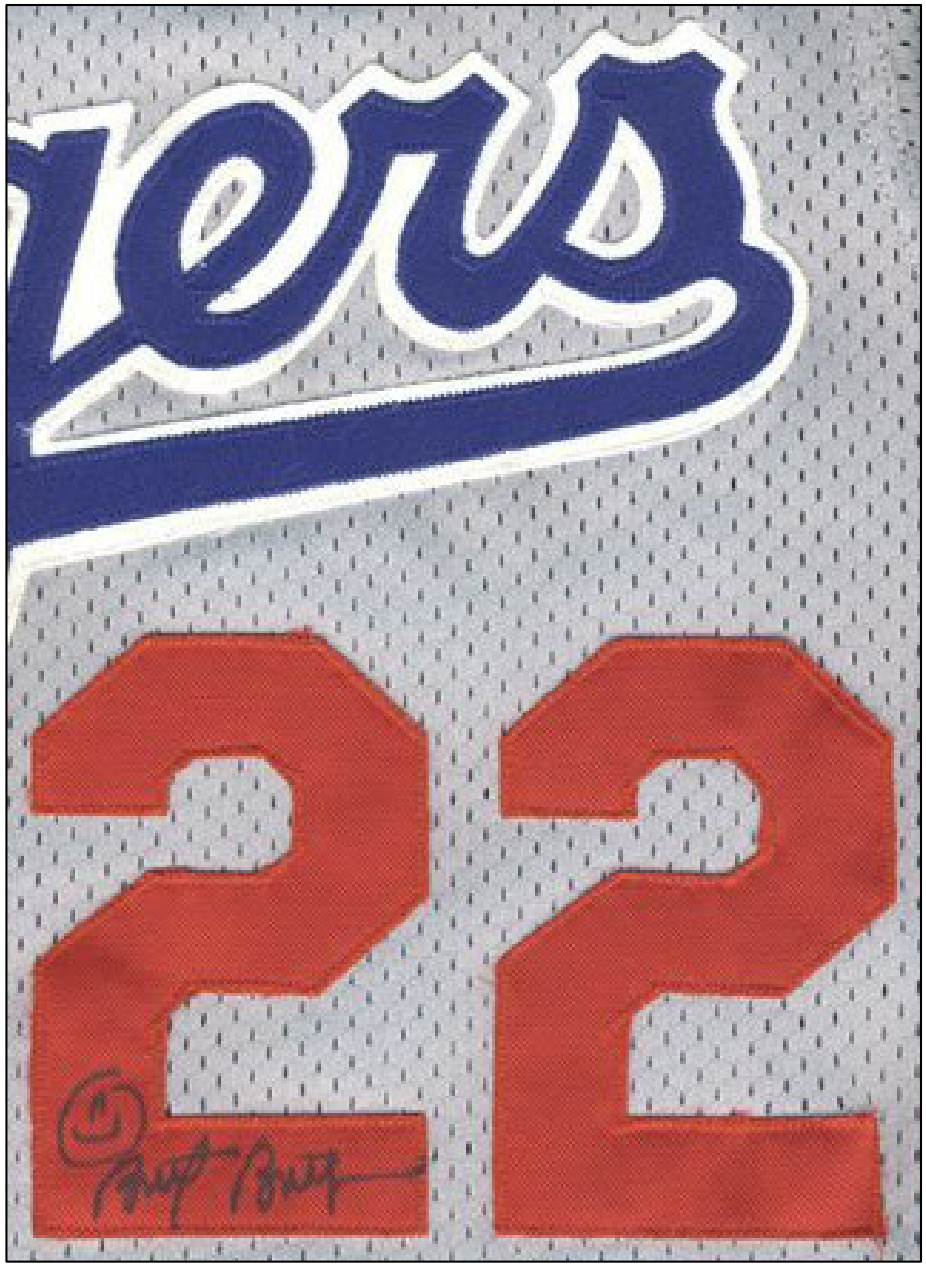
On the prior and next pages there are two road versions of these gray mesh jerseys from private collections, not surprisingly carrying the names and numbers of Butler and Strawberry. The Majestic collar tags are indeed the 1992-only style with the red “Major League Baseball” written under the Diamond Collection logo.

They both have the proper Majestic tail tag and sewn-in sleeve logo for a MLB-spec jersey. Retail sale jerseys from that era had a different, heat-pressed sleeve logo.

Additionally, while searching for photos of the Dodgers’ postseason 1993 Goodwill Tour of Asia, we came across a couple of photos that show the players wearing mesh game uniforms that they were apparently issued to wear there. Not surprising, as in Taiwan and Japan teams routinely wear mesh game jerseys because of the humid, tropical climate.



This photo gives us a glimpse of the 1993 Dodgers Friendship Tour of Asia patch, as well as a snippet of the “IKE” patch on the other sleeve.



Above: *Dodgers' 1993 Tour of Asia, players, including Strawberry, wearing mesh game jerseys.*

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Pre-1995 Batting Practice (Retail Only)

Bill Henderson Collection

Pullover Dodger mesh jerseys with Authentic tagging are sometimes seen, but the Dodgers MLB club *did not officially wear this style*, either in Spring Training games or in warm up activity before regular season games as other MLB teams did. Our Dodgers insiders tell us that in 1995, the team was the last in the majors to adopt an official batting practice jersey, and these were the button fronts shown several pages prior.

These may have been Spring Training warmups, retail sale examples or refugees from the minors. The one at left has Majestic tags, center has Russell Diamond Collection tags, the one at right is made by Rawlings.

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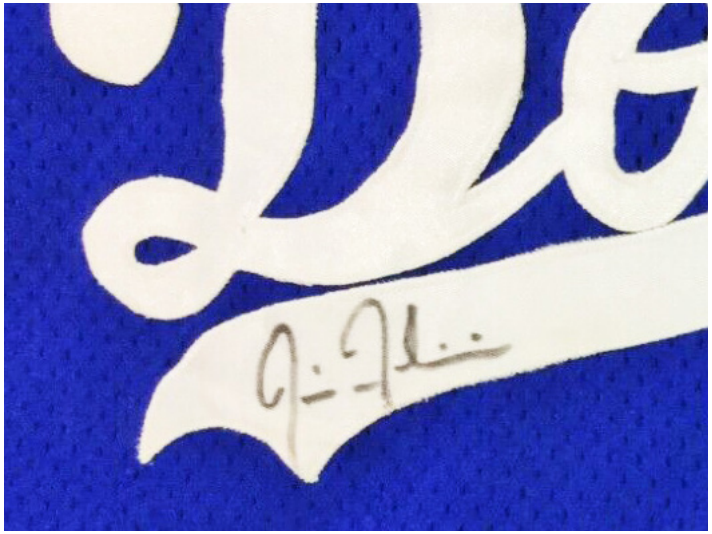
1996-1997 Oddball McDonald's Batting Practice



This jersey is something of a mystery. Based on tagging, it appears to be a Dodgers BP jersey dating from 1996–1997. The embroidered Majestic logo on the sleeve and the size 42 suggest it is team-issued, as that size was not commonly available at retail. However, there is a McDonald's patch sewn to the right sleeve—something the Dodgers never used, and something that would not have been permitted in this era.

The jersey has a signature on the front, but after extensive searching, we could not match it to any Dodger who wore #10—or, in fact, to any Dodger on their all-time roster of players or coaches.

We also considered that this may have come from some sort of celebrity game. The Dodgers have hosted the annual "Hollywood Stars Night" softball game for decades, but this jersey does not match any worn during that time.

It is also possible that this jersey is related to a Dodgers minor league team, but we have had no luck finding a match thus far.

For now, all we know is that this item exists—and it raises more questions than it answers. Any info on this one would be appreciated!

Above: *Examples of late-1990s "Hollywood Stars Night" softball jerseys worn by celebrities at the annual game hosted at the LA Coliseum.*

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1998 '*Think Blue*' Promotion

In 1998, the Dodgers staged a "Think Blue" team spirit promotional from June 24–28 where they affixed a patch to the sleeve of the mesh BP jersey made mention of the fact that they were wearing blue jerseys Team management liked the look, and ordered blue alternate jerseys for the team to wear occasionally at home in the 1999 season. That story is on an earlier page in this chapter. The Dodgers confirm that a new set of jerseys with the "Think Blue" patch was made for this series, the set was auctioned off afterwards, and the "Think Blue" patch never appeared on a jersey after that.

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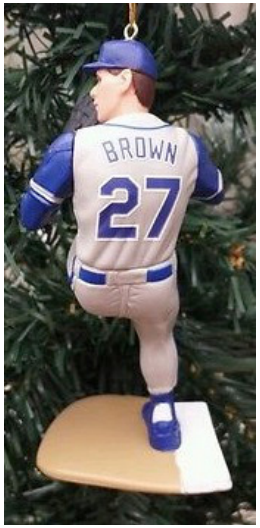
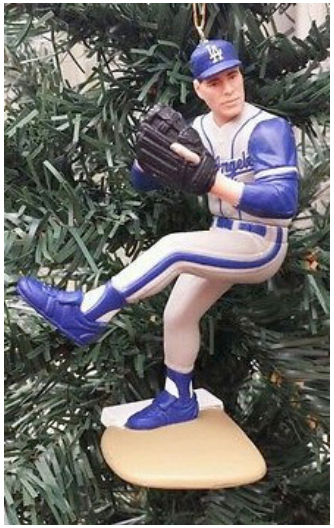
1999 Prototype Road *(Russell)*

In 1999, the Dodgers were making some changes to their graphics and uniforms, and they considered this prototype "faux vest" jersey with blue sleeves and placket knit trim for their road uniform. This jersey came very, very close to on-field use. The official MLB style guide of 1999 (published in August 1998) shows this jersey as the team's approved road uniform. Dodgers' art director Ross Yoshida confirms that they had even reached the stage of making some for retail sale when management pulled the plug on the idea. So, while the team never wore this design, a surviving example is pictured above, with the typical "Player #5" lettering that is often found on team-issued prototype jerseys, those submitted to the team for their consideration.

To go along with our discovery, found on eBay, a "Custom Kevin Brown Dodgers Christmas Tree Ornament," made from a 1999 Kenner Starting Lineup figure, where he is wearing the exact jersey style pictured at the top. Notice the wild side stripes on the pants, not reflected in the MLB Style Guide renderings. Brown was the hot off-season signing for the Dodgers prior to 1999, so the timing for this is just right. At $2.99 it found no takers.





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1999 Protoype Road *(AIS)*

Bill Henderson Collection

It is unsurprising that AIS may have supplied this design prototype for the team's consideration at the time the Dodgers were exploring changes to their road uniforms. Made by AIS, this sample features ornate outlining and 3D drop-shadowing, and contrasting raglan sleeves (compared to the set-in sleeves of the Russell-made prototype on the previous page). 1999 is our educated guess for its date of creation; the black AIS tag on this jersey was last used in 1999.

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2000 Alternate - Phantom

After the alternate blue jerseys were used for just a week in 1999, it seems the team expected the event to repeat in 2000—but for some reason that we do not know, it did not.

What seems clear is that a complete set of player-use jerseys was sewn up for 2000. I say this because I have seen jerseys for all sorts of players, famous and not, and some, like the example at the top of this page, feature custom player tailoring. But these were never worn on the field.

These jerseys differ from the 1999 version in several ways: They are made by Rawlings and feature the Rawlings logo embroidered on the left sleeve, where the Russell logo had previously appeared on the right. The LA sleeve patch also moved to the left sleeve, leaving the right sleeve plain. Finally, as with all on-field jerseys in 2000, the MLB silhouetted batter logo patch was added and sewn to the center of the back collar.

Following Dodger team-issue practice, the Rawlings tagging, along with the year and set tag, is hidden inside the back tail. While these jerseys turn up occasionally and are often listed as “game worn,” they were never actually worn—or, so far as we know, even player-issued.

The blue alternate jersey remained in the official MLB Style Guide as a legitimate choice for the team to use through the 2006 season, but we have no evidence that any were actually made for the team after 2000, though retail-tagged Rawlings versions occasionally appear for sale. At any rate, Rawlings’ final year as supplier of Dodgers Authentics was 2002, and we have never seen a Majestic version of this jersey. I think it is safe to say that none of these appear to have been made after 2002..

Left: *a retail authentic version of the blue jersey, like most of those in circulation. Note the collar size tag and the Rawlings “Authentic Collection” tag sewn to the outside tail instead of inside like on team-prepared jerseys.*

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2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1959 *(not!)*

Billed as a “Turn Back the Clock” to the 1959 World Series, the White Sox welcomed the Dodgers by wearing replicas of their 1959 uniforms. They also advertised that the Dodgers would wear replicas of their 1959 uniforms.

But the Dodgers wore their regular road uniforms, which were nearly identical to the 1959 versions from 50 years earlier. There are only two differences between the 2009 and 1959 Dodger jerseys: the 1959 road jerseys had thin blue knit trim on the placket, while the 2009 versions did not—and the 2009 road jerseys featured player names on the back, which were not present in 1959.

Original 1959 —not much differ-ence.

May 22, 2002 – Serial Offenders: The Dodgers visited Milwaukee for a Turn Back the Clock game vs. the Brewers (who that night dressed as the 1955 Milwaukee Braves). The Brewers’ press release said the Dodgers would participate by wearing 1955 uniforms, but photos of the event do not bear that out, as the Dodgers clearly wore their standard road uniforms.

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2011-2013 Road Batting Practice (Retail Only)

This alternate Dodgers BP jersey carries the team's secondary logo on the left chest, similar to the 1999–2002 road BP jersey.

It is not listed in the official MLB Style Guide as a uniform option for the team, even though it carries Majestic "Authentic Collection" tags on the front tail. We have no record of the team wearing these.

Perhaps the Dodgers considered this style for Spring Training use but ultimately decided against it—or perhaps it was always intended as a retail-only item.

In any case, we have seen very few of them offered for sale.

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2012 Test Flex Base

This Los Angeles Dodgers jersey is a Flex Base test issue made for pitcher Clayton Kershaw to use, four years before all MLB teams adopted the Flex Base template. It appears not to have been worn during a game; however, we have seen examples of these test jerseys worn during Spring Training 2012 by other teams. Majestic says that it worked with more than 50 players to test the Flex Base jerseys, so it's likely that many such jerseys were produced.

The Flex Base test jersey is similar to the regular-issue jersey in many ways. The main difference is that the numbers and lettering are not tackle twill and sewn on—they are heat-pressed. Also, the back tail of the jersey has a thinner mesh fabric. The wash code tag inside the tail reads "063T."

There is a strip tag in the collar that reads "22 Kershaw 50 2012 Test A" and is stitched on. The 50th-anniversary Dodger Stadium patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

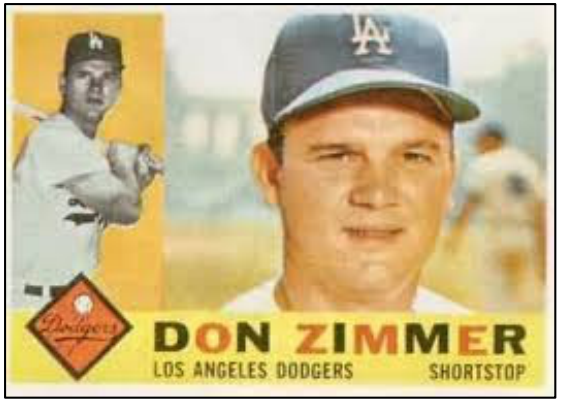
© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Pregame Tribute to Don Zimmer

Fan favorite and baseball institution Don Zimmer capped off a 65-year career by spending his final 11 years in the game as a coach with the Tampa Bay Rays. Zimmer spent most of his playing career with the Dodgers.

In a pregame ceremony on June 7, 2014, both the Rays and the visiting Dodgers lined up wearing Brooklyn-script jerseys with Zimmer's number 23. The Rays wore white, while the Dodgers wore gray.

These jerseys were worn only during the pregame ceremony and not in the game.



http://www.nydailynews.com/sports/baseball/yankees/madden-torre-leads-rays-tribute-zimmer-article-1.1821359

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2018 Sample Mother's Day

MLB's league-wide celebration of Mother's Day in 2018 took a turn for the traditional. After two seasons of rendering every team's jersey twill and team patches in pink and gray, 2018 brought the return of simply using a pink ribbon patch on each team's standard jersey (it is likely the change was made based on the manufacturing complexities for Majestic, logistical difficulties for teams' clubhouse staff, and the fact that the jerseys were very unpopular at retail). It is a small change - a "correction" really - but this prototype jersey makes clear that any change in uniforms is a big deal to manufacturers and teams.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag indicates it is a team-issued jersey. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "DOD-MD-HJ-D1-1-2018" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a Dodgers (DOD) 2018 home jersey (HJ) for Mother's Day (MD). The Dodgers were, in fact, at home for Mother's Day in 2018, so it is likely that the home version of the jersey was selected as a test for that reason.

It seems odd, even unnecessary, to create a sample like this for something as small as the addition of a single patch. But since this particular initiative was a change from the prior year, it is likely that Majestic made these up as a "proof of concept," not only for their own production needs, but to show to teams for their review and approval. It is likely such samples were made for all MLB teams' jerseys, but so far, we have only seen two turn up, the other an example for the Red Sox.

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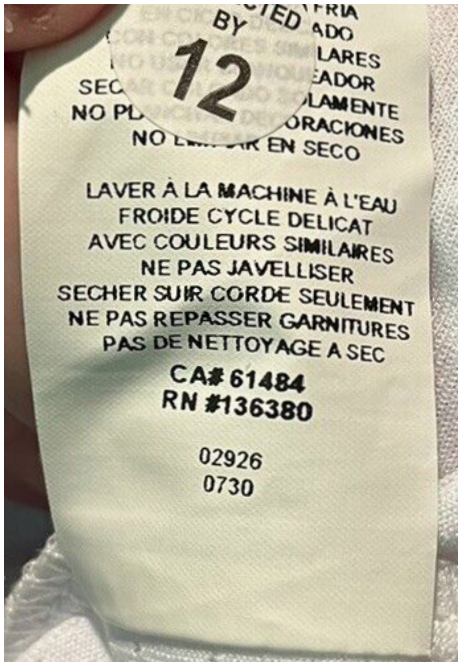
2018 Sample Memorial Day



Harrison Katapodis/dormroomjerseys on eBay

As we have seen on a previous page, for the 2018 season at least, MLB and Majestic spared no expense creating samples of jerseys with even the slightest proposed change. Here, we have a sample of a Memorial Day jersey made up for the Dodgers, rendering all blue twill as olive green, and adding the 5-star bar patch to the right sleeve. This is identical to what the Dodgers wore for Memorial Day Weekend games at home in 2018, so the sample's mission was accomplished. But, the Dodgers also wore the exact same jersey for Memorial Day in 2017, rendering this sample overkill. But if that was the policy, at least they stuck to it.

Like the Mother's Day version, this jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag indicates it is a team-issued jersey. Next, the use of "PLAYER" and "18" on back are typical sample elements, where "18" stands for the year in which the jersey is intended to be used. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "DOD-MEMDAYY-HJ-D1-1-2018" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a Dodgers (DOD) 2018 home jersey (HJ) for Memorial Day (MD).

The 2018 season seemed to be a high-water mark for "in-the-cloth" samples of jerseys for every occasion, as we have seen many other examples for other teams.

© GameWornGuides.com

2020 Unused Roberto Clemente Day?

This one stumps us a bit - at first look, it is a normal Dodgers alternate road jersey (reading "Dodgers" rather than "Los Angeles" on front). Everything checks out except that there's no name on back, which this jersey should have. So what gives?

Our best guess is that this jersey was made up for Roberto Clemente Day in 2020, which was celebrated on September 9 that year. At that point, players born in Clemente's native Puerto Rico were permitted to wear #21 for Clemente Day. For the Dodgers in 2020, that was Edwin Ríos and Kiké Hernández. Both did, in fact, wear 21 that day, but with their own names on back, contrary to the jersey seen above.

A closer look at the clues does little to solve what this jersey is. Its front tagging has the standard "LD3B" code for a Nike Dodgers alternate road jersey, and the "0890" code on the wash tag is normal as well. Even the MLB authentication sticker's serial number, when checked in the database, just says this is a team issued road jersey #21, not noting the lack of a name on back. There are no other signs of typical prototype or sample jerseys evident from the tagging.

It is possible that this jersey was made up under the belief that eligible players would wear "21" with no name on back for Clemente Day, like the Pirates did for the first time in 2020. Apparently, the plan for all Pirates to do so only started in late July that year, which required some scrambling to make happen, and that has long been the practice for when all players wear "42" for Jackie Robinson Day.

The Dodgers used an inventory number on their jersey tagging at this time, with "136" shown on this jersey. Assuming these numbers are sequential throughout the season, it would make this jersey one of the earlier ones made for the team, which means it may have been an early preview, if not a typically tagged sample.

Of course, it may have just been an accident. Dodgers pitcher Walker Buehler wore #21 in 2020, and wore a size 42, so it could have been a sewing error, too. Of note, in 2020 Ríos typically wore size 48 while Hernández wore size 42, so if this was a Clemente Day jersey, this one was probably intended for Hernández.

If anyone has any other info on this one, we'd love to hear!

Above: *Kiké Hernández and Edwin Ríos pose with their #21 jerseys, worn in honor of Roberto Clemente, on September 9, 2020.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2021: Nike “Reks” a Dodger Prospect’s Jersey

Spring Training is a time where everyone is getting back into the swing of the season. Pitchers are building up for long outings, hitters are getting their timing back, and fielders are practicing their relays and double-play combinations. But on March 3, 2021, Nike still seemed to be in off-season mode. In a spring game against the Reds, Dodgers prospect Zach Reks came to the plate with part of his jersey logo’s underline missing. It is impossible to know if it just fell off, or if he was issued it that way (other images from that preseason show him with the proper underscore). Either way, Reks went 0-2, and the game ended in a 4-4 tie...a perfect Spring Training score.

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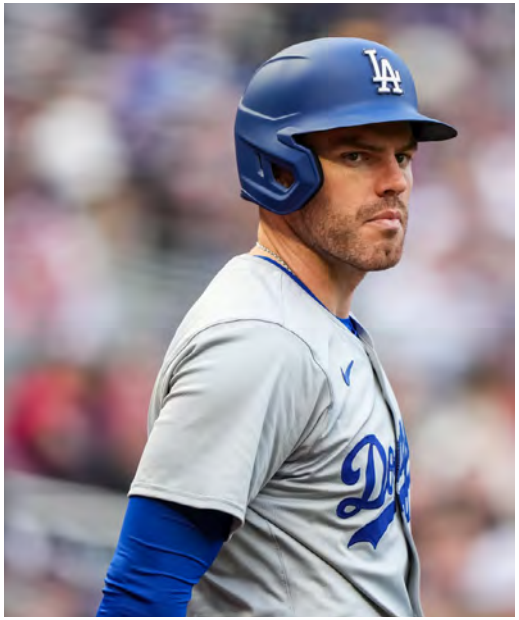
2024: Freddie “Patch-Free”-man



Dodgers star Freddie Freeman went 2-for-4 with an RBI in the team’s 4–2 win over the Twins on April 8, 2024. You could say he had a good day—but his jersey wasn’t quite as game-ready.

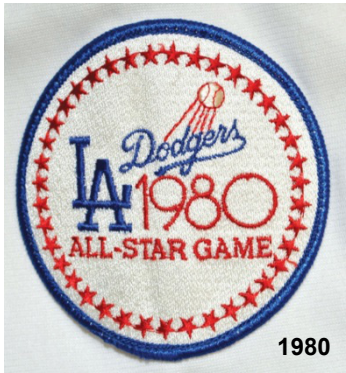
Freddie’s alternate road jersey lacked both the “LA” patch and the team’s sponsor patch. One missing patch is understandable—it happens. But how a jersey leaves the factory with two missing patches is beyond us.

Nike and Fanatics had plenty of quality control issues—especially with gray jerseys—in 2024. But this wasn’t one we were expecting.

© GameWornGuides.com

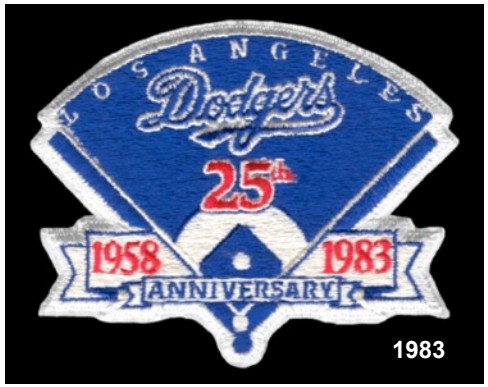
Commemorative Patches

Dodgers Event Patches



1980

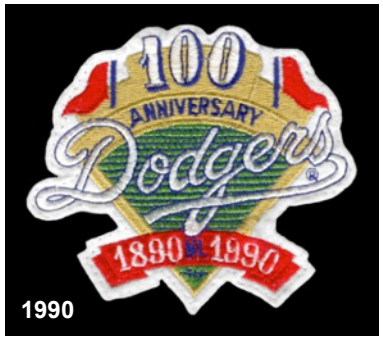
1981



1983

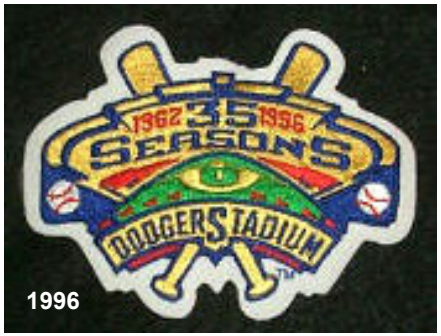
1984

1987

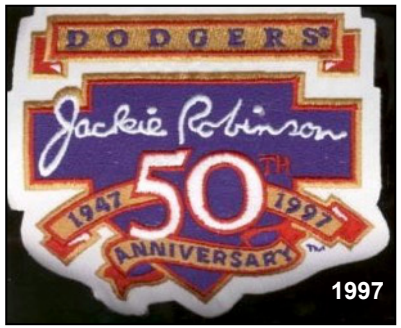


1990

1992



1996



1997

The Dodgers have seemingly had a patch to commemorate something almost every year! Patches are usually worn on the left sleeve.

- 1980: All Star Game
- 1981: Bicentennial of LA
- 1983: 25th Anniversary in LA
- 1984: Olympic Baseball at Dodger Stadium
- 1987: Dodger Stadium 25th Anniversary
- 1988: Vero Beach 40th Anniversary (worn only in Spring Training)
- 1990: Dodgers 100th Franchise Anniversary
- 1992: Dodger Stadium 30th Anniversary
- 1996: Dodger Stadium 35 Seasons (not 35th Anniversary)
- 1997: Dodgers-only version Jackie Robinson Patch

Thank you to Jerry Reuss for providing many of the patch photos shown here from his personal uniforms

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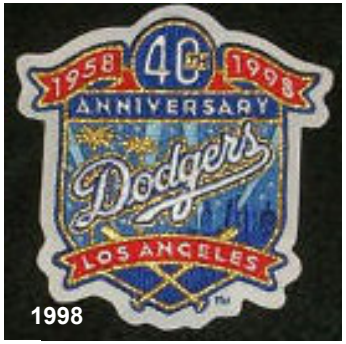
1998



1998

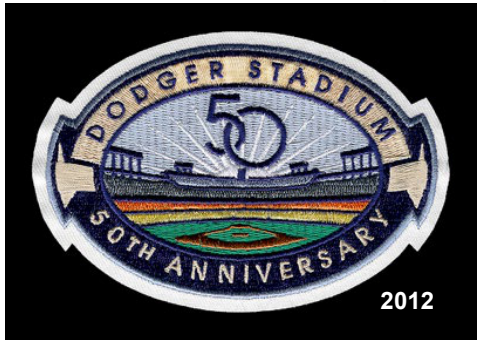
2002

2008

2008, March 29

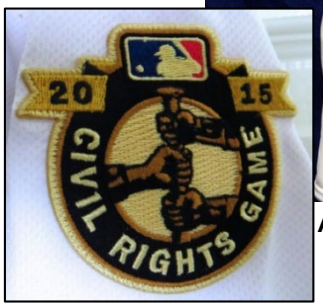
2010

July 18, 2011



2012

April 15, 2015



- 1998, June 24-28: "Think Blue" promotional home stand patch worn on BP jerseys in games vs. Angels and Pirates
- 1998: 40th Anniversary in LA
- 2002: Dodger Stadium 40th Anniversary
- 2008: "50th Anniversary in Los Angeles"
- 2008, March 29: "ThinkCure!" patch worn in exhibition game at LA Coliseum to raise funds for the Dodgers' cancer research charity.
- 2010: 1955 World Champs Patch, patch commemorating 55 years since winning their first World Series when the franchise was located in Brooklyn, New York.
- 2011, July 18: AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure Day" in San Francisco
- 2012: Dodger Stadium 50th Anniversary
- 2015, April 15: "Civil Rights Game," Dodgers and Mariners wore a patch only, on Jackie Robinson Day.

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2018

2020 Spring Training

2022, starting July 10

March 21, 2021 and March 27, 2022

March 17-21, 2024

March 18-19, 2024

- 2015, May 20; 2017, May 15; 2020 August 27: Red AIDS Ribbon for “Until There’s a Cure” night in San Francisco
- 2018: 60 Years in Los Angeles patch.
- 2020: All Star Game - this patch appeared on the Dodgers Spring Training jerseys, but with the cancellation of the 2020 All-Star Game, it was removed when play resumed later in the season.
- 2021, March 21 and 2022, March 27: Ribbon patch to raise awareness for SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood) - worn on left chest.
- 2022, July 10: 2022 All-Star Game patch, same design as 2020 with updated year, worn only one game.
- 2024, March 17-21: MLB World Tour Seoul Series patch for games in South Korea
- 2025, March 18-19: MLB World Tour Japan Series patch for games in Tokyo

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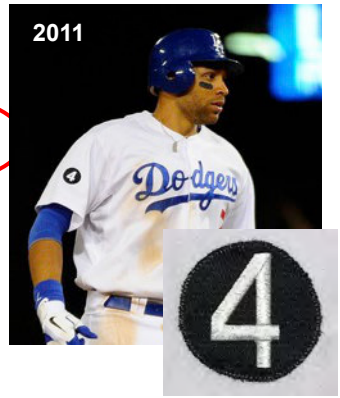
Dodgers Memorial Patches

1978 World Series Only

- 1974: First few games of the season, left sleeve black armband worn in memorial for the wife of Ken McMullen who died just before the season started.
- 1978: #19 patch to honor Jim Gilliam, worn only in 1978 World Series
- 1987: MAC patch for former coach Don McMahon, after 7/22/87



- 1993: Memorial patches 52 (Tim Crews, former Dodgers and then-current Indians pitcher killed in a boating accident in Spring Training),39 (Roy Campanella),53 (Don Drysdale)
- 1993, October 29-November 3: “IKE” patch, memorial for Ike Ikuhara, special assistant to Peter O’Malley, worn on right sleeve during Dodgers post-season tour of Asia

- 1999: Pee Wee Reese Memorial (worn just above Heroes Patch)
- 2011: “4” for Duke Snider, all season
- 2019: “Newk 36” memorial patch for Don Newcombe

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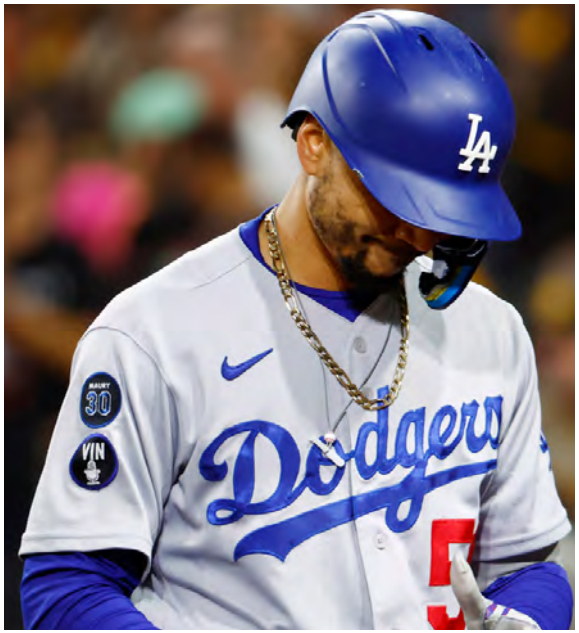

- 2021: Tommy 2 memorial patch for Tommy Lasorda and Sutton 20 memorial patch for Don Sutton, both worn all season.
- 2022: Maury 30 memorial for Maury Wills (added September 21) and VIN memorial patch for Vin Scully (added August 3).
- 2024 World Series and 2025 season: Fernando 34 memorial for Fernando Valenzuela

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“Shirts Off Their Backs” Promotion

1998

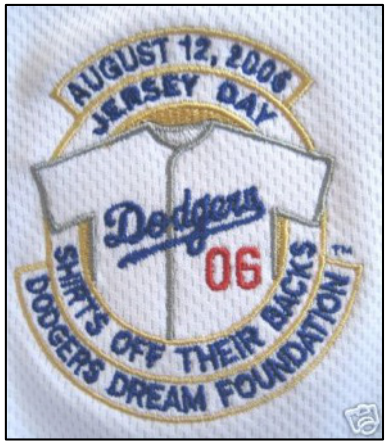
1999

2001

The Dodgers Dream Foundation charity sponsors an annual “Shirts off their Backs” jersey day, where game jerseys are auctioned off for charity immediately after the game. This special logo is directly embroidered into the shirt tail, usually with the year represented in the front number of the embroidered jersey in the logo. Several years’ examples are shown here.

2002

2003



2006

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Postseason Friendship Series - Japan and Taiwan

Patch/logo photos courtesy of Todd Radom

October 29 - November 3, 1993, the Dodgers toured both Japan and Taiwan on a goodwill visit and played exhibition games. There were two versions of the patch, each with the flag of the respective country the Dodgers visited. They appear to have been applied to the jersey sleeves with Velcro, and switched out between countries. (Notice the Velcro strips in the photos shown here.) These patches, designed by Todd Radom, were worn on the left sleeve of team uniforms during the trip.

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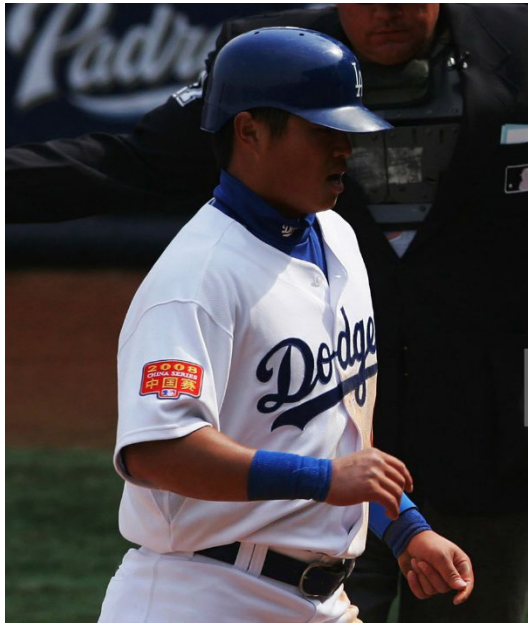
2008 Preseason China Series



The Dodgers and Padres played two preseason games in China on March 15-16, 2008, as a business/goodwill venture for MLB as it looks at the prospects of expanding its business interests into China.

© GameWornGuides.com

Dodgers Heroes Patches

http://www.flickr.com/photos/43289453@N03/sets/72157629951832853/

Bill Buehler was the Dodgers' trainer

For beautiful close-up photos of most of these patches, see Jerry Reuss's blog, link at bottom left.

In 1999, after fan voting to name the greatest Dodgers of the past, artist Paul Rogers was commissioned to create a series of paintings for the outfield walls in Dodger Stadium. The Dodgers created a group of patches called "Dodger Heroes." Each player and coach could choose the one he wanted on his uniform sleeve (see next page). Here are photos of the complete set, as issued. There were 23 patches in the set. (Note: The Dodgers sold very limited quantities of these patches to the public in 1999, a few as complete sets. However, Sandy Koufax refused to license his image, so probably ***fewer than a dozen*** Koufax patches exist anywhere (*you read it here).*

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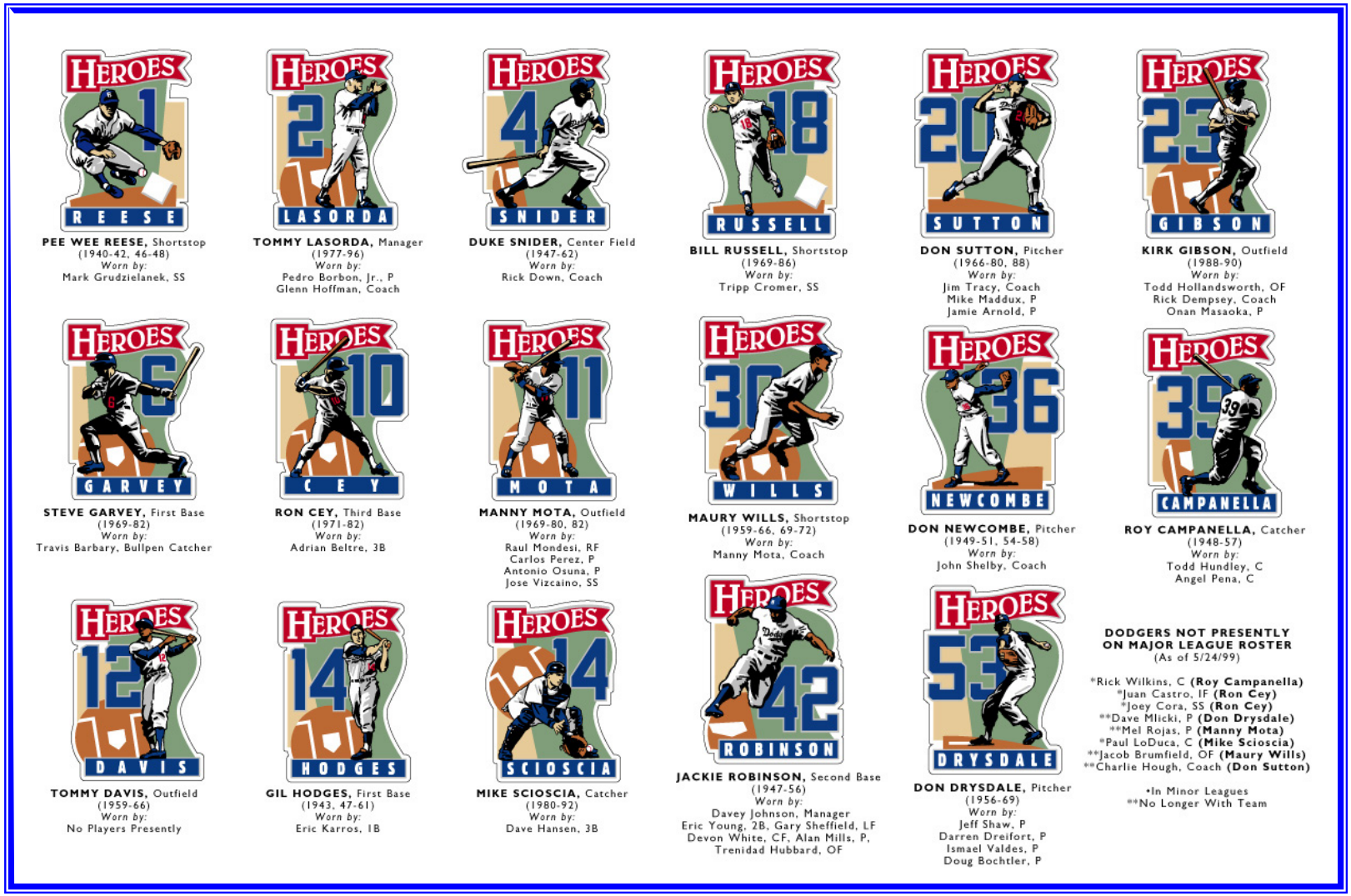
Dodgers Heroes – Even More Information



Can you read the fine print? If so, then you will know which Dodger wore which "Heroes" patch! Amazingly obscure information.

Courtesy Ross Yoshida, Los Angeles Dodgers

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2023-2025 Dodgers Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Dodgers did not have an ad patch in 2023, but before the 2024 season, they struck a sponsor patch deal with Guggenheim Baseball Management, the Dodgers' own owner. The patches first appeared in Spring Training 2024.

The patch is a blue diamond shape with a thin white outline, and the Guggenheim logo in white on all of the team's uniforms.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's typical sleeve patch takes residence on the opposite sleeve.

In 2023, the Dodgers had not yet made a deal with a jersey patch sponsor. The team's jerseys used for pre-season photos lacked the "LA" logo on the left sleeve, leading many to believe an ad deal was imminent. However, the logo was back by opening day, and remained on the left sleeve of the home, both roads, and City Connect jerseys throughout 2023.

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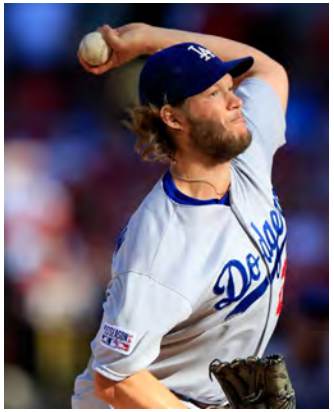
Dodgers Postseason Patches

1988 World Series (right sleeve) - notice how high up on the sleeve these were sewn

2014 NL Division Series
(right sleeve)



2015 NL Division Series
(right sleeve)

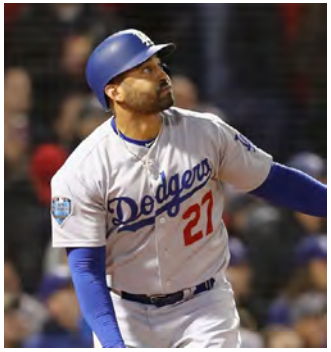
2013 NL Division Series
2013 NL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

2016 NL Division Series
2016 NL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

© GameWornGuides.com

2017 NL Division Series
2017 NL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

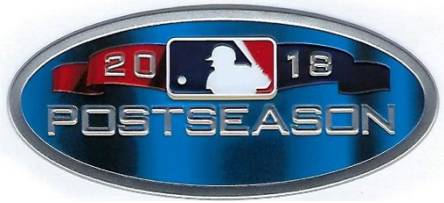
2018 World Series (right sleeve, replacing anniversary patch)



2017 World Series (right sleeve)

2019 NL Division Series (right sleeve, under "NEWK" patch, MLB150 patch re-moved

2020 World Series (right sleeve)



2018 NL Division Series, 2018 NL Championship Series (right sleeve, below anniversary patch)

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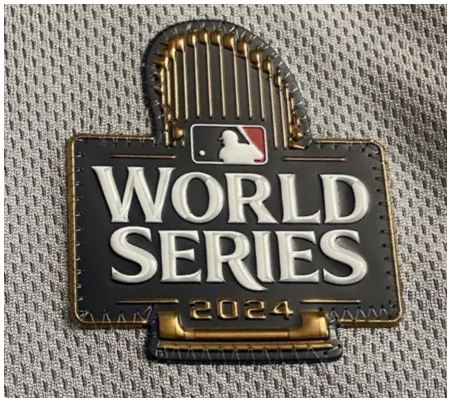
2024 World Series
(left chest)



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Letter of Professional Opinion

Walter Alston 1973 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: July 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0727J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home white, Goodman and Sons six-button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #24 Hall of Fame manager Walter Alston. Buttons are the ivory pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. Size 46 is consistent with other jerseys worn by Alston. Goodman was the exclusive provider of home jerseys to the Dodgers in 1973, only their second year in double knits. Notably, the 1973 lettering is in tackle twill, not the matte-finish and stretchy Dodger Twill that they team would soon switch to. "Dodgers" scripted on front with underline in Royal Blue, bold #24 below in red. On back the number 24 in the same bold font and in blue twill. Name on back "ALSTON" arched above in Goodman's own block style font. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for comfort.

Alston served as Dodgers' manager in both Brooklyn and Los Angeles from 1954-1976, a span of 22 years. From Wikipedia: *"As a major league manager, Alston led Dodger teams to seven National League (NL) pennants and four world championships… Alston retired with more than 2,000 career wins and managed NL All-Star teams to seven victories. He was selected as Manager of the Year six times."* Alston was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1983. His number 24 has been retired by the Dodgers.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Goodman and Sons rectangular tag is sewn in the back of the collar in the correct style for 1973, noting the size as 46. In 1973, local manufacturer Goodman was the exclusive supplier of team home uniforms, while Rawlings supplied the road ones. The jersey is tagged on the lower outside of the left front tail, machine embroidered in cursive script, "Set A 1973", This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in overall excellent condition and shows signs of use and washing with softening of the fabric, and being the jersey of a non-playing owner, it is remarkably and appropriately clean and white. A light table evaluation reveals that the sewn elements are all original. There is a small round dark brownish- red stain on the lower back tail about half the diameter of a dime. There are a couple of other tiny spot stains above the name on back This jersey clearly escaped use in the minor leagues or in later years' spring training, which was the fate of so many Dodger jerseys from this period.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging.It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by manager Walter Alston of the 1973 Los Angeles Dodgers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Don Sutton 1977 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 12, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0512J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home white, Goodman and Sons six-button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #20 Hall of Fame pitcher Don Sutton. Buttons are the small, ivory pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. Size 42 is consistent with other jerseys worn by Sutton during the first half of his career. Goodman was the exclusive provider of home jerseys to the Dodgers in 1972-1986. Tackle twill dark Royal Blue team script on both panels of the front, close examination and comparison to exemplars shows that it is script pattern used 1972-1978. bold #20 below in red. On back the number 20 in the same bold font and in blue twill. Name on back "SUTTON" steeply arched above in Goodman's own unique block style font. (Regarding player name on back: there is a small rectangular glue mark adjacent to the top of the first "T", as if the letter was at first incorrectly placed and then moved before sewing, leaving a spot of adhesive residue behind.) The inside of the placket is unlined, typical for Goodman jerseys post 1975. All lettering matches exemplars for Dodger Goodman home jerseys 1975-1978.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Goodman and Sons rectangular locker tag is sewn in the back of the collar in the correct style used 1975-1984, noting the size as 42. A small local manufacturer, Goodman was licensed to supply the team only, and not licensed to make or sell team uniforms to the public. Between 1972-1978, The Dodgers tagged their jerseys every year *except* 1977. There is no team tagging on the jersey, and that plus the style of the front wordmark script combined with the lack of any commemorative patches on the sleeves (or marks from their removal) makes it most likely that this jersey is from the 1977 season.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation reveals that the sewn elements are all original. This jersey is in overall excellent and lightly used condition, with some mild softening and very slight puckering of the twill lettering, but the nylon jersey body fabric has yellowed considerably from its original white color. There is a very minor, almost un-noticeable red color run below the front #20. It appears to have been stored folded as the yellowing is more pronounced on the surfaces that were likely exposed more to the air. This jersey clearly escaped use in the minor leagues or in later years' spring training, which was the fate of so many Dodger jerseys from this period.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent lightly used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Don Sutton of the 1977 Los Angeles Dodgers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Hoyt Wilhelm Final Season 1972 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 25, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0725J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, Rawlings six-button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #31 Hall of Fame pitcher Hoyt Wilhelm, from his final season in a 21 year career. Buttons are the gray pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. Size 42 is correct for Wilhelm, who wore this size throughout his later career. Rawlings was the exclusive provider of road jersey to the Dodgers in 1972, the team's first year in double knits. Notably, the 1972 lettering is in tackle twill, not the matte-finish and stretchy Dodger Twill that the team would switch to. "Dodgers" scripted on front with underline in Royal Blue, bold #31 below in red. On back the number 31 in the same bold font and in blue twill. Name on back has been removed. Visible on the light table are the faint outline of Wilhelm's last name, then the bolder outline shadow of the last name of pitcher Doug Rau. Wilhelm pitched in only 16 games in the 1972 season, his final appearance was on July 10, 1972 at Philadelphia, just weeks before his 44th birthday. He was released by the Dodgers on July 22, ending his MLB career. Pitcher Doug Rau was a September call-up for the Dodgers in his first MLB season, and he was re-issued Wilhelm's jersey with his name applied above the numbers. Rau's name was also subsequently removed. Wilhelm has signed the jersey on the front boldly below the numbers. I do not have a professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The new-for 1972 style of red rectangular Rawlings tag is stitched inside the back of the collar, showing the size as 42. It shows some light wear and remains tightly stitched. On the bottom of the left tail on the outside are the numerals "72" hand chain-stitched in Royal blue thread. A small flag tab like the kind typically found stitched under the edge of the locker tag is sewn stand-alone on the reverse of this spot, inside the bottom of the left tail near the edge of the bottom hem. It says SET 1 #8P 1972,

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in overall good to fair condition and shows signs of repeated use and washing with softening of the fabric, and detergent fading of the thread holding the lettering in place. Already mentioned are the ghosts of the two player names that are visible on the light table, but also visible is the outline of a nameplate that has been removed. While we must keep in mind that 1972 was the very first year for player names on back for Dodger uniforms, but the Dodgers were a team that did not believe in using nameplates for its players, In my opinion it is unlikely (but not impossible) that a plate was used on this jersey in any Dodgers MLB application. Additionally, the wear on this jersey is significantly more than the short 1972 combined uses by Wilhelm and Rau would have caused. This indicates to me that the jersey may have been sent to spring training or the minor leagues and used there with the name on back still present but covered up. A light table examination shows that the numbers are original without alteration. The thread holding on the back numbers is half missing, and the numbers are very loose at the time of this examination. Some glue marks remain from the removal of Rau's name. Beneath the number 3 on back are two approximately 1" long vertical symmetrical V shaped slashes in the fabric approximately 4 inches apart; they look like the result of a storage accident rather than game wear.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good to fair used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by both Hoyt Wilhelm and Doug Rau of the 1972 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Walter Alston 1972 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: October 14, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1014J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home white, Goodman and Sons six-button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers originals worn by #24 Hall of Fame manager Walter Alston, now stripped of name on back and converted to #80 most likely for later spring training use. Buttons are the ivory pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. Size 46 is consistent with other jerseys worn by Alston. Goodman was the exclusive provider of home jerseys to the Dodgers in 1972, the team's first year in double knits. Notably, the 1972 lettering is correctly in tackle twill, not the later matte-finish and stretchy Dodger Twill. "Dodgers" scripted on front with underline in Royal Blue, in the lighter stroke used in the 1970s compared to later; bold #80 below in red. On back the number 80 in the same bold font and in blue twill. Name on back has been removed, but glue and ghost outlines of "ALSTON" arched above in Goodman's own block style font remain. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort.

Alston served as Dodgers' manager in both Brooklyn and Los Angeles from 1954-1976, a span of 22 years. From Wikipedia: *"As a major league manager, Alston led Dodger teams to seven National League (NL) pennants and four world championships… Alston retired with more than 2,000 career wins and managed NL All-Star teams to seven victories. He was selected as Manager of the Year six times."* Alston was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1983. His number 24 has been retired by the Dodgers.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Goodman and Sons rectangular tag is sewn in the back of the collar in the correct style for 1972, noting the size as 46. In the 1970s, local manufacturer Goodman was the exclusive supplier of team home uniforms, while Rawlings supplied the road ones. The jersey is tagged on the lower outside of the left front tail, machine embroidered in cursive script, "Set B 1972", This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in generally good condition and shows signs of heavy use and washing with graying and softening of the fabric. It is flecked with multiple dirt stains. A light table evaluation reveals the ghosts of the original numbers on both front and back. This jersey was most likely was used in later years' spring training based on its high number, which was the fate of so many Dodger jerseys from this period.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good used condition, and exhibits a team number change and removal of name on back, without contrivance. It has the proper tagging.It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by manager Walter Alston of the 1972 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Ron Perranoski 1972 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date:January 13, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0113J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, Rawlings six-button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #16 Ron Perranoski. Size 44 is reasonable for the 6', 192 lb. player, who wore this size during his later career. Rawlings was the exclusive provider of road jersey to the Dodgers in 1972, the team's first year in double knits. Notably, the 1972 lettering is in tackle twill, not the matte-finish and stretchy Dodger Twill that the team would later switch to. "Dodgers" scripted on front with underline in Royal Blue, bold #16 below in red. On back the number 16 in the same bold font and in blue twill. As received, name on back has been removed and the player's name had been re-sewn onto a gray nameplate that as stitched over the spot. The MLB Dodgers did not use nameplates, and investigative removal of the plate revealed the clear ghost of Perranoski's name, but also the shredded and hastily repaired fabric that remained after the removal of another player's 5-letter name.

Restoration Performed: The jersey shows signs of several seasons of wear, likely from subsequent use in the minor leagues after 1972. The place where the NOB would have been was visibly puckered and with several holes hastily repaired. Investigating the situation, we learn that Perranoski, a former Dodger star pitcher 1961-67 was re-signed by the team in early August 1972 and assigned #16, likely being reissued the jersey of catcher Dick Dietz who had broken his wrist on July 30 and missed the rest of the season. My professional opinion is that Dietz's name was removed roughly from the jersey, (the scars match the letters) the resulting holes were roughly repaired, Perranoski's name was sewn on, and then stripped off after the season where the jersey went to the minor leagues and was used without a NOB. The nameplate that was on the jersey when received was likely an earlier attempt at restoration since the back of the jersey was so unsightly. I darned closed the holes on the back of the jersey, then reapplied the original name exactly over the ghosts, after first media blasting it to match the patina of the other lettering. I touched up the loose stitching on the back numbers only as necessary to keep them intact as they were nearly falling off.

As restored, this jersey is in overall fair to good condition and shows signs of repeated use and washing with softening of the fabric, and detergent fading of the thread holding the lettering in place. Already mentioned are the ghosts of the two player names that are visible on the light table. While we must keep in mind that 1972 was the very first year for player names on back for Dodger uniforms, but the Dodgers were a team that did not believe in using nameplates for its players. A light table examination shows that the numbers are original without alteration.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The new-for 1972 style of red rectangular Rawlings tag is stitched inside the back of the collar, showing the size as 42. It shows some light wear and remains tightly stitched. On the bottom of the left tail on the outside are the numerals "72" hand chain- stitched in Royal blue thread. A small flag tab like the kind typically found stitched under the edge of the locker tag is sewn stand-alone on the reverse of this spot, inside the bottom of the left tail near the edge of the bottom hem. It says SET 1 #8P 1972,

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Top left: As received, the jersey had the name stitched on a nameplate sewn over ghosts showing the rough removal and poor repair of the name DIETZ, at left, light table image highlighting the ghost outline of DIETZ. Bottom, the ghost pattern of the original direct sewn name on back, Perranoski.

Conclusion: This jersey is in fair used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. The name on back has been restored to original specifications. It has the proper tagging It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Ron Perranoski and likely earlier, Dick Dietz, of the 1972 Los Angeles Dodgers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Rick Sutcliffe 1980 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: July 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0727J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home white, WA Goodman and Sons, no size tag but chest measurement is 44, seven button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers jersey of #43, pitcher Rick Sutcliffe. Buttons are the solid white 2-hole style with embossed with "World Win" script used by Goodman seemingly in only 1980. Size 44 is a reasonable size for Sutcliffe to have worn at this point, early in his career. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in one-color royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill, as is correct) The script is not outlined with white as many 1980 home jerseys are. On the back, player number 43 and "SUTCLIFFE"name on back arched above, direct sewn, in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill and in the proper Goodman fonts with characteristic wide white outlines. Red tackle twill 43 on the front left chest. The 1980 All-Star Game patch is stitched to the left sleeve, and appears original and untouched. Sutcliffe appeared in 42 games for the 1980 Dodgers, He started 10 games and compiled a 3-9 record with a 5.56 ERA (Stats from Baseball Almanac).

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1980 Dodgers jersey had a unique one year (slightly larger than other years) Goodman/Mizuno branded tag, usually with a tiny flag tab pinched underneath noting the size. This one has no size tag. Typical of Dodgers jerseys of this period there is no team or set tagging on player jerseys. Goodman was not licensed to sell authentic jerseys to the public, and all that they made were used to supply the team.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in excellent condition showing very light use. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration. The jersey is bright white and all the attaching thread is bright and tight. The sewn elements are all unpuckered indicating very little wash-wear. Goodman jerseys of the period are very heavy and extremely durable and well constructed.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent lightly used condition, and shows no alterations or contrivances. it is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Rick Sutcliffe of the 1980 Los Angeles Dodgers.

William F. Henderson
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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Charlie Hough circa-1980 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 26, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0726J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, WA Goodman and Sons size 44 six button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #49 pitcher Charlie Hough. Buttons are the solid gray 2-hole style with embossment "World Win" used by Goodman seemingly in only 1980 (evidence from our exemplar library. It is possible that these were used in adjacent years, but we have no examples to prove this.) Size 44 is a reasonable size for Hough to have worn. 1" Bands of white/Royal blue/white knit trim are sewn on top of each sleeve end. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in two colors, royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill, as is correct) outlined with a wide border white tackle twill. On the back, player number 49 and "HOUGH" name on back arched above, direct sewn, also in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill and in the proper Goodman fonts with characteristic wide white outlines. Red tackle twill 49 on the front left chest. While there are no sleeve patches, there is ghost evidence of the removal of a round patch from the left sleeve that was probably the 1980 All-Star Game patch.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Typical of Dodgers jerseys of this period there is no team or set tagging on player jerseys. Goodman was not licensed to sell authentic jerseys to the public, and all that they made were used to supply the team. There are some irregularities with the neck tag: It appears the neck tag was replaced. 1980 Dodgers jersey had a unique one year (slightly larger) Goodman/Mizuno tag with small flag tabs underneath, and stitching evidence seems to show that this tag had been there and was removed. Instead, a white rectangular Goodman and Sons tag correct for 1977-1979 is stitched in the center of the back collar. There is some wear to the tag (more than the wear to the jersey it is attached to) and a small split in it near the bottom third at center. This neck tag was stitched there after the placket was sewn closed, so the stitching is visible from the outside back of the jersey. This is not typical of how tags were stitched at the shop. Original tags were sewn before the placket was sewn closed, so the attaching stitching is therefore normally invisible. My conclusion is the original tag was replaced with this one for some unknown reason. Finally, a small washing instructions tag is stitched into the inside placket near the bottom of the front tail. Extraneously, on the reverse of this tag is a small hologram sticker from an unknown source, it reads "100% Authentic Inc. 9424".

Wear & Repairs: Hough was traded away midway in the 1980 season after only 19 appearances. This jersey is in excellent condition and shows signs of light use and washing with softening of the fabric. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration, aside from the notation about the neck tag and removal of a sleeve patch. Goodman jerseys are very heavy and extremely durable and well constructed.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent lightly used condition, Aside from the contrivance to the neck tag explained above and missing sleeve patch, it is all original and properly lettered. It displays appropriate use. Despite the inconsistency, it is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Charlie Hough of the 1980 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Scioscia 1985-1986 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0613J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, WA Goodman and Sons size 44 six button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #14 Mike Scioscia Buttons are the gray pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. Size 44 is reasonable for Scioscia, who wore this size early his career before switching to size 46 by 1988. A 1" band of white/Royal blue/white knit trim is sewn on top of each sleeve end. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in two colors, royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill, as is correct) outlined with white tackle twill. Characteristic of Goodman jerseys, the wide white outlines appear hand trimmed rather than precisely die cut. The dark Royal Blue lettering is stitched with Navy Blue (original color) thread to the team's specifications. On the back, player number 14 and "SCIOSCIA" name on back arched above, direct sewn, also in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill and in the proper Goodman fonts with wide slightly irregular hand-cut white outlines. Red 14 on the front left chest.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The white rectangular Goodman and Sons tag correct for use in 1985-1986 is stitched in the center of the back collar. Because it was properly stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, the stitching is invisible from the outside back of the jersey. Typical of Dodgers jerseys of the early and mid-1980s there is no team or set tagging on player jerseys. While surely a few samples were made for family and friends, Goodman was not licensed to market authentic jerseys to the public; the ones that they made were used to supply the team.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in good to very good condition yet shows good signs of repeated use and washing with softening of the fabric, fading of the sleeve end trim, and detergent fading of the thread holding all the lettering in place. There are a few dirt marks and scuffs on the jersey. There is notable puckering of the jersey fabric beneath the back numbers reflecting repeated washings in hot water and the uneven rate of shrinkage between the two types of fabrics. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good to very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging and its original sleeve patch. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by catcher Mike Scioscia of the 1985-1986 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bill Russell 1983 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 2, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0502J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, WA Goodman and Sons size 42 six button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #18 Bill Russell. Buttons are the gray pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. Size 42 is the correct size for Russell, who wore this size throughout his career. 1" Bands of white/Royal blue/white knit trim are sewn on top of each sleeve end. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in two colors, royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill, as is correct) outlined with white tackle twill. Characteristic of Goodman jerseys, the wide white outlines appear hand trimmed rather than precisely die cut. On the back, player number 18 and "RUSSELL" name on back arched above, direct sewn, also in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill and in the proper Goodman fonts with wide white outlines. Red 18 on the front left chest. 1983 Dodgers 25th Anniversary (1958-1983) in Los Angeles patch is stitched on the left sleeve.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The white rectangular Goodman and Sons tag correct for 1983 is stitched in the center of the back collar. Because it was properly stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, the stitching is invisible from the outside back of the jersey. Typical of Dodgers jerseys of the early 1980s there is no team or set tagging on player jerseys. In 1983, Goodman was not licensed to sell authentic jerseys to the public, and all that they made were used to supply the team.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition yet shows good signs of repeated use and washing with softening of the fabric, and detergent fading of the thread holding the lettering in place. The sleeve end trim is unusually bright on this example,. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging and its original sleeve patch. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bill Russell of the 1983 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Steve Sax 1983 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: August 23, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0821J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, WA Goodman and Sons, size 40 six button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #3, Steve Sax. Buttons are the gray pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. Sax wore size 40-42 jerseys throughout his early career, so this size is appropriate for him. 1" Bands of white/Royal blue/white knit trim are sewn on top of each sleeve end. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in two colors, royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill, as is correct) outlined with white tackle twill. Characteristic of Goodman jerseys, the wide white outlines are not precise and appear hand trimmed rather than precisely die cut. On the back, player number 3 and "S. SAX" name on back arched above, direct sewn, also in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill and in the proper Goodman fonts with wide white outlines. Red '3' on the front left chest. 1983 *Dodgers 25th Anniversary (1958-1983) in Los Angeles* patch is stitched on the left sleeve.

1983 was Steve Sax's second in the majors, and followed his standout 1982 NL Rookie of the Year-winning campaign. In 1983 Sax played in 155 games, batting .281with 175 hits.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The white rectangular Goodman and Sons tag correct for 1983 is stitched in the center of the back collar. Because it was properly stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, the stitching is invisible from the outside back of the jersey. Typical of Dodgers jerseys of the early 1980s there is no team or set tagging on player jerseys. In 1983, Goodman was not licensed to sell authentic jerseys to the public, and all that they made were used to supply the team.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition yet shows good signs of repeated use and washing with softening of the fabric, and bleach-fading of the thread holding the lettering in place. The sleeve end trim shows mild fading typical of these jerseys. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper tagging and its original sleeve patch. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Steve Sax of the 1983 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Orel Hershiser Los Angeles Dodgers 1992 Game Worn Autographed Jersey

Examination Date: May 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0501J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1992 Los Angeles Dodgers #55 Orel Hershiser six button white full weight knit jersey. Size 46 without special tailoring, as is correct for the player. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in dark royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill, as appropriate). On the back, player number and "HERSHISER" name on back arched above, direct sewn, in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill. Red 55 on the front left chest, notably placed lower and further to the center of the jersey than typical for Dodgers jerseys, but notably just like all other Hershiser examples in our archives. The Dodger Stadium 30th Anniversary 1962-1992 patch is stitched to the left sleeve. The jersey is autographed on the right front in blue Sharpie; I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: As is appropriate for 1992, there is no Rawlings sleeve logo. With Russell assuming the official MLB contract for 1992, no other manufacturer could display their mark on an MLB jersey. The red Rawlings locker tag in the correct style for 1992 is sewn centered on the inside of the back tail. Pinch-sewn under the right side of the Rawlings tag is a white flag tab, printed with Set 1 1992. All aspects of the jersey lettering and tagging including placement, match exemplars from our reference library for 1992 Dodgers game jerseys, and media photos of the player in 1992.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition and shows signs of wash and wear. It has some light surface and ground-in dirt staining on the front and the tails. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration. There are dirty wear-marks around the collar and small pulls evident on the fabric, the raised seams of the jersey are slightly dirt stained.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered, and has no contrivances. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits reasonable use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine issued to and worn by Orel Hershiser of the Los Angeles Dodgers during the 1992 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Piazza 1993 (tagged 1992) Los Angeles Dodgers Home Game Jersey, "Rookie of the Year" Season

Examination Date: May 16, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-05016J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1992-tagged Los Angeles Dodgers #31 Mike Piazza Rawlings six button white full weight white knit jersey. Size 46 with special tailoring noted and observed. (Tail is 33" long, typical is 32") "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in dark royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill as is correct). The lettering is all sewn on with blue thread that is darker than the lettering, a specific requirement of the Dodgers to their manufacturers, so that as the thread faded in the wash it would not be lighter than the lettering itself. On the back, player number and "PIAZZA" name on back arched above, direct sewn, in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill. Red 31 on the front left chest. While Piazza soon began wearing larger jerseys— he moved quickly to size 50 where he stayed for most of his career, his 1991-1992 minor league jerseys were 44s and other authenticated Dodgers jerseys of record from his pre-rookie season in 1992 were size 46.

Notably: In 1992 all season, the Dodgers wore a commemorative sleeve patch on the left sleeve- Dodger Stadium 35th Anniversary. This jersey does not have the patch nor is there any evidence of it having been there. There is, however scant evidence of the removal of a disk patch at the end of the left sleeve. In 1993 the Dodgers wore disk memorial patches at the end of both sleeves: #52 (for Tim Crews) on the left was worn all season, and #39/#53 on the right (for Roy Campanella and Don Drysdale) was added in early July. On this jersey there is no evidence of a patch having ever been on the right sleeve.

In 1993, Mike Piazza played in 112 games for the Dodgers, batting .346 with 32 home runs and was the 1993 Rookie of the Year in the National League. In his 16-year MLB career, he was a 12 time All-Star and 10 time Silver Slugger award winner. He was elected to the baseball Hall of Fame in 2016. (Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: No manufacturer sleeve tagging. 1992 was the first year that Russell owned the contract as official uniform supplier to MLB, and while teams were not obliged to change to Russell, those that used other makers had to wear jerseys with plain sleeves. The red Rawlings locker tag in the unique and correct 1992-1993 style is sewn centered on the inside of the back tail. Pinch-sewn under the right edge are two tags- a white rectangular satin tag with "1 Inch Extra Length" printed on it in blue, and a SET 2 1992 flag tab. All aspects of the jersey lettering, tagging and placement match exemplars from our reference library for 1992 (and 1993) Dodgers game jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in good condition and shows signs of repeated use and washing. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration, aside from the removal of the sleeve memorial patch. There are small pulls evident throughout on the fabric, and there is ground in reddish dirt on the front of the jersey as well as chest-area fabric pilling that is typical of the abrasion from a catcher's chest protector. The lettering is slightly puckered, edge-softened and mildly frayed indicating use. The third button from the top is missing.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered, and has Piazza's customary special tailoring. While it is tagged for 1992, the ghosts of the sleeve patches indicate that it could only have been used in 1993 between April and early July. In all regards it matches exemplars for team issued Dodgers player jerseys. It exhibits use and wash wear, and aside from the removal of the sleeve patch appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, while it is offered without provenance, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine, and was team issued and worn by Mike Piazza of the 1993 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Piazza 1995 Los Angeles Dodgers Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: May 15, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0515J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1995 Los Angeles Dodgers #31 Mike Piazza Russell six button white full weight gray road knit jersey. Size 50 without special tailoring noted *but tailoring is present*. Typically, Piazza game-worn Dodgers jerseys are marked with tags denoting his requests: 2" extra length, 1" extra sleeve length. This jersey measures 35" collar to tail; while standard length for Russell size 50 jerseys are usually 33 1/2". Its sleeves are standard 8 1/2" length. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in dark royal blue outlined with white, in Dodger-twill (not tackle twill as is correct for 1995). On the back, player number 31 and "PIAZZA" name on back arched above, direct sewn, in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill. Red 31 on the front left chest. There are no sleeve patches, correct for 1995. 1" blue/white trim sewn at the end of the sleeves. The lettering is all sewn on with blue thread that is darker than the lettering, a specific requirement of the Dodgers to their manufacturers, so that as the thread faded in the wash it would not be lighter than the lettering itself.

In 1995, Mike Piazza played in 112 games for the Dodgers, batting .346 with 32 home runs. In his 16-year MLB career, he was a 12 time All-Star and 10 time Silver Slugger award winner. He was the 1993 Rookie of the Year in the National League. He was elected to the baseball Hall of Fame in 2016. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "R" embroidered in blue onto the right sleeve end. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is sewn centered on the inside of the back tail, matching the location of exemplars. Directly above the Russell tag is a white rectangular mylar fabric tag with "95" computer printed on it. Pinched and sewn beneath the Russell tag is a single fabric flag tag: 100% polyester. All aspects of the jersey lettering and tagging including placement match exemplars from our reference library for 1995 Dodgers game jerseys. (I will note that my exemplar library has reliable examples of 1995 Dodgers jerseys with tags in this same style that say both "1995" and simply "95".) The tags show some wear and curling from hot water washing.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that this jersey is in very good condition and the stitching is all original and untampered with. The tagging is in the proper place for team-issued Dodgers jerseys. This jersey shows signs of light wear, mostly in the softening of the lettering edges and curling of the tags. There are some brown splatters on the top above the "g" in Dodgers, and the front right stomach area that could be from tobacco.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, and lettered. While it is not marked as such, it has Piazza's customary special extra-length tailoring. It matches exemplars for 1995 Dodgers player jerseys. It exhibits use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. While it is offered without provenance, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine, and was team issued and worn, made to the specifications of Mike Piazza of the 1995 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Raul Mondesi 1995 Dodgers Game Worn Road All-Star Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 21-0306J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, Russell size 48 six button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #43 Raul Mondesi. 1" Bands of knit sleeve end trim are sewn on top in white/royal blue/white. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in two colors, dark royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill) outlined with white tackle twill. On the back, player number 43 and "MONDESI" name on back arched above, direct sewn, also in two color blue Dodger twill over white tackle twill. Red 43 on the front left chest. 1995 All Star Game patch is stitched on the right sleeve. (Mondesi played in the 1995 All Star Game.) The jersey is autographed near its right side seam on the front. (I do not have an opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) Besides being an All-Star in 1995, Mondesi was NL Rookie of the Year in 1994 and was awarded a Gold Glove in 1995. Mondesi played in 139 games for the 1995 Dodgers, hitting .285 with 26 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "R" embroidered in blue onto the right sleeve end. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is sewn centered on the inside of the back tail. Pinched and sewn beneath the Russell tag is a fabric flag tags that reads 100% polyester. While many 1995 team issued jerseys had a white mylar tag with the simple designation "95" computer printed on it, not all examples had one. This jersey is without the year tag. While this is not intended to represent a photo match, notably, the player name on back has lettering unusually spaced very closely together, and video from the 1995 All-Star Game shows that the jersey Mondesi was wearing has the same distinctive very tightly spaced NOB lettering.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition yet shows good signs of repeated use and washing with softening of the fabric, a few pulls in the jersey fabric and loose threads in the stitching. The blue color on the knit sleeve trim is bleached from laundering, common on these Dodgers jerseys. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration. I would note that the All-Star sleeve patch is very crisp and bright white. It is my supposition that this is a jersey that Mondesi wore during the first half of the season that had the patch added to the sleeve and was worn in the All-Star Game. As the patch remains in place (it does not show signs of having been removed or replaced) we also might speculate he was issued a new jersey to wear for the second half of the season, without the patch.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Raul Mondesi of the 1995 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Sandy Koufax 1999 Los Angeles Dodgers Home (Coach's) Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**:

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1999 Los Angeles Dodgers #32 Sandy Koufax (coach's) Russell six button white full weight knit jersey. Size 48 with special tailoring, 2" extra length, "Dodgers" scripted with underline on front in two colors, dark royal blue tackle twill. On the back, player number and "KOUFAX" name on back arched above, direct sewn, also in two color dark Royal blue tackle twill over white tackle twill. Red 32 on the front left chest. Dodgers secondary logo 'LA" patch in blue/white/gray sewn t the right sleeve. 1999-only "Dodgers Heroes" patch sewn to the left sleeve. While Koufax himself was memorialized with one of this series of 23 patches, he chose catcher Roy Campanella for the patch on his own sleeve. Koufax has maintained a good relationship with the Dodgers appearing occasionally as a coach. (*Wikipedia: In 1999, The Sporting News placed Koufax at number 26 on its list of "Baseball's 100 Greatest Players". That same year, he was named as one of the 30 players on the Major League Baseball All-Century Team. Although he rarely makes public appearances, he went to Turner Field in Atlanta for the introduction ceremony before Game 2 of the 1999 World Series).*

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Russell "R" embroidered in blue onto the right sleeve end. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is sewn inside the front left tail; directly above the Russell tag is a white rectangular mylar fabric tag with "1999" matrix printed on it. The placement and style is correct for the 1999 Dodgers. Pinched and sewn beneath the Russell tag are two stacked fabric flag tags. From top to bottom, they read: 100% Polyester; 2" extra length. All aspects of the jersey lettering and tagging match exemplars from our reference library for 1996 Dodgers game jerseys. Its size and tailoring is reasonable for the then-64 year old former player.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition and shows signs of use and multiple washings. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits signs of use, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and issued to Sandy Koufax for use during the 1999 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Jim Leyritz #18 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn 2000 Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1013J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray size 46 6-button-front Los Angeles Dodgers road jersey of #18, infielder Jim Leyritz. "Los Angeles" scripted on front with underline in Dark Royal outlined with light gray and white. Blue soutache rings the placket and 1" from the sleeve ends. Royal blue buttons. Dodgers patch on the left sleeve in the same colors as the front wordmark. MLB silhouetted batter patch sewn to the back of the neck in blue/white/red.

Jim Leyritz (6' 0" 195 lbs) enjoyed an 11 year MLB career as an infielder and catcher with seven teams, from 1990-2000. He finished his career with the 2000 Dodgers where he appeared in 41 games as a spot starter and a pinch hitter, accumulating 155 at-bats hitting .209 with 2 home runs. In his whole career, he appeared in 903 games and compiled a .264 batting average, hitting 90 home runs.

Restoration Performed: The light table clearly reveals the former presence of Leyritz's name having been removed from the back. They matched the templates I have for the team's 2000-vintage lettering, and I reproduced them in the correct colors and stitched them in place precisely over the ghosts.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings circled "R" is embroidered into the end of the left sleeve in dark blue. The Authentic Collection label is stitched inside the left front tail, location matching team specifications. Nest to the Rawlings tag is a rectangle of knit fabric with the "X-2000" machine embroidered in blue into it, and then stitched to the jersey. This tag is representative of an "EXTRA" jersey prepared by Rawlings and supplied to the team at the season's start, probably with player numbers already pre-sewn on it, but without a player name. These extra jerseys were kept by the clubhouse staff to be prepared locally for players acquired mid season. In this case, Leyritz was traded from the Yankees to the Dodgers in June 2000, and surely this jersey was stitched for him from clubhouse stock when he arrived.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows wear commensurate with a season's use. Removing player names of departed personnel was common practice at that time to allow the jersey to be worn the follow season, or if needed in spring training.

Continued, overleaf

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Above, as received. The light table clearly shows the ghosts of the removed name on back, which was restored.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition. the front crest and the numbers front and back are all original, and the back is properly restored with name on back lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jim Leyritz of the 2000 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Clayton Kershaw 2008 Rookie Year Los Angeles Dodgers Home Jersey

Examination Date: October 24, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1024J01

This letter will serve as the opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2008 year tagged Los Angeles Dodgers Majestic Cool Base size 50 (marked and measured) six-button home white jersey of #22 Clayton Kershaw, consistent with the size he has worn throughout his career. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on the front in dark Royal Blue. Player number 22 on the front in the correct Dodgers font in red. On the back, in single-color dark Royal Blue, player name "KERSHAW" arched above number "22". Twill blue LA team patch sewn on the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in red, white and blue is stitched on the back of the neck. The 2008 team 50th Anniversary patch is sewn on the right sleeve. All fonts, colors and placement are the correct style for the 2008 Los Angeles Dodgers. This jersey is offered without provenance.

2008 was Kershaw's rookie year, in which he started 21 games and went 5-5 with a 4.26 ERA. As of this writing, his entire 15-year career has been with the Dodgers. To date, he has been selected to the All-Star team nine times and has won the NL Cy Young Award three times and was the 2014 NL MVP. In 2011, he won the pitching Triple Crown and the NL Cy Young Award, becoming the youngest pitcher to accomplish either of these feats since Dwight Gooden in 1985. (*Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic Authentic Collection, with the Majestic CoolBase style heat-applied tag as used in 2008 is on the outside left tail. Majestic M logo is embroidered to the end of the left sleeve, and close examination reveals the hidden ® debossment in its center. A Cool Base flag tab is sewn into the outer side seam. Inside the side seam is a white fabric flag tag with the code 0063 printed on it, the code that is used for jerseys made by Majestic to team specification for on-field use. Sewn beneath the Majestic locker tag is a rectangle of Mylar fabric with the printed inscription, "PROPERTY OF THE LOS ANGELES DODGERS 2008". This tag matches exemplars, and notably in 2008 there was no additional team tagging used by the Dodgers. While the MLB Authentication Program was in operation in that year, its use was spotty and hologrammed/registered items were restricted to notable events like the World Series.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. It also shows signs of multiple wash/wear. There are some dirt splatters on back below the numbers. The inside tag shows curling consistent with multiple launderings.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, and lettered, matching team issue. It is properly sized, consistent with known exemplars. It has no alterations of any kind and shows use. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine as issued to Clayton Kershaw of the 2008 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Yasiel Puig 2014 Los Angeles Dodgers Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 22, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J16

This letter will serve as the opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2014 Los Angeles Dodgers Majestic Cool Base size 50 six-button home white jersey of #66 Yasiel Puig. (The size is reasonable for Puig who wears both size 48 and 50 jerseys) "Dodgers" scripted with underline on the front in dark Royal Blue. Player number 66 on the front in the correct Dodgers font in red. On the back, in single-color dark Royal Blue, player name "PUIG" arched above number "66". Twill blue LA team patch sewn on then left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in red, white and blue is stitched to the back of the neck.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Majestic Authentic Collection, Majestic CoolBase style heat-applied tag as used in 2014 is on the outside left tail. A Cool Base flag tab is sewn into the outer side seam. Inside the side seam is a white fabric flag tag with the code 0630 printed on it, the code that is used for jerseys made by Majestic to team specification for on-field use. A Majestic team tag is pressed into the inside back of the neck, with QR code that reads: "#66 Puig 50 2014" also printed showing the size, 50. Scanning the code returns simply this text, and does not link it to any MLB database; there is neither a hologram nor registration number present indicating that this jersey been registered into the MLB Authentication Program.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. It also shows signs of light wash/wear.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered with one that would be team issued. It is consistent with known exemplars. It appears to have no alterations of any kind. It does not have any hologram registration showing that it was actually issued to or used by the player. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine 2014 team-issue specification and was created for potential use during the 2014 season.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Zack Greinke 2015 Los Angeles Dodgers Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 2, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0402J02

This letter will serve as the opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2015 Los Angeles Dodgers Majestic Cool Base size 48 six-button home white jersey of #21 pitcher Zack Greinke. The size matches other authenticated game worn same-period jerseys on file for the player. "Dodgers" scripted with underline on the front in dark Royal Blue. Player number 21 on the front in the correct Dodgers font in red. On the back, in single-color dark Royal Blue, player name "GREINKE" arched above number "21. Twill blue LA team patch sewn on then left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in red, white and blue is stitched to the back of the neck. The jersey is autographed on the back numeral 2. While I have no professional opinion on the autograph's authenticity, a JSA serialized sticker is applied to the same numeral, #Q24307. I will note that there are six unclipped threads of significant length (about 1/2" each) on the player name on back that would be noticeable should a photo match exercise ever be undertaken on this garment.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic Authentic Collection, CoolBase style heat-applied tag as used in 2015 is on the outside left tail. A Cool Base flag tab is sewn into the outer side seam. Inside the side seam is a white fabric flag tag with the code 0630 printed on it, the code that is used for jerseys made by Majestic to team specification for on-field use. A Majestic team tag is pressed onto the outer left front tail, with QR code that reads: "21 Greinke 48 2015". Scanning the code returns simply this text, and does not link it to any MLB database; there is neither a hologram nor serial number present indicating that this jersey been registered into the MLB Authentication Program. I will note that by 2015, the MLB game-used authentication program, while not universally used to tag every item, was used in most instances to mark game-used items. In 2015 the Dodgers, among most other clubs, made official team issued style jerseys available in the team store for fans to buy, sized and tailored specifically to the player they would have been issued to.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and unaltered. It also shows signs of light wash/wear, as the tags inside are curled. One would assume that the washing occurred before the autograph was applied.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged, lettered, and numbered with one that would be team issued. It is consistent with known exemplars. It appears to have no alterations of any kind. It does not have any hologram registration showing that it was actually issued to or used by the player. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine 2015 team-issue specification and was created for potential use during the 2015 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Greg Maddux 2008 Final Season Los Angeles Dodgers Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: June 21, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0621J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2008 six-button gray Dodgers Majestic CoolBase size 46 road jersey. Dark blue soutache stitched 1/2" from the end of each sleeve. "Los Angeles" scripted in New York Blue across both front panels with underline. Size 46 is a reasonable size for Maddux to have worn in his final season; he wore size 46 jerseys in the final few years of his career. Player number 36 in red on the left front chest. 36 centered on the back; MADDUX is slightly arched above, both in New York Blue. Interlocked "LA" team logo is sewn in the same blue twill to the right sleeve. Though the MLB hologram/authentication system was in place at that time, this jersey carries no hologram or serial number. This is not unusual, as it seems that mostly only special-event jerseys were being regularly authenticated at that point in time, while some players had their own private arrangements to have a third-party authenticate their game-worn gear. The Dodgers' 50th Anniversary in Los Angeles patch is stitched to the right sleeve.

Maddux enjoyed a spectacular 23-season Hall of Fame career, mostly with the Cubs and Braves. Maddux is the only pitcher in MLB history to win at least 15 games for 17 straight seasons. In addition, he holds the record for most Gold Gloves with eighteen. 2008 was his final season, where he appeared in only 7 games and went 2-4. On September 27, 2008 in his final start of the season, he won his 355th game, moving him ahead of Roger Clemens into 8th place in all-time wins.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic logo correct for 2008 is direct embroidered to the end of the left sleeve above the trim. Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is heat pressed to the outside bottom of the left front tail, noting the size as 46. Embroidered fabric MLB Silhouetted batter patch in red white and blue, stitched to the back of the neck. On the inside seam of the jersey is a white fabric tag with the code 0063 printed on it, the code assigned to jersey made to team specifications, vs. those destined for retail sale. The Dodgers' team tagging for 2008 consisted of a 1.5" x 2.5" mylar fabric tag stitched below the tail Majestic label, "Property of the Los Angeles Dodgers 2008". This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs of some wash and wear use. There are some loose threads and the tagging is curled/puckered and slightly faded.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and to be worn by Greg Maddux of the 2008 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Cody Bellinger 2017 Los Angeles Dodgers Fathers Day Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2017 six-button gray Flex Base size 46 Fathers Day-weekend road jersey. Light blue soutache stitched 1/2" from the end of each sleeve. Los Angeles scripted across both front panels with underline. Size 48 is a reasonable size for Bellinger to wear. All lettering on the jersey is in one color, Columbia Blue. Player number 30 on the left front chest and on the center of the back. BELLINGER is arched above. Interlocked "LA" team logo is sewn in Columbia Blue twill to the right sleeve. Three color, blue/light blue/white small embroidered ribbon patch incorporating the MLB silhouetted batter for cancer awareness is stitched to the upper left front chest. There is a small MLB hologram tag JB384699 applied inside the tail, that links to a MLB.com authentication saying that this jersey was game worn by Bellinger. Jersey is autographed on both the front and back numbers "5". I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autographs. The jersey is accompanied by a 2021-dated Beckett letter of authenticity for the validity of the autographs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic logo correct for 2017 is direct embroidered to the end of the left sleeve above the trim. Majestic Flex Base locker tag is heat pressed to the outside bottom of the left front tail, noting the size as 46. Chromaflex MLB Silhouetted batter patch special for Fathers Day, in two shades of blue and white, stitched to the back of the neck. Majestic barcode team tag label is pressed to the bottom of the placket with a QR code, and the printed codes LDOF #35 BELLINGER 2017 48 1207. The inside seam tag has the maker's style code 0730 on it, which seems to be the code used for all of these style jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: These jerseys were worn for a single game, Sunday June 18, 2017. While most other teams wore these special jerseys on Saturday as well, the Dodgers were playing the Reds that weekend, and the Reds wore special jerseys commemorating the career of Pete Rose on 6/17, so the Dodgers wore their regular road uniforms on that Saturday. The jersey is dirty and heavily stained with reddish-brown dirt indicating that it is almost certainly unwashed.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Cody Bellinger of the 2017 Los Angeles Dodgers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Ron Cey 1981 Los Angeles Dodgers Game Worn Home Jersey, World Series MVP Year

Examination Date: April 29, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0429J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Descriptions: As received, home white, WA Goodman and Sons, size 42 six button full-weight knit Los Angeles Dodgers of #10, third baseman Ron Cey. Cey wore size 42 jerseys throughout his career. No trim, buttons are the small white pearl 2-hole style often used by Goodman. *"Dodgers"* scripted with underline on front in royal blue Dodger-twill (not tackle twill, as is correct) with large red "10" on the left chest below in tackle twill. On back in the Goodman fonts is the player number 10 also in blue Dodger twill, over white tackle twill outlining it. Characteristic of Goodman jerseys, the wide white outlines are not precise and appear hand trimmed rather than precisely die cut. The colorful *Los Angeles Bicentennial* logo patch used in only 1981 is stitched on the left sleeve, it appears original and does not seem to have been removed or replaced. This jersey is made of a special thicker material that is quilted on the inside with a fine diamond pattern, we have been told this was typical of Goodman jerseys made when they were expected to be worn in colder weather, such as in early season road games or a post-season series. The white rectangular Goodman and Sons tag correct for 1983 is placed in the center of the back collar. Because it was properly stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, the stitching is invisible from the outside back of the jersey. Goodman was not licensed to sell authentic jerseys to the public, and all that they made were used to supply the team.

Player Notes: Ron Cey is best known for his time as a third baseman with the Los Angeles Dodgers. Nicknamed "The Penguin" for his distinctive running style, Cey played in Major League Baseball from 1971 to 1987. He spent the majority of his career with the Dodgers (1971–1982), where he was a key part of the team's success in the 1970s and early '80s, including winning the World Series in 1981. Cey was a six-time All-Star and known for his power-hitting and clutch performances. He later played for the Chicago Cubs (1983–1986) and briefly for the Oakland Athletics in 1987 before retiring.

In the 1981 MLB season, Ron Cey played a pivotal role for the Los Angeles Dodgers during a year disrupted by a players' strike. Despite the shortened schedule, Cey appeared in 85 regular-season games, posting a .288 batting average with 13 home runs and 50 RBIs. Cey's season was marred by injury when he suffered a broken arm after being hit by a pitch from Tom Griffin of the San Francisco Giants on

Continued on next page

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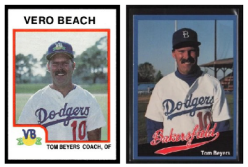
Top Row Left: Jersey as received. Right: Close up of the tail tagging showing the thread left behind from the detached heart tag line missing. Below, exemplars from our database showing tags from other 1981 Dodgers jerseys. Above center: Goodman tag in collar, Above left, enhanced light table image showing the ghosts of both CEY and BEYERS as well as the outlined stitching mark from an earlier nameplate. Bottom row from left. Close up of Dodger twill wordmark, center: Close up of Goodman's "cold weather" jersey fabric on this jersey in review as well as the backside of the tagging showing the stitching left behind from the year tag, at right the back of the jersey post repairs and cleaning but before the name on back was replaced.

Continued on next page



Tom Beyers as a coach in the Dodgers farm system after his playing years were through. While he is wearing #10, this is not to suggest that the jersey is wearing in these photos are the same one in our evaluation.

September 9, sidelining him until the postseason. Upon his return, he contributed significantly in the National League Championship Series against the Montreal Expos, including an RBI double in Game 1. In the World Series against the New York Yankees, Cey excelled, batting .350 with one home run and six RBIs over six games. His outstanding performance earned him co-MVP honors alongside teammates Pedro Guerrero and Steve Yeager. *(LA Dodger Talk, Wiktpedia, Baseball Almanac)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Goodman's usual manufacturer tag is stitched into the back of the neck, showing the size as 42. While Goodman did not usually team-tag Dodgers jerseys, 1981 jersey have unique tagging in the tail that identify them. Machine embroidered in a cursive font in blue onto a small rectangle of knit fabric was a set designation, Set A, B or C (we believe that A and B were regular season issues, while set C was a set made for use in the 1981 playoffs) Immediately to the left of the set tag was a small satin fabric square with "1981" printed on it in red. On this jersey, the satin square is missing but its outline marked by the shards of the original thread that once held it in place remain. Given the extreme wear to the rest of the jersey, I would say that the fact that this tag is missing is wholly understandable, as it most probably simply fell off after dozens of washings.

Wear And Repairs: This jersey shows major wear from excessive use, likely both from the minor leagues ands in spring training in years post-1981. Cey played for the Dodgers 1971-1982, and this jersey would generally have been used in by Cey in 1982 spring training, then stripped of its player name on back and sleeve patch and sent to the minor leagues for reissue. In 1982, the Dodgers had five minor league clubs, with four of them named "Dodgers", and reissue was the standard. Additionally, the ghost of the name BEYERS is visible on back. Minor leaguer Tom Beyers, who was approximately the same size as Ron Cey, was drafted in 1979 and active in the Dodgers minor league system through 1983, wore #10. This jersey was almost certainly reissued to him. As received, this jersey was very dirty from use and storage, and missing its name on back, the entire area above the back numbers was perforated with holes and showed the ghost of a removed long nameplate that had covered up that area.

Restoration Performed: The light table showed the clear glue outlines of the original name on back, "CEY". First we needed to stabilize the shredded fabric and repair the holes. Backing the weak area with a thin layer of dressmaker's interfacing, we used a darning stitch overtop to close up the holes in the same manner the team would have done back in the day. Once the area was stable, we aggressively cleaned the dried glue and ground in dirt, as best as possible. Using the original ghosts of the name on back, matched to our copy of the Dodgers' font template for that year we cut a new player name from blue Dodger twill and sewed it to a layer of white tackle twill. The sewn lettering was mildly distressed and slightly organically dyed to make it better match the other lettering on the jersey, then it was sewn in place exactly over the original ghosts.

Conclusion: All characteristics of this jersey allow me to conclude that it was worn by Ron Cey of the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1981. It is properly lettered, shows no contrivance or alteration and shows heavy use from subsequent reissue in the minor leagues. The name on back has been professionally and correctly restored.

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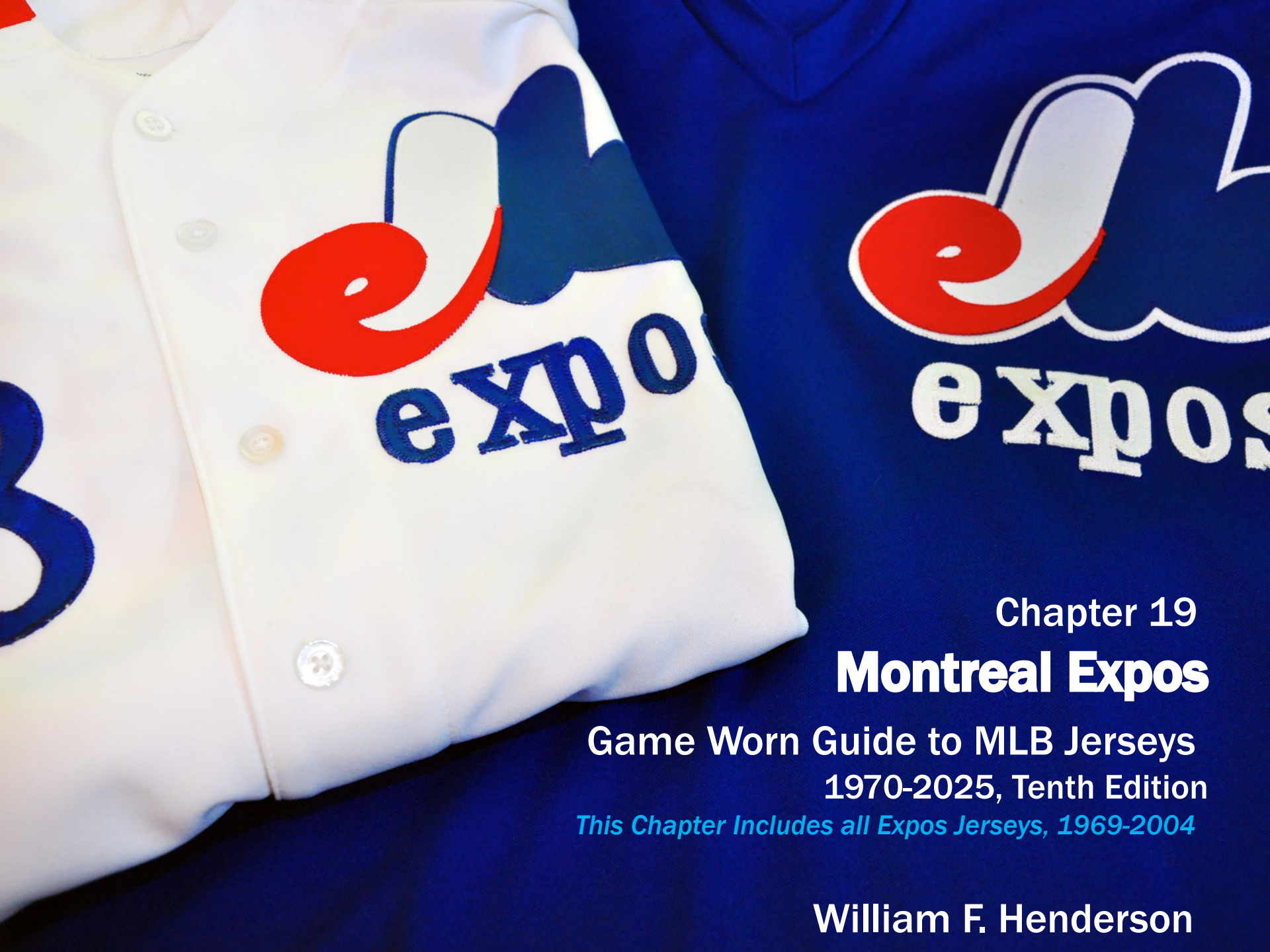

Chapter 19

Montreal Expos

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

This Chapter Includes all Expos Jerseys, 1969-2004

William F. Henderson

Expos Uniform History Notes

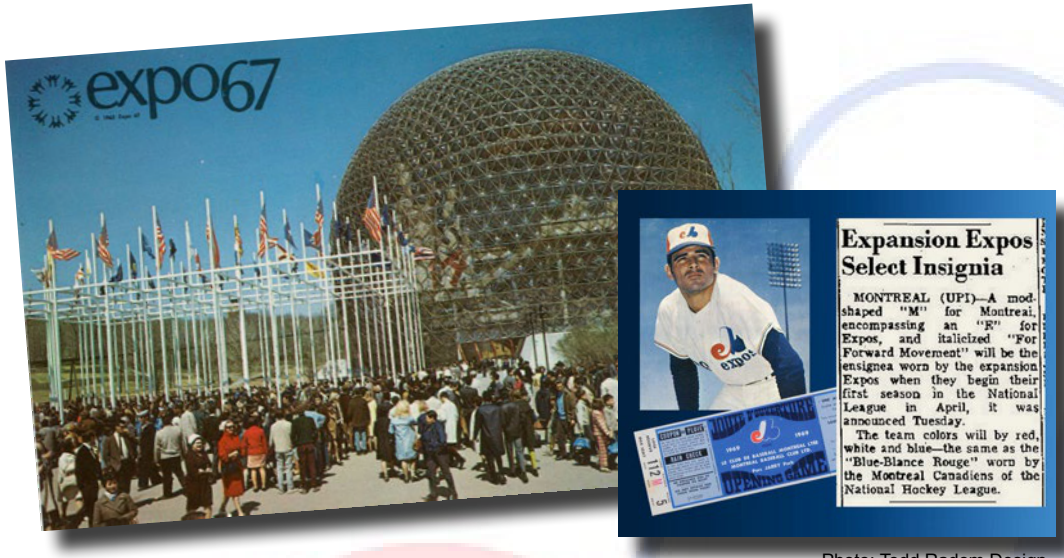

Photo: Todd Radom Design

- "Expo 67," the 1967 World's Fair in Montreal, was quite a big event in Canada. At the time, it must have seemed quite an exciting idea to name the new National League expansion team "Expos." Few today remember the team name's origin.
- The Expos strove for a modern, non-traditional look with their new uniforms. Instead of centering the team name on the jersey like most others did, they decided to put their logo—a stylized "M" in red, white, and blue—on the left chest. The Expos "M" logo contains the letters "E" and "B," standing for "Expos Baseball." Also added was the word "expos" below it in blue lowercase letters. Balancing the jersey, player numbers were placed on the right chest.t.
- Breaking with tradition, the Expos were the first team to use a stylized display font for their player numbers. For decades, teams had used some variation of Block, Varsity, or the McAuliffe/Red Sox font. Interestingly, in 1972—for a single year—the Oakland Athletics "borrowed" the Expos' number font for their own front numbers (while oddly leaving the jersey's back numbers in the old traditional Varsity style).
- The Expos switched from flannel to knit fabric in 1973—a year after most other teams make the change
- Regardless of the fabric change, the team continued to use the same basic, clean and simple uniform design for 23 consecutive years before changing to a script-front theme for 1992. They continued this look for 13 years, until the club moved to Washington, DC, and the Expos ceased to exist.
- 1980s Expos jerseys tend to run consistently smaller than other teams'—an Expos size 44 fits like most teams' size 42. Their players wore their uniforms skin tight during the '80s.
- Team tagging is very inconsistent from 1970–1993. Tags are sewn in different places, with different coding schemes and styles year to year. Team tagging was last done in 1993. Starting in 1994, there are no year/set tags. Nameplates were never used on MLB Expos jerseys.
- From 1973–1991, jerseys changed little, but number colors—and the color, style, and presence of player names—varied by year. Names on back arrived relatively late—in 1978. From 1992–2004, styles were very consistent—no real changes. Names and numbers were always in the colors of the Expos front logo.
- With the team's move to Washington to become the Nationals in 2005, the book closed on the Montreal Expos.

More than most teams, the Expos favored a skin-tight uniform look throughout the 1970s and '80s.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Expos Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1969	Home White Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	MLB Baseball 100 Years	-	Rawlings
	Road Blue Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	MLB Baseball 100 Years	-	Wilson
1970	Home White Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Blue Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1971	Home White Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Blue Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1972	Home White Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Blue Flannel	Expos Style 1 color	Expos Style 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1973	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	No	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	No	No	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	No	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	No	No	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	No	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	No	No	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	No	No	-	Olympics Patch	Wilson
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	No	No	-	Olympics Patch	Wilson
1977	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	No	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	No	No	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1979	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1980	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1981	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1982	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	All Star Game	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	All Star Game	-	Rawlings
1983	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1984	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1985	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1987	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Expos Style 1 color	Expos style 1 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Powder Blue	Expos Style 2 color	Expos style 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings

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Expos Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1992	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
1993	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos 25th Anniv	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos 25th Anniv	-	Russell
1994	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	MLB 125th Anniv/ French	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	MLB 125th Anniv/ French	Russell
1995	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
1996	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
1997	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	Jackie Robinson FRENCH	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	Jackie Robinson FRENCH	Russell
1998	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	30th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	30th Anniversary	Russell
1999	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
2000	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	#9 Richard Memorial**	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	#9 Richard Memorial**	Russell
2001	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
2002	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	-	Russell
2003	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	Puerto Rico Patch*	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	Puerto Rico Patch*	Russell
2004	Home White PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	Expos Disc	Puerto Rico Patch*	Russell
	Road Gray	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	No	Expos Disc	Puerto Rico Patch*	Russell

* Worn only in games played in San Juan, Puerto Rico
** After June 2, 2000

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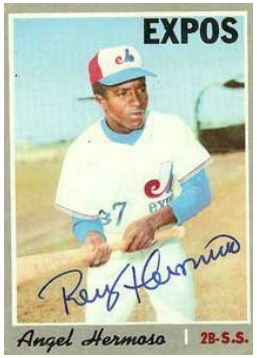
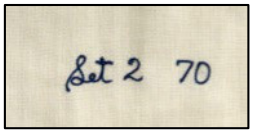
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1969-1972 Home

Richard Gorny collection





Newly born in 1969, the expansion National League Expos wore flannel uniforms for their first four years. Regardless of fabric type, these original uniforms were fresh and innovative in design, appearing more modern than other teams' traditional uniforms.

Thin red/white/blue sewn-on knit trim adorns the sleeve ends, and a stylized "M" in three-color twill appears on the left chest.

The Expos were the first team to use a highly stylized number font on both the front and back of their jerseys, breaking from the standard Block or Varsity styles used by nearly every other team in baseball—except, perhaps, the Cubs, whose number font was also somewhat unique.

While most MLB teams switched to knits for 1972, the Expos and a few other clubs—primarily those with lower budgets (or were staunch traditionalists, like the Yankees)—continued wearing flannels throughout the season.

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1969-1972 Road

1969

1970

1972

- Expos road jerseys for 1969 through 1972 were identical to their home uniforms, with the exception of the light blue flannel fabric. Only the White Sox had experimented with light blue road jerseys before 1969. Interestingly, the Seattle Pilots also introduced blue-gray road uniforms that year, and by 1970, the Phillies were using them as well.
- These featured single-color blue numbers on the back and right front—the first use in MLB of a non-traditional, ornate number font.

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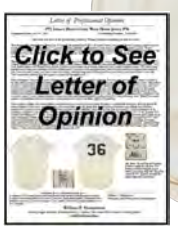
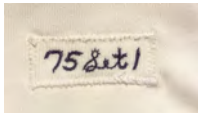
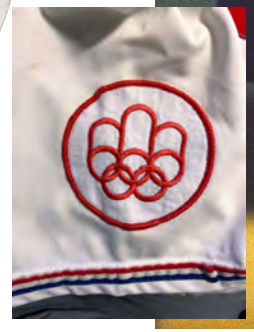
1973-1977 Home





1975–1976



Re-issued for 1976 with 1976 sleeve patch

1976

The plain white jersey body features very thin red/white/blue knit trim at the sleeve ends. Numbers on the front and back use the Expos custom font in one-color royal blue. No names appear on the back.

Just for fun, here is a rarely team-worn 1976 Expos pillbox hat for the National League's Centennial Season.

1974

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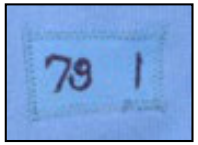
1973-1977 Road

1974

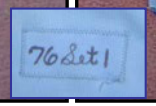
1973

1975



Thies powder blue knit jersey body features very narrow red/white/blue knit trim at the sleeve ends. Numbers on the front and back use the Expos custom font in two-color royal blue and white. No names on back.

1976



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1978-1979 Home

1978

The jersey is identical to the 1973–1977 version ***except*** the front numbers change to red. Names are added on the back in a Block font variant, royal blue in color. No nameplates used.

1979

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1978-1979 Road

1979

1978

The jersey is identical to the 1973–1977 version with two exceptions. Front numbers change to red, and names on the back are added in a Vertical Arch style—unlike the home jersey—with royal blue and white colors. No nameplates are used.

1978

1978

© GameWornGuides.com

Expos Jerseys Sent to the Minor Leagues

Below: *Vermont Expos hand-me-down, NOB covered with generic "EXPOS" plate*

Starting in 1978, the big club began using player names on the back. When the jerseys were passed down to the minors (Memphis or Vermont), instead of removing the MLB players' names letter by letter, the farm teams covered the names on back with a sewn-on nameplate bearing the minor league club's name. For this reason, many game-worn Expo road uniforms show a visible "ghost" of the original player name—an area that exhibits less fading from sun exposure than the surrounding fabric.

Some examples of this practice are pictured here.

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1980-1991 Home

These jerseys are identified by the addition of wide knit racing stripes sewn into the shoulders and sides. Because these stripes are sewn into the sides rather than sewn on top as trim, Expos jerseys of this style often feel a size tighter than marked.

Front numbers, back numbers, and name are all one-color royal blue. A Block NOB is used. Team tagging is inconsistent from year to year.

These new uniforms were designed and ready to be introduced in time for the 1979 playoffs—if the Expos had made it there. (Reference: *Brodie Snyder, The Year the Expos Almost Won the Pennant)*

© GameWornGuides.com

1980-1988 Road

1981

Same look, but updated for the 1980s with the addition of wide, sewn-in knit racing stripes on shoulders and sides. Front numbers, back numbers, and name all one-color red. Block NOB replaces earlier Vertical Arch names of 1978–1979. Custom Expos-font numbers continue.

1987

1982

© GameWornGuides.com

1989-1991 Road

1990

1991

These jerseys are nearly identical to the 1979–1988 style. They are identified by blue outlines on the Expos wordmark on the front, as well as on the player numbers and NOB. Back numbers, front numbers, and names are two-color red and royal blue. No nameplates are used. Some jerseys have team tags sewn in the front tail; others have tags in the back of the collar.

1991

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1992-2004 Home

1992

The Expos introduced their first team-look redesign since the franchise's founding in 1969. This included a new team script wordmark with an underline.

Two-color Varsity numbers in royal blue and red appear on the front and back. The name on the back uses a Varsity-style font often seen on NFL and NHL jerseys—but not in Major League Baseball—displayed in two colors: royal blue and red. No nameplates are used.

Team tagging of uniforms ended after 1993; no more set numbers or year tags were included thereafter.

1993

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1992-2004 Home, continued

Bill Henderson Collection

Jackie Robinson "Breaking Barriers" patch is in French, but only on the home jersey. Road jersey uses standard English language one.

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-2004 Road

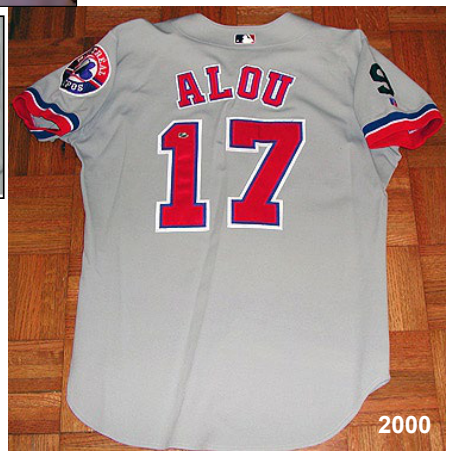
The road jerseys feature a new scripted city-name wordmark with an underline and a fleur-de-lis. Three-color Varsity numbers in red, royal blue, and white appear on the front and back. The name on the back uses a Varsity-style in the same three colors. No nameplates are used. Team tagging of uniforms ended after 1993; no more set numbers or year tags were included thereafter.

Bill Henderson Collection

1994

1996

2001-2003



2000

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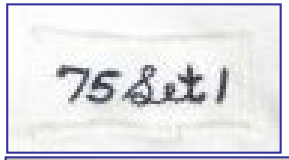
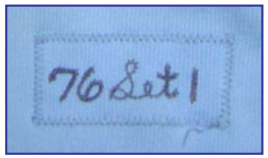
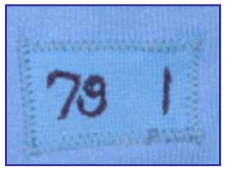
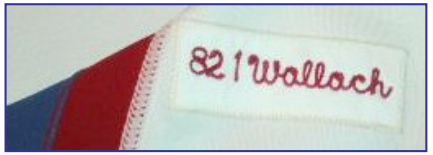
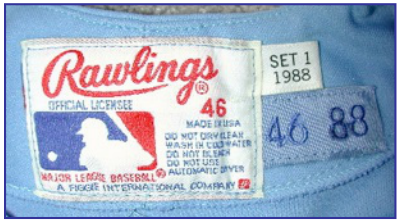
Expos Team Tagging Examples

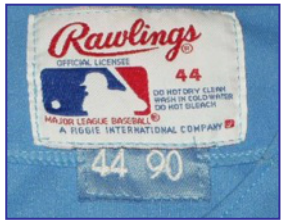


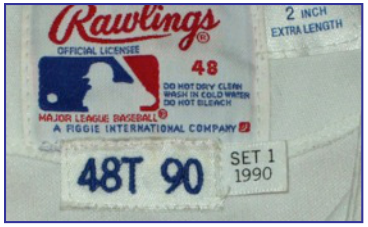












Expos year and set tagging changes frequently over the years and suddenly ceases after the 1993 season.

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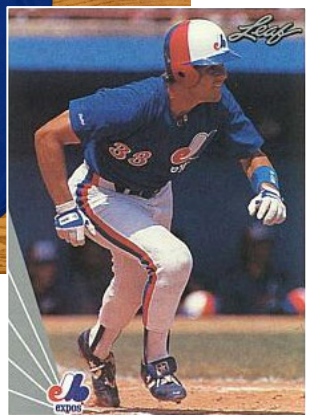
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1981-1991 Home Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

1989 Solid Fabric

These batting practice jerseys are made in mesh ***(bottom row)***, but also in non-mesh lightweight solid fabric, about half the weight of normal game jerseys ***(top row)***. 1981 is my estimate of the first year of use. Rawlings logo first appears on sleeve in 1987.

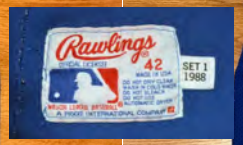


Player numbers are either on sleeve or front in 1987 and 1988. Both are seen these two years.

- 1981–1988, two-color numbers on back and on the left sleeve.
- 1989–1991, numbers move from sleeve to right chest. No names used on back.

Bill Henderson Collection

1988 Mesh Fabric



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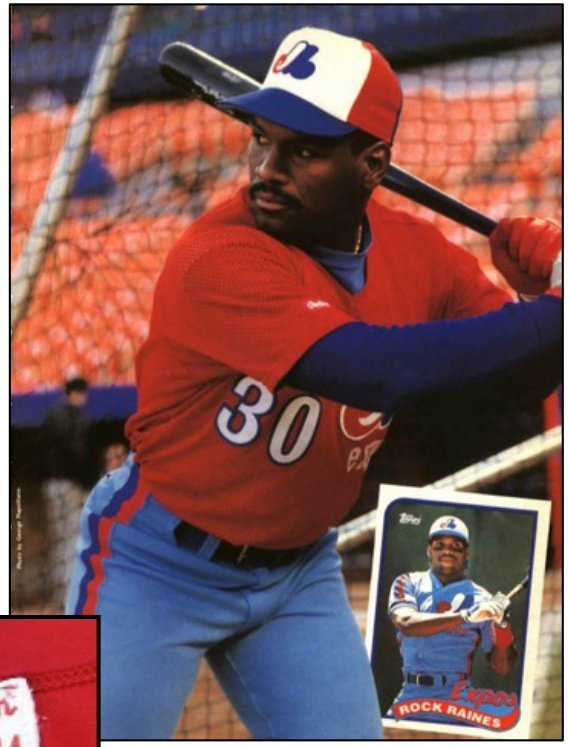
1981-1991 Road Batting Practice

1988-1991
Mesh Fabric

Bill Henderson Collection



1988 Solid
Fabric

Two types are used, both mesh and lightweight solid red fabric.

Player numbers are interchangeably either on sleeve or front in 1987 and 1988. Both are seen in these two years.

- 1981–1988, two-color numbers on back and on left sleeve.
- 1987–1991, two-color numbers on front and back white/royal blue. No names used on back.

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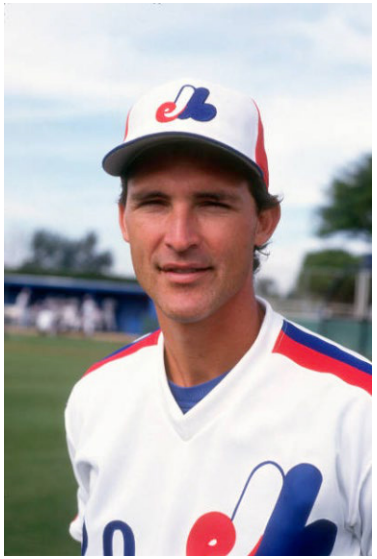
1989-1991 Spring Training



These photos show players in Spring Training during 1990 and 1991 wearing solid-fabric white V-neck jerseys with sewn-in red and blue knit trim. The Rawlings script is stitched into the right sleeve trim. Numbers appear on both the front and back in royal blue; no player names are used.

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Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

I do not have a confirmed date of use for this style, but these zip-neck jerseys were mostly provided by Majestic to every club. It was up to each club whether or not to use them. Roman Sport made some as well; the top example here is made by Starter.

The owner of the top row jersey claims it belonged to Expos manager Buck Rodgers, who managed the club from 1985–1991. It appears to lack a number on the back. Many teams treated this style of batting practice jersey more like a warm-up jacket and did not number them for players.

Starter held the contract to make official team jackets in the late 1990s. Sometimes, rules about brand exclusivity established in U.S. contracts are interpreted differently in Canada. It is possible Starter held the MLB contract there (speculative), as we have found a Cubs Starter zip-neck BP jersey with Diamond Collection tagging.

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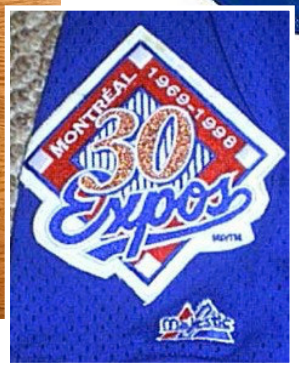
1992-1997 Batting Practice/1998-2002 Home Batting Practice

1998



Mesh fabric with red/white/blue knit sleeve trim. The collar is plain, without trim, and the jersey has a button front.

This style was worn both at home and on the road from 1992 to 1997, then at home only from 1998 to 2002. It features two-color Varsity numbers in red and white on the front and back. Player names were not used on batting practice jerseys from 1993 to 2000. The Expos generally sew their memorial patches on both batting practice and game jerseys.

These jerseys were worn as game jerseys on July 4, 2002.

2001

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1998-2002 Road Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

This style is seldom seen because it was not offered for retail sale; if you have one, it was most likely a team-issued jersey.

It has a button front and is identical in construction to the home batting practice jersey, featuring the road script “Montreal” and fleur-de-lis on the front.

From 1992 to 2004, the Expos generally sew commemorative patches on all batting practice jerseys as well as their game jerseys.

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2003-2004 Batting Practice

These jerseys are made of softer, non-mesh early Cool Base-type fabric. They are identified by red piping on the shoulders and breathable underarm panels.

They feature two-color Varsity names and numbers in red and white on the front and back, with wide white outlines.

The fabric used to make these jerseys was not well suited to hard wear; it was easily pulled, faded in the sun, and was not resistant to bleach.

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Special Events Jerseys

2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1972

Original Expos mascot Souki meets then-current mascot Youppi
(Ed Wolfstein Photos, www.edpix.com)

The Expos played the Phillies at home in this May 26, 2002, contest on "70s Day." Uniforms were wool flannel made by Mitchell & Ness. Recall that the Expos were among the last teams to switch to double-knits, playing in flannels from 1969–1972. The Phillies wore their regular uniforms that day.

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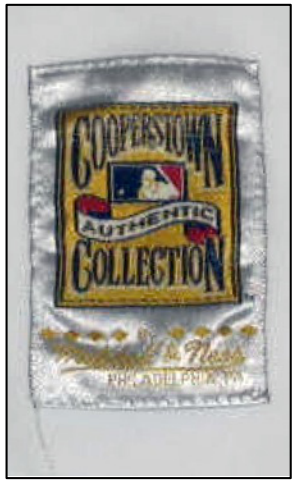
2002 Turn Back the Clock to the 1980s



For their second Turn Back the Clock game of 2002, on September 15, the Expos invited the Mets to Montreal. It was 1980s day, and former Expos players of that decade were honored before the game.

These uniforms were made by Mitchell & Ness; the Expos used Mitchell & Ness as the maker for all other such home games.

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2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

Friday, August 22, 2003, was Turn Back the Clock day to 1969 in San Diego. Both the Padres and Expos dressed in throwbacks to the 1969 season, which was the first season for both National League expansion clubs.

Oddly, the uniforms made by Russell are gray rather than light blue. We do not believe that the MLB Expos ever wore gray road jerseys. While a few have appeared at auction over the years, none of our Expos experts or former players recall ever being issued gray jerseys, even for Spring Training in 1969, as we originally suspected.

The Expos' regular-season light blue 1969 uniforms are shown at leftt. The 1960s White Sox and the 1969 Expos and Seattle Pilots were the first to substitute light blue for the traditional road grays during the era.

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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1971

The July 9, 2004 “home” game was played in San Juan, Puerto Rico (although the tag says July 11, the game was actually played on July 9). The Expos wore double-knit copies of their 1971 home uniforms made by Mitchell & Ness.

They are very accurate in every detail except the fit, as almost no one wore baggy uniforms in 1971.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1969 Prototype/Sample Road

- This uniform is either a prototype for or a sample of the new-for-1969 Montreal Expos. It appears identical in every way to the production version of the Expos' 1969–1972 road uniform (game-worn version for comparison, ***inset at right***).
- Notice the printed detail on a white twill tag sewn inside the back of the shirt just below the collar, typical of Wilson prototype or pre-production samples. The tag lists the production specifications of the completed garment.

Left: *The 1969–1972 jersey as introduced and used on the field is identical to the sample above.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1969-1972 Road Gray (Minor League?)

In prior editions, these jerseys were identified as 1969 Spring Training jerseys, but we no longer believe that is true. All are made by Wilson. These lack the red/white/blue braid trim on the sleeve ends and around the neck that would adorn the regular-season jerseys for 1969. The one at left is the only example I have seen so far with a front number.

In queries posed to surviving members of the original 1969 squad, as well as Expos collectors, none remembered these gray uniforms. These may have instead been minor league issues from the start.

Perry Giannias collection

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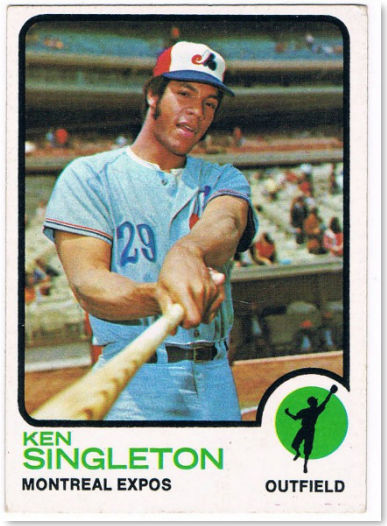
1972 Team Tagged Knit Jersey — Mystery Solved

This jersey photo was submitted by a regular contributor to our pages prior to the publication of the 8th edition of this guide. Odd as the Expos did not wear knits until 1973, yet this showed what looked like a full season of wear. The mystery was solved by a note from reader Matt Malinoski. Thank you, Matt!



Cedar Rapids Gazette July 8th 1972. (Describing the allergic reaction Expos Ken Singleton had to wool flannel.) *"The outfielder began carrying a notebook around with him everywhere he went to record what foods he ate. No luck. Four hours after the uniform went on, he broke out again. Finally, the obvious answer came—it must be the uniform. Last Sunday he sat for four hours in the Expos' clubhouse wearing the new-style double knit uniform, a sample the Expos had made before deciding whether they might switch. He wore it, and didn't break out this time."*

"However, he can't wear it in a game because the pants do not fit. He is not even supposed to wear it because league rule dictate that uniforms must all be the same. "I think an exception will be made here until we finally make a move to the new knits," says General Manager Jim Fanning. "The knits are more comfortable, harder to tear, easier to clean and cost almost half as much."

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1973 Prototype (or Homemade?)

Here's an interesting item that I can't say for *sure* is a prototype, but I suspect it is. It is a Wilson knit road jersey in the 1973–1979 style, but with a direct embroidered, chain-stitched wordmark on the front. Chain stitching usually looks classy and has been used by a few teams over the years, most notably the Cardinals, Phillies, and Astros. It's not easy to do, as it requires a special and expensive embroidery machine.

It is unlikely anyone would have attempted this "at home" in the pre-computer embroidery era, but anything is possible. The team "M" has an almost freehand, less-than-perfect feel about it. I suggest this might be a design proposal done by Wilson for the Expos, probably at their request, and perhaps for the 1973 season as the team was preparing to switch to knits.

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1973 Prototype/Sample Road

Listed for sale on an online auction site, this jersey was claimed to be game-worn, but its lack of wear and the tag inside the neck suggest otherwise. To us, this represents a Wilson sample or prototype from 1972 of the upcoming Expos 1973 knit jerseys. Numbers are treated with a white outline on this sample, just like the on-field 1973 jerseys to follow.

Note that the numbers on the back are sewn too high to have a player name properly sewn above them. Notice the sewn-in satin lining typical of Wilson-made pro model jerseys. Recall that while most teams had switched to knit jerseys by the 1972 season, the Expos lagged behind before they too made the switch.

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1980 Year-Tagged 1979 Jerseys

Bill Henderson Collection

In prior editions of this book, I noted that over the years I have come across multiple jerseys tagged 1980 that were in the style of jersey last worn in 1979. I wondered aloud why these would have existed, because in 1980 the team had switched to uniforms with wide racing-stripe trim. The answer appears to be that there were two new sets of uniforms created near the close of the 1979 season, anticipating use in the playoffs. They were tagged "1980" because in any case, they would have been used the next season as well. The Expos contended for the NL East title until the very last day of the season, when they were pushed out of contention by the Phillies.

Had the Expos not changed styles for the 1980 season, these probably would have gone completely unnoticed. And looking at this practice, we have found that this is not an isolated example: the Phillies apparently wore 1984 year-tagged uniforms in the 1983 postseason.

As was true with the rest of the 1979 uniforms, the road sets were made by Wilson and the home ones by Rawlings. Most likely, these uniforms were worn in 1980 Spring Training, then sent to the minors where the names on back were covered up by fabric plates (see earlier page), as evidenced by unfaded shadows where the plates had been sewn.

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

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1988 *"Equitable All-Star Dream Team"*

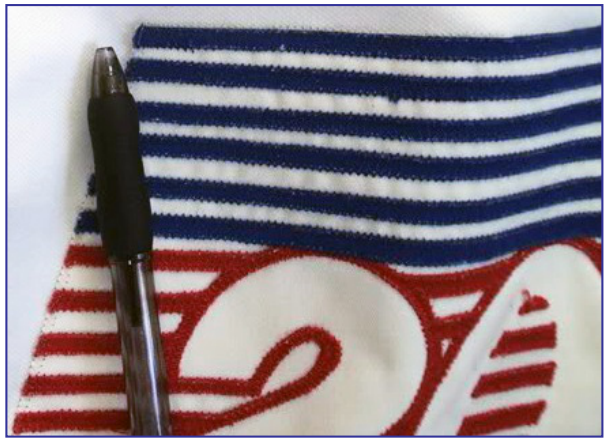
Barry Halper Collection

This jersey was used in an exhibition game that pitted the Expos' 20th Anniversary All-Star "Dream Team" against the Equitable Insurance Company-sponsored All-Stars on September 11, 1988. These were the jerseys of the Expos' Dream Team.

Made from a basic blank Expos jersey by Rawlings, the usual player number on the front is replaced by a "20 Ans-Years" logo (*Ans* is French for "Years")

It has a patch on the sleeve for Petro-Canada, a long-time Expos sponsor. An Expos collector writes that copies of this jersey were available for purchase through Petro-Canada gas stations in 1989. Notice the pro-style Rawlings tag inside the collar, which is where team-specific Expos jerseys of this era had their team tagging sewn.

Note the detail in the wordmark, which consists of a large white twill patch with individual stripes of red and blue sewn on.



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1988/1989 Prototype Road Jersey

For 1989, the Expos changed details on their road jersey by outlining the red numbers and the team name with a blue border. They were apparently considering other color combinations as well.

This jersey, tagged 1988 and probably leftover from that season's end, received the Expos team wordmark in white and player numbers and names in white outlined with red. This is almost surely a Rawlings prototype of a design suggestion for 1989 that was not used.

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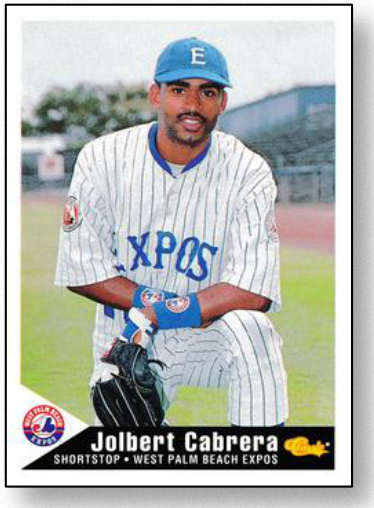
Revealed: Minor League Expos Turn Back the Clock Jersey



Since an earlier edition, we have learned the origin of this jersey. And while it turns out to be a minor league issue, we will include it here to provide closure for readers.

When the Turn Back the Clock trend began in the mid-1990s, some teams had precious little history of their own to call upon, yet did not want to be left out of the fun. The Texas Rangers were one team that asked Mitchell & Ness make "phantom" styles for them, representing how the team may have looked in decades before the team existed.

We have located the press release for the Palm Beach Expos of April 7, 1994 that says, *"The Expos… are also involved with the celebration of the City of West Palm Beach's 100th anniversary... In keeping with this historic season, the Expos' players and coaches will be outfitted in circa-1925 replica uniforms and caps"*

On the baseball cards at right, a Palm Beach 100th anniversary patch can be seen sewn to the right sleeve that is not present on the #7 jersey pictured above.

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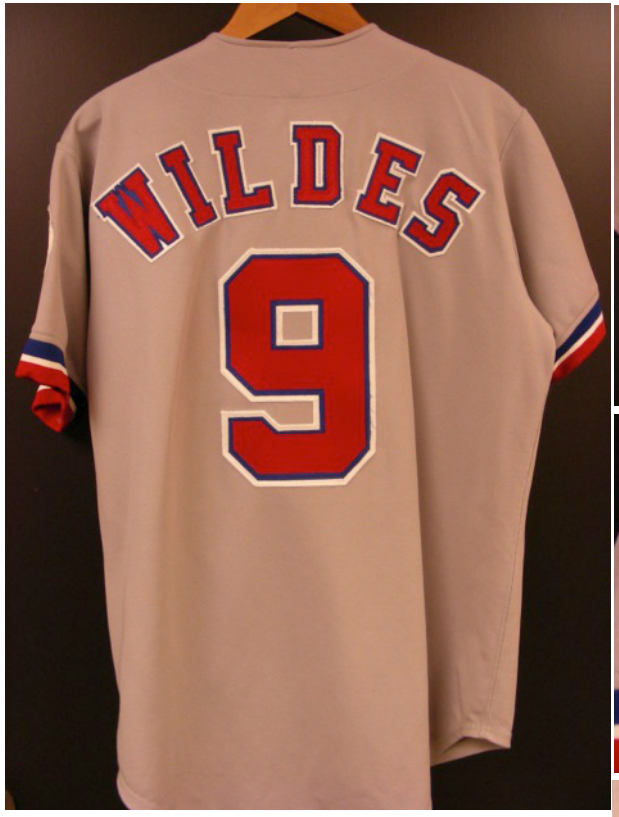
Interesting AIS-Made Movie Prop Jersey



I regularly come across jerseys that are sell-offs from movie studios, though the movies are rarely identified, and as a rule I don't include those jerseys in the Guide. But this Expos jersey in the 1992–2004 style is an interesting case. It is made by AIS, the preferred vendor to the Mets during the 1990s and the maker of many on-field Negro Leagues throwbacks in MLB. What makes this jersey interesting is the Russell logo sewn on the sleeve, which I assume was added for authenticity. The logo is a sew-on type—the kind used on Russell replica jerseys—and not the embroidered logo sewn directly on the sleeve, as seen on the on-field Diamond Collection. Nevertheless, it is an interesting touch. That NOB font looked suspect to me, especially the crunched-width "W," but I matched it to game-worn jerseys and it is indeed correct!

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Condensed Font for Name-on-Back

This photo shows that the Expos (1995–1998) needed to find a solution to fit infielder Mark Grudzielanek's long name on the back of his road jersey. The Expos NOB font was bulky, and for a three-color application of a long name, it appears they had to come up with a narrowed version of the font for this jersey. I've not seen another Expos player use this NOB style.

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Commemorative Patches

Expos Patches

1976

- 1976: Montreal Olympics patch
- 1982: All-Star Game *Partie D'Etoiles*
- 1993: 25th Anniversary, in place of regular left-sleeve logo patch
- 1994: French language version of MLB 125th Anniversary patch
- 1997: Expos-only French Jackie Robinson Patch
- 1998: 30th Anniversary, on right sleeve.
- 2000, after June 2: Memorial #9 for the Montreal Canadians' Maurice Richard. This is believed to be the first time a North American professional sports team has worn a commemorative patch for a player in another sport.
- 2003: Puerto Rico Patch, worn only for 22 games that were played in San Juan, Puerto Rico, something the Expos did in their final two seasons.
- 2004: Second Puerto Rico patch, for 22 games played there in 2004, otherwise same as 2003.

1976

1982

1993

1994—Special French version, home jerseys only

1997—Special French version, home jerseys only

1998

2000, after June 2

2003

2004

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Restoration

Larry Biittner 1975-1976 Montreal Expos Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: September 3, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0903J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White size 44 (both tagged and measured) Wilson-made road Montreal Expos jersey, restored to #17 as originally numbered. 1/2" Tri-color red/white/blue knit trim on each sleeve end. Montreal Tri-colored "M" logo/wordmark is stitched to the left chest. Player number on right chest and centered on back, no names on back used in 1975-1976. Jersey is lined inside the collar/placket with white linen for player comfort as was a characteristic of Wilson professional model jerseys. Larry Biittner , 6' 2" and 205 lbs had been issued #17 in 1975. The size was appropriate, and the Expos always seemed to wear their uniforms very tight in the 1970s-80s.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The small white rectangular Wilson manufacturer's tag noting the size as 44 is stitched inside the back of the collar with stitching invisible from the outside back of the collar, indication it was properly stitched there before the jersey placket was stitched closed. A small rectangle of jersey knit fabric is zig-zag stitched onto the lower left outside tail, "75 Set 1" is hand chain-stitched embroidered in blue and in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Wear and Repairs, Restoration: The jersey shows signs of heavy use, with fading and puckering of the front crest and its attaching thread. Even though the jersey is tagged for 1975, The red and white Olympics disc patch worn by the Expos during the 1976 season is stitched to the right sleeve, and it appears original. As received, the jersey showed heavy wear and was very dirty. It was renumbered to 36 and had been autographed on the center of the back in black assumedly by a minor league player or coach. The light table clearly revealed with ghosts that the numbers 17 had been on this jersey prior. I stripped the numbers and cleaned the autograph off, then aggressively laundered the jersey to try to return it to its original bright white. The process was successful, as the jersey as restored is quite clean and presentable.

The Expos were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Biittner wore #17 in 1975, and he began the season with the Expos in 1976 wearing the same number, though he was traded to the Cubs on May 17, 1976 after appearing in just 11 games. Given the

Continued, overleaf

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presence of the 1976 sleeve patch, It is possible that he was re-issued this jersey the next season as a backup. It is likely that this jersey was reissued after he was traded, a common practice when players joined the roster after the start of the season. There are two possibilities: As a part of the Biittner deal, the Cubs sent Andre Thornton to the Expos where he was assigned #17, and is listed as exactly the same height and weight as Biittner. Or, alternatively, it could have been renumbered to 36 (as received prior to restoration) and issued to pitcher Steve Dunning, also nearly the same size man, who joined the team and was assigned 36 in late May 1976. The jersey was washed many times with the 36 in place, given the visible puckering and staining of these faded numbers.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good, heavily-used condition, after restoration is properly lettered, sized and tagged to match exemplars and has an explainable player name and number change. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Larry Biittner of the 1975 Montreal Expos, and likely was reissued and worn by another player (either Thornton or Dunning) in 1976.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Jim Cox Montreal Expos 1974 Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 15, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1115J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made and team-tagged as 1974, size 40 seven-button Columbia Blue Montreal Expos jersey, matching original set of dark blue-gray buttons. Red/white/blue knit trim sewn at the ends of both sleeves. The placket is lined with blue satin for player comfort, typical of Wilson pro jerseys. Expos crest on the left chest in red, white and Royal Blue, player numbers in the team font on the right chest and centered on the back. No player names used in 1974.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Well worn Wilson tagging noting the size as 40 is sewn into the back of the neck in the proper style for 1974. On the outside front left tail is stitched a rectangle of jersey fabric, with "74 Set 1" hand chain stitched onto it in blue thread, matching the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Wear and Repairs/Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey was dirty and showed heavy use. It is faded, and was glue-stained around the numbers, showing signs of having been renumbered multiple times. It wore #50 as received, and a ghost of an earlier "50" was visible, misaligned with the current number placement. Larry Parrish wore that number in 1974, but at 6' 3" and 215 lbs, Parrish wore size 46-50 throughout his career. Removing the numbers revealed the faint impression of the outlines of the original number, 10. In 1974, that number was assigned all season to infielder Jim Cox, who at 5' 11" and 175 lbs could have worn this size jersey. The front Expos crest was puckered, discolored and shrunken with failing thread from dozens of washings. Its owner wanted all elements to match when restored, so we elected to replace the team crest along with the player numbers as a set. When the front crest was removed, the fabric beneath expanded a full half inch owing to the major puckering that had occurred from the shrunken twill sewn on top. I first cleaned the glue and staining as much as possible, then spot treated and laundered the jersey to brighten it. When re-sewn, all new elements were matched to the ghosts. The jersey body exhibits fading and some pilling of the fabric especially below the front numbers at the side seam. The ghosts of two sets of competing numbers 50 are still visible on the light table.

Second baseman Jim Cox appeared in 77 games, starting in 68 of them for the 1974 Expos, more than an any other season of his four year MLB career. In 239 at bats, He hit .220 with 2 home runs.

Continued, overleaf

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Al Oliver 1982 Montreal Expos Game Used Home Jersey, NL Batting Title Year

Examination Date: April 1, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0401J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White size 42 (both tagged and measured) Rawlings-made road Montreal Expos jersey of outfielder Al Oliver. Wide sewn-in red/blue knit stripes inset on both sides and on the tops of the sleeves. Montreal Tri-colored "M" logo/wordmark is stitched to the left chest. Player number "0" on right chest and centered on back, with his name "Oliver" arched above, all in the proper fonts colors and placement for the 1982 Expos. Oliver wore size 42 throughout his career.

Oliver had been traded to the Expos on March 31 1982, just a week before the start of the regular season, notably several weeks past the reasonable time that team's 1982 uniforms had been ordered from Rawlings. Not surprisingly then, this jersey was a hasty reissue, with 1981 tagging inside and showing evidence of having been issued to/worn by #18, outfielder Jerry White the prior season. White's name and number are clearly visible in silhouette on the light table. Quite likely, a new uniform was ordered for Oliver for use during the regular season, but as they were a frugal organization most likely this one was used all season as well.

(From Wikipedia) In 1982 with the Expos, Oliver hit a career-high .331 batting average to win the National League batting crown. He also led the NL in hits (204), doubles (43), extra bases (67), and total bases (317), and tied with Dale Murphy for the RBI lead with 109. His 43 doubles tied his 1980 career-high, and his 67 extra base hits was also a career-high as well as his 22 home runs, breaking his 1973 personal best. In addition to playing in his sixth All-Star game, he was third in the NL MVP voting and won his third consecutive Silver Slugger Award, this time as a first baseman. He was also the first baseman on The Sporting News' NL All-Star Team. He was voted the Montreal Expos Player of the Year at the end of the season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings red rectangular locker tag marking the size as 42 is stitched into the center of the inside back of the collar. Generally odd, but typical for 1981-issued Expos jerseys, The flag tab noting 1981 Set 1 is sewn separately inside the side of the shirt tail, rather than pinching it beneath the locker tag as is usually done.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of moderate to heavy use, with some graying of the fabric, numerous small pulls, fading of the front crest's attaching thread and the aforementioned name and number change.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good, heavily-used condition, is properly lettered, sized and tagged to match exemplars and has an explainable player name and number change. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Al Oliver of the 1982 Montreal Expos.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Gary Carter 1982 Montreal Expos Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: February 21, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0221J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia Blue six-button size 46 (both tagged and measured) road Montreal Expos jersey of Hall of Fame catcher Gary Carter. Carter wore both size 44 and 46 jerseys at this point in his career, I will note that Expos jerseys with their sewn-in side stripes almost always were tight, and players wearing them often opted for the next larger size. Wide sewn-in red/blue knit stripes inset on both sides and on the tops of the sleeves. Montreal tricolored "M" logo/wordmark is stitched at an angle on the left chest above the word "Expos" in red. Player number 8 sewn on right chest and centered on back, with his name "CARTER" arched above, all in the proper unique fonts for the 1982 Expos, in the correct colors and placement. In 1982, the Expos hosted the MLB All-Star Game, and all game jersey both home and road had the All-Star disk patch sewn on the left sleeve. The patch is missing but a clear imprint of its outline remains; these patches were routinely removed at the end of the season since these jerseys were re-used in the next year's spring training.

In 154 games played for the 1982 Montreal Expos, Carter hit .293 with 29 home runs. He was named an All-Star 11 times in his 19 year career, 1974-1992. In 2003, he was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. He was the first Hall of Famer whose plaque depicts the player as a member of the Montreal Expos. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings red rectangular locker tag correct for 1982 marking the size as 46 is stitched into the center of the inside back of the collar. The stitching holding the tag in place is not visible from the outside of the jersey, telling us that the tag was sewn there before the placket was sewn closed, as is correct for team issue. Generally odd, but typical for the 1981-1982 Expos, the flag tab noting 1982 Set 1 is sewn separately inside the side of the shirt tail, rather than pinching it beneath the locker tag as is usually done. The tag is faded and moderately worn. 1984 pre-dated Rawlings' logo being sewn on the sleeve; these sleeve ends are plain. Inside the right front tail is a 1x 2 3/4" piece of Columbia Blue twill with "82 1 Carter" hand chain stitched on it in red embroidery thread, in the familiar handwriting of the Rawlings factory stitcher. This tag matches exemplars.

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At left, on the left sleeve of the jersey in review, the clear stitching impression of the removed All-Star patch disk. Team jerseys were routinely recycled into spring training the following season, and the removal of year-specific patches was the standard. Below, Exemplars from my library of other 1982 Expos jerseys that are reasonably likely to be authentic. Early 1980s Expos jersey somewhat unusually featured the set/year tab sewn into a side seam or inside the front tail placket

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good, well-used condition, are properly lettered, sized and tagged to match exemplars and has no contrivances of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Gary Carter of the 1982 Montreal Expos.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andre Dawson 1981 Montreal Expos Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: April 1, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0401J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia Blue six-button size 46 (both tagged and measured) road Montreal Expos jersey of outfielder Andre Dawson. Wide sewn-in red/blue knit stripes inset on both sides and on the tops of the sleeves. Montreal tricolored "M" logo/ wordmark is stitched to the left chest. Player number 10 on right chest and centered on back, with his name "Dawson" arched above, all in the proper fonts colors and placement for the 1981 Expos. (Note that the name is clocked lower on one side than the other, a detail that will be useful if photo matching of this jersey is ever attempted.)

1981 was a career-year for Dawson, In 103 games for the Montreal Expos he batted .302, was elected to his first All-Star game, and won his second Gold Glove. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2010 and his number 10 was retired by the Montreal Expos. After winning the 1977 NL Rookie of the Year, he earned selection to eight All-Star teams, win eight Gold Glove Awards and was the NL MVP in 1987.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings red rectangular locker tag marking the size as 46 is stitched into the center of the inside back of the collar. Generally odd, but typical for the 1981 Expos, Unusual for other teams but typical for the 1981 Expos, The flag tab noting 1981 Set 1 is sewn separately inside the side of the shirt tail, rather than pinching it beneath the locker tag as is usually done.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of light use and wear, and is still bright and clean without any damage or loose stitching. A light table evaluation shows that all stitching is original and without contrivance.

Conclusion: This jersey is in good, lightly-used condition, are properly lettered, sized and tagged to match exemplars and has no contrivances of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jerseys made to team specifications and worn by Andre Dawson of the 1981 Montreal Expos.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jeff Fassero 1992 Montreal Expos Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: June 13, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23–0613J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Montreal Expos white with blue pinstripes home jersey #39, pitcher Jeff Fassero. Russell size 46, six-button, heavyweight double-knit. "Expos" across both front panels in Dark Royal Blue over red with underline, Player number 39 on the left front and on the back, direct-sewn name arched above in the correct font and colors for the team, also in the dark Royal blue/red. The round red/white/blue Expos disk team patch is stitched to the left sleeve. Fassero, at 6' 1" and 195 would have reasonably worn this size jersey.

1992 was the second year of Fassero's 16 year MLB career. That season he appeared in 70 games pitched a total of 85.2 innings, all in relief and went 8-7 with a 2.84 ERA.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "Authentic Collection" tag is stitched to the outer left front tail in the correct style used 1992-1993. Directly below the Russell tail tag is a rectangular swatch of white double knit fabric with "1992" screened in bright red Plastisol ink, matching exemplars. Pinch-sewn beneath the center of the tag is a fabric flag tab, 100% Polyester. The Russell "R" logo in red/blue is direct embroidered to the end of the left sleeve between the sleeve end trim and the team patch. Multiple hallmarks tell us that this is a team-issue style jersey, not one made for retail sale. The special tailoring, the "in between" size 46 not made for retail sale, and the size tag on the tail rather than in the neck are both notable.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements on this jersey are original and without contrivance. The jersey shows light wash/wear, as all lettering is still crisp and unwrinkled. There is some light staining around the tag area. There are no repairs to the jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition, is properly lettered, team tagged. and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey shows wear and was issued to Jeff Fassero of the 1992 Montreal Expos.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Hubie Brooks 1987 Montreal Expos Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: August 30, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0830J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia Blue six-button size 46 (both tagged and measured) road Montreal Expos jersey. At 36" in length, The jersey is tailored with 2" extra length though it is not tagged as such. Exemplars of other jerseys worn by Brooks are size 46 with 2"extra length marked. Wide sewn-in red/blue knit stripes inset on both sides and on the tops of the sleeves. Montreal tricolored "M" logo/wordmark is stitched at an angle on the left chest above the word "Expos" in red. Player number 7 sewn on right chest and centered on back, with his name "BROOKS" arched above, all in the proper unique fonts for the 1987 Expos, in the correct colors and placement.

Versatile infielder/outfielder Hubie Brooks enjoyed a 15 year MLB career, playing for six teams. In 1987, while he was injured for part of the season, he appeared in 112 games for the Expos hitting .263 with 14 home runs. He was selected to the All-Star team that year, for the second consecutive year, to represent the Expos. At the time of his retirement, Brooks was the active major league leader in games played without making it to the post season (1,645) *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings red rectangular locker tag correct for 1987 marking the size as 46 is stitched into the center of the inside back of the collar. To its right is a rectangular piece of red twill with **46T 87 1** machine embroidered on it (size 46 tapered, 1987, set 1) The stitching holding the tagging in place is not visible from the outside of the jersey, telling us that the tags were sewn there before the placket was sewn closed, as is correct for team issue. The Rawlings script is embroidered at the end of the right sleeve in white, this was the first year for this appearance. This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of light use and wear, and is still bright and clean without any damage or loose stitching. A light table evaluation shows that all stitching and elements are original and without contrivance.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good, lightly used condition, is properly lettered, and sized. It is tagged to match exemplars and has no contrivances of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Hubie Brooks of the 1987 Montreal Expos.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Brett Gideon 1990 Montreal Expos Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: February 26, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0226J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia Blue six-button size 46 with +1" length (both tagged and measured) six-button Montreal Expos road jersey. However, at 33" in length it does not display this extra length as marked, 33" is a standard length for a size 46 Rawlings jersey. Wide sewn-in red/blue knit stripes inset on both sides and on the tops of the sleeves. Montreal tricolored "M" logo/ wordmark is stitched at an angle on the left chest above the word "Expos" in red outlined with blue.

As received, this jersey had been previously changed by another fan/collector to (star player) #33 Larry Walker jersey, using slightly inaccurate fonts. It is not realistic to think that Walker, who played part of 1989 and the entire 1990 season for the Expos ever wore this jersey. Recognizing it as a team issued jersey for another player, its new owner wanted to restore it to its original appearance, and he stripped the replacement names and numbers. When I received it, the black light revealed that it had originally belonged to journeyman pitcher Brett Gideon, #26, who at 6'2" and 200 lbs would have fit in this jersey. Gideon had a brief career spanning three seasons and pitched only one inning in early April 1990 for the Expos where he gave up two hits and one run before being released, ending his MLB career. A 1987 single in his only at-bat left Gideon with a rare MLB career batting average of 1.000.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings white rectangular locker tag correct for 1990 marking the size as 46 is stitched into the center of the inside back of the collar. To its right is a rectangular piece of blue twill with **46 90** machine embroidered on it (size 46 tapered, 1990) , then a flag tab pinch-sewn under the twill that says SET 1 1990. Sewn above the twill tag is a white tag that reads 1 INCH EXTRA LENGTH. The stitching holding all this tagging in place is not visible from the outside of the jersey, telling us that the tags were sewn there before the placket was sewn closed, as is correct for team issue. The Rawlings script is embroidered at the end of the right sleeve in white, as is correct. This tagging matches exemplars.

Restoration performed: Using the light table images combined with the original team patterns, Gideon's name and number #26 was restored to the jersey using the proper fabrics, exactly over the ghosts of the original lettering.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of extremely light use as would be expected, and its appears it was not reissued to another player after Gideon briefly used it .It is bright and clean without any damage at all.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

2001-2003 Vladimir Guerrero Montreal Expos Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: February 8, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0208J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Montreal Expos Gray road style jersey #27, Hall of Fame player Vladimir Guerrero. Russell size 50, six-button, heavyweight double-knit, gray body with red/white/blue 1.5" sleeve end trim. "Montreal" across both front panels in red/dark Royal Blue/white script with underline, a small embroidered blue *fleur de lis* is stitched above the "e". Player number 27 on the left front and on the back, direct-sewn name arched above in the correct font and colors for the team, also in the same red/dark Royal blue/white. The round red/white/blue Expos disk team patch is stitched to the left sleeve.

This jersey was presented to me as a 2003 issue, but in reality there are no differences between 2001-2003 Expos road jerseys, and the team did not year or player tag jerseys, so without provenance, pinpointing the year of issue is unlikely. A star member of the Expos 1996-2003, his imminent departure from the team at his contract's end spurred great demand for his collectables from Montreal.

A 2018 inductee into baseball's Hall of Fame, Guerrero is one of just three Dominican-born players to be inducted into the Hall, joining former teammate Pedro Martinez and Giant Juan Marichal. He retired following the 2011 season with a .318 career batting average, 449 home runs, 1,496 RBI and 2,590 hits. He was named to nine All-Star Games, won eight Silver Slugger Awards and led his league in assists twice as an outfielder. (*Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "Authentic Collection" tag is stitched to the outer left front tail in the correct style used 2001-2003. Pinch-sewn beneath the center of the tag are two overlapping fabric flag tabs, the top one reads 50 100% Nylon, the one beneath says +2" Extra Length. The measurements match the tagging, and this tailoring matches other reliably authenticated Guerrero jerseys in our photo archives. The Russell "R" logo in red/blue is direct embroidered to the end of the left sleeve between the sleeve end trim and the team patch. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in red/white/blue, first used in 2001, is stitched to the center of the back of the neck. Multiple hallmarks tell us that this is a team-issue style jersey, not one made for retail sale. The special tailoring, the "in between" size 50 not made for retail sale, and the size tag on the tail rather than in the neck are all notable.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements on this jersey are original and without contrivance. The jersey does not show obvious signs of wash or wear, as all sewn elements as well as tags are still crisp and unwrinkled. There are no repairs to the jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition, is properly lettered, team tagged. and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was team issued made to the specifications of Vladimir Guerrero of the 2001-2003 Montreal Expos.

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Chapter 20

San Francisco Giants

Game-Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys 1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Giants Uniform History Notes

- Although the San Francisco Giants have updated their "look" several times, the team has maintained mostly traditional, similar uniforms through the decades—except for 1977–1982, when they adopted flashy, colorful pullovers for a six-year stretch. Even then, the logo script used on their jersey front is their long-standing alternate script, first introduced in New York in the late 1940s.
- The Giants "eased into" the double-knit era more slowly than most. They began the 1970 season wearing the same style flannels they had worn since 1958, their first year in San Francisco. In the middle of the 1972 season, they switched to identically styled double knits at home. Road uniforms remained flannel throughout 1972.
- The Giants used the 1973 changeover from flannels to knits to revise the colors on their uniforms. The 1973 uniforms are the same design as the 1972 flannels, except that the black and orange color scheme is reversed. The team also adds player names to jerseys for the first time. This style continues through the 1976 season.
- For 1977, the Giants finally follow the crowd and switch to pullover jerseys, including an orange road top replacing the gray. The home jersey wordmark becomes the stylized script "Giants" logo the team used in print since 1947. The orange road uniform is a one-year design with "San Francisco" vertically arched across the front; finding a surviving one today is a rarity.
- For 1978, the team adds a new black pullover as their primary road jersey and the orange jersey becomes an alternate, removing "San Francisco" from the front, as all three jerseys now use the same cursive "Giants" script angled on front.
- In 1981, the team adds a short-lived, one-year black mesh jersey, similar in design to the regular black road jersey, giving the players a more breathable option for hot weather games. Many of these jerseys have an odd, substandard Giants script and non-vertically arched names that are worn on the field at the same time with the standard black jerseys.
- 1983 sees a return to tradition, and the reintroduction of home whites and road grays with button-up fronts. "Giants" is arched on the front in newly stylized letters, and on the road jersey, an interlocking SF design is sewn on the left chest that mirrors the team's hat logo. Player names are vertical arch, and the numbers are in a classy font that is special to the Giants
- For the 1993 season, the front "Giants" lettering returns to almost the same look as the 1970 uniforms. The road grays again read "San Francisco," but in a less stylized font similar to the 1977 one-year design. Player names and numbers stay the same style as they had been since 1983. This style runs through 1999.
- For 2000, the Giants move to their new ballpark on the Bay, and reintroduce uniforms for home and road that are near copies of their ultra-traditional pre-1973 uniforms. Home uniforms are made from old-fashioned-appearing cream-colored knit, use a version of the Varsity number font, and omit player names. Road grays have player names on back. The player number font is a version of Varsity that is unique to the Giants.
- A black alternate home jersey is used in 2001 only, and a black alternate road jersey is used in 2001–2002 only. Seldom worn, the black jerseys nevertheless get much airtime: this is the year that Barry Bonds is chasing the single-season home run record, and he is seen
- An orange home alternate jersey is added for 2010, and updated in 2014. In 2012, a road alternate with the 1983–1992 interlocking SF is added. A black road alternate is added for 2015. Its back lettering is modified for visibility in 2017.
- Player names return to the back of home jerseys in 2021 for the first time since 1999, the team's final season at Candlestick Park.
- City Connect uniforms debut in 2021, featuring a white jersey (a rare base color for the series) with bright orange details meant to evoke San Francisco's iconic fog and the Golden Gate Bridge. The gradient "G" front logo and numbers appear to rise out of the mist in orange-to-white fades, while the sleeves display stylized bridge imagery. Despite the concept, fan and media reaction were generally negative.
- 2025 brings a City Connect 2.0 uniform that pays tribute to the city's psychedelic rock era and rich musical heritage. The black jersey features sublimated wave patterns representing sound vibrations, with a gradient "Giants" script in white/orange/black/violet across the chest. A glove-shaped sleeve patch and violet trim nod to the city's vibrant counterculture past, while player names appear in orange and numbers in black/orange. The uniform is seen as a more energized and cohesive follow-up to the team's earlier City Connect effort "miss."

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Giants Game Jerseys

1977 only

1977-1982

1978-1982

1978-1982

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	2 color Varsity variant	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe/Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	2 color Varsity variant	No	-	-	-	Rawlings/Wilson
1971	Home White Flannel	No	2 color Varsity variant	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe/Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	2 color Varsity variant	No	-	-	-	Rawlings/Wilson
1972	Home White Flannel	No	2 color Varsity variant	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe/Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	2 color Varsity variant	No	-	-	-	Rawlings/Wilson
1972	Home White Knit	No	2 color Varsity Variant	No	-	-	-	Wilson/McAuliffe
1973	Home White	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson/McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	No	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home White	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson/McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	No	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson/McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	Yes	-	NL Centennial	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Giants Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color*	Yes	-	NL Centennial	Wilson
1977	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Orange Road	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Block Variant 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Orange Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1979	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Orange Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1980	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Orange Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Orange Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home White	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	25 Years in SF	-	Wilson
	Orange Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	25 Years in SF	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color**	Yes	25 Years in SF	-	Wilson

See footnote detail on the next page

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Giants Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1983	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	Black armband midyear	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Wilson
1985	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1986	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1987	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	WS- Giamatti Armband	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	WS- Giamatti Armband	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
1993	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
1994	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	CSF Memorial	MLB 125th	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	CSF Memorial	MLB 125th	Russell/Rawlings*
1995	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
1996	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
1997	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	40 years in SF	-	Russell/Rawlings*
1998	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell/Rawlings*
1999	Home White	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	"Tell It GoodBye"	-	Russell/Rawlings*
	Road Gray	No	Giants Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	Yes	"Tell It GoodBye"	-	Russell/Rawlings*

Footnote detail refers to asterisks on the prior page

*The name font used on the Giants' 1973-76 uniforms looks much like (but is not identical to) the font I have named "Majestic Block," which I have illustrated later in this reference. While the Giants uniforms were made by Wilson and McAuliffe, they used two San Francisco area shops: *Fielders Choice* from 1975 until mid-1982 (using the shop's own version of fonts that included the Giants' unique numbers 1973-1976); and *McAdams* in Millbrae, CA from 1982 through 2005. Another characteristic of the Giants' player name lettering is that it sometimes uses different width lettering (wide, standard) depending on the length of the player name. This seems to have continued through 1977. In 1978, the Giants switched to a stylized and bolder variant of Vertical Arch -- again, used only by them.

** From 1977-1982, player names are generally Vertical Arch. Sources report that mid-season call-ups sometimes have the simpler, non-vertical arch names. However, many non-vertical arched names seen on surviving jerseys today are restorations; NOBs were typically stripped after the jersey left the parent MLB Giants to go to the minors.

The Giants sometimes recycled one of their two sets of uniforms for use the next year. We know that they recycled 1983 uniforms into 1984, because many 1983 jerseys exist with the 1984 All-Star patch sewn on the sleeve. They also did this in 1973, recycling a set of those uniforms into 1974.

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2000-2020

2000-2004

Used 2001 Only

2001-2002

2005-2011

2010-2013

2012-2020

2012-2019

2014-2020

2015-2016

All continue onward

Giants Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2000	Home Cream	No	7 1/2"Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Innaugural Year	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" varsity Variant 2 color	2 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Russell
2001	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 2 color	2 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Russell
	Black Home Alt	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Russell
	Black Road Alt	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Russell
2002	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 2 color	2 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Russell
	Black Road Alt	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Russell
2003	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	BB - Bobby Bonds Mem*	Russell
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 2 color	2 color block	Yes	SF Disc	BB - Bobby Bonds Mem*	Russell
2004	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 2 color	2 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Russell
2005	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 3 color	3 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Majestic
2006	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 3 color	3 color block	Yes	SF Disc	-	Majestic
2007	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc/ Beck 47(&)	2007 All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 3 color	3 color block	Yes	SF Disc/Beck 47(&)	2007 All Star Game	Majestic
2008	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	50 Years in SF	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 3 color	3 color block	Yes	SF Disc	50 Years in SF	Majestic
2009	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	Burns Memorial**	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 3 color	3 color block	Yes	SF Disc	Burns Memorial**	Majestic
2010	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 3 color	3 color block	No	SF Disc	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	SF Disc	-	Majestic
2011	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	2010 WS Champs	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	2010 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	SF Disc	2010 WS Champs	Majestic
2012	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	SF Disc	-	Majestic
2013	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	2012 WS Champs	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	2012 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	2012 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	SF Disc	2012 WS Champs	Majestic
2014	Home Cream	No	8.5" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange (new)	3 color	8.5" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Interlocking SF	-	Majestic
2015	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc/Gray/Lon patch***	2014 WS Champs	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray/Lon patch***	2014 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray/Lon patch***	2014 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	3 color	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc/Gray/Lon patch***	2014 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	8" Varsity Variant 2 color	No	-	Giants Disc/Gray/Lon patch***	2014 WS Champs	Majestic

*Worn after August 23, 2003. ** Worn after July 25, 2009. ***Starting April 13, 2015.
(&) Rod Beck patch starting June 29

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2000- 2025

2015-2016

Change to Flex Base

2012- 2025

2017-2025

2014- 2025

2012- 2019

Giants Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2016	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	Monte/Davvy patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	Monte/Davvy patch	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	Monte/Davvy patch	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	3 color	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Interlocking SF	Monte/Davvy patch	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	8" Varsity Variant 2 color	No	-	Giants Bridge Patch	Monte/Davvy patch	Majestic
2017	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	3 color	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Interlocking SF	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Bridge Patch	-	Majestic
2018	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	60th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	60th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	60th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	3 color	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Interlocking SF	60th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Bridge Patch	60th Anniversary	Majestic
2019	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary/Peter and Stretch 44 Memorials	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	MLB 150th Anniversary/Peter and Stretch 44 Memorials	Majestic
	Alternate Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	MLB 150th Anniversary/Peter and Stretch 44 Memorials	Majestic
	Alternate Orange	3 color	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Interlocking SF	MLB 150th Anniversary/Peter and Stretch 44 Memorials	Majestic
	Alternate Black	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Bridge Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary/Peter and Stretch 44 Memorials	Majestic
2020	Home Cream	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Disc	20 at 24 Anniversary	Nike
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2" Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	20 at 24 Anniversary	Nike
	Alternate Orange	3 color	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Interlocking SF	20 at 24 Anniversary	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	8" Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Giants Bridge Patch	20 at 24 Anniversary	Nike

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These four styles continue from previous years

Giants Game Jerseys

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home Cream	No	8” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Nike
	Alternate Orange	3 color	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Interlocking SF	-	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Bridge Patch	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color	2 color block	No	-	-	Nike
2022	Home Cream	No	8” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray	-	Nike
	Alternate Orange	3 color	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Interlocking SF	-	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Bridge Patch	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color	2 color block	No	-	-	Nike
2023	Home Cream	No	8” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Vida Blue** and Gaylord Perry Memorials‡	Cruise Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Road Gray	No	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc Gray/Vida Blue** and Gaylord Perry Memorials‡	Cruise Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alternate Orange	3 color	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Interlocking SF\Vida Blue** and Gaylord Perry Memorials‡	Cruise Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	7 1/2” Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Bridge Patch/Vida Blue** and Gaylord Perry Memorials‡	Cruise Ad patch‡*	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color	2 color block	No	Vida Blue** and Gaylord Perry Memorials‡	Cruise Ad patch‡*	Nike
2024	Home Cream	No	Varsity Variant 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Orlando Cepeda Memorial#/ Giants Disc‡	Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Varsity Variant 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Orlando Cepeda Memorial#/ Giants Disc Gray‡	Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Orange	3 color (perf)	Varsity Variant 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	IOrlando Cepeda Memorial#/ nterlocking SF‡	Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	Varsity Variant 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Orlando Cepeda Memorial#/ Giants Bridge Patch‡	Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	-	Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home Cream	No	Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc‡	Willie Mays Memorial (left chest)^/ Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Disc/Gray‡	Willie Mays Memorial (left chest)^/ Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Orange	3 color	Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Interlocking SF‡	Willie Mays Memorial (left chest)^/ Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Black	No	Varsity Variant 3 color	3 color block	No	Giants Bridge Patch‡	Willie Mays Memorial (left chest)^/ Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Custom 1 color	Custom 3 color	1 color block	No	Giants Glove‡	Chevrolet Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player
* Starting August 24, 2023
** Starting May 15, 2023
^Starting June 19, June 29, added a similar patch in memory of Orlando Cepeda worn above the team sleeve patch.
#Starting June 29

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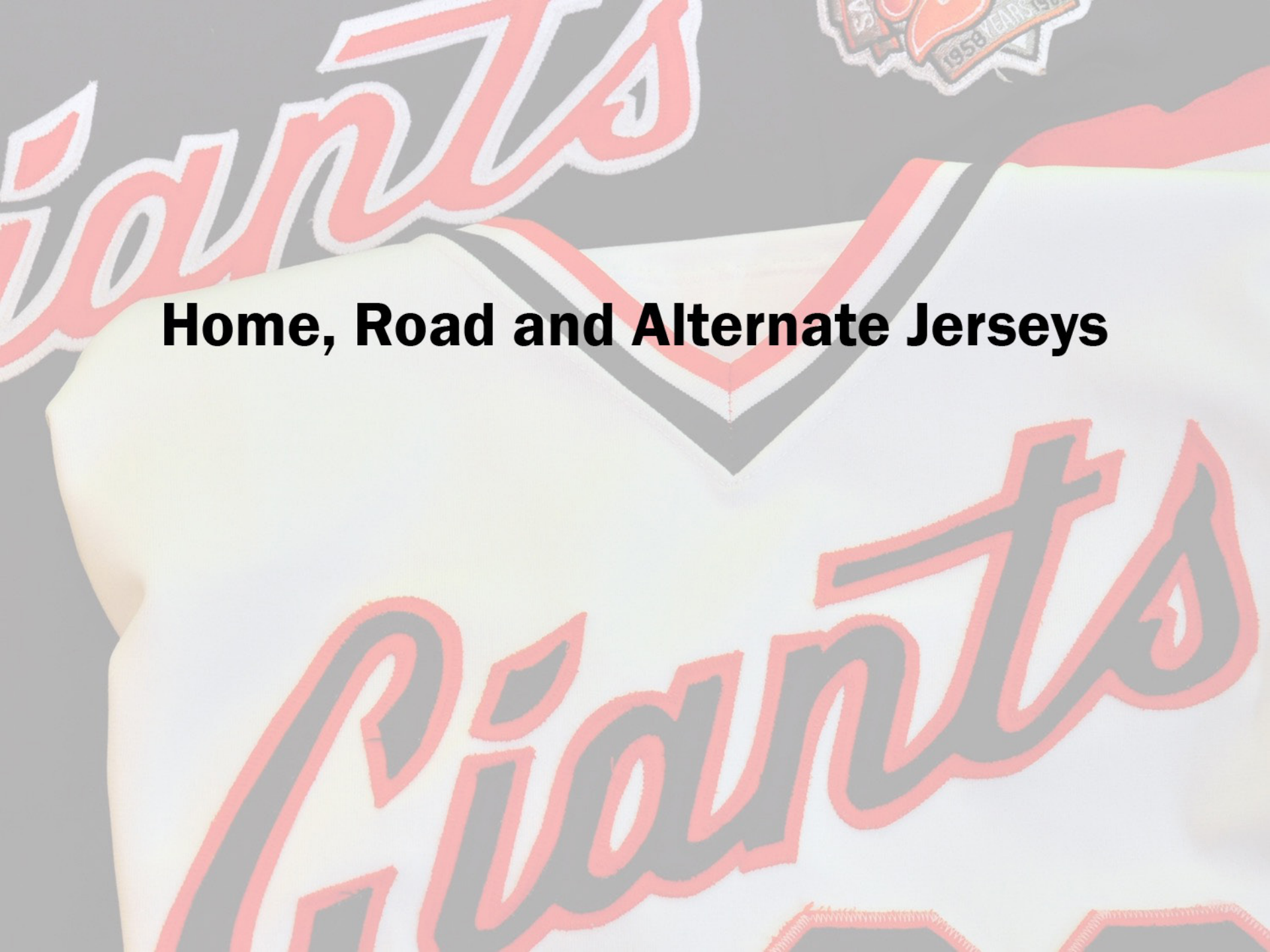
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys



1970-June 1972 Home

McAuliffe Jerseys

1970

1971

1971

1972

Giants home flannels in 1970–1972 were supplied by Wilson and McAuliffe. Each manufacturer had its own version of the team's front wordmark. Wilson's was lighter in stroke; McAuliffe's, bolder. Because the same basic uniform style had been used for years, it was quite likely that players would be seen on the field in a mix of Wilson and McAuliffe jerseys, with some wearing prior years' jerseys recycled for current-year use.

Lettering was a hybrid combination of black felt zig-zag stitched on top of a layer of orange tackle twill. This method was used by a few teams at the end of the flannel era.

Home flannels were used exclusively in 1970 and 1971, with a June 1972 switch to home knits. The home flannels were then relegated to use in Spring Training and passed down to the many Giants minor league clubs. Used uniforms, especially from common players, held little collector value in those days.

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1970-June 1972 Home, continued

Wilson Jerseys

1970

1971

1972

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1970-1972 Road

Giants road flannels in 1970–1972 were supplied by both Rawlings and Wilson. Each manufacturer had its own version of the team's front wordmark and back numbers. Rawlings' lettering was bolder; Wilson's, taller, and thinner. Just as with the home jerseys, it was quite likely that players would be seen on the field in a mix of both manufacturers' jerseys, with some wearing prior-year jerseys recycled for current-year use. Even the earlier Spalding jerseys were sometimes in the mix.

Road flannels were used exclusively from 1970 to 1972. The switch to road knits did not happen until the start of the 1973 season.

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June-Oct 1972 Home

- The Giants began the 1972 season wearing flannels at home and on the road. By the beginning of June, they had switched to double knits at home. The Giants wore the home double knits for the rest of the season. However, the team stayed with its gray flannel road uniforms all year and did not switch to the new fabric for road jerseys until the start of the 1973 season.
- Wilson and McAuliffe supplied knit uniforms. Both manufacturers had made Giants flannel home jerseys for nearly a decade. Notice that the number font on the back was slightly different, depending on the manufacturer. It would be interesting to look at game photos from 1972 to see if both styles of knit jerseys were used on the field at the same time, or if they were kept in distinct, separate sets.
- The 1972 home double knits match the 1971–1972 home flannels in trim, lettering color, and number style, but use tackle twill decoration. The 1972 knit jerseys had a short life. For 1973, home jerseys reverse the black/orange color scheme for the lettering.
- The jersey pictured at right is likely not game-worn. #24, Willie Mays, was traded to the Mets 20 games into the 1972 season—almost certainly before the Giants began wearing double knits on the field. It is likely that a double knit jersey had been prepared for Mays' use; then again, like many "star player" jerseys, it is highly likely to be a recreation.

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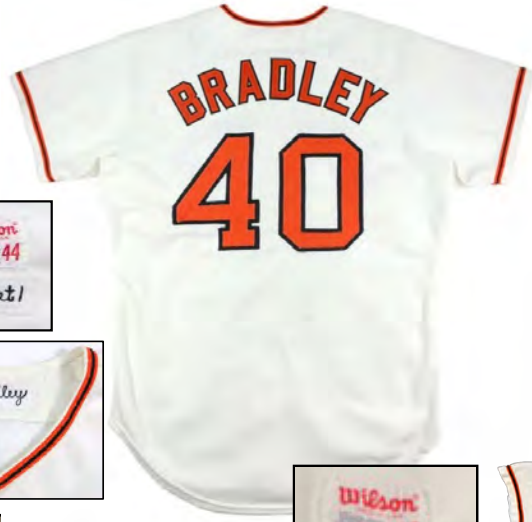
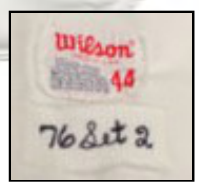
1973-1976 Home

1976

Bill Henderson Collection



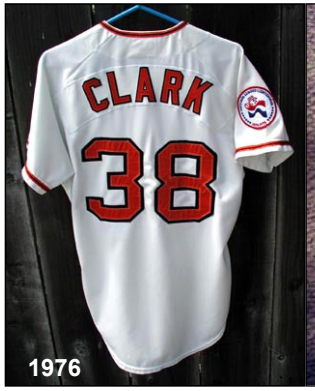


Lettering color scheme reverses for 1973. Lettering style changes slightly; it is a bit more angular, with sharper points. Names and nameplates appear on the backs of all jerseys.

Two-color orange/black Varsity-like numbers appear on the back; they are a variant of the strict font.

Names are in a slightly fat variant of Block type, also two-color orange/black.

Both Wilson and McAuliffe made these uniforms in 1973–1975; I believe Wilson was the only home vendor in 1976.



1976

1976

Jonathan Longar Collection

1973

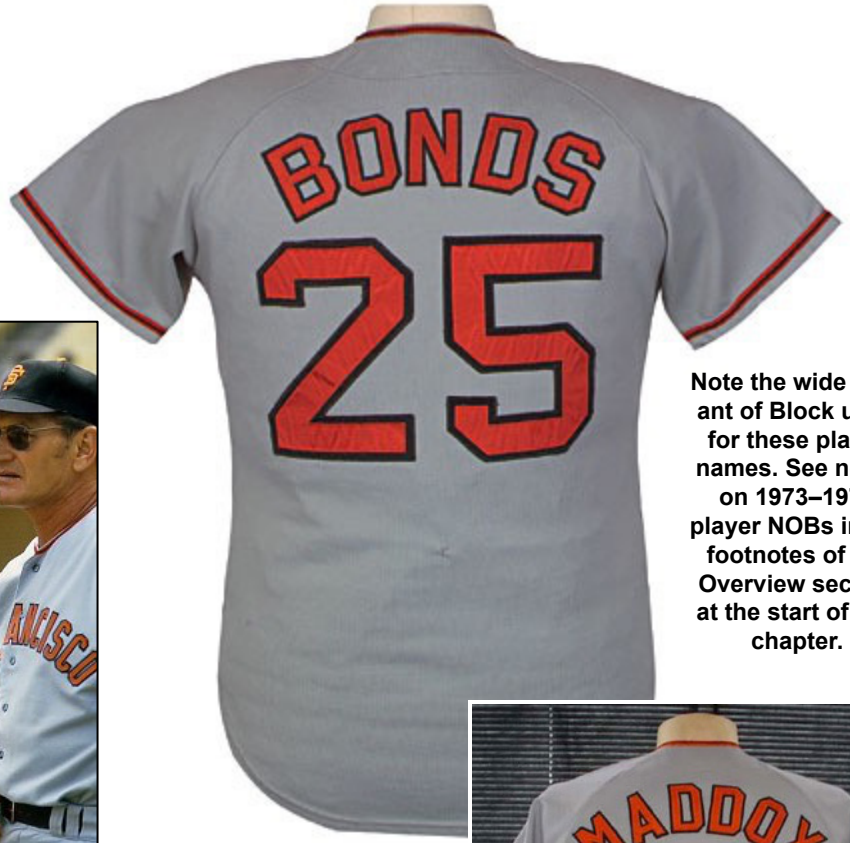
1973

Adam Bierembaum Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1973-1976 Road

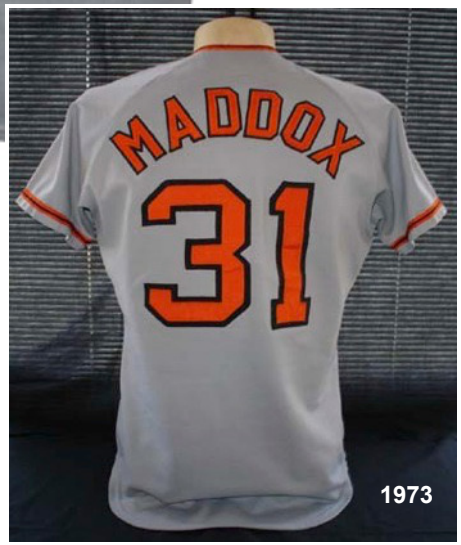
1973



Note the wide variant of Block used for these player names. See notes on 1973–1977 player NOBs in the footnotes of the Overview section at the start of this chapter.

Road grays switch to double knit in 1973, lagging behind the team's home uniforms by a year. Names appear on the back of all jerseys; nameplates are used in 1975–1976. Names are in a variant of Block type (wider), also two-color orange/black.

Two-color orange/black Varsity-like numbers appear on the front and back; they are a taller, narrower variant of the strict font. Note the long diagonal stroke on the "2."



1973

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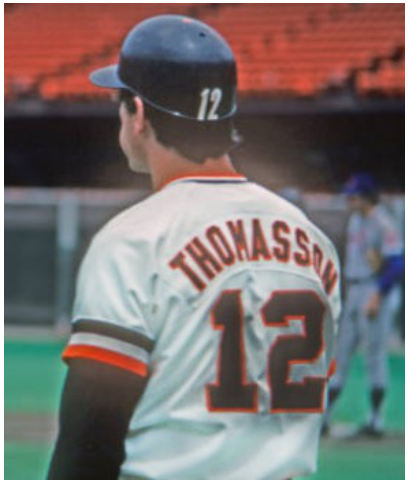
1977 Home

Jersey style changes to a V-neck pullover with wide elastic sewn-in sleeve ends and V-neck, in black/white/orange. The Giants' 1947 print logo script appears on the jersey front for the first time. Two-color black/orange names and numbers appear. Player names are in a Wilson Varsity Giants Block variant that is unique to 1977; they switch to a slightly different (narrower) number font and vertical arch style player names from 1978 to 1982; nameplates are used. Wilson is the manufacturer. Its label is inside the neck, while player and year tagging is on the outside front tail.



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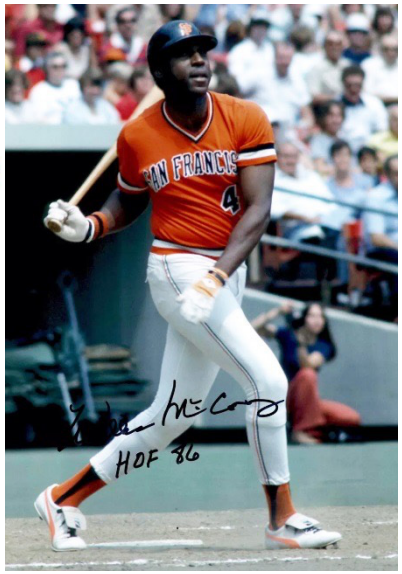
1977 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

Tradition goes out the window with the introduction of these pull-over orange road jerseys, which are worn for only one season.

Two-color black/white Varsity numbers appear on the front and back. These Varsity numbers are not exactly like Varsity Standard; note the lack of the small angled serif on the "6" and the "9."

Names are in Block, with variations noted (see Overview page footnotes for more details). All names are two-color black/white, usually on nameplates. Evidently, this set of jerseys was sent to the minors for a second life after the majors; every one of these jerseys I have seen appears to have a replacement NOB.



Above: *Note stitch marks around the "San Francisco" wordmark on the front of the jersey. Surely the jersey was sent to the minors, where the lettering was covered up, most likely replaced with orange cloth with the lettering of the Giants' minor league club. The plate was then removed, leaving this puckered outline behind.*

Huggins and Scott Auctions

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1977-1982 Giants Jersey Script Variations

1947 Giants print logo

The swoopy script logo that appeared on the San Francisco Giants' home white jersey in 1977 was not new—it was actually created as the team's official "print" logo for the (then) New York Giants of 1947. This script was used on all three team jerseys (1978–1982), white, orange, and black.

Careful eyes will note that the Wilson pattern used in 1977–1978 was different from the one used in 1979–1982. The earlier version was laid at a slightly steeper italic angle, and the details of several of the letters (notably the G and the S) were shaped differently.

Also different was the version used on the Alpha-made road black mesh jerseys of 1981. These used a very poorly drawn version for the first set, and a revised version closer to the Wilson font for the later, second set.

Finally, Mitchell & Ness, when making reproductions of this era's jerseys, inexplicably chose a bastardized version of the Alpha script as their version.

All of these variants are presented here together for comparison.

Above: *Alpha's first version (top); Alpha's revised version (middle); and Mitchell & Ness's version that was used for on-field Turn back the Clock jerseys in 1999 (bottom).*

1977–1978

1979–1982

Top left: *1977–1978 version.*

Bottom left: *1979–1982 version.*

Near left: *The highlighted circles show the points of greatest difference between these two logos (1977–1978 top, 1979–1982 bottom)*

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1978-1982 Home

1978

Steve Kraljic collection

For 1978, the front logo remains the same style as 1977, but the player number font changes slightly to a Wilson varsity variant that is marginally wider. Player names are newly vertically arched, still on nameplates.

From 1979 to 1982, the Giants wordmark changes slightly (see prior page for that detail), and all other elements remain the same as in 1978.

Because most of these jerseys were sent to the minor leagues for reuse after their MLB service was through, a high percentage are without name-plates or have reproductions.

1981

1982

Bill Henderson Collection

Above: *This 1982 game worn example is missing the 25th Anniversary patch from its sleeve. Its nameplate is almost surely a reproduction.*

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1978-1982 Road

The 1978 jersey **(top left)** uses a slightly different front wordmark variant than the 1979–1982 version ***(top center and right)***. All lettering, including names and numbers, is two-color orange/white. Names are in vertical arch style. Numbers (top center and right) are in Wilson Varsity Standard. Vertical arch names are used all five years. Nameplates are used.

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1978-1982 Alternate Orange

1982

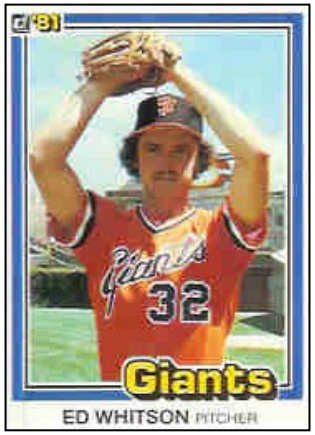
1979

Bill Henderson Collection

This jersey style was worn at home and on the road.

Two-color black/white names and numbers.

Names on these orange jerseys should be on nameplates and in vertical arch style. Many jerseys in the hobby have had their NOBs replaced with non-arched lettering.



1979

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1981 Road Mesh

Steve Sale, former stitcher for the Oakland A's, supplied us with some interesting information about this jersey style.

By 1981, the Giants players had been complaining about how heavy and hot the black pullover jerseys were, so the Giants ordered a complete set of mesh black game jerseys from Alpha for that season only, to be worn on the road for hot weather game at the discretion of each player or coach.

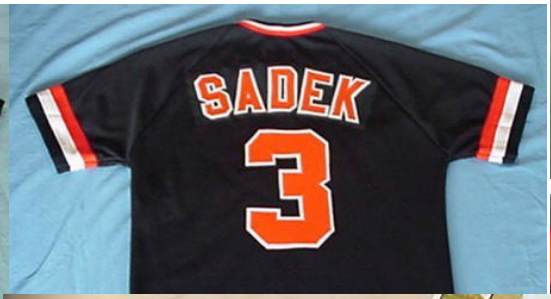
Steve notes that the original, complete set from Alpha was lettered with a sub-standard Giants script variant created by Alpha *(see #47 at right)*. By mid-season, when additional jerseys were needed, the Giants ordered more from the shop where Steve worked in the Bay area, instead of directly from Alpha. Steve kept on hand a quantity of blank Alpha mesh jerseys that he lettered with the *correct* Giants front script and the proper Wilson Varsity numbers. He notes that Alpha used a bastardized number variant (the one that uses the diagonal stroke on the number 2 (*see "Smith" top right*).

The player names on the jerseys were not the team's standard vertical arch; instead, they were the shop's football jersey font and were sewn on solid (not mesh) nameplates. These jerseys do not have year tags

Steve noted amusement when he would see news photos of the Giants in that year, and he could easily tell which players were wearing *his* jerseys, compared to those who were wearing the Alpha-sewn set.

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Above: *The first set with the Alpha-version of the Giants wordmark.* ***Top right:*** *"Smith" jersey better illustrates the non-standard number font.* ***Below****: "Sadek" jersey is an example of the second set made by Steve's shop, with a wordmark closer to team spec. Names were sewn on nameplates because this was faster to do; nameplates were typically solid fabric.*



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1983-1993 Home

1986

Tradition returns, with button-front shirts and belted pants. A custom Giants name and number font is introduced and used through 1999. Note the use of the new custom Giants name font, vertically arched on nameplates. The condensed version of the name font is used for the longish NOB (used for “Manwaring”) compared to the standard-width NOB used for the others. Names and numbers are two-color black/orange.

Essentially identical, this style is made by Wilson (1983–1986), Rawlings (1987–1991), and Russell (1992–1993). A mystery to me still: even though three manufacturers produce these jerseys, all of these vertically arched names appear to have been hand drawn by an unknown draftsperson with remarkable consistency in style. Though no two are exactly alike, I wonder whether the same person—or different people—drew them.

1991

1993

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1983-1993 Road

Wilson 1983-1986

1985

1983

Tradition returns with button-front shirts and belted pants. Interlocking black-over-orange "SF" on the jersey's left chest is similar to the logo worn on caps since the Giants moved to San Francisco in 1958.

A custom Giants number font is introduced and used through 1999; the use of the custom font and vertically arched names continues, with names on nameplates. Names and numbers are two-color black/orange. The orange fabric is a special shade known as "Frisco Orange" by its maker; it is a less intense shade of orange than used previously.

The Giants' player name font is a custom, wider, bolder Block vertical arch variant that is unique to the 1983–1999 Giants, and no two are alike; each is created by hand by an artist at the factory. Knit sewn-in sleeve end trim is five-striped, with alternating bands of orange, black, and gray.

Wilson is the team's vendor from 1983 to 1986. Notice the use of black trim on the placket and around the collar, and compare with how later vendors did it, on the next page.

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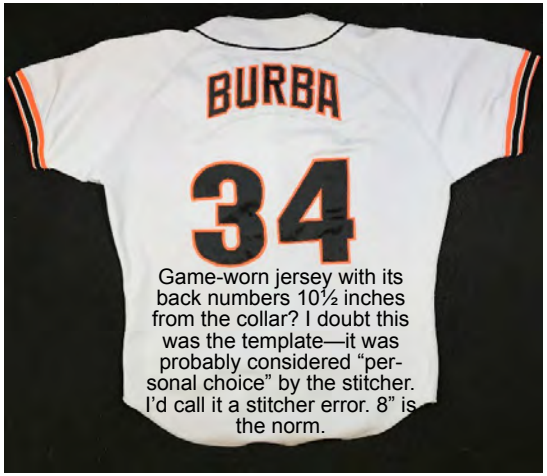
1983-1993 Road, continued: Rawlings 1987-1991/Russell 1992-1993

Rawlings takes over the contract from Wilson in 1987. I am told they initially made an error ***(above)***, omitting the black trim around the collar. The team liked the change, and so Rawlings (1987–1992) and 1993 Russell jerseys remain this way through the end of the style's run in 1993.

Left: *Don Robinson's jersey is tailored with flat tails to meet his personal specifications.*



Game-worn jersey with its back numbers 10½ inches from the collar? I doubt this was the template—it was probably considered "personal choice" by the stitcher. I'd call it a stitcher error. 8" is the norm.

Tagging 1987-1993:

Left: *seldom-seen example of a one-year-only 1987 tag found on very few Rawlings-made jerseys, including a size tag in side seam.* ***Top left:*** *the standard 1987 style tagging, which also has the size label sewn into the side seam.* ***Right****: Rawlings and Russell tags representative of 1988–1992. Not all Russell jerseys from 1993 have team year/set tagging..*

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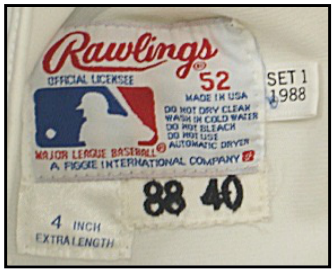
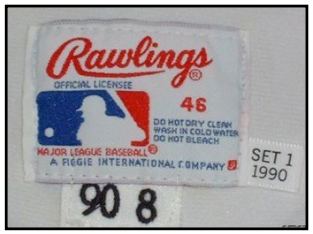
1983-1993 Giants Team Tagging

During this period, the Giants use three manufacturers—Wilson, Rawlings, and Russell—to make their two sets of game jerseys. Each manufacturer uses its own style of team tagging, but all game-worn jerseys are tagged in some way. Shown here is a mix of home and away jersey tagging. Russell jerseys start in 1992.

A year square sewn on a jersey without other information often indicates that the jersey was an "extra" at the start of the season, to be modified at some time in the future for a player.





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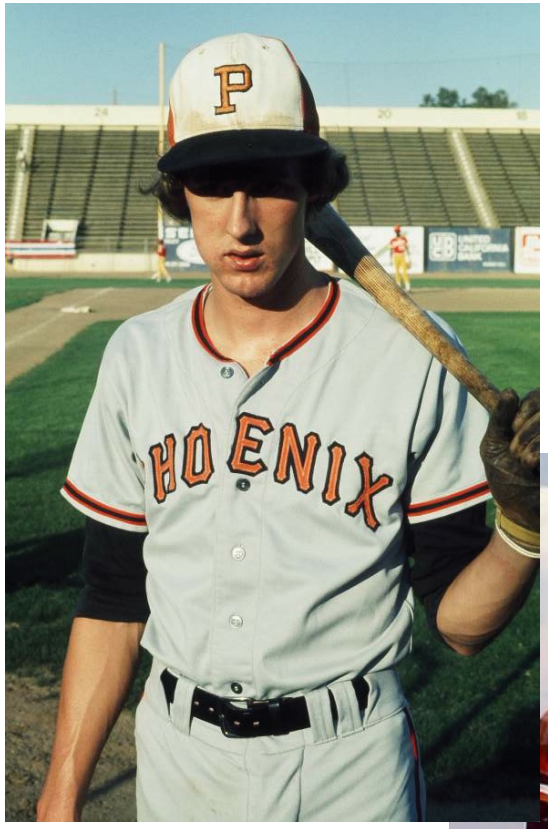
Giants Jerseys Sent to the Minor Leagues



Like all MLB teams, the Giants send their prior-year uniforms to the minor leagues, where they are reissued and used—sometimes to the point of destruction. In the 1970s and 1980s, the Giants had five or more farm teams each year—nearly all named "Giants." But since the MLB team used its city name on road uniforms, these had to be stripped and re-lettered for minor league use. A few examples are shown below. At left, the 1976 Phoenix Giants stripped the tall "SAN FRANCISCO" lettering from their donated uniforms. The 1978 Waterbury Giants covered up the large city name on the MLB Giants' one-year orange road jerseys with an orange plate. Evidence of this is shown on the rescued example, adjacent. The example in the middle/right shows how the interlocking SF on a game-used 1983–1993 road jersey was replaced with the "Giants" crest for its minor league reuse.

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1994-1999 Home

1994

Russell is the official on-field supplier of uniforms to the Giants, and the Russell logo is embroidered on the left sleeve end. However, oddly, a few players—*seemingly both stars and everyday players*—are issued Rawlings uniforms, for whatever reason.

These Rawlings jerseys have no sleeve-end logo (contractually) and are team-tagged with year and set information on the inside of the tail, while Russell ones are not tagged at all. Nameplates are always used. Use of the custom Giants numbers font continues.

Left and above: *An example of 1999 home Rawlings uniforms. Note missing sleeve logo as only Russell was allowed to display theirs there.*

1995

I am told that the "Purchased from San Francisco Giants" found inside the shirt tail of many Giants gamers in the hobby was stamped there by collector/dealer Dick Dobbins after he acquired them.

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1994-1999 Road

Stylized "San Francisco" replaces the SF logo on fronts; backs remain identical to the earlier style. Names are still vertically arched and appear on nameplates. Use of the custom Giants number font continues. Russell is the official on-field supplier of uniforms to the Giants, and the Russell logo is embroidered on the left sleeve end. However, oddly, a very few players are issued Rawlings uniforms, for whatever reason. These Rawlings jerseys have no sleeve-end logo (contractually) and are team-tagged with year and set information on the inside of the tail, while Russell ones are not tagged at all. Nameplates are always used.

These examples of Rawlings jerseys are shown for interest. But my archives show that nearly all players wore Russell uniforms from 1994–1999. The reason some individuals were issued Rawlings jerseys remains a mystery.

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2000-2023 Home

2000 with All-Star patch

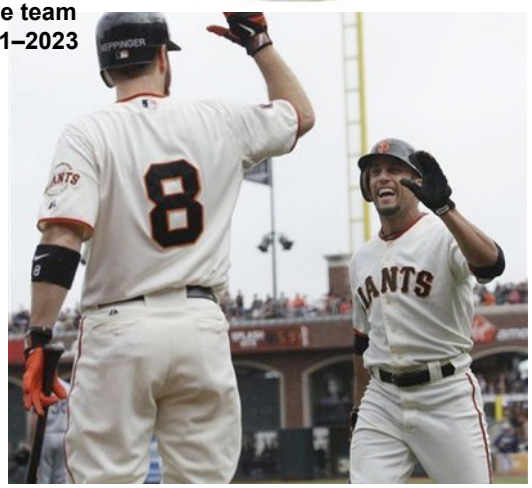
2000 with 7½" numbers

2001 with 8" numbers

Left sleeve team commemorative patch 2000 only

Left sleeve team patch 2001–2023

- Return to old-style tradition as jersey style, lettering, trim, and jersey color closely resemble the pre-1973 flannel jersey, including the cream fabric color.
- No names on back of home jerseys for the first time since 1972. Jersey remains without name on back until they are added again in 2021 without nameplates.
- Numbers are a new custom Giants Varsity, three-color black/orange/gold drop-shadow. The gold drop shadow is VERY narrow—about 1/8″. The gold is called "Nugget" and is the same color of twill used on San Francisco 49ers' uniforms.
- In 2000, numbers on the back are the same size as the road jerseys (7 ½″). There are no names on the home jerseys, making the 2000 numbers appear too small; starting in 2001, they were increased to 8″ tall.
- No team year tagging 2000–2004, though special tailoring tags are often seen ***(right)***.
- 2000–2004 versions made by Russell, 2005–2019 by Majestic, 2020–2023 by Nike.



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2020-2023 Home, continued

2013

2014

2016

2023

Note the change in style code from Majestic's GAHH to Nike's GI2H.

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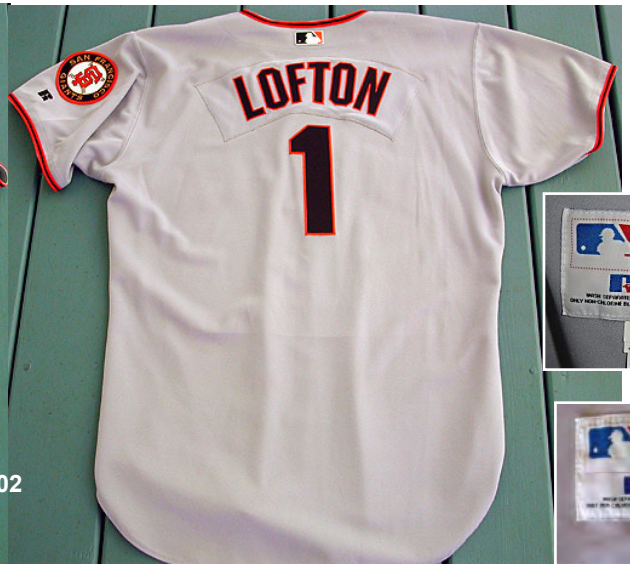
2000-2004 Road



The 2000 road jersey looks almost identical to the last flannel road jerseys, worn 1958–1972. Numbers are 7½″ custom Giants Varsity style; numbers and names are two-color black/orange. Nameplates are used. No year tagging 2000–2004, though special tailoring tags are often seen ***(above, inset)***.

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2001 Alternate Home

This style was only worn for Friday night home games. The team's ownership reportedly did not like the black jerseys and ordered them to be eliminated after only one year of use. No year tagging in 2001, though special tailoring tags are often seen ***(bottom row, middle)***. No names on back. Numbers are custom Giants Varsity, three-color black/orange/gold drop-shadow. The gold drop shadow is especially narrow—about 1/8″. Numbers are 8″ tall because there are no names on the back. Barry Bonds was wearing this style jersey when he hit his record 68th home run of the season, September 28, 2001. This made fans especially nostalgic for this uncommon style.

Top left: *pre-9/11.*

Bottom left: *with flag patch, after 9/11.*

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2001-2002 Alternate Road

2002

Used only for Friday night road games in these two years. As per National League rules, names appear on the backs of all road jerseys. Custom Giants Varsity numbers and names. Numbers are 7 ½″ tall, three-color black/orange/gold drop-shadow. The gold drop shadow is especially narrow—about 1/8″. Nameplates are used.

Team ownership reportedly did not like the black jerseys and ordered them canceled after just two years of use. No year tagging 2001–2002, though special tailoring tags are often seen (as seen on the Aurilia example, below left).

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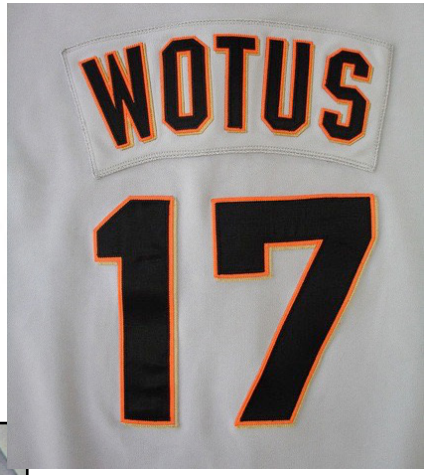
2005-2011 Road

This sleeve patch used 2005-2010.



For 2005, a narrow, subtle gold drop shadow was added to the San Francisco lettering on the front. It is almost invisible, even up close. Starting in 2005, all Giants jerseys—home, road, and batting practice—have gold drop shadows on their lettering.

Names and numbers also feature a gold drop shadow to match the wordmark.

Oddly, this change was a "surprise"—not reported or documented in the annual official MLB Style Guide update; the team just "sneaked it in there."

Nameplates are eliminated starting with the 2010 season, and player NOBs are now direct sewn.

This sleeve patch replaces the "SF" disc in 2011.

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2010-2013 Alternate Home

Press Release February 24 2010 7:33 PM EST

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.—The Giants' alternate jerseys are back. Managing general partner Bill Neukom confirmed Wednesday that the team will wear orange tops for every Friday night home game. The front of the jerseys will feature the Giants' familiar block lettering. In the late 1970s and early '80s, the Giants wore orange alternate uniforms bearing the club's script logo...

… The Giants last wore alternate jerseys in 2002, when they donned black tops for some road games. They hadn't worn alternate jerseys at home since 2001, when they broke out black tops every Friday night.

Neukom also said that the Giants will wear alternate, orange-billed caps for Sunday home games, duplicating a look which the team sported from 1977–82.

The fresh splashes of orange are consistent with the Giants' black socks, which now include three bold horizontal lines near the top. It's actually less of an innovation and more of a "retro" look. The Giants last sported striped socks in 1948, when they played in New York.

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2012-2023 Road

2012

2021

For the 2012 season, the Giants make some subtle changes to their road jerseys. The black/orange/gold drop shadow remains the same, but the orange/black/orange sleeve braid moves up slightly from the end of the sleeve, and the braid around the neck of the previous version is replaced by black knit trim on the neck and placket.

Between 2012 and 2023, the jersey is made in three different constructions: full knit, Cool Base, and Flex Base (all shown here). From 2020–2023, it is made on Nike's version of the Flex Base template. A gray version of the Giants' team disc patch appears on the left sleeve throughout this run.

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2012-2023 Road, continued

Note the change in style code from Majestic's GARR to Nike's GI2R.

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2012-2019 Alternate Road

The Giants introduce a slightly revised version of their 1983–1993 road jersey, now as a road alternate starting with the 2012 season. Notice the narrow gold drop shadow used on the front crest—this detail was not present on the originals.

At the time, the Giants are the only current MLB team to regularly wear two distinct gray jerseys. They are also the first team to wear two gray road jerseys in a single season since the 2006–2008 Texas Rangers wore a gray alternate vest for select road games.

The jersey features black knit trim on the placket and orange/black/orange trim at the sleeve ends. Back names and numbers match the style used on the team's regular road jersey. This style is discontinued after the 2019 season.

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2014-2023 Alternate Home Orange

The 1977–1982 game jersey script makes a comeback on the revised orange jersey in 2014, with all lettering in black, white, and a gold drop shadow—a subtle detail, hard to see from more than a few feet away. The “SF” patch appears on the left sleeve in the same colors. Front numbers; black single-line placket and double-line sleeve-end trim.

Majestic manufactures these from 2014–2019. Nike takes over in 2020. Originally, these did not have player names on the back, but they were added in 2021 with the same black/white/gold drop shadow as the other lettering.

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2014-2023 Alternate Home Orange, continued

2015

2018

2023

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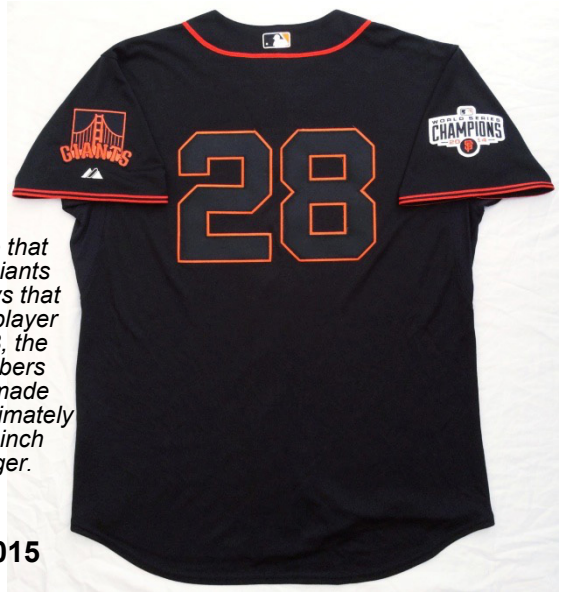
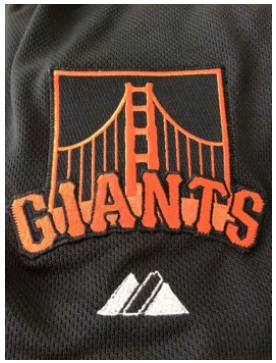
2015-2016 Alternate Home Black



Note that on Giants jerseys that omit player NOB, the numbers are made approximately one inch larger.

2015

2016



In January 2015, the Giants announce a new black alternate uniform dubbed “Fade to Black.” They debuted them on May 2, “Metallica Day” at the ballpark, and wore them for select home games after that.

It is based on the gray road alternate retro jersey introduced in 2012. All lettering on the jersey is black, outlined with orange. It also features a new sleeve patch with the word “Giants” curved under a depiction of the Golden Gate Bridge. Black alternates had last been worn in 2001–2002.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, made from Cool Base fabric but with several elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, plus one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic claims is 10–20% lighter than traditional layered twill. The MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from earlier Cool Base jerseys.

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2017-2023 Alternate Home Black

After two seasons of wearing the difficult-to-read "black on black" alternate jerseys, the Giants alter the look to replicate their 2016 Spring Training jerseys—making all lettering front and back orange with a black outline, and adding an orange drop shadow effect. The team bridge patch remains on the left sleeve. These jerseys are worn for Saturday home games.

Starting in 2021, player names are added to the back in orange/black/orange drop shadow. Majestic manufactures this style from 2017–2019; Nike takes over from 2020–2023

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2021-2023 City Connect

San Francisco is foggy and the Golden Gate bridge is there. That sums up the Giants' City Connect jersey. But we do detail here, so let's dive in. White is a rarity as a base color for the City Connect line, but the color choice for these Nike Flex Base jerseys owes to the city's notorious fog. In that spirit, the front "G" logo and back numbers seem to ascend from the fog (like the Golden Gate itself) with lettering in orange-to-white gradient/white/gray. Names on back are a simpler orange/gray. Each sleeve is adorned with an orange rendition of the Golden Gate, again, manifesting out of the fog of... the ends of the sleeves. Finally, the Giants make use of the space above the jock tag for an applique reiterating their wordmark partly obscured by... you guessed it...patchy fog. One imagines that San Francisco has more to offer than what is represented here, and for a program intended to capture the imagination the Bay-area community, the San Francisco press dubbed this one "uninteresting, uninspiring, and underwhelming." A sponsor patch is added in 2023.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Giants classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The gold drop shadow is also removed from the player name. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the Giants front lettering splits differently across the front, with the "N" closer to the seam of placket, which makes the lettering feel slightly imbalanced to the left in our eyes. Neck and sleeve-end trim are now sewn-in to their respective seams rather than sewn on top of the jersey itself. As such, both appear wider than in previous seasons. The Giants use perforated numbers on their home jerseys in 2024. Starting June 19, the team added a memorial patch for Willie Mays on the left chest of the jersey, and on June 29, added a similar patch in memory of Orlando Cepeda worn above the team sleeve patch. Early versions of the Mays patch look like embroidered, adhesive patches, while later versions, and all of the Cepeda patches, appear to be printed twill that is heat-pressed to the jersey.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Giants road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The gold drop shadow is also removed from the player name. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before. The "San Francisco" front lettering is smaller with tighter letter spacing than before, and it still splits between the "R" and "A" of the city name. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn-in rather than sewn on top of the jersey itself and appears wider than in previous seasons. The Giants use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Starting June 19, the team added a memorial patch for Willie Mays on the left chest of the jersey, and on June 29, added a similar patch in memory of Orlando Cepeda worn above the team sleeve patch. Early versions of the Mays patch look like embroidered, adhesive patches, while later versions, and all of the Cepeda patches, appear to be printed twill that is heat-pressed to the jersey.

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2024 Alternate Home Orange

Dan Van Unen Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Giants alternate orange jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The gold drop shadow is also removed from the player name VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before. The "Giants" Script still splits across the "a" but in a different place. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn-in rather than sewn on top of the jersey itself and appears wider than in previous seasons. The Giants use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Starting June 19, the team added a memorial patch for Willie Mays on the left chest of the jersey, and on June 29, added a similar patch in memory of Orlando Cepeda worn above the team sleeve patch. Early versions of the Mays patch look like embroidered, adhesive patches, while later versions, and all of the Cepeda patches, appear to be printed twill that is heat-pressed to the jersey.

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2024 Alternate Home Black

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Giants alternate black jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The orange drop shadow is also removed from the player name VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn-in rather than sewn on top of the jersey itself and appears wider than in previous seasons. The Giants use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Starting June 19, the team added a memorial patch for Willie Mays on the left chest of the jersey, and on June 29, added a similar patch in memory of Orlando Cepeda worn above the team sleeve patch. Early versions of the Mays patch look like embroidered, adhesive patches, while later versions, and all of the Cepeda patches, appear to be printed twill that is heat-pressed to the jersey.

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2024 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Giants' City Connect jersey that was introduced three seasons prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Otherwise, because this jersey has no trim on the neck, sleeves, or placket, and because it has no lettering crossing the placket, it appears mostly the same as before. The Giants use perforated numbers on this version of the jersey. Starting June 19, the team added a memorial patch for Willie Mays on the left chest of the jersey, and on June 29, added a similar patch in memory of Orlando Cepeda worn opposite the ad patch. Early versions of the Mays patch are embroidered, adhesive patches, while later versions, and all of the Cepeda patches, appear to be printed twill that is heat-pressed to the jersey. The 2024 sponsor patch differs from 2023.

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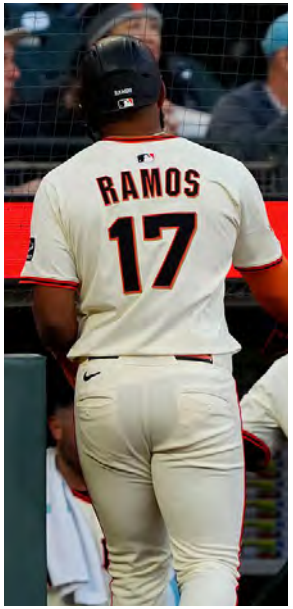
2025 Home



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For the Giants, the gold drop shadow also returns to player names after a one-year hiatus. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Note that this jersey also uses Nike's new-for-2025 white jock tag, seen at right. A handful of jerseys across the league use this new tag.

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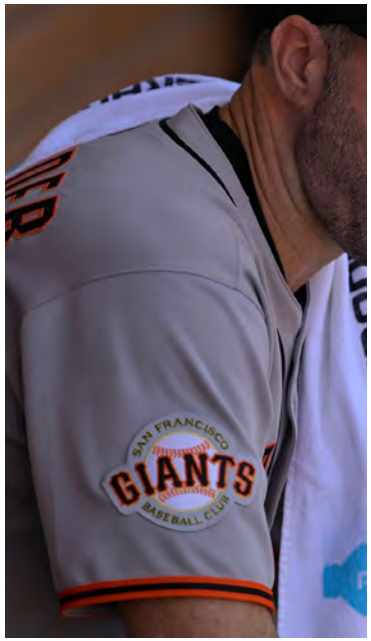
2025 Road



The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For the Giants, the gold drop shadow also returns to player names after a one-year hiatus. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “San Francisco” lettering breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home Orange

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For the Giants, the gold drop shadow also returns to player names after a one-year hiatus. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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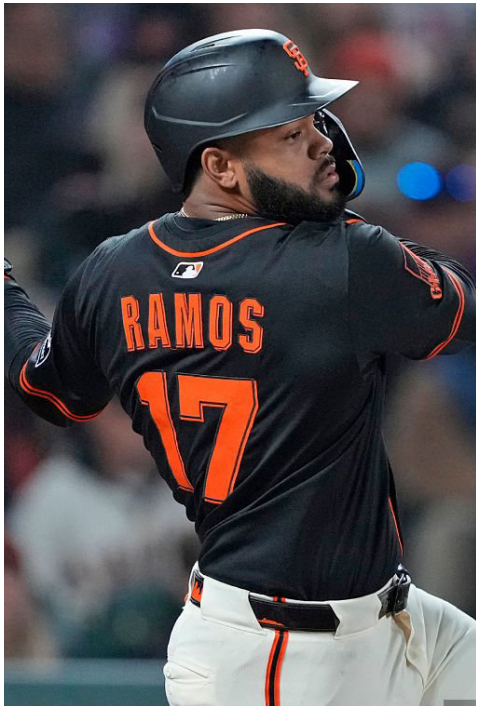
2025 Alternate Black



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For the Giants, the orange drop shadow effect also returns to player names after a one-year hiatus. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. While the black jersey had traditionally only been worn at home, it was worn for at least two road games in the first half of the 2025 season (May 24 and May 28, 2025)

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2025 City Connect 2.0

The Giants City Connect 2.0, released for the 2025 season, pay tribute to the area's rich musical history. The black jersey base features sublimated wave designs, representing sound waves and the grooves in a record. The front "Giants" script, in white/black/orange-violet gradient are meant to reflect the city's psychedelic music scene of the 1960s, a theme also carried through the groovy glove-shaped sleeve patch (the sponsor patch appears on the opposite sleeve, and patch sleeve locations vary based on player handedness). The violet color used in the lettering and gradient sleeve-end trim is a nod to the NY Giants, who wore violet from 1913-1917. "San Francisco" appears on a patch above the jock tag in a similar treatment to the "Giants" lettering, and a separate patch is sewn on the front right hem, opposite the jock tag, with nine icons representing styles of music that have built the city's music scene. Player name appears on black in orange. Overall, it is a much bolder statement than the team's City Connect 1.0, which had elements that literally disappeared into fog. One may argue that there was a fair share of fog in Haight-Ashbury in the late 60s, but this entry chooses to highlight the vibrant parts of the scene that shaped a generation and marked a turning point in American culture.

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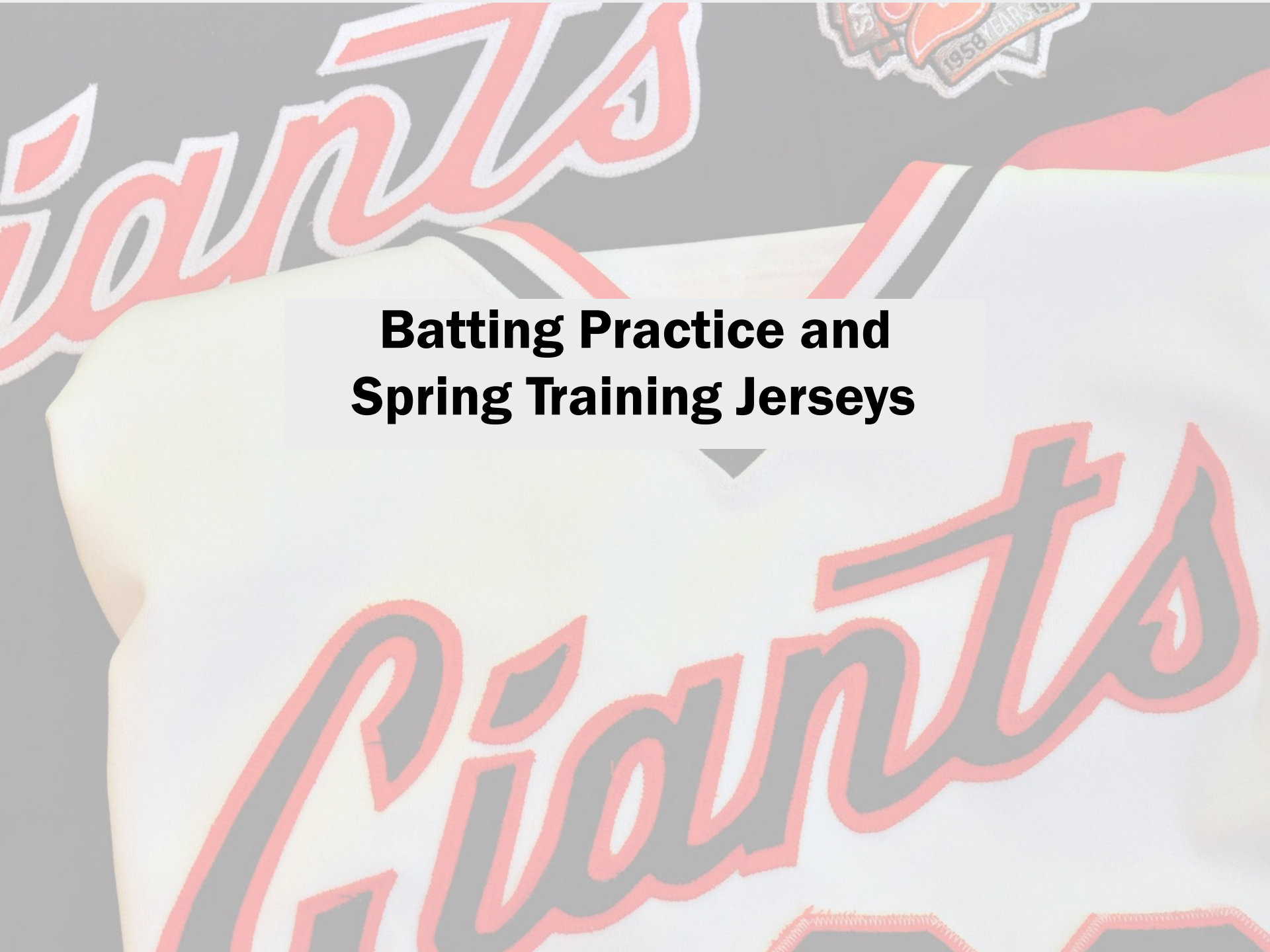
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



1980-1982 Batting Practice

While the exact first year of use is uncertain, the front wordmark uses the inferior Alpha variant of the team's 1978–1982 wordmark (also seen on the initial iteration of the 1981-only black mesh jerseys) and is screened-on. Back numbers are also screened-on, using "stock" manufacturer lettering patterns. In the early 1980s, the Giants did not maintain the same quality standards for pregame jerseys as most other teams and appeared to accept whatever vendors provided.

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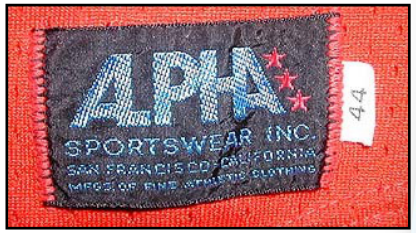
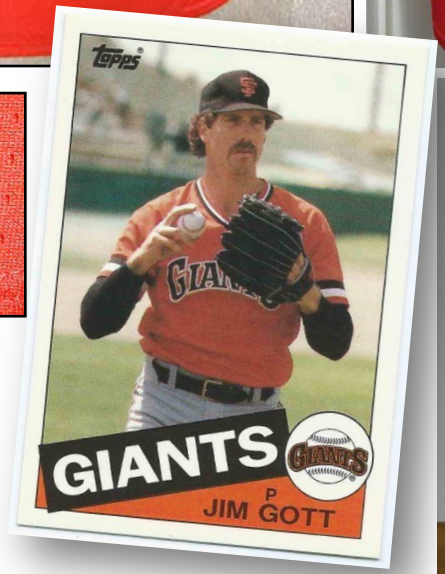
1983 Home Batting Practice

Left: *This twisted, tortured "5" is from some stock set of vendor lettering patterns that would be more at home on Little League uniforms.*

For the second half of the 1983 season, the Giants wore orange mesh BP jerseys made by Alpha, which also supplied the crosstown Oakland A's. These jerseys were made of thin fabric and, according to someone present at the time, "felt and looked really cheap." Like the A's Alpha jerseys of the same period, the team logo and numbers are heat-pressed vinyl. The numbers are rather thick and shiny—unusual for a major league jersey.

In 1984, the team switched to white batting practice jerseys made by Sand-Knit.





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1983 Road Batting Practice

These jerseys were cheap in both construction and logo design; anyone coming across one of them might think they came from the local Little League. But Alpha was a local supplier and may have provided them to the Giants at little or no cost for the publicity it might have brought.

These Alpha mesh jerseys appear to be the earliest Giants road BP jerseys, used around 1983, though more research is needed to confirm the exact dates. The front logo is screened-on, as are the back two-color numbers.

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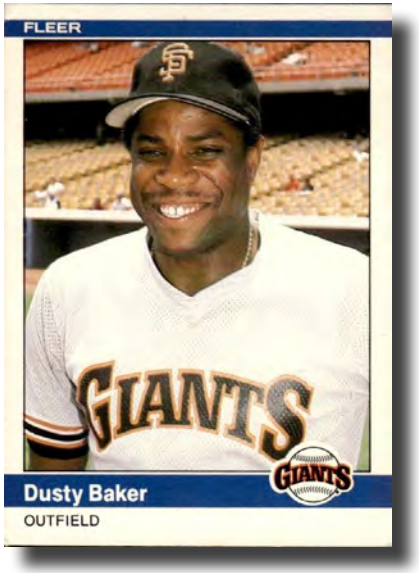
1984 Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic collection

It's an educated guess, but we estimate the vintage based on the manufacturer's tag style, which dates from 1981–1984. We know that the Alpha jerseys were used in 1983, and that these came afterward. Sand-Knit offered far better jersey quality than the Alpha jerseys, but the front script and back numbers are still screened-on, not sewn. We are breaking these out here as a separate style, simply because of the screened-on team crest and numbers, which likely lasted only one year on this style.



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1985 Batting Practice/1986-1992 Home Batting Practice

1988–1991 Rawlings-style tag

Left: *this variant has orange/black/orange knit neck trim to match the sleeve trim. Manufacturer is Rawlings, 1987 or earlier, identified by tag style. Unknown if this is major or minor league; even those present at the time weren't sure.*

Starting in 1985, the front wordmark and back numbers are now sewn-on tackle twill, and no longer screened-on.

The Majestic BP jersey shown at right is from 1985. We can determine its age based on the style of Majestic tag sewn on the tail, though it is not team-tagged. It is constructed from white mesh fabric with orange/white/black/white/orange knit striped sleeve ends, and only some have V-neck trim.

Custom Giants numbers in two-color black/orange; no player names are used. It is highly likely that these were mixed and reused from year to year regardless of manufacturer.

Wilson batting practice jerseys have been seen from 1986, Rawlings from 1987, and from 1988–1993, a mix of Sand-Knit, Rawlings, Majestic, and Russell.

Collectors should be aware that many Giants minor league jerseys are misrepresented as MLB jerseys, and they often look the same.

Majestic 1985-style tag

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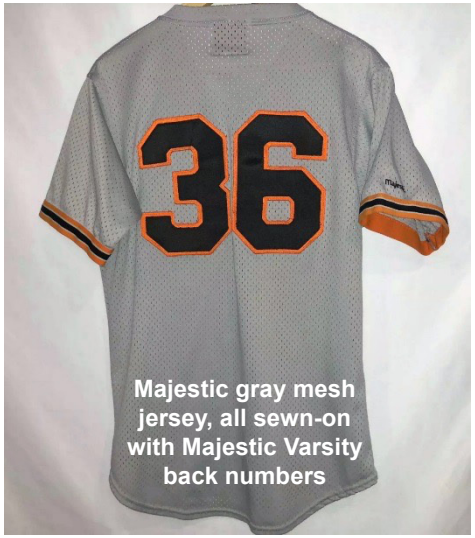
1986-1992 Road Batting Practice



Majestic gray mesh jersey, all sewn-on with Majestic Varsity back numbers

As with the home white BP jerseys, multiple manufacturers were used during these years, with a few common features: gray jersey body; orange/gray/black/gray/orange knit striped sleeve ends; and a plain V-neck.

The front wordmark and back numbers are usually sewn-on tackle twill, though earlier Sand-Knit versions are screened-on. Custom Giants numbers in two-color black/orange, no names.

Although not date-tagged, the years of use can be inferred by the style of manufacturer tagging used on each.

Wilson produced the BPs in 1986; Rawlings in 1987. From 1988–1993, a mixture of Sand-Knit, Majestic, and Russell BPs were used.

Note that the Majestic jersey at bottom left is made from a lightweight solid fabric—not mesh.

Collectors should note that many Giants minor-league–issued jerseys are mistakenly sold as MLB jerseys. They often look the same.

Majestic BP jersey in a sheer, solid gray fabric, all sewn on

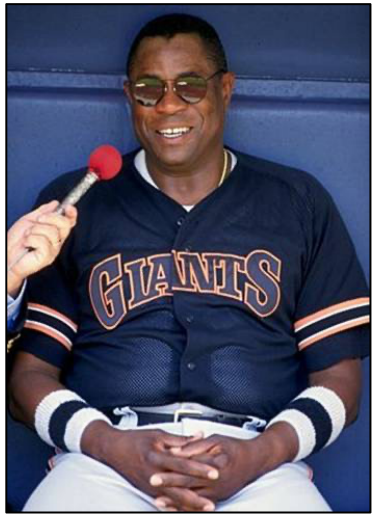
Steve Kraljic collection

Sand-Knit jersey in gray mesh, with screened-on front logo and twill back numbers. Some also have screened-on numbers.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Batting Practice

Above: *Used during the season with player names on back.*



Black jerseys became all the rage in the early 1990s, and nearly every team with black in its color palette (and several without) took advantage of it by issuing some form of black jersey. The Giants adopted this black-on-black BP jersey for 1993 only, with all lettering outlined in orange.

The jerseys we have found in this style are made by Russell. Player names appear on the back during the regular season (in vertical arch), but no names are seen in Spring Training photos.

The same orange/white/black/white/orange trim that was used on the white jerseys of 1986–1992 also appears on this style.

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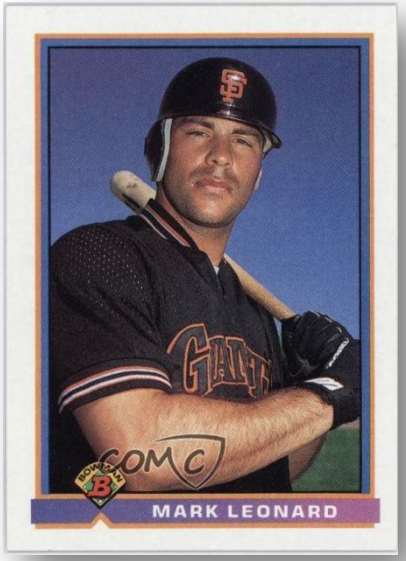
Early 1990s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck



Majestic offered this zip-neck, short elastic-waist pullover—called “The Gamewarmer”—to all teams in baseball from the mid-1980s to the early 1990s. Some teams (such as the White Sox and the Padres) used them heavily. Others used them rarely or not at all.

I have not seen any Giants examples that can be definitively identified as team-worn. However, the baseball card at right shows a player wearing one and dates from 1991–1992. The photo of Will Clark above is from the 1991 All-Star Game.

Two-color special Giants numbers appear on the back: black/orange, matching the twill on the front.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994-1999 Home Batting Practice

This jersey is made of black mesh fabric and features two buttons at the collar, with white and orange “Giants” lettering—arched on front—in the new style for 1994.

Custom Giants number font in two-color white/orange on the back. No player names appear on the back.

The Giants generally wore their commemorative patches on both game jerseys and batting practice jerseys during this period. These jerseys were also worn in Spring Training 2000.

© GameWornGuides.com

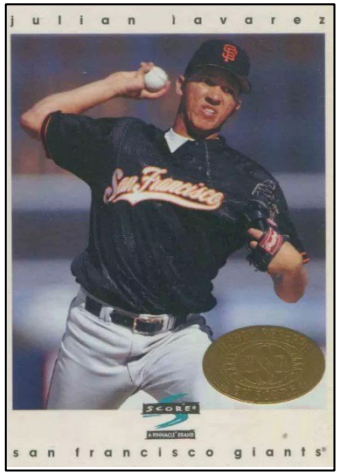
1994-1999 Road Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic collection

1994

Black mesh pullover with gray/orange San Francisco script on front. Two-color special Giants numbers on back, gray/orange. No names on back. Commemorative patches worn on the sleeves, just like game jerseys. These are also worn in Spring Training 2000.

1997



© GameWornGuides.com

2000 Home Batting Practice

This cream-colored, mesh, two-button Henley-neck batting practice jersey was issued as the official home BP in 2000. It features the 2000-only Inaugural patch on the sleeve and, oddly, has late-1990s Majestic tagging.

We have now learned that these were also worn in the 2000 Giants Instructional League. At far right, player Zach Wheeler is shown wearing one. (Thanks to Daniel Jackson)

© GameWornGuides.com

2000 Road Batting Practice

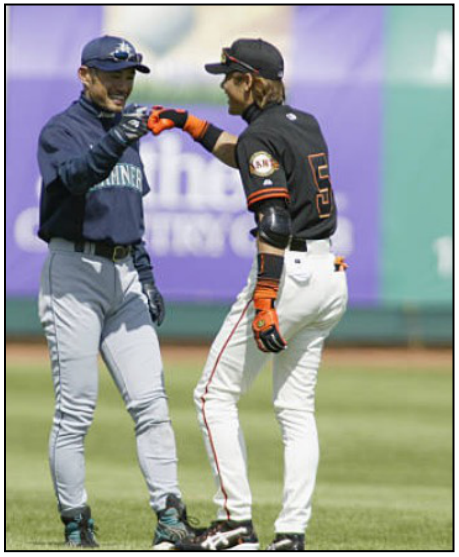
These gray mesh, two-button Henley-style batting practice jerseys by Majestic were used in Spring Training and on the road in 2000. They feature the team's San Francisco script on the front and player names and numbers on the back, all in black/orange twill. The jersey shown here came from the estate of Giants legend Orlando Cepeda.

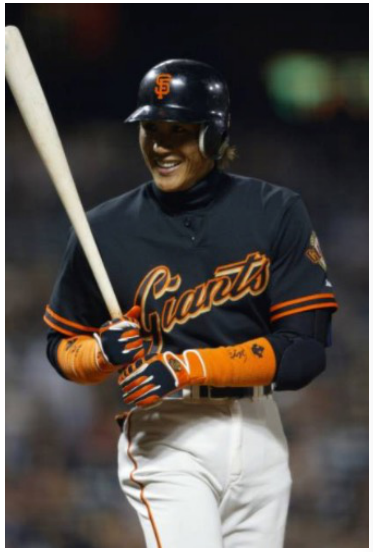
© GameWornGuides.com

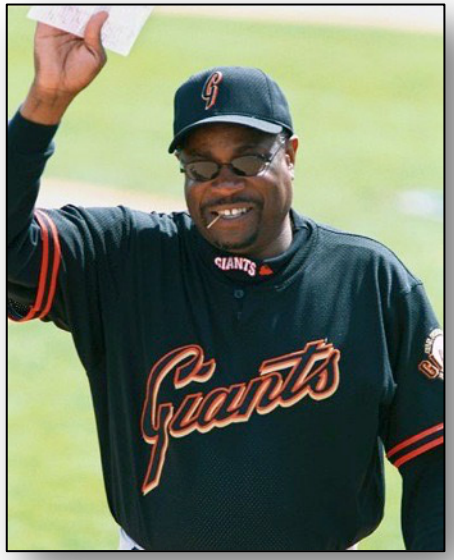
2001-2002 Batting Practice

For 2001, the Giants re-introduce their alternate logo, introduced in the 1950s and last seen on their 1982 team uniforms. It is black outlined with orange and a gold 3D drop shadow. Numbers on back are the same larger size as found on the team's home game jerseys and are in the same three colors.

The shirt is made from a heavy black mesh and the sleeve ends are finished with orange and black striped sewn-in knit trim. The team's disk primary logo patch with a black background is stitched to the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is stitched on the back of the neck of every on-field jersey.







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2003-2006 Batting Practice

Majestic's first attempt at moisture-wicking fabric. This is a softer, non-mesh material, but one that fades and acquires fabric pulls easily.

Front script Giants lettering is black/orange/gold drop shadow.

Numbers are Giants Varsity, three-color black/orange with a gold drop shadow. The gold drop shadow on player names/ numbers is VERY narrow: about 1/8."

No player NOB used in 2003, then added in 2004.

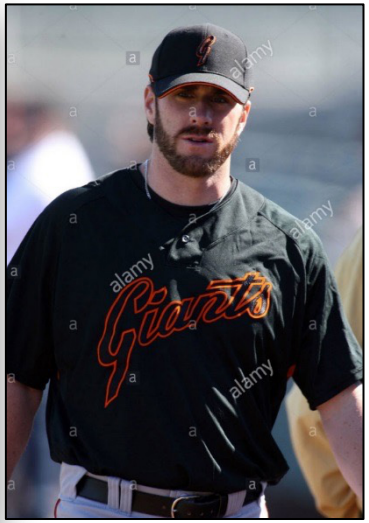
Left: *2005 Spring Training-issued batting practice jerseys are inconsistent—some names sewn in straight line (a la 1970s A's); other names are arched.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2007-2008 Batting Practice

The Giants joined all of Major League Baseball in switching to a Cool Base, one-button, pull-over-style batting practice jersey in 2007. All team front logotypes, player names, and numbers are appliqués, and are no longer sewn-on tackle twill.

Side insert panels are orange on top and black on the bottom. All lettering loses the gold drop shadows and is now plain black outlined with orange.



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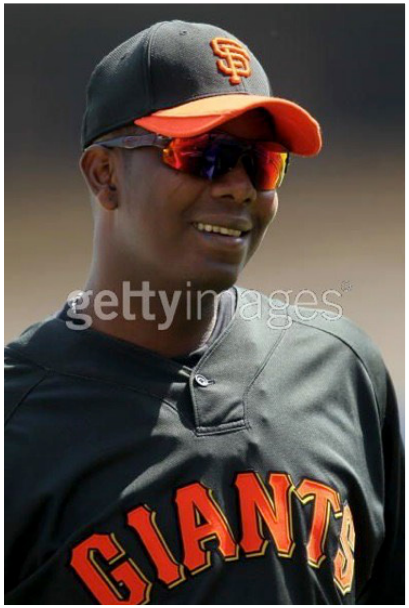
2009-2010 Batting Practice



- For 2009, the batting practice jersey retains the game uniform style, including the square-lettered front logo, which was last worn on a Giants BP jersey in 1999.
- The team script, player name, and player numbers are heat-pressed onto the jersey in the same three-color pattern: orange/black/gold drop shadow.
- The jersey features solid black, non-contrasting side panels and a one-button neck.

Above: *Photo from 2009 Spring Training St. Patrick's Day game, thus the green hat.*

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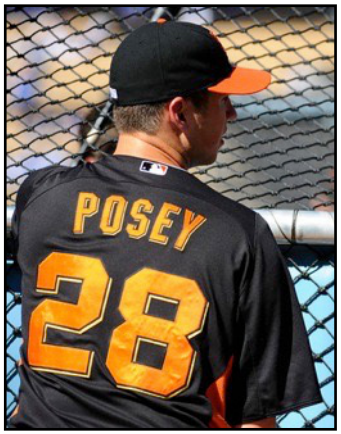
2011-2013 Batting Practice



All of MLB switched to full button-front batting practice jerseys for 2011. The Giants' updated jersey gained contrasting orange side panels as part of the switchover.

Front lettering returned to three-color tackle twill (orange/black/gold drop shadow). Three-color sewn twill player names were used on the back.

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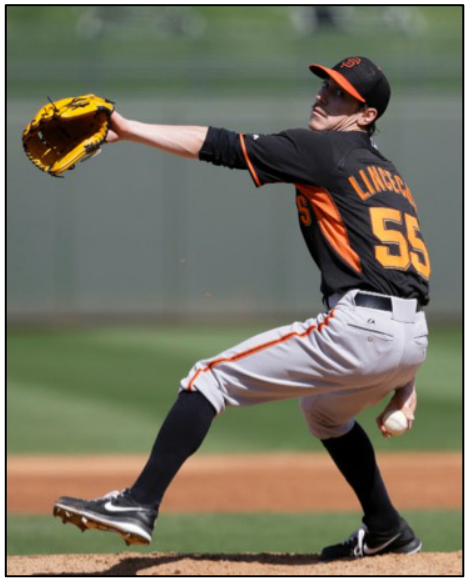
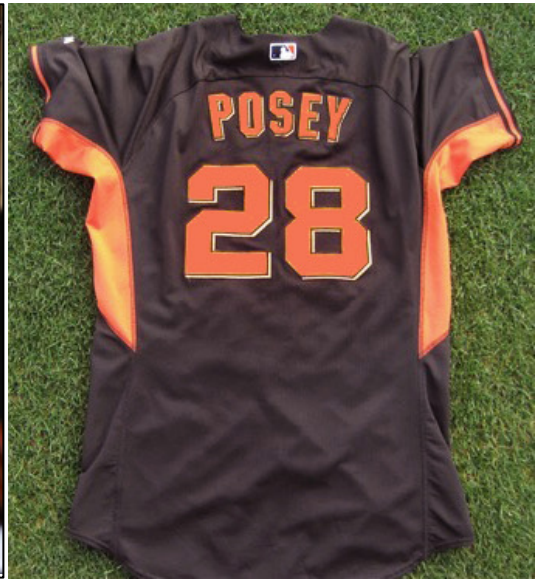
2014-2016 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection





MLB refreshed all teams' BP jerseys for 2014, but the Giants' changes were hardly noticeable. Orange and black banded knit trim was added to the sleeve ends and neck opening; orange side panels now began at the sleeve ends but did not run to the bottom of the jersey. Back player names and numbers continued as before in the Giants' custom fonts, in three-color orange/black/gold drop shadow twill.

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Read the full story on MLB's new-for-2016 Spring Training jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

Daniel Jackson Collection

For the first time, in 2016 MLB introduces a jersey specific to Spring Training intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template, and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team.

The Giants use a black jersey with orange knit trim around the neck and placket and orange/black/orange trim on the sleeve ends. At first glance, it may look just like their home black alternate, but all of the lettering style is distinct to this jersey. It bears a single-color "SF" logo on front, orange patterned twill/black/orange drop shadow name (not the "hollow" version present on the alternate) and back numbers, and no left-sleeve patch. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Giants spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017, with some minor design modifications. As in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template, and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Giants again use their regular season black alternate home jersey as a basis for their Spring Training jersey (this year, with the bridge patch on the left sleeve). The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Giants spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets (which are void of player identification) instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made from Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tails of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Giants jersey is black with black back and underarm gussets. The "SF" logo from their caps appears on the front left chest in orange/black/gold drop shadow. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in orange/black/gold drop shadow in Varsity variant on the left sleeve.

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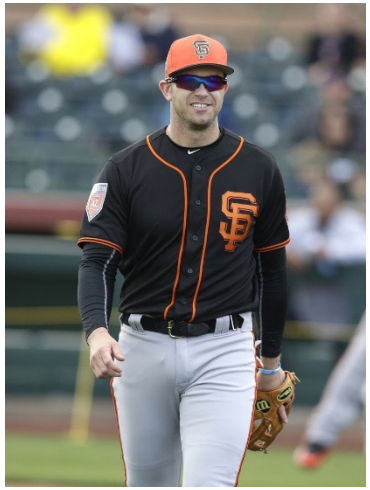
2018 Spring Training



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, but now simplified using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns.

The Giants use their regular-season black alternate home as their base with a name added on back. The name and back numbers are sewn on in orange patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns.

The Giants use their regular-season black alternate home, but with a name added on back, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The back numbers are orange/black/orange drop shadow, while the name on back is orange.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season.

For this iteration, the Giants use their regular-season black alternate home jersey with orange/black/orange drop shadow back numbers with an orange name added on back (player names not present on regular season jerseys). For 2021, the player names are updated to orange/black/orange drop shadow to match the change to the identical home alternate jerseys. In 2023, the sleeve patch is removed.

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Special Events Jerseys

1991 Turn Back the Clock to 1925 New York Giants

Steve Kraljic collection

In an early Turn Back the Clock game on June 23, 1991, the Giants played as the 1925 New York Giants, dressed in reproduction uniforms made of double-knit fabric by Rawlings. The opposing Cubs wore their regular uniforms. Back numbers, not used in 1925, were added to these replicas for the modern contest.

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1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1942 New York Giants

Steve Kraljic collection

May 3, 1992: The Giants called on Russell to reproduce their red, white, and blue uniforms from the 1942 wartime era, and played the similarly attired 1942 Phillies at home.

These TBTC uniforms were made from double-knit material, not old-fashioned flannel, but the lettering was made of felt. An original 1942 uniform is shown at bottom right for comparison.

The original had a zipper front and smaller Varsity variant numbers, not the Block numbers used on the reproduction. (Note the foot on the original jersey's "1")

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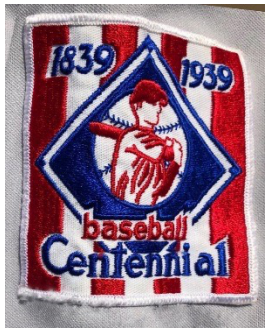
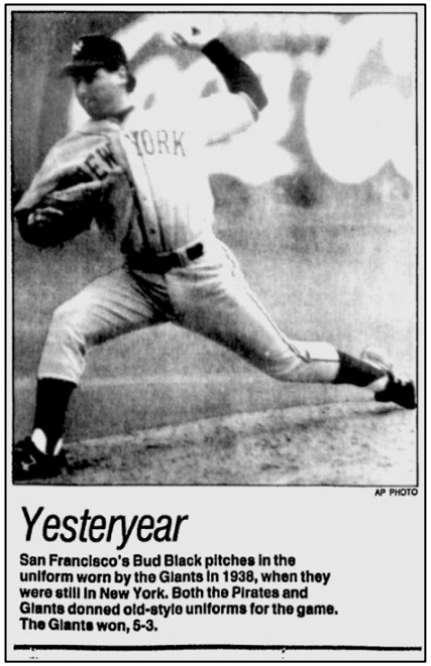
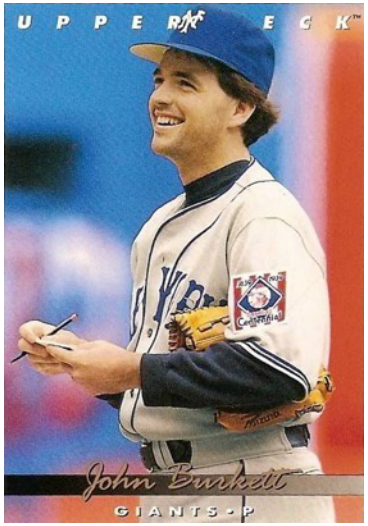
1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1939 New York Giants





Original 1939



May 31,1992: The Giants wore Rawlings-made knit replicas of their 1939 New York Giants road gray uniforms for a game in Pittsburgh against the Pirates. They were made of gray double-knit with royal blue trim and felt lettering.

Compared to an original 1939 road jersey at lower left, the design is fairly accurate, except that the “NEW YORK” on the front is slightly too tall.

The back number is Block font instead of the correct McAuliffe-style “Red Sox” font. The newspaper photo above incorrectly labels the uniforms as from 1938. The Baseball Centennial sleeve patch was worn by all MLB teams in 1939.

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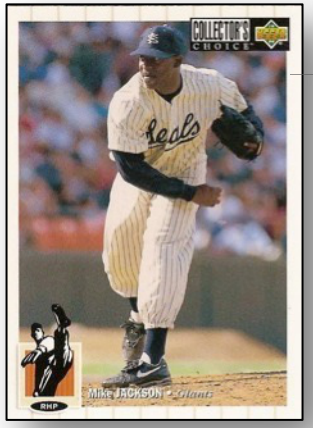
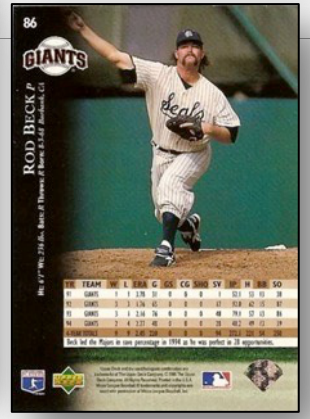
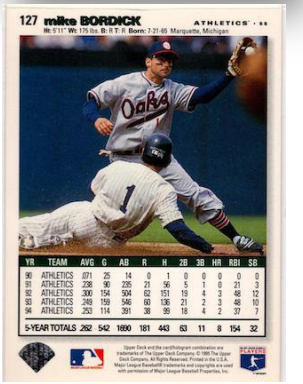
1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL San Francisco Seals (Home)





- Before MLB moved to the West Coast in 1958, the San Francisco Seals and San Francisco Missions represented "The City by the Bay" in the Pacific Coast League. The Seals were the team that gave Joe DiMaggio his start, and where he had a 33-game hitting streak in 1933.
- **April 2, 1994:** The Giants played a preseason exhibition game at home against the cross-bay Oakland Athletics as the Seals, in old-time pinstriped flannel with felt lettering.
- Uniform manufacturer is Ebbets Field Flannels.



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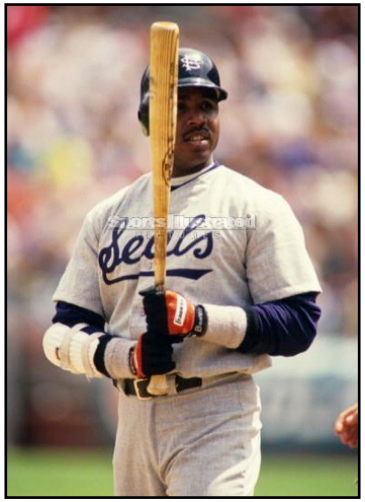
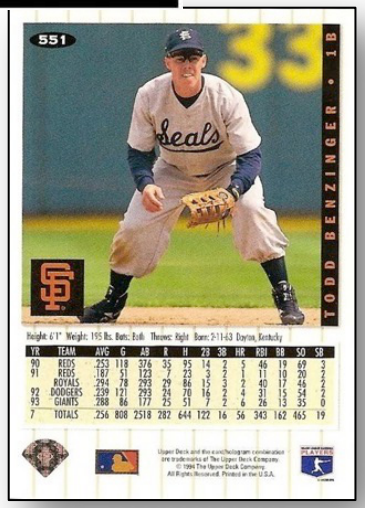
1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL San Francisco Seals (Road)

April 3, 1994: The Giants played a preseason exhibition game in Oakland against the cross-bay Athletics, dressed as the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast League in old-time gray flannel with felt lettering. The uniform manufacturer is Ebbets Field Flannels.





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1999 Turn Back the Clock to 1978-1982

Steve Kraljic collection

Mitchell & Ness double-knit jerseys were worn in a TBTC game on June 6, 1999. The versions made for the game have a small felt tag sewn on the lower left shirttail, lettered with "T.B.C. 6-5-99." The game was played against the A's, who also wore period-specific uniforms.

These jerseys are surprisingly inaccurate. Most notably, the Giants logo is poorly rendered compared to the originals. Steve Sale, a friend and former tailor for the Oakland A's, informs us that this bastardized version of the Giants script was "invented" by Alpha Sporting Goods for use on the Giants' early screen-printed batting practice jerseys. As poorly as it was drawn, it remains with us today.

The player number font used is not the correct Varsity Standard; instead, the font "Block with Serifs" (as used by the modern Twins) is used. The NOB is too small and should follow the Giants' Vertical Arch style, but does not.

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1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

July 21, 1999: This Turn Ahead the Clock promotion jersey was worn at home vs. San Diego. The front design is printed directly into the fabric. One-color black "Future Font" numbers and vertically stacked names appear on the back. These jerseys were supposed to be worn with orange undershirts—an idea scrapped at the last minute.

From website www.sfgate.com

FASHION STATEMENT: It was``Turn Ahead The Clock Night'' at 3Com Park, with both sides wearing what were supposed to be futuristic uniforms -- broad shoulders, no sleeves, tiny numbers in the back with names running along the side and a huge logo on the front. The Giants were scheduled to wear orange undershirts to complete the ghastly ensemble, but that idea was mercifully nixed.

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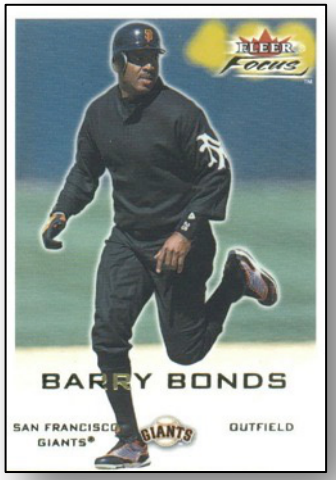
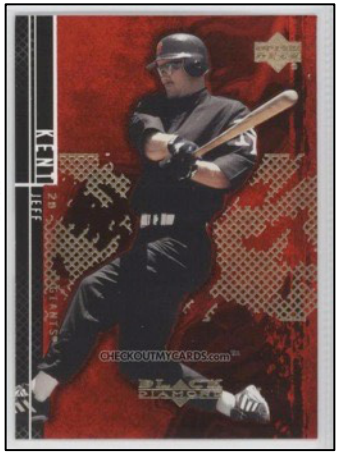
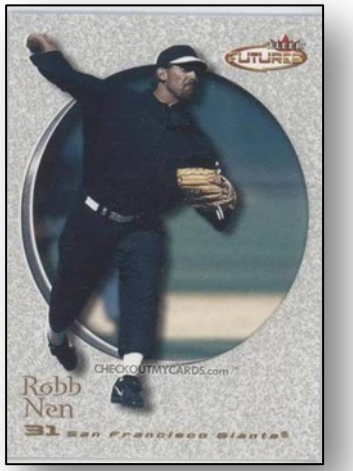
2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1911 New York Giants





June 3, 2000: The Giants played in Oakland dressed as the 1911 New York Giants, wearing unique black "World Series Special" uniforms, recreated in traditional wool flannel by Mitchell & Ness. Back numbers were not worn in 1911, but were added for this TBTC game. Mitchell & Ness chose the McAuliffe "Red Sox" number font to capture an old-time character.



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2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1951 New York Giants

The Dodgers originally agreed to wear TBTC uniforms as the road team in this game. They later changed their minds. Ownership decided they wanted no part of a game commemorating one of their most bitter seasons against the rival crosstown New York Giants—no matter that it had been 50 years prior.

Top left: *The diamond-shaped sleeve patch on 1951 uniforms commemorated the National League's 50th Anniversary. An original 1951 uniform is shown below it for comparison.*

The Giants were set for a TBTC game on September 16, 2001, vs. the Dodgers, and were prepared to dress as the 1951 New York Giants in Mitchell & Ness wool flannels. The tragedy of September 11 intervened, and this game was never played. However, a complete set of date-tagged team uniforms were made and are certainly in circulation among collectors.

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2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1951 New York Giants

Delayed a year because of the 9/11 tragedy, the Giants and Dodgers finally had their Turn Back the Clock game on July 28, 2002, commemorating the Giants' victory over the Brooklyn Dodgers to win the 1951 NL Pennant on Bobby Thomson's famous "Shot Heard 'Round the World."

Thomson himself attended a pregame ceremony, wearing one of the Mitchell & Ness jerseys, tagged "9-16-01," originally made for the game the year prior. It is unclear if the 2002 game jerseys were the same set or a new batch, but they were made from old-fashioned wool flannel and closely matched the 1951 originals, down to the NL anniversary patch on the left sleeve.

The Dodgers declined to play along, wearing their regular uniforms. This commemorative event is famous in Giants history, but not fondly remembered by the Dodgers—still bitter even 51 years later.

A newspaper report noted the throwback uniforms but commented: "The differences between the old togs and San Francisco's regular retro-styled uniforms were barely noticeable." Someone who did notice, however, was Giants starter Jason Schmidt. After his jersey repeatedly came untucked during the first inning, he changed into his standard home uniform for the remainder of his appearance.

Giants 1951 hero Bobby Thomson wearing the throwback jersey intended for use the year before.

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2005, 2007-2008 Hispanic Heritage

Steve Kraljic collection

May 21, 2005: The Giants dedicated the third statue at SBC Park, in honor of Hall of Fame right-hander Juan Marichal—the "Dominican Dandy." For that night's game against the A's, they wore jerseys with the team's name in Spanish across the front. The #25 jersey above is not game worn, but it is an authentic replica of the full-weight knit jerseys of the style also worn on May 5, 2007, and May 5, 2008, to celebrate the Cinco de Mayo holiday.

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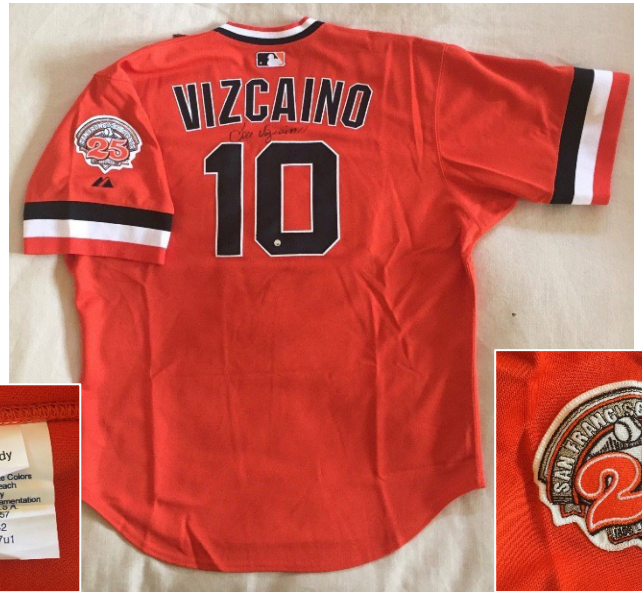
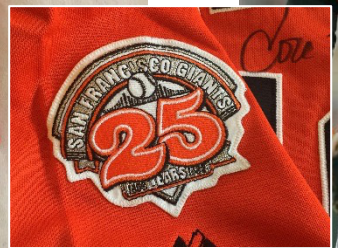
2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1982





Swisher's ninth-inning RBI triple rallies A's past Giants

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- Although Barry Bonds showed he still has a spring in his step, with his first stolen base in nearly two years,

the Oakland Athletics bounced back a whole lot better than the San Francisco slugger's legs.

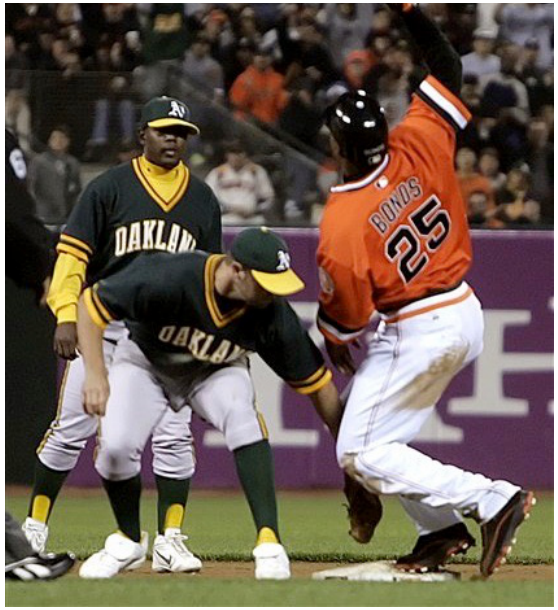
San Francisco took two of three from the A's at the Coliseum last month in the opening leg of the Bay Bridge Series -- and Bonds hit his 714th homer, tying Babe Ruth for second place on baseball's career list. Until Bonds' sprint around the

bases, the atmosphere was more entertaining than the baseball on '80s Night. Both teams wore the loud, softball-style uniforms of their 1982 counterparts, and the Giants welcomed back Crazy Crab, the human-sized crab mascot introduced at Candlestick Park in 1984 as a sarcastic protest against mascots.

Bonds looked sharp in his deer-hunter-orange top, but he had two fielding misadventures in the early innings. He made up for them with an impressive catch to end the sixth, backhanding Antonio Perez's fly on a dead run.

Schmidt moved up two spots on San Francisco's career strikeouts list during the game, passing Mike McCormick (976) and Bobby Bolin (977). Schmidt is 10th overall in franchise history. ... After the game, players from both teams signed their retro jerseys and gave them away for an online charity auction.

June 23: Majestic created these beautifully accurate replicas of the Giants' 1977–1982 orange alternate pullovers for a Turn Back the Clock game vs. the Oakland A's: "'80s Retro Night." The Giants' current player name and number lettering font is used instead of the correct font from the originals, but at least they got the front script right this time, using the same patterns as for the team's 2003–2006 batting practice jerseys. Players wore them inappropriately baggy, but sadly, we are used to that by now.



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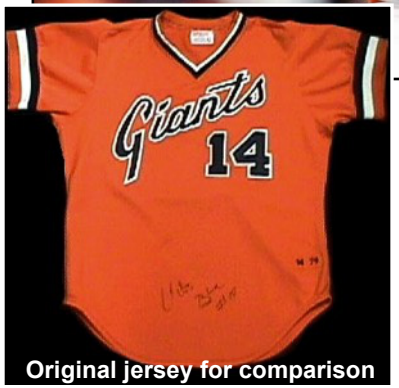
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1978-1982



Original jersey for comparison

June 13, 2008: The Giants wore bright orange jerseys made by Majestic, appearing to be identical to the orange Turn Back the Clock jerseys worn in 2006. Again, they are good, but not quite perfect copies of the Wilson originals from 1978–1982. The numbers used are the same as the Giants' current numbers, not the correct Wilson Varsity font used in those earlier years. Names on back use the current name font and are not properly vertically arched, and the sleeve end trim is too wide. But the front logo is satisfyingly correct. Players in the 1978–1982 era wore their uniforms skintight; players in 2008 wore them like pajamas. The intent was better than the execution, as it is with many such games—regardless of the graphic accuracy of the uniforms

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2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1927 Brooklyn Royal Giants)

Steve Kraljic collection

June 22, 2008: The Giants were in town for the Kansas City Royals' annual Negro Leagues salute. The Royals dressed as the Kansas City Monarchs; the Giants played the role of the 1927 Brooklyn (NY), Royal Giants, wearing gray pin-striped knit uniforms with a stylized orange and black "RG" on the left chest. Orange/black numbers appeared on the back in a version of Varsity; no player name on back. These uniforms were constructed of especially heavy-knit fabric. Uniform manufacturer is AIS.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Hispanic Heritage

June 27, 2009: As the guests of the Milwaukee Brewers, the Giants wore a road gray version of their *"Gigantes"* jerseys; a first for them. The Brewers wore navy blue *"Cerveceros"* jerseys.

Other than the alteration of the front wordmark, there were no other changes. From the back, these looked just like the Giants' regular road grays. Nameplates used on back.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010-2011 Hispanic Heritage

The Giants' "Gigantes" jerseys look identical to those worn in 2005, 2007, and 2008—but in 2010, they are made from Cool Base fabric for the first time.

All lettering and player numbers identical in composition to the team's regular home jerseys: Black outlined with orange, with a thin gold drop shadow.

- **September 18, 2010:** The Brewers and Giants hooked up for Latino Heritage Night in San Francisco. The Brewers wore gray "Cerveceros" jerseys.
- **September 10, 2011:** The opponents were the Los Angeles Dodgers. Game worn jerseys should have the 2010 World Series Champions patch on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Gold Program

April 9, 2011: These special jerseys were worn one day only, for the second home game of the season, which also marked the Giants' Ring Ceremony.

All lettering is metallic gold outlined in black with a thin orange drop shadow. Players also wore a matching one-day cap featuring a gold "SF" logo.

Observers commented (not complained—no one complains when celebrating a championship!) that the gold lettering faded into invisibility as the sun set and the lights came on.

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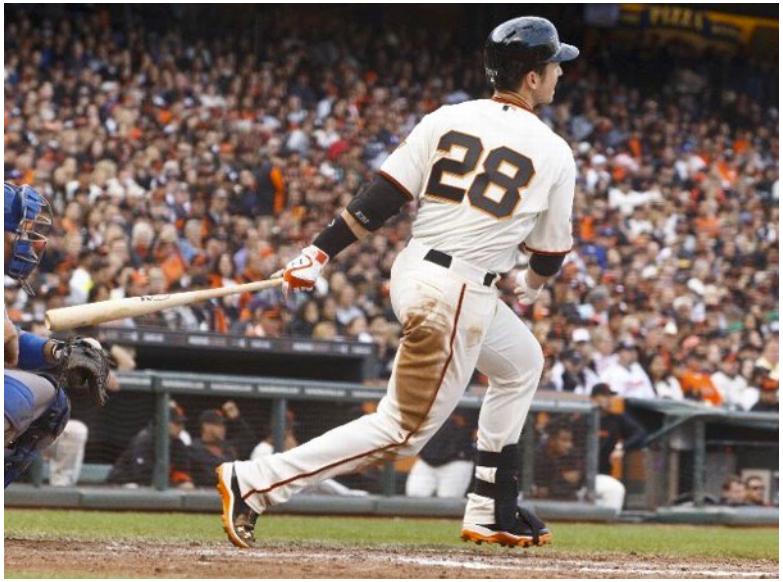
2012-2015 Hispanic Heritage

Identically styled Cool Base jerseys worn on multiple dates: May 5 (Cinco de Mayo) when the team is home, and at the annual *"Fiesta Gigantes"* held each September. The front wordmark is changed from regular home jersey, but the rest of the jersey is identical to standard. The 2013 version has the World Champs patch on the right sleeve. The 2015 entry has the 2014 World Champs patch on the right sleeve, and the "LON" memorial patch on the left, above the team patch, for broadcaster Lon Simmons.

- **2012:** May 5, September 8
- **2013:** May 5, September 7
- **2014:** September 13
- **2015**: May 5, September 12



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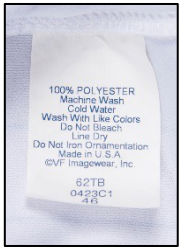
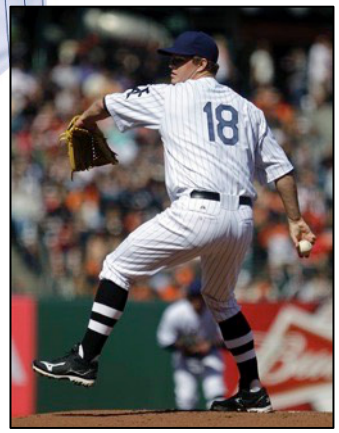
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1912 New York Giants





Above left: *photo of 1912 Giants player in uniform;* ***Above right****: gray pinstripe example from an auction catalog is probably a 1913 road uniform.*

June 2, 2012: The Giants invited the Cubs for this event, billed as "Turn Back the Century." Majestic knit replicas of the 1912 uniform are white with navy pinstripes, have a blank front, and only an interlocking "NY" on the sleeve. Player numbers on the back are in simple Block font, though players in 1912 did not wear numbers. The jersey features a double-layered, "sun collar" that was common on baseball uniforms until the early 1930s.

"TURN BACK THE CLOCK … The Giants and Cubs wore replica uniforms from 1912 today … Some elements from today's turn-back-the-century game include

- The scoreboard had a vintage look, and videos were not shown.
- There was a roving barbershop quartet outside the gates
- Giants photographers, ushers, security guard, groundskeepers, and other staff wore 1912-era garb.
- Only organ music was played the entire game." *(San Francisco Giants press release)*

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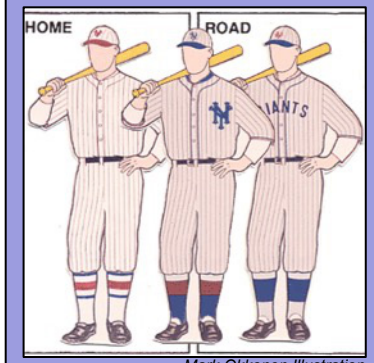
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1924 New York Giants

Steve Kraljic collection

July 5, 2012: The Giants visited the Washington Nationals, and wore 1924-style gray pinstriped uniforms. Modern numbers (in Varsity style) added to the back. Note the red detail in each point of the team logo. Okkonen's research shows this jersey as a one-year-only design and suggests it is one of two worn on the road (an early "road alternate" perhaps). Ironically, the Giants were the only team in 2012 with a road alternate jersey in their lineup.



Mark Okkonen Illustration

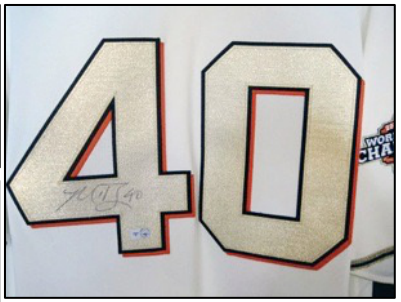
Baseball Hall of Fame Collection

Relics from 1924

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Gold Program

April 7, 2013: Worn at the home opener. World Champions special jersey is a unique cream-colored variant of the interlocking SF alternate road jersey with all adornment in metallic gold and black, with an orange drop shadow. No names on back. 2012 World Series Champs patch on the right sleeve.



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2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

May 27, 2013: MLB dictated that all teams would wear camouflage-lettered jerseys for their Memorial Day games. The Giants uniforms were perhaps the worst example of this plan. Desert tan camouflage lettering outlined with orange and gold drop shadow, then placed on a light-gray background, proved to any doubters why camouflage is used to effectively make things invisible. These Giants uniforms looked all but blank from only 10 feet away.

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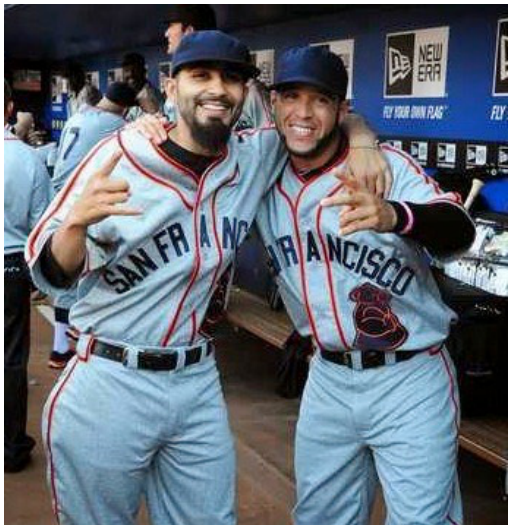
2014 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 San Francisco Sea Lions)

May 3, 2014: Visiting the Atlanta Braves, the San Francisco Giants dressed in the uniforms of the 1946 San Francisco Sea Lions of the Negro Leagues. They wore historically accurate gray uniforms that confusingly included a patch of a bear cub on the front. It was reported that the 1946 Sea Lions purchased and reused the uniforms of another defunct Negro League club, leaving the patch from the prior team in place. These uniforms are made from knit fabric, but have a reasonably convincing flannel "pattern" printed on them. Navy Varsity numbers on back; orange and navy knit trim on the placket, around the collar and at the sleeve ends, and on top of the shoulders.



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2014 Memorial Day

May 26, 2014: Only slightly better than the 2013 effort, the Giants' home uniforms for Memorial Day 2014 featured desert camouflage lettering outlined with orange and gold drop shadow on a cream-colored background. Player numbers, but no names on back, as is the Giants' standard for home jerseys.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Gold Program

April 18, 2015: To celebrate their third World Series championship in five years, the Giants again bring out gold-trimmed uniforms for their ring ceremony. These cream-colored Majestic Cool Base jerseys are something of a hybrid of the home and home alternate jerseys, with gold added for good measure. The front and back lettering is all metallic gold/black/orange drop shadow, with the Giants' patch on the left sleeve. 2014 World Series Champs patch on the right sleeve, and the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on back collar, are also outlined in gold (on the regular uniforms, both have a white border). The LON memorial patch is above the team disc on the left sleeve, as it was on their typical jerseys.

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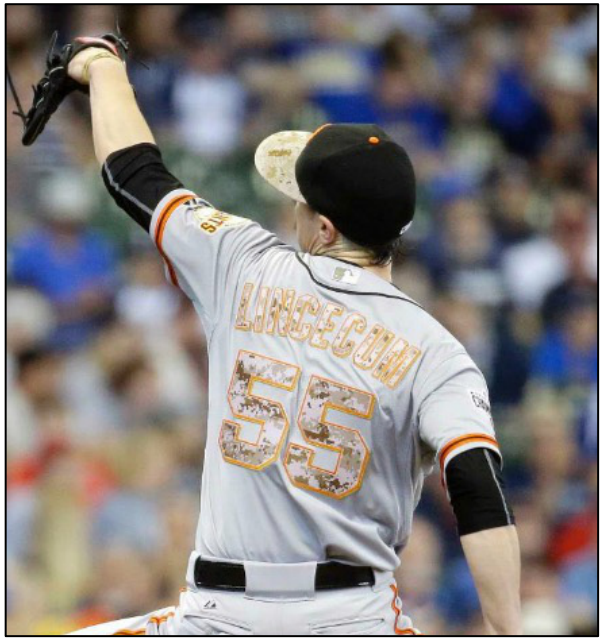
2015 Memorial Day



May 25, 2015: The Giants bring back camo for Memorial Day. Essentially identical to the 2013 Memorial Day jerseys, this set sports the 2014 World Series Champs patch on the right sleeve, in place of the 2012 World Series Champs patch on the 2013 version. As with the 2013 take on this look, this jersey's lettering disappears almost completely; another example of style trumping function. The LON memorial patch does not appear here. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the collar is dark green/khaki/white in 2015, rather than its typical team colors from 2013 and 2014.

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2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of the team's normal color palette. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys, which makes the orange in the jersey trim clash sharply with the rest of the decoration. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Giants wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including the front logo as well as back numbers. Two-layer twill replaces the usual three-color lettering on the jerseys. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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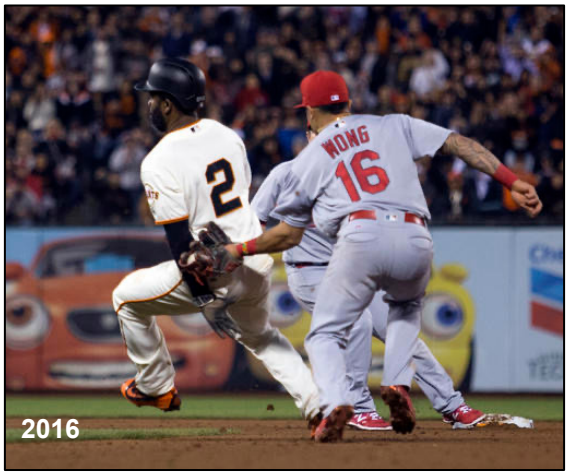
2016-2017 Hispanic Heritage



May 5 and September 17, 2016 & September 16, 2017: The Giants once again turn into the "Gigantes." Other than being applied to the new Flex Base template, these jerseys are identical to the Gigantes jerseys of years past. The 2016 entry also includes the Monte (Monte Irvin) and Davvy (Jim Davenport) memorial patches that are on the Giants' other jerseys that season. The style returns for 2017 without the memorial patches.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Mother's Day

May 8, 2016 and May 14–15, 2017: In 2016–2017, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms on Mother's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days). The Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink, and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Giants wear a white version of their typically cream home jerseys, with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. Back numbers are pink/dark gray. None of the lettering carries the usual, subtle drop shadows. The team's left-sleeve patch is also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim—normally orange/black/orange—becomes dark gray. The team's two memorial patches for Monte Irvin and Jim Davenport remain on the right sleeve. The style returns in 2017 without the memorial patches on the right sleeve.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Giants apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The three-color front lettering and back numbers are rendered in two-color woodland camo with a black outline (no drop shadows), and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their left sleeve patch is reduced to shades of green, gray, and black; sleeve trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from the usual orange/black/orange. The team's two memorial patches for Monte Irvin and Jim Davenport remain on the right sleeve.

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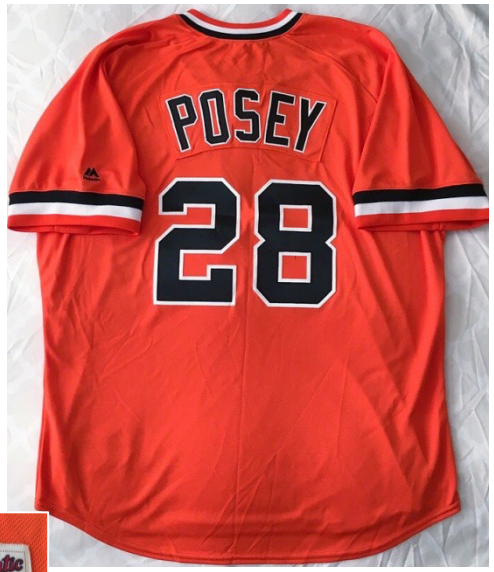
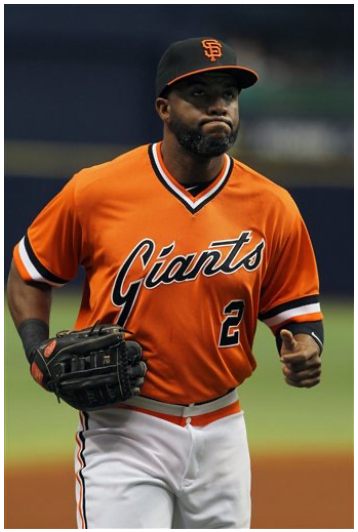
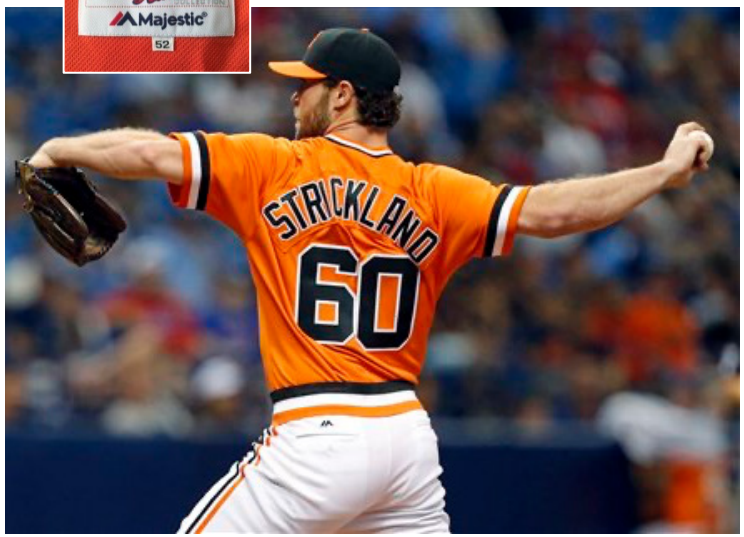
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1978







For two road games (June 18 against the Rays, and July 20 against the Red Sox), the Giants throw back to their 1978 orange jerseys (both opposing teams also wore throwbacks; the Rays, their “Fauxbacks” and the Red Sox, 1975 home uniforms). This is the fourth time the Giants have resurrected this style, and this Majestic knit pullover is a decent recreation of the original, except for the radial arch name on the back, which should be vertical arch instead.

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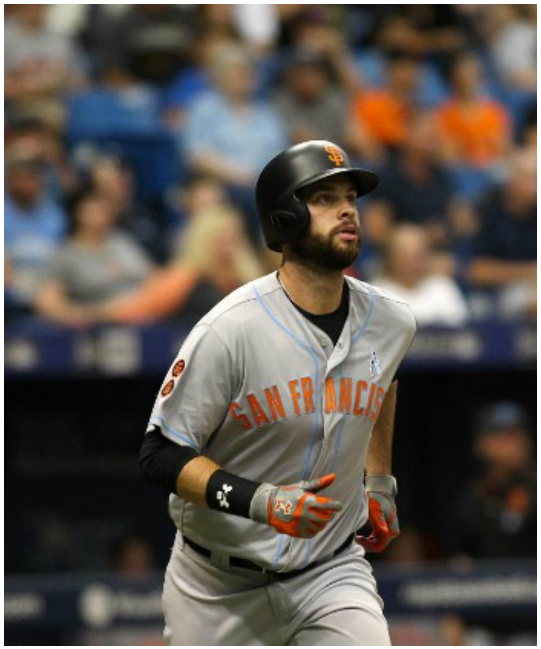
Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Father's Day



June 19, 2016 and June 17–18, 2017: In 2016–2017, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms on Father's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days); the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal/light blue/white. The only team to buck the trend of replacing their main lettering color with light blue, the Giants wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in orange with light blue outlines. (Perhaps the light blue was too close to Dodger Blue—the signature color of Giants' longtime rivals, dating to their time together in New York?) The player names on back are rendered in single-color light blue; back numbers are orange/light blue. None of the lettering carries the usual, subtle drop shadows. The team's left sleeve patch is also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally orange/black/orange on sleeves and black around the placket, becomes light blue. The team's two memorial patches for Monte Irvin and Jim Davenport remain on the right sleeve. The style returns for 2017 without the memorial patches.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Giants are at home and wear their home jerseys, although this version is white; the standard Giants home jersey has a cream base. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill, and the Giants select the red twill version with blue outlines to replace their three-color front lettering and back numbers; there are no drop shadows on this version. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016: team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim—normally orange/black/orange—becomes single-color red. The team's two memorial patches for Monte Irvin and Jim Davenport remain on the right sleeve, but are oriented horizontally over the flag patch, rather than vertically as usual.

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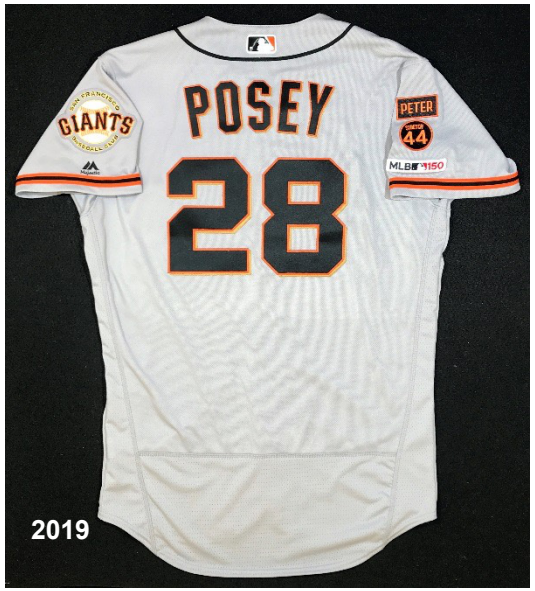
2017, 2019 Hispanic Heritage

2017



2019

The Giants wear Gigantes jerseys annually at home but had not worn a road version of the style since 2009, until wearing it twice in three years on May 5, 2017 and July 13, 2019. Otherwise identical to their standard road jersey, save for the modification of the Spanish team name on front, these gray Majestic Flex Base jerseys were mostly indistinguishable from the regular set, especially to the opposing teams' fans. In 2019, the jersey carried the "Peter" and "Stretch 44" memorial patches atop the MLB150 patch on the right sleeve as the rest of the team's jerseys did.

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2017 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Giants apply this style to a white version of their typically cream home jerseys on May 27–29, 2017.

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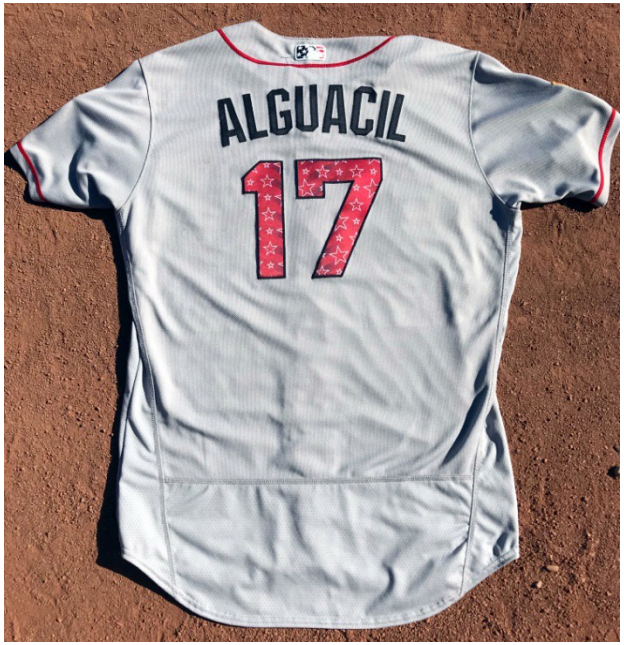
2017 Independence Day



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–4, 2017, the Giants wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/ blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Giants wear jerseys with gray bodies and orange sleeves with white nicknames and orange numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/white/orange trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in orange/white/black drop shadow kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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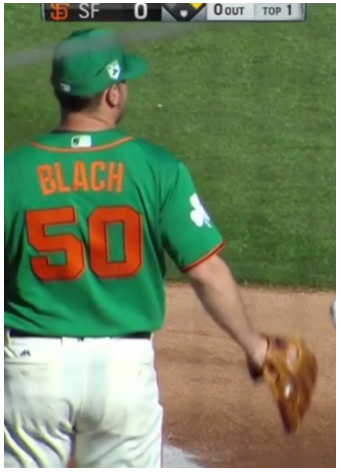
2018 St. Patrick's Day



Some teams do things their own way. When most teams wore blue lettering on Father's Day, the Giants wore orange. When many teams adopt a standardized template for St. Patrick's Day jerseys, the Giants wore orange again. Bucking the trend of white/gray lettering on the Majestic Flex Base green jerseys, in 2018, the Giants simply recolor their black alternate jersey with a green body, keeping the rest of the orange/black/orange drop shadow lettering on front logo and back numbers, the left-sleeve patch, and placket and sleeve trim intact, and adding player names on back in…what else? Orange. They did maintain the league-wide right-sleeve shamrock and green MLB logo on the back of the collar, but one senses they didn't have a choice about them. Orange and kelly green together, particularly these shades, make for a very confusing combination for the eyes, especially in the sun of a Spring Training game. They are memorable, however. If you look at them long enough and close your eyes, you'll still be able to see them.

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2018 Memorial Day

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the design pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers accompanied by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see, as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Giants apply this style to their road gray jerseys on May 26–28, 2018.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the lettering - red/blue or blue/red - and the Giants go with a different option this year than last. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2–4, 2018, the Giants wear their road gray jerseys with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of--collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Giants wear jerseys with black bodies and orange sleeves with white nicknames and orange numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/black/orange trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in orange/white kiss-cut twill.

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2018-2019 Hispanic Heritage

2018 right sleeve

After many years of standard home versions of their Gigantes jerseys, and even a few road gray instances, the Giants go all-in on their black alternates for the team's salute to Hispanic heritage on September 16, 2018 and September 14, 2019. Aside from the updated front logo, changed from "SF" to "Gigantes," these are identical to the typical black alternate set in every way. The 2018 version carried the team's 60th anniversary in San Francisco patch on the right sleeve, while the 2019 entry displayed the "Peter" and "Stretch 44" memorial patches atop the MLB150 patch on the right sleeve as the rest of the team's jerseys did.

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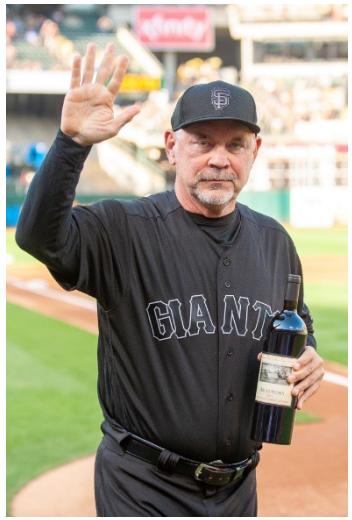
2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Giants wear a black version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.



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2021-2023 Hispanic Heritage

The Giants update their special “Gigantes” jersey at the same time they make changes to the regular-season alternate it is based on. Now made by Nike rather than Majestic, this iteration included player names on back in orange/black/orange drop shadow, making all the lettering match in style. It is worn on September 18, 2021, and on May 5 and September 18, 2022.

The 2023 version is worn five times with different sleeve patch variations. On April 29, 2023, for the Giants game against the Padres in Mexico City, it has the MLB World Tour Mexico City Series patch on the right sleeve and a Banorte sponsor patch on the left, omitting the bridge patch and that year’s Gaylord Perry memorial patch. On May 5, it has the Gaylord Perry memorial patch on the right sleeve. On June 4, 2023, the Vida Blue memorial patch is added with the Perry patch on the right sleeve. For games on August 12 and September 30, 2023, the Perry and Vida patches are moved above the bridge patch on the left sleeve, and the right sleeve bears a sponsor patch.

April 29, 2023

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2021-2024 Negro League Sea Lions Home

On June 19, 2021, July 17, 2022, August 26, 2023, and June 20, 2024, the Giants bring out a home version of a jersey they wore on the road in 2014, the 1946 San Francisco Sea Lions of the Negro Leagues. The cream uniforms confusingly included a patch of a bear cub on the front, despite the team's name. It was reported that the 1946 Sea Lions purchased and reused the uniforms of another defunct Negro League club, leaving the patch from the prior team in place. These Nike jerseys in Cool Base material have numbers on back in a Varsity variant (that looks a little like a squared-off McAuliffe) in navy; orange/navy/orange knit trim on the placket, around the collar and at the sleeve ends, and on top of the shoulders.

The 2024 game took place at historic Rickwood Field, the oldest professional ballpark in the United States and former home of the Birmingham Black Barons of the Negro Leagues. The jerseys for that day also included a memorial patch for Willie Mays, who had passed away two days prior, and unfortunately, the team's ad patch, though credit for using an old version of the sponsor logo to try to fit the theme.

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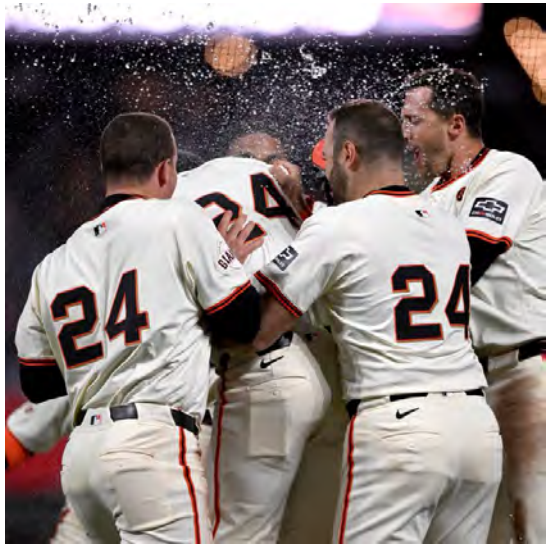
2024: All Players Wear 24 for Willie Mays Tribute

Right: *Note the player number written by hand in marker to identify which player should get this jersey.*



Willie Mays was a baseball legend, and was revered by Giants fans for his 20 seasons with the franchise and his impact on the sport. A "Forever Giant," he served as a de facto ambassador for the team until his death on June 18, 2024. For the Giants' first home game after Mays' death, all Giants uniformed personnel wore his number 24 for a game against the Cubs, appropriately, on June 24, 2024.The jerseys were standard Giants Vapor Premier Elite home jerseys, all with number 24 and no name on back. The jersey numbers were done in perforated twill. The team's Mays memorial patch, introduced a few days prior, was on the left chest. The jerseys were auctioned after the game with proceeds going to San Francisco charities in Mays' name. Fittingly, the Giants wore these jerseys as they rallied down two in the ninth to come back for a walk-off win.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1972 Prototype Home

This Wilson jersey found for sale is probably a prototype sample made for team consideration for the 1973 season. Notice the detailed specification tag sewn into the back of the neck, typical of prototypes. The front wordmark looks to be identical to what Wilson offered and the team adopted on its first knits, color-reversed from the then-current 1972 flannels and tweaked in shape. The back numbers are the standard Wilson Varsity font and are different from the variation the team eventually adopted. The Giants also added player names on back for the first time with their switch to knits.

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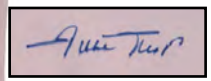
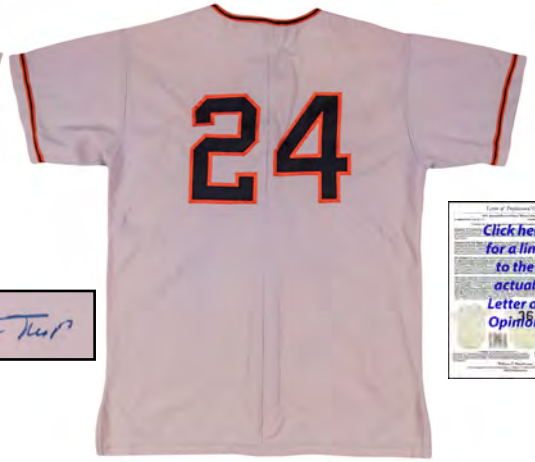
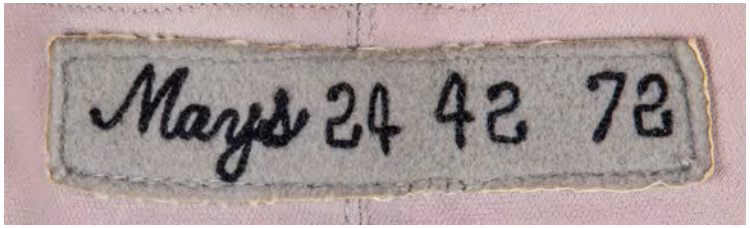
1972 Prototype Road







We have seen (and featured) several other 1972 Giants prototypes, and clearly, the team was considering many options when making the switch from flannels to double-knit. Here is an example of a knit prototype road uniform made by Spalding. Wilson had made the flannel road uniforms that the Giants wore through the 1872 season, and this sample mirrors that style closely, with a slightly different number font on back. By the time the team adopted knit road uniforms in 1973, Wilson had been chosen as supplier, and the color of all the lettering flipped to orange/black, so this sample captures a style and manufacturer the team passed over.

Right: *The Giants' 1972 road flannel,made by Wilson, which they used all season. Note the difference in back numbers vs. the Spalding sample. The Giants did not wear knit road uniforms until 1973, thought they stayed witfh Wilson, and made minor changes from their final flannels.*

1972 road flannel

© GameWornGuides.com

1972 Prototype Pullover

Shown here is a sample made up for the Giants of a pullover road jersey. Made by McAuliffe in 1972, in advance of the team's switch to double knit road jerseys in 1973, this design was not adopted by the team. It was offered for sale by the son of the team's then-manager Charlie Fox, with the following text excerpted from the description:

"This is the prototype pullover jersey for 1972 SF Giants...My father, Charlie Fox, was the manager of the Giants in 1972. The team had this one jersey made by McAuliffe Uniform Corp., to determine if they would switch from button down to pullover style...When the decision was made to not adopt this style during spring training 1972, I was given the jersey by the equipment manager (Eddie Logan)."

McAuliffe made jerseys for the Giants from the flannel days through 1976. By the time the team adopted pullover jerseys in 1977, McAuliffe was out of the picture and Wilson took over as manufacturer.

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1977 Prototype Road Orange/Black

Top row: The switch to double-knits and pullovers meant a break with tradition for the Giants, and this orange road jersey was one marker of that shift. Though the Orioles introduced an orange jersey year before, theirs was an alternate jersey. The Giants took orange and ran with it, making it their primary road jersey. The experiment only lasted one year, but from this prototype, it is clear that the team wanted to see this jersey "in the cloth" before making such a bold decision. Though no back lettering is present, the front design, as well as the neck and sleeve trim, mirror what the team wore on the field that year. The small tag, sewn in the neck under the size tag, is the telltale sign that this jersey is a sample.

Bottom row: The black jersey lacks prototype tagging and has an odd Wilson neck tag variant that is seldom seen. It may be a prototype, or it may simply be a fan creation. The Giants would introduce a black road/alternate jersey for the first time in 1978, the following season.

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1978 Last Minute Change?

This page from a Wilson trade magazine ad, touting the MLB teams under their uniform contract. Judging from the array of photos, this was from around December 1977, and surely it was aimed at college and high school teams, trying to win their business for the spring season. Supplying uniforms to the pros was likely a loss-leader for Wilson in those days; there was no ability to market pro jerseys to the public (and frankly, almost no demand for them then, in the different world we lived in). Wilson made their money on the semi-pro and school teams that bought based on their reputation serving the pros.

Notice that Wilson did not have home/road contracts with all teams. In fact, most teams split their orders; with perhaps home uniforms being supplied by Wilson, road ones by Rawlings or Sand-Knit.

And look closely— the 1977 uniforms are shown for all teams EXCEPT the Padres home *(bottom row left)* is the 1978 design. The white Phillies jersey is the 1972–1974 design. The front lettering on the road Phillies is placed far too low. And—-oddest of all—the Giants pullover shown was never worn. The 1977 Giants wore the slanted, cursive Giants script (1977–1982) and Wilson also supplied the one-year style 1977 Giants road orange jersey that had the arched “San Francisco” on the front. My guess is that contract was not yet finalized when this ad ran.

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1985-1986 Giants First Name(s) on Back(s)

Pitcher Vida Blue played for both Bay-area teams in his career. During his time on the colorful Oakland A's of the 1970s, he and other A's players were encouraged to wear names other than their last names on their jerseys. Blue opted for "Vida," which was also his father's name, in his dad's honor. He carried the tradition across the Bay when he played for the Giants, as seen in his 1985 jersey here.

His teammate Chili Davis also broke out a "first name on back" jersey for the 1986 All-Star game. Blue was not on that All-Star squad, and it does not appear that Davis did this in the regular season at any time, so it seems unlikely that they both wore their first names on the same team at the same time.

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Pre-1994 Prototype Road

Preparing for the 1994 redesign of their uniforms in 1993, the Giants got very close to finalizing a road jersey that had the logo colors reversed from what was used. The prototype used orange "San Francisco" lettering outlined with black, like the color scheme used on the team's 1973-1976 road jerseys.

How close did they get? Close enough that (new) official uniform maker Russell made hundreds (thousands?) of them in readiness for 1994.

Gary Clem of Center Star Sports in Texas was involved in lettering the team's jerseys then. He recalls these surplus jerseys being cut apart to make nameplates, pants patches, and whatever else -- if not just discarded. Years ago, these were seen commonly at card shows and for sale on eBay but seldom seen today.

The jersey above is from my collection. Note that the "Diamond Collection" tag on the front has been given a black mark, the common practice of the maker to deface the jersey before sending it to the discount outlets. This jersey is also size 46, an in-between size made for team use only and not commonly sold in retail stores. Gary Clem of Center Star Sports lettered this one for me, using the proposed "reverse" color scheme. I think it looks pretty nice. I would have liked to see them use it.

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Oddballs

https://www.nytimes.com/1992/11/11/sports/baseball-look-what-wind-blew-back-baseball-s-giants.html

***New York Times* SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., Nov. 10, 1992:** National League club owners today soundly rejected a move of the San Francisco Giants to St. Petersburg, Fla., handing the Tampa Bay area its seventh setback in seven attempts to attract a major league baseball team. The owners, in a secret ballot that required 10 votes for approval, voted 9-4 against allowing Bob Lurie, the Giants' owner, to sell the team for $115 million to the Tampa Bay group, which would have moved the Giants to the Florida Suncoast Dome in time for next season.

These screen grabs from a 1992 CBS "60 Minutes" story show proposed mock-ups for the Tampa Bay Giants. We doubt these advanced beyond the drawing board to the cloth.

Potential Oddball: "Santa Clara Giants" Jerseys?

In the mid-1980s there was a ballot proposal to move the Giants to Santa Clara CA. It was so close to passing, the team made up "Santa Clara Giants" jerseys to see how they would look (or perhaps to scare the San Francisco legislature?) I have never seen pictures of a mock-up of one, but perhaps someone else has?

(Source: *San Francisco Chronicle* 4/11/2000)

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1976 Toronto Giants

From theathletic.com: Re-creation of the never unveiled Toronto Giants uniform from 1976, digitized by Cameron Walker, son of original designer Richard Walker. “It is from the sketches I gave him a few years ago from memory,” Richard Walker said. “He took the liberty of going further and putting it on uniform which was actually never done but may be interesting.” (Courtesy Richard Walker).

Baseball weaves history into its uniforms — even for the Toronto Giants

By Marc Carig, April 27, 2020, theathletic.com

On a February evening in 1976, Toronto’s power brokers prepared for the culmination of a years-long effort to land their own baseball team. The Giants, once a jewel of the National League, had become a bankrupt laughingstock. Now, they were about to flee San Francisco for Canada’s largest city, where the new owners were eager to trumpet their imminent arrival into the big leagues. The time had come to unveil the logo that would grace the new uniforms.

“There was never much thought given to being creative or Canadian,” recalled Richard Walker, the designer who was tasked with adapting a traditional look. The Giants’ familiar orange and black wordmark, which had origins dating back to the team’s years in New York, was modified slightly so that the letters “G” and “S” were enlarged. That created a natural space above for the addition of the word “Toronto.” The orange cap insignia, formerly an interlocking “SF” arranged diagonally, was changed to a “TG.”

Local officials were confident. One even posed for a photo at Exhibition Stadium, recently renovated to lure a new team. He stood in the snowy ballpark, arms outstretched, triumphant grin framed by the collar of a fur-lined coat. He wore a generic cap that featured the letter G; the real insignia and uniform logo would be saved for the big reveal. But 15 minutes before it began, Walker said, a telegram arrived with stunning news. An eleventh-hour deal had been reached to keep the Giants in San Francisco. “And that was the end of that party,” said Walker, whose designs were meant to be the centerpiece of the announcement.

Another iteration of the Toronto Giants proposed logo, the top from letterhead in the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, the bottom on a pin belonging to sportslogos.net founder Chris Creamer. These differ significantly from what is shown at left. The reality of what may have been worn on the field if the Giants had moved north of the border may have been somewhere in between… or neither.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994 Darryl Strawberry's Special Sleeves

When putting player names on the back of jerseys, I always look on the Internet photos of the player in action, which tells me how steeply his name on back was arched, and how high or low his numbers were sewn. Collector Mark Lum called out these photos of Strawberry playing for the Giants in 1994 ***(top row)*** Strawberry's nameplate is so long it would normally crosses the sleeve seams and spill over onto the sleeves of a raglan-style sleeved jersey like the Giants wear (Bottom row). Surveying game photos from 1994, Lum noticed that Strawberry seemingly alone is wearing jerseys with "sewn on" style, not raglan style sleeves. (Confused? See the beginning of Chapter 2 where jersey construction is discussed).

Strawberry is also one of a couple Giants players who are issued Rawlings jerseys during the 1994–1999 period, not the standard Russell ones. Notice that his jerseys do not have the Russell "R" on the sleeve end.

I conclude that this was no accident, as the construction of the two styles is very different, and it appears on both his home and road jerseys; perhaps the star player preferred the fit of the sewn on sleeves? Or perhaps, he wanted to avoid his nameplate crossing over the seams onto his sleeves because it didn't look as good.

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1994 Bobby Bonds Name on Back Font

Bobby Bonds was a San Francisco Giants legend who played for the team in the 1960s and 1970s, and returned to coach in the 1990s. He was also the father of Barry Bonds, another Giants legend in his own right. So one would think that they'd get his name right on the back of his home jersey...Instead, here he is in three photos from 1994, side-by-side with son Barry, showing that Bobby was somehow issued a jersey with a serif typeface name on back.

The Giants have never worn a serif typeface on their jersey backs, so it is especially surprising to see that it made the field for anyone. Sure, if he were a call-up player, or maybe a fill-in coach, these things may happen during a rush order at a local sewing shop. But he was already a coach with the Giants the year before. And he's Bobby Bonds. And, every time his son ended up at first base (which Barry did a lot), everyone in the ballpark could see them side-by-side, not matching. Go figure...

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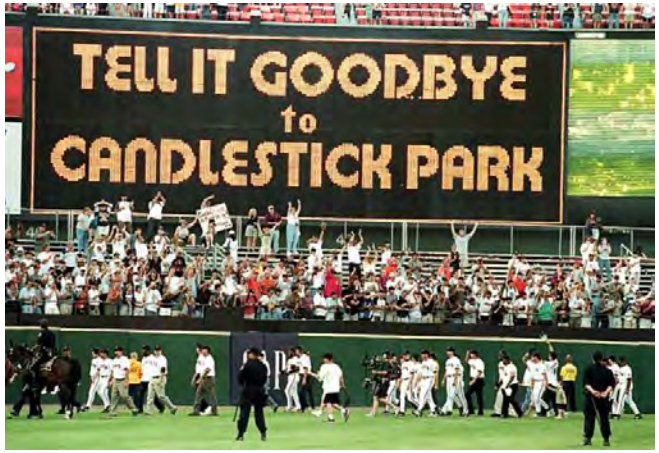
1999 Final Game at Candlestick

September 30, 1999: Former players were issued jerseys in the style that they wore during their playing days with the team, and they were worn in pregame ceremonies on the field at Candlestick, prior to the final baseball game played there.

Most likely this one is a souvenir from the event, made by Mitchell and Ness and date tagged for the game. The horrible "Alpha Company" bastardized version of the wordmark is used, one that inexplicably appears on other Mitchell & Ness jerseys attempting to represent the 1977–1982 era.



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2009-2010 Prototype Batting Practice

The jersey on top is very close to what the Giants used for Spring Training and BP in 2009–2010, except for the lack of name on back. It is presented in a size 46, typical for samples of that era, with “8” on back, possibly representing that it was made in 2008.

It was offered by a seller along with the jersey on bottom, also without player name on back, as well as white drop shadow outlines on all letters and numbers rather than the gold the team opted for ultimately. This one, also a size 46, has an 0068 code on the laundry tag, also used on team issued and sample jerseys of this type.

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More Oddballs

In 2004, Russell changed the place where the word “Giants” splits for the uniform’s buttons. Between 1983 and 2004, the word was split in the middle of the “A." In 2004, the spacing was altered slightly, so that the word splits neatly between the “A” and the “N," which is how it remained. Careful examination of 2004 game photos shows that some players were using leftover 2003 jerseys with the word split in the old spot.

Steve Kraljic collection

Above: *I just love this one, because it answers the question, “What happens if your name is so long it will never fit on the back of a jersey?” Here, the Giants have chosen a super-condensed version of their vertically arched NOB type font for William Van Landingham’s name. Now, I wonder what would have happened if he had played for the 1970s Reds …*

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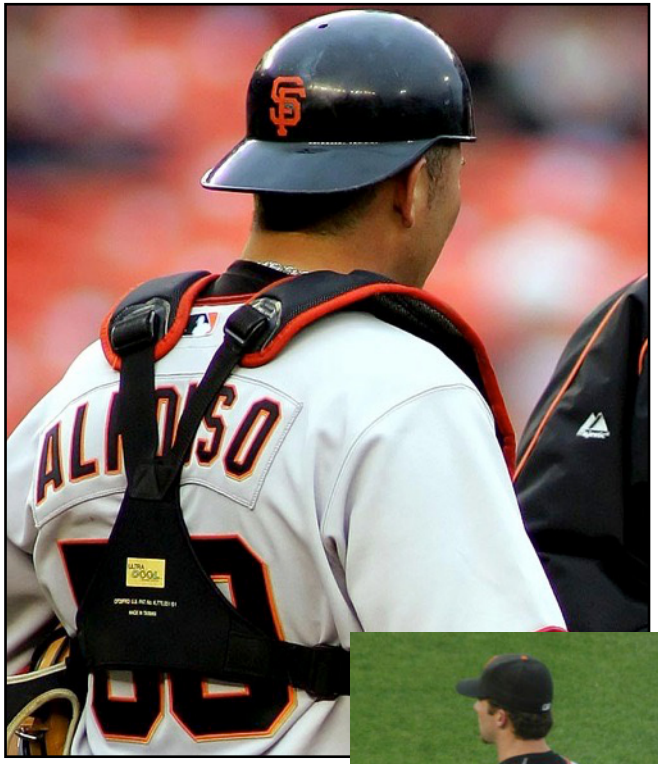
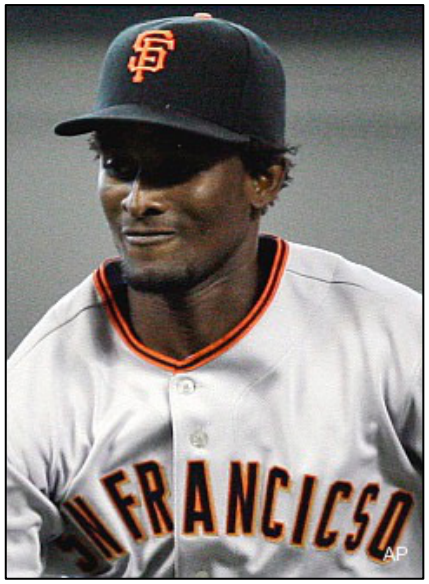
2010-2011 Oops! Miscues





Quality control department: (clockwise from top) Note Edward Alfonzo's NOB misspelled, Eugenio Valez's creatively spelled "San *Francicso*" jersey, Randy Messenger appearing in his first game after being traded from the Marlins with without his player name on back, and Daniel Ortmeier's road jersey missing its team sleeve patch.

(Associated Press) HOUSTON -- Maybe they left his shirt in "San Fran-cic-so."

A Giant misspelling resulted in outfielder Eugenio Velez wearing a weird jersey Wednesday. A pair of letters were transposed in "Francisco."

So when Velez made his season debut in the seventh inning during a double switch, his uniform read "San Francicso." No one seemed to notice until well after the Giants' 10-4 win over the Astros.

"No, no, I didn't know," he told The Associated Press by cell phone from the team bus on the way to the airport. "That's the first I've heard."

"Increible!" the Dominican backup said in Spanish.

Velez is in his fourth year with the Giants. He walked and scored the final run against the Astros.

His teammates' jerseys were spelled correctly. The Giants said they would fix Velez's gray uniform before their next road game on April 16 in Los Angeles against the Dodgers. This was the second year in a row that a major league uniform spelled trouble.

Last April, Adam Dunn and Ryan Zimmerman of the Washington Nationals wore jerseys reading "Natinals" for three innings of a game. The company that made the uniforms apologized for the mistake.

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2012 Road Prototypes

Photos: Gary Taylor

Photos: Gary Taylor

The Giants made some very subtle changes to their road jerseys in 2012, which focused mainly on slight changes to the jersey's trim. These two samples, however, show that they were considering a more comprehensive change that they ultimately rejected after seeing the designs "in the cloth."

Both jerseys are typical in their tell-tale sample attributes, both are size 46, have "PLAYER" and "12" for name and number (where "12" means "2012") and have sample tagging sewn inside the lower placket.

The top jersey sample tag reads "GIA-RD-D2-1-2012" meaning Giants Road design 2, version 1, 2012" This one has the "SF" logo on front as the team's road last had in 1993. This jersey looks to be a sample for their 2012 road alternate, which was similar, but had the gold drop shadow on the "SF" that this one lacks, and had black knit trim around the collar and placket as opposed to the orange/black/orange used here.

The bottom jersey's tag reads "GIA-RD-D3-3-2012" for Giants Road design 3, version 3, 2012." It features a black/orange "San Francisco" script used on the team's BP jerseys with matching black/orange lettering on back. Though the orange/black/orage trim matches the top jersey, it is limited to sleeve ends and neck openings. Ultimately, the team did not decide to use this style, which is unfortunate, as it is a very nice design.

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2016-2019 Unused Turn Back the Clock

This jersey spotted for sale on-line has all the right characteristics for a late-2010s vintage Majestic full weight jersey, including the proper 62TB coded inside seam tag that is generally found on team-issue Turn Back the Clock jerseys. The sleeve logo matches the 2016–2019 style. But our records show no such game was played by the MLB Giants.

The sleeve end trim is characteristically inaccurate, but the wordmark is good. Perhaps this was a prototype for a game that was planned but never played.

Brian Guardado photos

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Sample Jackie Robinson Day

For MLB's league-wide celebration of Jackie Robinson Day in 2018, a new detail was added to each team's jersey. While all players on all teams still wore "42" without a name on the backs of their jerseys, a new patch with Robinson's retired number atop two crossed bats and a stylized baseball field design appeared on every players' right sleeve. The same patch returned for the 2019 season as well. But this prototype jersey makes clear that, even a small change, such as a new patch, is a big deal to uniform suppliers and teams.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag indicates it is a team-issued jersey. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "GIA-JR-RJ-D1-1-2018" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a 2018 Giants (GIA) road jersey (RJ) for Jackie Robinson Day (JR). The Giants were, in fact, on the road for Jackie Robinson Day on April 15, 2018, so it is likely that the road version of the jersey was selected as a test for that reason.

It seems odd, even unnecessary, to create a sample like this for something as small as the addition of a single sleeve patch. But since this particular initiative was a change from the prior year, it is likely that Majestic made these up as a "proof of concept," not only for their own production needs, but to show to teams for their review and approval. It is likely such samples were made for all MLB teams' jerseys, but this is the first of this type we've seen to turn up.

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Special Tailoring Variations: Coach Alyssa Nakken

Nakken's debut jersey from July 23, 2020, a size 40.

Special tailoring is nothing new in baseball - players have long requested and received adjustments to sleeve length, jersey length, and tapering to name just a few. But with the debut of the Giants' Alyssa Nakken, the first woman to be a full-time coach in MLB history and the first to coach on-field in an MLB game, jersey tailoring took a new turn, less out of preference and more of necessity. However, at least in her first few seasons, Nike's approach to her jerseys has varied considerably. This survey is by no means exhaustive, but shows a range of jerseys that have made it to the hobby in recent years.

The jersey Nakken wore for her first game on July 23, 2020 is in the Baseball Hall of Fame. That road gray Nike jersey is listed as a size 40 in the Hall of Fame's artifact database, and has no other visible signs of special tailoring. Examples of two home jerseys issued in 2020, however, are discernibly different in construction, made of Cool Base material but without the Flex Base panels, and cut much shorter with a different silhouette. Both of these examples have an "XL" tag in neck, not seen in other team issue jerseys. One lacks the typical Nike tag with the QR code and sewing information, while the other includes it and sizes the jersey as W-XL, or women's extra large. Supply chain issues made sourcing everything difficult in 2020, so some inconsistency could be understandable that season. The next two seasons are another matter.

A home jersey from 2020 in size XL, with neck tag, and no Nike heat pressed label on the front hem under the jock tag.

Another 2020 home jersey with the XL neck tag, and W-XL listed as the size on the heat pressed label on front left tail.

© GameWornGuides.com

Special Tailoring Variations: Alyssa Nakken, continued

Left and above: *examples of jerseys issued to Nakken in 2021, including three (City Connect, road, and home) in W-XL, and a standard Flex Base road jersey in size 40. The tagging shown is from the City Connect jersey.*

Available jerseys in the hobby show that Nakken was issued several of the custom-sized W-XL jerseys with the shorter length and different overall dimensions. The road jersey even appears to have smaller team-name lettering on front. However, at least one 2021 jersey in a standard Nike size 40 was also issued to her, odd given that other road jerseys in the W-XL exist, so it does not seem to be an issue of sourcing that style.

There is no clear reason why such inconsistencies would exist over the course of three seasons. At press time though, all 2022 and 2023 jerseys we found were made in size 40 with no apparent additional alterations, so the team seems to have settled on a consistent practice. As more women join Nakken in the ranks of professional coaches, perhaps a new standard will evolve to handle outfitting these pioneering women who are changing the face the game.

Above: *Two jerseys issued to Nakken in 2022, both in standard size 40. No other alterations indicated on the tag for the black jersey* ***(center).***

© GameWornGuides.com

Special Tailoring Variations: Alyssa Nakken, continued

This rare sample is not related to Alyssa Nakken specifically, but figures in to her story, and possibly to all other women who work as uniformed personnel in MLB. We noted on a previous page that new uniform standard would need to evolve to accommodate these pioneering women, and here we have evidence that at least some steps have been taken toward that goal. Here is a prototype jersey that carries all of the hallmarks of Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE), which premiered on-field in 2024, and in many respects is it much like the many other 2024 VPE samples throughout this book. However, so far, this is the only one we've encountered that was made specifically for women.

Note the difference in cut on this jersey from VPE jerseys made in men's sizes. Not unlike some of the women's jerseys Nakken wore early in her career, it is cut shorter, with shorter sleeves, and it more tapered on the sides. This one is a women's size large according to the wash tag, and it measures 20" from seam to seam under the arms, which is about equivalent to a VPE size 40, which is about 20.5" across. However, from the photos of this jersey compared to a VPE size 40 (Red Sox City Connect 1.0) it is clear that the cut is drastically different, despite the similar chest measurement.

Above: *Though the chest measurement of this women's sample and a 2024 size 40 jersey are only 1/2 inch apart, the women's jersey is clearly cut with a much different pattern.*

The tagging reinforces this as a sample made specifically for women. It reads "WOMEN'S 2024 JERSEY P1 SET-IN, RIB, CUFF, BF" WHERE P1 indicates it is one (of possibly other) samples. We assume that "Set-in" refers to the sleeve style, and it is likely "Rib" and "Cuff" refers to the neck and sleeve trim. "BF" is for "button front." There is also a small, handwritten "2" on the corner of the tag, which may indicate this is a second version of this style.

Separate paperwork included with the jersey shows that it was made in late 2022 for the 2024 season. What we don't know is if it was a response to women like Alyssa Nakken taking on-field roles with teams, or if Nike intended to make a line of authentic VPE jerseys for women to offer at retail. As of press time, we have not come across one of Nakken's game worn or team issued 2024 or 2025 jerseys to know if she wore this template, or if she continued to wear standard size 40 jerseys as she had in years past.

© GameWornGuides.com

2021 Prototype City Connect

In advance of releasing their first City Connect jersey in 2021, the Giants were provided with this sample by Nike for approval. It matches the final jersey used on-field, so the team must have been pleased with it.

This jersey is built on Nike's version of Flex Base, as the team's original City Connect jerseys were upon release in 2021. As we would expect, the jersey uses "PLAYER" and "21" on back, where 21 stands for the year the jersey will be used. This practice is almost universal for Nike samples of the era. Note also the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads "GIA-AHJ-D1-1-2021", which means Giants Alternate Home Jersey, design 1, (version) 1, 2021. There is also a small, handwritten "1" on the corner of the tag, which many Nike samples of this era had, though the numbers differ.

The designation of this jersey as AH1 rather than "CC" for City Connect is interesting. Perhaps at the time this was made a year or two before release, the program had not yet been titled "City Connect" so the jersey was treated as an alternate before the umbrella branding was finalized. It seems unlikely that the Giants considered this a standard alternate, but that cannot be fully ruled out as unusual as it would seem.

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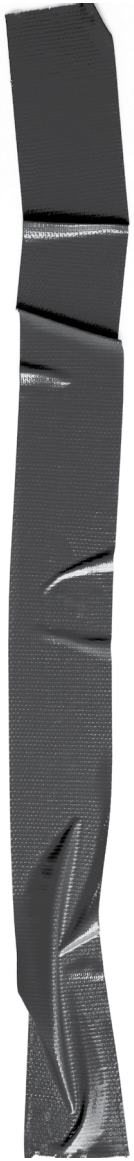
Electrical Tape Oddballs

Cap'n Belt

Sometimes, jokes go a little too far, and on the way to a road game in Chicago on September 10, 2021, the Giants' Brandon Belt joked that he was the captain of the team. His teammate, Evan Longoria, made a quick alteration to Belt's road jersey, adding a captain's "C" in black electrical tape. But Belt took the next step and wore it for the game (where it took on a couple of different shapes as the game wore on). Belt, for his part, lived up to his new title, reaching base four times, scoring the game's tying run, and adding an two-run homer for insurance.

So well loved was the stunt that Belt repeated it - this time for pregame only, when he applied the electrical-tape C to his home jersey for the Giants' home opener on April 8, 2022. In true captain fashion, he entered the field on a boat. You can't make this stuff up.



Taking the L

What's the opposite of a captain's "C"? According to the Giants, it is a loser's "L". For a Spring Training game on March 23, 2022, Giants Steven Duggar and Austin Slater served as bat boys and both wore uniforms with huge, taped "Ls" on back. They earned this indignity for having lost the team's fantasy football league. Beyond the uniform embarrassment, both retrieved foul balls and brought fresh pearls out to the home plate umpire during the game.

Steven Duggar

Austin Slater

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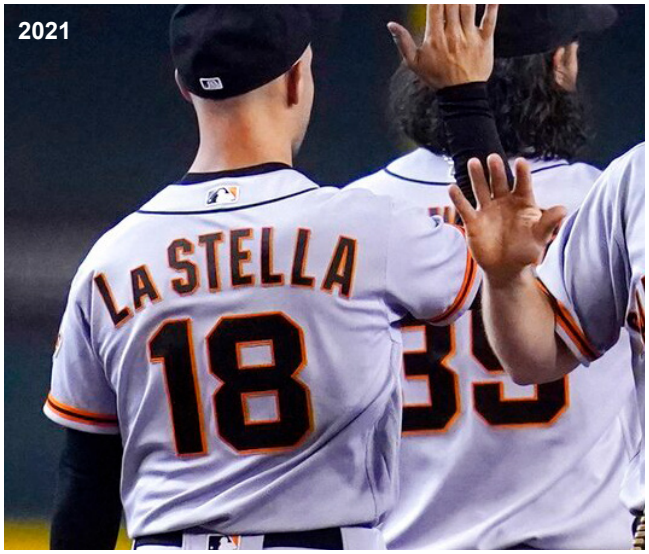
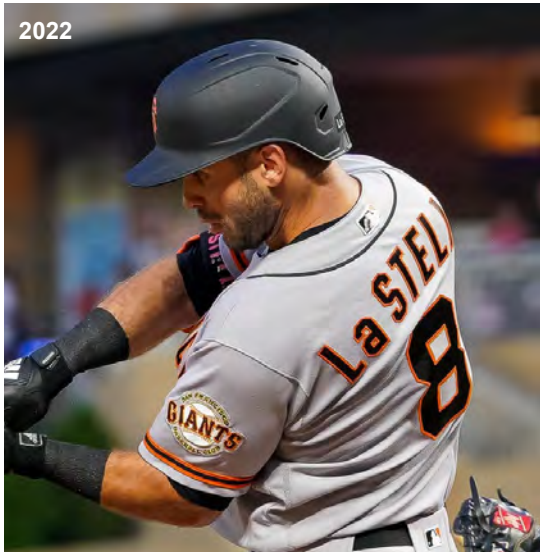
La Stella vs. La Stella





Between 2021 and 2022, the back of Tommy La Stella's Giants jersey underwent two changes, one big and one small. First, he changed numbers from 18 to 8. Nothing unusual about that. However, the first "A" in his last name went from being a small capital A to a lowercase A. That's something not quite as typical.

According to the MLB Style Guide, the Giants did not have any lowercase letters in their character set, so the change must have taken a little work.

It appears that the update was also based on La Stella's preference, as he kept the lowercase A when he moved to the Mariners in 2023. That letter, however, looks more like an upside-down lowercase E than a lowercase A. The Mariners had no lowercase A in their character set, however, so once again, this must be a custom job. One that the Giants appear to have done much better than the Mariners.

Of note, "la" in Italian, used in this way, means "the." ("La Stella" translates as "the star.") Traditionally, it would be lowercase in a name, rendering La Stella as la Stella, and his name would be alphabetized under "S" vs. "L" because of this. These days, the letter is usually presented uppercase in names, despite years of tradition. Had the old practice been reflected here, we would have seen two lowercase letters together as a single word, which may have been an MLB first!

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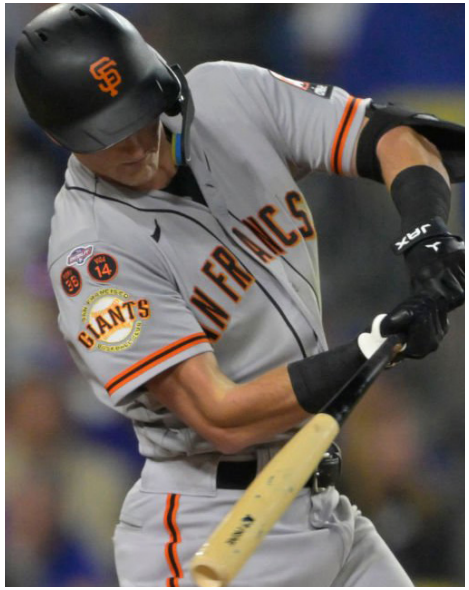
How Many Patches is Too Many?

Giants pitcher Kyle Harrison made his Major League debut on August 22, 2023. That season, in addition to their normal team logo patch, the Giants also had two memorial patches (Gaylord Perry and Vida Blue) and a sponsor patch. And with the addition of the “MLB Debut” patch for Harrison’s first appearance, he took the mound looking like a NASCAR driver, with patches crawling up his left pitching arm almost to his shoulder.



About a month later, Giants outfielder Tyler Fitzgerald made his Major League debut on September 21, 2023. He too had to deal with the panoply of patches. It didn’t seem to phase him, as he picked up his first MLB hit in the game.

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2023 Prototype Alternate Road

While moving from their version of Flex Base to Vapor Premier Elite (VPE), Nike produced a series of samples as they worked through the process. We have seen a handful of 2023 Nike "Conversion Jersey" samples, shown throughout the book, that have had occasional small details that are best described as unexpected. This one we found for sale online is completely mystifying,

Given the details of this jersey, including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, and perforated back numbers, it is clear it is an early VPE sample. The tell-tale "Giants" and "23" on back reinforce this as a prototype, intended for the 2023 season. Usually, "PLAYER" would stand in for the name on back, but we have seen rare occasions of a team name or just "NIKE" here. But, clearly, that's not the most unusual part of this one.

In contrast to the other samples we've seen that had a few slight style details changed, this "road" sample is unlike anything the Giants wore before or since. It is medium blue in color and includes the blue/white/royal blue sleeve trim of the home sample, more reminiscent of the Blue Jays than Giants. Several other conversion samples had that trim, so perhaps that was all that was available at the time. It also has a dark gray next trim, which has shown up, inexplicably, in some other samples too.

The jersey sports the team's typical "SAN FRANCISCO" road front lettering (which looks very,small here). All lettering, front and back, is black/orange/gold drop shadow, standard for their jerseys.

The heat-pressed inventory tag reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads "GIA 2023 ROAD CONVERSION JERSEY P1." There is also a small, handwritten "1" on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, "GIA" is a code Nike has used elsewhere for the Giants, and "2023 ROAD" is self explanatory. Other conversion jerseys we've seen had another 6-character code on the tag, which this one lacks. We haven't been able to decipher those yet, but maybe it explains what jersey base color to use, and its absence confused someone at the factory into using this blue shell? We're only half-kidding about that scenario.

It is hard to understand why this sample has so many aberrant (and abhorrent) details not only from the team's typical look, but also the other samples we've seen. The Giants' road gray jersey base is not unusual. If this were the cream home jersey, not having that base on-hand would be more understandable. Some of the odd choices of other samples are small enough that they could be interpreted as the team or Nike trying something new. But we have no good explanation for what we see here. We're just happy it never made it past this stage.

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2024 Prototype Alternate Home Orange

RGVDEAL on eBay

Note the perforations on the front and back numbers on the sample. The Giants opted to use perforated numbers on their orange alternate jerseys in 2024.

In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the one shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. This Giants orange alternate version is one of those examples. In many ways it replicates the team's alternate jersey that they had worn for years, just carried over to VPE, which meant that things like the original sleeve-end trim was now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it, while front and back numbers on this sample are also perforated, which was an element of the team's final, on-field orange jerseys for 2024.

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads "GIANTS ALT1 JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the "DD4995-810" text on the front tag means. It is likely it is an internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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2025 Prototype City Connect 2.0

The Giants enter City Connect 2.0 territory in 2025, with a completely new uniform that speaks to the music history of the city and region. Prior to unveiling the jersey in early 2025, Nike made up samples for team review, and this is one that appears almost identical to what the Giants wore on the field.

The details of the jersey itself are described earlier in this chapter, and this prototype conforms closely to them except for two details. First, because the prototype was likely made up at least a year or two in advance, the assumption by Nike was that the numbers would be perforated. We have seen many Nike samples that defaulted to perforated numbers (perhaps in an effort to get teams to go along with them). However, given the backlash to Nike uniforms in 2024, many teams reverted back to non-perforated numbers in 2025. When this jersey appeared on field during the season, it no longer had perforated numbers, and had much larger player name lettering, likely victims of the "market correction" against many of the reviled 2024 changes. The other change is that the sublimated "sound wave" pattern is not represented here. Perhaps it could not be added to a sample, or this version lacked it intentionally, but the final included it contrary to this prototype.

As we would expect, the jersey uses "PLAYER" and "25" on back, where 25 stands for the year the jersey will be used. This practice is almost universal for Nike samples of the era. Note also the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads "GIANTS CC JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Here, "CC" stands for City Connect, and there is also a small, handwritten "1" on the bottom corner of the tag, something that many Nike samples of the year have, though the numbers differ. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the "HM6959" text on the front tag means. It is likely it is an internal production codes, as all 2025 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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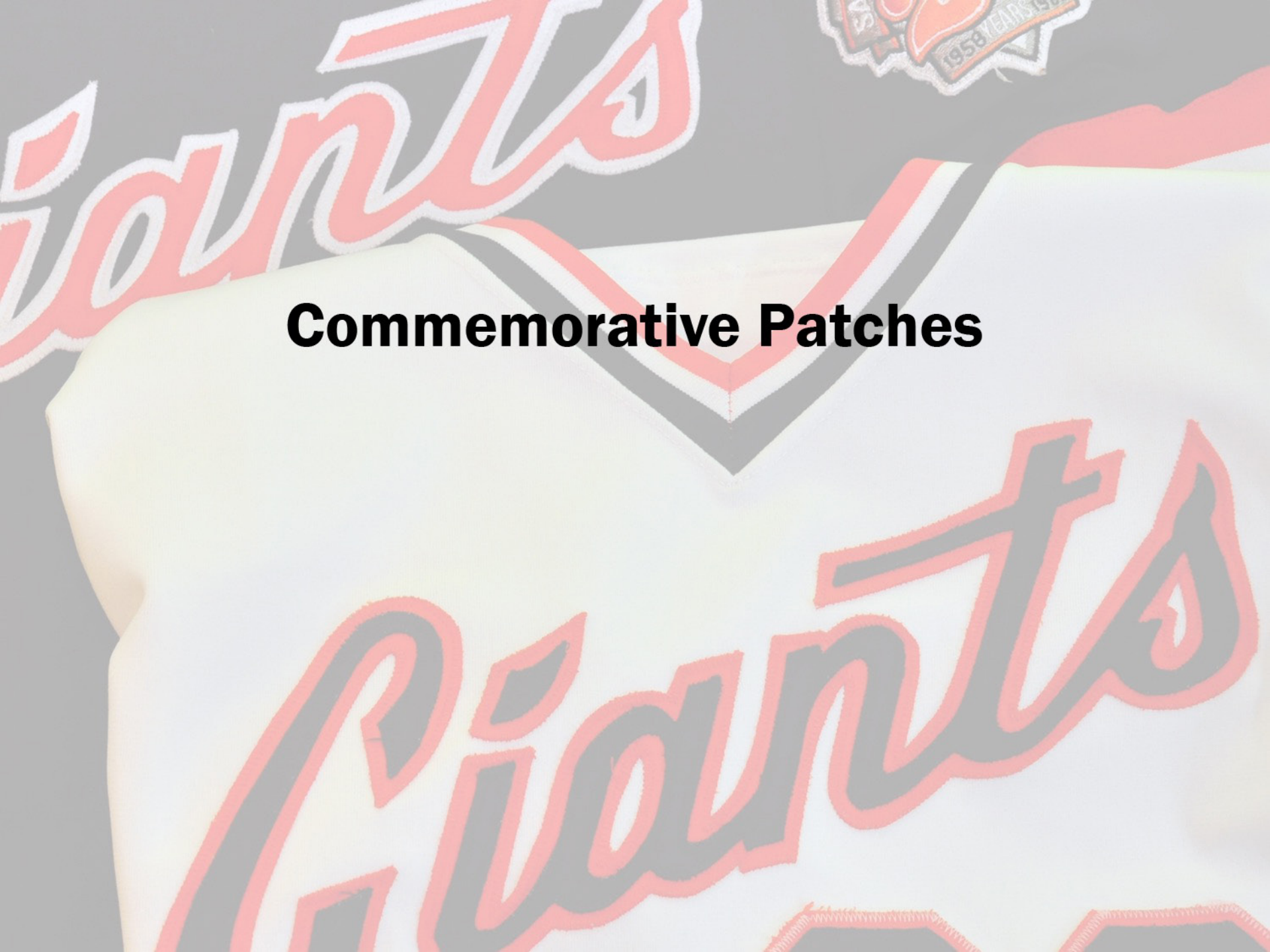
Commemorative Patches



Giants Patches

1982

1994

1984 All Star patches are sometimes seen on 1983 year tagged jerseys; the team recycled a set of 1983 uniforms for use in 1984.

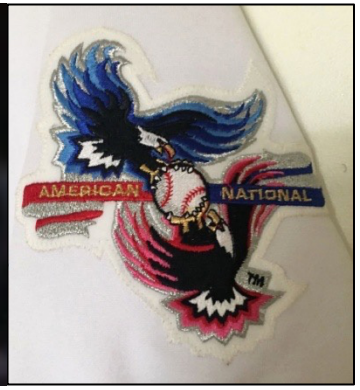
1989 World Series Only

Jersey worn in the 1989 World Series (the one with the earthquake in the middle of it) Note black armband for commissioner Bart Giamatti.

1994

1997

1997: Worn during first MLB Interleague Series by Rangers & Giants Only. 40th Anniversary patch worn on the other sleeve.



1999

2000

- 1982: 25 years in San Francisco.
- 1983: Armband on left sleeve of home jersey starting mid-season, in honor of a groundskeeper.
- 1984: All-Star Game.
- 1989: Black Armband for Commissioner Bart Giamatti (World Series only).
- 1994: CSF “Chub” Feeney Memorial
- 1997: 40 Years in San Francisco. Patch worn on road uniform and road BP only, instead of the Jackie Robinson/Breaking Barriers patch.
- 1997, June 12-13: Giants wore Interleague Play patch during the first-ever MLB Interleague series against the Rangers.
- 1999: Goodbye Candlestick Park patch, home jersey only.
- 2000: Pac Bell Stadium patch worn on home jersey only on left sleeve IN PLACE OF team disk; one year only.

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“Until There’s a Cure” Red Ribbon

In 1994, the San Francisco Giants hosted their first “Until There’s a Cure Day” for AIDS awareness – making the Giants “the first major professional sports organization to identify itself with the battle against AIDS” according to *The New York Times*. Each year since (except for 2021), the Giants have worn a red AIDS ribbon on their jerseys to mark the event. Over time, the appearance of the patch has changed, but in all cases, they were worn on the left chest of the jersey. Especially in earlier years, the adhesive patches sometimes fell off in-game, so not all players had them on all game. Starting in 1996, almost all of the Giants’ annual opponents also wore the patches. Where applicable, the opposing teams’ ribbons are indicated on their respective “Commemorative Patches” pages in this *Guide*.

Date	Opponent	Opp. Patch
7/31/94	Rockies	No
8/13/95	Cubs	No
7/29/96	Braves	Yes
8/31/97	Angels	Yes
8/9/98	Braves	No
8/15/99	Mets	Yes
7/16/00	Rangers	Yes
8/5/01	Phillies	Yes
8/11/02	Pirates	Yes
6/1/03	Rockies	Yes
7/11/04	Diamondbacks	Yes
6/12/05	Indians	Yes
7/23/06	Padres	Yes
7/27/07	Marlins	Yes
5/30/08	Padres	Yes
6/12/09	Athletics	Yes
5/15/10	Astros	Yes
7/18/11	Dodgers	Yes
5/14/12	Rockies	Yes
5/21/13	Nationals	Yes
4/30/14	Padres	Yes
5/20/15	Dodgers	Yes
5/23/16	Padres	Yes
5/15/17	Dodgers	Yes
6/3/18	Phillies	Yes
5/21/19	Braves	No
8/27/20	Dodgers	Yes
7/29/21	NOT WORN	
8/16/22	Diamondbacks	Yes
8/25/23	Braves	No
7/31/24	Athletics	No

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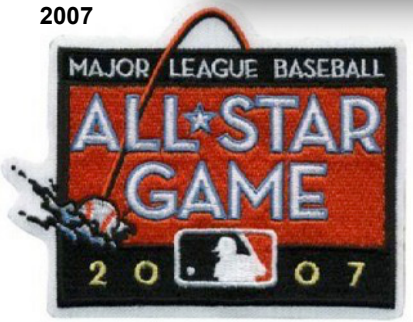
The patch below is sometimes seen on the sleeve of 2003 jerseys offered for sale. This patch was designed for use but was never worn by the team. Stung by their hasty and painful World Series loss, the team decided not to wear them. Instead, these were simply sold in the Giants' gift shop. However, 2003 MVP Baseball game for Playstation2 shows the Giants wearing this patch on their uniforms! You read it here.

2003, after August 23.

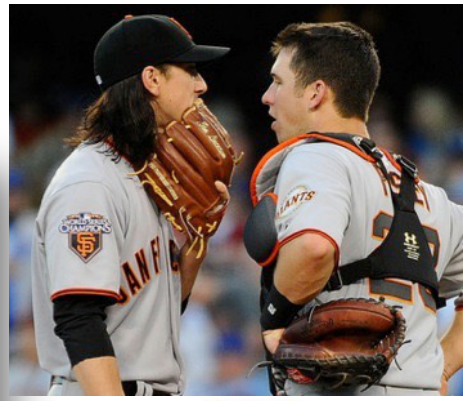
- 2003: Bobby Bonds memorial "BB" patch, worn after 8/23.
- 2007: All-Star Game, on right sleeve.
- 2007: starting June 29, Rod Beck 47 memorial patch.
- 2008: 50 years in San Francisco patch.
- 2009: Starting July 25, a "BURNS" memorial patch for the death of General Partner Sue Burns, who died the prior week, and for her husband, Giants investor group member Harmon, who died in 2006.
- 2011: All season, 2010 World Champions patch on all game jerseys, right sleeve.

2007

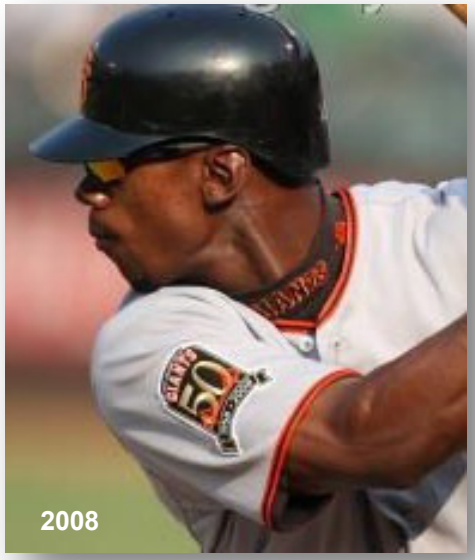


2008

2009, July 25 onward



2007, June 29 onward



2008

2011

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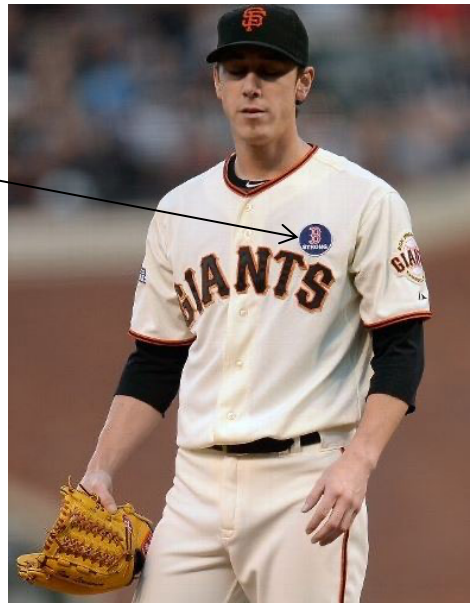


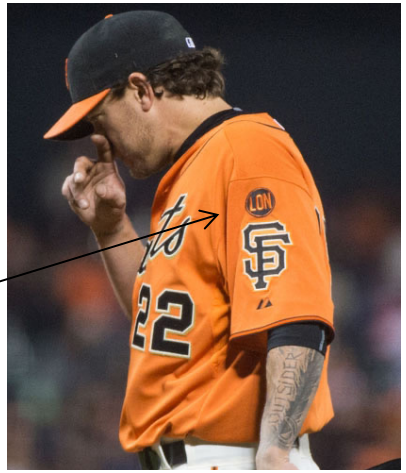
2015: Ring Ceremony jersey, April 18

2015

2015

2013

- May 18, 2012: Golden Gate Bridge 75th Anniversary on orange jerseys.
- August 19, 2013: Players wore Boston's "B Strong" patch for one game during the Red Sox' visit to San Francisco.
- 2013: 2012 World Series Champions patch on all uniforms, all season.
- 2015, April 18: Gold-border 2014 World Series champs patch, worn for ring ceremony day only.
- 2015: 2014 World Series Champions, all jerseys, all season.
- 2015: "LON" patch, on all jerseys beginning April 13, for Lon Simmons, former broadcaster for Giants, A's, 49ers.



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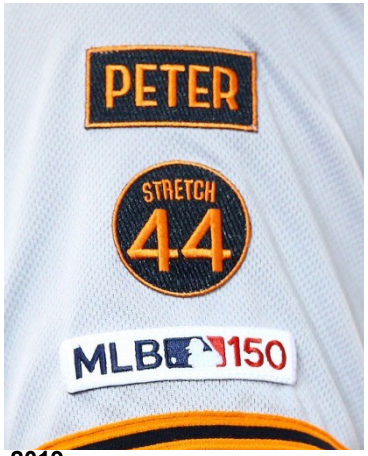
June 17, 2016

2018



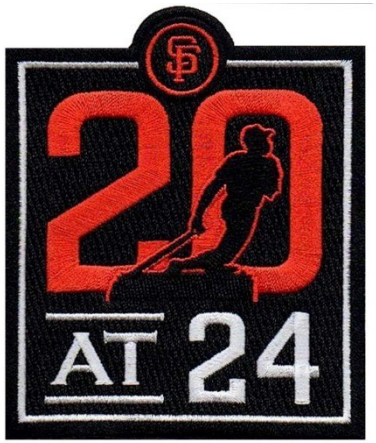
2019

2016

2016

August 11, 2018

September 29, 2019



2020

- 2016: “Monte” and “Davvy” patches - all season, in honor of former players Monte Irvin and Jim Davenport.
- 2016, June 17: Orlando patch in honor of victims of nightclub shooting, on road jersey for one game vs. Rays.
- 2018: 60th anniversary in San Francisco.
- 2018, August 11: Barry Bonds number retirement.
- 2019: Memorials for Willie McCovey (Stretch 44) and owner Peter A. Magowan, who died during the offseason.
- 2019, September 29: “Thank You Boch!” patch for Bruce Bochy’s last game as manager, worn only by Giants alumni during pregame, not by team on field.
- 2020: 20 at 24 – 20 years at 24 Willie Mays Plaza, the address of the Giants home stadium.

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June 5, 2021
June 11, 2022
June 10, 2023
June 16, 2023

June 3, 2022

2023

2023, starting May 15

- 2021, June 5; 2022, June 11; 2023, June 10 & 16: Giants Pride patch described by the team as "The 11 colors of the new Pride logo are emblematic of the Progress Pride Flag and signify inclusion and progression with the six pride colors...and black and brown to recognize LGBTQ+ people of color and light blue, pink and white to recognize people who are transgender." Worn once on home jersey in 2021 and 2022, once each on home and road in 2023.
- 2022, June 3: Orange ribbon for National Gun Violence Awareness Day, to honor those whose lives have been lost or changed by gun violence
- 2022, July 30: Will Clark number retirement celebration patch.
- 2023: Gaylord Perry memorial patch, all season
- 2023, April 29-30: For Giants games in Mexico vs. Padres, Banorte sponsor patch left sleeve and MLB World Tour Mexico City Series patch right sleeve. Worn on black Gigantes jersey April 29 and road gray on April 30, both with regular team sleeve patches and Gaylord Perry memorial patches omitted.
- 2023, starting May 15, Vida Blue memorial patch
- 2024: Starting June 19, the team added a memorial patch for Willie Mays on the left chest of the jersey, and on June 29, added a similar patch in memory of Orlando Cepeda worn above the team sleeve patch. Early versions of the Mays patch are embroidered, while later Mays versions, and all of the Cepeda patches, are printed twill that is heat-pressed to the jersey.

July 30, 2022

April 29-30, 2023

2024:
Mays starting June 19,
Cepeda starting June 29

Early Mays Patch

Later Mays Patch

Cepeda Patch

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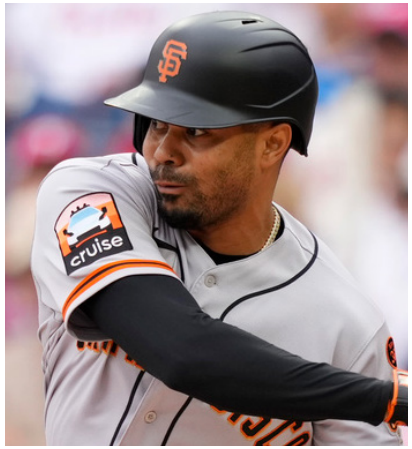
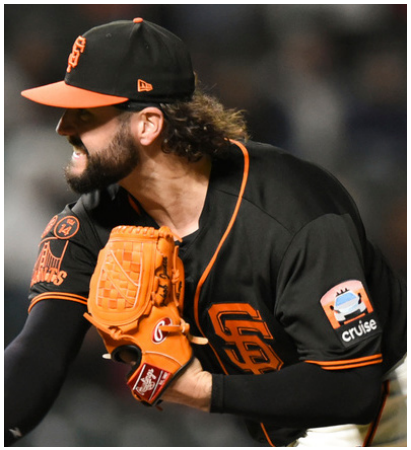
2023 Giants Advertising Patches





Home, Road, Home Alternate, Road Alternate

City Connect

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Giants struck a sponsor patch deal with Cruise, an autonomous car company. The patches first appeared on August 4, 2023.There are two versions of the patch. A threshold-shaped patch is used for the home, home alternate, road, and road alternate jerseys. A patch that only includes the car logo is used on the City Connect jersey, likely so it will interfere less with the bridge graphics on the jersey sleeves. (The car appears to be “driving” over the bridge when used in this context.)

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team’s normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

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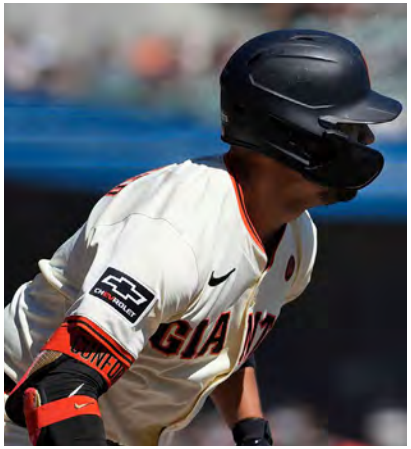
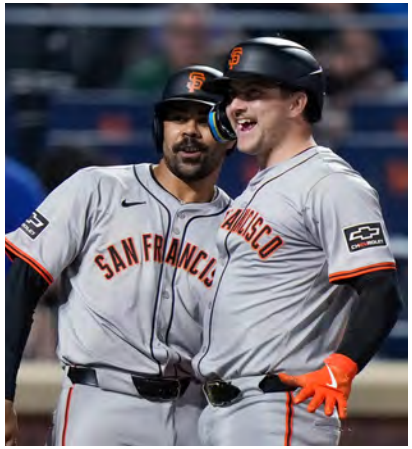
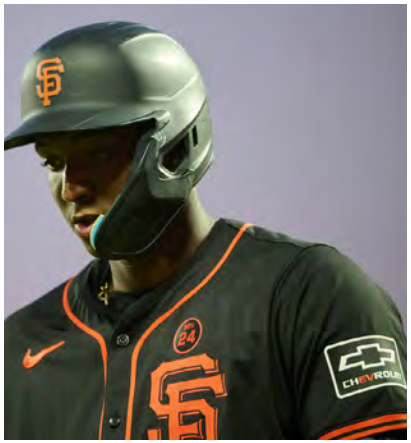
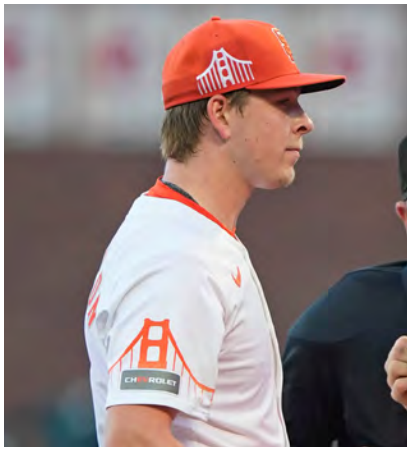
2024-2025 Giants Advertising Patches









Home, Road, Orange Alternate, Black Alternate, City Connect 2.0

City Connect

Negro League Throwback

The Giants were the first team to change patch sponsors, but did so only out of necessity. Cruise, the team's 2023 patch sponsor, lost its license to operate in California in October of 2023. Though the team initially announced that they sponsor patches would remain, they changed course prior to 2024 Spring Training.

Automaker Chevrolet (Cruise's parent company) stepped in as patch sponsor for the 2024 season. The patch first appeared in Spring Training 2024. The patch is a black rectangle with a white border and the Chevrolet logo in white, with the "EV" of the company's name in orange to promote electric vehicles. It appears on the home, road, orange alternate, and black alternate jerseys. The version on the first iteration City Connect jersey (2024) is smaller, with the same "Chevrolet" text but no company logo. However, for the City Connect 2.0 introduced in 2025, the standard Chevrolet patch used on other jerseys is used. The team used a old-time version of the sponsor logo on its Negro League throwback jersey in an attempt to match the time period of the uniform.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

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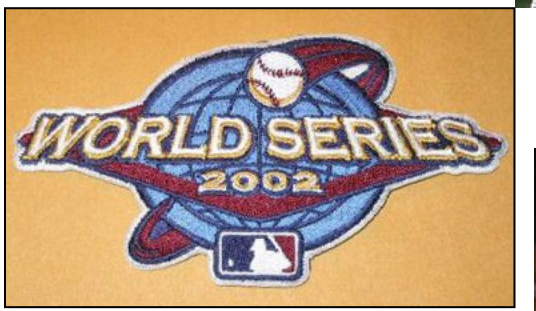
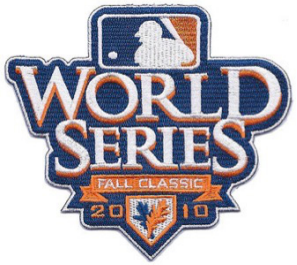
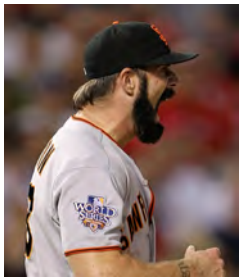
Giants Postseason Patches

1989 World Series (right sleeve) with Giamatti armband on left sleeve



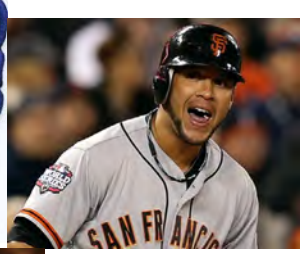
2002 World Series (right sleeve)

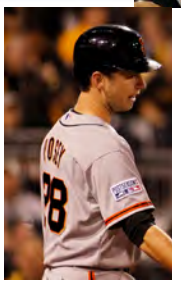




2010 World Series (right sleeve)

2012 World Series (right sleeve)





2014 NL Wild Card
2014 NL Division Series
2014 NL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

2014 World Series (right sleeve)

2016 NL Wild Card
2016 NL Division Series
(right sleeve, above reoriented memorial patches)

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Back

Document of Restoration

San Francisco Giants 1972 #25 Road Jersey

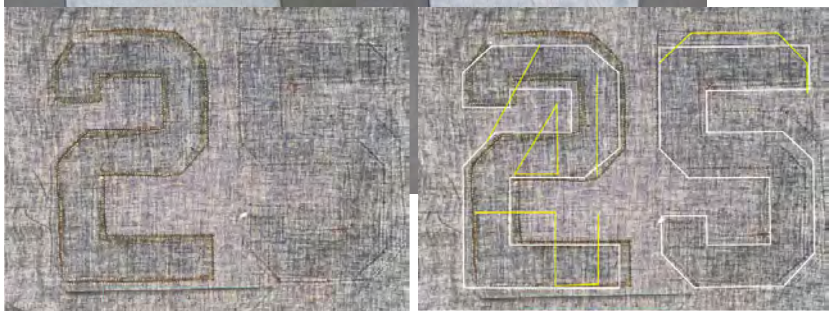
Examination Date: August 20, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0820J02

This letter documents the research and restoration of a MLB jersey by William Henderson. It is not a letter of authentication.

Description: Wilson seven button bluish-gray flannel, San Francisco Giants road jersey. BONDS name tag in felt stitched in the back of the neck, Wilson size 40 tagging and 1972 year tag on the bottom left tail. SAN FRANCISCO arched on the front in black felt sewn over orange twill. As received, the jersey wore dissimilar and unoriginal numerals on the back, #25. Viewing the jersey on the light table even with the old numbers in place we could see that there were ghosts present beneath them. We removed both of the replacement numbers on back. Both were stitched on differently with different types of thread, and different types of stitching. The two was glued down hard while the five came off rather easily. Evaluating the jersey back on the light table we can see the ghosts of the original numbers 25 that are in the proper Wilson font. It also appears that another set of numbers were on the back, the first number appeared to be a four, and the second number was either a zero or a six, likely but not positively.

Restoration Performed: Using the light table I compared the ghosts to the 1972 Wilson font from my archives, and it was a perfect match. There was a great deal of glue and staining that needed to be cleaned underneath the number 25 which I did with dry cleaning solvent. I steamed the garment to remove most of the old stitching holes, then used the light table to place the new numbers. I re-created the numbers in their original style; black wool felt over medium orange tackle twill (Webster Frisco Orange). I lightly media blasted the orange twill to help it to match the front lettering's patina, and I stitched it in place using a slightly faded orange thread to match the stitching on the front. Below, at left as received, and at right as restored.

Conclusion: I believe I have accurately restored this jersey. I used the visible ghosts to recreate how it was originally lettered. I used the original style materials and stitching that matched the period Wilson patterns.



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Letter of Professional Opinion

Willie Mays 1972 San Francisco Giants Manufacturer's Sample Road Uniform

Examination Date: July 5, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0705JP03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray double knit six-button road uniform consisting of jersey and pants, lettered for Willie Mays, #24. The jersey is size 42 gray heavyweight double knit with "SAN FRANCISCO" arched on the front in the team font in two-layer tackle twill lettering, black over orange. The player's number 24 is on the back in the same colors, and no player name on back is used. Orange/black/orange uniform braid trim rings the neck and is sewn 1" from the sleeve ends. The pants are size 32 with six belt loop tunnels, trimmed with the same orange braid down the side of each pants leg. The jersey is autographed by Mays on the lower left tail on blue ink. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.While they are both gray, the pants and jersey do not exactly match each other. The jersey is a slightly brownish cast; the pants are a lighter and brighter gray.

While nearly every other MLB team had switched to the new double knit uniforms for the 1972 season, the Giants were among a few stragglers who stayed with flannel uniforms for one final year. Midway through the 1972 season, the team introduced knit uniforms part time, but only at home. These new knit 1972 home uniforms ones faithfully copied the current flannels' look in every way. However the Giants wore their road flannels without change through the completion of the 1972 season. Notably, Mays was traded from the Giants to the Mets early in the 1972 season, and so never wore Giants knits, either at home or on the road.

This uniform is almost surely a manufacturer's sample, submitted by maker Spalding to the team for their consideration, likely before the start of the 1972 season. Once a major supplier of MLB uniforms, Spalding was at the end of its run in 1972, They supplied only the Brewers, Astros, Orioles and Yankees before disappearing as a MLB supplier at the end of 1972. It was common practice for manufacturers to submit uniforms like this, and they generally customized the uniform by using the name/number of either the team's manager or that of an established star.

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Felt strip tagging is sewn into the back of the neck with hand chain stitching: "Mays 24 42 72" (player #24, size 42, 1972), The pants have a similar waistband strip tag, "Mays 24 32 25 72" In this designation the 32 is the waist size and the 25 is the inseam. Spalding "Professional" white tags are sewn inside the waistband and on the outside left bottom of the jersey tail. The tagging is clean and unblemished.

Wear & Repairs: Both jersey and pants are crisp and do not display signs of game use. All stitching is tight and all trim and sewn elements are brightly colored and unpuckered. The jersey has a few dirty/discolored spots on it and shows the dusty cast of an item perhaps hung on display for a long time.

Conclusion: The uniform in review is in excellent unused condition, and as a manufacturer's sample uniform it is a wonderful piece of Major League Baseball history. It is pro lettered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications as a sample uniform for the 1972 San Francisco Giants.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Will Clark 1986 San Francisco Giants Game Used Rookie Season Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 11, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0311J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: San Francisco Giants team tagged 1986 home jersey, white seven-button Wilson size 44 (marked and measured) with linen lining inside the placket for player comfort. Knit sleeve end trim in six-banded colors of orange, black and white. "GIANTS" arched on the front in layered twill: black over Frisco Orange in the team graphic style used 1983-1993. Bold player numbers "22" on back in the Giants' special font and in the same colors. As received, the nameplate was missing but its removal left a clear stitching outline.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson "Prestige Team" tagging introduced in 1986 is stitched to the lower outside left front tail. Pinch-sewn under its right side is a flag tab noting the size as 44. Centered beneath it is a zig-zag stitched square hand-chain stitched year tag, "86" in the familiar hand of the Wilson factor stitcher. 1986 was the final year that Wilson made the Giants uniforms, (Rawlings took over in 1987) and the last year that there was no maker's logo embroidered on the ends of the sleeves. I will note that the typical 1986 Giants tagging consisted of two sets of numbers— the player number and the two digit year. Jerseys with only the the two-digit year are often considered to be extra jerseys, supplied to the team to keep on hand for mid-season call-ups/player acquisitions and to replace jerseys for players when there is an issue with their current ones. While this is not an iron-clad rule, it is worth noting. Significantly, however, as a first-year roster player, Clark could well have been confirmed to the beginning of the season roster late; after the initial jersey order was processed with Wilson. We have no way of knowing with certainty, now. Experience shows that Wilson was provided with the list of player numbers and sizes somewhat early in Spring Training so that the team's uniforms could be made in time for opening day. Players that were not definitely chosen for the opening day roster at that time may not have been included on the initial stitching order.

Continued, overleaf

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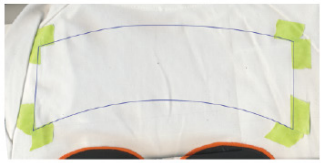
Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows light to moderate use, with wrinkling of the tags, some use stains especially on the linen placket lining, and marks on top the the left sleeve that often comes from resting a bat with pine tar on that spot. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering and stitching is original and uncontrived. It is my conclusion that this jersey was used on-field.

Restoration Performed: Will Clark's rookie season was 1986; his first game appearance was April 8, 1986 so we can assume he started the season on the Giants MLB roster, and was the only player in 1986 to have worn #22. From a survey of other reasonably reliably authenticated Clark jerseys in our library, Clark wore exclusively size 44 jerseys, and at 6' 1" and 190 lbs it is a reasonable size for his use. The ghost of the missing nameplate is the correct length and shape for the player's name. Before the start of the 1987 season, following tradition, the team's Wilson jerseys were summarily stripped of nameplates to be sent to the minor leagues, since for 1987 the team was wearing Rawlings jerseys on-field with that company's embroidered logo on the sleeve end.

In my opinion, this jersey shows use, showed evidence of a MLB nameplate, so it was issued to a player in 1986, and Clark was the only player to have worn #22 in 1986. It is not unreasonable that Clark, as a rookie and called up to be on his first MLB roster in 1986 could have had a jersey issued to him that did not have the four-digit team tagging. The removal of the nameplate was common practice for potential reissue of equipment in the minor leagues in the following year, where their jersey may or may not have seen further use, without nameplates.

At the request of the jersey's owner, I recreated the nameplate from color matching warp-knit fabric, re-creating Clark's name in black over Frisco Orange in the same pattern used by the team in 1986. The edge is single needle serged, and the shape of the nameplate exactly matches the ghost of the old stitching as seen on the light table.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, game used condition: the front is all original as are the back numbers, and a player nameplate matching the original and exactly covering the ghost of the one that had been removed has been recreated and applied. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Will Clark of the 1986 San Francisco Giants.

Top left: The jersey as received. Below, the light table shows the edges of the original nameplate. At right, exemplars of team tagging for 1986 showing both two and four digit numbers as used by Wilson for the Giants that year.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Document of Restoration

San Francisco Giants 1981 Road Jersey- Whitson

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Francisco Giants black road jersey with 1981 year tagging, lettered for O'Malley 35 with the team 1982 patch on the sleeve. Research and light table evidence shows that this jersey had originally been issued to pitcher Ed Whitson in 1981. Both of the front numbers had changed, the nameplate replaced and the back number "5" was unoriginal. The front team script and the "3" on back are original.

Work Performed: To return the jersey to its 1981 appearance: Removed the front numbers, sleeve patch, nameplate and the back numbers. Because the back #3 was so worn and stained, we elected to make an exact duplicate rather than attempt to make all new work match the worn out 3. Cut and stitched new elements, sewed with bleached orange thread to match the original front wordmark, aggressively cleaned the fabric and covered a hole in the back that had been caused by the rough removal of the original number 2. Cut and sewed replacement name on back in Giants vertical arch style on a properly serged-edge black knit nameplate Media blasted and dyed the new lettering to more closely match the patina of the old, stitched in place exactly over the original ghosts as seen on the light table. Stitched on new numbers on front and back with color matching ivory thread. All removed elements were returned to the collector.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Kenny Lofton 2001-2002 San Francisco Giants Black Alternate Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 26, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1126J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Black San Francisco Giants road alternate jersey, Russell six-button-front, full weight knit size 46 (marked and measured) Giants jersey customized for #1 Kenny Lofton from either the 2001 or 2002 seasons. These jerseys were not player or year tagged for the Giants, but this style was worn in only these two seasons and only for Friday night road games. The size is appropriate for Lofton in these seasons based on a review of his preferred jersey sizes throughout his career. Three color lettering on both back and front, black over Frisco orange over Nugget Gold; SAN FRANCISCO arched on front. Collar and sleeve ends are trimmed with orange-black-orange knit ribbon trim. Left sleeve features San Francisco Giants disc patch. The name is properly sewn to a plate. The jersey was presented without provenance.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tag, in the correct style for these years is stitched on the left outside front tail of the jersey. Size flag tag "46 100% Polyester" is centered and pinch-sewn beneath. The Russell "R" logo is direct embroidered in orange on the end of the left sleeve below the team disk patch. Russell did not team-tag the Giants jerseys in any way during this time, and the vintage of the jersey pre-dates the wide use of MLB authentication program that began with limited use in 2001. While it is not team tagged, it is a size 46— a size not sold at retail, and the presence of the 100% polyester tag and the lack of the manufacturer size tag in the back of the collar are two characteristics of jerseys made for team issue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all elements are original and unaltered. The manufacturer tagging is wrinkled and curled from wash/wear. It shows signs of appropriate wear for the limited use it would have received during a season's use, given that these jerseys were seldom worn.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and shows no signs of alteration or contrivance. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine as issued to Kenny Lofton during either the 2001 or 2002 seasons.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Madison Bumgarner San Francisco Giants Auto'ed 2014 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: February 7, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0207J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Cream colored size 50 Majestic Cool Base San Francisco Giants jersey, #40 pitcher Madison Bumgarner. Three colored "GIANTS" in the team's traditional logo font, black/orange with a Nugget Gold drop-shadow. Orange/black/orange 3/8" knit trim rings the neck and the sleeve ends. The Giants team patch is stitched to the left sleeve. No name on back as is correct. MLB Silhouetted Batter logo patch in black/white/orange is stitched to the back of the neck. Bumgarner's #40 is stitched on back in the proper size and the same colors as the front lettering. It is autographed on the numeral 4 in silver Sharpie followed by the inscription "GU 14". (I have no professional opinion on the autograph) From this, I am dating the jersey to the 2014 season, though this same style/fabric jersey was worn by the player in years 2009-2015, all with the Giants. The jersey does not have any post-season patch on its sleeve, nor a mark that one was ever present there.

During the regular season, Bumgarner was 13-9 in 31 starts. Second-place finishers in their division and a postseason "Wild Card" entry, The Giants defeated the St. Louis Cardinals in the National League Championship Series in five games and beat the Kansas City Royals in seven games in the 2014 World Series, winning their third World Series in five years. Bumgarner was named the 2014 World Series MVP, finishing the series with a 2–0 record and an 0.43 ERA. In three pitching appearances, Bumgarner gave up only one run in 21 World Series innings.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "M" logo direct embroidered in black to the left sleeve end. Majestic heat-applied locker tag designates this as an "Authentic Collection" jersey in size 50. Pinched into the inside side seam is a manufacturer style tag that designates this as a style number 0680, the code reserved for jerseys made to team specifications and designated for team issue. Also pinched in the seam is a tailoring tag noting 1" + sleeve length. Another white tag is blank. Pinched in the lower right side outside seam is a gray flag tab noting Cool Base construction. The Giants did not team or player-tag their jerseys in 2014, in fact they did not tag most anything starting in 2000. Even though most game-worn jerseys were being MLB Authentication Program hologrammed and barcoded, this one is not. However, our research shows that the program's use was not universal in 2014.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The tagging shows moderate curling and fading, consistent with multiple washings. The jersey is in excellent condition without damage or repairs and was surely autographed after it was washed for the final time.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent, used condition, is properly lettered, bears team-spec style tagging and a player tailoring tag, is autographed noting the year of use, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was team issued and worn during the regular season by Madison Bumgarner of the 2014 San Francisco Giants.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Omar Vizquel 2005 or 2006 San Francisco Giants Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 15, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0315J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray, Russell six-button-front, full weight knit size 42 San Francisco Giants jersey issued to and worn by Omar Vizquel during the 2005 or 2006 seasons. We have narrowed its issue to these two seasons of Vizquel's tenure with the Giants as these were the only two years where a right sleeve commemorative patch was not used, and this jersey has a plain left sleeve. The size is appropriate for Vizquel in 2005-2006 based on a review of his changing jersey sizes throughout his career. The numeral "1" is autographed boldly in silver marker by the player on the numeral "1" on back. I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

All lettering and numbering is three-layered black tackle twill with orange outline and a gold drop-shadow. "SAN FRANCISCO" in block lettering is arched across the chest. Collar and sleeve ends are trimmed with orange-black-orange knit ribbon trim. Left sleeve features San Francisco Giants disc patch. On back, number "13" directly under the player name, "VIZQUEL" in unique Giants' font, radially arched on a nameplate.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tag, in the correct style for these years is stitched on the left outside front tail of the jersey. Size flag tag "42" is centered and pinch-sewn beneath. A well-worn and now washed-blank cloth flag tag that most likely once told the jersey's date of issue is pinch sewn to its left. On the inside side seam of the jersey is the Majestic manufacturer's style tag that is also very faded from washing, but that clearly shows style number 0062, the designation for a team-issued specification jersey.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all elements are original and unaltered. Jersey shows signs of wear consistent with a full season's use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits significant use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Omar Vizquel during either the 2005 or 2006 seasons.

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Document of Restoration

San Francisco Giants 1981 Road Jersey- Whitson

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Francisco Giants black road jersey with 1981 year tagging, lettered for O'Malley 35 with the team 1982 patch on the sleeve. Research and light table evidence shows that this jersey had originally been issued to pitcher Ed Whitson in 1981. Both of the front numbers had changed, the nameplate replaced and the back number "5" was unoriginal. The front team script and the "3" on back are original.

Work Performed: To return the jersey to its 1981 appearance: Removed the front numbers, sleeve patch, nameplate and the back numbers. Because the back #3 was so worn and stained, we elected to make an exact duplicate rather than attempt to make all new work match the worn out 3. Cut and stitched new elements, sewed with bleached orange thread to match the original front wordmark, aggressively cleaned the fabric and covered a hole in the back that had been caused by the rough removal of the original number 2. Cut and sewed replacement name on back in Giants vertical arch style on a properly serged-edge black knit nameplate Media blasted and dyed the new lettering to more closely match the patina of the old, stitched in place exactly over the original ghosts as seen on the light table. Stitched on new numbers on front and back with color matching ivory thread. All removed elements were returned to the collector.

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Chapter 21

Cleveland Indians 1970-2021

Cleveland Guardians 2022-2025

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

Volume 10, 1970-2025

William F. Henderson

Guardians/Indians Uniform History Notes

- The Indians had worn distinctive vests featuring the smiling Chief Wahoo on their chests from 1963 through 1969. In 1970, the team changed to a pinstripe home and a solid-gray road jersey, both with sleeves, the team name spelled out in Block letters embellished by a fancy three-color 3D drop shadow effect.
- But this style lasted only one year, as in 1971 the Indians dropped the fancy drop shadows, and their uniforms became very, very plain, featuring wordmark spelled out in simple vertically arched blue lettering. Some (many?) 1970 uniforms were converted for use in 1971, with lettering stripped from back and front to reuse them for the new year. It is hard to imagine any team going to such effort today, but in these earlier times nothing was wasted!
- After an uninspired uniform set for 1972, the first year of pullover knits, the Indians introduced a jersey set for 1973 with angular lettering that was meant to look rustic, but to some looked rough. It has earned the nickname "Caveman" style in some circles. First used in home white and road gray. Incredibly, this would represent the team's fifth distinctly different uniform set in five years.
- In 1974 a colorful red pullover jersey was introduced as an alternate and in 1975 a dark blue pullover became the alternate, with the red becoming the primary road jersey and the road gray was dropped.
- While the 1972 A's and 1977 Pirates are often credited with starting the "mix-and-match" look, where different colored pants were matched indiscriminately with the different colored uniform tops, the Indians were also engaging in this practice with their red, white, and gray sets as early as 1974 (with blue tops introduced in 1975).
- "Caveman" style lasts through 1977, and in 1978 the front lettering was replaced again with a more formal-looking vertically arched wordmark that said "Indians" on both home white and alternate navy blue tops, and "Cleveland" on the road grays.
- The road grays disappear after 1982, and the blue are used full time on the road 1983–1985.
- Button-front jerseys return in 1986 in classic home white and road gray styles that last through 1988. 1986 road jerseys have oddly-large vertically arched player NOBs—the only time the team would ever use vertical arching.
- From 1989–1993, the team becomes late adopters of the popular 1980s "racing stripes" trend, applying the style to both their existing home and road sets.
- "Indians" and "Cleveland" scripts returned in a total uniform makeover for 1994, coinciding with the opening of the new Jacobs Field. Various uniform trim and color tweaks were made every couple of years.
- An alternate home vest was added in 2002, with the chest adorned with the Chief Wahoo logo—a nod to their 1960s duds. These last through 2007.
- Block-lettered "nostalgia" style jerseys are introduced in 2008 (alternate home) and 2011 (road). All jerseys receive some minor alterations to wordmarks, trim, and outlines for 2012.
- Perhaps sensitive to fans' complaints that every year the Indians seem to be making the prior years' jerseys obsolete, the Indians took the unusual step of promising "no changes for at least the next three years" when they announced the 2012 updates.
- For 2014, the Indians quietly relieve Chief Wahoo of his duty as the team's primary logo, replacing him with a simple Block-letter "C" as worn on new-for-2014 batting practice jerseys and caps.
- The 2019 season brings notable changes to the Indians, where Chief Wahoo is deleted from the jersey sleeves and caps, the first time he has not appeared since 1972. The team had been hinting at the change for years on holiday uniforms, where the logo was replaced by the "Block C" instead.
- 2019 also introduced an alternate home red and a revised alternate blue jersey, now used only on the road, and the elimination of nameplates.
- 2022 brings a complete team rebranding from "Indians" to "Guardians", the new team name inspired by the large stone edifices (called "Guardians of Traffic") that flank the Hope Memorial Bridge to downtown Cleveland. Team colors remain unchanged. Home white, road gray, and alternate red and blue jerseys remain, but wordmarks now read "GUARDIANS" in a custom art-deco influenced arched script for home and alt red jerseys. For road gray and alt blue jerseys, "CLEVELAND" spelled out in a similar custom design print font. Special art-deco inspired custom fonts used for numbers.
- The Guardians unveiled their first City Connect jersey in 2024, drawing inspiration from the Hope Memorial Bridge and the sculptural pylons that symbolize strength and resilience. The navy jersey features stylized "CLE" lettering and back numbers designed to look etched in stone, the jersey's textured pattern is influenced by the Berea sandstone from which the pillars were carved while red and cream striping along the sleeves and sides is a direct nod to the club's 1989–1993 racing stripes.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngeuides@gmail.com . Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Indians Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Varsity Variant 3 color	No	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Spalding
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Spalding
1972	Home White	No	Varsity Variant 1 color	block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Varsity Variant 1 color	block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1973	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson*/Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Rawlings
1974	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Rawlings
1975	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson
	Alternate Red	No	7 1/2" Varsity 2 color	block bold 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	No	7 1/2" Varsity 2 color	block bold 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	1976 Bicentennial Patch	Wilson
	Alternate Red	No	7 1/2" Varsity 2 color	block bold 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	1976 Bicentennial Patch	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	No	7 1/2" Varsity 2 color	block bold 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	1976 Bicentennial Patch	Wilson
1977	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson
	Alternate Red	No	7 1/2" Varsity 2 color	block bold 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson
	Alternate Blue	No	7 1/2" Varsity 2 color	block bold 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Wilson

* The 1973-used Wilson tagged jerseys are actually stripped and relettered 1972 jerseys

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Indians Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1978	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Large Wahoo Disc	-	Rawlings
1979	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1980	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1981	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road/Alt Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1982	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road/Alt Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1983	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head/Earl Avril Armband after 8/18	-	Rawlings
	Road Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head/Earl Avril Armband after 8/18	-	Rawlings
1984	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1985	Home White	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 1 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Blue	No	7" Block Bold w/serifs 2 color	block 1 color	No	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 2 color	Vertical arch 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Wilson
1987	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
1993	Home White	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Olin/Crews (31-52) Memorial	Russell
	Road Gray	Block bold 1 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Olin/Crews (31-52) Memorial	Russell

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Indians Game Jerseys

1997-2001 only

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1994	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Jacobs Field Innaugural	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Jacobs Field Innaugural	Russell
1995	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Jacobs Field Patch	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Jacobs Field Patch	Russell
1996	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	1995 Champs/Cleveland Bicenten**	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	1995 Champs	Russell
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	1995 Champs	Russell
1997	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	All Star /Jackie Robinson***	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	All Star Game***	Russell
	Alternate Blue Home	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	All Star Game***	Russell
	Alternate Blue Road	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	All Star Game***	Russell
1998	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Champs	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Champs	Russell
	Alternate Blue Home	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Champs	Russell
	Alternate Blue Road	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Champs	Russell
1999	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Central Champs	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Central Champs	Russell
	Alternate Blue Home	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Central Champs	Russell
	Alternate Blue Road	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	AL Central Champs	Russell
2000	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue Home	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue Road	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
2001	Home White	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo/ Boudreau "5" Mem aft 8/10	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo/ Boudreau "5" Mem aft 8/10	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
	Alternate Blue Home	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo/ Boudreau "5" Mem aft 8/10	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
	Alternate Blue Road	No	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo/ Boudreau "5" Mem aft 8/10	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
2002	Home White	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	JW Memorial aft 7/16	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	JW Memorial aft 7/16	Russell
	Alt Home Vest	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	-	JW Memorial (rt chest) aft 7/16	Russell
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	JW Memorial aft 7/16	Russell
2003	Home White	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	18 Doby/14 Harder Mem*	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	18 Doby/14 Harder Mem*	Russell
	Alt Home Vest	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	-	18 Doby/14 Harder Mem* right chest	Russell
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	18 Doby/14 Harder Mem*	Russell
2004	Home White	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Jacobs Field 10th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
	Alt Home Vest	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Russell
2005	Home White	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head		Majestic
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic

* Indians started the season with the "14" Memorial disc on their sleeves. Larry Doby died on June 18th, so the "18 Doby" patch was added mid-season. On vest, it is worn on right chest.

** The Cleveland Bicentennial Patch was worn on the 1996 BP Jersey, and may have been worn for a while mid-season on the team's home white jersey. Still looking for news photo confirmation on this.

*** The Indians wore the All-Star Game patch on all jerseys in 1997, instead of the Jackie Robinson Patch worn by the rest of baseball. After the All Star Game, they switched to the Jackie patch on the home white jersey only.

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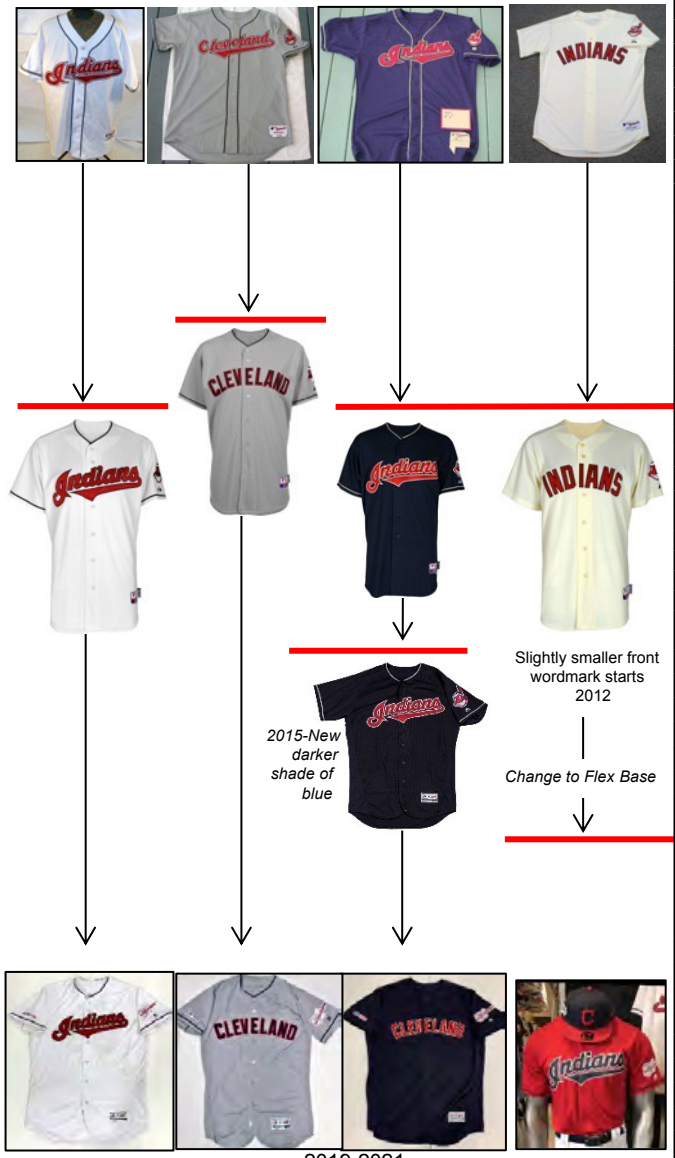
White, gray & blue jerseys from 2007 continue into 2008, but all metallic silver is eliminated from trim and lettering



----------2019-2021 ----------

Indians Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2008	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head		Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	#27/Herb Score memorial	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	#27/Herb Score memorial	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	#27/Herb Score memorial	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	#27/Herb Score memorial	Majestic
2010	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head		Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Bob Feller/#19 memorial	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Bob Feller/#19 memorial	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	Bob Feller/#19 memorial	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Bob Feller/#19 memorial	Majestic
2012	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Al Rosen patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Al Rosen patch	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	Al Rosen patch	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	Al Rosen patch	Majestic
2016	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Home White	No	Block 2 color	-	-	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Chief Wahoo Head	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	2019 All Star Game	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	2019 All Star Game	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	2019 All Star Game	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road (New)	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	2019 All Star Game	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Indians/Guardians Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
2022	Home White	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	"Guardians Fastball" patch	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	"Guardians Fastball" patch	Nike
	Alternate Red Script	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	"Guardians Fastball" patch	Nike
	Alt Blue Road "Cleveland"	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	"Guardians Fastball" patch	Nike
2023	Home White	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡*	"Guardians Fastball" patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡*	"Guardians Fastball" patch‡	Nike
	Alternate Red Script	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡*	"Guardians Fastball" patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue Road "Cleveland"	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡*	"Guardians Fastball" patch‡	Nike
2024	Home White	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	Alternate Red Script	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	Alt Blue Road "Cleveland"	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	-	Nike
2025	Home White (trim updates)	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	Road Gray (trim updates)	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	Alternate Red Block	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	Alt Blue Road "C"	No	Guardians "Bridge Print: 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	"Guardians Fastball"‡ patch	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Marathon Ad patch‡	-	Nike

* Starting July 3, 2023
‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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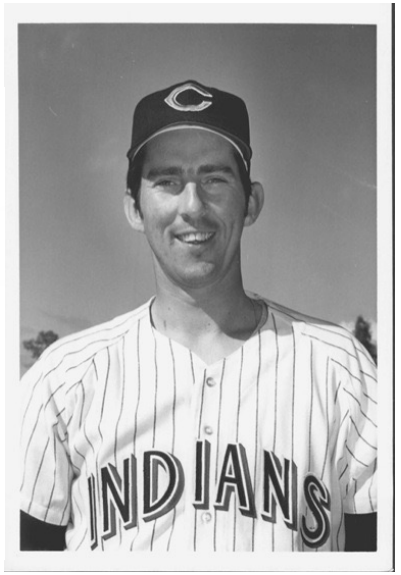
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970 Home

1970 flannel home jersey is made by Wilson, and is an attractive, clean design. It is only used for one season, but many (perhaps most?) were converted to 1971 jerseys by having their lettering stripped then replaced, evident from finding 1971-lettered jerseys with 1970 year tagging on the tail ***(example below)***. Cream-colored flannel with navy chalk pinstripe. All lettering is twill; navy/white with red 3D drop shadow. Numbers are a custom "light" stroke version of Wilson Varsity. Chief Wahoo patch sewn on the left sleeve.

Here, a 1970-tagged jersey stripped and re-lettered for 1971 use.



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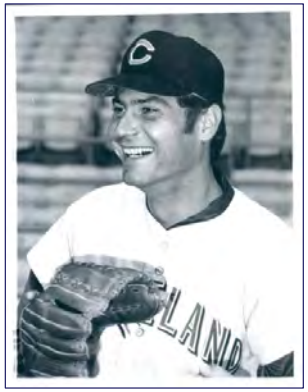
1970 Road

Andrew Jenkins Collection

Andrew Jenkins Collection

Attractive but simple one year design, flannel jersey, “Cleveland” vertically arched across front in equal-height letters, red/white twill with a navy 3D drop shadow. Back numbers are Varsity variant, with same three-color treatment. Surviving, unmolested original examples are rare. Many/most had the lettering stripped off and were converted into 1971 road jerseys. The example at top left is all original. The others are noted as “all lettering restored.” See the example of one of these that I restored after having been converted to a 1971 road jersey, a few pages ahead.

Stephen Kraljic Collection



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1971 Home

It is hard to imagine a plainer—or perhaps more "traditional—baseball uniform than the one year-only 1971 Indians flannel home uniform. Navy chalk pinstripe, with single-color vertical arched front team name in Block letters and Varsity numbers on the back. The only color in sight is in Chief Wahoo sewn on the left sleeve. These are rare today, likely used to extinction in the minor leagues.

Many 1971 uniforms were actually year tagged "1970" and had been stripped and re lettered with 1971 graphics.

Above: *Photo from 1972 Spring Training.*

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1971 Road

1971 road gray flannel jerseys were even plainer than the 1971 home jerseys, if that's possible. This is a one-year design made for the team by Spalding and based on the fact that few were made and they were likely "used-up" in Spring Training and in the minor leagues in subsequent years, it is very hard to find one today.

"Cleveland" on front in vertical arched Block lettering, but tapered with the word slightly taller at the ends and shorter in the middle. All lettering navy blue twill, back numbers are Spalding's variant style of Varsity, Chief Wahoo patch on left sleeve.

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"Turn Back the Clock"— Literally: 1971 Jersey Returned to Original 1970 Configuration

Here is an excellent example of Indians' unfathomable frugality: As received from a collector, this 1971-style lettered jersey displayed 1970 year tagging on the tail, telling us that it had started life as a 1970 road jersey, and was then painstakingly stripped by the team, front and back, to convert it into a 1971 model. He elected to convert it back to its original livery. Above, the photographically enhanced light table photos show what had been there prior, which we verified against the original patterns we have on file, and after painstakingly stripping the jersey and cleaning it, cut and sewed the 1970 style lettering after properly aging it to make it look old and worn.

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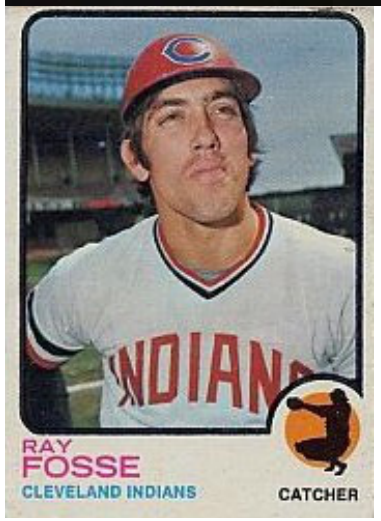
1972 Home



First-year pullover knit jersey, one-color red “Indians” arched across chest in simple, slightly vertical arch Block type. Wide red, white and blue sleeve ends and the same color trim on the V-neck. The 1972 double knit assumes the general look of the 1971 button-front flannel, which used blue lettering. Identical in design to the road jersey save for the color of the fabric.

Wilson made the home jerseys; one-color skinny-block red names on back, no nameplate, one-color red numbers in Wilson’s Varsity font. There is no team tagging at all on these jerseys, just the Wilson size tag in the neck.

There are very few if any original examples of these in the hobby. The reason is illustrated on the next page, where I will highlight my restoration of this very jersey. One of two things happened to these jerseys: they were stripped to become 1973 Indians jerseys, or they were sent to the minors and stripped to be reused there. The Indians were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. I have restored jerseys sent my way that have easily been reissued four or more times with front script and number changes.

Left: *I acquired this jersey, blank and unused, from what was claimed to have been an estate sale of an Indians player or coach. It is the only original and unrestored example of one of these I have ever seen.*

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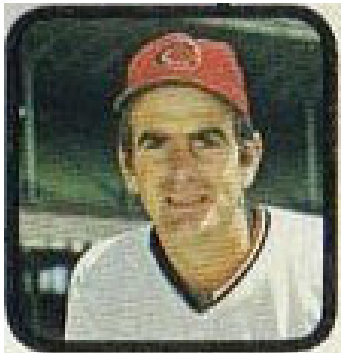
"So, what happened to all the 1972 Indians jerseys?

Below: *Evidence now tells us that this jersey is, in fact, the same jersey shown on the prior page (now restored by me), and is likely the same one Perry is wearing on his Topps baseball card showing the ripped collar.*

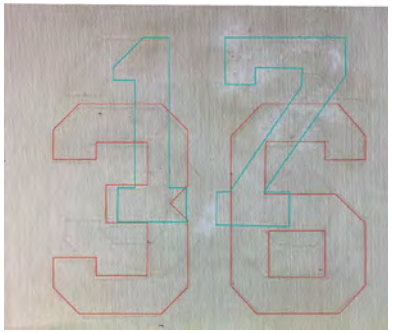


Whenever something disappears without a trace, there is a feeling of disbelief that such a heist could occur without any evidence of a plausible explanation. Such has always been the case of the 1972 Indians jerseys for me. I search constantly for these, mostly out of a sense of curiosity of their total disappearance from the hobby. Even had they been sent to the minor leagues, by now I would have found at least a couple for sale, regardless of their condition. But stumbling across this Heritage Auctions listing, a light snapped on for me. Is it possible that there are no 1972 Indians jerseys because the team turned them into 1973 Indians jerseys? It would not be far-fetched at all. Looking at the team's history, we have much evidence that their 1970 flannels were re-purposed into 1971, having had all lettering stripped, front and back. It simply never occurred to me that this may have been the fate of much of the entire population of 1972 knit jerseys.

This theory would certainly explain why neither home nor road 1972 one-year jerseys ever turn up.

Heritage Auctions listing:

1972 Gaylord Perry Cy Young Award Season Game Worn Cleveland Indians Jersey. Uniform experts will immediately balk at this lot title, noting that this unique font first appeared on the Tribe's uniforms in 1973, but close inspection reveals the stitching outline of the more pedestrian "Indians" font beneath, a one-season style that assures Cy Young season vintage. We must also report that the "Perry 36" on verso is likewise gone but still visible in a stitching "ghost," a number "17" having taken its place. Both of these alterations are team issued. Despite these changes, the garment must still be considered a collecting treasure, deriving from a season that saw Perry top all American Leaguers with twenty-four victories and twenty-nine complete games to claim Major League pitching's highest individual honor. Solid use is evident, though certainly a degree of this relates to secondary wear. Collar is custom cut at the bottom, a perfect match to Perry's 1973 Topps card #346. "Wilson [size] 46" label at interior collar is partially loose. Our consignor did confirm with Perry that he did such a customization. Blue sharpie signature on chest rates 9/10. LOA from Heritage Auctions. Pre-certified by PSA/DNA.



The restoration of this same jersey is detailed on the LOA link on the prior page. When I received it, it had already been inaccurately restored as a 1972 jersey; I stripped it and using the evidence of the original ghosts, did it over.

At left, the ghosts of three sets of numbers are there if you look closely enough: the original 36, the 1973 #17 and the incorrect restoration's #36. You can see the ghost of the 1973 Indians wordmark on the bottom photo.

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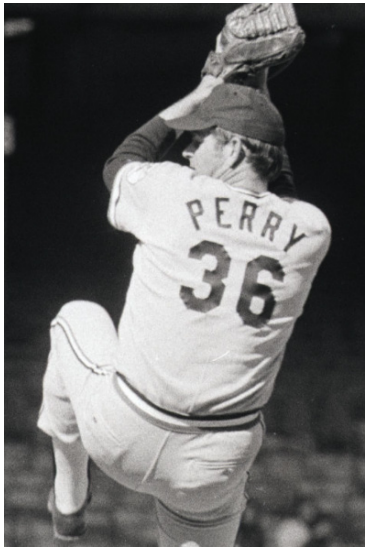
1972 Road

The Indians one-year-only 1972 gray road jersey was the team's first year using knits. The design might be called several things: classic, restrained, uninspired, or boring. Home and road jersey bodies are identical except for the color of the fabric. Red twill "Indians" vertical arched on the front.

Note the difference from the home jersey, shown on the prior page, in the style of lettering on the back: Here, Rawlings used their own Block Bold lettering and numbers on the reverse (Rawlings' default font) which is different from the Wilson home jersey that uses Wilson's own stock "house" fonts for names and numbers.



In decades of collecting and authenticating, the Spahn 1972 road gray *(above)* is the only example of this jersey style I have come across that has not been stripped and re-lettered for use by either the 1973 Indians or a minor league club. It is my guess that Spahn, a soon-to-be Hall of Famer (1973 induction) simply took his jersey home at the end of the year instead of turning it in, sparing it from being ruined.

The Hennigan example ***(right)*** is more typical of the breed. It it had been passed down to minor league San Antonio and re-lettered front and back, then inaccurately restored, before it was sent to me for a proper restoration which you can read about in the linked LOA.

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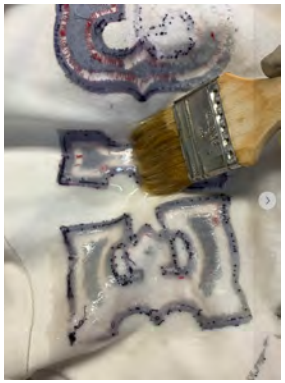
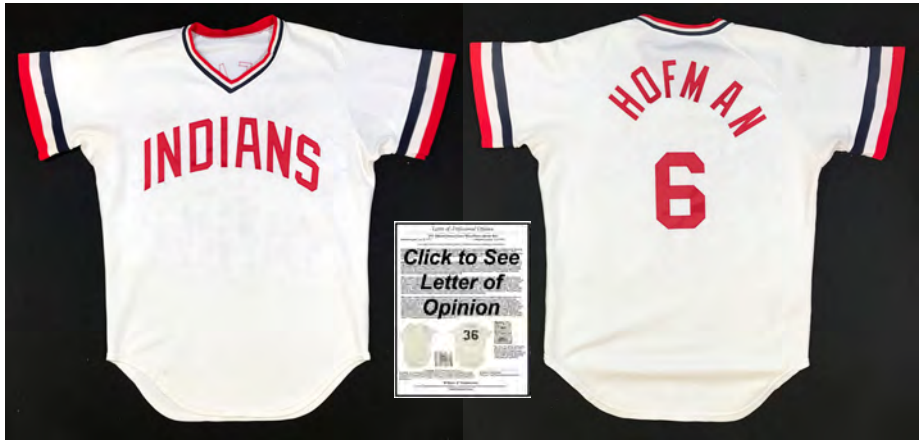
More 1972 Indians Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues





See the detailed story of the complete restoration, on my Facebook blog, here.

Some restorations are simply not worthwhile, except for the love of the game and the challenge of the task at hand.

Left: The jersey was found by its owner offered on eBay as an Oklahoma City Eighty-Niners jersey. It was in sad shape - tattered, dirty and with letters missing and back number peeling. He wasn't sure what he was getting, but a deal was struck and it came home. Close inspection when he received it revealed that it originally bore the number 6 on back (though oddly NOT the same 6 that was on its back now) and the ghost of the name on back "HOFMAN". While no roster player wore #6, research from the 1972 Indians team media guide showed that former MLB player Bobby Hofman was indeed a coach on the 1972 squad. We found his photo in the 1972 Indians press kit, probably wearing this same shirt.

This is the most insane restoration I have ever attempted; it took aircraft paint remover to get the old glue out. As a crowning touch, look at the name on back, spaced and arched as only the Indians would ever do it, a team that I swear had a one-eyed drunk stitcher with no ruler.

Above: *Chris Chambliss' 1972 Cleveland Indians home jersey that I authenticated for its owner. It was left "as is" and not restored. You can read the letter by clicking on the icon.*

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1973-1977 Home

Rawlings 1973-1974

For 1973, the Indians wordmark is different, but if you look closely, notice that the jersey body is the same as 1972. Rawlings was contracted to provide new 1973 issues, but ever the cheapskates, the Indians converted many used 1972 Wilson-made jerseys to the new 1973 look. Not until I had the opportunity to personally examine some of these Wilson jerseys did I realize that they were re-lettered 1972 jerseys; I thought that both Wilson and Rawlings had been contracted to provide sets of 1973 uniforms, which I now believe was not the case. Besides the new angular team name on front (some call it the "Caveman" style) a large cartoonish batting Chief Wahoo disk patch was added to the left sleeve. The number fonts used on the back in 1973 are *usually* Rawlings version of Full Block Bold, with tall and narrow player name on back lettering, but game photos show a mix of lettering fonts on the field, typical for the time, as reissues were mixed with new ones.

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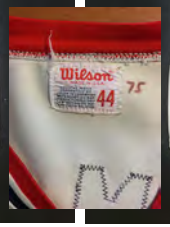
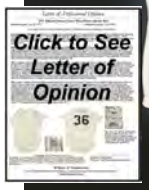
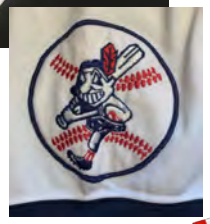
1973-1977 Home, continued: Wilson 1974-1977

1975







Right: *The Cleveland "Spirit of '76 Sports" patch was worn by the Indians on their right sleeve all year. I recall that it was supposed to have been worn by the city's other professional sports teams that year, but as far as I can tell only the Indians wore it. Scanning through Getty images photos of the NBA Cavaliers and NFL Browns does not show them wearing it. The patch shown here is an original, not a replica.*

1974

While we have examples of both Wilson and Rawlings tagged jerseys in use in 1974, most jersey have no year tagging. Often the only way to be sure of the year of issue is by the player rosters. For example, Milt Wilcox was on the Indians in 1974 but not 1975, so this must be a 1974 issue.

Wilson takes over making all the Indians jerseys for the 1975 season. The jerseys are generally indistinguishable from the 1974 Rawlings jerseys, using the same player name and number font as Rawlings did in 1974. However, it typical Indians fashion, a hodge podge of fonts still appears on the field. Notice the 1976 Haddix jersey with a Block bold style #2 on back, while the 1975 Fitzmorris and 1974 Wilcox use the Indians brand of Varsity numbers.

1976

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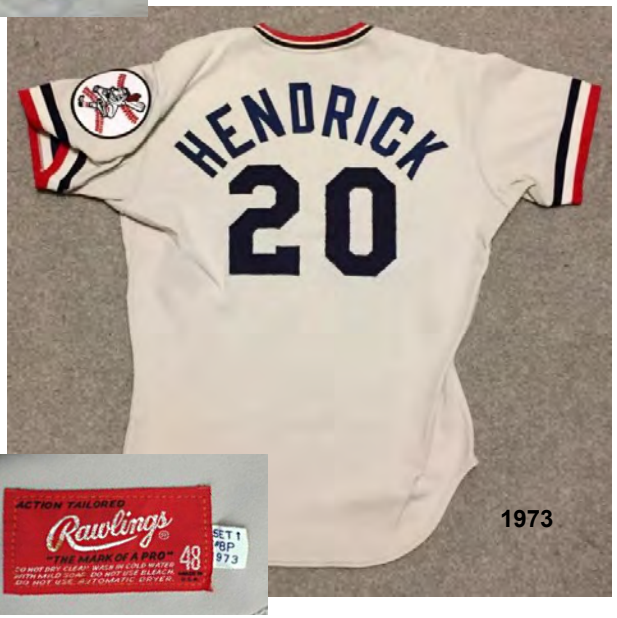
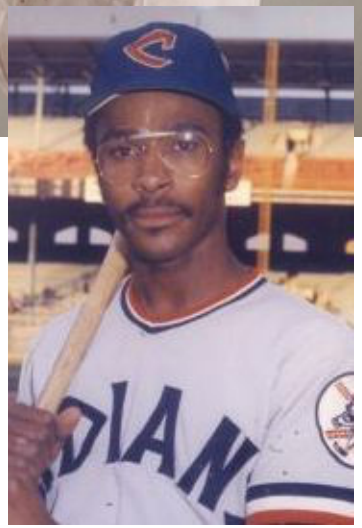
1973-1974 Road

1973



1973

Pullover knit jersey, lettering is one-color navy. Home and road jerseys identical in these two years except for fabric color. Home is white, road is gray. The home white jersey stays in the lineup for five years, but this gray road jersey lasts only two years before being replaced by the red jersey on the next page. “Indians” arched across chest in stylized type. Large round batting Chief Wahoo patch on the left sleeve. One-color navy names on back, no nameplate, one-color Navy numbers in Block Bold with Serifs font. Numbers are a rather small 7” to 7 ½.” This is easily one of the hardest to find jersey styles in the hobby.



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1974-1977 Alternate Red

1970s and early 1980s Indians jerseys have the sloppiest execution of back lettering layout of any MLB team. Name arches are seldom symmetric and are inconsistent from jersey to jersey, and back number placement is frequently crooked and off center. None of this is up to Wilson's standards, and makes me wonder if the Indians' jerseys were lettered locally rather than at the Wilson factory.

1976

Andrew Jenks Collection

1976

1976

The Indians added the red jersey as an alternate that could be worn on the road or at home for 1974. By 1975, the road gray jersey was gone from the lineup, and a colored jersey was always worn on the road, with the red as the primary road jersey, but occasionally worn at home, too. Matching bright red pants were added as an option to be worn with this red jersey instead of the standard whites or grays. No numbers on front. Large batting Chief Wahoo disc patch on left sleeve. Numbers are two-color, white/navy Varsity, extra small 7-7 ½" in height. Names are one-color, extra-wide Block white. No nameplates.

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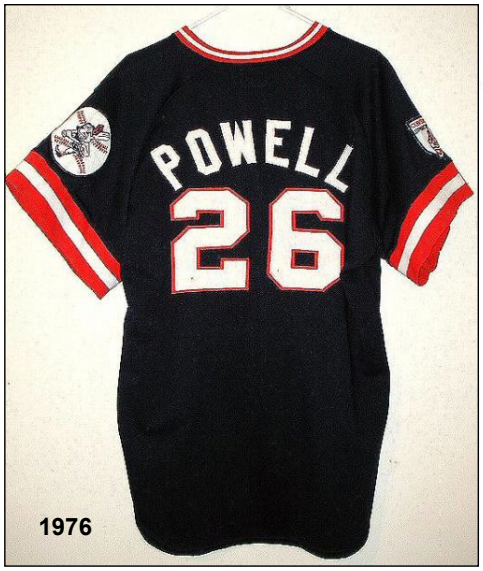
1975-1977 Alternate Blue

1976



1976

1976

The Indians added the blue alternate jersey for 1975 and eliminated their road grays. The blue was worn as an alternate at home and on the road. Over time, it became their primary home jersey, worn even more frequently than their “official” home white jersey. No numbers on front. Large batting Chief Wahoo disc patch on left sleeve. Numbers are two-color, white/red Varsity, extra small 7-7 ½” in height. Names are one-color, extra-wide Block white. No nameplates.

1977

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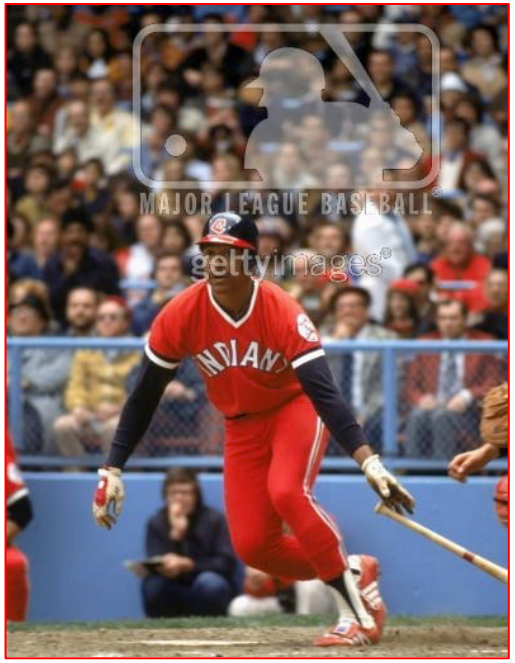
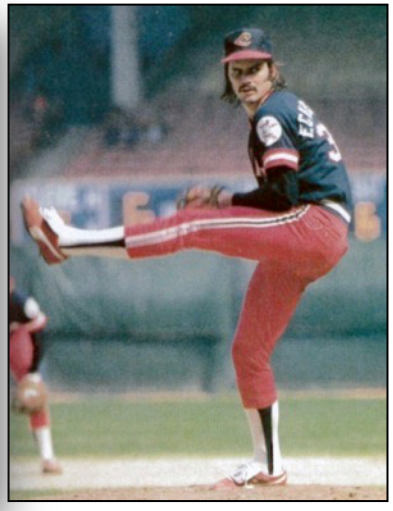
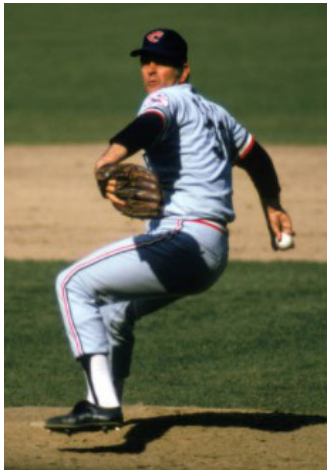
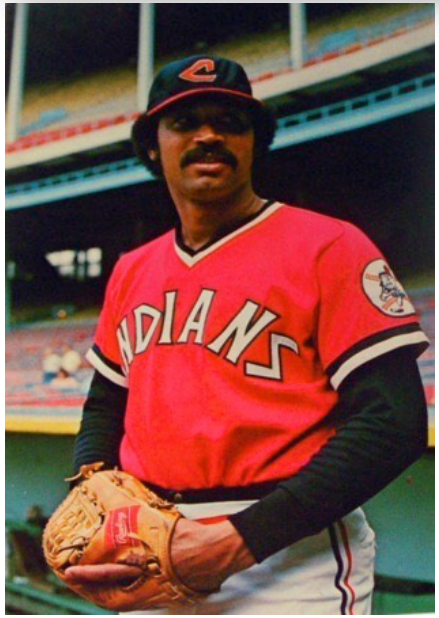
1974-1977 Indians Mix-and-Match





When people talk about "mix-and-match" uniform sets, the reference is usually to the late 1970s Pittsburgh Pirates with their various combinations of white, yellow, black, and bumblebee pinstripes. But in reality, as early as 1974, the Indians were onto the trend with their combination of red, white, and blue tops and white, gray, and red pants.





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1978-1985 Home

1980

1980

Sleeve patch used 1978 only

Sleeve patch used 1979-1985

"Indians" vertically arched across the front in very plain navy blue, the stylized "Caveman" style font from 1973–1977 is discontinued.
1978: Large batting Wahoo disc on left sleeve.
1979–1985: Smaller Wahoo head patch on left sleeve.
Name on back one-color navy, no nameplate. Numbers are a very small Block Bold with Serifs in one-color navy.

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1978-1982 Road

1978

1978-only patch

1979–1985 patch

Gray pullover jersey, "Cleveland" arched across front in navy/red. No numbers on front. Large batting Wahoo disc on sleeve 1978 only, smaller Wahoo head patch on sleeve in other years. Name on back one-color navy, no nameplate. Block with Serif numbers are rather small and two-color navy/red.

Note that despite all three team jersey styles (home, road, alternate) being made by Rawlings in this period, oddly all have different fonts for back numbers.

1979

1979

© GameWornGuides.com

1978-1982 Alternate/1983-1985 Road

1984

1978

1979-1985
sleeve patch

1978-only
sleeve patch

"Indians" arched across the front in white/red. The stylized "Caveman" font from 1973–1977 is discontinued. No numbers on front. Name on back is one-color white, no nameplate. Block with Serif numbers used, two color white/red. Notably, during this period the back numbers on all three team jersey styles (home, road, alternate) are different fonts, even though all are made by Rawlings. Used as a home and road alternate 1978–1982, then the sole road jersey 1983–1985 when the gray was retired.

1979

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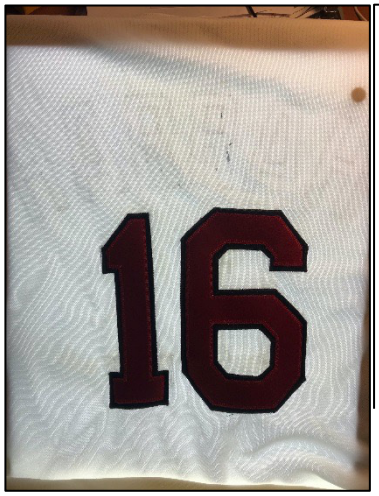
More Indians Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues

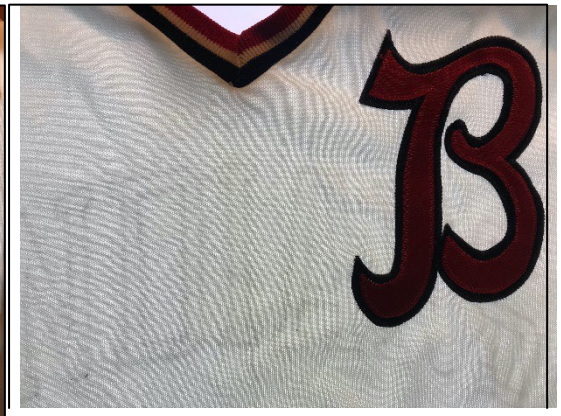
All: Andrew Jenks Collection

One of the reasons that it is so nearly impossible to find 1970s Indians game jerseys in the hobby is that so many of them were recycled to their minor league clubs, where they were totally stripped of their front lettering and player name and often re-numbered and reissued with the crests of the minor league club on them; after which most were summarily used to death. I've seen many of these and restored more than a few. Here are two examples from collector Andrew Jenks. Star-player jerseys were not spared. The "Tomahawks" one, top left is a rare 1973–1974 Indians road gray, of which practically none exist today.

Toby Harrah's 1978 home jersey was sent to Batavia (NY), where it was totally stripped for reuse. Bottom left shows my restoration next to the jersey as I received it. Today, it seems hard to believe that it was worth the time and trouble to do this, but there was seemingly little to no collector interest at the time and labor was inexpensive, so...

As restored





Left and Above: *The light table reveals the MLB past of the jersey. Name on back "Harrah" is clearly visible, as is the Indians wordmark that had been removed from the front.*

As an MLB historian and restoration specialist, I am struck by the number of Indians MLB jerseys from the pre-1990 period I have been tasked to restore that had ended up in the minors—not only stripped of player names and often re-numbered, but also relieved of their front crests. These are some photos of ones that were sent down.

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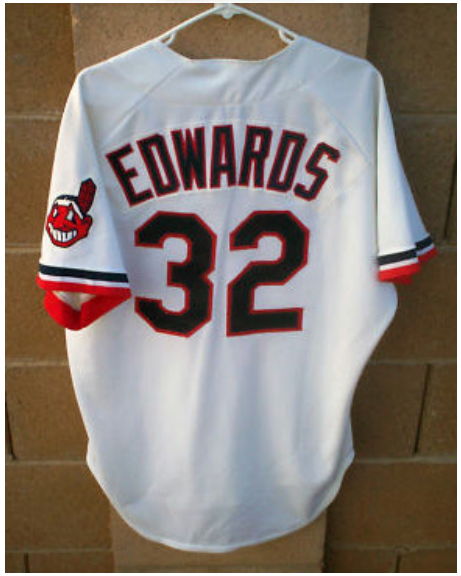
1986-1988 Home

1986

1986

1987

1987



Jersey is a button-front design, and home and road shell for this style are identical except for color of fabric–home is white, road is gray. Identify this jersey by the sleeve end trim—without side or shoulder racing stripes. Red Block Bold numbers on front, Navy/red Block two-color numbers on back, name on back also two-color navy/red. Nameplates used. 1986 front numbers are 4 3/4" tall, they shrink to 4" for 1987–1988. Game used versions of this style are hard to find in the hobby as these were all sent to the minors and used to the point of destruction to be as scarce as they have become. Replica versions of this style are very popular, given that they are the style used in the popular movie "Major League" starring Charlie Sheen.

1988

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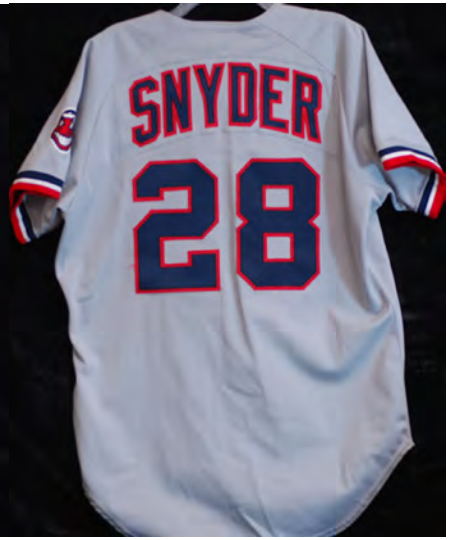
1986 Road

Andrew Jenks Collection

For 1986, the Indians went back to road gray button-front jerseys, leaving the blue pull-overs behind. While Rawlings supplied their home whites for 1986, Wilson made the team's road jerseys. Player numbers were Wilson Varsity on both front and back, single color red on fronts and bold Navy outlined with red on back. Player names were done in Wilson's hand-drawn vertical arch style in the same two colors, and names were sewn on plates. Rawlings would take over making both home and road jerseys for 1987, so the Wilson fonts on this style would be a one- year oddity.



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1987-1988 Road

1987

Above: *Note the Extra Condensed and light version of the Block font used for a longer player name, Swindell. Shorter names get the standard font.*

Rawlings assumes the contract for both home and road uniforms for 1987, and the player lettering is standardized using the Rawlings template. Standard block numbers are used, one color on front and two-color on back. 1986's use of vertical arch lettering for road jersey player names is discontinued. Home and road for this style is identical except for color of fabric.

Surviving examples of this style are uncommon in the hobby. Most were "used up" in the minor leagues after their MLB service was through.

Identify this jersey by the knit sleeve-end trim. There are no side or shoulder racing stripes. Red Block numbers on front, about 4 ¾" tall. Navy/red Block two-color numbers on back. For longer player names, an extra-condensed font is used.

1988

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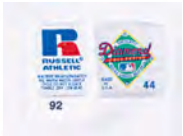
1989-1993 Home

1990

1990

Andrew Jenks Collection



1992

"Indians" vertical arched on front in navy/red on white button-front home jersey. Identify these jerseys by the thick three-color "racing stripes" set into the shoulders and up the sides. Front Block number is one-color, red and is marginally smaller than the numbers used 1986–1988. Back name and number are Block style, navy/red. Nameplates used. Condensed type style used sometimes for very long names.

Rawlings was the sole team supplier 1989–1991; Russell 1992–1993. There are no visible differences between the two manufacturers' jerseys except for the different sleeve logo.

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Start of 1992 Season - What Might Have Happened?

When restoring and authenticating jerseys, I sometimes come across oddities that make me go back to my prior research and dig deeper. This is one of those times. A collector sent me a 1992 Indians home jersey to restore. It was a Russell jersey that showed evidence of a very long nameplate having been on the back, for a player with a very short name. I went back and checked my photo archives and saw that this was not the only example of a jersey with an oddly long nameplate. While Russell was the supplier of record for 1992 from multiple dated press photos, it appears the Indians started the 1992 season both at home and on the road in April wearing Rawlings jerseys. The examples of these Russell 1992-tagged jerseys we have encountered with very long, untrimmed nameplates, perhaps indicates a rush job. It would be pure speculation, but this combination of facts might lead me to conclude that there was some problem with Russell's on-time delivery of the team's new 1992 home jerseys that could have required the team to continue to use 1991 jerseys (which would have been used in 1992 Spring Training anyway) The situation seems to have corrected by the second month of the season; press photos dated from May and later show the team wearing Russell jerseys.

James Marienchek collection

Left: *The light table shows us that the original nameplate was extremely long and untrimmed on the ends; far longer than would have been necessary for a player with a short name like "Hill".*

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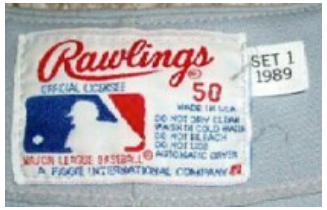
1989-1993 Road

1992

1991



1993

"Cleveland" verically varched on front in navy/red on gray button-front jersey. Identify these jerseys by the thick three-color racing stripes set into shoulders and up the sides.

Front Block number is one color red and is marginally smaller than the numbers 1986–1988. Back name and number are Block style, navy/red. Nameplates used. Condensed type style used sometimes for longer names. Rawlings is the team's sole supplier 1989–1991; Russell 1992–1993. The jerseys made by both manufacturers are identical except for the visible sleeve branding.

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1994-2001 Home

1995

White tag has "95" printed on it, washed to the point of near-illegibility

1996

2001

A new team uniform is unveiled as the Indians moved into their new stadium. "Indians" in script in red/navy, red knit trim on front and at sleeve ends. The look is meant to be nostalgic and classic, recalling Indians uniforms of the 1940s.

No number on front; nameplates are used. Block name and numbers identical to team logo in two-color, red/navy. Standard name font is condensed, for longer names the team switches to an extra-condensed version.

1997

1999

Byron Jackson collection

Above: *On 2001 Home jersey–note all the patches: American flag for 9-11 memorial, American League 100th Anniversary and #5 for Lou Boudreau memorial*

Far left: *Note the use of the extra condensed NOB font for "WILLIAMS." Eight letters is usually the tripping point for the Indians to switch to this font.*

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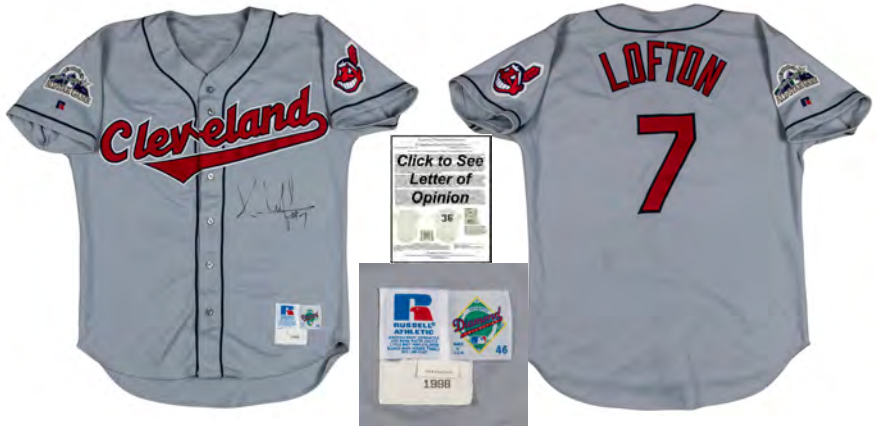
1994-2001 Road

Greg Walker collection

Cleveland script is three color (red/navy/white).However, name and number on back are only two-color red/navy. Thin navy trim at the sleeve ends and around the placket. The Indians use a narrower, more condensed name font than many other teams as their standard, Nameplates are used. Extra Condensed type style is used when needed, but is also used sometimes with short names as well (my guess is that the choice of what alphabet to use was left strictly up to the stitcher, who did as he/she pleased).



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1994-1996 Alternate/1997-2001 Alternate Home

Top Left: *1995 with World Series Patch.*

Bottom Left: *For players with long names, the Indians would switch from Block to Block Condensed Light NOB.*

2001

Alternate jersey features “Indians” team script is three-color red/navy/white. No numbers on front. Nameplates are used. Name and number on back two-color Block red/white. This jersey is used at home and on the road 1994 –1996, then at home only 1997–2001.

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1997-2001 Alternate Road

1999

2000

Above: *2000 Alomar jersey clearly features extra-length sleeve tailoring.*

Road alternate says "Cleveland." Team script is three-color, red/navy/white. Red knit trim near sleeve ends and on the placket.

No numbers on front. Nameplates are used. Name and number on back Block two-color, red/white.

1997

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Indians Team Tagging Examples 1994-2007

Above: All locker tags are from 2004. But note earlier style Russell tag at left, later (italic lettered) style at right.

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2002-2007 Home

2002

For 2002, just minor revisions were made to the Indians' uniforms. On the home jersey, trim color is changed from plain red to navy blue on the collar and front, and to navy/gray/navy knit trim on the sleeve ends. Logo and lettering change to three-color red/metallic silver/navy blue. No numbers on front, on back, nameplates are used. Back numbers are still Block font. Names are red/metallic silver/navy 3D drop shadow. Wahoo patch on sleeve also has metallic silver added in highlights and around the edge. Navy blue border added to patch.

2002

Blue- and Metallic Silver-trimmed Oddballs

Apparently the Indians initially went a little overboard with the silver trim for 2002, as they actually approved jerseys with metallic silver in the trim, both around the sleeves and on the front placket. This decision got far enough that Russell made a first run of these jerseys before the Indians changed their minds and axed the metallic silver from the braid. The Indians went so far as to issue a statement to apparel manufacturers telling them that the plans had changed, and these jerseys were not to be used. I recall briefly seeing some of these oddballs for sale with cut tags on eBay, but did not pay enough attention to them at the time, and I have been unsuccessfully looking for a renegade example ever since.

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2002-2007 Alternate Home Vest

2002

2003

Home alternate vest added for 2002. Worn with a plain navy undershirt with no patches on its sleeves. Chest logo and lettering change to three-color red/metallic silver/navy blue. Navy knit trim rings the placket. No numbers on front in 2002, numbers on the right chest added 2003–2007. Note the proper low number placement.

On back, nameplates are used. Back numbers are still Block font, names are red/silver/navy 3D drop shadow. Wahoo patch on left chest also has metallic silver added in highlights and around the edge. Navy blue border added to patch.

2003

2003: *Memorial patches on right sleeve for #18 Mel Harder (all season) and #14 Larry Doby (added after June 18, 2003)*

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2002-2007 Road

For 2002, the road jersey was also changed slightly. Sleeve end knit trim color is changed to navy/gray/navy. Logo and lettering change to three-color red/metallic silver/navy blue. No numbers on front, on back, nameplates are used. Back numbers are still Block font, names are red/silver/navy 3D drop shadow. Chief Wahoo patch on sleeve also has metallic silver added in highlights and around the edge. Navy blue border added to patch.

2006

2002

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2002-2007 Alternate Road

For 2002, the alternate jersey is changed slightly. White sleeve end and front knit trim color is changed to gray. Logo and lettering change to three-color: red/navy/metallic silver. Older “Cleveland” navy blue jersey discontinued after 2001; this is the only navy jersey left in the lineup for 2002. No numbers on front, on back, nameplates used. Back numbers are still Block font, names are red/navy/metallic silver 3D drop shadow. Wahoo patch on sleeve has navy blue border added to patch (the older patch was edged in white).

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2008-2011 Home

The metallic silver outlining that had adorned the home jersey lettering since 2002 is discarded and replaced with white. Sleeve end trim reverts to a simple navy knit trim strip, replacing the navy/gray/navy braid that had been used before. The Chief Wahoo patch on the sleeve has its outline color changed from blue to white, and the border is narrower.

Player name on back loses the navy blue drop shadow that it gained in 2002 in favor of a standard blue layer. Nameplates are used.

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2008-2010 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

The metallic silver outlining that had surrounded all the lettering on the road jersey lettering since 2002 is discarded and is now replaced with white. Sleeve end trim reverts to simple navy knit trim strip, replacing the navy/gray/navy braid that had been used before. The Chief Wahoo patch on the sleeve has its outline color changed from gray to white.

Player name on back loses the drop shadow that it had gained in 2002. All lettering for the wordmark, player name and numbers is the same red/white/navy. Nameplates are used.

Notice below that the third color outline fills in the centers of the open letters (like O and R).

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2008-2011 Alternate Blue

Steve Kraljic collection

2009

Very subtle changes to outlining. The lettering on the front team script, and the player name and number on the back changes to red/navy/white from red/navy/gray used before. The Navy lettering outline layer is now very narrow, half the width of the white layer that borders it. The border on the Chief Wahoo sleeve patch changes from silver to white. The jersey body itself stays the same as from the prior year.

Notice that the third color outline on the player NOB intentionally fills in the spaces in the open letters (like A,B,P and R). Nameplates are used.

© GameWornGuides.com

2008-2016 Alternate Home

There are two variations of this jersey: the first iteration was worn 2008–2011 and the second 2012–2016.

This very plain looking, traditionally styled uniform jersey is not a reproduction of any past-year design. Instead, it is a new design created to represent the combined simplicity of several Indians uniforms from decades past. The cream-colored button-front jersey is devoid of sleeve end trim or other adornment. Chief Wahoo patch is sewn on the left sleeve. Front and back lettering is red outlined with navy, no player names are used on back.

For 2012, the front team name lettering size is adjusted to make it just slightly smaller, and the arch in the word is made slightly more pronounced. Critics had complained that on smaller players the lettering looked like it "went from chin to belt." The new size is less than ½" smaller than the old. 2008–2011 height of the lettering is 4 5/16", 2012 and after it is 3 7/8"

This style is discontinued after 2016.

2012

Original height wordmark lettering from 2009 ***(top left)****; half-inch smaller front lettering begins 2012* ***(top middle)***

© GameWornGuides.com

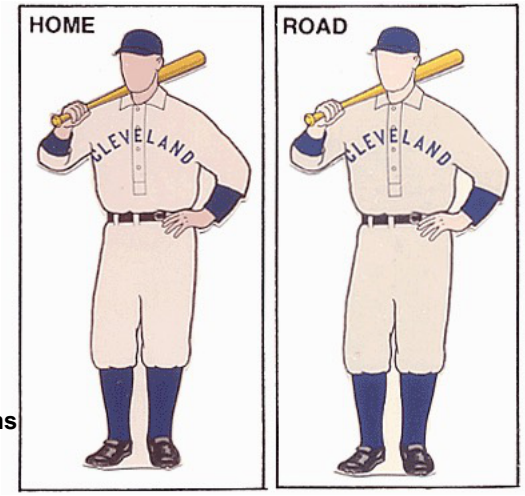
2011-2018 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

The Indians introduced a new, Block-lettered road jersey for 2011 that they claim was inspired by their 1901 jersey (from 110 years prior). That's a bit of a stretch, as a depiction of the 1901 road jersey is shown here ***(right)***.

Reaction seems to have been overall positive, as the design is classic, if uninspired. Some think that the word "Cleveland" formerly rendered in multi-colored script was too hard to read and looked clumsy anyway. All lettering is navy on red, nameplates are used. Names use a condensed font, even when they are short names. Extra Condensed used liberally for longer names. Chief Wahoo remains the consistent family anchor on the left sleeve.

1901 Indians



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2012 Team Wordmark Adjustment

1994-2011 Jersey Script

Starting 1994 "Print" Script

Revised 2012 Jersey Script

Among the minor changes to the 2012 uniform lineup was a standardization of the team's front script wordmark. Fans have noticed that the Indians have used a different version of the script in print material than on their uniforms since the current design debuted in 1994. The revised script is used on both the home white and alternate blue jersey starting with the 2012 season, and wordmark outlining has been simplified to a single one instead of the previous double outline. The new script is cleaner in design than the old uniform script. Perhaps sensitive to fans complaints about constantly changing merchandise, the Indians announced that there would be no more fiddling with game uniforms for the next three seasons, at least. The Tribe had been regularly changing things on its uniforms, though the one thing that many critics wanted to see changed, stayed...for the moment—the smiling, bright-red-skinned Chief Wahoo on the sleeve.

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2012-2018 Home

Minor tweaks are made to the Indians home uniform for 2012. The white home uniform has its trim changed, adding thin navy knit trim at the very edge of the collar. The same thin navy knit trim is used near the sleeve ends. The knit trim that had adorned the placket in years prior has been removed, leaving the uniform front plain white.

The Indians front script loses its double outlining, and is now red with a simple navy outline. But closer inspection shows the logo itself has been changed, making it more like the team script that has long been represented as the official club logo in print. Oddly it had not matched with the script used on the team's uniforms until now.

Chief Wahoo remains on his usual position on the left sleeve.

Back is equally simple in design: Block name and numbers in the same red/navy color combination as the script on front. Nameplates used.

This is a very nice, clean design tuning that ditches all of the unnecessary ornamentation. In a somewhat unusual move, the Indians volunteered that they would not make any more uniform changes for at least three years, perhaps admitting to souvenir-buying fans that they have been tinkering a bit too much.

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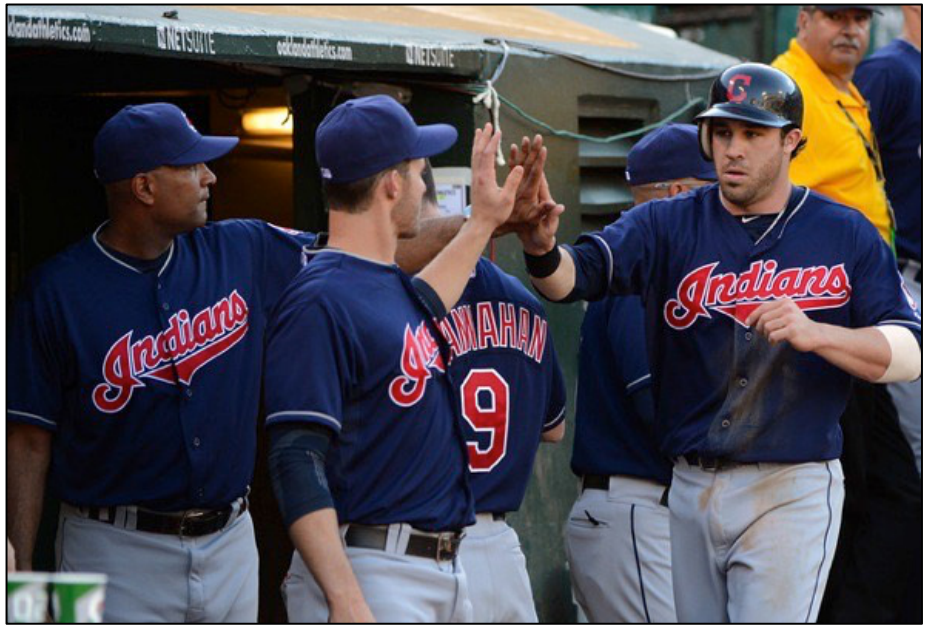
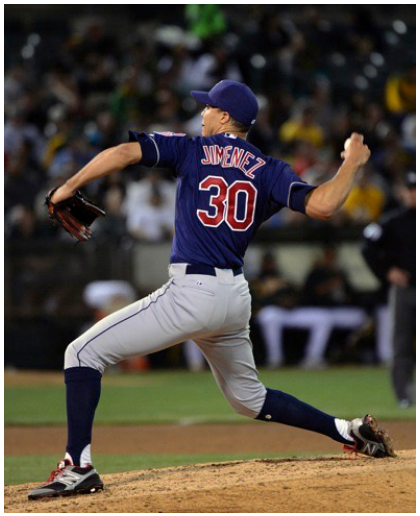
2012-2014 Alternate Blue





Minor adjustments are made to the Indians blue alternate uniform for 2012. It has its trim changed, adding thin gray knit trim at the very edge of the collar. Equally thin gray knit trim is used near the sleeve ends.

Just like the changes to the home jersey, the Indians front script loses its double outlining, and is now red with a simple white outline. But closer inspection shows the jersey wordmark itself has been altered, making it more like the team script that has long been represented as the official club logo in print. Chief Wahoo remains at his usual position on the left sleeve.

The jersey back is equally simple in design: Block name and numbers in the same red/white color combination as the script on front Nameplates used.

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2015-2018 Alternate Blue (New Darker Shade)

While the navy jersey fabric is darker for 2015, the navy twill lettering and the navy trim on the white, cream and gray jerseys stays the same as before.

In 2012, the Indians promised fans that it would not make any more changes to the team's uniforms for at least the next three years. This, in response to the complaint that the Indians were changing some detail or another every year, annoying die-hard fans who wanted to wear current team attire. If we ignore the new BP jersey introduced for 2012 (along with every other team in the league), they kept their promise. But in late 2015, I knew something was "up" as loads of Indians navy blue alternate jerseys were dumped to the discounters.

The team changed the color of navy blue it uses for 2015, making it darker, and making it better match the team's hats. While it may have seemed like a small thing, *on Sports Illustrated*'s online Indians fan page, Brian Heise wrote, *"The change also makes for a much cleaner and crisper look. the deep cobalt never seemed to allow for enough contrast from the bright shade of red used with the home caps. The end result almost allowed for a purplish hue to enter into the picture if the light hit just right. Simply put, it didn't provide enough contrast and never really looked right. The dark navy provides that missing contrast by allowing the brightness of the red to pop and eliminating the strange purplish look. When paired with the helmets, which have always been a darker shade of navy, the differences became even more glaring."*

Cleveland Indians

Major League Baseball / American League (1915 through present)
Franchise Colors - Textile Colors / Cotton
Navy, Red, White

Primary Colors:
- PANTONE® 19-3935 TCX Deep Cobalt
- PANTONE® 18-1764 TCX Lollipop
- PANTONE® 11-0601 TCX Bright White

Road Uniform Base Color:
- PANTONE® 15-4003 TCX Storm Gray

COLORWERX.

Cleveland Indians

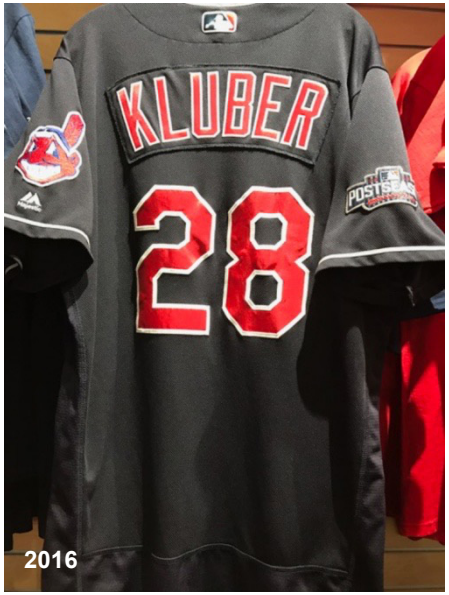
Major League Baseball / American League (1915 through present)
Franchise Colors - Textile Colors / Cotton
Navy, Red, White

Primary Colors:
- PANTONE® 19-4023 TCX Blue Nights
- PANTONE® 18-1764 TCX Lollipop
- PANTONE® 11-0601 TCX Bright White

Road Uniform Base Color:
- PANTONE® 15-4003 TCX Storm Gray

COLORWERX.

Below: old vs. new in shirts; hats were also changed.



2016

© GameWornGuides.com

2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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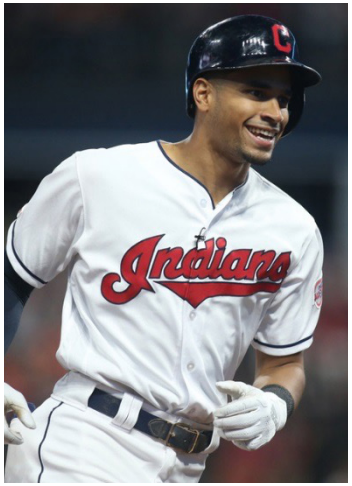
2019-2021 Home



The 2019 version of the Indians' uniform updates bring one incredibly controversial change and one that very few likely even noticed. For the first time since 1972, the Indians jersey did not feature some version of their Chief Wahoo logo on the sleeve, which critics considered insensitive at best, and at worst, racist. Fan response was mixed, and at least for 2019, the space was filled with the All-Star Patch, recognizing Cleveland's status as host city. The right sleeve bears the MLB150 patch like all other teams that year. Lost in the controversy of Wahoo's departure was the removal of the team's nameplates on back, as the Indians were one of the last two nameplate holdouts along with the Rays. In that respect, two eras ended with one jersey—one with a bang, and one a whimper. Other than those changes, the rest of the jersey remains the same as it was since its 2012 update.

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2019-2021 Road

The hubbub around the Indians' banishment of Chief Wahoo did not stop with its home jerseys; it extends here to the road grays as well. However, one imagines home fans of other teams were less sensitive to the change than those in Cleveland, who were accustomed to seeing Wahoo on the home uniforms dozens of times each year. Wahoo's space on the left sleeve is filled with the All-Star Patch, recognizing Cleveland's status as host city. The right sleeve bears the MLB150 patch like all other teams that year. Like the home jerseys, these lose the nameplates as well. Other than those changes, the rest of the jersey remains the same as it has since its 2011 introduction.

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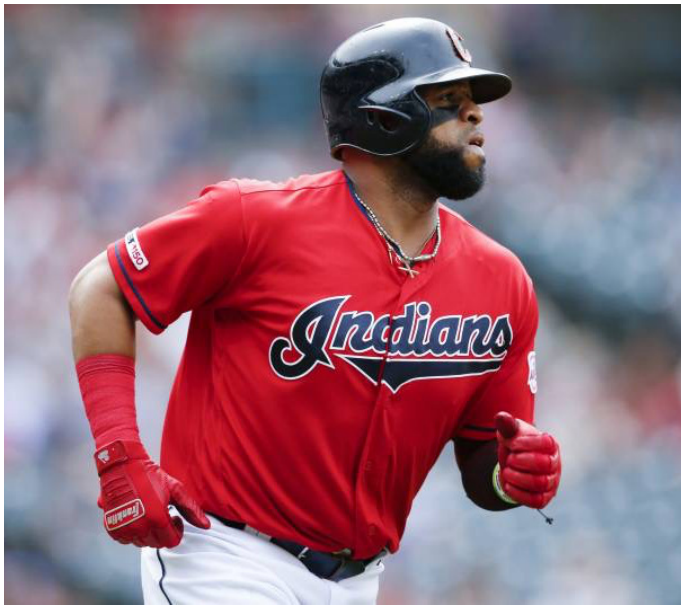
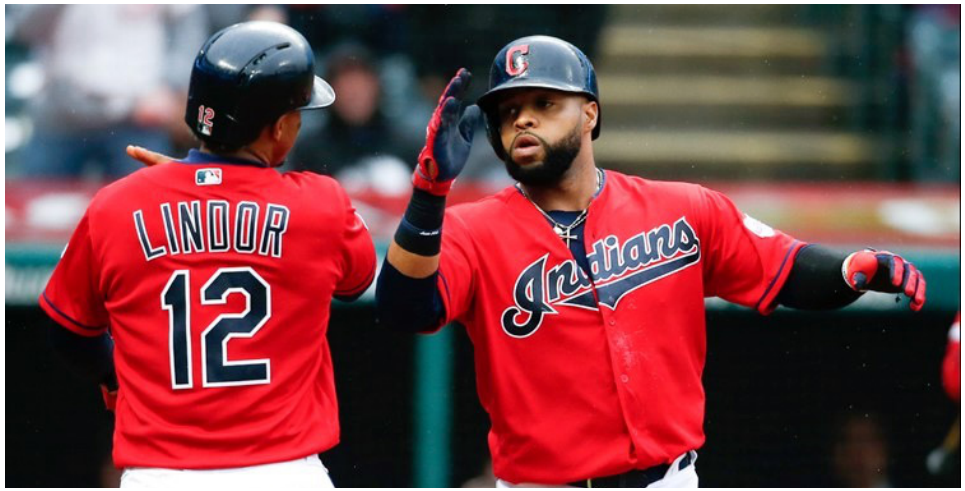
2019-2021 Alternate Home





The 2019 updates that saw the departure of Chief Wahoo from the Indians' existing uniforms also bring the introduction of a new red alternate jersey into the rotation. These Majestic Flex Base jerseys recall the Indians' 1970's "mix-and-match" era of distinctive uniforms in spirit if not in style. Like the team's white and gray jerseys, blue knit trim encircles the neck opening and resides above the sleeve ends. A blue/white version of the Indians script adorns the front, while matching blue/white names and numbers in block appear on back. For 2019, the left sleeve sports an All-Star Patch, recognizing Cleveland's status as host city, while the right bears the MLB150 patch like all other teams that year. This new jersey starts fresh with no sign of Chief Wahoo, or nameplates, which were ditched after the 2018 season.

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2019-2021 Alternate Road

Blue alternate jerseys have long been a part of the Indians' rotation, and the 2019 update takes a simpler approach than previous navy designs. Entirely devoid of trim, this Majestic Flex Base jersey features red/white lettering throughout, including the block "Cleveland" wordmark (taken from the gray road jerseys), and block player names and numbers on back. For 2019, the left sleeve sports an All-Star Patch, recognizing Cleveland's status as host city, while the right bears the MLB150 patch like all other teams that year. This new jersey starts fresh with no sign of Chief Wahoo, or nameplates, both of which were eliminated from all jerseys after the 2018 season.

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2022: From Indians to Guardians

Cleveland changing name from Indians to Guardians after 2021 season

Excerpted from espn.com, July 23, 2021

Known as the Indians since 1915, Cleveland's Major League Baseball team will next be called the Guardians.

The ballclub announced the name change Friday...ending months of internal discussions triggered by a national reckoning by institutions and teams to permanently drop logos and names considered racist. The name change is effective at the end of the 2021 season.

Cleveland's new name was inspired by the large landmark stone edifices—referred to as traffic guardians—that flank both ends of the Hope Memorial Bridge, which connects downtown to Ohio City.

The team's colors will remain the same, and the new Guardians logos will incorporate some of the architectural features of the bridge.

One of the Guardians of Traffic statues on Cleveland's Hope Memorial Bridge, the inspiration for the team's name and iconography.

Guardians

CLEVELAND 216

Here's how the team describes their new look:

CONTINUITY

COLORS REMAIN: Our team colors will remain the same scheme that has been part of our organization for more than 80 years to honor our rich baseball heritage as well as the tradition of baseball as America's pastime

SCRIPT WORDMARK RETURNS: The new Guardians wordmark will have a familiar script style of the last 75 years while evoking the structural architecture of the Hope Memorial Bridge, mimicking the trusses of the bridge's underside

HOME/ROAD UNIFORMS: The Club will continue to wear CLEVELAND on the road uniforms, featuring our Bridge Print alphabet derived from the Diamond C, and the Guardians script wordmark on the home uniforms

EVOLUTION

'C' EVOLUTION: Our new "Diamond C" will be an evolution of the Block C and respects the tradition and heritage of Cleveland Baseball. The new C stands tall —just as the Guardians of Traffic stand watch over our ballpark and city—and draws from the ascending diamond motifs at the top of each Guardian pylon. The weight of the C is bold and its tapered shape is inspired by letterforms from the 1920 and 1948 World Series clubs

NEW LOGOMARK: The Guardian's Fastball embodies what it means to be a Cleveland Guardian in its strong, yet simple design. It is inspired by the helmets and wings of the Hope Memorial Bridge's Guardian statues and the G purposefully wraps around and guards the baseball. The split-finger design is a tribute to our strong pitching heritage

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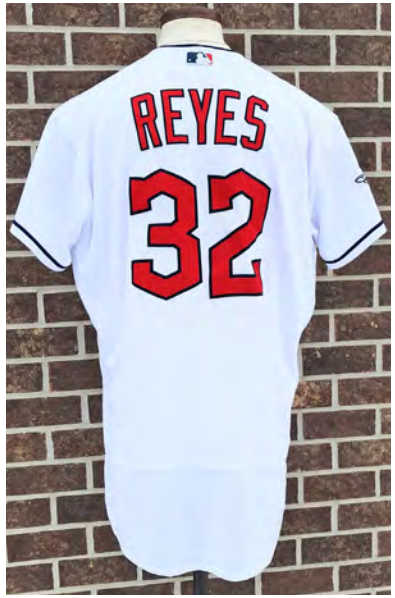
2022-2023 Home



The new Guardians home uniform carries over the navy knit trim encircling the neck opening and near each sleeve end. The “Guardians Fastball” patch adorns the right sleeve in 2022, in 2023, it varied sleeves based on each players’ handedness to accommodate an advertising patch that debuted in July of that year. All lettering is red/navy, with “Guardians” on front in what the team calls “Bridge Script,” with jersey backs featuring numbers in the team’s custom “Bridge Print” font and player names in Block. On this jersey alone, Nike updates the first two letters of the style code on the tag to “GU” to reflect Guardians, a change from the previous “ID” for Indians.

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2022-2023 Road

The new Guardians road uniform carries over the navy knit trim encircling the neck opening and near each sleeve end. The “Guardians Fastball” patch adorns the right sleeve in 2022, in 2023, it varied sleeves based on each players’ handedness to accommodate an advertising patch that debuted in July of that year. All lettering is navy/red, with “Cleveland” on front and player numbers on back in what the team calls “Bridge Print” font, while player names on back appear in Block. Despite an update to the style code on the home jersey tags, Nike continues to use “IA” in the code for the road jersey, which stands for “Indians,” the team’s former name.

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2022-2023 Alternate Home

The new Guardians home alternate uniform carries over the navy knit trim encircling the neck opening and near each sleeve end. The “Guardians Fastball” patch adorns the right sleeve in 2022, in 2023, it varied sleeves based on each players’ handedness to accommodate an advertising patch that debuted in July of that year. All lettering is navy/white, with “Guardians” on front in what the team calls “Bridge Script,” with jersey backs featuring numbers in the team’s custom “Bridge Print” font and player names in Block. Despite an update to the style code on the home jersey tags, Nike continues to use “IA” in the code for the red jersey, which stands for “Indians,” the team’s former name.

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2022-2023 Alternate Road

Just like the team's previous version, the new Guardians road alternate jersey lacks decorative knit trim featured on all other styles, opting for a plainer look. The "Guardians Fastball" patch adorns the right sleeve in 2022, in 2023, it varied sleeves based on each players' handedness to accommodate an advertising patch that debuted in July of that year. All lettering is red/white, with "Cleveland" on front and player numbers on back in what the team calls "Bridge Print" font, while player names on back appear in Block. Despite an update to the style code on the home jersey tags, Nike continues to use "IA" in the code for the blue jersey, which stands for "Indians," the team's former name.

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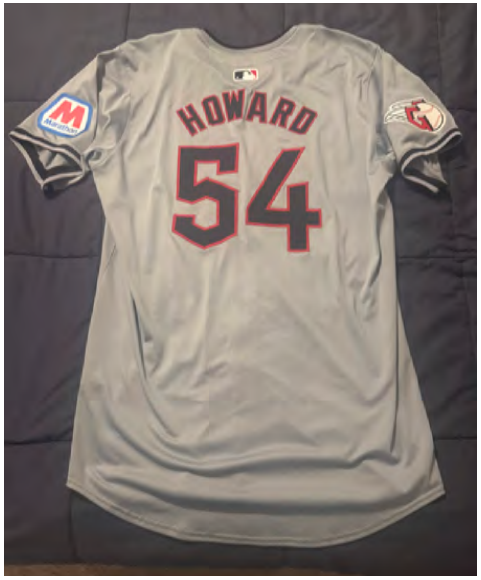
2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024



Jonathan C. Baum Collection

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

David Averette Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Guardians home jersey, which was introduced just two years prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's front lettering splits about the same as before. Neck and sleeve-end trim are now sewn-in to their respective seams rather than sewn on top of the jersey itself. As such, both appear wider than in previous seasons. The Guardians use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Despite an update to the style code on the home jersey tags in 2022–2023 where ":GU" for "Guardians" was used, Nike inexplicably reverts to using "IA" in 2024, which stands for "Indians," the team's former name.

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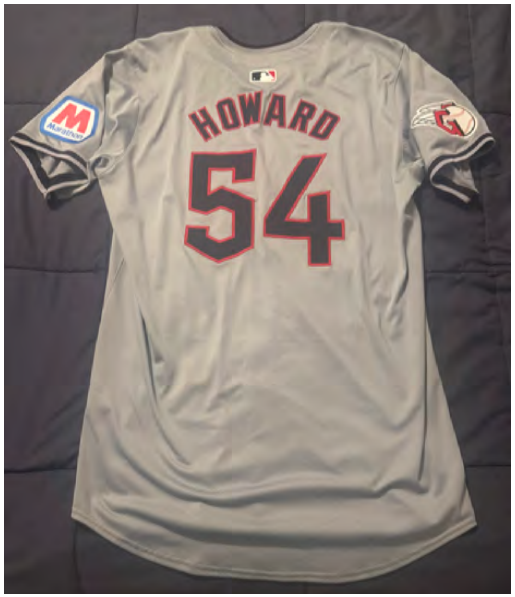
2024 Road



Jonathan C. Baum Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Guardians road jersey, which was introduced just two years prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's front lettering splits about the same as before. Neck and sleeve-end trim are now sewn-in to their respective seams rather than sewn on top of the jersey itself. As such, both appear wider than in previous seasons. The Guardians use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Nike inexplicably continues to use "IA" as part of the style code on the front tag in 2024, which stands for "Indians," the team's former name.

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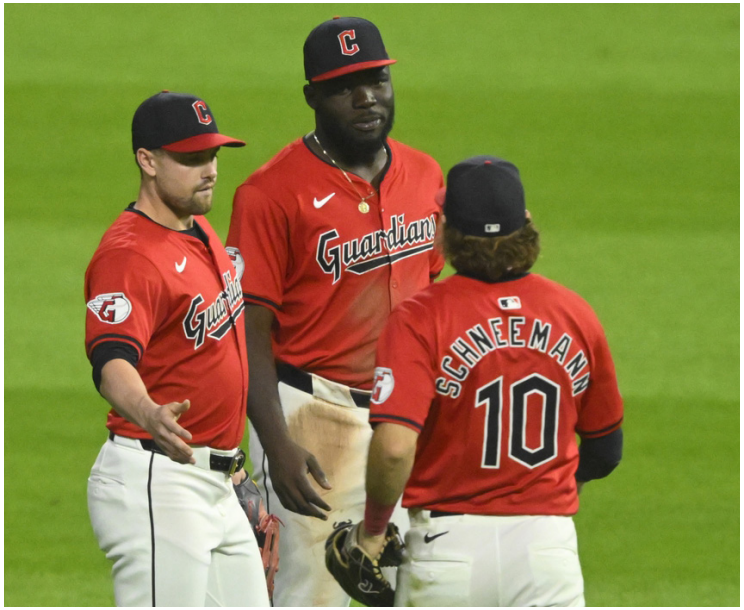
2024 Alternate Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Guardians red jersey, which was introduced just two years prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's front lettering splits about the same as before. The Guardians use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Nike inexplicably continues to use "IA" as part of the style code on the front tag in 2024, which stands for "Indians," the team's former name.



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2024 Alternate Road

Jonathan C. Baum Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Guardians blue jersey, which was introduced just two years prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Cleveland" lettering now breaks across the second "E" rather than between the "V" and following "E" as before. The Guardians use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Nike inexplicably continues to use "IA" as part of the style code on the front tag in 2024, which stands for "Indians," the team's former name.

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2024-2025 City Connect

When changing from the Indians to the Guardians for the 2022 season, the team took inspiration for its new identity from the Hope Memorial Bridge, a symbol of Cleveland that is located by the ballpark. They stuck close to this script, with a little nod to team history, when designing their inaugural City Connect uniform, unveiled in May 2024. From the team's press release:

The Cleveland Guardians City Connect uniform is inspired by the Guardians of Traffic pillars on the Hope Memorial Bridge just outside of Progressive Field. The blue jersey's textured pattern is influenced by the Berea sandstone from which the pillars were carved over 90 years ago, a reflection of the resilience of the statues and the city they inspire.

The sculptural art deco 'CLE' wordmark and number set are layered to look like they've been etched in stone, similar to the pylons that support each statue.

The uniform's red and blue color scheme is rooted in Cleveland baseball tradition, staying true to the club's history. The braiding down the sides of the jersey and pants features an intricate design found on the statues and gives a nod to the strength and excitement of the early '90s teams.

Personalized touches can be found on the jocktag, which displays 'The Land,' and inside the neck, with an 'EST 1901' graphic, the year in which the organization was founded.

Since this jersey debuted in 2024, it has only existed on the Nike Vapor Premiere Elite template. Note that the stripe pattern on the sleeves and down the sides of the jersey are sewn on top of the jersey fabric and are not set into the jersey as they were in the team's 1988–1993 jerseys. Despite the intricate pattern on the back numbers, they are perforated. The similarly styled (and not much smaller) front "CLE" letters are not. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

Above: *A closer look at the heat-pressed "The Land" text and side stripes.*

Left: *The heat-pressed "Est. 1901" text in the jersey collar.*

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2025 Home

The Guardians make slight modifications to their home jersey in 2025, replacing their blue/white neck and sleeve-end set-in trim with red/blue/red. It is a small change that makes a big difference to prioritize the red as a dominant color. Otherwise, the jersey remains the same, except for the 2025 league-wide minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Road

The Guardians make slight modifications to their road jersey in 2025, replacing their blue/gray neck and sleeve-end trim with red/blue/red. It is a small change that makes a big difference to brighten the jersey a little with the presence of more red throughout. Otherwise, the 2025 season brings many other changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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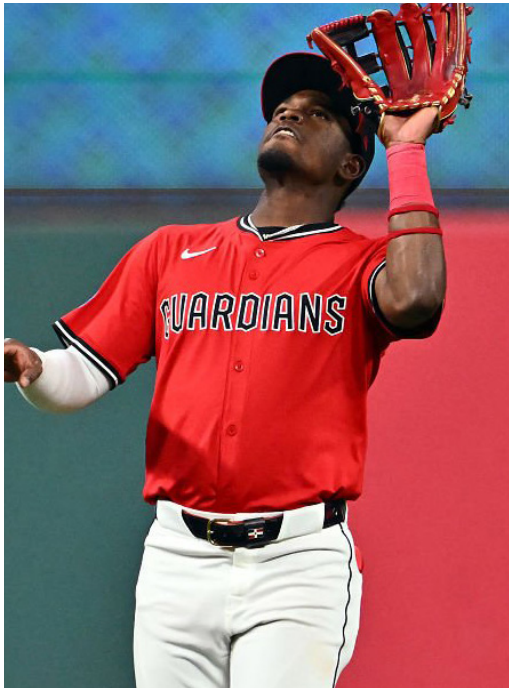
2025 Alternate Home



The Guardians make some modifications to their red alternate jersey in 2025, replacing their red/blue/red neck and sleeve-end set-in trim with blue/white/blue, and changing the front “Guardians” lettering from their custom “Bridge Script” to their custom “Bridge Print” font. The new jersey also experiences the 2025 league-wide minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams’ non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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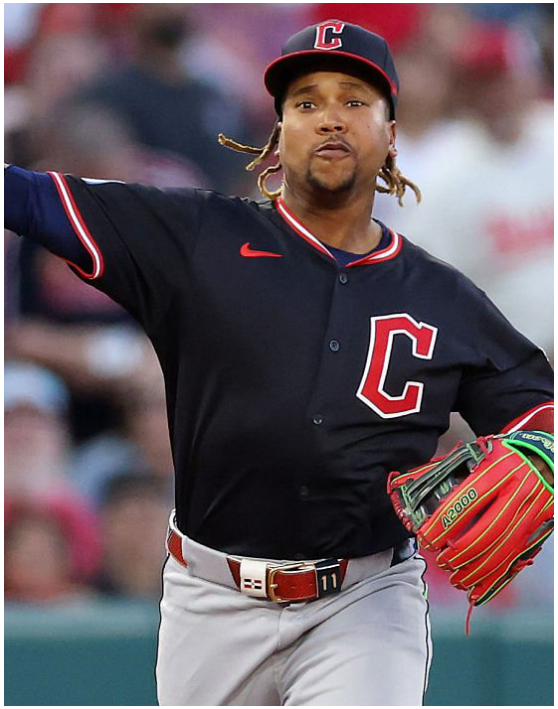
2025 Alternate Road



The Guardians update their blue alternate for 2025, adding red/white/red neck and sleeve-end trim, and swapping out the front “Cleveland” lettering in their custom “Bridge Print” font for a large version of their “C” cap logo in red/white on front left chest. The changes brighten the jersey, bringing in more red, and making the front seem bolder in comparison. In addition, the jersey also includes the 2025 league-wide minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams’ non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

Mid 1980s-1993 Batting Practice

1993 with "Olin/Crews" patch

Batting practice jerseys are navy blue mesh with Chief Wahoo logo on the left chest. Numbers are two-color red/white. Russell-manufactured jerseys ***(top left)*** use Block with Serifs font, Majestic versions ***(right)*** use Majestic Varsity. In our archives there are a mix of jersey photos with names on back and without. The #60 above right looks like it has had its NOB removed, judging from the low number placement. Because photos of players wearing these warmups are rare, and the fact that these are not year-tagged and we won't hazard a guess as to when names were used.

1990–1992

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1984-1997 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

1997

Above, this jersey has different sleeve end trim and dates from the mid 1980s, compared to the one shown at left from 1995.

The Indians players often wore these pullover zipper-neck BP jerseys from the mid-80s until the mid-90s. I do not have specific dates of use, but 1984–1997 are the years that players appear in these jerseys in dated news photos.

These Majestic jerseys feature multi-striped red/white/navy sleeve and neck trim, and the Chief Wahoo sewn to the left chest. Two-color red/white Majestic Varsity numbers on the back.

In the 1995 photo above, the players at right and left are wearing the "Standard" BP jersey, while the one in the middle is wearing an alternate.

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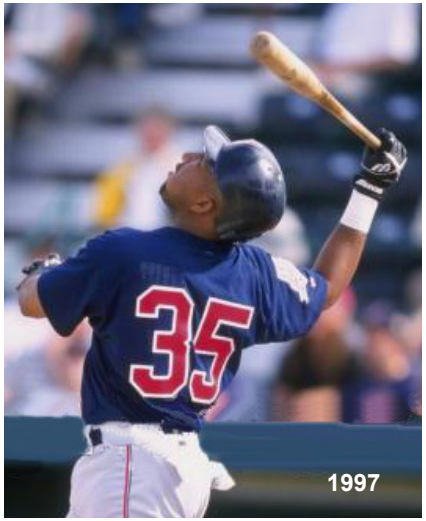
1994-1998 Batting Practice

Steve Kraljic collection

1995

In 1994, the BP jersey loses its striped sleeve end and V-neck trim, and gains two buttons at the collar. Chief Wahoo logo patch remains on the left chest.

No names used on back, but Russell's two-color numbers are a huge 10" red/white for 1994–1998. In 1997–1998, Majestic numbers shrink to a more normal 8 ½" tall (approximately). Indians generally use commemorative patches on their BP jerseys as well.



1997

1996

Steve Kraljic collection

1997

The Indians generally use commemorative patches on their BP jerseys. Note year tagging on Russell jersey, Majestic does not use team tagging. Notice 1997 jerseys at left and right, Majestic and Russell, each with different sized numbers. News photos seem to show both number sizes being worn on the field simultaneously.

1997

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1999-2001 Batting Practice

1999
Russell

This 1999 jersey uses the older style Russell tag

1999 Russell

2000 Majestic

2000 Majestic

1999
Russell

Mesh construction, pullover with two-button neck, Chief Wahoo patch sewn on the left chest just as before.

However, dual wide red stripes separated by a thin navy band now encircle the sleeves at the shoulders.

On Russell issued jerseys, extra tall red/white Block numbers are huge 10” red/white as they have been since 1994.

Russell Jerseys use extra-tall block numbers. Majestic jerseys 1999-2001 use normal sized Majestic Varsity numbers. Silhouetted Batter patch added to the back of the neck in 2000.

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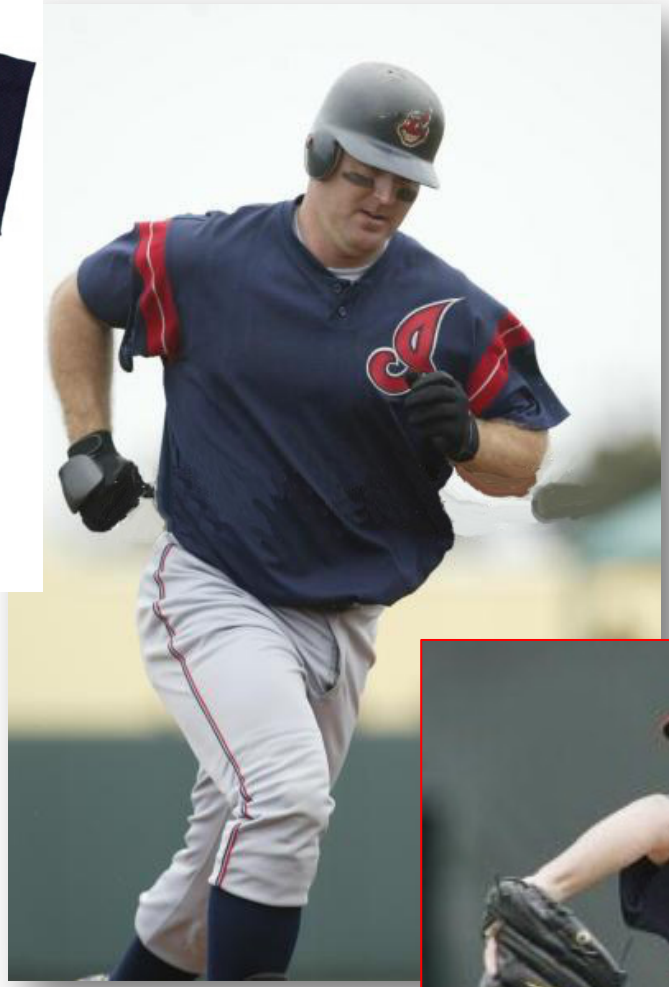
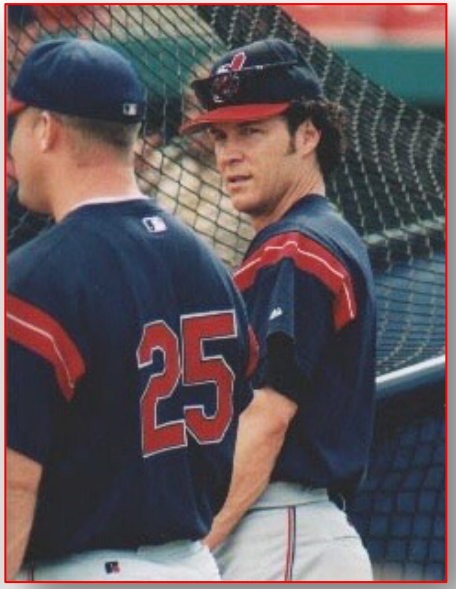
2002 Batting Practice





- Chief Wahoo disappears from the batting practice jersey in 1999, replaced by stylized letter “I," in the style of the first letter of the Indians’ wordmark logo.
- One-year-style mesh jersey construction, red knit sleeve bands now have a white stripe between them. Still no names on back. Numbers are smaller (9”) and are three-color red/navy/white.

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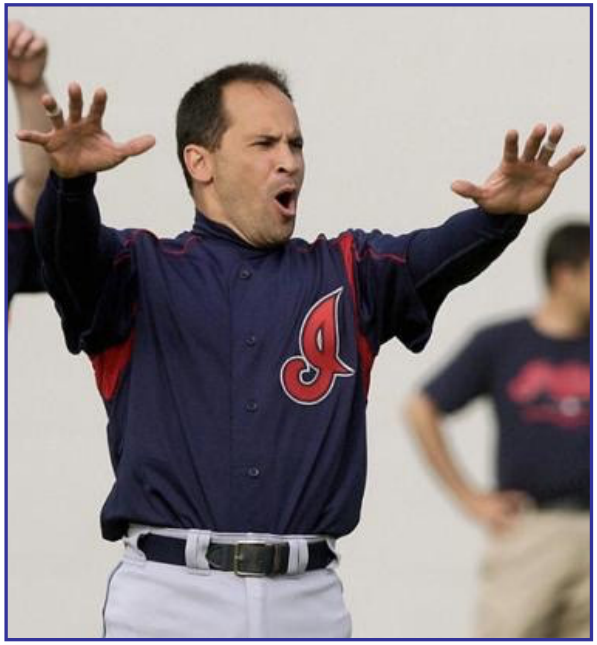
2003-2006 Batting Practice



Jersey fabric changes from mesh to a new, softer non-mesh moisture-wicking type, but one that fades badly in use and is highly susceptible to fabric pulls. Red piping on sleeve tops, single red bands now run underneath the sleeves. Numbers are three-color, red/navy/white and standard-sized. No names on back.

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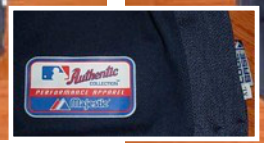
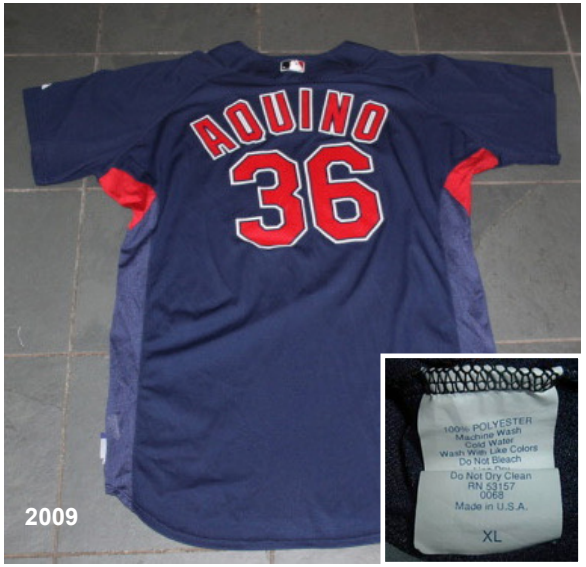
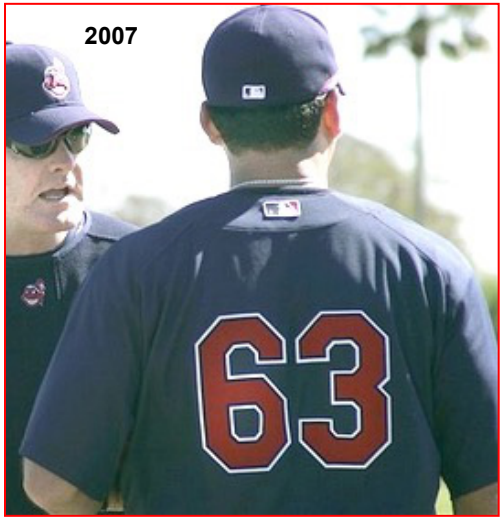
2007-2010 Batting Practice





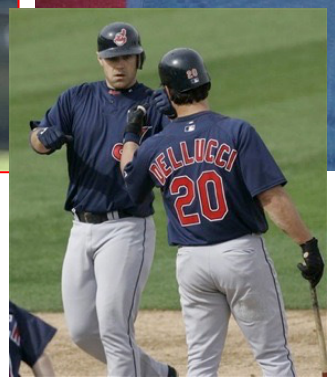


The 2007 batting practice jersey redesign for all teams was hardly noticeable in the Indians' camp.

Logo and numbers are heat-pressed appliqué and no longer made of sewn twill.

Except for the different placement of the red trim (it is now under the arms instead of looped over them), the jersey is nearly identical to its 2003 –2006 predecessors.

One-button neck, cursive "I" logo on left chest. Three-color numbers on the back in red, navy, white. 2007–2008, no player names on back. Player NOB added for 2009 and 2010.



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2011 Batting Practice

The batting practice jersey for 2011 features a tall Block front wordmark, with player numbers and name all in three-color twill.

It is a button-front design in deep blue with contrasting solid red side panels and a red panel above the player's name on back.

The "19" on the sleeve is for Bob Feller; it is different from the patch used on game uniforms because the team was late in gaining the rights to use the silhouetted image of Feller from the owner of the photograph it was copied from! (complete story in the Commemorative Patches section of this chapter).

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2012-2013 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

The batting practice jersey is simplified for 2012. The red panel across the top of the back is eliminated and replaced with a blue one, and all lettering and wordmarks change to two-color from the three-color designs used in 2011. The lettering is twill.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Batting Practice

Right: *Some players in Spring Training are issued BPs with no names on back.*

For 2014, Majestic and MLB change all the BP jerseys in the Major Leagues, adding striped knit sleeve and neck trim and changing the tag on the tail of all of them to a new, tall rectangular design. While some teams make minor changes, the Indians take a deliberate step that lessens the appearance of the polarizing Chief Wahoo mascot figure in its wardrobe. These new BP jerseys feature the Indians' newly-designated primary team mark, a simple red, capital "C" that replaces Wahoo on the left chest. The new BP jersey is two-toned, with the entire back panel in red. Player names and numbers on back are in navy blue outlined with white.

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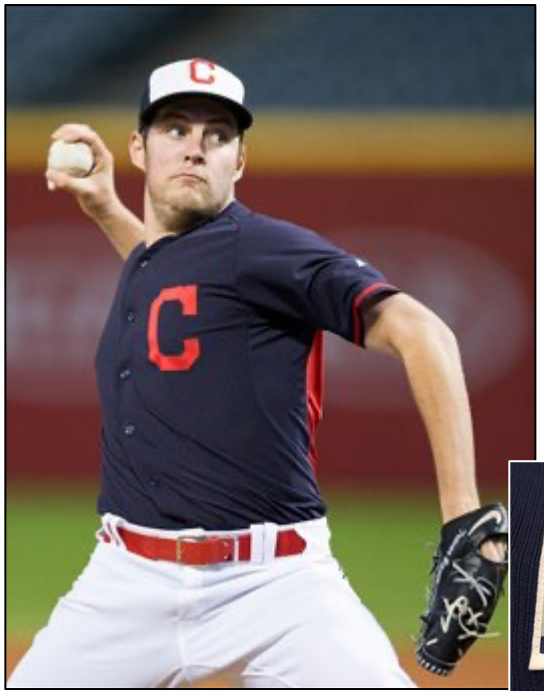
2015-2016 Batting Practice



Above: *The older, lighter blue 2014 BP is shown at right, for comparison.*

While the 2015 batting practice jersey appears identical to the 2014 edition, its fabric is actually a shade darker, correcting a perceived mismatch between lettering, trim and cloth. Desiring a shade of navy that looked more like black and less blue, the Indians changed their caps, blue alternate game jersey and BP jersey to a new hue. See the 2015 alternate game jersey page in the first section of this chapter for a closer look at the Pantone charts comparing old colors with new. The photo immediately to the left shows the two colors side by side.

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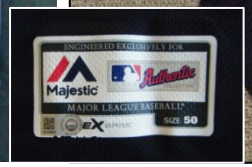
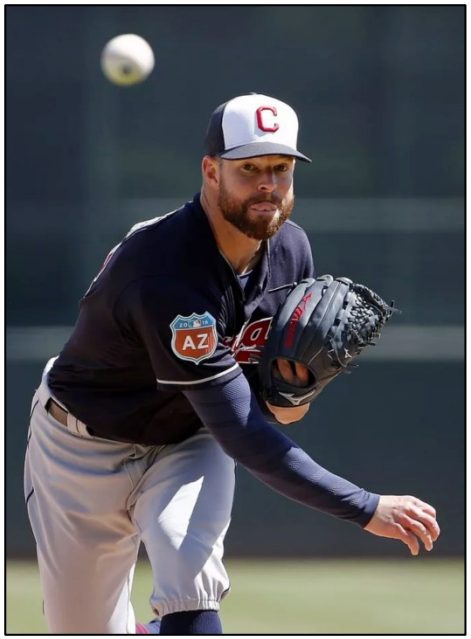
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training





In 2016, for the first time, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Indians use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name (on a nameplate) and back numbers are red patterned twill/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Indians spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

The Indians again use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Indians spend Spring Training.

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Indians jersey is blue with red back and underarm gussets. The red Block “C” logo, which also appears on their caps, adorns the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in red/white Block on the left sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design template of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, but only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Indians use their regular-season blue alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Indians use their regular-season blue alternate, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are red/white. Noticeably absent from the jersey is the Chief Wahoo sleeve patch, which the team drops from all jerseys after the 2018 season.

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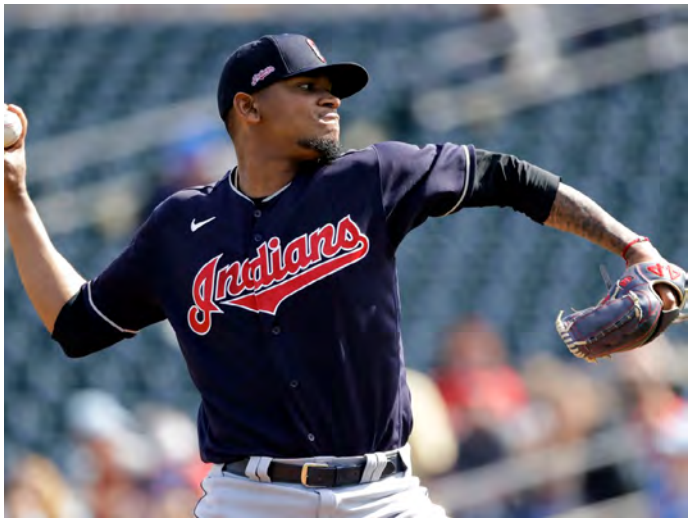
2020-2021 Spring Training



Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, All Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020–2021, the Indians use their regular-season blue alternate as a base, with red/white name and back numbers.

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2022-2023 Spring Training

With the team's rebrand tin 2022, the Guardians also update their Spring Training look by adopting their new road alternate jersey for the preseason. The navy jersey by Nike features all lettering in red/white, with "Cleveland" on front and player numbers on back in what the team calls "Bridge Print" font, while player names on back appear in Block. The "Guardians Fastball" patch adorns the sleeve.

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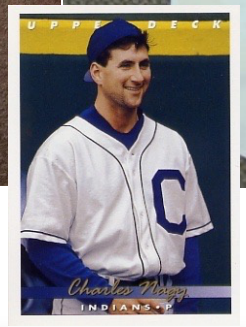
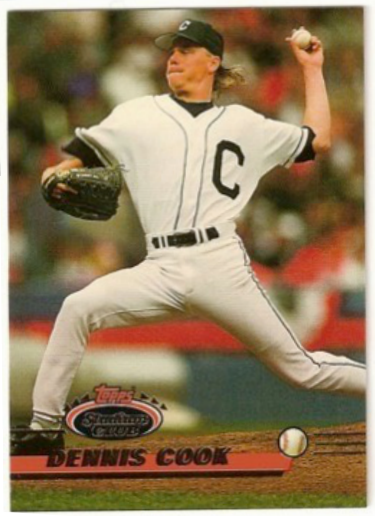
Special Events Jerseys

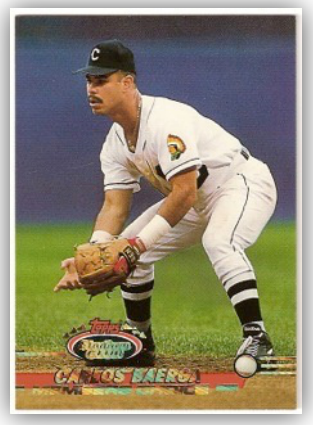
1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1932





The Indians had donated their actual 1932 uniforms to the 1933 Caledonia, Ohio minor league team, as seen in this photo from the Marion Ohio Historical Society

The 1992 Russell TBTC knit uniform recalled the 1929–1932 Indians. Game played on July 31 vs. the Detroit Tigers, who also dressed in their 1932 style. The Indians played their first game in Cleveland/Lakefront/Municipal Stadium on July 31, 1932, so this game was 60 years later to the day.



These uniforms were chosen to be worn for the Indians' very first Turn Back the Clock game, in their last season at Memorial Stadium. 1932 had been the Indians' first season playing there.

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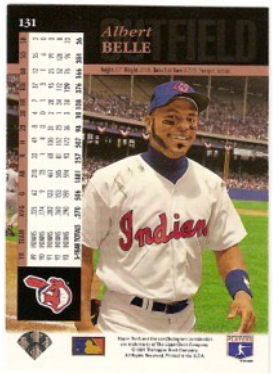
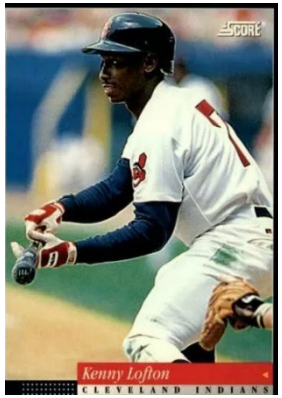
1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1954





The Indians recreated their World Series year of 1954 by wearing the suits of that year's Tribe. These are modern double-knit jerseys made by Russell.

This game was played on June 19, 1993 against the 1954-attired Baltimore Orioles. Original era flannels are shown below for comparison. The reproduction's front wordmark is nearly a perfect replica of the original, but back numbers are almost comically huge.

***Left**: Similar style and era 1956 (front) and 1953 (back) vintage jerseys to compare.*

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1995 Turn Back the Clock to 1975

June 8, 1995: Turn Back the Clock game between the Indians and Brewers that was played in Milwaukee. Both teams are listed as wearing 1975 uniforms made by Mitchell & Ness, though the Indians' jerseys incorrectly lack player names on the back. The uniforms were cut very "generously" meaning that the they were very baggy on most players, very unlike the skin tight styles of the 1970s. Game jerseys did not have the front shirt tail tag typical on retail Mitchell & Ness garments, nor any special "TBTC" tagging often included by Mitchell & Ness for throwback games.

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1997 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)

Portsmouth DAILY TIMES Monday, July 14, 1997 B5

Cleveland Buckeyes wallop Minnesota Gophers

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Cleveland starter Bartolo Colon is having an up and down season. On Sunday, the rookie may have proven he belongs up in the majors instead of down in the minors.

Colon, called up by the Indians for the fourth time this season, allowed three hits over five innings and Jim Thome had three RBIs with a homer and double as Cleveland beat the Minnesota Twins 12-5 on Sunday.

With a fastball clocked at 98 mph, the 23-year-old right-hander did not allow a hit until Denny Hocking's one-out single in the fifth inning. He struck out four and walked three.

"He had a presence about him, an air of confidence," Indians manager Mike Hargrove said. "It looked like he felt he belonged."

Colon (3-2), who pitched a no-hitter for Triple-A Buffalo on June 20, was bothered by arm problems earlier this season. He was called up earlier in the day to pitch against the Twins.

David Weathers replaced Colon in the sixth and allowed two seventh-inning runs before Russ Morman pitched the eighth and Eric Plunk the ninth.

"He threw hard, also had a good breaking ball and changeup," Twins starter Tom Kelly said of Colon. "He looks to be very talented."

Brian Giles added a two-run homer in a six-run sixth inning as the Indians won for the eighth time in 10 games.

Thome gave the Indians a 1-0 lead in the first inning with his 20th homer. His two-run double in the third off LaTroy Hawkins (2-5) gave Cleveland a 3-0 lead.

The Indians made it 5-0 in the fourth Pat Borders' RBI triple and Omar Vizquel's bloop single. Thome scored on Giles' fifth-inning single to make it 6-0.

The Twins, losers of five of their last six games, closed to 6-3 in the fifth on Chuck Knoblauch's RBI single and Rich Becker's two-run double.

In the sixth, the Indians sent 10 batters to the plate, with Giles' homer coming off Mike Trombley. Julio Franco, David Justice, and Matt Williams added RBI singles and Franco scored on the front end of a double-steal.

Minnesota added two runs in the seventh on an RBI single by Paul Molitor and Greg Myers' RBI fielder's choice.

Hawkins, who has lost five in a row since winning on June 17, allowed five runs on six hits in 4 2-3 innings before he was replaced by Greg Swindell. Swindell got the final out of the fifth but allowed two runs in sixth before he was replaced by Trombley.

Notes:

Prior to the game, Larry Doby was honored for breaking the American League color barrier in 1947. The Indians wore gray replica uniforms of the 1946 Negro League Cleveland Buckeyes. The Twins wore dressed in replicas of the dark blue uniforms worn by the independent Saint Paul Gophers Negro team that played from 1907-10.

IN THERE — The Cleveland Indians' Julio Franco steals home as Twins catcher Greg Myers waits for the throw. The steal of home was the front half of a double steal. The Indians went on to win 12-5. As part of the honors being accorded to Larry Doby, first black player in the American League, the players wore replicas of old-time uniforms worn originally by teams in the Negro League. The Indians wore the uniform of the Cleveland Buckeyes; the Twins were costumed as the Minnesota Gophers.

The Indians played the Minnesota Twins on July 13, 1997 in their first Negro League throwback game. The Indians appeared in the road uniforms of the 1946 Cleveland Buckeyes; the Twins as the 1909 St. Paul "Colored Gophers."

I believe the jersey pictured here is from that game. Close examination shows that the size and shape of the left sleeve patch is different from the 1999 edition of this jersey (shown on next page).

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)

June 26, 1999: The Indians appeared as the 1946 Negro League Cleveland Buckeyes in road gray knit uniforms with felt lettering made by Ebbets Field Flannels. The game was held in Kansas City against the Royals, who dressed as the 1924 Kansas City Monarchs. Back numbers are Varsity. Sleeve patch reads “Worlds Colored Champions 1945.”

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

Retail jersey, pro-lettered

The Indians' Manny Ramirez beats the throw to the plate, sliding past White Sox rookie and Buffalo Grove native Josh Paul — who was making his first major-league start.

Daily Herald Photo/Daniel White

This game was played on September 10, 1999 in Chicago vs. the White Sox. Sublimated oversized Indians team script on front.

The back lettering is two-color twill, red outlined with metallic silver. We'd call this "Computer OCR" the same font used by the Marlins and Angels for these uniforms. Ironic/funny in that while it may have once been futuristic, used to write machine-readable numbers at the bottoms of checks, the technology that it represents is from the 1960s, just slightly more modern than paper punch cards. Multiple examples of purportedly game used Indians TATC jerseys with incorrect lettering fonts have been sold at auction over the years.

These jerseys were reportedly given to players after the game, and they almost never surface. Notice that game worn jersey above center has a *red* Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve end; retail sale ones generally either have none, or a *blue* "R." (Circled in the photos above in yellow for emphasis).

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2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1986-1988

For June 6, 2000, Rawlings made these replicas of the 1986–1988 Indians' road grays.

Rawlings also made the originals in 1987–1988, and these 2000 reproductions are nearly flawless copies.

The Indians played the Brewers in this contest, who dressed in their own 1989 uniforms.

Original 1988 jersey

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2001 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)

June 23, 2001: The Indians appeared again as the Negro Leagues' Cleveland Buckeyes of 1946, this time in road gray knits made by AIS. Numbers on back are Block Bold, one-color navy blue.

That day's opponents were the 1942 Kansas City Monarch-attired Royals.

AP photo

Cleveland's Roberto Alomar is greeted at the plate Saturday by teammate Juan Gonzalez after his home run off Kansas City pitcher Chad Durbin in the first inning in Kansas City, Mo.

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2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1953

- **July 13, 2003**: Game held in tribute to Al Rosen, 1953 AL MVP. The opponent that day was the White Sox who dressed in 1953 road uniforms.
- These 2003 examples are made in knit by Russell and have the 2003 commemorative patches sewn on them. Even though they are made by the same manufacturer as the 1993 TBTC versions of the same year's jerseys, the front team wordmark not exactly the same to the prior. This one is slightly condensed and is not quite as faithful to the original as the earlier effort.
- Varsity numbers used in 2003, original 1953 jerseys used a much thinner-weight font for the back numbers (see 1993 Turn Back the Clock page for an example).

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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1954

Original 1952 flannel for comparison

On May 8, 2004, the Indians Turned Back the Clock 50 years and appeared in Majestic double knit reproductions of their 1954 road uniforms vs. the 1954 Baltimore Orioles. These are rather unconvincing copies of the originals. The writing on the front is too small and the Block numbers on the back do not match the originals' bold Red Sox font.

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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1975

On June 11, 2004, the Indians played the Reds wearing their 1975-style red uniforms. Uniforms made by Majestic, but the modern players wore them two sizes baggier than the originals would have been worn in the 1970s.

Back numbers should be Varsity, not Block as is used.

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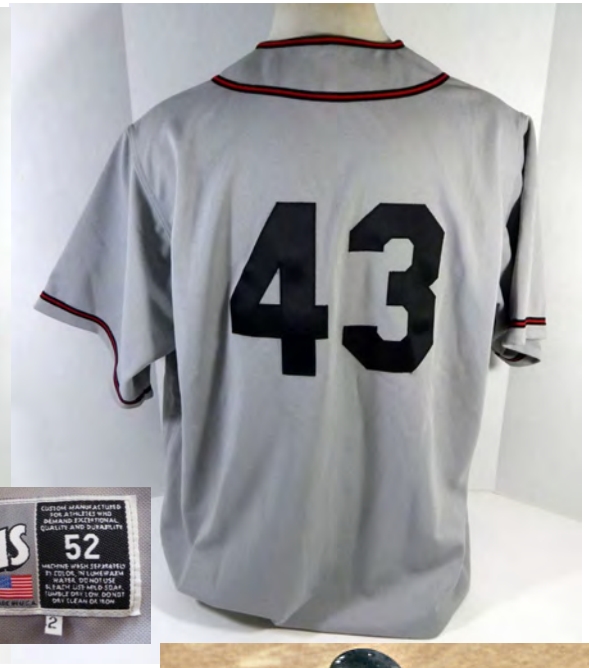
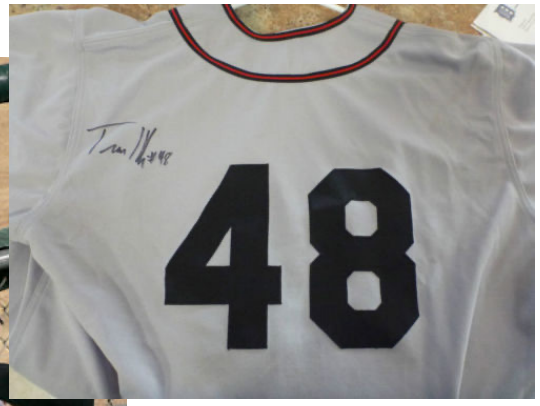
2005 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)



On August 6, 2005, the Indians and Tigers matched up in Detroit for the Tigers' annual Negro Leagues Tribute game.

The Indians appeared, as they usually do, representing the 1946 Cleveland Buckeyes, wearing road gray uniforms made by AIS The Tigers wore the home uniforms of the 1920 Detroit Stars of the Negro Leagues.



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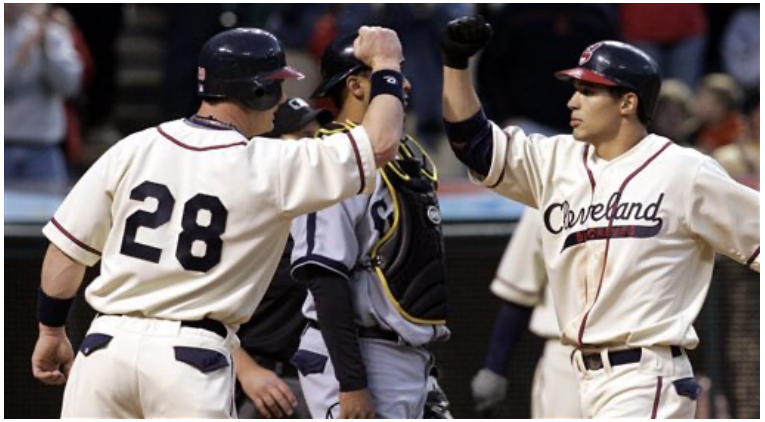
2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)

Appearing as the Buckeyes again at home May 20, 2006 vs. Pirates, the Indians wear 1946 Buckeyes jerseys again, this time the cream-colored home version, in knit by AIS.



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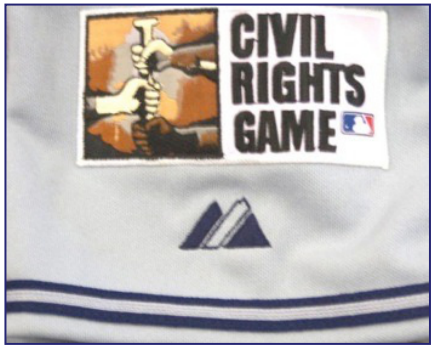
2007 Civil Rights Game

- An exhibition game, this contest was played between the Indians and Cardinals just before the start of the regular season, on March 31, 2007 in Memphis, Tennessee's AutoZone Park.
- From a MLB press release: "The Major League Baseball Civil Rights Game Presented by AutoZone, which will be held annually, will pay tribute to one of our country's most significant eras of social change and honor Major League Baseball's involvement in the historic struggle through which legendary African-American players broke barriers and made important contributions to American society. The inaugural Civil Rights Game Presented by AutoZone will be played on March 31st, 2007, at AutoZone Park in Memphis, Tenn., home of the Triple-A Memphis Redbirds."
- Players wore special uniforms that bore the Civil Rights Game patch on the left sleeve, but featured only the team's city name on the front. The Cardinals jerseys were white with a bold red "St. Louis" on the front; the Indians' grays had a plain, blue "Cleveland" sewn there.
- No player names were on the back, and player numbers were large, Block style and also one color.



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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

Bill Henderson Collection

Game played June 2, 2007 vs. Detroit Tigers in Cleveland, represents 30th anniversary of 1977.

From the front it looks like a near perfect copy, but the sleeve patch is not accurate compared to original and back numbers should be Block Bold with Serifs, but Block Bold is used instead.

Actual 1977 jersey for comparison

© GameWornGuides.com

2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1997

June 16, 2007 was billed as a “Turn Back the Clock” game between the visiting Indians and the home Florida Marlins. The event was the commemoration of the World Series matchup between the two teams ten years prior in 1997, a contest that the Marlins won, making them World Champs in just their fifth year of existence. The Marlins wore their teal-pin-striped 1997 style vests with teal and black lettering. And while the Indians were billed as participating in the costume-party, they really didn’t, and wore their current-year blue alternates ***(below right)*** that were close at a quick glance– but not the same as their 1997 model ***(below left).***

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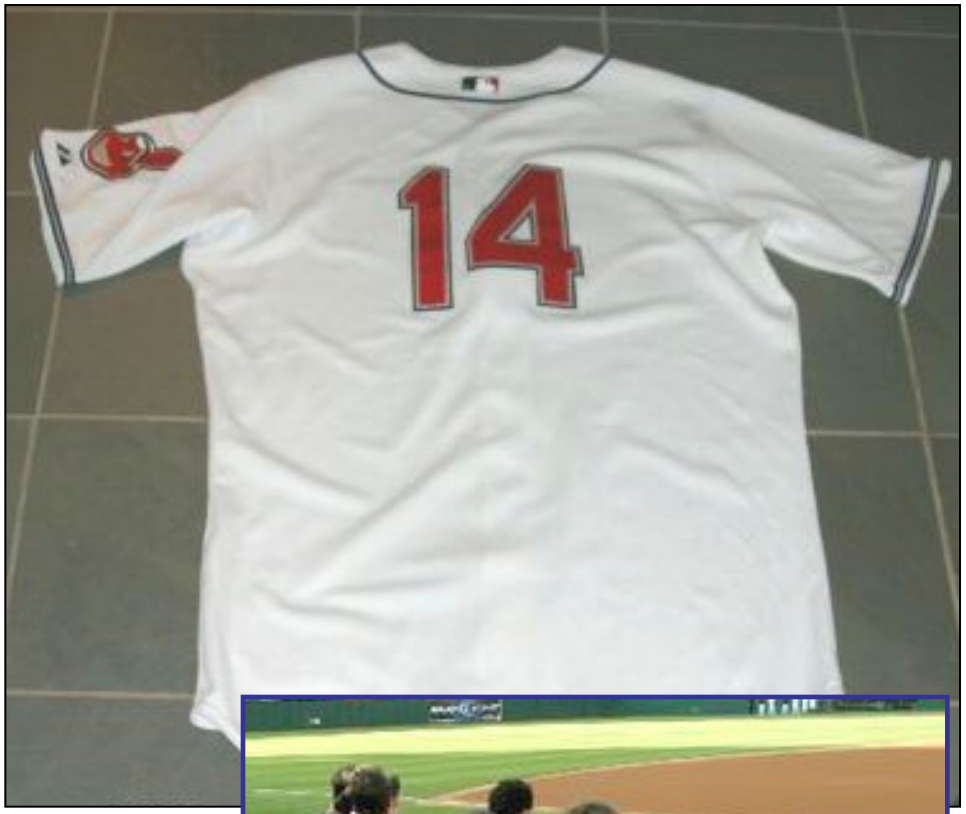
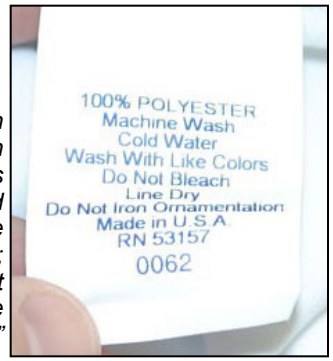
2007 Larry Doby Tribute



Normally, the first number in the Indians' tag code stands for the number found on the back. Since all of these jerseys sport #14, the number on the tag is the one that player normally wears.



Inside tag on game worn jerseys should display the "0062" code; Store bought jerseys have a "6200" code.

On August 10, 2007, the Indians scheduled a day to honor to Larry Doby, the first Black man to play American League baseball, for the Indians in 1947.

In tribute, all Indians players wore Doby's #14 that day.

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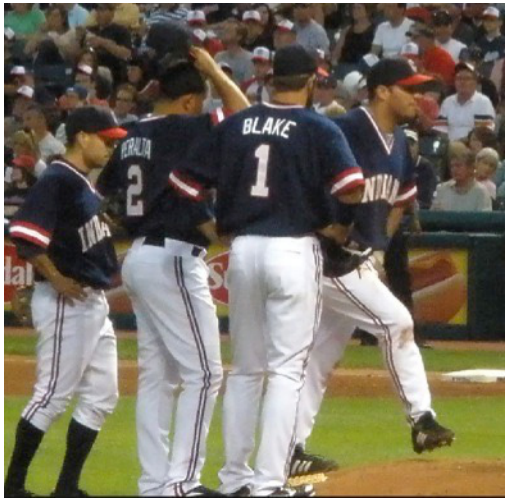
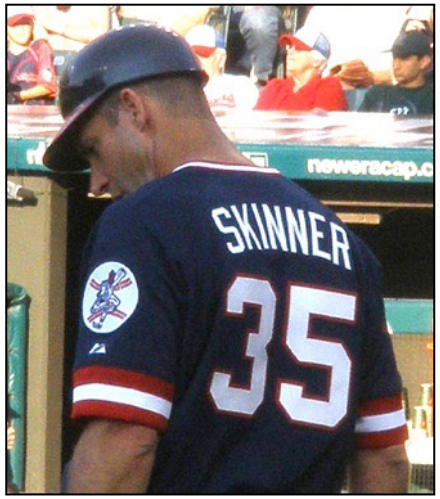
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

The Indians played the Padres on June 14 at home. Both teams wore 1978-style uniforms. The Indians wore blue pullover jerseys, made by Majestic.

The copies look very accurate, though the front lettering is slightly shorter and bolder than the originals. Of course, the 2008 players wore these uniforms in the fashionable baggy style, unlike the skintight look common to 1978. Extra credit: they even got the one-year-only 1978 style batting Wahoo sleeve patch correct.





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2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1989

July 19 vs. Mariners was “Turn Back the Clock” to 1989. Majestic’s Indians road uniforms seem to be near-perfect copies of the Indians’ 1988 originals.

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2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1948

Bill Henderson Collection

Majestic's August 16, 2008 replica of the 1948 Indians home jersey is shown above. You be the judge as to its faithfulness to the original. The front script is close but not exact. The knit and knit trim is right, as is the sleeve patch. Back numbers on the original were Red Sox font, on the 2008 replica they are Block, like the Indians' current jerseys.

The color of the TBTC jersey is pure white, the original was a cream-colored flannel. Odd that they did not copy the color of the original better, since the Indians' new-for-2008 cream-colored alternate is a close match.

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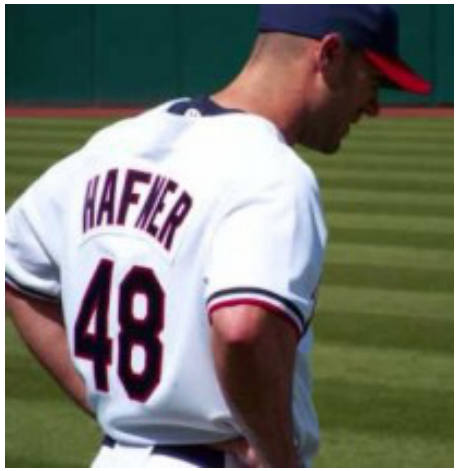
2009 Turn Back the Clock to the 1980s



On June 13, 2009, the Indians and Cardinals matched up for an interleague game on “1980s Night” in Cleveland. The Indians wore their 1986–1988 home uniforms, and the Cardinals dressed in their 1985–1991 road uniforms. Majestic did a particularly nice job with the Indians’ uniforms, making them almost indistinguishable from the originals, from 25 years prior. Perhaps the front wordmark was a fraction of an inch too small in height compared to the originals, and the player name font used by the Indians in 1986–1988 was slightly more condensed, but this is a 99-point effort. Jerseys are full-weight knits (not Cool Base) and player names are properly sewn on nameplates like the originals were. The Indians had the 2009 Herb Score memorial patch sewn to the jerseys’ right sleeves.

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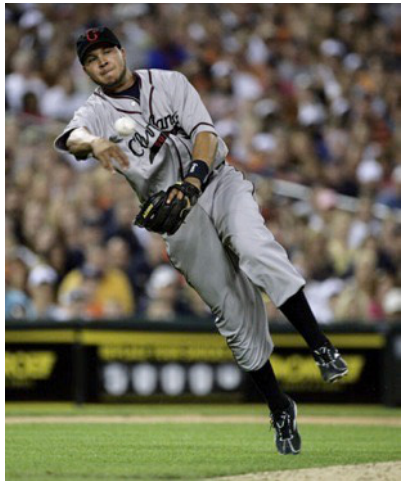
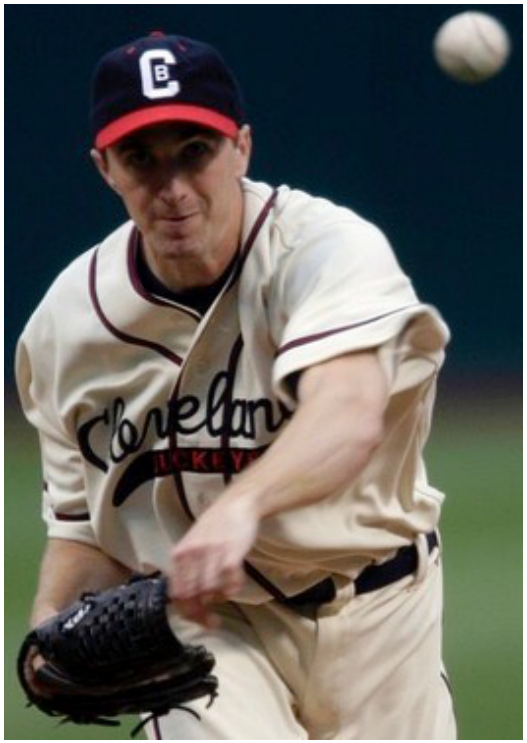
2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes road)

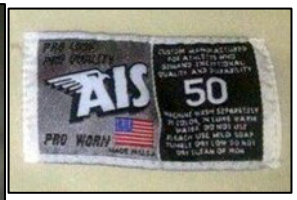


The Indians play the Tigers in Detroit on July 11, 2009 as the 1946 Cleveland Buckeyes vs. 1919 Detroit Stars. AIS again makes the Negro League replica uniforms.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes home)





August 1, 2009: This is the second time in 2009 that the Tigers and the Indians matched up for a Negro Leagues Tribute game. This time the game is in Cleveland, and the Indians wear the 1946 Buckeyes' home whites while the Tigers wear the Stars' road grays. Uniforms again made by AIS for both teams using familiar patterns seen many times in the past years.

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1920

- This game is played on June 12, 2010, matching the 1924 Washington Nationals against the 1920 Cleveland Indians. These years are picked because they represented the first year that each club had won its first World Series (the Washington team was at that time called the Senators).
- The Indians also wore black armbands at the time to commemorate the passing of player Ray Chapman who died in 1920 after being struck in the head with a pitched ball during a game.
- The Indians uniforms are white pinstripe with a large letter “C” on the left chest, and were made for the team by Majestic. Back numbers were Varsity style, though player numbers were not used in baseball in 1920.

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2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)

- The Twins and the Indians match up for a Negro Leagues Tribute game on August 7, 2010.
- The Indians appear as the 1946 Cleveland Buckeyes wearing home uniforms very likely made by AIS, repeating the use of the same Negro League Buckeyes uniform they have worn both at home and on the road since 1997, with AIS making the uniforms since 2001.

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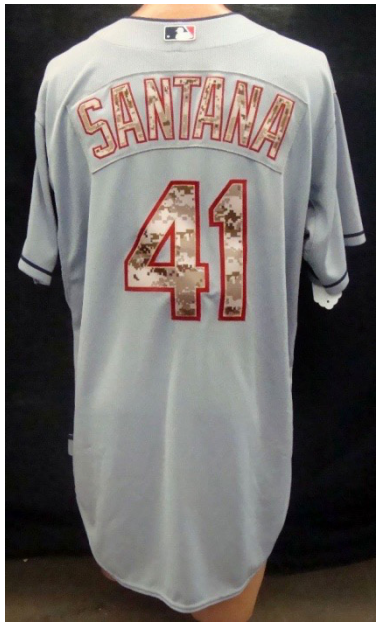
Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013-2014 Memorial Day



All of MLB wore camouflage-lettered uniforms on Memorial Day in both 2013 and 2014 (05/27/2013 at Reds and 05/26/2014 at White Sox). In both of these games, the Indians were the road team and wore identical gray team jerseys with red-outlined desert camouflage lettering front and back. The red outlining made the writing at least passably visible from the seats. Names on nameplates, as is the Indians' custom. Paper year tag on inside seam.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1902 Cleveland Broncos

1902

July 13, 2013, at home vs. the regular-uniformed Royals. According to the Ohio History Connection website:

"The Cleveland Broncos was a professional baseball team from Cleveland, Ohio. The team existed only for the 1902 season. The team played in the American League… The team won sixty-nine games and lost sixty-seven, finishing fifth in the league. The owners of the Cleveland Broncos changed the team's name to the Cleveland Naps for the 1903 season. In 1912, the Naps became known as the Cleveland Molly Maguires and then, in 1915, as the Cleveland Indians."

Navy blue uniforms by Majestic with four-button placket and old-time collars, bold white numbers on back, even though player numbers were not used until the 1930s.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1974

The Indians are the guests of the Kansas City Royals for their Turn Back the Clock to 1974 game on August 30 in Kansas City. Majestic recreates the Indians red alternate jersey uniforms for the game in near-perfect detail, aside from the fact that player wear them much looser than was the tailoring tradition in the skin-tight 1970s. Correct-for-1974 large batting Chief Wahoo disk patch on the left sleeve. Numbers on back are Varsity two-color white/navy, names are single-color white. The player name and number fonts are not the same as the team used in 1974.

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2015 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)

For the 10th time overall, and the 7th time on the road, the Indians honor the 1946 Negro League Cleveland Buckeyes with throwbacks on April 25 against Detroit, who wore throwback Detroit Stars jerseys. The lack of a manufacturer's logo on the sleeve indicates these are likely made by AIS, who has recreated many of the past Buckeyes jerseys for the Indians. Back numbers have switched between Varsity and Block bold in past years, but the 2015 entry has Varsity in navy blue.

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2015 Memorial Day

After two years on the road for Memorial Day, the Indians return home for the May 25, 2015 Memorial Day game. They use their cream-color home alternate as a base with desert camo as the top layer of all twill lettering, front wordmark and back numbers. This jersey typically sports a blue outline on the lettering, but here it is changed to red. The Chief Wahoo patch remains on the left sleeve, while the Al Rosen memorial patch resides on the right. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white from its typical team colors as used in 2013–2014.

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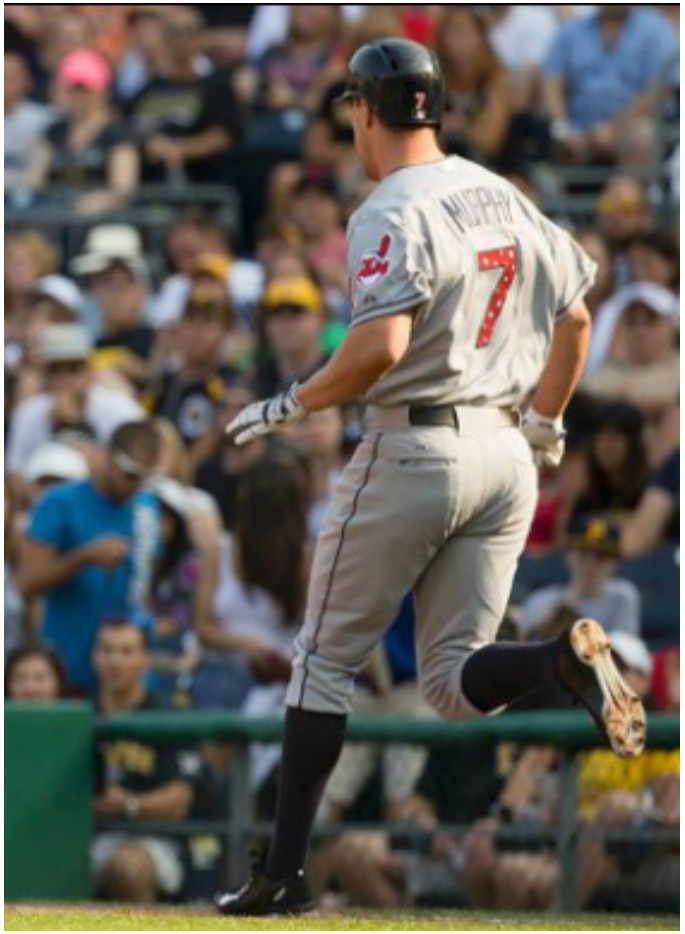
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S. based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Indians wear their road gray jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as back numbers. The Indians normal road jerseys feature blue lettering with red outlines, so this choice inverts the standard set-up, perhaps to accentuate the difference in the special event jersey. Player names on back are in blue on a nameplate. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve, and the Al Rosen memorial patch moves to the chest.



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2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016

2017

2016

2017

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink, and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Indians wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray on a nameplate, while back numbers are pink/dark gray. Unlike other teams, which change the colors of the sleeve patches to match the jersey, the Indians continue to represent Chief Wahoo in his usual colors, as they did for other similar promotions. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray. The style returns on May 13–14, 2017 with Chief Wahoo replaced with the Block C cap logo on the left sleeve.

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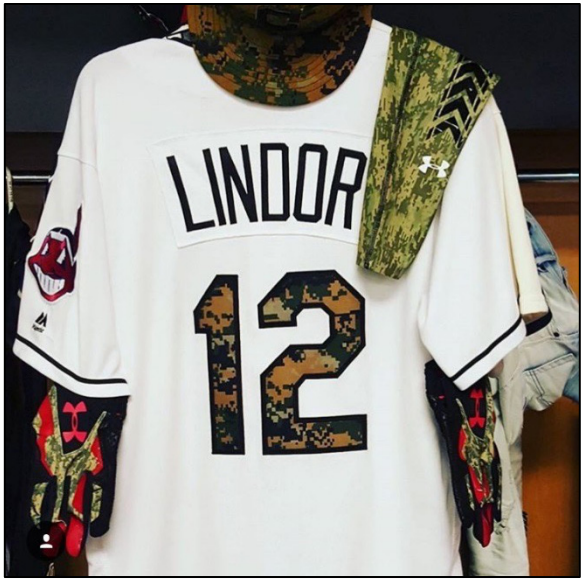
2016 Memorial Day



The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Indians apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black on a nameplate. Unlike other teams, their Chief Wahoo sleeve patch is retained in its typical colors (a trend that continues with other Indians' special event jerseys in 2016); however, other trim elements are changed to single-color black from the usual navy blue.

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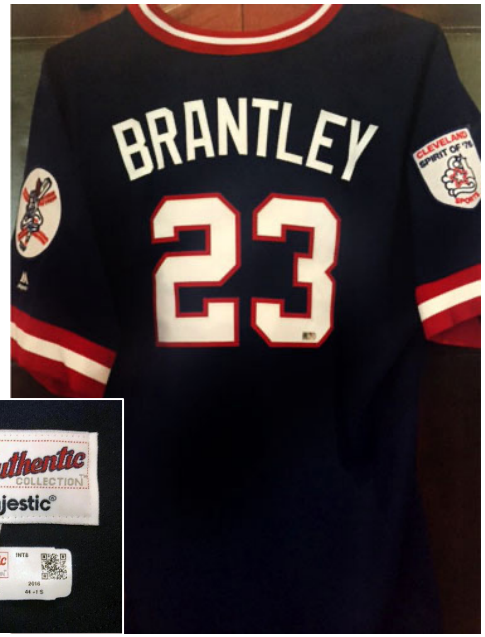
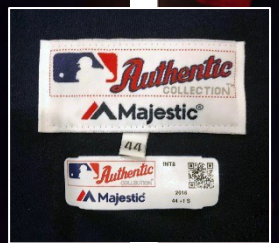
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1976





On June 4 at home against the Royals, the Indians throw back to their 1976 alternate blue jerseys, while the Royals sport 1976 powder blue road uniforms.

The Indians' full knit Majestic pullovers are not very accurate reproductions. The front lettering is not as bold as the originals, and on the back, the original numbers were an extra-small version of Varsity, while names were extra-wide Block. Here, the Varsity numbers appear too large in comparison, and the name font is closer to standard Block. The two sleeve patches are accurate for the 1975 jersey, but also seem to be out of scale with the smaller originals.

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Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Father's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Indians wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray on a nameplate, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. Unlike other teams, which change the colors of the sleeve patches to match the jersey, the Indians continue to represent Chief Wahoo in his usual colors, as they did for other similar promotions. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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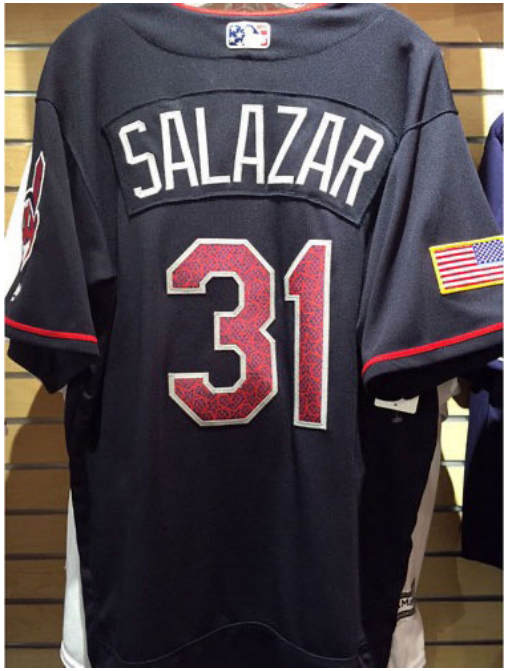
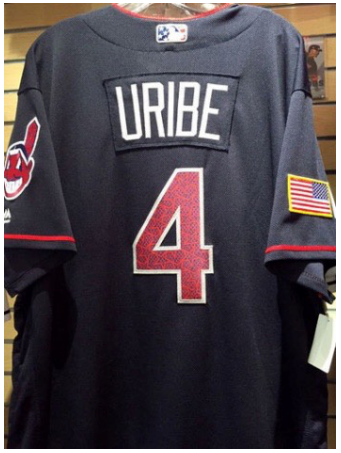
2016 Independence Day





MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Indians are at home and wear their alternate blue jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Indians select the red twill version with gray outlines for their front lettering and for their back numbers, with a gray player name on back on a nameplate. The gray outlines help the front lettering considerably, as without them, or had the team used blue on the blue jersey, the legibility of the stylized script would have suffered. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Because the Chief Wahoo sleeve patch is normally red, white, and blue, it is difficult to tell if this version has been color-shifted, like other teams' patches, or if it has remained the same, as the Indians did with the patch on other special event jerseys. Either way, it looks the same as it usually does, and the typical red jersey trim of the home alternate remains red here as well.

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2017-2018 Negro Leagues Tributes (1946 Cleveland Buckeyes)

The Indians have frequently honored the Negro League Cleveland Buckeyes at home and on the road in the past, but this is the very first time that Majestic has done the honors of recreating this jersey. Very similar to previous versions, this full-knit gray jersey carries over the blue/red/blue trim around the neck, placket, and above the sleeve ends. However, the treatment of the script logo differs slightly in style and position on this jersey compared to previous versions made by AIS and Ebbets Field Flannels. Back number fonts have varied over the years, but this entry has a modified Varsity font style that looks more at home on an 80's basketball jersey than on a baseball field. This Indians break out this set on May 7 and July 1, 2017 (night game of doubleheader); and June 9, 2018.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. For this jersey, the Chief Wahoo patch is replaced by the Indians' Block C logo in olive green twill. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Indians apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27-29, 2017 and May 26–28, 2018. The "TITO" memorial patch for Tito Francona is worn on May 26, 2018 only.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17 (day game) and June 18, 2017 (for the night game of their June 17 doubleheader against the home white-clad Twins, the Indians wore their blue "Indians" script alternates instead). Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Indians wear road gray with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray. The Indians remove the Chief Wahoo patch for this promotion, replacing it with their Block C logo in light blue on the left sleeve.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1 (day game of a doubleheader) and 2, 2017 and July 24, 2018, the Indians wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. For this jersey, the Chief Wahoo patch is replaced by the Indians' Block C logo in red twill. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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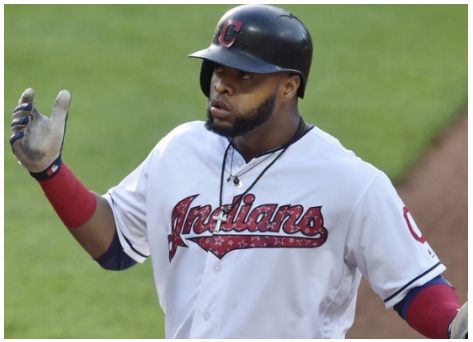
2017 Independence Day (Home)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 4, 2017, the Indians wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. For this jersey, the Chief Wahoo patch is replaced by the Indians' Block C logo in red twill. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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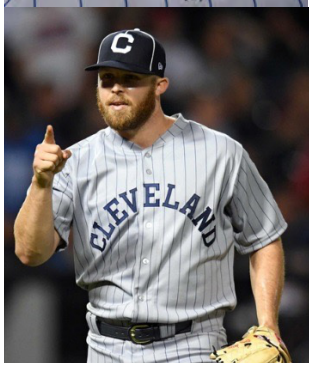
2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1917

Tris Speaker and Joe Wood, 1917



The Indians and White Sox throw it back 100 years on July 29, with both teams taking the field in 1917 uniforms. The visiting Indians wear these gray full-knit Majestic jerseys with blue pinstripes. “Cleveland” is spelled out in blue, arched Varsity letters on front, with anachronistic, but matching blue Varsity numbers on back. Hard to see here, but a small sun collar is present, as with the originals. The waving American flag patch on the left sleeve, however, was a World Series addition for the White Sox that year, and does not appear to have been part of the Cleveland uniform back then. The close-but-not-quite front lettering, and modern shorter sleeve length, take these jerseys a few more steps away from accuracy.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

Steve Kraljic collection

Where television was a boon to sports, color television was a blast for sports uniforms. The Indians' 1974–1977 all-red ensemble may have been one of the best examples of the Technicolor dream jerseys of this era. August 12 is the fourth time the Indians throw back to this jersey, but only the second time they bring the red pants along for the ride, though this set loses its way in terms of accuracy. Though the shape of the white/blue front lettering on these full-knit Majestic jerseys looks good, it is about 33% too small compared to the huge lettering on the originals. Likewise, the white names on back are much less bold. The small white/blue Varsity numbers come closest to the originals, though the jerseys also omit the controversial Chief Wahoo disc used on this set in 1974–1977. The wild 1970s spirit may be there, but the devil is in the details, and these uniforms are a ghost of their former selves.

An original version of this style from the mid-1970s

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Indians wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in red/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Indians wear jerseys that are essentially the reverse of 2017's effort, with red bodies and navy blue sleeves with white nicknames and navy blue numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in navy blue/white kiss-cut twill.

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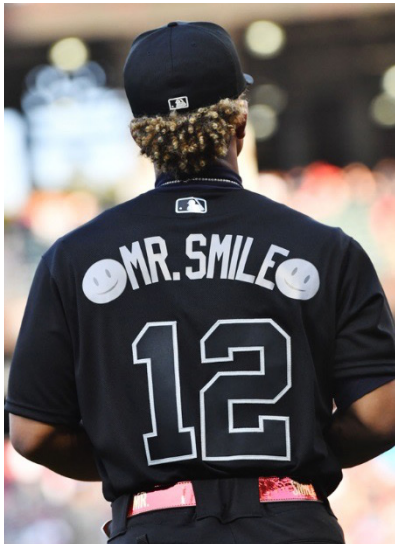
2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Indians wear a black version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.



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2021 Little League Classic

Held on August 22, the 2021 Little League Classic saw the Indians take on the Angels in Williamsport, VA, home of the Little League World Series. In this first Little League Classic between two AL teams, the Indians and Angels were issued special uniforms that paid tribute to the Little League regions in which the big teams played, in the Indians' case, the Great Lakes Region. This Cool Base material white pullover had blue sleeves, red V-neck opening, and a blue/red/blue "sash" insert sewn in diagonally across the front. The "Great Lakes" lettering was applied in blue/white drop shadow twill. Front and back numbers are red/blue in Block font, with blue player name on back in a rounded, condensed font. The team's "C" cap logo appears as a patch on the front right chest, forcing the Nike logo across the jersey to the left chest position.

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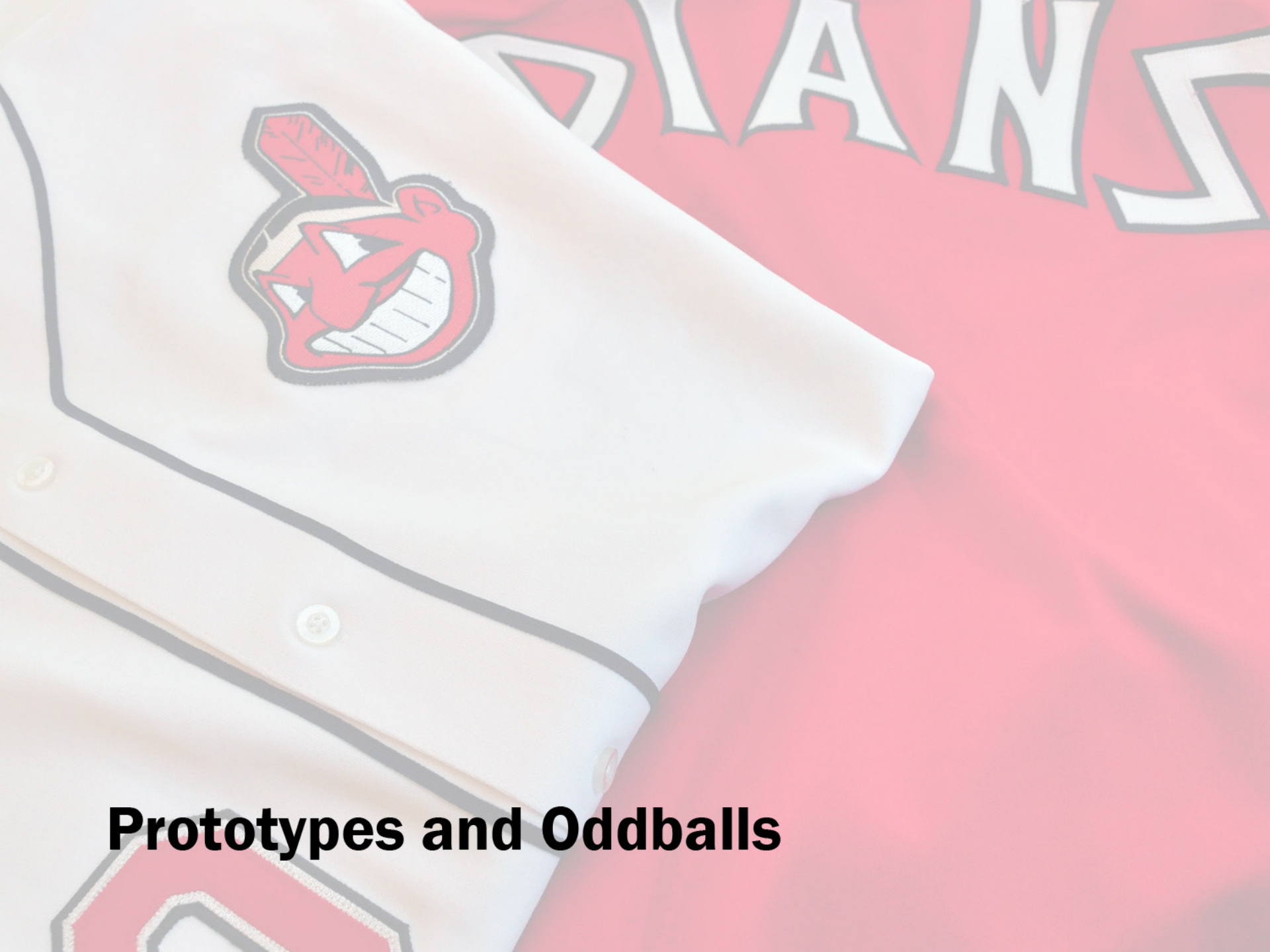

Prototypes and Oddballs

1971 Prototype Road

Offered for sale on eBay, this jersey caught my eye because it is year tagged “1971,” yet is made of double knit by McAuliffe Uniform Co., which was official supplier at the time to the A’s and Red Sox.

It is in the exact same style as the Indians’ 1971 drab road gray uniforms. Could this have been a prototype to test the new double-knit fabric the team adopted a year later?

A discussion on the Game Used Universe forum among people in the hobby whom I respect suggests that this particular jersey was a part of a set made for a Cleveland-area softball team in the 1980s, belying the 1971 tagging. We need to be mindful that McAuliffe was a entrepreneurial sporting goods dealer, not some holy keeper of sacred Major League baseball history, and they would make anything for anybody. I have continued to include this here for your consideration, as I have no proof either way, and this story highlights one of the challenges of collecting any memorabilia for any reason other than the pleasure of the collector.

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1975 Prototype Alternate / 1950s Team Basketball Warmup

Above is what we believe is a prototype jersey for the team's 1975–1977 alternate blue style, based on the presence of typical sample tagging in the neck. Aside from a lack of name on back, it matches well with what the team wore on-field.

Below is a fun oddity, which was presented as a 1950s Indians basketball warmup jersey. The date is based on the Wilson tag in the neck. In those days, MLB teams occasionally had their players involved in exhibition basketball games in the off-season, but it is unclear if this was used for such a purpose. The snaps on the back were most likely used for a removable nameplate. This artifact predates the double-knit era that we cover in this book, but this one was too odd (and fun) to ignore.

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1977 Prototype Road

I have seen this particular jersey come up for sale on auction sites twice in recent years. The description claims it is from the personal collection of Jeff Torborg, who was the manager of the Indians 1977–1980. The Rawlings tag on the garment dates it from 1972–1984. It is almost beige in color, not really gray, which may be intentional or might be the result of a washday accident. The front lettering mimics the one-year 1971 Indians road jersey, though with colors reversed.

This is likely a prototype design sample, submitted by Rawlings to the Indians for consideration. Putting the team manager's name and number on a sample design submission jersey is a common practice.

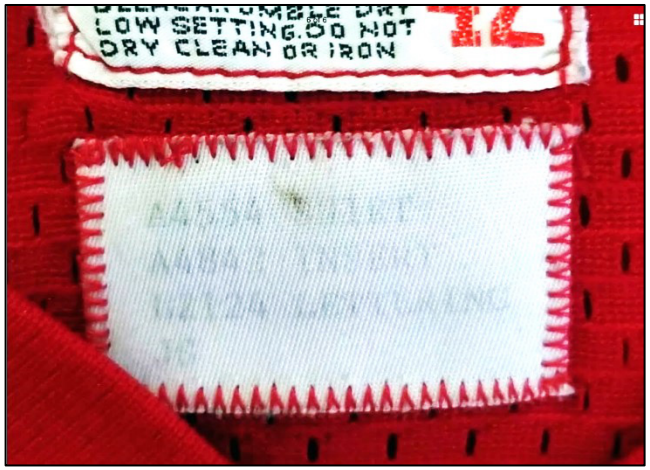
I am guessing it is from 1977, as the Indians changed their uniforms for 1978, and likely were entertaining proposals from vendors that offseason.

1970 Ray Fosse Game-Worn Cleveland Indians Flannel Jersey (from the Pete Rose All-Star Game Incident) w/Unrepaired Tear

Right: *an original 1970 road jersey for comparison.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1985 Batting Practice?



This blank-back Indians red mesh BP appears to be a design prototype offered to the team for consideration using its 1979–1993 wordmark. The style of Wilson tag in the collar narrows its year of creation to no later than 1985. The white tag in the collar is printed with the detailed engineering specs that define the fabric, trim and lettering. This jersey style was not adopted by the MLB Indians.

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1986 Prototype Home

- When the Indians were accepting ideas for a new uniform design for the 1986 season, surely they received proposals from several uniform makers. Shown here is Sand-Knit's proposed design for the new season.
- The Sand-Knit offering looks very similar to the Rawlings entrant that was selected, but with a wordmark and back numbers that are slightly bolder and a unique wide front-number font that is not quite like any we have seen before.

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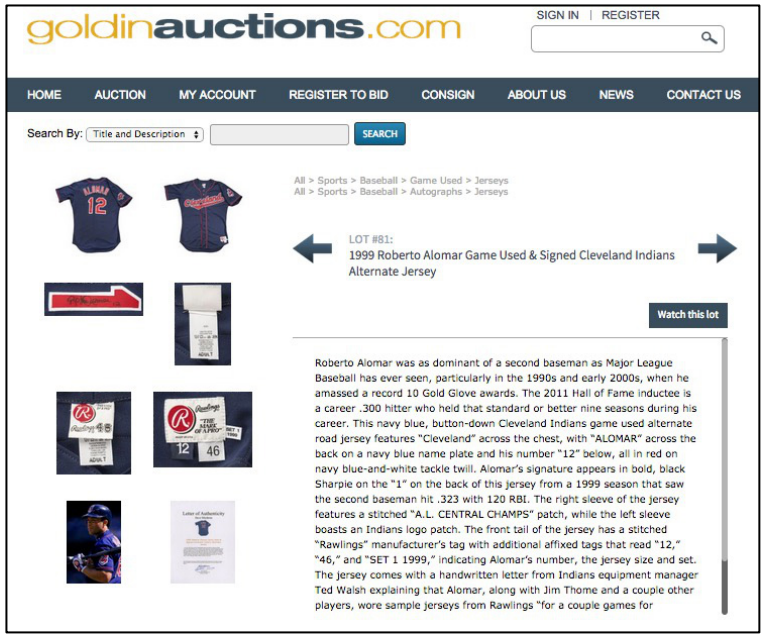
1999 Prototype Alternate Road

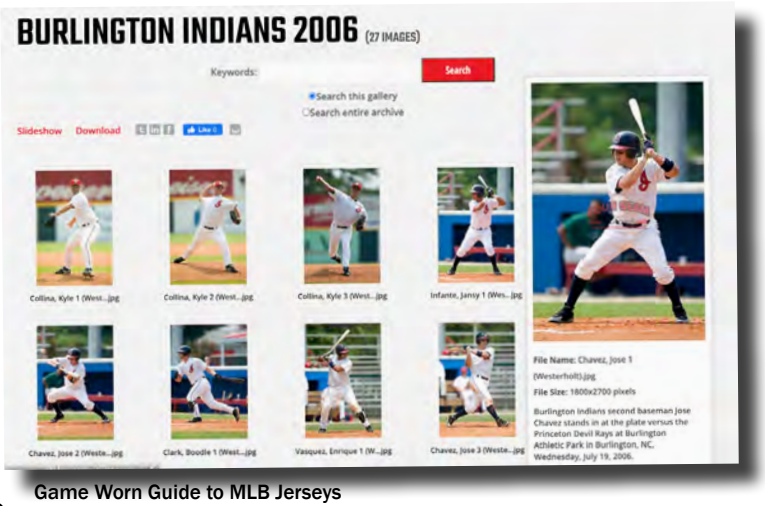


For your consideration, I am including this item from Goldin Auctions. Russell's exclusive contract for branding on-field jerseys ended after 1999, and for 2000, several teams (including the Cardinals, Pirates and Diamondbacks) switched to Rawlings as their on-field supplier for 2000–2002. It is reasonable to assume that anticipating this contract opportunity, Rawlings would have been active in 1999 trying to secure on-field team contracts for the next season.

According to the auction listing it came from, it includes a handwritten note from the Indians equipment manager saying that Thome, Alomar, and other players wore Rawlings jerseys on a "test" basis in 1999. The listing does not include an image of the note, and we cannot find any photo evidence of Thome or Alomar wearing anything but Russell-sleeve branded jerseys in 1999. Hardly conclusive, as the Rawlings jerseys would have been simply provided with blank sleeves, and our search was limited by the photos available online.

© GameWornGuides.com

Mystery Solved: Minor League Jerseys



In previous editions, we noted these white and gray mesh, two-button henley BP jerseys, which have shown up on several auction sites as game used Major League Spring Training jerseys. Further research revealed that these are, in fact, jerseys from the Minor League Burlington Indians. We leave them here to clear up the misinformation from previous editions.

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Left: 2010: Small "Oops" with pitcher's jersey missing its Chief Wahoo sleeve patch.

Below: 2011 during Opening Day Ceremonies, all players wear Bob Feller's number 19, but switch to their regular jerseys for the actual game. These jerseys were sold off after the event as memorabilia.

Right: Rick Manning laughs in 1975, probably uncaring that the "8" on the back of his jersey is sewn upside down.

Below: *MLB authenticators collecting and tagging all the jerseys worn in the pregame ceremony for your authentic collecting pleasure.*

© GameWornGuides.com

Spring Training Oddball File

Left: An example of an Indians 2007–2010 style batting practice jersey but used in 2010 Spring Training, with a Varsity style player name on back, indicating to me perhaps it was added by the team (or a local supplier) while in Florida. This is not an isolated case of the Indians using non-standard batting practice jerseys in Spring Training.

Below: The photos on the bottom row are from 2014 Spring Training, and show players and coaches wearing the old 2011–2013 style BPs in Spring Training games with a Varsity player name on back, but this time in vertical arch and heat pressed. My guess: given the number of odd BP jersey variants found for the Indians and used in the spring over the years, I think the team issues players two sets of BPs for use in split-squad games against each other. Note the photo below, the player with the old-style jersey is wearing gray pants while the catcher is wearing the current style BP and white pants.

© GameWornGuides.com

Prototype Red Jerseys

This retail-tagged jersey carries 1995–1999 Russell tail tagging, and even has paper hand tags suggesting it was a standard production item and not a singular prototype. The team never wore this style on the field.

This could be a “Frankenstein” jersey from the Majestic factory or it could be a prototype to see how the design might look. This looks to be from the 2008–2011 time frame.

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2003 Prototype Turn Back the Clock

This unique jersey was spotted on eBay, bearing a 2001–2003 Russell Authentic Collection tag on the front tail, but with red magic-marker strike outs on the tag, indicating a manufacturer's disposal garment. It is a black jersey with a red "C" on the front left chest, looking very much like a 1902 Cleveland Broncos/Indians jersey, perhaps a prototype for a Turn Back the Clock game that never happened. The back of this particular jersey was blank.

Fast-forwarding ahead some ten years to 2012, the Indians did indeed appear as the 1902 Broncos in a Turn Back the Clock game (featured a several pages prior to this one) wearing similar, but navy blue uniforms. This sample jersey was possibly a design exercise, and I am guessing that black was chosen as the color because the dark blue uniforms appeared that way in period black and white photographs.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014-2016 Phantom St. Patrick's Day

Credit: Vendor "Yesterseason" on eBay

Relatively few teams actually wear green-themed jerseys on St. Patrick's Day each year in Spring Training. But that does not stop Majestic from creating and marketing ones for the other teams, and putting an "Authentic" label on them. This 2014–2016 Indians Batting Practice jersey is one such example, as the team never wore this style on the field. These examples are from an auction site; apologies for the poor quality of the photos.

© GameWornGuides.com

2017 Sample Father's Day

During a time MLB was expanding the number of special-event uniforms across the league, the Indians were making subtle transitions to their uniforms as they (eventually) moved toward rebranding the team as "Guardians." For Father's Day in 2016, the team applied the blue-twill treatment to their home "Indians" jersey, but they kept their Chief Wahoo patch in its original colors, contrary to how other teams handled their patches. For 2017, the team was on the road, and thus applied the blue treatment to its gray "Cleveland" jerseys, as would be expected. However, like other "holiday" jerseys that year, they removed Chief Wahoo and replaced him with a Block C logo patch. Presented here is an early version of that updated jersey, one that lacks both the sleeve patch and the blue ribbon patch that was worn on-field.

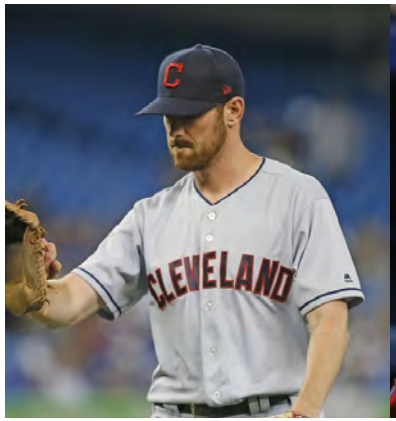
This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. It carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "IN-IDOF-FD-D1-3-2017" indicating it is version 3 (D1-3) of an Indians (IN) 2017 Father's Day jersey (FD).

Some unusual points include the size 44, where samples of this era were usually size 46, and the use of a current player's name and number on back, where "Player" and "17" (for the year of use) would be expected. In terms of the back lettering, it is possible that Lindor and 12 were added by a later owner, or the team requested this as the info to use. Unfortunately, the images provided were not clear enough to tell, and the auction listing did not mention anything about it.

As we have seen with other samples, in this era, Majestic was producing prototype jerseys for teams for even very minor changes like the addition of a single patch. However, because the Indians were in a time of transition in their team identity at this point, it seems likely that they may have reviewed several iterations (hence the version 3 seen here) to address their phasing out of the Chief Wahoo patch in stages, and limited-use jerseys like this one were intended to be intermediate steps toward removing their controversial imagery and working toward their new branding.

© GameWornGuides.com

It was a glimpse of things to come for the Indians during a road series in Toronto September 6–9, 2018, when Chief Wahoo temporarily disappears from the team's left jersey sleeve. The AP article here explains the logo's absence, but does not note that the team also dropped their nameplates for these games, a change that would become permanent in 2019, along with Wahoo's ultimate departure. Despite the changes, the jersey carried the same "IDRR" code on the inventory tag as all other Indians road jerseys that season.



Indians remove Chief Wahoo from sleeve for series in Toronto

By Associated Press; Nick Viviani | Sep 07, 2018

TORONTO (AP) -- The Cleveland Indians have removed the Chief Wahoo logo from the sleeve of their uniforms for a four-game series in Toronto.

The decision to nix the logo was partially driven by a failed legal challenge against the team when it played in Toronto during the 2016 AL Championship Series. While Cleveland played the Blue Jays, a lawsuit was filed to have the logo and team name banned from Canadian TV. A judge dismissed the case.

The Indians have said they will permanently remove the logo from their uniforms next season. The move came after decades of protests and complaints that the grinning, red-faced caricature that dates to 1947 is racist. Cleveland will host the All-Star Game next season.

In recent years, the team has slowly moved away from the cartoonish image of a big-toothed American Indian with a scarlet face and a single feather in his headdress. The Indians now use a "C" as their primary logo and have removed signs depicting Chief Wahoo from their home stadium.

The Indians will return to their regular uniforms when they play at Tampa Bay next week.

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2020 Alternate Road for Home Opener

The discussion of changing the Indians' name continued in 2020, a year of enhanced social justice action and activism. For their home opener that year on July 24, Indians players elected to wear their blue road alternate jerseys with "Cleveland" on the front, rather than the traditional "Indians" home whites. Many players also wore one or more of the league-wide "Black Lives Matter" and "United for Change" patches.

After talk of an Indians name change, Cleveland wears road jerseys at home

Craig Calcaterra, July 25, 2020 – NBCSports.com

Days after news arose of a potential Cleveland Indians name change, the team wore their blue road jerseys for their home opener last night. The jerseys, which say "Cleveland" on the front rather than "Indians," were worn as a statement of solidarity for minorities as the team contemplates a name change.

Indians shortstop Francisco Lindor said the players decided to switch to the jerseys after meeting with team owner Paul Dolan earlier this week to discuss the potential Indians name change, race relations and social justice. He said the move was meant to be an acknowledgment to all minorities: "Shining the light on those minorities and people who are in need, it's extremely important. That's what we're doing out there—bringing the spotlight on those people, minorities that need the spotlight on them so their voices can be heard. Positive change can happen. We're due for it."

Manager Terry Francona supported his players, saying, "the idea is to make a point, and I think this is a good way to do it." He noted, however, that there are league rules about approved uniforms for home and road games that may prohibit the club from wearing the jerseys again at home. It'll be interesting to see what, if anything, Major League Baseball has to say about it.

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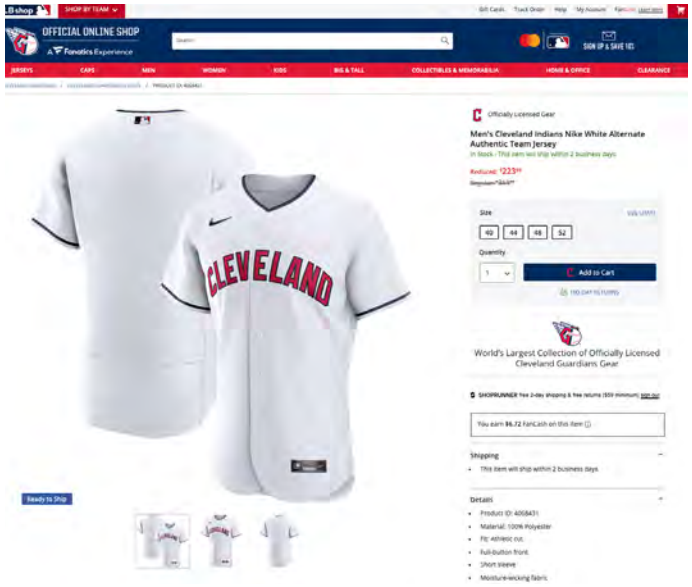
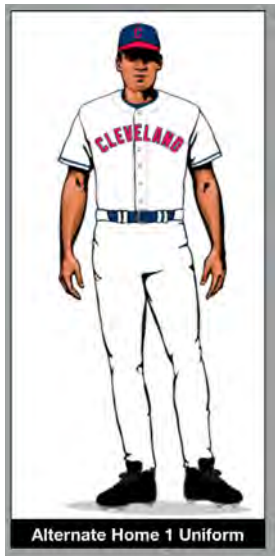
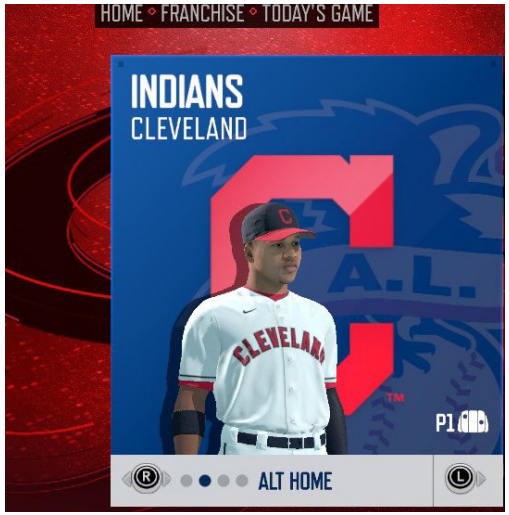
2021 Unused Alternate Home



In 2021, the Indians quietly introduced a new home alternate jersey with “Cleveland” across the front, mirroring their road and road alternate jerseys. Given the ongoing discussion about abandoning the “Indians” name, it is likely this was created as an alternative to the standard home jersey with “Indians” on front. This jersey was included in MLB’s style guide as an option for the team to wear on-field that season, though it was not called out as a new addition, which is the common practice when teams make any change to their logos or uniforms. The jersey was also available for fan purchase in authentic and replica versions on MLB.com and in the Indians’ own team shop, and as an option for use in the RBI 2021 video game. Where it was not seen, however, was on any Indians player. Despite being a very real jersey for the team, it was never worn in a game. The following season brought the team’s complete rebrand to “Guardians” and the white “Cleveland” alternate in this style became an on-field option that never was.



2021 MLB Style Guide



The uniform selection screen from the RBI Baseball 2021 video game, showing this jersey as an “Alt Home.”

© GameWornGuides.com

Commemorative Patches

Indians 1980 “Chief Wahoo Press Star Patches”

Mystery solved: We now have an explanation for the tiny Chief Wahoo sleeve patches that the Indians were wearing in 1980. The answer comes from reader Tom Rogers, who writes, “The small Chief Wahoos were from a weekly promotion run that season by the Cleveland Press newspaper, in which readers could vote for the ‘Press Star of the Week.’ The weekly winners would accrue patches for each week they won (à la buckeye leaves or Stargell Stars). I was a carrier for the Press during that season. If memory serves, 1980 Rookie of the Year Joe Charboneau won the honor the most times that season.”

Sure enough, Charboneau won the award five times. This is yet another case of a uni storyline you’d think we would’ve known about, and a reminder that we don’t know as much as we probably think we do.

***This story and its text was borrowed from Paul Lukas’s Uni Watch* (www.uni-watch.com), my favorite guilty pleasure.**

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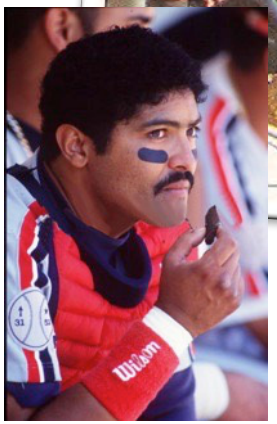
Indians/Guardians Patches

The Indians chose not to wear the 1981 All-Star patch on their jerseys that season.

- 1976: Cleveland Sports "Spirit of 76" also worn by the town's other pro sports teams
- 1983: Armband worn for former player Earl Averill after August 18
- 1993: Olin/Crews memorial (31/52) The two pitchers were killed in a Spring Training boating accident. This patch was also worn by Indians' Minor League affiliated teams in 1993. There are white and gray versions of this patch to be used with home and road uniforms. A Municipal Stadium Patch was meant to be worn to commemorate the final year in the old building. However, the Olin/Crews patch was worn instead, and the stadium patch was never worn.
- 1994: Jacobs Field Inaugural (home & alt only)
- 1995: Jacobs Field Patch (home & alt only)
- 1996: Cleveland Bicentennial - worn on left sleeve of batting practice jersey
- 1996: Champions (AL) 1995 on game uniforms
- 1997: Indians wore All Star Patch on all jerseys until All-Star Break, then switched to Jackie Robinson Patch on home white jersey only.

1983



Left: *Planned for 1993 but not worn. This may be a replica patch.* ***Right:*** *Olin Crews memorial disc worn instead.*

1993 "Olin Crews"

1994

1995

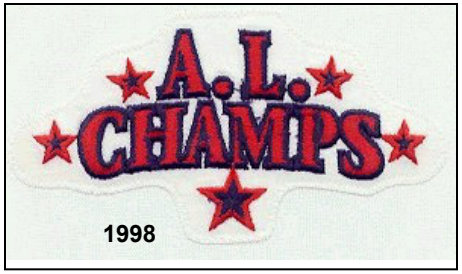
1996

1996

1997

In the 1997 World Series, the Indians did not wear the World Series patch. Instead, they wore the All-Star Game patch on road and blue alternate jerseys, and the Jackie Robinson patch on their home whites.

© GameWornGuides.com



1998

1999

2001

2002

2003

2004

June 12, 2005

- 1998: AL Champs
- 1999: AL Central Champs (white and gray versions)
- 2001: Lou Boudreau Memorial (#5) on left sleeve added after August 10, 2001
- 2002: JW on right sleeve & right front of vest for trainer Jimmy Warfield, after July 16, 2002
- 2003: Memorial patches on right sleeve for #18 Mel Harder (all season) and #14 Larry Doby (added after June 18, 2003), patches worn on vest right chest
- 2004: Jacobs Field 10 years, home jersey only
- 2005, June 12: AIDS ribbon on “Until There’s a Cure” day in San Francisco

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(excerpted from Uni-Watch.com of February 22, 2011)
By Paul Lukas

As I think most of you know, late last year the Indians announced that their Bob Feller memorial patch would look Like this (ed. the design at the top of the page) Everyone here seemed to like it (although I thought the Hall of Fame induction date and maybe even the uni number were superfluous). But then in early February it turned out that the team had gone with a much plainer design (design #2 on this page) , which was not well received in our comments section.

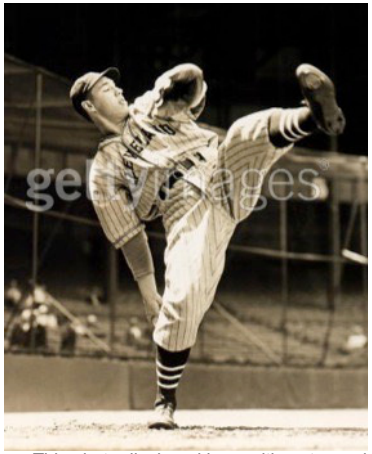
Why the switcheroo? The answer, or at least a portion of it, came on Friday, buried toward the bottom of (a news article.) Here's the key passage: "The Indians want to honor Hall of Famer Bob Feller by wearing a silhouette of him pitching, including his high leg kick, on the sleeve of their regular season uniform jerseys, but they're having trouble getting copyright permission."

I wanted to know more, so I contacted Bart Swain, the Indians' PR director, who explained that the silhouetted image on the patch is based on a photograph that's owned by Photo File, and the team hasn't been able to strike a licensing deal with them.

My initial thought was, "Eh, big deal — so you find a different photo and make a silhouette of that." Like, the Indians must own the rights to some good photos of Rapid Robert, right? But then I did a bit of Feller photo research, and there's no getting around it: The Photo File image really does seem to be the best, most iconic shot of him. There are a few similar images, but they're not quite as good. It's easy to see why the Indians might think, "If we can't have that one, let's just scrap the whole concept and come up with something else."

Photo File, of course, is in the business of selling and licensing photos, so it's not as though the primo Feller image is off-limits to the Indians — it's just a matter of whether the team is willing to pay a licensing fee. Swain, the Tribe's PR guy, told me that negotiations with Photo File are ongoing, so it's possible that the silhouette-based patch design may end up being used after all. Either way, this is probably one of the most convoluted design processes ever for a memorial patch. Which I guess is what happens if you don't just go with a black circle, right?

Feller, incidentally, was somewhat notorious for being an autograph mercenary in his later years. He'd show up anywhere, anytime, for an autograph session — if the price was right. On some level, he'd probably be amused by the haggling going on over his likeness. And he'd also probably wonder why he isn't getting a cut.



This photo displayed here with watermark prominently apparent, belongs to Photo File and is shown here for historical context only.

Clockwise from top left: The copyrighted famous photo, the late 2010 mock-up of the proposed patch, including HOF date (1). *Middle row*: The Spring Training patch (2) was used without the image while the Indians were deciding if they were willing to pay the licensing fee, *and on the bottom row (3-4)*, the patches as finally used on regular season game uniforms. The red outline one is used on the home creams and road blues, the solid blue outline is used on home whites and road grays.

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- 2009: #27/Herb patch for former pitcher and broadcaster Herb Score, worn all season
- 2013, April 16: The Red Sox visited Cleveland for the first game after the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing. Several Indians players wore temporary elastic armbands in solidarity with the Red Sox, who did the same. Like Red Sox starter Felix Doubront, Indians starter Ubaldo Jimenez' thin band was sewn on.
- 2015: #7 memorial patch for former player Al Rosen who died prior to the season
- 2016, July 1: Canadian flags on right sleeve for Canada Day in Toronto
- 2016 September 9: Twins and visiting Indians wear "11 Jacob" patch in honor of 11year-old Jacob Wetterling of Minnesota who disappeared in 1989. He also wore #11 in youth sports. Wetterling's killer confessed in 2016.

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May 26, 2018

April 1, 2019

- 2018, May 26: TITO memorial for Tito Francona, former Indians player and manager Terry Francona's father
- 2018, August 18: Hall of Fame induction and number retirement for Jim Thome
- 2019: All Star Game patch, all season, left sleeve, all jerseys
- 2019, April 1: Memorial for former player and manager Frank Robinson. Right sleeve of red jersey.
- 2020, February 25: "Beau Bear" memorial patch for grandson of bench coach Brad Mills. Appears to be a paper address label rather than a cloth patch.
- 2022, July 2: Larry Doby 75th anniversary of breaking the color barrier in the American League.
- 2023, April 7 and August 24: Memorial patch for John Adams, a well-known fan who played a drum at Indians games, on left chest.

August 18, 2018

2019

February 25, 2020

July 2, 2022

2021, May 31: On Memorial Day, Indians Skipper Terry Francona wears a Task Force Sinai Memorial Patch recognizing Army Staff Sergeant Kyle McKee who, along with four other servicemen, died in a tragic helicopter crash in Egypt in November 2020; and a rubberized memorial patch specific to McKee.

April 7 & August 24, 2023

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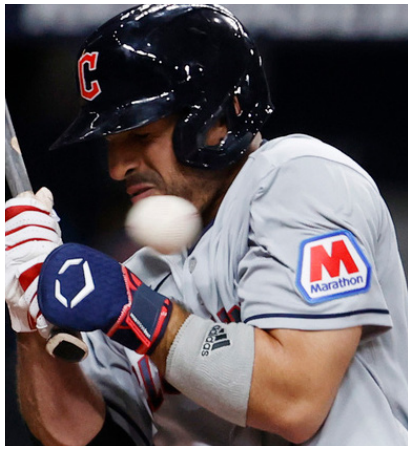
2023-2025 Guardians Advertising Patches



With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Guardians struck a sponsor patch deal with Marathon, a petroleum company. The patches first appeared on July 3, 2023. The sponsor calls this their “Endurance” logo. It is a red “M” with “Marathon” beneath in royal blue, with a royal blue/powder blue border.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team’s normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

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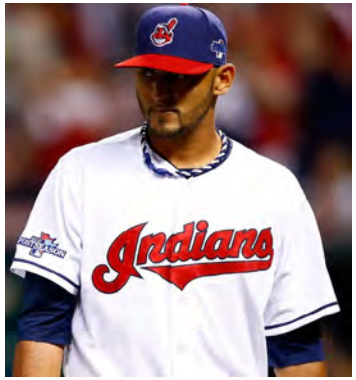
Postseason Patches

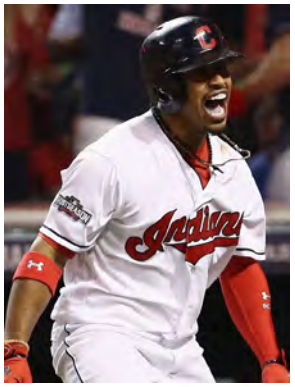
1995 World Series (right sleeve)

1997 World Series

The Indians did not wear this patch in the 1997 World Series. Instead, they wore the same patches they had worn for the second half of the 1997 season: the 1997 All-Star Game patch on road and alternate blue jerseys, and the Jackie Robinson patch on the home jerseys.

2013 AL Wild Card (right sleeve)





2016 AL Division Series

2016 AL Championship Series (right sleeve)

2016 World Series (right sleeve)

2017 AL Division Series (right sleeve)

2018 AL Division Series (right sleeve)

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Ted Uhlaender #26 Indians 1970 Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 30, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0301J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Size 42 heather-blue/gray colored flannel seven-button Spalding jersey, "CLEVELAND" is arched across both panels of the front in a three color pattern, red outlined with white and then with a black 3D drop shadow. On back are the numbers 26, also in the same colors with a 3D black shadow. The fonts match exemplars and my templates. The smiling red/white/navy felt-backed Chief Wahoo patch is stitched to the left sleeve and appears original. Four-hole gusseted vent inserts sewn under each arm. The Cleveland Indians of the 1970s were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Game used team jerseys from the decade are almost never found in their original configuration in the hobby because nearly all were repurposed by the Indians, some several times over, before their service was through. A set of these 1970 road jerseys were stripped and reused as 1971 Indians road jerseys, which featured a completely different front crest and back numbers. Others were sent to the minor leagues and reconfigured completely. Unexplainably, this one is completely original with all 1970 elements untouched, and is the first such original example I have ever evaluated. While I do not have other Uhlaender jerseys in my database, the size of this is reasonable given his size and weight, 6' 2", 190 lbs. Its 32" length is 1 inch longer than typical. Outfielder Ted Uhlaender enjoyed an 8-year MLB career with the Twins, Indians and Reds. 1970 was his first season with the Indians, and he appeared in 141 games hitting .268 with two home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Spading locker tag noting the size as 42 is the correct style for 1970, is stitched to the outside of the left front tail. Beneath it is the Spalding white with blue printing wash tag, and pinched under the right side of this tag is a white flag tab that says SET1 #8P 1970. The reverse side of the fabric shows puckering beneath these tags, indicating that they have been through many washings, and a close examination shows that they are original.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs typical of a season's heavy use. It is in good condition without damage or repairs, and the gray fabric retains it bluish hue. There is some minor splitting if the felt sleeve patch on its top edge. The three-layer twill lettering shows the effects of hot water washing, it is somewhat puckered and the thread holding it to the shirt has bleached to a lighter shade. Notably the black edge is stitched using an "invisible" nylon thread. There is some visible wear and ground in dirt inside the collar and sleeve ends from game use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good original and unrestored condition. The jersey has no contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and originally worn by outfielder Ted Uhlaender of the 1970 Cleveland Indians.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Indians 1970 #10 Game Worn Road Jersey, Rich Rollins

Examination Date: May 1, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0501J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Size 44 heather-blue/gray colored flannel seven-button Spalding jersey, with a white size 44 flag tag stitched underneath the right side of the Spalding maker's tag. Below and near the bottom hem is the well-worn Spalding washing instructions tag machine-embroidered in red with a blue border. Pinched under the right side of this tag is a white flag tab that says **SET1 #8P 1970.** The smiling red/white/navy felt-backed Chief Wahoo patch is stitched to the left sleeve and appears original. The Cleveland Indians of the 1970s were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Game used team jerseys from the decade are almost never found in their original configuration in the hobby because nearly all were repurposed by the Indians, some several times over, before their service was through. This jersey is no exception.

As Received: Tagged in the front tail as a a 1970 jersey, a light table examination revealed this jersey had been improperly re-lettered. On back, a set of 3D style numbers "40" were significantly larger than original issue. On front, a three-color "Cleveland" wordmark arched across both panels was revealed on the light table to be un-original; points of mismatch with an likely original set of ghosts could be seen. Notably, many 1970 Indians road jerseys were completely stripped, back and front, and converted to 1971 Indians jerseys, which had a much simpler single-color front wordmark, and single color back numbers. There is no sign that this jersey had been converted to 1971 livery before it was improperly restored to 1970 specifications. My conclusion is that it was stripped for re-use, but then left blank.

I was asked to determine its origin and to restore it to its original appearance. I stripped all the replacement lettering, front and back. Using my original templates for both the 1970 Indians front crest and the back numbers, I was able to detect the original lettering ghosts. The number 10 had been on the back, visible with faint stitch lines and a couple of small holes where thread was likely ripped out.

Backup infielder Rich Rollins was signed by the Indians on May 13, 1970 after his release by the Twins, and issued #10. At 5' 10" and 185 lbs this jersey is sized appropriately for the player. 1970 was the final year in Rollins' 10-year career, one spent mostly with the Twins. He was also a member of the inaugural Seattle Pilots squad of 1969. In 1970 he appeared in 42 games for the Indians, mostly as a pinch hitter, hitting .233 and two home runs in 43 at bats This jersey would have been appropriately sized for him to have worn.

Continued, overleaf

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Restoration: Using my historically recreated patterns for both the 1970 Indians one-year style front wordmark and the back numbers, I was able to find multiple points of intersection comparing the templates to the faint shadows of the original stitching lines. I cut and stitched new lettering, front and back, then media blasted and lightly organically dyed them to simulate age and use and to make the new more harmonious with the wear on the jersey body all was to be sewn to. I attached all the new lettering with off-color bleached and muted thread tones to replicate age and use.

Above left, the jersey as received, prior to its restoration. At left and below, after removal of the lettering, ghosts of the original lettering visible on the light table show the proper shapes and placement. All replacement lettering was media blasted and lightly organically dyed to add patina appropriate to the age and condition of the jersey to which they were being

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition, better than average compared to others I have evaluated. It is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and originally worn by infielder Rich Rollins of the 1970 Cleveland Indians.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1971 Cleveland Indians Kerby Farrell (Coach) Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: July 2, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0702J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson size 42 (tagged and measured) seven button flannel jersey, white with navy chalk pinstripes. "INDIANS" is vertical arched across both panels of the front in Navy cotton-blend twill. Six gusseted vent holes are sewn into each underarm panel. Chief Wahoo patch in old style navy/white/red embroidery on a felt backing is stitched to the left sleeve, and appears to be original. On the back is the number 15, a replacement. On the inside of the front left tail someone has written boldly in black marker "GREG (sic) NETTLES SPR. TRG UNIFORM". The black marker from this ersatz inscription has soaked through to the outside of the fabric making it visible from the front.

The Indians wore this style of jersey one season only- 1971, then again in spring training 1972. For the 1972 regular season the team switched to new, pullover Wilson double knit jerseys. 1971 jerseys are rare to find in such good condition, as the Indians sent them to the minor leagues to be reused. Very few survived in any condition. This one seems to have been spared excessive reuse. A light table evaluation shows that this jersey originally had #3 on the back, a number issued to coach Kerby Farrell. Farrell was 5' 11" and had a playing weight in 1945 of 172, making this a reasonable size for him to have worn at age 58 in 1971. Farrell left the staff after 1971, and very likely this jersey was renumbered to 15 and reissued for use in 1972 spring Training. #15 on that 1972 squad was newly acquired infielder Frank Duffy, 6' 1" and 180 lbs who would have fit in this reissued jersey. Marker inscription notwithstanding- Graig Nettles was on the Indians 1970-1972, but he was #12, and would most likely have been reissued his own 1971 uniform for use in 1972 Spring Training. There is no sign that #12 was ever sewn on this jersey. I would judge that the hand-written inscription is incorrect.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson locker tag noting the size as 42 is the correct style for 1971, is stitched to the outside of the left front tail. Beneath it is a 1.5" white piece of braided trim with "1971" hand chain stitched on it in a style matching other period Indians jersey in our reference library. The reverse side of the fabric shows puckering beneath these tags, indicating that they have been through many washings, and a close examination shows that they are original.

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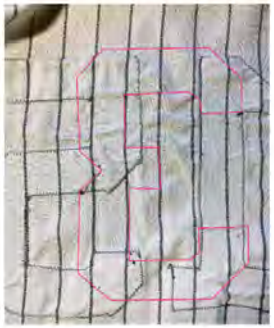
Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs typical of a season's careful use— by a coach. It is in very good condition and has not been excessively laundered because likely it never got very dirty. The cotton blend twill of the front team crest is beached to a dark violet, and all of the stitching holding it in place is still tight. The light table reveals the former #3 centered on the back, and the current #15 was stitched on in typical "clubhouse" spring-training fashion (vs. professionally done by Wilson) the stitching is uneven and appears done in a hurry, without particular care to follow the edges of the numbers. These numbers may well have been take-off numbers from other jerseys as they are bleached purple, and the sheen has been burnished from them, and have two sets of stitching holes around the perimeters. One corse of stitching holding them in place is light purplish white; likely cotton thread that was bleached in the wash. It appears that perhaps they were hurriedly stitched on, and then perhaps later they were restitched more carefully without anyone removing the first corse of (now) lighter thread. Looking at the inside of the jersey, there is puckering of the jersey fabric beneath the numbers showing that the numbers shrunk more than the jersey in the wash, a typical occurrence with hot water washing. The front tail "inscription" already mentioned is an unfortunate event.



Left: Clear ghost of the "3" that had been stitched here prior, remains. Right: Double row of stitching is typical of spring training, clubhouse re-lettering of a previously issued jersey. Below, the marker inscription (which I have deemed inaccurate) on both the inside and showing through to the outside; it resisted removal.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered, though team re-numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use. In my professional opinion, this is the game-worn 1971 home jersey of Cleveland Indians coach Kerby Farrell.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Cleveland Indians 1971 Road Jersey, #40 (Ken Harrelson or Jim Clark)

Examination Date: September 23, 2021 **Certification Number**:21-0923J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, 1971 year tagged Spalding seven-button heather gray size 44 Cleveland Indians jersey. The number "40" in the proper Indians font is on the back, but a light table examination suggests that while the front crest is original, other numbers have been on this in the past. The seven dark gray buttons appear all original. Chief Wahoo patch is stitched to the left sleeve and is original. The 1970s Indians were a frugal organization that used and reissued their uniforms multiple times. At least one set of 1971 road uniforms was created from stripped 1970 road jerseys. However, this one began life as a 1971 from the start. This style of jersey was worn only in 1971. The fact that the "CLEVELAND" wordmark remains on front without any signs of another crest having been there suggests that this jersey avoided being sent to the minor leagues, and the replacement back numbers were most likely a result of later-year issuance in MLB spring training. As 1972 was the team's switch over to regular season knits, the old flannels were probably used only a single year, 1972, in spring training.

Restoration Performed: Recognizing that a number change had occurred at some point, the jerseys's owner requested that the back numbers be temporarily removed so a full light table examination could be done. Once removed, the following was observed:

1. It is clear that the second number has always been a zero. And somebody took the trouble to remove an old zero that was crooked and put a new one on that matched the 4 sewn in the first position.
2. While you can see clearly the stitching lines from am earlier old distorted/crooked zero underneath the darker outline from the later numeral 0 sewn on top, you cannot see any clear evidence of another number ghost that had been underneath the left digit 4.
3. There are several small holes near, but not overlaying, the outline of the number four. Holes like this *generally* indicate where stitching thread from a removed number had turned a corner. It is where the stitching is densest and when the old number is removed it often makes a hole in that spot because the fabric is weak there. Therefore we considered it was possible that at one time another digit had been in the leading position.

Continued, overleaf

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With numbers removed for light table evaluation, the ghost of a different "0" can be seen. Small holes surrounding the "4"suggest another digit may have been stitched there, but a thoughtful evaluation concludes that no other numeral would have made these marks and that the original digit was a 4 as well.

In the end, after overlaying other digits in the matching font onto that spot and being unable to make a match to the ghosted holes, we are satisfied that to the best of our knowledge, the original number on this jersey had been 40 and that the current numerals 40 that had been stitched there were cut from 1971 vintage cotton twill fabric and had been on the jersey for quite some time. Therefore, we had decided to resew the removed vintage 40 in place. In 1971, #40 was worn by both infielder Ken Harrelson and pitcher Jim Clark. Both men were approximately the same size and weight and the size of this shirt is appropriate to fit either one.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Spalding "Professional" tag as correct for 1971 with a small size 44 tag stitched centered under the right edge, and a square "71"indicating the year of issue stitched to its left. The Indians did not player-tag their jerseys in 1971.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey body is in unusually good condition, given the Indians' typical overuse of their equipment. The lettering is made of cotton twill, and has faded to a typical dark violet hue from washing in detergents. The stitching is tight and similarly bleached. My reattachment of the back numbers was made using faded thread to match and matching the size/frequency of the original stitching as closely as possible. There are no team repairs to the jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey has the correct tagging and lettering as used by the 1971 Cleveland Indians. It shows signs of use but is in very good condition. My detailed evaluation has concluded that while the back numbers had been replaced at some point, the original number of this jersey was indeed #40. It is free of contrivance, and in my opinion is an excellent example of a game worn 1971 Cleveland Indians road jersey.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Indians 1970 #46 Game Worn Road Jersey, Steve Dunning

Examination Date: August 17, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0817-J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: The Cleveland Indians of the 1970s were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Game used team jerseys from the decade are almost never found in their original configuration in the hobby because nearly all were repurposed by the Indians, some several times over, before their service was through. This jersey is no exception. Tagged in the front tail as a a 1970 jersey, as received it wore the lettering, back and front of the one-year 1971 style. It had #55 on back. No roster player wore #55 on the 1971 Indians, it may have been worn by a coach or was more likely issued to a spring training invitee, given its mismatched numbers. Size 44 heather-gray colored flannel Spalding jersey, with a white size 44 flag tag stitched underneath the right side of the Spalding maker's tag. Below and near the bottom hem is the well-worn Spalding washing instructions tag machine-embroidered in red with a blue border. Pinched under the right side of this tag is a white flag tab that says **SET1 #8P 1970.** The smiling red/white/navy felt-backed Chief Wahoo patch is stitched to the left sleeve and appears original.

As Received: I was asked to determine its origin and to restore it to its original appearance. Examining it on the light table, it was clear that the unique and attractive 1970-only 3-D style Cleveland lettering had once been on the front. The current front wordmark, stitched overly tightly in worn Navy blue cotton twill was the 1971 variation. The back number, 55, also a replacement, was crudely applied also with far too many stitches, and the two digits were sourced from different font sets, each unlike the other. The back numbers in 1970 had been in a much different font, three-color 3D red/white/Navy. I was initially unable to determine what the original back numbers were, so on the direction of its owner, I proceeded to remove all lettering, front and back, to further research and to begin to return the jersey to it original 1970 configuration.

(Top) jersey as restored and (bottom) as received. Three color twill lettering with drop shadows were used on 1970 jerseys only, 1971's were much less ornate. The Indians stripped their 1970 jerseys and re-lettered them for reissue in the 1971 season. Bottom photo shows the marking inside the tail.

Continued, overleaf

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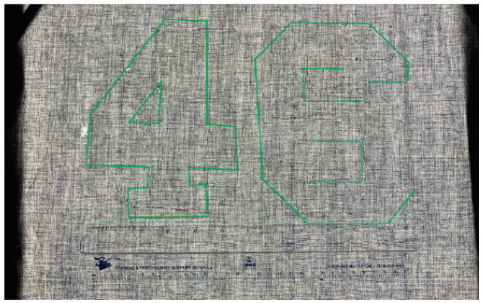
On the light table, careful evaluation revealed that the number 46 had originally been there. #46 in 1970 was pitcher Steve Dunning, 6'-02" and 205 lbs., This jersey would have been appropriately sized for him to have worn. Dunning was a starting pitcher for the 1971 Indians, compiling a record of 8-14 in 31 games pitched, 29 as a starter. He enjoyed a seven-year MLB career, 1970-1977.

Restoration: Using my historically recreated patterns for both the front wordmark and the back numbers, I was able to find multiple points of intersection comparing the templates to the faint shadows of the original stitching lines. I cut and stitched new lettering, front and back, then media blasted and lightly organically dyed them to simulate age and use and to make the new more harmonious with the wear on the jersey body all was to be sewn to. I attached all the new lettering with off-color bleached and muted thread tones to replicate age and use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition. It is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and originally worn by pitcher Steve Dunning of the 1970 Cleveland Indians.



Ghosts of the original lettering visible on the light table identify this jersey as one of the repurposed 1970 jerseys reissued in 1971 livery. The shadows assisted with the proper placement of all restored elements. All replacement lettering was media blasted and lightly organically dyed to add patina appropriate to the age and condition of the jersey to which they were being sewn.

William F. Henderson
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Letter of Professional Opinion and Document of Restoration

Gaylord Perry 1972 Cleveland Indians Game Worn Home Jersey, Cy Young Year

Examination Date: December 13, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1213J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson size 46 white pullover Cleveland Indians jersey of #36, Hall of Fame pitcher Gaylord Perry. Wide, 3" Red/White/Navy knit sleeve ends, similarly colored 1" wide knit v-neck. Jersey is autographed in blue sharpie, "Gaylord Perry" on the lower center of the chest. (I have no opinion of the authenticity of the autograph). On back, #36 and "PERRY" arched above in red tackle twill. Perry won the American League Cy Young award in 1972 when he went 24-16, starting 40 games and completing 29 of them.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag showing the size 46 sewn in the back of the neck. There is no other team tagging on 1972 Indians jerseys.

Wear & Repairs/Restoration Performed: 1972 Indians jerseys are a seldom seen, one-year style. Most are non-existent in their original configuration because the team frugally stripped them and re-lettered them in the new style for 1973 then reissued them.

This jersey was purchased by its current owner at auction and was restored. On front, with careful examination the original vertical-arched Block "INDIANS" had been restored exactly over the original ghosts. There remains clear visible ghost stitching evidence of the 1973 and later stylized Indians lettering that had been on the front of this jersey that was removed when the original-style lettering was restored. The jersey shows a good deal of use, and has had its V-Neck collar cut open as was preferred by Perry, and as is evident in photos of Perry wearing his home jersey in 1972.

On back, as received, was clear evidence of an inexact restoration. The restorer had used stock fonts and arbitrary placement of name and number instead of matching the clear ghosts of Perry's original name and number that had once been there. I removed the back name and number. Light table examination revealed a Varsity #17 had been once been sewn on the back, 2" higher as when so issued, it was used without a name on back. Notably, there is no evidence that the large Indians disk patch used by the MLB club in 1973 was ever on the left sleeve. Therefore, it is a reasonable conclusion that this jersey was not used by the MLB Indians after 1972, but instead found its way directly to the minor leagues for its second life. (See attached photos of this jersey's auction in 2013).

I recreated the actual (one year use) 1972 fonts for name and number using the clearly visible ghosts and stitched them in place. No attempt was made to clean the jersey at all because of the presence of the autograph.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and has now been properly restored. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was worn by Gaylord Perry of the Cleveland Indians during his 1972 Cy Young Award winning season.

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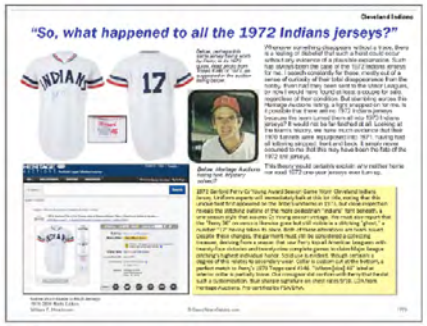

Top left: As received from earlier restoration. *Top Right:* The page from the Game Worn Guide to MLB jerseys highlighting this particular jersey in its Minor League configuration. Left: The 1973 and later Indians wordmark is visible in shadows beneath the restored 1972 wordmark. *Above:* Correct "PERRY" is highlighted over visible shadows. *Bottom:* New back numbers cut to match ghosts. Ghosts show both the original 36 plus the minor league #17. The incorrect 36 is visible (but not highlighted) as well.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Restoration

1972 Cleveland Indians Game Worn Road Jersey, #38 Phil Hennigan

Examination Date: August 17, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0817J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray pullover Rawlings pro-model full-weight double knit jersey in size 46. Red/white/Navy sewn in knit trim at the sleeve ends and the V-neck. 1972 was the first year for the Cleveland Indians in double knit uniforms, switching away from the old button front flannels.

As Received: There are almost no original 1972 Indians jerseys in the hobby. It was a one-year style, and after 1972 the team stripped them and recycled them into 1973 Indians jerseys or sent them to the minor leagues where most were abused to death. This one remains in good condition, but a light-table evaluation reveals that both the front and back had been incorrectly restored at some point. The front INDIANS word arch had been placed over the original ghosts, but was too light in stroke. Removing the front lettering clearly revealed the somewhat perforated shadow of "San Antonio", an Indians minor league affiliate who had re-issued this jersey after 1972.

Stitched on back was the player number 9 (autographed) and the arched name "Bell" above it. The light table again revealed this was not original to the jersey, and after removing the back lettering it was clearer it had been #51 in the minors, and originally had been issued to #38, pitcher Phil Hennigan. Overall the jersey body remains in good condition, with no repairs and surprisingly bright trim.

Top- as restored, Bottom- as received.

Continued, overleaf

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Hennigan was 6' 0" and 185 lbs, so this jersey is sized appropriately for the player. He pitched for the Indians 1969-1972. According to Wikipedia, *"...Although 1972 was arguably Hennigan's best season, it would also be his last with the Indians. In 38 games, he went 5-3 with a 2.67 ERA. In 67 1/3 innings of work, he struck out 44 batters, walking only 18, and also saved five games."*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The 1972-correct Rawlings red tag is stitched to the outside of the bottom left tail. A small white flag tab is sewn under the right edge of the Rawlings tag, and reads SET 1 #8P 1972.

Restoration Performed: The stripped jersey was washed and steamed to remove dirt and overt stitching traces of the old restoration lettering. Using the ghosts on front to verify my patterns, I cut and restitched the proper red Indians arched lettering. On back, the player number 38 and name HENNIGAN was cut from the original team patterns in my archives, and sewn precisely over the ghosts using the light table as my guide. Before stitching with bleached red thread, all lettering was media blasted and lightly organically dyed to simulate age and wear and to make the lettering restoration more harmonious with the condition of the jersey body.

Clockwise from far left:- Hennigan in a 1972 Indians press kit photo postcard, wearing his home uniform. The wordmark of the San Antonio minor league club, Light table reveals original Indians shadows in black, Sam Antonio minor league ghost in white. Name on back ghosts of the original configuration leading H and final N are highlighted; final placement of back restoration lettering are shown at bottom left.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is authentic and game worn, in good used condition, and has been restored to its appearance as when it was worn by pitcher Phil Hennigan of the 1972 Cleveland Indians.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Cleveland Indians 1972 Bobby Hofman Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 24, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0524J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White pullover Cleveland Indians jersey of #6, coach Bobby Hofman. Wide, 3" Red/White/Navy knit sleeve ends, similarly colored 1" wide knit v-neck. On back, #6 and "HOFMAN" arched above in red tackle twill. Normally, the Wilson manufacturer tag showing the size would be sewn in the back of the neck. It is gone from this jersey, and extreme wear has left little sign that it was ever present. There is no other team tagging used on 1972 Indians jerseys.

Wear & Repairs/Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey was in a "1" in a "1 out of 10" condition. 1972 Indians jerseys are a seldom seen, one-year style. Most are non-existent in their original configuration because the team frugally stripped them and either sent them to the minor leagues or re-lettered them in the MLB team's new style for 1973 then reissued them. This particular jersey was sent to Oklahoma City (AAA) and was re-lettered and reissued as an Eighty-Niners jersey. All of the original INDIANS lettering was removed, and the giant "EIGHTY NINERS" lettering in red over blue was applied to the front with an excessive amount of glue. "89ers" was also sewn to the left sleeve. The original number 6 was removed from the back, and a different number 6 was sewn in its place. No name was on back.

Removing the lettering, I found the glue on both the back and front was pancake thick, literally buttered onto the back of the lettering before it was applied. This sometimes happens when take-off lettering is reused a second or third time, typical of the minor leagues. I used multiple types of strong solvents to dissolve the glue and using a high-pressure dry cleaning solvent gun worked to remove as much of the staining and glue as possible. I then aggressively spot-bleached the fabric to try to get its color evenly back to its original white, then plate-steamed the jersey surfaces to remove as many of the stitching imprints as I could. Many small holes and perforations remain, as do a number of tiny Navy thread fragments from the Eighty Niners lettering, literally embedded in the jersey fabric.

Using team patterns recreated from period photos and other jerseys, I cut and replaced the front Indians crest as well as the player name and number on the back atop the original shadows still slightly visible on the light table. In typical Indians fashion, the name on back is lopsided and in a haphazard arc. While it cold have been "corrected", it was re-sewn exactly as originally done.

Continued, overleaf

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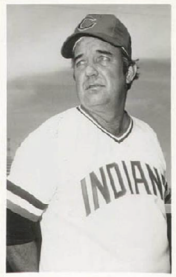
(Top row) As received for restoration, the jersey was in deplorable condition. Had this not been a very rare 1972 Indians MLB jersey originally, this restoration would. Likely not have been attempted. (Bottom left and center) Full strength paint stripper paste was brushed on to dissolve enough of the glue that it could be scraped off and the process could continue with standard solvents. Bottom right: The ghost of the original Indians' "6" in the proper font is partially hidden beneath a replacement 6 on top. Often, before being set to the minors, the full set of team jerseys was pre-stripped of all lettering so they could be re-lettered in the minor league city, and that's probably why the 6 on the back is not the original one.

(Left) overlaying the 1972 team front wordmark pattern onto the scarred fabric reveals several unique points of intersection: holes that were created when the original wordmark was removed, in place that do not overlap with any lines of the removed 89ers lettering. (Below left: HOFMAN name on back is revealed on the light table in a drunken arch. (Top right): the jersey after aggressive solvent cleaning, and immediately below after bleaching. Bottom right: Hofman very likely wearing this very jersey, a one-year-style, in a 1972 press kit photo.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair but properly restored condition: stripped, cleaned and is properly restored with lettering near identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by coach Bobby Hofman of the 1972 Cleveland Indians.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Oklahoma City 89ers/Chris Chambliss 1972 Cleveland Indians Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: February 13, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0213J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Oklahoma City Eighty-Niners (Indians AAA 1973-1975) minor league home white jersey, based on its wear characteristics, likely worn in multiple of these three years, with a red #22 on the back, very large and bold "Eighty Niners" spelled out on the front in huge 4" stylized letters in red outlined with navy blue. Navy-white-red 3/4" V-neck and 2 1/2" wide sleeve end trim complete the look. Large layered twill "89ers" stitched on the left sleeve in the same two colors. A light table examination shows that this began life as a 1972 Cleveland Indians jersey, and was originally lettered for #14 Chris Chambliss. While this same jersey "shell" was used for 1972-1974, it can be narrowed down to having been issued and worn by the MLB Indians in 1972. The jersey has been washed so much that only faint shadows of the original lettering indicate the original presence of the Indians one-year 1972 wordmark, mostly hidden underneath the heavy-handed bold Eighty-Niners lettering now there. The sleeve bears no evidence of an Indians 1973-74 sleeve disk patch having been sewn there, the lack of a sleeve patch is also a 1972-only jersey characteristic. The ghosts of the back name and numbers also match exemplars photos of the 1972 Indians player lettering. The tall and narrow name on back and the small numbers were used only on knit 1972 jerseys, the fonts were different (larger and bolder) in 1973-1974.

Chambliss began his career with the Indians in 1971, when he won the American League Rookie of the Year Award, and played for the Indians through 1974 when he was traded to the Yankees.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: There is ghost-stitching hole evidence of the former presence of the Wilson rectangular neck tag, now gone due to heavy wash-wear. The jersey measurements make it appear to be a size 40, appropriate for Chambliss at the very start of his career. There is no team tagging on the jersey as is correct for 1972 Indians jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: Collectors have for decades bemoaned the near total absence of 1972 Cleveland Indians jerseys in the hobby, and this relic provides a glimpse into why none are to be found. While this jersey spent a year of its life decades ago as a MLB Indians jersey, it probably lived on for three seasons in its current minor league livery. It is intact, relatively unstained even-overall-ivory color with surprisingly bright trim. The layered twill lettering on the front is faded, puckered, burnished and bleached with some cracking and team repair of splits and loose edges. The back numbers are puckered from repeated hot water washing.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair to good heavily used condition, and is currently lettered for player #22 of the 1973-1975 minor league Oklahoma City Eighty Niners. It shows clear evidence of its origins of a 1972 Cleveland Indians jersey issued to and worn by #14 Chris Chambliss.

Continued, overleaf

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Above left, 1975 baseball card showing this style in use. That is Chambliss crossing first base, perhaps wearing this very jersey. The 89ers were an Indians affiliate only in 1973-1975. Above right: The skinny player name font and the small number font and placement revealed on the light table matches only the one-year style 1972 Indians MLB jerseys. Right- Indians wordmark superimposed on the ghosts mostly hidden by the 89ers lettering. Below, light table highlighting of Chambliss' name and number.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Cleveland Indians Jerry Johnson 1973 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0301J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Home pullover size 46 Cleveland Indians home jersey originally issued to #32 pitcher Jerry Johnson. Off-white body with red/white/Navy sewn-in knit trim at the sleeve ends and V-neck. "INDIANS" arched on the front in the team's 1973-1977 stylized font. On back, the restored name and number JOHNSON 32 in the original font style in Navy twill. Large sized Chief Wahoo disk that appears to be original is sewn on the left sleeve.

Johnson was 6' 3" and 200 lbs, and this jersey would have been appropriately sized for him. He enjoyed a ten year MLB career, playing for seven teams. He was a member of the Indians only during 1973 where he appeared in 39 games, all but one as a reliever and mostly as a closer. He compiled a 5-6 record in 1973 with a 6.18 ERA. *(Baseball Almanac)*

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey had #52 on back and no name. It shows signs of having at least two sets of prior numbers and name on back. The fabric is worn and grayed from use, with a slight purplish cast (typical of hot water washing) that is darker towards the tails. A light table examination showed that JOHNSON #32 was the original owner, and stripped of its current numbers it showed a great deal of dark dye staining from what had been there before. I aggressively cleaned the stains using multiple methods, but ghosts of what had been there over the years are still evident on close inspection. Using the light table and my original team patterns, I recreated the original player back lettering and then aged the fabric with media blasting and organic dyeing before stitching it in place exactly over the original ghosts using bleached-color thread.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag correct for 1973 is stitched inside the front left tail. Pinch-sewn under its right edge is a flag tab that says SET 1 #8P 1973.

Comments: Indians jerseys of this vintage are rarely found intact. The team sent all of its gear to be reused in either spring training, the minor leagues or both. Surviving examples typically show excessive wear and evidence of multiple re-issues and number changes. This one had mismatched back numbers and in my judgement was wearing its third set of numbers prior to restoration. The second digit "2" was not the original one, and little effort was made by whoever stitched it to cover the old marks when it was re-lettered with fonts from a different font set. The fact that this one survives with its original front wordmark intact is a bonus not often seen.

Continued, overleaf

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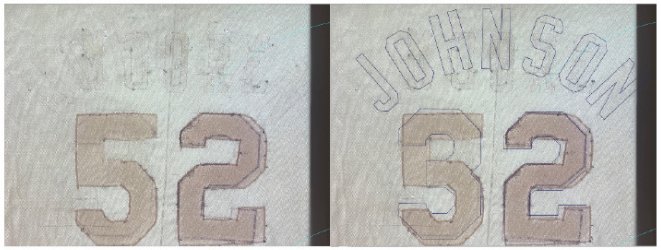
Top: as received, and below, light table views with the replacement numbers removed shows evidence of earlier use.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair, game used condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jerry Johnson of the 1973 Cleveland Indians.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Restoration

Indians 1974 Home Game Worn Jersey, #13 Bruce Ellingsen

Examination Date: August 17, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0817-J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White double knit pullover Rawlings size 42 Cleveland Indians home jersey in the style worn by the team 1973-1977. As received, it wears #13 on the back with light table evidence of a 47 having been present, prior. Because the 13 was sewn over the earlier 47 without re-centering, it is almost 2 inches off center to the right. There is no name on the back, though there is evidence of multiple names having been removed from the back. Baseball Almanac confirms that Ellingsen wore both these numbers in the 1974 season. It is clear that this jersey was reissued multiple times when its MLB service was through. Player name and numbers are in cotton blend twill used by the Indians prior to 1975, instead of the more common 100% polyester tackle twill.

The Cleveland Indians of the 1970s were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Game used team jerseys from the decade are almost never found in their original configuration in the hobby because nearly all were repurposed by the Indians, some several times over, before their service was through. This jersey is no exception.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The well-worn Rawlings "Mark of a Pro" red tag as used in the mid-70s is stitched inside the back of the neck and indicates the size as 42. A white flag tab is stitched under the right of this tag, reading SET 1 #8P 1974". The Indians did not player-tag their jerseys in 1974.

Wear and Repairs: The front INDIANS wordmark appears original and is burnished and bleached to a shade of dark violet from use. The once bright-white fabric has weathered to a pale gray stained with a pinkish cast in the tails. . In typical Indians-style for jerseys of this time period, the player numbers and name on back appear to have been placed "by eye" without the aid of any drafting tools. The ghost arc of the player name is extremely irregular, crooked and imbalanced. As received, the large Chief Wahoo disk was missing from the left sleeve, and a large perforated hole remained. There were multiple holes in the back where names had been removed, including

Continued, overleaf

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one the size of a quarter. The ghosts of "Ellingsen" can clearly be seen, but we did not attempt to determine the other name(s) that may have been there. It was likely reissued post-1974 still with the number 13 and probably a name on back, and from the excessive wear it received, was likely worn in the minor leagues and/or spring training in multiple additional years.

In my restoration, I performed extensive (team style repair) fabric darning to close up the many holes on back and sleeve. The player name was recreated from the original team alpha template of 1974 and cut using dyed and matching cotton blend twill, then sewn with matching bleached thread. A vintage Wahoo disk patch was sewn back to the sleeve.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in extremely heavily used condition. Its examination shows that it was used by several players after its original issuance in 1974. It has been professionally restored. it is It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications, first issued in 1974 and worn by pitcher Bruce Ellingsen of the Cleveland Indians.

As received and prior to restoration, the jersey exhibits heavy use with staining and multiple holes.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Indians 1975-1977 #39 Game Worn Home Jersey, Al Fitzmorris

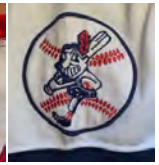
Examination Date: August 17, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0817-J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White double knit pullover Wilson size 44 Cleveland Indians home jersey in the style worn by the team 1973-1977. The Cleveland Indians of the 1970s were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Game used team jerseys from the decade are almost never found in their original configuration in the hobby because nearly all were repurposed by the Indians, some several times over, before their service was through. This jersey is no exception. Light table examination reveals the shadows of multiple name and number changes; it has been issued at least three times. Because its final owner, Al Fitzmorris was a roster player on the 1977-1978 Indians, and the lettering in place on the jersey appeared vintage and authentic, its current owner elected not to remove the exiting lettering in order to find the identity of to whom it may have originally been issued. It appears it may have been originally numbered as #4, worn by two players in 1975 season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's locker tag correct for the time period, noting the size as 44 is stitched inside the back of the neck. The Indians did not team tag their jerseys 1972-1975. Because this jersey has no year tag on it, nor evidence that one had ever been there, and Fitzmorris played wearing this style of jersey in 1977, it is a reasonable conclusion that this jersey was originally issued by the Indians in 1975, and that Fitzmorris was at least its third owner. Someone has written a tiny "75" inside the neck next to the Wilson tag in black marker; this is not a common team marking so its origin is unclear.

Wear and Repairs: The front INDIANS wordmark appears original and is burnished and bleached to a shade of dark violet from use. The once bright-white fabric has weathered to an ivory-pale gray. In typical Indians-style for jerseys of this time period, the player numbers and name on back appear to have been placed "by eye" without the aid of any drafting tools. The number is slightly off center to the left, and the player name arc is unbalanced, off center and clock-rotated to the right. The current player name and number are team applied, but evidence of at least two other names/numbers are evident on the light table. It lacks clear evidence of the 1976 Bicentennial sleeve patch worn by the team ever having been present.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair condition. Its examination shows that it was used by several Indians players it is It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications, first issued in 1975, and worn in 1977 by pitcher Al Fitzmorris of the Cleveland Indians.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Harvey Haddix (Pitching Coach) Cleveland Indians 1975-1977 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: April 29, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0429J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White double knit pullover Wilson size 42 (marked and measured) Cleveland Indians home jersey in the style worn by the team 1973-1977. 2 1/4" red white and blue knit sleeve end trim, 1" V-neck trim in the same colors. The Cleveland Indians of the 1970s were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Game used team jerseys from the decade are almost never found in their original configuration in the hobby because nearly all were reissued/ repurposed by the Indians, some several times over, before their service was through. In rare examples some were reissued for multiple seasons to the same person, sparing them from being stripped and re-lettered for another player. This jersey is one such example: it was issued to pitching coach Harvey Haddix who wore this style during his tenure 1975-1977 (Haddix was still with the Indians in 1978, but the team wore different style jerseys then.) A light table examination shows it is wearing its original back lettering. As received by me it had the clear outline ghost of the Indians' 1976 "Spirit of '76" sleeve patch, and I restitched an original patch (not reproduction) exactly covering the ghost. The Indians disk patch is on the left sleeve as worn 1974-1977 on this style of jersey. At a svelte playing weight of 170 labs and at 5'9", he was a reasonable size to have worn this size 42 jersey.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's locker tag correct for the time period, noting the size as 42 is stitched inside the back of the neck. The Indians did not team tag their jerseys 1972-1975. Because this jersey has no year tag on it, nor evidence that one had ever been there, and Haddix was on the coaching staff in 1975, it is a reasonable conclusion that this jersey was originally issued by the Indians in 1975, and that Haddix was reissued the same white jersey to wear again in at least 1976, and possibly even again in 1977 with the sleeve patch removed (though not for certain. These patches are hard to find and it may have been harvested for its collector value.)

Wear and Repairs: The front INDIANS wordmark is original and is burnished and bleached to a shade of dark violet from use, as is the thread holding it in place. The once bright-white fabric has weathered to an ivory shade. There is a 1" long horizontal split on the base of the back number "2", right along the stitching line, surely an artifact of extended use, greater than a single season. There are some small, light dirt-spot stains on the front of the jersey body.

Conclusion: Compared to surviving Indians jerseys of this period, this one is in amazingly good condition, based on the fact that it was issued to a coach and the near certainty that he wore it for at least two, if not three seasons. The jersey in review is in good to very good condition and is without repairs or contrivance. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications, first issued in 1975 and worn in 1976 and possibly 1977 by pitching coach Harvey Haddix of the Cleveland Indians.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Milt Wilcox Cleveland Indians 1974 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: Jan 21, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0121J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White double knit pullover Wilson size 42 (marked, measured now as a size 40) Cleveland Indians home jersey in the style worn by the team 1973-1977. 2 1/4" red white and blue knit sleeve end trim, 1" V-neck trim in the same colors. Large "batting Indian" disk patch on the left sleeve as worn 1974-1977. The Cleveland Indians of the 1970s were a frugal organization that wasted nothing. Game used team jerseys from the decade are almost never found in their original configuration in the hobby because nearly all were reissued/ repurposed by the Indians, some several times over, before their service was through. At 6' 2" and 185, it is reasonable that Wilcox would have worn this size 42 jersey, though it was likely a snug fit. As received, the light table reveals that the player number 43 on back is original but the player name had been removed leaving behind glue stains that were visible even without the use of the light table. All lettering on the jersey is a matte finished fabric that is not typical tackle twill, which is common to the Indians of the early 1970s.

In 1974 Milt Wilcox went 2-2 in 40 appearances for the Indians, in all but two as a reliever, compiling a 4.67 ERA and 33 strikeouts in 71–1/3 inning pitched. He was on the Indians 1973-1974, and played for five teams during a 16 year MLB career compiling a career 119-113 record.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's locker tag correct for the time period, noting the size as 42 is stitched inside the back of the neck. The Indians did not generally team tag their jerseys 1974-1975. There is no year/set tagging on the jersey which is also common from this period. Wilcox played for the Indians 1972-1974, this style of jersey was worn in both 1973-1974 and based on its Wilson tagging I suspect that this jersey was a 1974 issue.

Wear and Repairs: The front INDIANS wordmark is original and is burnished and bleached to a shade of dark Navy/violet from use, as is the thread holding it in place. The once bright-white fabric has weathered to a light ivory shade. There are some very small, light dirt-spot stains on the front of the jersey body. All stitching is tight and intact. This jersey has less wear than most of this style we have evaluated over the years.

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Restoration performed: Using the ghosts visible on the back with the black light table and sourcing the Indians player name on back typestyle as used by Wilson, we re-created the original player name on back and so it exactly over the old ghosts. The fabric we used was a vintage style matte cotton twill that closely matched the rest of the lettering on the shirt. It was aged slightly and stitched with slightly off color thread to match.

Above: The jersey as received. At left, the ghosts of the original name on back were easy to see when put under the ultraviolet "black" light.

Conclusion: Compared to surviving Indians jerseys of this period we have evaluated, this one is in better than average "good" condition; it is free of contrivance. Aside from the name on back restoration, is without alteration or repairs. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications, and was worn in 1974 by pitcher Milt Wilcox of the Cleveland Indians.

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Letter of Restoration / Professional Opinion

1976 Ray Fosse Cleveland Indians Game Used Red Jersey

Examination Date: August 4, 2020 **Certification Number**: 200805JH1

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Cleveland Indians red alternate pullover jersey, Wilson tagging, size 46. The Wilson tag is the style used by that company 1974-1977. Navy and white sewn-in V-Neck and sleeve end trim "INDIANS" arched on the front in white outlined by Navy Blue in the stylized rustic font used by the team 1973-1977. Not year tagged and showing signs of relatively heavy use. The trim's white color has been worn to a cream color but the blue survives unbleached. The original swinging Indian disk patch remains on the left sleeve, and the original team crest remains own the front, its lettering puckered and discolored from wash and wear, the attaching thread bleached, yet still complete and tight. There is a 1" by 1/2" over-sewn team repair to a rip in the back of the jersey near the right armpit.

Ray Fosse had been a popular player on the Indians 1967-1972; his first full year with the Indians had been 1970, and that year he was selected as an alternate to the AL All-Star squad, and was involved in the famous collision with Pete Rose at home plate that injured him badly. He was traded to the Oakland Athletics 1973-1975, then was re-signed by the Indians for the 1976 season in December 1975, staying with the team 1976 and before being optioned to the expansion Mariners late in 1977. His career ended in 1979 after being released by the Brewers.

This jersey was presented to me for evaluation and a potential restoration. Its narrative follows.

As Received: The jersey had FOSSE on back in white, and the number 10 below in white outlined with Navy. Even a casual observation revealed that this jersey had been re-lettered at least once. Putting it on the light table revealed at least one prior name on back and multiple number changes. Its owner supplied documentation from when he had purchased it claiming that it had been restored to "FOSSE 10" in an easier restoration and that the restorer claimed that the NOB was sewn directly over the old lettering shadows, while the number was moved 1/2" lower to make it look better as the spacing of the shadows was, in his opinion, too tightly close together. Unfortunately, as is almost always the case, no photographic documentation of the earlier restoration before and in-process was supplied. The jersey is a size 46, not unreasonable for Fosse to have worn, but other examples in our photo library of jerseys he wore both before and after this time are size 44s.

We elected to strip the back of the jersey to do a full evaluation on the light table. Our observations:

Name on back: The as-presented white letters "FOSSE" were not exactly in the correct font as used by the 1975-1977 Indians; too light in stroke and too tall. Their removal showed scant evidence that another FOSSE had been there before, with faint shadow evidence of the proper shorter, fatter font. More clearly evident was the shadow of the player name "PURYEAR", a young pitcher who was invited to spring training in several years (for the first time in 1978) and who wore #61 each year (according to team media guides). Nate Puryear never made

Above: The end result of the restoration. The final imprecise placement of all sewn back elements exactly match the original shadows. At the far right, the light table evaluation with lettering removed shows the original location of the back numbers. Also visible are ghost outlines of other numbers that appear to have been 30 and 61.

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the Indians MLB roster. The arch of the ghost FOSSE name on back is steep and erratic, inexact in placement and arch, which is very typical of the the Indians whose 1970s uniforms are (along with with the Rangers) among the most originally-sloppily lettered in the hobby.

Numbers on back: With the back numbers stripped, the light table showed clear evidence of 61 having been there, as well as a 31. The "deepest" and least visible ghost was that of the number 10, placed approximately 1/2" higher than the last restorer had stitched it. The 61 and 31 are in a smaller font— reminiscent of that used by the 1978 Indians. Interesting because the Indians changed to a new jersey design in 1978 but wore this old 1975-1977 style still in 1978 spring training. My hypothesis is that the #61 worn by Puryear in spring training 1978 was set in the new, smaller font used in the regular season by the 1978 Indians, and therefore why it does not match. The ghost of the earlier 10 is placed very high, less than 1/2" from the name on back. The numeral "1" was originally more than 1/4" higher than the "0" next to it. Examination showed the clear ghost of a chevron shaped patch on the right sleeve, the mark of the removed 1976 Bicentennial patch. While 1976 and 1977 Indians jerseys were year tagged, this one is without a year tag. Indians jerseys were not year tagged in 1975. Given the team's frugality, it is very reasonable that the lack of a 1976 year tag is because this jersey was left over from 1975. It is not at all clear how much of the jersey's wear is from Fosse's 1976 use or its subsequent re-issue in Spring training and possibly the minor leagues. The fact that it retains its original front cresting is a fortunate happening, as these jerseys were often stripped of their front wordmark once their MLB service was through.

Restoration performed: The light table images were overlaid with the patterns from the Indians 1976 template, and these matched the ghosts perfectly in size and shape. An original 1976 Cleveland bicentennial patch was secured and returned to its place on the left sleeve. New name and number lettering was cut from tackle twill, then it was distressed/aged, both with media blasting and organic dyeing, then stitched with bleached thread to make them better match the patina of age and use acquired by the front wordmark. Using the light table, the replacement lettering was stitched in place over the old ghosts. The numbers are misaligned and off-center as they were originally; the name on back is sewn over the original ghosts in the same imprecise arc as original. The ghosts that are partly visible around the name on back letters are from the incorrect font used in this jersey's earlier, less precise restoration.

Top: The jersey as received. NOB in incorrect font, numbers inexact to original and with modified placement, missing sleeve patch. A light table enhancement of one of the letters shows the incorrectly restored letter with a white outline, the original faint shadow of the Indians 1976 font in black, and the ghost of and "E" from the last-applied, Spring training name. Bottom left, the ghost of the sleeve patch before its reapplication, right, the name "Puryear" clearly visible beneath the incorrect FOSSE NOB on the jersey as received.

Conclusion: This jersey has had a long life of utility, My evaluation concludes that it likely began as a 1975 Indians team jersey that was likely unused in 1975 and was first issued to Ray Fosse in 1976. It exhibits a great deal of wear typical of Indians jerseys of the period, which were almost always used in multiple years. After Fosse's use it was likely relegated to spring training and possibly the minor league system. It is in surprisingly good condition, and is free of contrivance. It has been professionally researched and restored, all documented here.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Authenticity

1976 Frank Robinson Cleveland Indians Game Worn Alternate Uniform

Examination Date: September 24, 2019 **Certification Number**: 190924C4

This letter will serve as the opinion of Sports Investors Authentication LLC regarding the item in review.

Description: Presented is a 1976 Cleveland Indians Frank Robinson uniform. Size 42 Indians red pullover jersey and 35" waist uniform pants of Frank Robinson, who in 1975 became the first black manager in Major League Baseball, as well as played his final season as ball payer. From 1975-1977, the Indians had three sets of tops and pants. Red, white, and blue, and they would "mix and match" them at both home and on the road. "INDIANS" arched across the front in tall blocky white outlined with navy stylized letters that were used by the team from 1973-1977. 1 3/4" knit sleeve ends in navy and white and 1" similarly colored v-neck trim is sewn in. Robinson's name is on the back in white, in the correct font for the the 1976 Indians, with his number "20" below in white outlined in navy. The Indians team sleeve patch for 1976 is sewn to the left sleeve, a 4 1/4" white twill disk embroidered with red stitches like a baseball, and featuring a navy and white Chief Wahoo in full body swinging an oversized bat. On the right sleeve is a shield patch in red, white and blue with a Cleveland skyline/USA Bicentennial logo and the words "Cleveland Spirit of '76 Sports". This patch was also worn that year by the other Cleveland professional sports teams. This patch is rarely seen and the one on this jersey is original. The pants had a wide navy/white/navy elastic waistband, a drawstring, two snaps, and a zipper at the closure. 1 3/4" wide white/navy/white knit trim runs the length of the leg on the outside seam of both pants legs. Notably, Robinson usually wore a size 44 jersey, but it is not uncommon to see team issues one size larger or smaller

Photo Match/Provenance: We have found copies of the original bill of sale and team-issued certificate of authenticity for both jersey and pants from the Cleveland Indians to its first purchaser, dated May 1, 1979. Noting all the specifics of this named set.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: The correct style for 1976 Wilson manufacturer label is sewn in the back of the neck, showing the size, 42. A small approximately 1" square of white knit fabric is sewn to the outer front left tail with the simple designation "76" hand-chain stitched to it in the Wilson factory stitcher's familiar hand. The pants have a similar strip tag, "20 35 26 76" (player 20, 35" waist, 26" inseam, 1976) The Wilson manufacturer tag has the size "35" hand chain stitched into it— something we have seen before when a player wears an in-between size of tailored pants.The pants have a "29" written inside in marker which indicates they may have been reissued to another player.

Wear & Repairs: The set shows good use, with evidence of wash and wear, given that Robinson was a player/manager and there were issued at least two sets of three colors of uniforms to all players that year. A light table examination shows that all elements are original and unaltered. All stitching is tight. The pants show slightly more wear than the jersey, perhaps because they may have been reissued to another player later.

Conclusion: The complete uniform in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and all elements appear original. Therefore, it is the considered opinion of Sports Investors Authentication that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and was worn by Frank Robinson of the Cleveland Indians in the 1976 season.

David Randolph
Managing Member

Bill Henderson
Lead Authenticator

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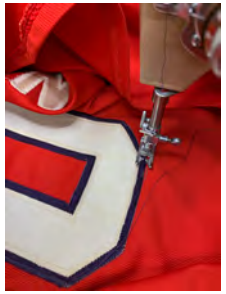
Back

Document of Restoration

Cleveland Indians Mid-1970s Red LOWENSTEIN #30 Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.



As Received: (at bottom) Cleveland Indians 1975-1977 style red jersey of #30 John Lowenstein. The number and name on back were coming off due to the failure of the stitching which was half gone, A decision as made to conserve the original player name and number instead of replacing them with new. The lettering had been originally attached rather sloppily with an imperfect name arch and very large, wide, stitching

Work Performed: All remaining thread was carefully removed, the curled and detached edges of the lettering was tacked down directly over the original shadows and all was re-sewn with color-matched and bleached thread for a better match to the original twill lettering.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Eric Raich Cleveland Indians 1975-1976 Blue Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: November 30, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1129J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Navy Blue pullover Wilson-made size 46 Cleveland Indians jersey of pitcher Eric Raich. Wide red/white/red sewn-in knit striped sleeve ends and similarly colored 1" V-Neck on a solid blue body. "INDIANS" arched on the front in the rustic 1973-1977 team font in white over red tackle twill. Large, original 'swinging Indian' disk patch on the left sleeve, and the 1976 "Spirit of 1976 Cleveland Sports" chevron shaped patch sewn to the right sleeve.

Restoration Performed: On back, the player number 33 in white over red and the name on back "Raich" has been professionally restored. As received, the jersey had a non-team-spec style player number and name on back (it had been lettered as "Raich 33"). At the request of the jersey owner, I removed these to see what was beneath and might be visible on the light table. It showed evidence of three different sets of numbers having been on the back, likely 33— two separate times— and then either 30, 33, 36 or 38. There was scant shadow evidence of another name having once been sewn on back (seven letters, starting with an S and ending with an R). The replacement "RAICH" name on back in incorrect style had been sewn roughly over the old original outlines of that name. The "33" on back was not the proper font for the 1975 Indians, but had been sewn approximately over the old ghosts.

In typical Indians 1970s fashion, the original name on back arch is crudely executed with uneven letter spacing. The numbers beneath are positioned slightly off center of the name. The ghost evidence revealed that one of the earlier incarnations of numbers on back had been even more egregiously off center, with the second digit positioned more than an inch further to the right.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag in the back of the neck in the correct style for 1975, showing the size as 46, appropriate for the player. There is no team tagging on this jersey, or evidence that any ever had been there. This style jersey was worn 1975-1977; jerseys issued in 1975 had no team tagging, and Raich #33 was a member of the 1975 Indians squad. The 1976 sleeve patch is an old, original example (not a reproduction) and it was very common for the Indians to reissue player jerseys for MLB use in a second year. Raich was also on the 1976 squad; this could have been his backup jersey. Jerseys newly issued for the 1976 season had team tagging on the tail, which as we have established , this one lacks.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in generally good condition, in that its body is only mildly but evenly faded, has no rips or holes, the neck and sleeve trim is intact, and the original front team crest is present, as are original style team sleeve patches that do not

Continued, overleaf

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appear to have been replaced. Cleaning the fabric for restoration, I removed a lot of old glue lines from the back where previous numbers had been stitched. The twill lettering of the front "INDIANS" wordmark shows burnishing and staining typical of having been worn and washed many dozens of times. The white twill lettering and its attaching stitching has been stained to a pale beige. In restoring the back lettering, I carefully matched my 1975 Indians number and alpha name fonts to what I determined to be the original set of ghost lines on the fabric, media blasted and organically dyed the twill to approximate the same wear and use as the front lettering to create harmony, and stitched them in place with mildly bleached thread to match original.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, professionally restored condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Eric Raich of the of the 1975-1976 Cleveland Indians.

At left: The jersey as received , before restoration. Below left, with back lettering removed on the light table showing ghosting from multiple sets of old numbers and names. Below right, shows new back numbers cut before being media blasted and dyed to match the original front lettering.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Miguel Dilone #27 Game Worn 1980 Cleveland Indians Home Jersey

Examination Date: December 12, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1212J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1980-tagged Rawlings-made size 40 Cleveland Indians pullover jersey. "INDIANS" vertically arched across the front in single-color Navy twill lettering. 2 1/2" wide elastic red-white-Navy Blue sleeve end trim, also in a 1" style trimming the V-neck. The Indians Chief wahoo patch is stitched to the left sleeve, and a smaller patch is sewn to the right sleeve, "Press Star" As received, the jersey was without a name on back and with a very well worn #27 on the back, sewn off center and at a comically crooked angle. There was an autograph on back, (*Cory Snyder* '85) above the numbers.

In 1980, two Indians players wore #27, Dilone and Andreas Mora. A light table evaluation revealed the very faint ghosts of the name "DILONE". Mora was with the Indians from opening day through May 6, and Dilone joined the team and played his first game on May 9. Both men were roughly the same size. Given the Indians' history of re-using everything and wasting nothing, it is reasonable (and highly likely) that this jersey was first issued to Mora and then immediately reissued to Dilone. Given the heavy wear to the jersey after its lifetime of extreme use, no obvious signs of Mora's name on back remain.

Listed at 6' tall and 160 lbs, Dilone would have likely fit into this size 40 jersey. He was a member of the Indians 1980-1983. In 1980 he had unquestionably the best year of his career, appearing in 132 games hitting .341 with 9 home runs. His .341 mark was third in the league in 1980. (*Baseball Almanac, SABR*) During 1980 the Cleveland Press ran a promotion where readers could vote for the "Press Star of the Week". Weekly winners would accrue "Press Star" patches for the weeks that they won. While I do not have records of who won these patches, given Dilone's standout season, it is unsurprising that he earned one. The patches were printed with some sort of fabric ink onto a white twill backing. Washing has faded it significantly; they were not made to last! In a twelve year career, Dilone played mostly as a backup for seven teams.

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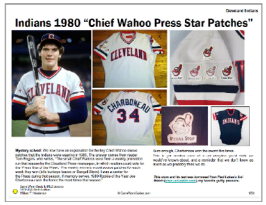
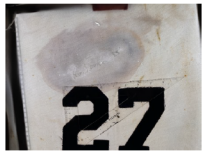
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The red Rawlings "The Mark of a Pro" tag correct for 1980 is stitched inside the back of the collar. Pinch-sewn under its right edge is a flag tab, SET 1 1980. This tagging is correct for the 1980 Indians and it matches exemplars.



Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey exhibited extreme wear, and was filthy with significant spot-staining on both back and front. The light table revealed that the poorly positioned back numbers were the original ones in their original spots. The front INDIANS wordmark is surprisingly unfaded and is attached tightly with the original thread. The back lettering is worn and burnished from excessive wear. The original thread holding the back numbers in place was bleached to white and most was missing, and a second (and possibly third) set of blue stitching had been added at a later date to keep them from falling off. There was a slice in the fabric on the back a the neck, and a hole half the size of a dime below at the edges of one other removed letters for the player name on back. Amazingly, the Press Star patch remained on the right sleeve. Most likely this jersey lived on in spring training and the minor leagues for years after its 1980 MLB issue.

The owner of the jersey asked me to restore it, and we elected to reuse the original back numbers, recreating the player name on back using the ghosts as our guide. The jersey was so badly stained that we took the unusual step of removing the back numbers and both the sleeve patches so that the jersey body could be properly cleaned. Had these been left in place damage to them would have surely resulted. The jersey was aggressively washed, the stains addressed, and the autograph on back removed. Spot-application and a misted spray of diluted bleach helped whiten the stained fabric.

The light table assisted in the recreation of the original player name on back, which was cut from a cotton-blend twill as used by the Indians in the 1960s and 1970s. The name lettering was bleached to approximate the purplish shade of the original numbers, and then all were stitched in place over the original ghosts using eggplant-colored thread to recreate the look of age and wear. Notably, the hole in the back of the jersey is at the top of the removed letter "L" in Dilone's name. The sleeve patches were returned to their original locations. Holes were darned closed.



On this page: The restoration process: At top, the light table image of the faint ghost of the player name on back. The dark dots on the negative image are tiny holes where the edges of the original letters were attached. Using the Indians stock font from 1980, the original name aligned with many of these holes. Below, the staining from the beginning of the removal of the autograph, the sleeve patch and the original numbers on back. Aggressive cleaning helped whiten the fabric and remove the staining At bottom left, the newly-bleached twill lettering being applied with a template to cover the ghosts.

Conclusion: In my opinion, this is the 1980 home jersey of Indians outfielder Miguel Dilone from his standout 1980 season.This jersey is in fair overall condition. A light table evaluation shows that it lacks contrivance It has been expertly restored to its original configuration and appearance.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Bobby Bonds 1984 Cleveland Indians Road Game Jersey, Coach

Examination Date: September 29, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0929J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made navy blue size 44 (measured as 42, due to shrinkage) pullover Cleveland Indians road jersey, issued to hitting coach Bobby Bonds. Solid Navy body with wide knit 2.5" sleeve end trim and 1" V-Neck trim in red/white/red. "INDIANS" vertically arched across the front in white over red. Player numbers 25 on back in the same white over red, "BONDS" name on back directly sewn above in white. Chief Wahoo patch is sewn to the left sleeve. All match exemplars for the 1984 Indians. Bonds was a coach on that team. After 14 seasons as a player with the San Francisco Giants 1968-1974, then three with the Yankees, Bonds bounced around towards the end of his long career, playing for eight teams in eight years. He played for the Indians in 1979 only. He retired after the 1981 season. The Indians announced Bonds as a hitting instructor coach on February 8, 1984, and given that Spring Training was just about to start, perhaps unsurprisingly this jersey appears as though it was sewn in the clubhouse rather than at Rawlings. A light table examination shows that the name and number on this one are original and unchanged, yet the numbers are crooked and carelessly sewn on with a wide and inexact stitch, The name on back is notably clocked off-center to the right, typical of less-than-careful work done in the Indians clubhouse.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1984 is stitched inside the back of the neck, with the size "44" embroidered integral to it. A white flag tab is pinched under the right side of the tag, on which is printed SET 1 1984. All match exemplars for the 1984 Indians.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows at least a full season of use. When received for evaluation, the name on back was covered by a plan blue nameplate, typical practice for when the Indians reissued jerseys to be worn by another player in either spring training or in the minor leagues. I removed the nameplate and washed the jersey. The detached nameplate accompanied the jersey. Notably, the bottoms of both knit sleeve ends have been cut open to give more room for movement. We do not know whether or not Bonds or a later owner did this. All twill lettering is burnished and faded with some staining and with significant puckering from hot water washing. Because of the wide stitching used to sew on the back numbers, there is some fraying of the edges of the back numbers, and part of the 5 has come detached from the jersey along its vertical center stroke.

Conclusion: After a thorough examination, I am satisfied that this jersey is original and uncontrived, that it was team-issue by the Indians and worn by Bobby Bonds as a coach in 1984, then likely recycled for later use in either the minor leagues or subsequent years' spring training by the team.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

1976 Williamsport Tomahawks/Tom Buskey 1974 Cleveland Indians Road Jersey

Examination Date: February 13, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0213J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: The **Williamsport Tomahawks** were the Class AA Eastern League affiliate of the Cleveland Indians in Williamsport, Pennsylvania during the 1976 season. This jersey started life as a Rawlings size 44 1974 Cleveland Indians road jersey issued to #35 RHP Tom Buskey. This size would have been a tight fit for the 6' 3" 220 lb. player, but snug garments were the style then. As examined, it has the colorful blue-embroidered on red twill "Tomahawks" wordmark with underline. The wordmark is cut from a single piece of red tackle twill, its details embroidered in dark blue thread, and then it is attached to the jersey with a tight blue satin stitch that serves as its outline. The Indians 1974 disk patch remains on the left sleeve. On back, the number 35 appears to have been been removed and replaced at some point as evidence of a different placement and different shaped "5" is evident on the light table. There is no name on back, but the clear ghost outline of "BUSKEY" is arched above in the font used by the 1974 Indians. On front, the light table reveals the former presence of the arched stylized lettered INDIANS wordmark used by the team that year.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings size 44 red tag appropriate for 1974 is stitched inside the back of the neck. Pinched beneath it and to its right side is a white flag tab that reads **SET 1 8P 1974**, referencing its use with the MLB Indians, not the minor league Tomahawks.

Wear & Repairs: Collectors bemoan the near total lack of Indians MLB jerseys from this period available in the hobby, and this jersey provides a good example of what happened to them. As the Tomahawks were a one-year team, existing only in 1976, and the Indians were known to regularly reuse jerseys for more than a single season, it is reasonable to assume that Buskey wore this same jersey in both 1974-1975 before it was sent to the minors. Typical of Indians jersey of this vintage, it is so bleached that it hovers in shade somewhere between white and gray. My experience tells me that this color jersey started life as a road gray one. The tight stitching of the wordmark coupled with subsequent hot water washing has caused it to shrink and pucker There are a half-dozen team repairs of rips in the player name area, closing up holes that were made by the careless removal of the name on back and player numbers. Many other small holes are left, un-repaired, that had been at the corners of the original front and back letters. The existing numbers are burnished and devoid of sheen, detergent-faded to an indigo purple and are attached with the uneven and careless stitching typical of minor league work. Even though the numbers are small and used with no player name on back, the numbers are a distant ten inches from the collar.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair condition and clearly game worn, is properly lettered, shows clear evidence of its heritage as a 1974 MLB Cleveland Indians jersey. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for and worn by Tom Buskey of the 1974 Cleveland Indians.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Letter of Restoration

Glenallen Hill 1992 Cleveland Indians Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 4, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1104J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description, as received: Cleveland Indians white six-button home jersey, #33. White body with thick 1 5/8" Red/white/Navy sewn-in "racing stripes" on the sleeve tops and down the sides. INDIANS team crest is arched on the front in Navy over red layered twill. The player number 33 was sewn directly below on the left side of the chest in a font that is not correct for the MLB Indians. On back, the player number is repeated and there was no nameplate/player name sewn above. Consistent with other Indians jersey of 1992, the ghost of the nameplate very long, un-trimmed as is typical to make it close in size to the ends of player name. The jersey is a size 50 with one inch extra length tagging. When put on the light table, the ghost of the player number "1" is visible on both front and back beneath the numbers 33. Uncommonly, when held at an angle to the light, the slight embossed impression in the fabric of the name HILL is slightly visible.

Outfielder Glenallen Hill was #1 on the 1992 Indians. At 6' 3" and 230 lbs, this jersey is reasonably sized for him. While few exemplars exist in our library of this player's jerseys, we found a jersey that is attributed to him as a coach after his playing career ended that was a size 52. As was typical, the Indians recycled their MLB jerseys to the minors after their use in MLB was complete, generally right after spring training of the year follow the date of issue. The Indians had seven MiLB clubs in 1993, five of which were named "Indians". Used MLB Jerseys were generally stripped immediately of their nameplates, and sometimes their numbers as well. Minor league teams generally did not use player names on back. It appears that this jersey was being prepared for another player, as the numbers 33 were sewn on, yet I would judge that it was not used in this configuration because if it had been washed even once with its original nameplate removed, the ghost impressions of the name "HILL" would have instantly disappeared. While sometimes instead of removing the original nameplate, a blank coverup plate is sewn on top. I do not believe that was the case here, as there is no evidence of a cover-up blank nameplate having been sewn on.

In 1992 Glenallen Hill appeared in 102 games for the Indians, mostly in left field but he played in all three outfield positions that year. He hit .241 with 18 home runs. In a 13 year MLB career he played for seven teams.

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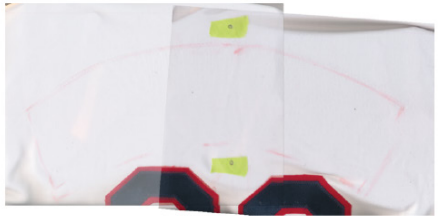
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is sewn to the outer left front tail, in the correct style for 1992-1993, showing size 50. A 1" x 3" piece of white knit jersey fabric is pinch sewn under the bottom left of the Russell tag, and is stitched on all four sides, It bears the two-digit designation "92" printed in black plastisol style ink, matching exemplars. While this is a first-year Russell jersey, and uses the early Diamond Collection tagging correct for 1992, it is made of standard fabric and not the short-lived Intra fabric that was used commonly but not exclusively in 1992-1993. Instead it has a small "100% Polyester" fabric tag pinch-sewn under the tail tag. Beneath that is a flag tag that says "1" Extra Length". To its left is another small fabric tag, frayed and worn from washing on which likely something had been printed but is now wiped clean. The Russell R in Navy/Red is direct-embroidered on the right sleeve and is placed offset towards the front on the end of the sleeve. As is correct with team issue, there is no size tag flag in the back of the neck.



Wear & Repairs; Restoration Performed: The jersey shows appropriate use and is very clean overall. When the replacement numbers "33" were removed they left minor staining which was cleaned. The ghosts of the original numbers "1" match the team template for 1992, and new numbers and player name were cut from the team template. Seeking originality, the odd extra-long nameplate was recreated and sewn in place.

Top row left, the jersey as received. Top right and below, the ghost marks of the original back number and the highlighted edge of the stitching marks of the original nameplate can be seen on the light table. At the bottom, another example of a 1992 Russell-made Indians home jersey showing an extra-long nameplate

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine as worn by Glenallen Hill of the Cleveland Indians from the 1992 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Kenny Lofton "Rookie" 1992 Cleveland Indians Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: December 15, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1215J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Cleveland Indians white six-button home jersey, #7 Kenny Lofton. White body with thick 1 5/8" Red/white/Navy sewn-in "racing stripes" on the sleeve tops and down the sides. INDIANS team crest is arched on the front in Navy over red layered twill. The player number 7 is sewn directly below on the left side of the chest. On back, the player number is reported with the name above, on a nameplate, in Navy over red. Consistent with other Indians jersey of 1992, the nameplate is one of standard length (not trimmed close to the ends of the player name) and the edges are not serged, it is sewn zig zagged onto the jersey on its raw edge. The jersey is a size 44, is reasonable for Lofton's first year, though he quickly moved to size 46 and then 48 over the next few years. The back number is autographed in silver Sharpie with the player's name and followed by the inscription "Game Used".

While Kenny Lofton had appeared in 20 games for the 1991 Astros with 74 at bats, 1992 is officially considered his rookie season, where he played in 148 games for the Indians, batting .285 with 5 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is sewn to the outer left front tail, in the correct style for 1992-1993, showing size 44. A 1" x 2" piece of white knit jersey fabric is pinch sewn under the bottom left of the Russell tag, and is stitched on all four sides, It bears the two-digit designation "92" printed in black plastisol style ink, matching exemplars. This is a first-year Russell jersey, and as such it is made of the short-lived Intera Fabric, used only in 92-93. There is a small Intera fabric flag tag sewn in the back of the neck. The Russell R in Navy/Red is sewn offset towards the front on the end of the right sleeve. As is correct with team issue, there is no size tag flag in the back of the neck.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows light use and is very clean, and I would judge that this was not Lofton's primary jersey in 1992, and players were issued multiple sets. A light table evaluation shows that it has no alterations or lettering changes.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine to Kenny Lofton of the Cleveland Indians from the 1992 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Roberto Alomar 2001 Cleveland Indians Game Worn Blue Home Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 2100201J11

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2001 Cleveland Indians Roberto Alomar Russell six-button size 46 with special tailoring, full-weight navy blue knit jersey. "Indians" scripted with underline in red, navy and white twill diagonally across the front. White 1/8" knit soutache trim on the placket and 1" from the sleeve ends. A white bordered Chief Wahoo mascot logo patch is sewn to the left sleeve, and the 2001 100 Seasons of the American League/Charter Member patch is sewn to the right sleeve. On back, player number "12" in the proper block font in red outlined with white. Name on back above, radially arched and in the correct team font and sewn on a matching knit nameplate with a single-needle serged edge, and in the same colors. The back number is 9" from the collar: these characteristics match other year-2000 Indians jerseys in our reference archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. The back is signed by Alomar in silver ink between the name and number. (I have no opinion on the signature). The post-9/11 applied USA flag is sewn on the center of the back of the neck covering the Silhouetted Batter patch. The Lou Boudreau memorial #5 is direct embroidered in white near the end of the left sleeve. This memorial was added to game jerseys after August 10.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 2001-2003. There is no Russell size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Beneath the locker tag is sewn a rectangular mylar-fabric patch with "2001" printed on it in black ink. Pinched under the left bottom side of the locker tag are a set of two progressively longer white flag tabs; 100% Polyester 46, 2" Extra Sleeve Length. The Russell R logo is embroidered in white into the end of the left sleeve. The jersey does in fact exhibit this special tailoring. All of these observations match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. The jersey itself is in very good, bright, unfaded condition. Its most obvious sign of use is the fraying/fading/curling of the tags, and some minor puckering between the layers of the twill lettering. There is some graying of the white twill elements and some fraying of the edges of the lettering indicating many washings. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and worn by Roberto Alomar of the Cleveland Indians in the 2001 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Manny Ramirez 1999 Cleveland Indians Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 6, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1006J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

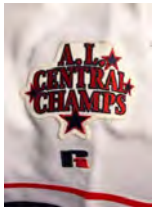
Description: 1999 Cleveland Indians Manny Ramirez #24 Russell white six-button size 50 (marked and measured) full-weight jersey with additional special tailoring. "Indians" scripted with underline in red and navy twill diagonally across the front. Red 1/8" knit trim on the placket and 1" from the sleeve ends. A white bordered Chief Wahoo mascot logo patch is sewn to the left sleeve, and the 1999-only "A.L. Central Champs" patch is sewn to the right sleeve. On back, player number "24" in the proper block font in red outlined with white. Name on back above, radially arched and in the correct unique slightly narrow team font and sewn on a matching knit nameplate with a single-needle serged edge, and in the same colors. The back number is approximately 9" from the collar: these characteristics match other 1999 Indians jerseys in our reference archive. The lettering exactly matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. The back is signed by Ramirez adding his number, 24, in black Sharpie between the numbers. (I have no professional opinion on the signature, but the jersey is accompanied by a PSA certificate authenticating the signature).

During 1999, Ramirez had a stellar season, appearing in 147 games for the Indians, hitting .333 with 44 home runs. In 1999, Ramirez set the Indians' single-season RBIs record with 165 RBIs. Ramirez enjoyed a 19 year MLB career, playing for the Indians for his first eight years, the Red Sox for eight season, then his final five years with the Dodgers, White Sox and Rays. (Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)

Provenance: The jersey is accompanied by a letter signed (un-notarized) dated 10-7-2005 by a Mr. Art Morley saying that this jersey was sourced through Ted Walsh, Indians Clubhouse manager. As an authenticator, such a letter is interesting, but because it is neither signed and notarized by Ramirez nor the Indians, so it has little value as provenance. This jersey's vintage pre-dates any sort of formalized MLB authentication process.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 1995-1999. There is no Russell size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Beneath the locker tag is pinch-sewn a layered series of progressively longer white flag tabs. They are, in order, 100% Polyester, +2" armhole opening, +2" sleeve end, and 2" Extra Sleeve Length (redundant). The Russell R logo is embroidered in red and dark blue into the end of the left sleeve below the AL Central Champs patch. Notably— the jersey does in fact exhibit all this special tailoring. All of these observations match other examples in our archives; this was Ramirez's preferred size and tailoring.The fact that this jersey is an odd-in between size has a player's multiple special tailoring tags on it AND all these tailoring items are actually present on a jersey, it is a fair conclusion that the jersey was in fact prepared for the named player. Often. I will observe when jerseys are advertised as "team issued" for a famous player, they may include the special tailoring tags but often the custom alterations are not present.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. The jersey itself is in very good, bright, unfaded condition. Its most obvious sign of use is come curling of the tags, indicating it has been washed multiple times.There are no signs of any repairs. I would judge this to have light use.



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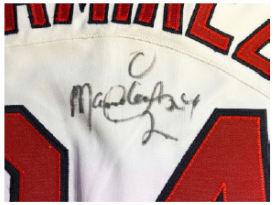

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged, specially tailored and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine, as issued to Manny Ramirez of the Cleveland Indians from the 1999 season.

A Note Regarding the PSA Certification of This Jersey

When I received this jersey to be authenticated, I photographed it as a part of my normal intake process. Those photos clearly show the presence of the PSA authentication sticker on the front tail jock tag, serialized AK47598. This tag accompanies a certificate from PSA validating the autograph on the back. See the photo below.

At some point while in my possession, this tag fell off the jersey and disappeared. This seldom happens; these tags are tamper resistant so that once removed they break into small pieces and can not be reapplied. I was unable to find the lost tag.

I certify that I personally observed the tag on this jersey, and will attest that it was present and was uncontrived in its application before it was lost.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Roberto Alomar 2000 Cleveland Indians Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: April 3, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0403J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

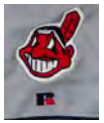
Description: 2000 Cleveland Indians Roberto Alomar Russell six-button size 46 with 2" extra sleeve length tailoring (marked and measured) full-weight gray knit jersey. "Cleveland" scripted with underline in red, navy and white twill diagonally across the front. Navy 1/8" knit trim on the placket and 1" from the sleeve ends. A white bordered Chief Wahoo mascot logo patch is sewn to the left sleeve. On back, player number "12" in the proper block font in red outlined with Navy Blue. Name on back above, radially arched and in the correct team font and sewn on a matching, slightly puckered and unbacked knit nameplate with a single-needle serged edge, and in the same colors. The back number is 9" from the collar: these characteristics match other year-2000 Indians jerseys in our reference archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is sewn to the center of the back of the collar, its first year of use. The jersey size and tailoring is appropriate for Alomar.

In 2000 with the Indians, Alomar appeared in 155 games and batted .310 with 19 home runs. He enjoyed a 17 year career in MLB, playing for seven different teams. During his career, the 12-time All-Star won more Gold Glove Awards (10) than any other second baseman in baseball history, in addition to winning four Silver Slugger Awards for his hitting.[4] Among second basemen, he ranks third in games played (2,320), fifth in stolen bases (474), sixth in plate appearances (10,400), seventh in doubles (504) and assists (6,524), and eighth in hits (2,724), runs (1,508), at-bats (9,073), and double plays turned (1,407). In 2011, Alomar was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Provenance: The jersey is accompanied by a letter from Indians Charities dated July 9, 2003 certifying its authenticity. While it is likely legitimate, I need to note that there is no cross-referenced serialization that associates this particular jersey with this letter.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 2000. There is no Russell size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Beneath the locker tag is sewn a rectangular mylar-fabric patch with "2000" printed on it in black ink. Pinched under the left bottom side of the locker tag is a white flag tab; "46 100% Polyester", and a second layered longer tag, '2" extra sleeve length'. The Russell R logo is embroidered in Navy and red into the end of the left sleeve. All of these observations match other examples in our archives.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. The jersey itself is in very good, bright, unfaded condition. Its most obvious sign of use is the fraying/fading/curling of the tags, and some minor puckering between the layers of the twill lettering and some loose threads on the sewn edges of the lettering. There are no signs of any repairs.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, tailored and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and worn by Roberto Alomar of the 2000 Cleveland Indians.

William F. Henderson
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Letter of Professional Opinion

Kenny Lofton 1998 Cleveland Indians Game Worn Road Jersey

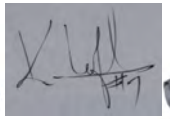
Examination Date: April 2, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0402J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Cleveland Indians road gray jersey made by Russell, size 46 (marked and measured) with 6-button front. 1/8" Navy knit trim bands the sleeve ends and borders the placket. "Cleveland" scripted with underline at an angle on front, in layered twill, red over Navy over white. Player number 7 on the back in red over navy, player name LOFTON on single-needle serged edge nameplate in the same colors using the Indians condensed block font. 1998 All Star Game patch is sewn to the right sleeve, and the white-bordered Chief Wahoo patch is sewn on the left sleeve. Lofton was elected to the 1998 All-Star team, an event in which American League road jerseys were worn, though this authentication does not attest that this jersey was worn in that event. The jersey is boldly autographed on the front left side. I have no professional opinion on the autograph. A Beckett letter of authenticity of provided certifying the autograph. Surveying exemplars, Lofton wore size 46 jerseys at this stage of his career.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "R" direct embroidered at the end of the right sleeve in blue and red. Russell locker tag on the outside lower front left tail, notes the size as 46-- and in-between size not made for retail sale. Pinch-sewn beneath the bottom of the Russell tag is a small white flag tab noting "100% Polyester". The presence of this small tag and the fact that there is no size tag in the neck coupled with the size-46— indicates that this is a jersey made for the team. Sewn beneath the Russell tag is a rectangular Mylar/cloth tag with "1998" printed on it in a dot-matrix font, matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows use, and while it is free of damage or repairs, the jersey fabric is softened and the sewn lettering and tagging is softened and slightly burnished from wear and washing. A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are original and free of tampering. The nameplate displays puckering as it is sewn, typical of of unbacked nameplates.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition. The jersey has no contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Kenny Lofton of the 1998 Cleveland Indians.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Jack Morris Final Season Cleveland Indians Game Worn 1994 Home Jersey

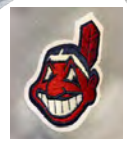
Examination Date: October 26, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1026J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Cleveland Indians road gray jersey made by Russell, size 50 (marked and measured) with 6-button front. 1/8" Navy knit trim bands the sleeve ends and borders the placket. "Cleveland" scripted with underline at an angle on front, in layered twill, red over Navy over white. Player number 47 on the back in red over navy, player name MORRIS on nameplate in the same colors using the Indians condensed block font. 1994-only MLB 125th Anniversary patch is sewn on the right sleeve, and the white-bordered Chief Wahoo patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

Morris played on the Indians in 1994 only, a season that turned out to be the final one in his Hall of Fame career. That year he started 23 games and went 10-6 with a 5.60 ERA. He was released by the Indians on August 9, 1994 anticipating the MLB strike that year, and did not play in the majors again. During his 18 year career, prior he had played for the Tigers, Twins and Blue Jays. Morris was a five-time All-Star (1981, 1984, 1985, 1987, and 1991), and played on four World Series Championship teams (1984 Tigers, 1991 Minnesota Twins, and 1992–1993 Toronto Blue Jays). He went 3–0 in the 1984 postseason with two complete-game victories in the 1984 World Series, and 4–0 in the 1991 postseason with a ten-inning complete-game victory in Game 7 of the 1991 World Series. Morris won the Babe Ruth Award in both 1984 and 1991, and was named World Series MVP in 1991. While he gave up the most hits, most earned runs, and most home runs of any pitcher in the 1980s, he also started the most games, pitched the most innings, and had the most wins of any pitcher in that decade. He is one of eight players in MLB history to have won back-to-back World Series championships on different teams. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2017. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Restoration Performed: As received for examination, this jersey wore a "ROA" nameplate and showed the scar of the removed 1994 sleeve patch. A light table examination shows that the numbers are original. Even though the ROA name is very short, it was stitched on a very long nameplate that had the ends simply tucked underneath and zig-zagged over the top. This is easily explained.



Continued, overleaf

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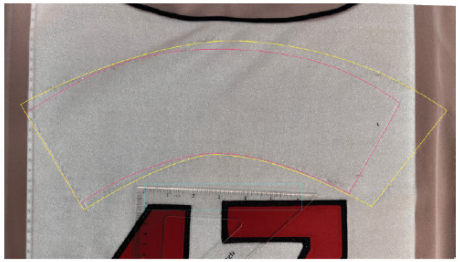
Joe Roa was a September 1995 call-up for the Indians. In his first-ever MLB appearance, he pitched for the Indians on September 20, 1995, his only appearance that year, and the start of a six-year MLB career. As was commonly the case with a call-up, a uniform had to be quickly be prepared for him, and the Indians were in the middle of a road trip when Roa first pitched. Most likely this pre-used jersey was kept with others of assorted sizes by the equipment manager carried along as emergency "extras" for just such a need, and a nameplate was quickly made for it without trimming or serging the edge; the sleeve patch from 1994 removed.

When I removed the nameplate, on the light table, the ghost of the former 1994 nameplate was clearly visible, one that was the right size and position for the name "MORRIS". Using a pair of same-vintage Indians road pants, I made a new correctly serged-edge nameplate using the ghost for my pattern, and stitched the name to it using the correct Indians 1994 player name font. I photographed the spot on the sleeve to document where the 1994 patch had been, then sewed a vintage replacement of that patch directly over the shadow.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "R" direct embroidered at the end of the right sleeve in blue and red. Russell locker tag on the outside lower front left tail, notes the size as 50-- and in-between size not made for retail sale. Pinch-sewn beneath the bottom of the Russell tag is a small white flag tab noting "100% Polyester". The presence of this small tag and the fact that there is no size tag in the neck coupled with the size-50— indicates that this is a jersey made for the team. Sewn beneath the Russell tag is a square rectangular Mylar/cloth tag with "1994" printed on it in a dot-matrix font, matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows an honest season of typical use by an AL pitcher, and while it is free of damage or repairs, the sewn lettering and tagging is softened and slightly puckered from wear and washing. The removal and replacement of the nameplate and the removal of the 1994 sleeve patch have been mentioned. All stages of the restoration have been documented here.



Above, color-inverted negative image clearly shows the outline of the removed MLB 125th patch on the right sleeve before it was replaced. Note that originally it was sewn slightly crooked, restoration is placed exactly over the ghost. Above right shows the hastily-made nameplate with its ends tucked under instead of trimmed and serged; below right light table images shows the two ghosts: the pink line is from the original Morris nameplate, the longer yellow one is from the replacement Roa one.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition: the front is all original, and the right sleeve patch and nameplate on back are properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Jack Morris of the 1994 Cleveland Indians.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

C.C. Sabathia 2002 Cleveland Indians Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: December 15, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1215J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2002 Cleveland Indians C.C. Sabathia #52 Russell white six-button size 56 (marked and measured) full-weight jersey with additional special tailoring. "Indians" scripted with underline in red, sparkle silver and Navy twill diagonally across the front. Navy 3/16" knit soutache trim on the placket and Navy/gray/Navy 1/2 1" from the sleeve ends. A Navy bordered Chief Wahoo mascot logo patch with a secondary sparkle silver outline is sewn to the left sleeve. On back, player number "52" in the proper block font in red outlined with sparkle silver outlined with Navy. Name on back above, radially arched and in the correct team font and in the same colors but with the blue outline drop-shadowed, as was the team style that year, and sewn on a very close but not-exactly matching knit nameplate with a non-serged edge, the plate zig-zag stitched directly to the shirt, MLB Silhouetted batter patch on the back of the neck in red, white and Navy Blue. These characteristics match other year-2002 Indians jerseys in our reference archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. A survey of jerseys worn by Sabathia show that 56 is his preferred size, and all have both extended tails and sleeves, though in differing amounts. The lack of a serged edge on the nameplate is not typical, but is acceptable.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 2001-2003. There is no Russell size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Beneath the locker tag is sewn a rectangular mylar-fabric patch with "2002" printed on it in black ink. Pinched under the left bottom side of the locker tag are a set of three progressively longer white flag tabs; 56 100% Polyester, +2 Sleeve Length, +4 Body length. The Russell R logo is embroidered in red and Navy into the end of the left sleeve. Measuring the jersey, it has 10" sleeves and a 36" body, making it apparent that special tailoring has been added.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. The jersey itself is in very good, bright, unfaded condition, showing light use that typical of a pitcher's jersey (no batting or base running, limited game appearances) There is a short fabric pull to the left of the nameplate on back. Its most obvious sign of use is the fraying/fading/curling of the tags, and some minor puckering between the layers of the twill lettering. There are two stray black ink felt-tip marks on top of the right shoulder, though the jersey is not autographed. There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine to pitcher C.C. Sabathia of the Cleveland Indians during the 2002 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Cliff Lee 2002 (first year) Cleveland Indians Home Game Vest Jersey

Examination Date: December 15, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1215J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2002 Cleveland Indians Cliff Lee #65 Russell white six-button size 50 (marked and measured) full-weight jersey vest. Chief Wahoo head logo embroidered patch in red, gray, sparkle silver and Navy on the left chest. Navy 3/16" knit soutache trim on the placket. The post 7/16/2002-only white with red border "JW" memorial disk (for trainer Jimmy Warfield) is sewn to the top of the right chest On back, player number in the proper block font in red outlined with sparkle silver outlined with Navy. Name on back above, radially arched and in the correct team font and in the same colors but with the blue outline drop-shadowed, as was the team style that year, and sewn on matching knit nameplate with a single-needle serged edge. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch on the back of the neck in red, white and Navy Blue. These characteristics match other 2002-tagged Indians jerseys in our reference archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. The size of the jersey is reasonable for Lee (6' 3" 205 lbs).

2002 marked Cliff Lee's first appearance on a MLB roster; he pitched in only two games for the Indians in September, going 0-1 with a 1.78 ERA. He went on to a 13 year MLB career, was a four-time All Star and winner of the 2008 Cy Young Award.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The manufacturer tag style is correct for 2001-2003. There is no Russell size flag tag in the neck as is correct with team issues. Beneath the locker tag is sewn a rectangular mylar-fabric patch with "2002" printed on it in black ink. Pinched under the left bottom side of the locker tag is a "50 100% Polyester" tab. The Russell R logo is not embroidered onto the jersey body, as it was included on the sleeve of the team-issued undershirt.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. The jersey itself is in very good, bright, unfaded condition, showing light use typical of a late-season call up pitcher's jersey (no batting or base running, limited game appearances).There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine to pitcher Cliff Lee of the Cleveland Indians during the 2002 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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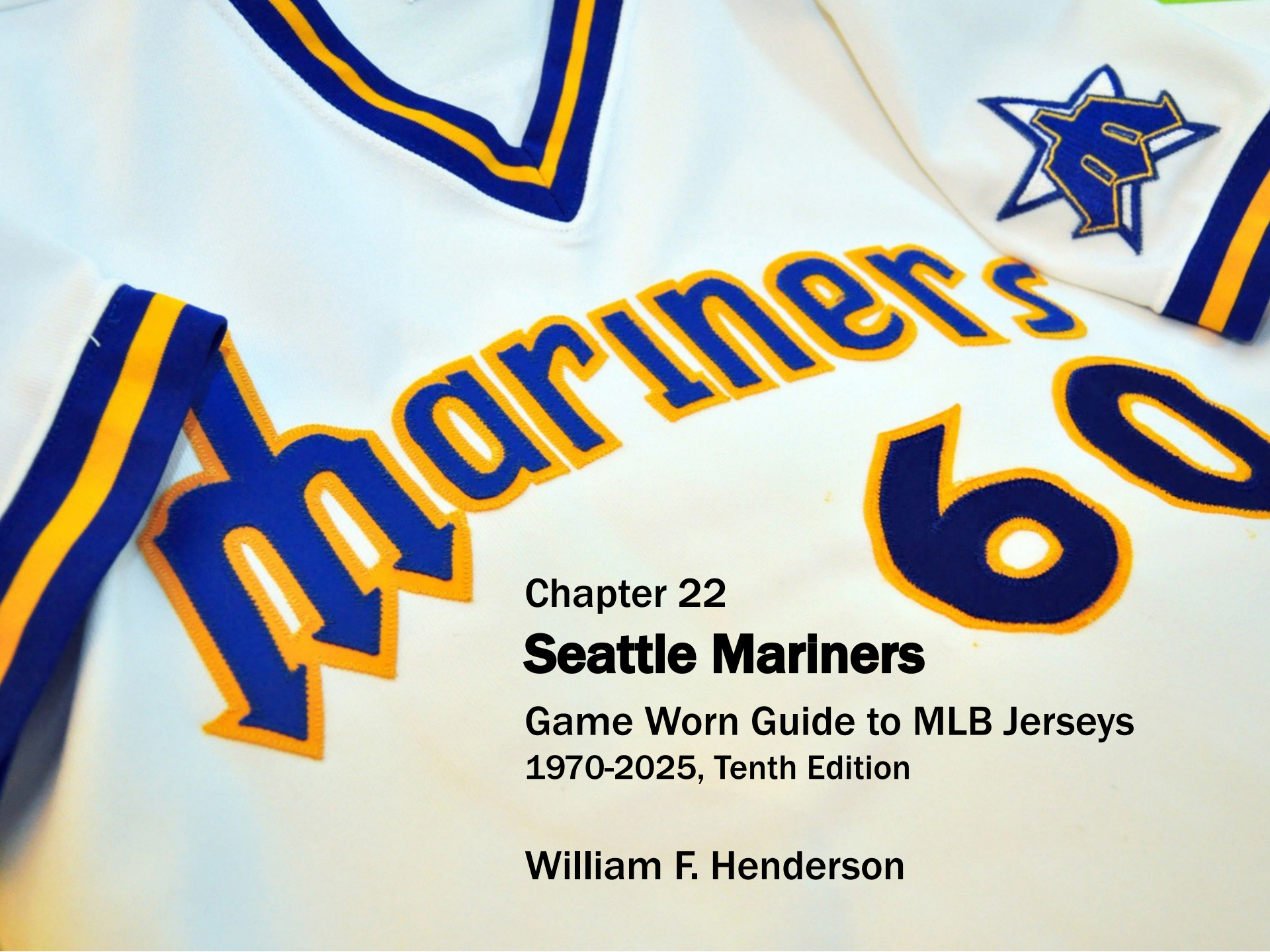

Chapter 22

Seattle Mariners

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Mariners Uniform History Notes

- The Mariners were born in time for the 1977 season as an expansion team in the American League West. Seattle had long lobbied for a MLB team, and briefly had one for the single season of 1969 when the expansion Pilots made their debut. But financial misery with an unsatisfactory stadium situation had led to bankruptcy and a quick move to Milwaukee before the 1970 season. That Pilots team became the 1970 Milwaukee Brewers.
- In 1976, the American League promised an expansion team for Seattle in exchange for the city and various local governments dropping a six-year-old lawsuit for breach of contract related to the Pilots move. And with the newly built Kingdome (named for King County) about to be completed, the road had been paved to bring major league baseball back to Seattle in 1977.
- The Mariners' uniforms for 1977 were simple and attractive. Home whites used pullover jerseys and elastic waistband pants—the common style at the time. Trim was blue and yellow, the same colors as had been used by the short-lived Pilots almost a decade before. The uniform's key feature was the upside down trident-shaped "M" that was used in its wordmark. Road uniforms in 1977 were light blue with the word "Seattle" spelled out in a similar (but oddly, not identical) font as used on the team home jersey.
- From the beginning, player names are used on back, and have been used every year on all Mariners' game jerseys except the Sunday alternate home cream jersey introduced in 2015. The 1977 player numbers are an attractive, rounded, bold display custom font that bears some resemblance to the Padres' numbers of the same period.
- The inaugural style of home uniform is used unchanged through 1980. But the inaugural road uniform lasts only one year before it is changed for 1978 to make it slightly more flashy.
- Uniforms are all refreshed for 1981, and though they remain pullovers, the jersey now features bolder graphics and the team becomes early adopters of the trendy "racing stripe" trim introduced by the Expos in 1980. The baby blue road jersey still carries the city name on its front through 1984. For 1985, the road jersey changes to gray, and adopts the same "Mariners" wordmark as the home jersey. Home jerseys and road jerseys are identical for 1985–1986 save for the color of the fabric.
- The 1987 through 1992 period changes to the team logo and image. The "mod" style of the Mariners' uniforms up to this point is discarded for a very formal (almost boring) white or gray jersey with minimal trim, with the word "Mariners" spelled out in blue and yellow in a lightly stylized book font with serifs on the letters.
- For 1993, the team undergoes a makeover of sorts, with changes to team colors, though the general look of the new wordmark retains similarity to the old. The bright blue and yellow of the past are replaced with a combination of navy blue, teal, white, and metallic silver. A fancy nautical compass logo is added to home jersey fronts as well as on team sleeve patches. This compass will remain a standard element of all designs through this writing (2025).
- The minor year-to-year tweaks of the 1993 design on road and alternate jerseys is dizzying over the next 10 years. The charts on the pages that follow show how confusing the Mariners addition and deletion of individual styles had been. Through all of this, though, the home jersey has stayed with the same basic design for more than 30 years.
- During 1997–1999, the team experimented with vest-style jerseys at the urging of star player Ken Griffey Jr., who preferred this style uniform.
- Also during 1997–1999, the team frequently uses its button-down batting practice jersey as an alternate home game option.
- The popular bright "Northwest Green" (or teal) jerseys of 1994–1996 were reintroduced for 2011. A cream alternate is added for 2015, and minor changes are made to home and road jersey lettering, both front and back, that year as well.
- In 2023, the road gray is dropped and the alternate road blue becomes the full-time road jersey. This leaves the team without a road gray jersey for the first time since the 1984 season.
- Also in 2023, a City Connect uniform debuts, blending Seattle's baseball history with local cultural references. The royal blue jersey features gold and black accents that nod to the Seattle Pilots and Negro League Steelheads, while the lower-case "seattle" wordmark is borrowed from the Pilots' uniform. The bevel-styled gold lettering uses two yellow shades and a black drop shadow reminiscent of the PCL Seattle Rainiers' look. A "PNW" patch honors the Pacific Northwest with a trident-shaped "W,"
- Despite the changes in uniform styles over the years, the team has fairly consistently used a nautical theme it its wordmarks, logos and colors—a nod to the Pacific Northwest's historical importance as a maritime hub.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngeuides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Mariners Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1977	Home White	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman
1978	Home White	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1979	Home White	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	All Star Game Patch	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Block 1 color	No	All Star Game Patch	-	Rawlings
1980	Home White	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Mariners M/Star	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Mariners Font 2 color	Mariners Font 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Mariners M/Star	-	Rawlings
1981	Home White	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block var 3 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block var 3 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home White	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home White	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home White	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1985	Home White	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1987	Home White	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings/Russell
	Road Gray	Block Bold 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings/Russell

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Mariners Game Jerseys

1993-2014

1993-2000

1994-1996

1997-1999 BP jersey worn as game jersey through last game at Kingdome

1997-1999**

1998 only

1999 (with move to new park)-2000

2001-2002

Style continues onward

2001-2014

Style continues onward

Complex? Yes.

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1993	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1994	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniversary	Russell
	Alternate Teal	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniversary	Russell
1995	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Negro League 75th	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Negro League 75th	Russell
	Alternate Teal	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Negro League 75th	Russell
1996	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alternate Teal	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1997	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	20th Anniversary	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	20th Anniversary	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alt Navy BP	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	20th Anniversary	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alt White Vest	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1998	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray Vest*	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Alt Navy BP	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White Vest	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1999	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt Navy BP	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt Navy (Seattle)	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White Vest	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
2000	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt Navy Road	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2001	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	All-Star Game	AL 100th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray (new)	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	All-Star Game	AL 100th Anniv	Russell
	Alternate Navy (New)	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	All-Star Game	-	Russell
2002	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	25th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	25th Anniversary	Russell
	Alternate Navy	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	25th Anniversary	Russell

* The Road gray vest was never listed as an official jersey for the Mariners, yet it was worn in at least one road series during 1998. See the page ahead that details it for more information.

** The alternate home vest was listed in the 2000 MLB Style Guide (with pinstriped pants!) but did not appear on the field that year.

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Mariners Game Jerseys

1993-2014

2000-2014

2003-2011

2011-2020

2012-2020

Continues onward

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2003	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2004	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2005	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	30th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	30th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	30th Anniversary	Majestic
2008	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	Dave (Niehaus) memorial	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	Dave (Niehaus) memorial	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	Dave (Niehaus) memorial	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	Dave (Niehaus) memorial	Majestic
2012	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	35th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	35th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	35th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	35th Anniversary	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	“HY” Memorial **	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	“HY” Memorial **	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	“HY” Memorial **	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	“HY” Memorial **	Majestic
2014	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic

** "HY" memorial patch added September 20, worn in memory of former team owner and Nintendo president Hiroshi Yamauchi.

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Mariners Game Jerseys

2011-2025

2012-2025

Change to Flex Base

2015-2025

2015-2022

2015-2025

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2015	Home White***	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray***	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	Cream/ 40th Anniversary	Majestic
2018	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	-	Nike

*** Wordmark outline colors reverse in 2015

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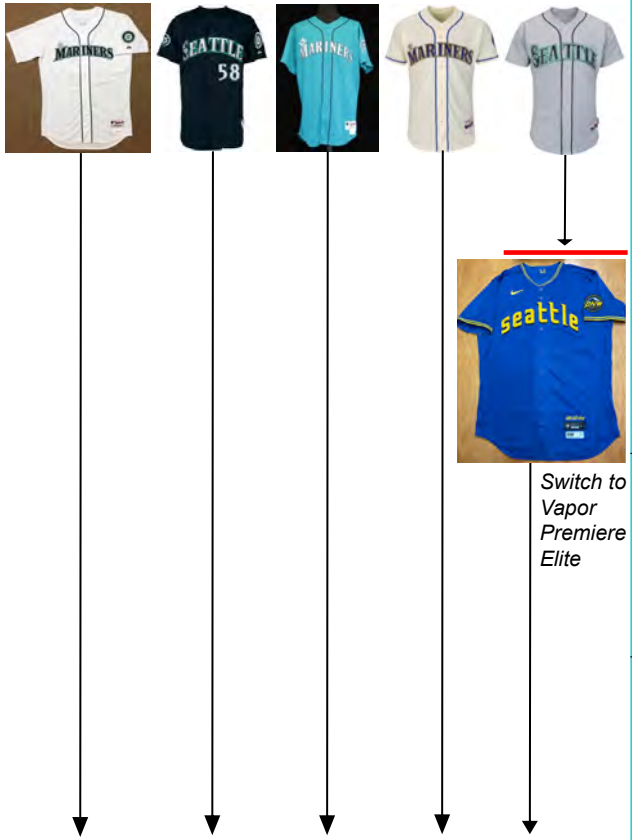
Mariners Game Jerseys

These five styles continue from previous years



Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	-	Nike
2022	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc	-	Nike
2023	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	All-Star Game Patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	No	All-Star Game Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Home Green	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	All-Star Game Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Block 3 color	No	-	All-Star Game Patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color	Custom 1 color	-	PNW patch‡	-	Nike
2024	Home White	No	Nike Block 3 color (no perf)	Nike Block 3 color	No	Team Disc‡	-	Nike
	Road Navy	Special Font 3 color (no perf)	Special Font 3 color (no perf)	Nike Block 3 color	No	Team Disc‡	-	Nike
	Alt Home Green	No	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Team Disc‡	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Nike Block 3 color (perf)	No	-	Cream/Team Disc‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color (perf)	2” Custom 1 color	-	PNW patch‡	-	Nike
2025	Home White	No	Nike Standard Block 3 color	Nike Standard Block 3 color	No	Team Disc‡	Nintendo Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Navy	Special Font 3 color	Special Font 3 color	Nike Standard Block 3 color	No	Team Disc‡	Nintendo Switch 2 Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Home Green	No	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	No	Team Disc‡	Nintendo Switch 2 Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Cream	No	Nike Standard Block 3 color	No	-	Cream/Team Disc‡	Nintendo Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color (perf)	2” Custom 1 color	-	PNW patch‡	Nintendo Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1977-1980 Home

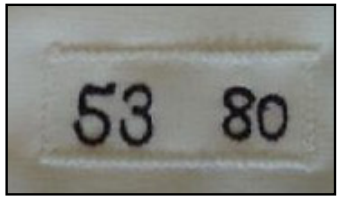
1980

1979

Barry Halper Collection

Home white jersey has "Mariners" spelled out across the front in two-color in an arch, M is an upside down trident. Two-color numbers on front left and on back, both are royal blue/yellow. Numbers are a special Mariners-only custom font, used only 1977–1980. Name on back in one-color royal blue, hand-crafted vertical arch style by the Wilson artist. However, because these jerseys saw hard use in the minors, most always the original names were stripped off. Ones found today are either missing the name on back or have had it replaced, usually incorrectly with a non-vertical arched name. Nameplates not used.

Mariners 1979 All-Star patch worn on left sleeve that year. That patch is then adopted as the team's secondary logo and remains on the sleeve for 1980, then becomes the team's primary logo and is replicated on caps as well for 1981.



Above: *Two 1977 jerseys with different coding. One has the year listed first, one has it second.*

1977

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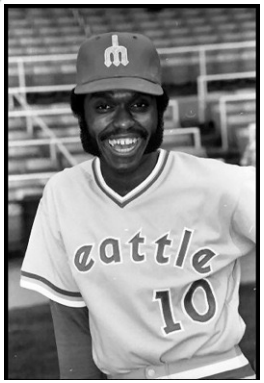
1977 Road



Note sun bleaching of this jersey (above its waistline) from excessive use.

Bill Henderson Collection

One-year only design road blue jersey has Seattle spelled out across the front in two-color in an arch (royal blue/white only, no yellow). Also identify this jersey by the 1977-only blue/yellow/white knit collar and sleeve trim. Team first-year jersey manufactured by Goodman & Sons. The original set sent to minors where front Seattle was stripped. The example at top left is said by MEARS to be one of only two jerseys of this style to exist, original and unrestored. Nearly all those found today (including the one at bottom right, from my collection) have had all the lettering—even the front "Seattle"—restored. In the case of the #19 jersey, it came with a set of used, stripped lettering from the team that I sewed back on! Two-color numbers on front left and on back, both royal blue/white. Numbers are a special Mariners-only custom font, used only 1977–1980. Name on back in one-color royal blue. All Goodman lettering fonts appear hand-drawn and hand cut with scissors, with a great deal of inconsistency between examples.

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1978-1980 Road

1978

Road blue jersey has “Seattle” spelled across the front in two-color royal blue/yellow in an arch. Identify this jersey by the blue/yellow/white sleeve end trim (different pattern than in 1977). Two-color numbers on front left and on back, both royal blue/yellow. Numbers are a special custom Mariners-only font, used only 1977–1980. Name on back in one-color royal blue, nameplates not used. Made by Rawlings, the lettering is decidedly more pro-quality than the 1977 road jersey made by Goodman. Original sets sent to minors where nearly all had front “Seattle” stripped off, and minor league team names applied. Nearly all found today are badly sun-faded and have had the front lettering restored, or else retain the secret of their past with minor league wordmarks still on front.

1980

Bill Henderson Collection

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1981-1986 Home

1983

Mariners wordmark changes to three-color (royal blue/yellow/royal blue). Numbers change with it, with same colors on both front and back. Unfortunately, the attractive custom number font used 1977–1980 is abandoned in favor of Block numbers.

In 1981 only, three-color names on back on nameplates ***(right)***. 1982–1986 changes to one-color royal blue on nameplates. Rawlings makes the home jerseys in this period while Wilson makes the road ones. Each maker year- tags and set-tags its jerseys differently.

Above: *1981 only: 3-color name on back. Scant photo evidence exists—this, a screen-grab from the 1981 All-Star game thanks to collector Steve Kraljic.*

1982

1985

Almost all the jerseys of this series, both home and away, were stripped of their nameplates. A large percentage was stripped of their front crests and nameplates, and some, their numbers as well, and were completely re-lettered for use in the minor leagues. Most surviving examples have been restored or are awaiting restoration.

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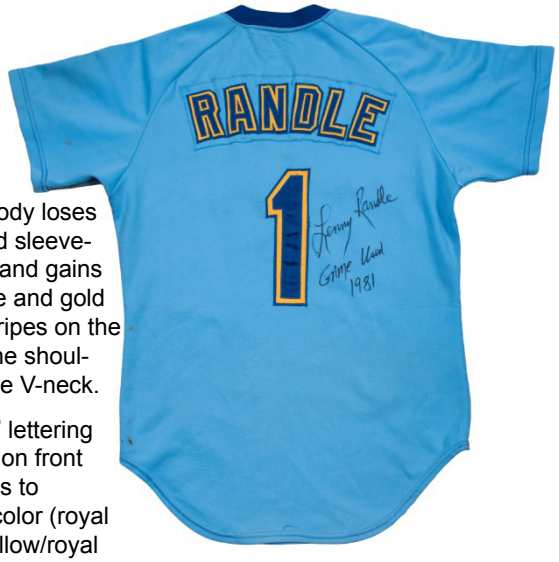
1981-1984 Road

1981



Jersey body loses its striped sleeve-end trim and gains wide blue and gold racing stripes on the tops of the shoulders. Blue V-neck.

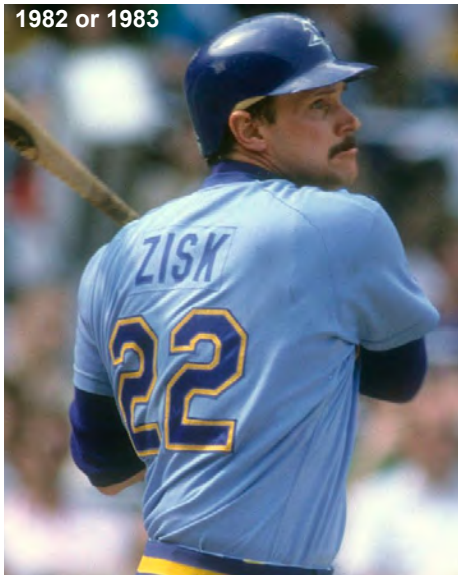
"Seattle" lettering arched on front changes to three- color (royal blue/yellow/royal blue). Sadly the unique number font is ditched for pedestrian Block, in royal blue/ yellow/royal blue front and back.

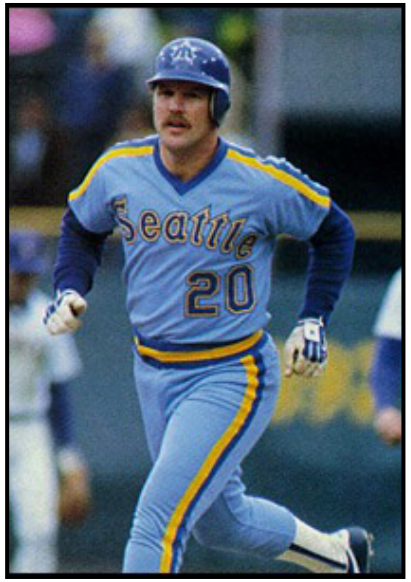
Names on back are used, with nameplates. In 1981 only, names are three color like the numbers. 1982–1984 they are simplified to one color, blue.

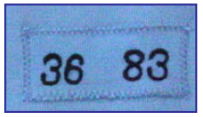
1984

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com







Left: *Year-tagged jerseys with the player number and year sewn on the tags were probably issued at the start of the season. The jerseys labeled with the year only were most likely extras not issued at the season's start.*

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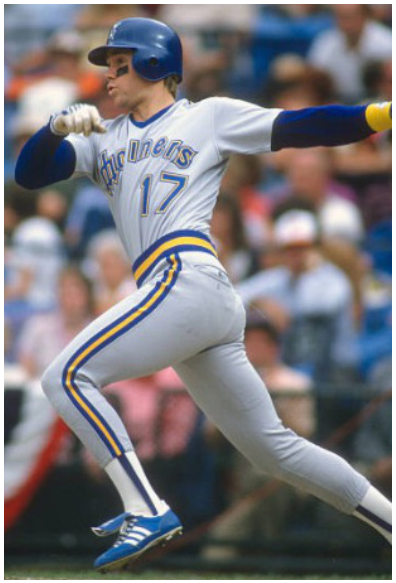
1985-1986 Road

Stephen Kraljic Collection



For 1985, the road jersey lettering changes to *Mariners* from the earlier *Seattle* wordmark. Rawlings takes over making the road jersey from Wilson. Aside from the change to gray fabric, the home and road jerseys are numbered and lettered identically. Nameplates are used, and an extra condensed font for names longer than about 8 letters is adopted by Rawlings. Oddly, back numbers on these jerseys are sewn exceptionally low, 10–11 inches from the collar instead of the typical eight inches.

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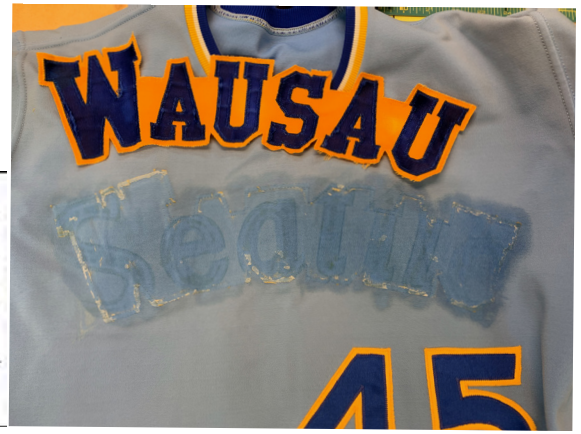
Mariners Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues

The Mariners were merciless in sending their jerseys to the minors. And since most of their minor league teams were not named “Mariners” these jerseys were thoroughly and completely stripped. I have restored more old Mariners jerseys than any other team!



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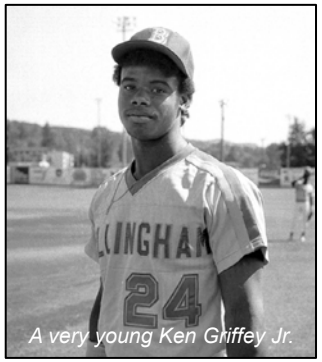
More Mariners Recycled Jerseys: Converted & Then Converted Back

Anyone who has ever attempted to restore a jersey by replacing the old numbers or wordmark knows how much work it is to do. It can take hours to remove the old one properly, and even then, the chance of being left with an unacceptable result is very high, with uneven fading, fabric pulls and glue left behind, even holes, if not done very carefully.

That's why it is so surprising to me that through at least the mid-1980s, the Mariners stripped many MLB jerseys of all their lettering and recycled them to the Minor Leagues to be reused when their service in Seattle had ended. I would estimate that 90% of the 1977–1980 Mariners jerseys I have seen and probably half of them from 1981–1986 are either converted or restored. Just a few examples from my photo archives pictured here.



A very young Ken Griffey Jr.

Here are some typical examples of "restored" Mariners jerseys that show what one can expect. Unbelievably by today's standards, many jerseys had everything stripped off–team wordmark, player name and even numbers. They were recommissioned as minor league uniforms, as shown on the left side of this page. When collectors got a hold of them after having been thoroughly used in the minors, many have been horribly "restored," using newly-cut lettering of the wrong style, size and improperly arched. In some cases, original lettering was acquired (someone must have saved it) and re-sewn, but sloppily so. ***Bottom:*** Close-up of a single letter from the front of the 1977 "GALASSO" jersey from my personal collection, shown earlier in this chapter. Notice the ghosting and glue marks below the letter that shows that the new letter has been inexactly re-sewn in place.

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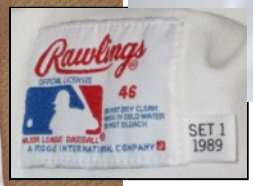
1987-1992 Home

1991

Bill Henderson Collection

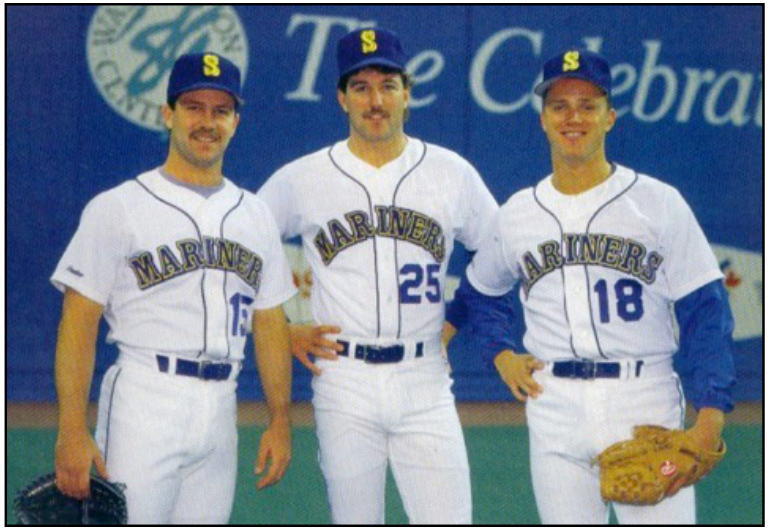


White jersey, royal blue/yellow/royal blue 3D drop shadow Mariners wordmark on front. One-color royal blue numbers on front and back, Block Bold. One color royal blue name on back, nameplates used.

Royal blue knit trim is used around the collar and down the jersey front. Both Rawlings and Russell supplied a set of these to the team in 1992.

Stephen Kraljic Collection

1992 by Russell



© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1992 Road

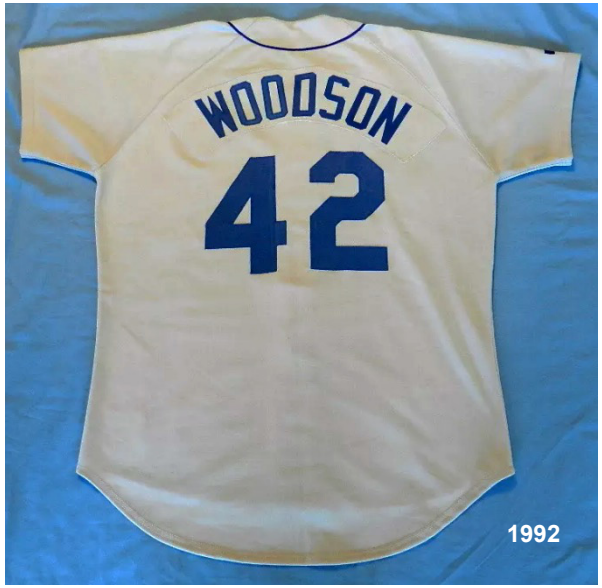
1987

Gray jersey, royal blue/yellow/royal blue 3D drop shadow Mariners wordmark on front.

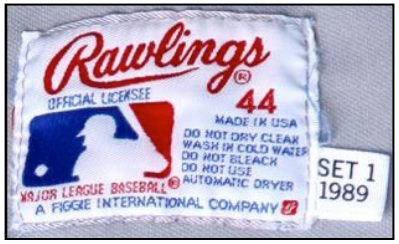
One-color royal blue numbers on front and back, Block Bold.

One-color royal blue name on back. Nameplates used.

Royal blue knit trim is used around the collar and down the jersey front. Both Rawlings and Russell supplied a set of these to the team in 1992.



1992



1992

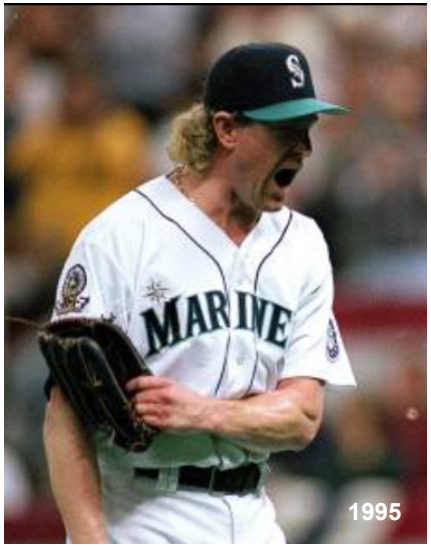
© GameWornGuides.com

1993-2014 Home

1999

The Mariners do a total team makeover for 1993 that changes everything, including the team colors. Gone are royal blue and yellow, replaced with navy, metallic silver, white, and a blue-green shade they call "Northwest Green." The front wordmark is navy/green/glitter white that makes it shimmer. Block style numbers and names are used on the back, two-color navy/Northwest Green. Names are on nameplates 1993–2006, then direct sewn 2007–2014. While the road jersey is altered over time and alternates come and go, the home jersey will remain unchanged through 2014, an admirable 22-year run.

Cool Base jerseys are available to players starting in 2006, but the older full-weight knits are available on request through 2010.



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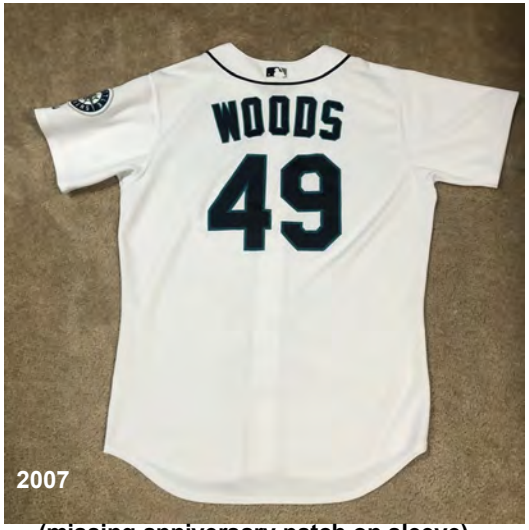
1993-2014 Home, continued

1999

Mariners team-spec jerseys are universally simply year-tagged during 1993–2014. This nondescript but authentic team tagging and the fact that the Mariners pumped many team-tagged but blank-backed jerseys each year into the hobby have created a flood of fanciful Griffey, A-Rod, Ichiro, Randy Johnson, and other star-player lettered jerseys that are often claimed to be game worn. While there is nothing wrong with a collector or fan re-lettering a team jersey, buyer beware if you are looking for a verified gamer.



2007

(missing anniversary patch on sleeve)

2001

2012

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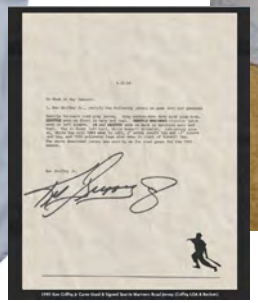
1993-2000 Road

1993

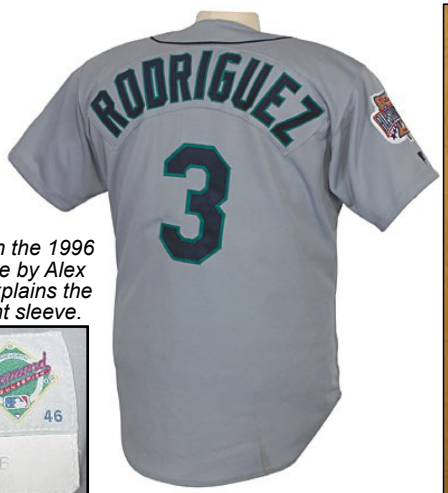


"SEATTLE" arched on front in navy/green/white. Navy blue knit trim on jersey front and around collar.

Note that the "S" in Seattle is plain, without a compass in the middle. That element was added in 2001. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo is added to the back of the collar in 2000.

Two-color name and numbers on back in navy/green, name on a nameplate.

1996



Jersey worn in the 1996 All-Star Game by Alex Rodriguez, explains the patch on right sleeve.

1995

Normally I avoid including star player jerseys that I have not personally authenticated, but both of these seem to have reputable provenance. My word of caution offered, regarding team-tagged Mariners jerseys on the prior page applies to team road jerseys of this period as well.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994-1996 Alternate

1994

"Teal" was a trendy color in the 1990s, and this jersey, rendered in a color the team calls "Northwest Green", was introduced as an alternate for 1994. The 1994 version is unique; its front wordmark is outlined with white. 1995-1996 versions lose the white outline. Backs are the same for all three years. Two-color metallic silver/navy name and numbers. Nameplates used. Right sleeve patch adornment is different each of the three years: 1994 has the MLB 125th patch, 1995 has the Negro Leagues patch and in 1996 the sleeve is bare.

1994: white outline

1995-1996: no outline

1995

© GameWornGuides.com

1997-1999 Batting Practice Jersey Used as Alternate Home Jersey

I am listing this jersey in the book twice because, though it is officially a batting practice jersey, the Mariners used it rather frequently 1997–1999 as an alternate home game jersey, following the discontinuance of their bright Northwest Green alternate jersey after the 1996 season, and right up to the time the team moved from the Kingdome to new Safeco Field in mid-1999. In fact, these jerseys were worn in the last game at the Kingdome on June 27 that year.

The jersey is a navy blue button front, lacking any trim. It remained in use as a batting practice jersey through the end of the 2000 season. Player name and numbers are Block font in two-color metallic silver/teal. Namplates used.

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1997-1999 Alternate Home Vest

1998

Identical to the Mariners' white home jersey, just minus the sleeves. Lettered identically as well. Worn with a navy blue undershirt, the official undershirt has the compass patch on the left sleeve (and the 20th anniversary patch on the right in 1997).

Players did not always wear the official undershirt with it, as is often the problem with vest jerseys, and one reason why teams sometimes use faux vests with attached sleeves to ensure "uniformity!"

Right: *This Authentic vest/ jersey with undershirt showing "official team patch" from the 1997 team fan catalog hints that the club was planning to sew the patch on player undershirts, but it was rarely ever seen.*

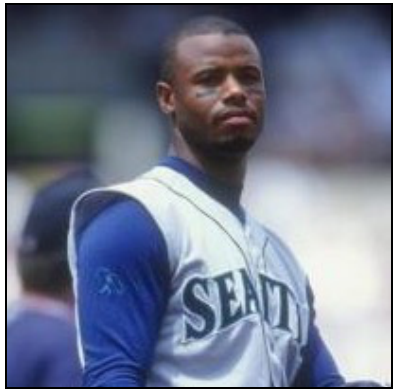
Right, middle: *The alternate vest (seemingly without navy knit trim around the collar and placket) appeared in the 2000 MLB Style Guide with pinstriped pants. Neither the jersey nor the pants made the field that year.*

ALTERNATE HOME VEST & TEE SHIRT & PANTS

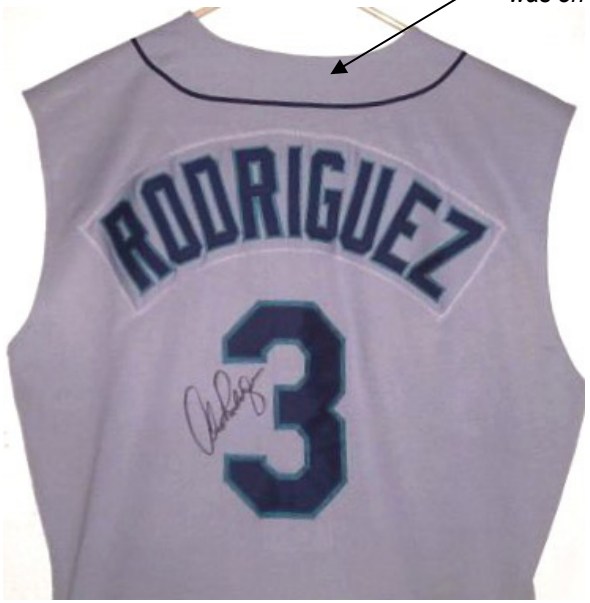
1997

© GameWornGuides.com

1998 Alternate Road Vest



Note Russell logo that should have appeared on the back of the neck is missing - instead it was on the cut off sleeves!



This vest is tagged 1997, could it have been the prior year's jerseys they cut up?

There is no mention of a gray vest in the Mariners' media guide or *the MLB Style Guide* for 1998. But news photos shown here dated July 25, 1998 show the Mariners wearing these jerseys in a road series at Baltimore. Others are dated August 29 at the Yankees.

Here is the story: Ken Griffey Jr. continually pushed management to adopt a road vest as he preferred the sleeveless style. So, the team took one of its sets of road gray jerseys and hacked the sleeves off to try out how the style looked. After all, the team had begun using home vests the prior year that the team thought looked quite good, and Griffey was adamant he wanted to use the style on the road as well.

Notice the tagging on the close-up photograph. This jersey has a tag that says *1" Extra Sleeve Length*, which is interesting since there are no sleeves on a vest at all! Worn at least eight games during July and August 1998, and this style did not return for 1999.

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Alternate Home/2000 Alternate Road

1999

2000

2000

In mid-1999, and concurrent with their move to the new Safeco Field, the Mariners added this new “Astro Blue” alternate jersey, using the Houston Astros’ color from the late 1990s—a blue so dark it looked almost black. Used at home only in 1999, and then only on the road in 2000. Seattle wordmark on the front in metallic silver/navy/teal. This jersey has metallic silver knit trim on the placket and around the collar, names and numbers on the back are two-color metallic silver/teal.

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2014 Road

A subtle change is made to the front wordmark on the gray road jersey for 2001: The Mariners' compass logo is inserted into the center of the "S" in SEATTLE, copying a similar wordmark used for the 1999–2000 alternate dark blue jersey. Everything else remains the same from the prior year's style; and this look soldiers ahead for the next 14 years unchanged. Nameplates used through 2006, then direct sewn.

Full weight knit exclusively through 2007 (two years longer than the home whites) and then the team switches to Cool Base but offers players the choice of full-weight knits through 2014, if they prefer.

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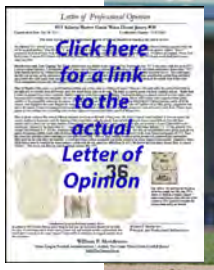
2001-2002 Alternate

2001



2001

In 2001, the road alternate navy blue jersey has the “SEATTLE” front wordmark replaced with a “MARINERS” wordmark, and the jersey becomes an alternate worn both at home and on the road. Back name and numbers are Block two-color, metallic silver/green. Nameplates used.

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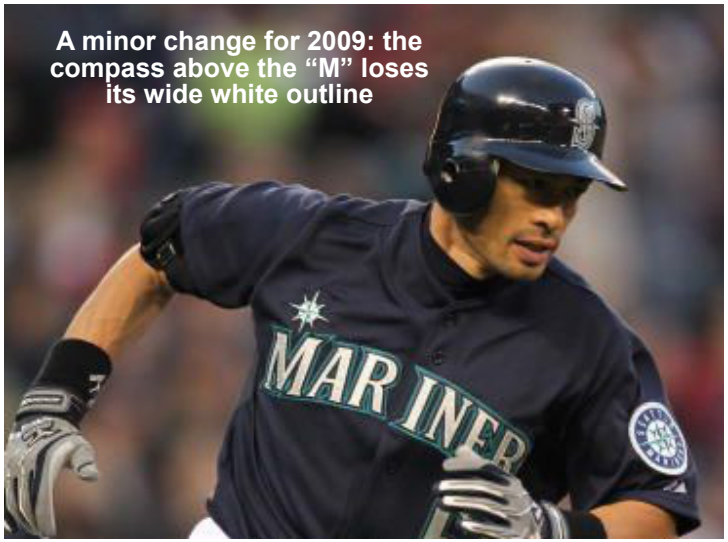
2003-2010 Alternate/2011 Alternate Road

Bill Henderson Collection

Above: *Color comparison shows from left to right—2002 Mariners navy, 2003 Mariners Midnight Navy and Chicago White Sox black alternate.*



Silver knit trim disappears once again from the jersey, and the front is plain. The color of the jersey changes from navy blue to Midnight Navy, a color that is very close to black and similar to the 1999-2000 dark blue alternates, and was also used by the Houston Astros on their alternate jerseys 1994-1999. The Midnight Navy is lightened slightly for the 2008 season.

Starting in 2003, alternate jerseys only use custom-font numbers on front and back, and have both numbers and player name in a Mariners-only font that is very similar to the team's wordmark. Three-color name and numbers in silver/navy/green.

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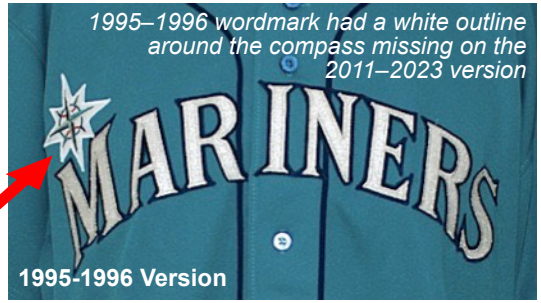
2011-2014 Alternate Home/2015-2023 Alternate Home Teal

2012



1995–1996 wordmark had a white outline around the compass missing on the 2011–2023 version

1995-1996 Version

The Mariners reintroduce the "Northwest Green" jersey for 2011 citing positive fan reaction after it was used in a Turn Back the Clock game in 2010. The wordmark on the front is the same as the 1995–1996 version (without the white outline) but notice that the compass is also missing its white outline, something that it had as recently as the aforementioned Turn Back the Clock game in 2010.

Made by Majestic 2011–2019, then by Nike. The 2023 version has the All-Star Game patch replacing the team disc patch.

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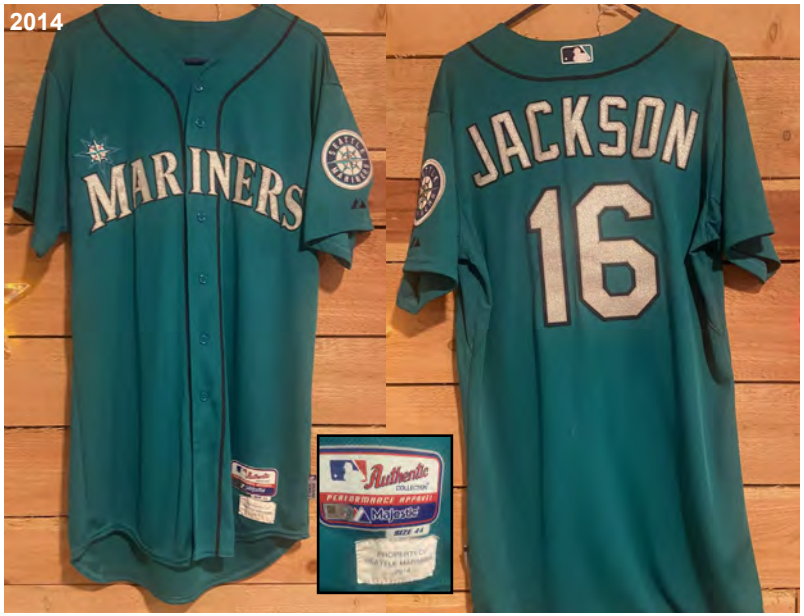
2011-2014 Alternate Home/2015-2023 Alternate Home Teal, continued

2013

2014



2017

2023

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2012-2022 Alternate Road/2023 Road

2014

With the reintroduction of the alternate home teal jersey, the dual-use home/road Midnight Navy alternate "Mariners" of the prior nine years is retired. Jersey color is still Midnight Navy, front wordmark changes to "Seattle," similar but not identical to the road alternate jersey used in 1999–2000. This version has no knit trim on the front as the earlier version did, and this wordmark has the compass in the center of the "S" in "Seattle" like on the road gray jersey. Mariners disc on left sleeve.

This jersey is the only one in the set that uses the Mariners' fancy alternate player name and number font. Numbers used on both front and back. This jersey has been worn at home on at least one occasion (September 5, 2016). When the gray road jersey is deleted after 2022, this becomes the official road jersey, used with gray pants.

Made by Majestic 2012–2019, then by Nike. The 2023 version has the All-Star Game patch replacing the team disc patch.

2022

© GameWornGuides.com

2012-2022 Alternate Road/2023 Road, continued

2012

2014

2019

Stephen Kraljic Collection

2021

Note the change in style code from MVAC for Majestic to MV3C for Nike.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015-2023 Home

Left: *Old wordmark on top compared to new, below it. Aesthetically, it is unusual to graphically pair colors next to each other that are so similar, especially when used in a graphic design that is meant to be viewed from a long distance away. This is a sensible change that was too long in coming.*

Beginning 2015, the Mariners change the lettering colors on their home and road jerseys. On the team wordmark, the colors of the outlines are simply reversed, so that instead of being navy/Mariner green/metallic silver, they are now navy/metallic silver/Mariner green. On the back, the numbers gain a third color, and are also navy/metallic silver/Mariner green. Everything else remains the same as 2014.

Made by Majestic 2015–2019, then by Nike. The 2023 version has the All-Star Game patch replacing the team disc patch.

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2015-2023 Home, continued

Note the change in style code from MVHH for Majestic to MV1H for Nike.

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2015-2022 Road

The road jersey's wordmark change is the same as the home jersey's: the colors of the outlines are simply switched. Below, the old wordmark is shown at left; the new one at right.

On the back, just like the home jersey, player name and number are now three-color, navy/metallic silver/ Mariner green.

Made by Majestic 2015–2019, then by Nike. The Mariners eliminate their road gray jerseys after 2022.

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2015-2022 Road, continued

2015

© GameWornGuides.com

2015-2023 Alternate Home Cream

The Mariners introduce a cream-colored retro uniform for 2015, reprising their colors from the 1970s and 1980s. Three-color numbers on back, blue/yellow/blue. No player names on back are used. Blue knit trim on the placket, collar and sleeve ends. The Mariner compass left-sleeve patch is also rendered in the retro color palette.

Made by Majestic 2015–2019, then by Nike. The 2023 version has the All-Star Game patch replacing the team disc patch.

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2015-2023 Alternate Home Cream, continued

2015

2016

2023

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2023 City Connect

The Mariners' City Connect entry combines and modernizes many features of Seattle's baseball and regional landmarks. The use of royal blue and shades of gold hearken back to the short-lived Seattle Pilots, while the black details (and pants) nod to the Negro League Seattle Steelheads. The lower-case front lettering is also borrowed from the Pilots, while the lettering's drop shadow is a reference to the Pacific Coast League's Seattle Rainiers' uniforms. The "PNW" sleeve patch, which stands for "Pacific Northwest," includes an image of Mount Rainier and the laurel leaves found on the Pilots' distinctive caps, which itself was a reference to the region's maritime and aviation industries.

Two other elements, visible on retail jerseys but not seen on the field include Mariners broadcaster Dave Niehaus' famous phrase, "My Oh My" above the jock tag, and "Sodo Mojo" inside the jersey collar, with "Sodo" a references to the area the team calls home. The crossed tridents, another early Mariners symbol that usually stand in for an "M" are oriented upwards, forming Ws, which the team says represents the state of Washington and the word "wins," which recalls the blue "W" lit on the T-Mobile Park roof after every victory.

Of note, in an era of simplification of jersey lettering, including common fonts and kiss-cut twill, the front lettering and back player numbers are rendered in a very complex multi-layer fashion to create a beveled appearance, similar to early Washington Nationals uniforms. This jersey exists on the Nike Flex Base template for one year before switching to Vapor Premier Elite in 2024.

Far Left, top: *The "sodo mojo" motto inside the jersey collar.*

Far Left, middle*: The "my oh my" text above the jock tag*

Far Left, bottom: *The "PNW" sleeve patch.*

Near left*: A detail of the intricate sewn lettering, using two similar shades of yellow for a bevel effect, and a black drop shadow.*

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Mariners longstanding home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the knit trim around the neck and placket appears closer together than before. The smaller placket also means the team's front lettering is made smaller as well, though it still splits about the same as before. The Mariners do not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Mariners blue jersey, which was elevated to road jersey status from alternate in 2023 after the team eliminated their gray jerseys. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. For most teams, the standardization of player name lettering is an eyesore. However, the Mariners' previous name lettering on these jerseys was very ornate, fussy, and clunky. These new, tiny letters don't look great here, but they do look neater than the old ones that were very hard to space evenly across the jersey backs. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the team's front lettering is made smaller as well, though it still splits about the same as before. The Mariners do not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Home Cream

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Mariners cream-colored alternate home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the numbers, making them smaller. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the knit trim around the neck and placket appears closer together than before. The smaller placket also means the team's front lettering is made smaller as well, though it still splits about the same as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which makes the blue part of the trim visibly wider than before. The Mariners use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Home Teal

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Mariners teal alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the knit trim around the neck and placket appears closer together than before. The smaller placket also means the team's front lettering is made smaller as well, though it still splits about the same as before. The Mariners use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in 2024 creates some small changes to the Mariners' City Connect jersey, introduced only the year prior. Collar and sleeve trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on it, which makes the neck trim appear wider, though the sleeve trim seems comparable. Though the placket on VPE is narrower than Flex Base, the "Seattle" lettering does not look like it was reduced in size very much, if at all, and it still breaks over the placket in much the same way. Despite the intricacies of the beveled back numbers, the Mariners use perforated twill on these jerseys, though the twill layering means that only parts of the numbers are perforated. The most significant change is, ironically, the least visible from the field. The heat pressed "sodo mojo" and "my oh my" slogans have switched places on the jersey - likely because the crossed tridents would no longer fit on the narrower VPE collar. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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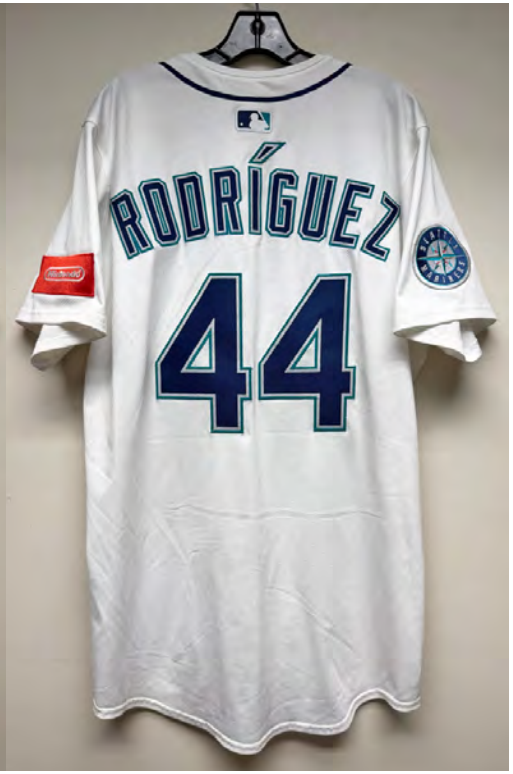
2025 Home



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The Mariners introduce a sponsor patch in 2025. Note that this jersey also uses Nike's new-for-2025 white jock tag. A handful of jerseys across the league use this new tag.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Mariners dropped the ornate player name lettering on these jerseys in 2024, and though it does not return in 2025, the team instead uses a silver/navy/teal version of the back lettering used on their other jerseys, now in a larger size than in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The Mariners introduce a sponsor patch in 2025.

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2025 Alternate Home Cream

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name (although not applicable to this jersey) and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The Mariners introduce a sponsor patch in 2025.

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2025 Alternate Home Teal

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The Mariners introduce a sponsor patch in 2025.

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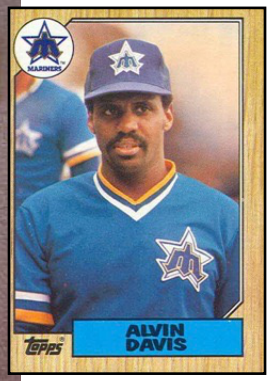
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1980-1986 Batting Practice



Front logo is the upside down trident M in a star. This logo was originally created for the 1979 All-Star Game which was held in Seattle, but was adopted by the team and used for several years as its primary logo. These jerseys are found in both flat-hemmed style and with a curved shirt tail. The curved-tail jerseys are the later ones.

One-color white numbers on back appear to be heat pressed on some jerseys. No player names on back used.

An interesting and un-cataloged style of 5 on this Majestic game worn example. The number appears to be heat-pressed on

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1986-1989 Batting Practice

Stephen Kraljic Collection

"M's" on a baseball logo on the left chest is made of flocked felt. One color white block numbers on back. No player names on back.

I do not have confirmation on this style's specific end-date of use. The M in a Baseball logo was used by the team 1987–1992. I believe that the new style shown on a later page may have been used concurrently with this one starting in 1989, or perhaps these were used only in Spring Training 1989.

Both Rawlings and majestic supply the team.

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1987-1992 Alternate Batting Practice Zip Neck

Shown here is the Mariners' edition of the seldom seen Majestic "Gamewarm-er" zip-neck batting practice jersey. These were offered to all teams by Majestic, but not used by all of them. This example is most likely a re-tail-sale version.

The jersey at top is mesh, the one below is solid nylon fabric.

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1987-1992 Home Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Royal blue jersey is mesh, three-layer wordmark is sewn on yellow/blue/yellow 3D drop shadow. Numbers on back only, one-color yellow. The team was supplied jerseys by Majestic, Rawlings, and Russell. The Rawlings jerseys sometimes have bolder back numbers.

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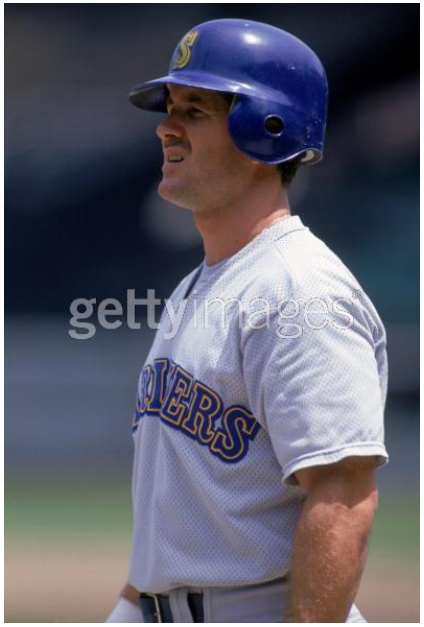
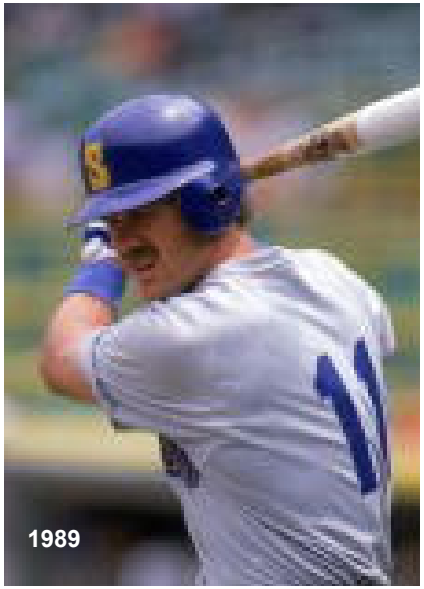
1987-1992 Road Batting Practice



The gray mesh version of the 1987–1992 batting practice jersey was worn on the road. It is possible that this style was worn for Spring Training only, as action photos of it in use are elusive. Wordmark is opposite colors from the home version, blue/yellow/blue 3D drop shadow. Numbers on back are one-color Block bold, compared to Block Standard on the home batting practice jersey of this style on the prior page.



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1993 (Probable) Spring Training Batting Practice

These gray mesh jerseys show up in the hobby now and again, and I believe they were used by the Mariners exclusively in Spring Training during 1993. No names are used on back. Notice the embroidered Majestic logo on the sleeve, a characteristic of jerseys made for use by the team vs. those made for retail. Notice that these two examples have different colored back numbers, and we don't know which, or if both are correct. So far we have no action photos of these in use.

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1993-1996 Batting Practice

With the team's change in wordmarks and colors for 1993, their new batting practice jersey is navy blue mesh and features a two-button Henley-style neck. The new "Mariners" wordmark with the compass nestled in the "M" is arched gently across the front. The Henley neck version is used 1993–1996, then the team switches to a full button front 1997–2000, and then returns to the two-button Henley style 2001–2002. The 1993–1996 jersey was made by both Majestic and Russell. Back numbers are single color gray.

Left: *Note the very early pre-Diamond Collection tail tag on this BP jersey, almost certainly making it an early 1993 issue.*

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Mid-1990s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Ron Gilick collection

Paul Bielewicz photo

Pictured here, are two different styles of authentic Mariners zip-neck *"Gamewarmer"* jerseys by Majestic. This jersey style was a part of the Authentic Collection, but not all teams actually adopted them for use on the field. I do not have any archive photos of the Mariners wearing them, nor do I have any photos of these jersey with numbers on back.

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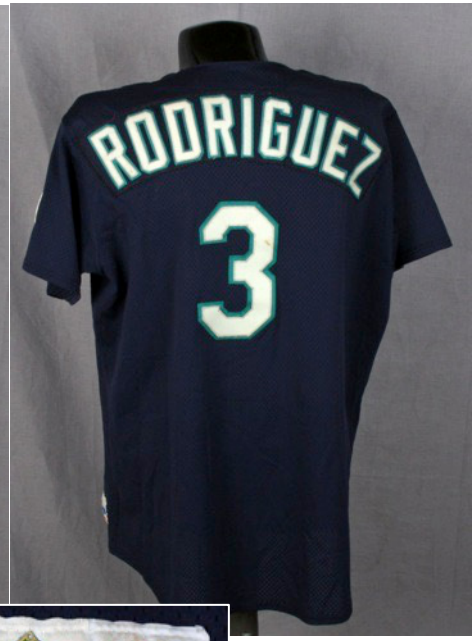
1997-2000 Batting Practice
(1997-1999 Also Used as an Alternate Home Jersey)



Left: *This year tagged 1997 BP has no name on back, and numbers sewn higher that typical. It may be from Spring Training.*

I am listing this jersey in the book twice—because though it is officially a batting practice jersey, the Mariners used it rather frequently as an alternate home game jersey following the discontinuance of their bright Northwest Green alternate jersey after the 1996 season, and right up to the time the team moved from the Kingdome to new Safeco Field in mid-1999. In fact, these jerseys were worn in the last game ever played at the Kingdome on June 27 that year.

The jersey is a solid navy blue button front, lacking any trim. It remained in use as a batting practice jersey through the end of the 2000 season.Player name and numbers are Block font in two-color metallic silver/teal. Nameplates used.

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2001-2002 Batting Practice

The two-button Henley neck BP jersey that had been used in 1993–1996 returns for 2001–2002. Player NOB is omitted from these. Distinguish from the earlier style by the addition of the MLB logo Silhouetted Batter to the back of the neck, and the two-color metallic silver/teal green numbers on back, Majestic sleeve logo and tail tagging.

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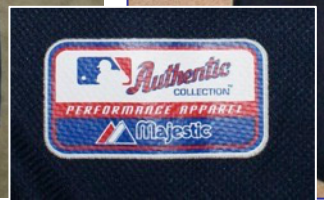
2003-2005 Batting Practice



- Made of a softer, non-mesh fabric, Majestic's first attempt at a moisture-wicking fabric that was the forerunner to Cool Base. This jersey has a button-front design.
- Silver-gray sleeve inserts. All graphics are sewn on in tackle twill.
- Two-color silver/teal block numbers.
- No names on back.

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2006 Batting Practice

The batting practice jersey is modified for 2006 with teal sleeves, and lasts only one year in this coloration.

The rest is the same as 2005, including the two-color number on back with no player name, and the Mariners team disc patch on the left sleeve.

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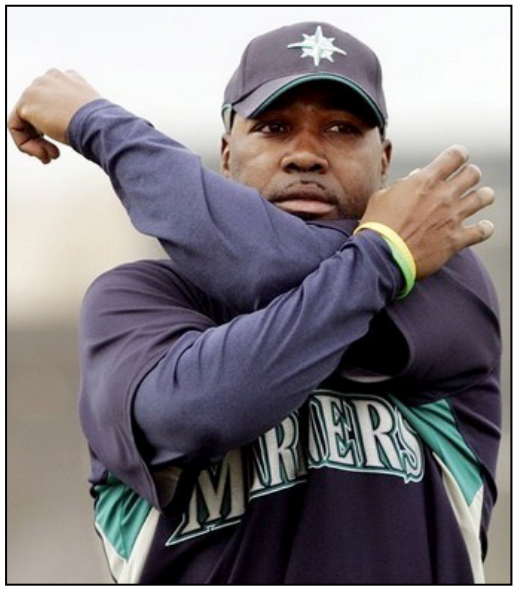
2007-2010 Batting Practice

The Mariners' version of the new-for-2007 Majestic Cool Base batting practice jersey features a one-button neck and silver/teal side panel inserts.

No player names are used on back. All designs and lettering are now heat-transfer one-layer appliqués, no longer multi-layered sewn tackle twill.

The Mariners used this in at least one regular season game, on 8/23/2007 against the Rangers.



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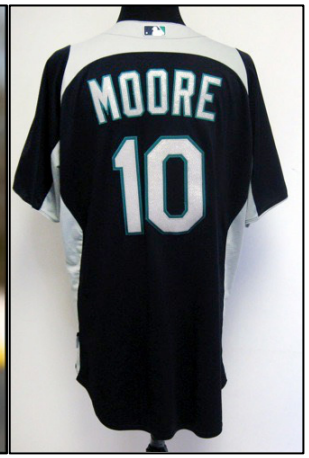
2011-2013 Batting Practice

For 2011, the batting practice jersey once again becomes a button-front design.

Side panels are now solid gray, replacing the gray/green panels from the prior style. A gray panel is also used above the NOB.

Names and numbers are sewn twill in gray/green.



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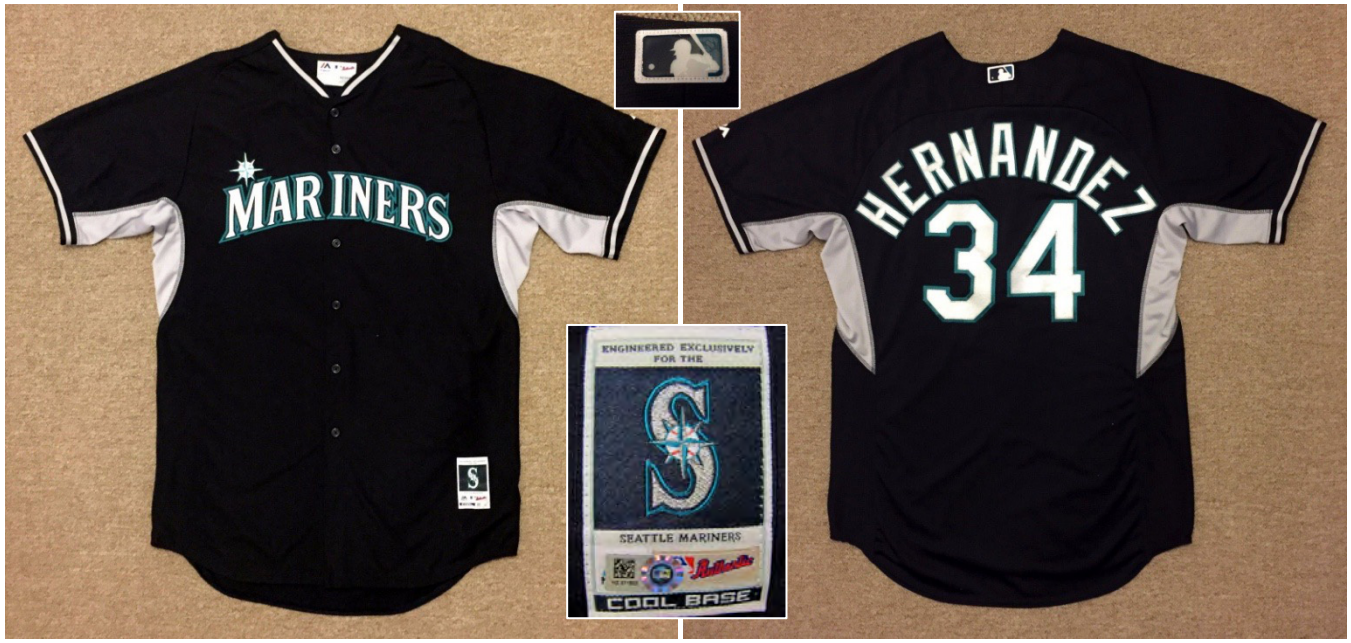
2014-2016 Batting Practice



For 2014, MLB refreshes batting practice jersey for all teams. The changes to the Mariners' jersey are minimal. All the same lettering is retained front and back. Narrow navy and gray knit trim is sewn to the sleeve ends and the neck opening. The back of the jersey is now solid navy, losing the gray panel above the player name that had been there before.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

Bill Henderson Collection

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for work-outs and games in spring training. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team.

The Mariners use their regular season teal alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill/navy. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Mariners hold Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Mariners again use their regular season teal alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Mariners spend Spring Training.

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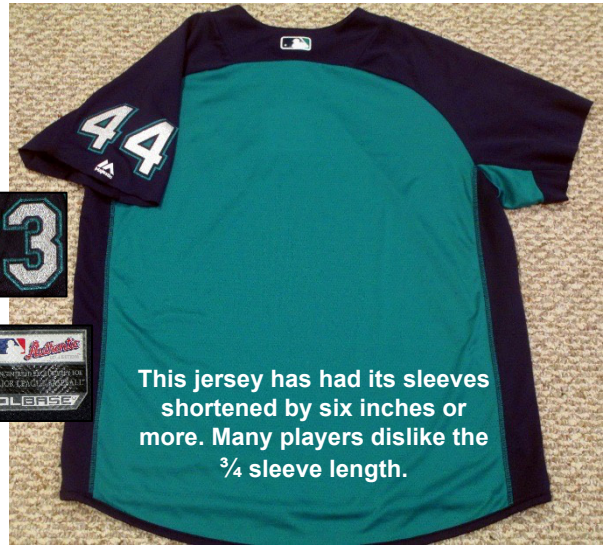
2017-2019 Batting Practice



With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material.

The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Player lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Mariners jersey is blue with teal back and underarm gussets. The "compass S" logo from their caps appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player numbers in gray/navy/green Block on the left sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design theme of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, but now simplified using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018 year-specific patterns. The Mariners use their regular-season teal alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

2019 MLB Spring Training jerseys evolve on the theme of the last three years. Across the league, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the recent past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill last seen in 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns.

The Mariners introduce a new, light blue jersey that is not a part of their regular-season standard set. It has a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The front logo, player names, and back numbers are navy blue/metallic silver/teal.

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2020-2022 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates.

For 2020–2022, the Mariners continue to use a jersey design separate from their regular-season standard set, in a light blue color, with navy blue/metallic silver/teal name and back numbers.

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2023 Spring Training

For 2023, the Mariners scrap the previous, Spring Training-only blue jersey and replace it with their existing teal alternate. It is likely the move is made as Nike attempted to limit the number of jerseys each team carried, which meant some teams replaced their spring-specific jerseys with one of their regular season alternates. The 2023 All-Star Game patch replaces the team's usual disc patch for that season only.

2023

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Special Events Jerseys

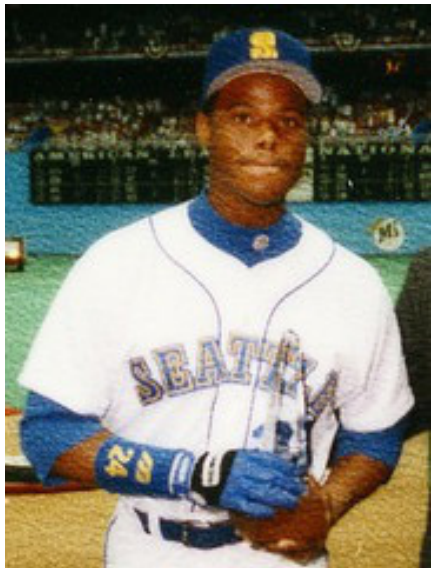
1991 St. Patrick's Day

These micromesh green jerseys were worn by the Mariners for St. Patrick's Day of 1991. The Mariners do not generally participate in St. Patrick's day events.

The maker is *Speedline,* a company based in Tampa, Florida and founded in 1936 that makes a wide variety of custom athletic wear for colleges and high schools. This is the only instance we can find of them making anything worn by an MLB team on-field. Their logo on the sleeve was surely not authorized, as while any company could supply uniforms to teams, only the official suppler to MLB (Rawlings) was allowed to show their logo on the sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1992 Mid-Season "Second Opening Day"



July 16, 1992, when new owners completed their purchase of the Mariners in mid-season, the M's had an "opening day" celebration. To mark the occasion, the M's wore their usual white home uniforms, but with ***SEATTLE*** on the jerseys instead of the usual ***MARINERS***. The new ownership wanted to send a strong message that the team was the ***Seattle Mariners***, and that they were in town to stay.

This gesture had great significance at the time, because the team had been the subject of constant relocation rumors, and the fans in Seattle had still not forgotten how the Pilots were snatched away just after Spring Training in 1970 to become the Milwaukee Brewers, a scant one year after they had started playing in Seattle.

These game jerseys were made by Rawlings, which explains the lack of a sleeve logo. They are identical to the 1992 home jerseys save for the replacement of the word **MARINERS** with **SEATTLE.**

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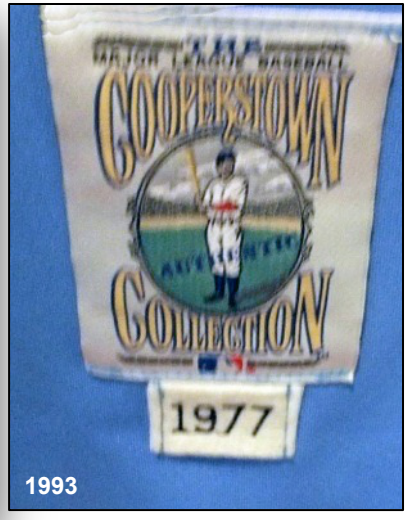
1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

The Ken Griffey-signed jersey shown here with TBC tagging was made to team issued specifications at a later date by Mitchell & Ness for a Griffey signing, experts recognize the Cooperstown Collection tagging as being from 1999 or so.



May 22, 1993: The Mariners marked the 25th anniversary of their Inaugural season of 1977, playing the Royals in Kansas City. The uniforms are made by Mitchell & Ness. The Royals' Turn Back the Clock day was dedicated to their own inaugural season on 1969.

The Royals dressed in 1969 replicas that day. The Mariners version is only close and not identical to the Goodman original ***(bottom left)***. Both the **Seattle** wordmark and numbers on front are larger and more artistically rendered on the replica than on the originals.

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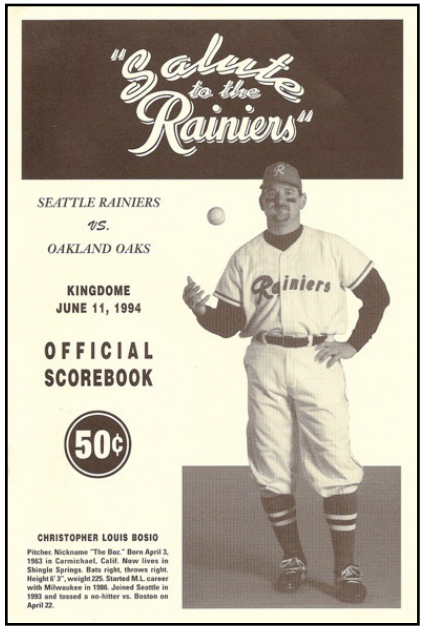
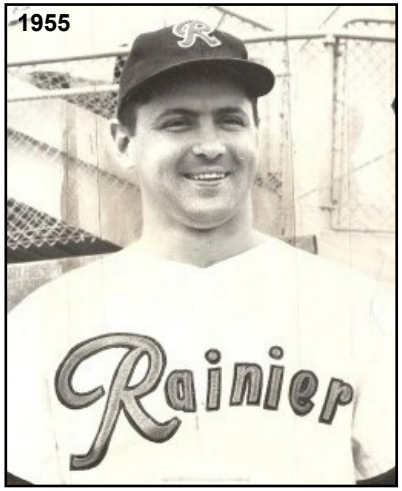
1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL Seattle Rainiers





On June 11, 1994,the Seattle Mariners paid tribute to the Seattle Rainiers, the Pacific Coast League (PCL) team that represented the city from 1938 to 1960. Turn Back the Clock uniforms were made by local supporter Ebbets Field Flannels. In previous editions, we had shown images of retail jerseys that did not match what was used on field. We have now come across a game worn (and signed) version from Hall of Famer Goose Gossage, who spent his final season with the Mariners in 1994. Note the hologram on the Ebbets Field Flannels tag is to authenticate the signature, not the jersey. Based on the image shown at right of an actual 1955 Rainiers jersey, the front lettering on the throwbacks seems thinner in comparison, but this recreation is reasonably faithful overall.

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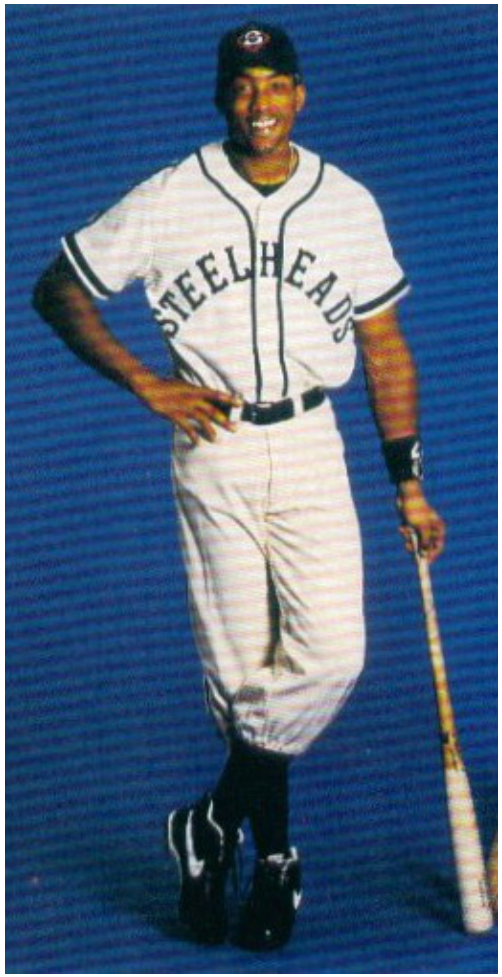
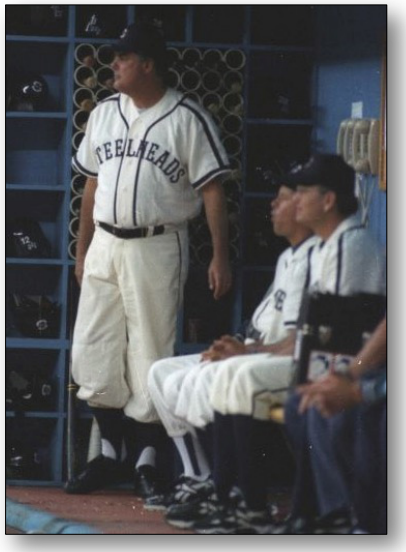
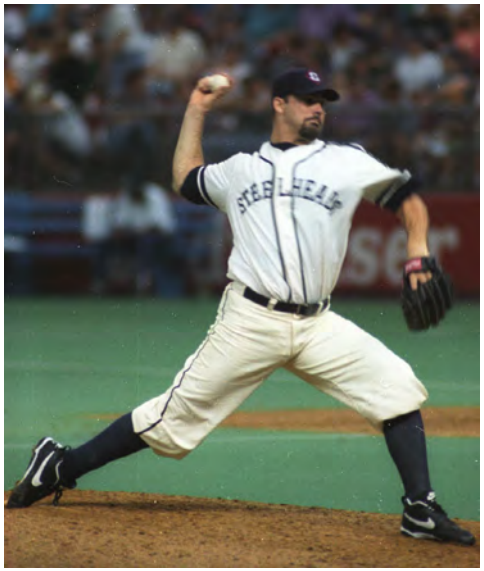
1995 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Seattle Steelheads)



On September 9, 1995 the Seattle "Steelheads" Mariners played the Kansas City Royals who dressed as the Kansas City Monarchs for this Negro Leagues Tribute game. Wool flannel uniforms made for both teams by Ebbets Field Flannels. So far, we have been unable to find a single photo of the backs of the jerseys on that day. The back number font on the jersey as it is marketed by EFF is shown below, and an unconfirmed example of one claimed to be a team issued jersey is shown bottom middle. If any collectors have more information on these 1995 jerseys we'd like to know.





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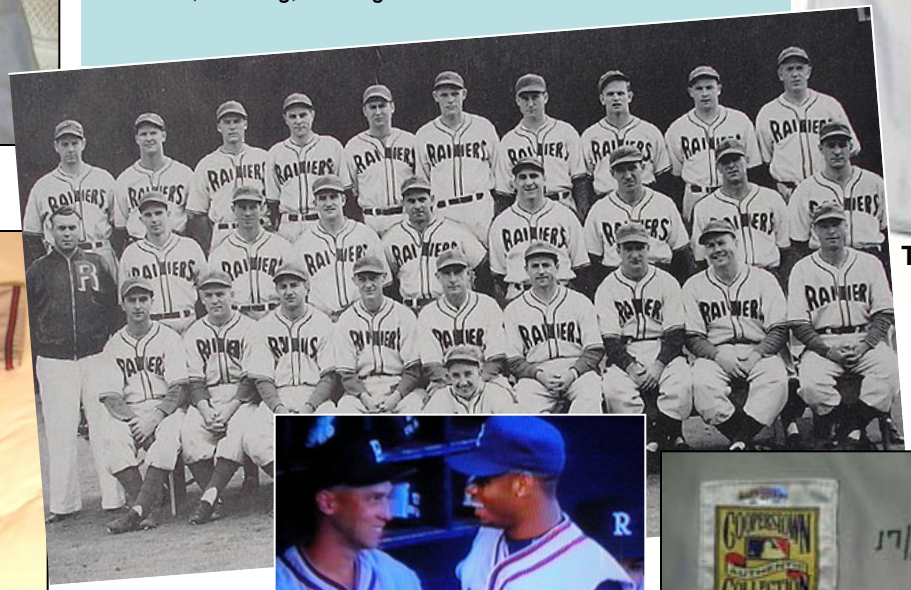
1996 Turn Back the Clock to 1946 PCL Seattle Rainiers

July 31, 1996: The Mariners played a TBTC road game in Milwaukee as the 1946 Pacific Coast League Seattle Rainiers, wearing vest jerseys vs. the 1946-attired Brewers.

Enthusiast and historian Moriah Levin, formerly of Mitchell & Ness tells this story: *"The (1996) Rainiers jersey is interesting because in the hobby there are three versions of the jersey. Mitchell & Ness made the jerseys for the Mariners TBTC game with sleeves. M&N always makes a few extras of the game TBTC jerseys (same tagging) for retail sale (photos at left). The ones that went to the Mariners and were game used have the sleeves cut off. The shoulder arm-openings on the jersey are rough and look like they were cut. After the game, Mitchell & Ness was asked to make another batch of the jerseys for Griffey to sign for collectors* ***(right)****. This third batch was made as vests and thus the cut is as a vest and the shoulder-arm openings have regular finished seams. All of the material, numbers, lettering, and tags are the same on all three."*

The first set: 1996 for retail sale, not game worn.



The second set: game worn with rough-cut sleeves.

The third set: also not game worn, but autographed and numbered.

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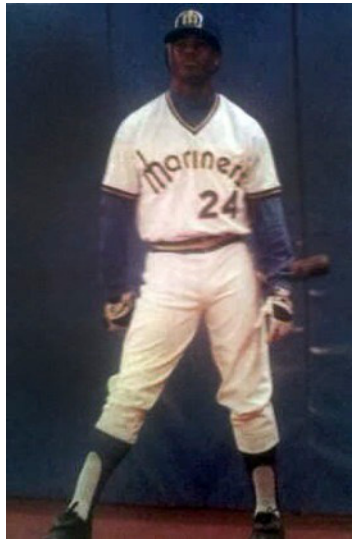
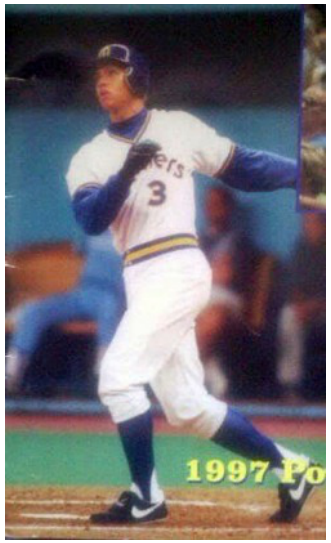
1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

The flier pictured below/was used by the home-team Mariners to advertise the availability of the game worn jerseys after the contest.

July 19, 1997: The Kansas City Royals donned their 1977 road powder blue uniforms and visited the Mariners for a Turn Back the Clock contest. The host Mariners dressed in replicas of their 1977 home uniforms, made in knit by local Pacific-Northwest regional company Ebbets Field Flannels. The front wordmark is close but not exactly accurate though the player numbers look good.





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1998 Turn Ahead the Clock

- The Mariners came up with this promotion. They played July 18,1998 against the Royals who wore their own wild uniforms. The creatively fictitious event date was the Mariners' 50th Anniversary in 2027.
- The black 1998 jersey features Majestic Official Merchandise tagging, and a rubberized heat transfer for the front logo. Numbers were sewn two-layer tackle twill, NOB is one-color twill.

Right: *Original event's promotional advertisement*

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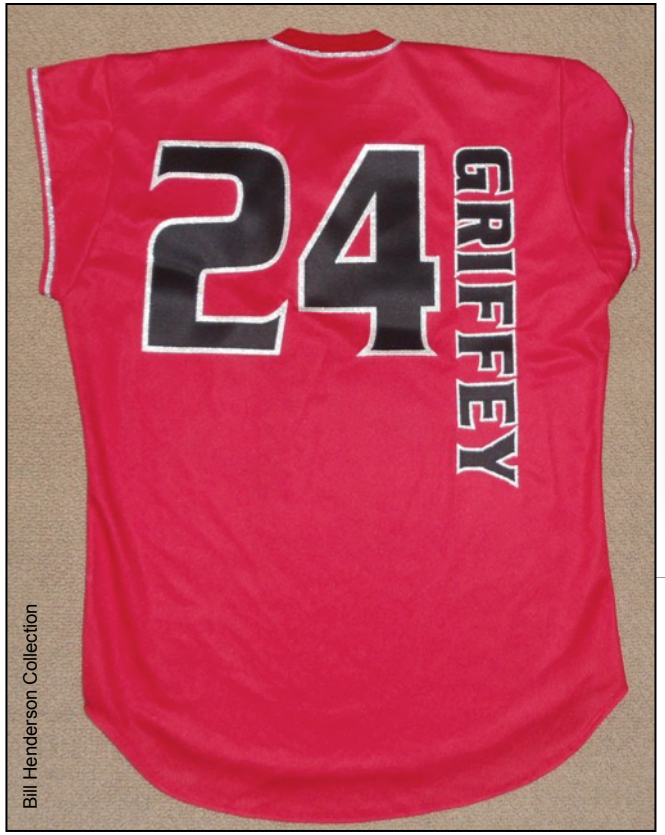
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock



Masterful recreation in correct style, as worn in 1999, by Patsy Elmer of Big Time Jerseys. https://bigtimejerseys.com/

- The Mariners' own 1998 promotional idea was picked up on by MLB and repeated across the league in 1999; though not all teams participated. This game was played July 24, 1999.
- 1999 logo was sublimated into the red fabric (not an appliqué). Name and numbers two layer tackle twill, black over metallic silver.
- Notice the large size of the Mariners' numbers compared to other teams. Same patterns, but at least an inch larger than other teams using this same font.

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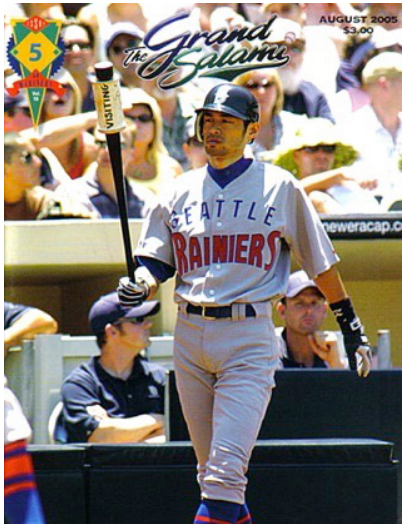
2005 Turn Back the Clock to 1938 PCL Seattle Rainiers

These 1938 throwbacks were made of double knit by Majestic. Note the extra-long period style sleeves which were doubtlessly annoying to some players.

The Rainiers were actually named for the Rainier Brewing Company, the team's new owner in 1938. The brewery took its name from the region's mountain landmark. Prior to 1938, the team had been known as the Seattle Indians.

The game was played in San Diego vs. the Padres who dressed as the 1936 PCL Padres, June 25, 2005.



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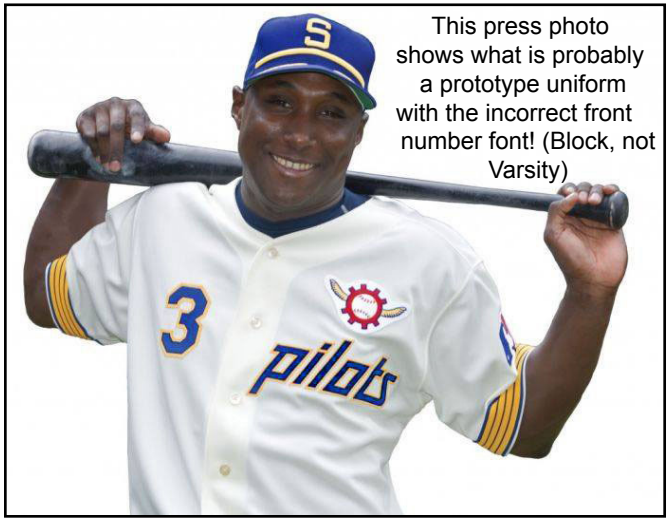
2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1969 Seattle Pilots

July 9, 2006: The Mariners appear as the 1969 Seattle Pilots and play the 1969-jersey clad Tigers at home in near flawless cream colored double knit replica uniforms made by Majestic. The original 1969 Pilots uniforms were flannel, and are pictured in the Brewers' chapter of the unabridged edition of this book for further reference. The replicas are very well executed and many players wore their pants in the proper style to show off the Pilots' striped stirrups.

The 1969 MLB 100th Anniversary patch is properly sewn to the left sleeve.



This press photo shows what is probably a prototype uniform with the incorrect front number font! (Block, not Varsity)

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

In a game played July 29th 2007 vs. the Athletics, the Mariners wore nicely executed copies of their inaugural pullovers from 30 years before, made here by Majestic. Both wordmarks and player numbers are accurately executed—the number fonts Majestic used are the ones that I recreated.

The Mariners played the 1977-attired Athletics, who wore solid yellow uniforms.

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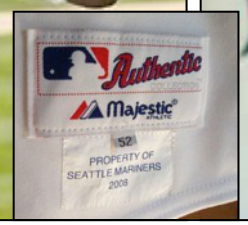
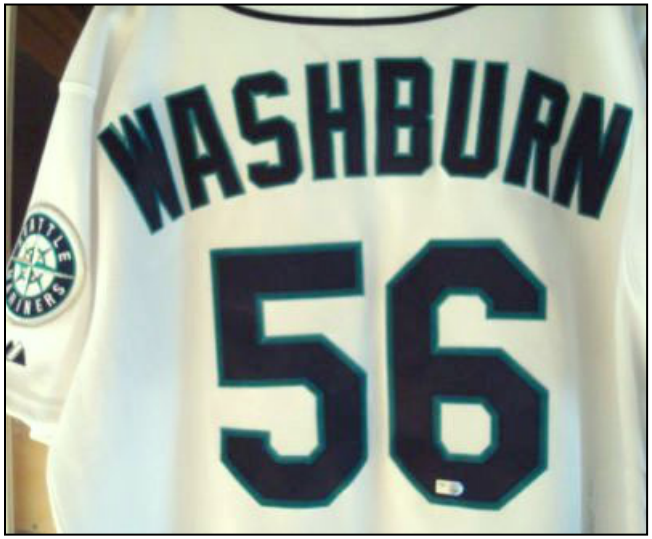
2008 Hispanic Heritage



Game played May 31, 2008 vs. the Detroit Tigers. Uniforms identical to regular home uniforms, except for the change in front team wordmark. The game was billed as "The Mariners' Salute to Latin American Players." Team uniforms made by Majestic.



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2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

Played on the road June 27 in San Diego against the 1978-attired Padres (even though these two teams would not have met then during the regular season in the time before interleague play).

These Majestic uniforms are close replicas, but not perfect. The Seattle wordmark on the front is slightly misproportioned from the original. The back and front numbers are accurate, and come from the patterns I supplied to Majestic.

Original 1978-1980

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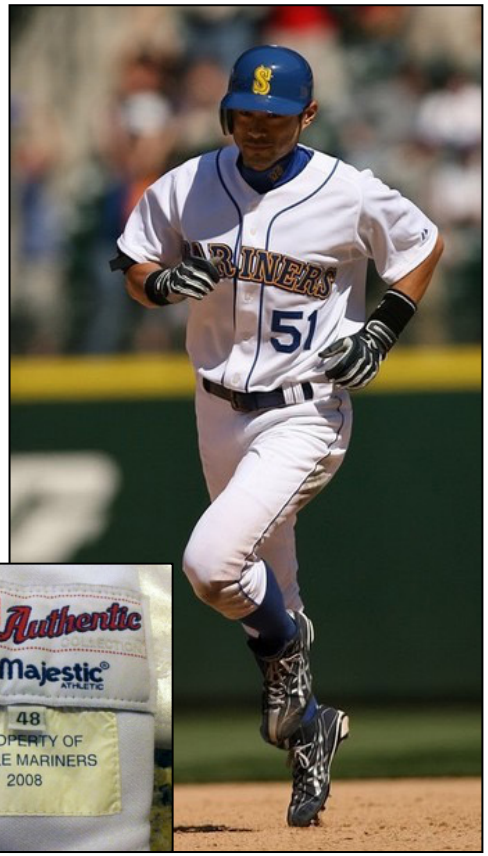
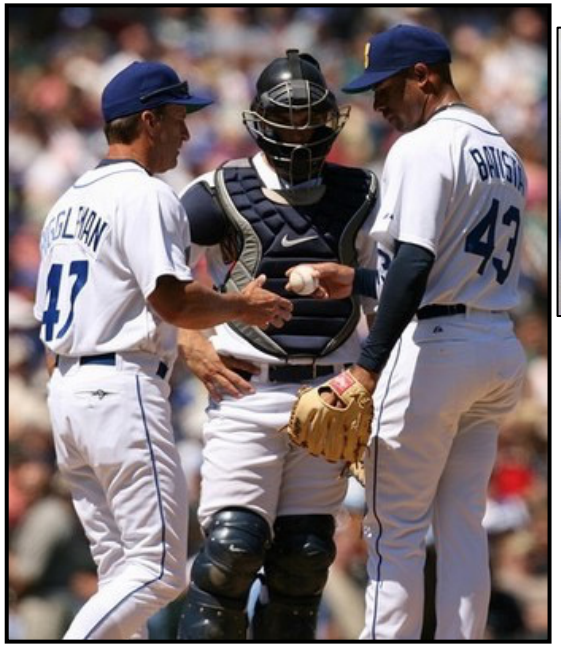
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1988





Contest played at home July 19 against the similar-era-attired Cleveland Indians.

Knit uniforms made by Majestic are very accurate, except the front numbers are not quite as bold as those on the originals shown earlier in this chapter. Identify these throwbacks by the Majestic “Twin Peaks” logo embroidered on the left sleeve.

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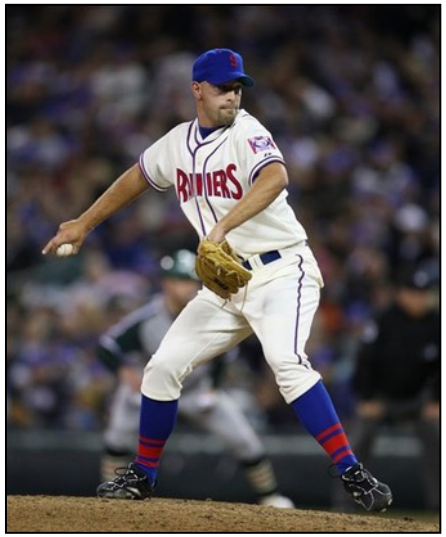
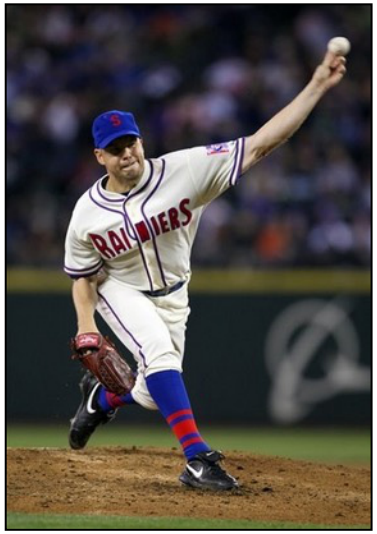
2009 Turn Back The Clock to 1939 PCL Seattle Rainiers

Derek Damian collection





The Mariners played the A's on May 2, and wore knit replicas of the 1939 Pacific Coast League Seattle Rainiers' home uniforms. The A's dressed as the 1939 Oakland Oaks, also of the PCL.

The uniforms featured the 1939 Baseball Centennial sleeve patch worn by all the MLB teams in 1939, and also worn by many other professional baseball teams in other leagues.

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1995

On June 5, 2010 the Mariners and the Angels held a Turn Back the Clock to 1995 day. Both teams wore uniforms from that year. The Mariners chose to wear their 1994–1996 “Northwest Green” alternate jerseys, made by Majestic in the 1995–1996 style (without the white outline around the wordmark). The throwback proved so popular with fans that the team reintroduced the style the following season on a full time basis as a home alternate.

Notice the white outline around the compass that differentiates this jersey from the 2011–2025 reissue of the jersey as a regular alternate. Names and numbers are metallic silver navy. Names on nameplates.

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1981-1984

On June 25, 2010, the Mariners were the guest at the Brewers' Turn Back the Clock to the 1980s day. The Majestic full-weight knit jerseys are nearly indistinguishable replicas of the originals, wordmark and numbers in blue/yellow/blue twill, solid blue names on nameplates.

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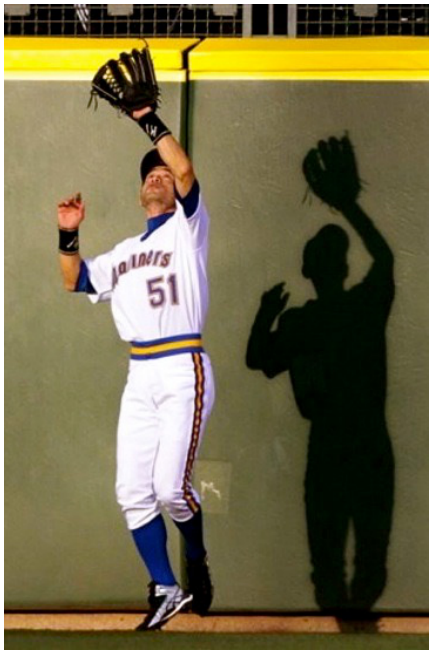
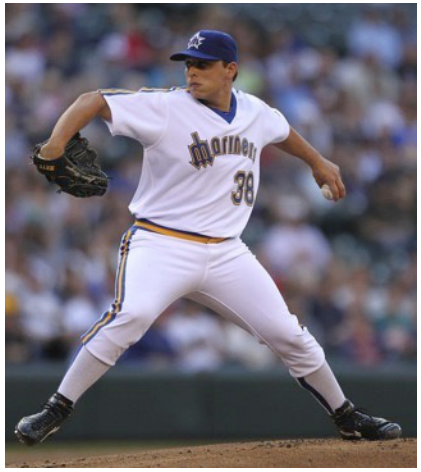
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1984





On July 1, 2011, the Mariners played host to the Padres for a the 1980s Turn Back the Clock day. Both teams wore uniforms from 1984, 27 years prior. Majestic full-weight knit jerseys are nearly indistinguishable replicas of the originals, wordmark and numbers in blue/yellow/blue twill, solid blue names on nameplates.

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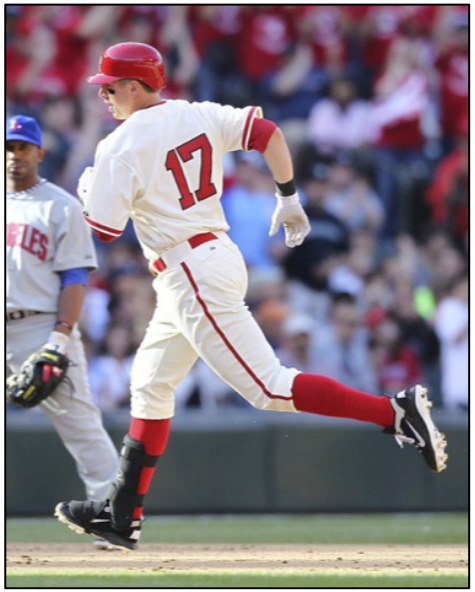
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL Seattle Rainiers (home)

The Mariners invited the Angels on May 26, 2012 for a Turn Back the Clock matchup with both teams wearing uniforms of the 1955 PCL Championship Series. The Mariners' knit Rainiers uniforms were made by Majestic and featured two-color red with navy wordmarks and Varsity player numbers.



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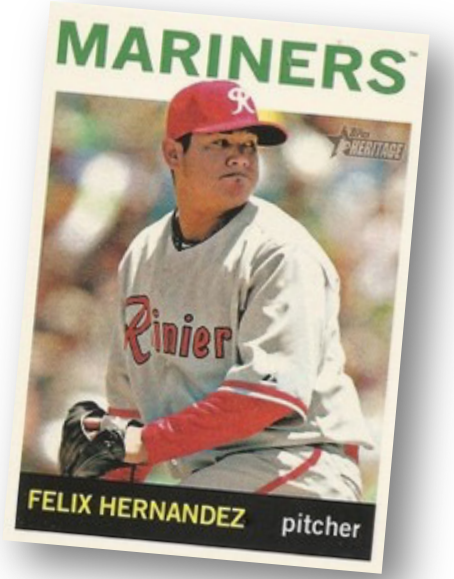
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 PCL Seattle Rainiers (road)

Derek Damian collection

July 8, 2012: For the second time in six weeks, the 2012 Mariners dressed like the 1955 Seattle Rainiers for a Pacific Coast League Turn Back the Clock game, this time on the road in Oakland. The uniforms are identical to the ones worn at home on May 26, with the exception of the gray fabric and the 3-D drop shadow used on the back numbers.



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2012-2015 Hispanic Heritage

2012 game used jerseys have the Mariners' 35th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve along with the team patch on the left. 2013 jerseys have only the team patch. Mariners 2013 and 2014 jerseys are year tagged like the 2013 example shown here.

2012: September 8 (with 35 patch)
2013: September 7
2014: September 13

2015: September 12. Notable that the 2015 jersey used the old-style lettering colors, and NOT the revised-for-2015 wordmark found on the new 2015 game jerseys.

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2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

MLB's decision that all teams should wear camouflage-lettered jerseys for Memorial Day on May 27 resulted in these uniforms. Of all the teams in baseball, the Mariners' uniforms were among the least objectionable, given to the fact that the normally hard-to-see camouflage (imagine that) has a green outline on the wordmark, and teal outlines (official color is called "Marlin Blue") on the name and numbers to set it off from the white fabric.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1909 Minor League Seattle Turks

June 29, 2013: The Chicago Cubs visited the Mariners for a Turn Back the Clock to 1909. The Mariners wore the uniforms of the local minor league Seattle Turks, who played a single season in 1909. Very plain, navy lettering on a white jersey was used. Safeco Field was renamed Yesler Way Park for the game.

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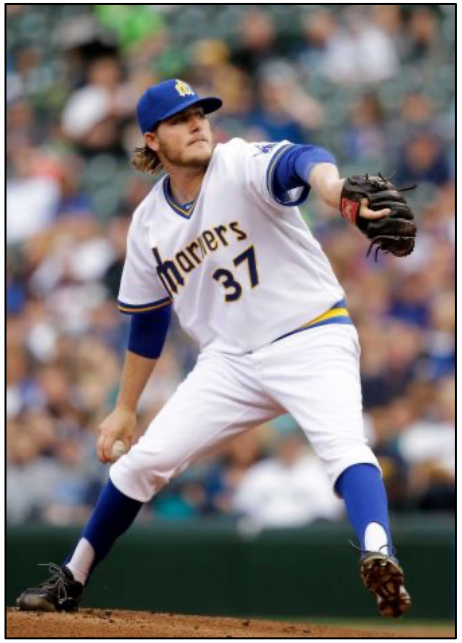
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1979



May 24, 2014: The Houston Astros visited Safeco Field and played a Turn Back the Clock to 1979 game. The Mariners' replica uniforms were near perfect, with the exception of incorrect NOB treatment by using name-plates and not using vertical arching for names. The player number fonts were the ones I recreated and had supplied to Majestic some years in the past.

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2014 Memorial Day

May 26, 2014: MLB had all teams wearing camouflage-trimmed uniforms for the second year in a row, and the mariners made a wise choice using their home alternate uniform this year as the basis. At least the contrasting colors made the camo twill on wordmark, player names and numbers more visible from the seats.

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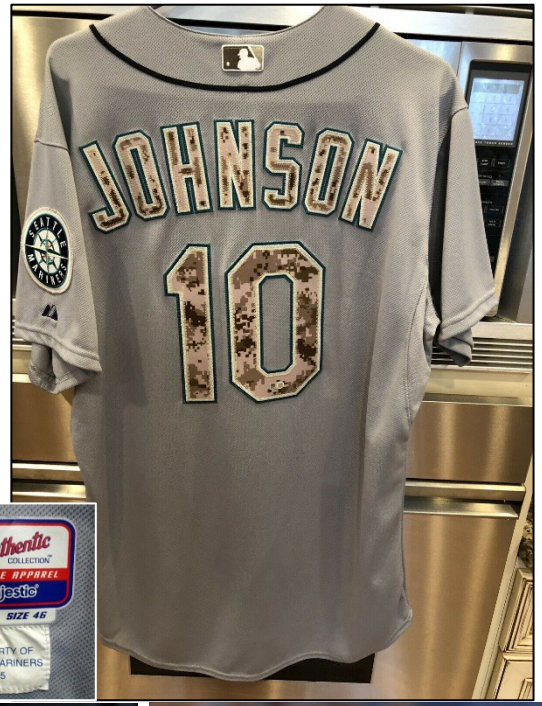
2015 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Seattle Steelheads)

Derek Damian collection

On May 16, the Mariners honor the 1946 Negro League Seattle Steelheads for a second time, the first being 20 years earlier. The Steelheads played in the Western Coast Negro League, which folded after only one month of games. This version of the Steelheads jersey differs greatly from the one used in 1995, probably because there is little record of what the Steelheads wore in 1946. Though both are home jerseys, this one says “Seattle” on front, whereas the 1995 version featured the team name. This Majestic knit jersey also features player numbers in black/gray on back in Block, and the city name in black/gray on front, with thick black braid around the neck and placket. The opposing Red Sox wear uniforms of the Negro League Boston Royal Giants.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Memorial Day



On the road for Memorial Day, May 25, 2015, the Mariners wear their gray jersey as a base for the camo treatment. Once again, the top layer of twill is replaced by desert camouflage. Where the contrast on the teal jersey was an improvement in 2014, this jersey suffers the same fate of illegibility that most gray jerseys with camo lettering do. The white and teal outlines provide some minor contrast up close, but absolutely none from a distance. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar.

The Mariners wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as back numbers. Player names on back are in red. Two-layer twill replaces the usual three-color lettering on the jerseys. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Mother's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Mariners wear their road gray jerseys, and the typically three-color front lettering and back numbers are rendered in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are sewn in single-color dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray. The style returns on May 13–14, 2017.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Mariners apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The typically three-color front lettering and back numbers are rendered in two-color woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are single-color black rather than the usual blue.

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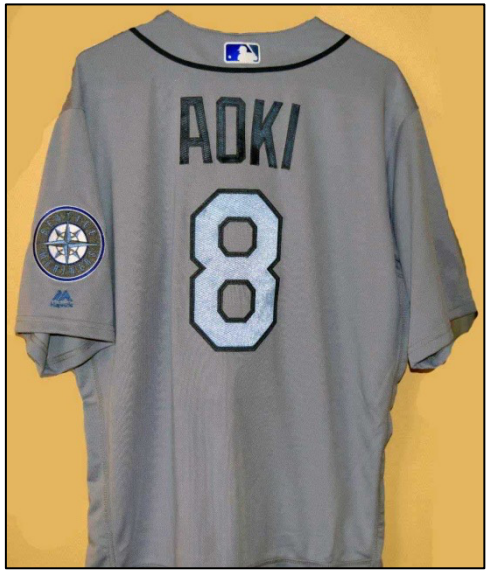
2016-2017 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



All teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, June 19. 2016 and June 17–18, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Mariners wear their road gray jerseys, and the typically three-color front lettering and back numbers are rendered light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are single-color dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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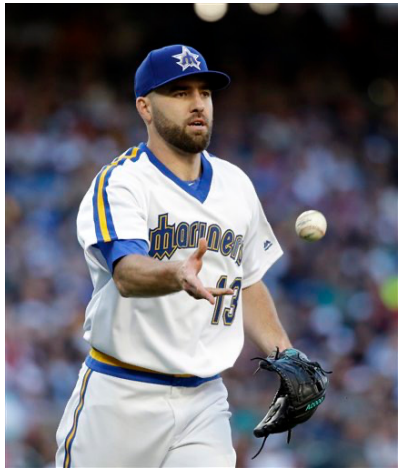
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1984



For a June 25 game against the Cardinals, the Mariners once again turn the clock back to 1984, sporting replicas of their royal blue and gold pullovers worn at home from 1981–1986. Like the originals, the Mariners wordmark and Block back and front numbers are royal blue/yellow/ royal blue, while names on back are royal blue on a nameplate. These Majestic knit jerseys are decent recreations, however, the front team name seems smaller here than on the originals, though the larger front numbers appear to match up well with the 1984 version. The Cardinals wore 1984 road jerseys to match.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck.

The Mariners are on the road and wear their alternate road blue jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Mariners select the red twill version with gray outlines to replace their typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers, with a gray player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors.

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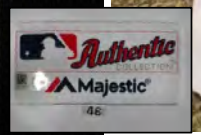
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1989/ Griffey Number Retirement Weekend

Stephen Kraljic Collection



In honor of Ken Griffey Jr.'s enshrinement in the Baseball Hall of Fame, the Mariners plan a weekend-long celebration for their superstar, including uniform tributes and retiring his number throughout the organization. On Friday, August 5, the team throws back to 1989, Griffey's rookie year, with these Majestic knit jerseys. Like the originals, these feature the Mariners wordmark on front in royal blue/ yellow/royal blue, with Block front and back numbers in royal blue. Names on back are also royal blue and on a nameplate. Even the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo is correctly absent from the back collar. In contrast to the original, this one features the royal blue and gold version of the Griffey Number Retirement patch that all of the team's jerseys sported over the celebratory weekend.

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2016 Hispanic Heritage

For Salute to Latin American Béisbol Day at Safeco Field on September 4, the Mariners again don their *Marineros* jersey. This time, however, it is updated to the new lettering style that the team adopted in 2015, but oddly did not apply to the Marineros jerseys worn that year. The Majestic Flex Base jersey changes the front wordmark to Spanish, but all else remains the same as their usual home jerseys.

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2017 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Mariners apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The Mariners celebrate their 40th anniversary throughout 2017, including throwing back to their first home jersey from 1977 on June 24. The team held similar throwback nights for their 20th and 30th anniversaries as well, so this style V-neck pullover, here made in full-knit by Majestic, is familiar to the home fans.

Aside from the blue name on back font, which was vertically arched and more spaced-out on the originals, these jerseys are very well done, down to the Mariners' custom numbers in blue/yellow. The visiting Astros wore their 1977 "Tequila Sunrise" rainbow jerseys, which were so distinctive at the time, they served as both home and road uniforms.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 1–2, 2017, the Mariners wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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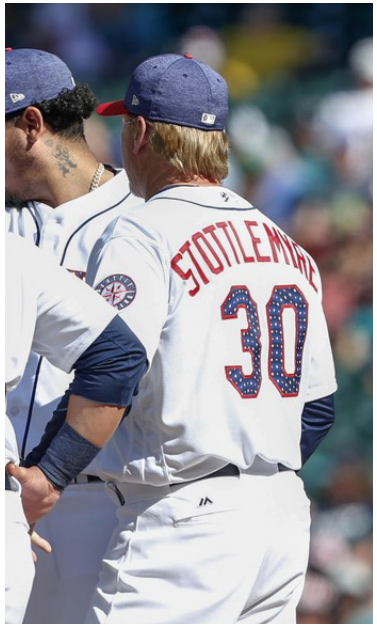
2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)



The Mariners were one of the handful of teams that played both home and road games on Independence Day weekend 2017. The Mariners use the same colors of special twill lettering on these as their road jerseys for 2017. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. \

On July 3–4, 2017 and again July 2–4, 2018, the Mariners wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with hand-written black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font.

On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Mariners wear jerseys with teal bodies and Columbia blue sleeves with metallic silver nicknames and numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide bright blue/white/Columbia blue trim. The front features a straight-across version of their normally arched home lettering without the compass rose on the "M", here rendered in bright blue/metallic silver/blue kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2017-2018 Hispanic Heritage

The Mariners return with a new incarnation of their longstanding "*Marineros*" Salute to Latin American Béisbol Night jerseys on September 9, 2017 and September 8, 2018. This one takes advantage of subtle printing on the main layer of twill, a practice borrowed from recent Spring Training jerseys. Here, the printed twill (which is used throughout the uniforms including front "*Marineros*" wordmark, and back names and numbers) is printed with the names of the home countries of Mariners Latin American players. Surprisingly, the effect is visible in game photos, though, naturally, unreadable except for close inspection. Otherwise, the jersey is the same as the team's normal home jerseys, including the navy/teal version of the team's 40th anniversary patch on the right sleeve in 2017.

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2018 Memorial Day

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Mariners apply this style to their home white jerseys on May 26–28, 2018.

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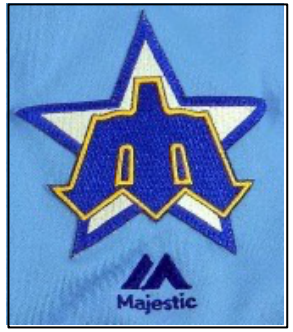
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Stephen Kraljic Collection



On the road against the “Rainbow Guts”-clad Astros on August 10, 2018, the Mariners break out these well-executed throwbacks to their 1979 road jerseys. The main difference here vs. the originals is the player name font on back, which is a little taller and narrower, but this set very accurately represents the team’s 1979 road look, down to the Mariners’ custom number font. The patch of the Mariners’ trident-M logo in a star also correctly resides on the left sleeves. Majestic crafted this V-neck pullover in full-weight knit for the game.

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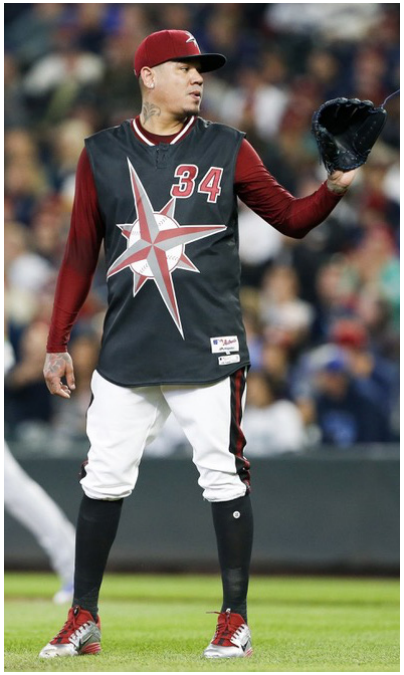
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1998 Turn Ahead the Clock



Call it historic, call it infamous, or just call it silly; but the Mariners pioneered "Turn Ahead the Clock" night in 1998 in a game against the visiting Royals, a concept that was copied for an MLB promotion enlisting many teams the following season. The Mariners are never a team to let a good anniversary go by unrecognized, so here we have a Turn Back the Clock jersey to a Turn Ahead the Clock jersey. Majestic made the originals only 20 years prior, so one would think these would be identical, but somehow that's not the case. The number fonts are slightly off, more so on the front numbers which are just smaller versions of the back numbers, where on the originals, they were much wider than their back counterparts. The name font is also less bold than the 1997 entry, though the font itself is a good match. The jersey fabrication on these two-button sleeveless jerseys differs too, mainly from advances in garment technology. This version is made in Cool Base fabric vs. the original knit, and the compass rose front logo is sublimated into the fabric where the originals used silk-screening. The Royals were the (lucky?) team to visit the Mariners for this Throw Back to the Future event, but went in an entirely different direction for their uniforms. Perhaps Majestic had lost the templates for their jerseys, too.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1969 Seattle Pilots

For a second time in their history, the Mariners throw back to the one-year expansion 1969 Seattle Pilots, who are now the Milwaukee Brewers. And for the second time Majestic creates these stunningly beautiful and historically accurate reproductions of that short-lived team's unique home uniforms. Exacting in every detail, down to the now-unusual belt loop pattern that the Pilots used (which was also present on the 2006 throwbacks) these full-knit uniforms deserve nothing but praise.

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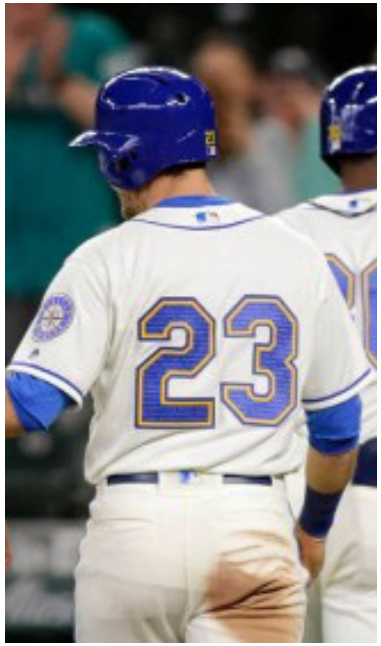
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1987-1992

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Visiting the Astros (a team they seem to face often in throwback games) on June 28, 2019, the Mariners wear replicas of their 1987–1992 road set, here made in full-knit by Majestic. And they are very nicely done, duplicating the originals very closely, down to the nameplates on back. Like the originals, a royal blue/yellow/royal blue 3D drop shadow Mariners wordmark is on front with simple blue numbers on front and back in Block Bold.

© GameWornGuides.com

2019, 2022-2023 Hispanic Heritage



The Mariners return with a new incarnation of their longstanding "*Marineros*" Salute to Latin American Béisbol Night jerseys on September 15, 2019 (made by Majestic) and September 24, 2022 and September 17, 2023 (made by Nike). This one repeats the practice of subtle printing on the main layer of twill from the last two years of this promotion, but here applies it to the team's alternate home cream jersey for the first time. Again, the main layer of twill (used throughout the uniforms including front wordmark, which is changed to read "Marineros," and back numbers) is printed with the home countries of Latin American players in MLB. Surprisingly, the effect is visible in game photos, though, naturally, unreadable except for close inspection. Otherwise, the jersey is the same as the team's normal home alternate cream jerseys. The 2023 version has the All-Star Game patch replacing the team disc patch.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its head, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys.

The Mariners wear a black jersey with the straight-across "Mariners" lettering, carried over from the last two Players Weekend promotions, with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2021-2023 Negro League Tributes (1946 Seattle Steelheads)

After honoring the Seattle Steelheads Negro League team twice in 20 years, the Mariners throwback to the 1946 club three times in as many years on June 19, 2021, June 18, 2022, and June 17, 2023. This elegant uniform, made by Nike in cream-colored knit, has wide navy braid around the neck opening and placket, while front and back lettering are navy/gray. The original Steelheads only lasted one abbreviated season as charter members of the of the West Coast Negro Baseball Association, a minor league circuit owned by Harlem Globetrotters founder Abe Saperstein and the legendary Jesse Owens.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1977 Prototype Home

This is a sample 1977 Mariners jersey in the 1977–1980 style used by the team at the very start of their existence. How do we know it is from 1977 and not any of those other years? The secret is in the Wilson neck tag. This is a 1974–1977 style tag; there is no serif (or "foot" on the base of the "4" in the size designation of 42. Starting in 1978 the font changed, and also the ® mark that had been above the word WILSON moved to below the word for 1978. Check out the "Tagging" chapter in this guide to see for yourself.

The white twill tag sewn inside the back of the neck lists all the details exhibited by this sample garment. It shows the style code for the trimmed jersey body, the fabric type used, the style code for the front and back lettering that surely code-matches to patterns at the Wilson art department. It also tells us that the front numbers are (nominally) 4" tall; the back ones are 8". Notice that this sample jersey does not have a player name on back; it appears the decision to add them came after this sample was made. When no names on back are used, the back numbers are generally 6" from the collar. When names are added, the numbers are moved down to about 8" from the collar, sometimes a little more.

Also notice a fine detail: the Mariners' stylish font is closely related to the one the Padres used 1978–1984, those jerseys also made by Wilson. The Mariners font is less bold and a bit taller/skinnier than the Padres' but the font characteristics are very similar. Notice the "clocking" of the number 9, so that the bottom is tilted at about a 22 degree angle. So often, in restorations and reproduction, the bottom of the 9 (and the top of its cousin the 6) are incorrectly set flat to the ledger line. Here, you can see precisely how the artist designed it to be placed.

How many samples were made before this one was selected? Generally a team will review three or four different finalists "in the cloth" before making their decision. The losers are then discarded, or sometimes sneak out the back door for us to find decades later!

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1977 Spring Training Orphan Home Jerseys

Prior to the 2000s, in spring training each year, MLB teams wore their prior season uniforms, saving their new-season duds fro opening day. But when the Mariners went to their first spring training in 1977, there were of course no prior year uniforms to wear! Therefore, they needed uniforms to wear before opening-day. These sets of home jerseys used by the Mariners in 1977 spring training were surely advance-planned to be sent to the minor leagues after the regular season started for the first year 1977 Mariners. The back numbers are sewn too high to allow for a name on back above, and no player names were used. The team tagging on the tails differs from the style used for 1977 Mariners regular season home jerseys, which used lower-placed numbers on back and had a player name above. The Mariners had two minor league organizations also called “Mariners” in 1977–1978, with the class AAA San Jose Missions added in 1978.
I have collected several photos of these spring training jerseys in my files, but had the chance to evaluate and authenticate this one that was likely the jersey issued to catcher Larry Cox. It had the Mariners crest on front replaced at one point with one that said “Missions” before someone converted it back to a Mariners crest.

© GameWornGuides.com

1977 Spring Training Orphan Road Jerseys

Nick DiSalvo Collection

Sources: www.Uni-Watch.com, www.sportsillustrated.com

These are the 1977 "road" uniforms worn by the Mariners in their first spring training. Sports Illustrated photos show entertainer (and part-owner of the club) Danny Kaye visiting the Mariners in Spring Training for their upcoming inaugural season of 1977. Notice the light blue road jerseys say "Mariners" on the front, not the "Seattle" that were unveiled just a few weeks later. The use of the team name and not the city was likely purposely used on these so they could be re-used in the minors without needing to strip "Seattle" off the fronts. Also note that the trident shaped "M" on the road jerseys is not vertically arched like the one on the home jersey is, and that the wordmark on the blue jerseys is different than the one on the white jerseys (notice especially the "ers" in Mariners). Goodman manufacturer tags are clearly visible on the jerseys hanging in the 1977 locker room. No names were used on back. These spring training road jerseys were passed down and used in the Minor Leagues at San Jose in the Pacific Coast League.

© GameWornGuides.com

1977 Spring Training Orphan Exceptional Original Example

Mariners collector Sherman Chan supplied these images. He stumbled upon this jersey in his collecting activities. He says, “The seller said that his father used to work for NBC Sports and in late April 1977, NBC was scheduled to work a Mariners vs. Yankees game. The seller’s father made the acquaintance of the Mariners’ equipment manager who told him that the club used this style jersey during spring training but it wasn’t being used for the regular season so the equipment manager offered one to the seller’s father and he took this #6 jersey.

Photos of the Mariners in their very first Spring Training now four decades ago are extremely hard to come by. Sneaked out the back door before it was sent to the minors, this one was spared the ravages that most Mariners’ 1977 spring training jerseys were subjected to.

© GameWornGuides.com

1979: Willie Horton's Custom Henley-Neck

The Mariners did not wear two-button Henley neck jerseys in 1979, but designated hitter Willie Horton did.

It is clear that Horton did not like a tight neck opening on his uniform. Below center, he is seen playing for the Texas Rangers in 1977 with his (team issue) two-button Henley opened up wide. And with the Tigers a couple of years prior he has clearly ripped his V-neck open to give himself more room. Traded to the Mariners from the Rangers, he adopted the style of his prior team regardless of what the "uniform" standard was. Apparently, the player had his uniform shirt tailored to his liking—without seeking approval—and wore it that way at least in the 1979 season. His final season in MLB was 1980 for the Mariners, and it would be speculation that he may have tailored that uniform himself as well.

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1981 Batting Practice Jerseys Used for Road Game

Reproduced from uni-watch.com
By Paul Lukas, December 28, 2021

What's going on here? There's a lot to process in the photo shown above. The coach is wearing a Brewers cap, the player is wearing a Rangers helmet, and both of them are wearing jerseys with the Mariners' old trident logo. Was this some sort of celebrity all-star game? A beer league game? A misguided pair of Halloween costumes?

Nope—those are both big leaguers taking part in an official MLB game. The date was May 31, 1981, and that's Mariners third base coach Cananea Reyes on the left and Mariners outfielder Jeff Burroughs on the right. They're dressed like that because Seattle's jerseys, caps, helmets, and other gear were stolen from the Rangers' stadium prior to the game, forcing the M's to take the following steps:

• Their BP jerseys weren't stolen, so they wore those for the game.

• They wanted to buy and wear retail Mariners caps, but the Rangers' concessionaires were sold out of those, so they bought Brewers caps instead because Milwaukee's blue/yellow color scheme was a fairly good match.

• They wore the Rangers' batting helmets (and so did the Rangers, obviously, so the two teams were basically trading the helmets back and forth between their dugouts each half-inning).

A few moments after that photo was taken, Burroughs was tagged out at the plate by Rangers catcher Larry Cox, providing the odd spectacle of base runner and catcher both wearing the same headwear logo. Footnote: Despite the mismatched attire, the Mariners won, 5-3.

The Seattle Mariners were forced to sport hand-me-down chic...
UPI Archives, June 1, 1981

ARLINGTON, Texas -- The Seattle Mariners were forced to sport hand-me-down chic during their game Sunday against the Texas Rangers thanks to the thieves who broke into the visitors' clubhouse and stole their uniforms.

Taken were all the Mariners' batting helmets, 22 uniform tops, 24 caps and five catcher's mitts values at about $3,500.

Mariners officials tried to purchase Seattle caps from concessionaires, but they were out of stock. Instead, the team had to settle for Milwaukee Brewer caps, which also have a blue and gold color scheme.

The Seattle catchers borrowed mitts from the Rangers and Mariners batters used Rangers batting helmets. They all wore Mariners warm-up jerseys during the game.

However, their attire didn't matter as Joe Simpson went 3-for-5 and drove in three runs and Dan Meyer was 4-for-5 with an RBI to lead Seattle to a 5-3 victory.

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1981-1984 Sample Road

Russell Athletic didn't become a major player in MLB uniforms until 1992, but if this jersey is what we think it is, it means they tried to break in decades earlier. This jersey appears to be a 1981–1984 Mariners road jersey—minus the name on back. It is possible that Russell made this up as a sample for the team. The blue "R" logo with the red eagle head was adopted by the brand in 1983, so this jersey's tagging would be era-appropriate.

The other possible explanation is that this is a sample for a turn back the clock game Russell made for the Mariners while serving as their official uniform supplier from 1992–2004. However, except for very rare occurrences in jerseys from early 1992, Russell tagging for MLB jerseys in that era would have had "Diamond Collection" or "Authentic Collection" branding on them. But, there is still a small chance that this was made for review in 1991–1992, just as Russell was taking on the team's contract

The Mariners did not wear a throwback to this particular jersey until 2010, by which time Majestic was their supplier.

Reader info that would help us clarify this one is welcome!

© GameWornGuides.com

1987 Prototype Road

Though not confirmed, it seems reasonable that this uniform, acquired by dealer Ballpark Heroes though its usual team sources, was a prototype design at some point. We can point to 1987, the year that the Mariners redesigned their team look to one similar to this—though not *exactly* the same—but chose Rawlings as their supplier. Adding credence to the idea is the fact that Speedline Athletic of Tampa Florida, a major producer of college athletics, but not a supplier to MLB, made the Mariners St. Patrick's Day jerseys in 1991 (discussed in the Special Events Jerseys section), and boldly stuck their logo on the sleeve certainly without the approval of MLB to do so. Only the official supplier to MLB was afforded that right, and in 1991, that manufacturer was Rawlings.

© GameWornGuides.com

Oddballs: One Prototype and Two “Oops”

- ***Top left:* Northwest Green Vest Prototype*:*** The Mariners wore vests for several years in the 1990s. Reportedly, Ken Griffey Jr. preferred this style and was always pushing for their adoption. This Northwest Green Russell prototype is sewn in the 1995–1996 style, but was never used on-field by the team .
- ***Top right:* Player without a compass?** The TV shot at the top right shows player Ichiro’s on-field jersey missing its compass logo, normally found above the “M” in “Mariners."
- ***Bottom right:* Oops.** this navy retail Authentic jersey with 2000–2003 Russell tagging features the home jersey wordmark, the one with navy as its central color instead of silver. More likely a mistake than a prototype.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 Prototype Vest/Undershirt

We've established already that Ken Griffey Jr, the Mariners young superstar, was a strong proponent of the vest-style jersey, and campaigned to have the Mariners adopt one for their use. In 1997, the team did. The jersey at left appeared on an auction site and I strongly suspect that it is a 1997 vest prototype that Russell created for the Mariners' consideration. The team's secondary compass logo is on the chest. It has a blank back, and as is the custom with some prototypes, it features the year of design as its player number. Then, some time after, the jersey at *top right* appeared for sale on an auction site. Close photo examination leads us to suspect it is likely the very same jersey as the one at left, though we can't be certain. The front tail tag is one that Russell last used in 1996.

© GameWornGuides.com

More 1997 Prototype Vests

These two prototype jerseys are likely from the same exercise that had created the white one on the prior page. The Russell tagging is from the 1995–1999 period, and the “97” on the chest of the top one certainly signifies the year of the design proposal.

The top navy vest has all the same elements as the white vest seen prior, only with silver knit trim and metallic silver over Mariner Green lettering.

The bottom navy vest with matching undershirt has wide (almost garish) sparkle-silver knit trim around the armholes and three-color lettering in a color scheme that would be adopted by the team for their alternates in 2003—seven years later. The undershirt features the team disk patch sewn to its left sleeve

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1997: First Jackie Robinson Day and The Start of a Trend

Now an annual event, Jackie Robinson Day is marked each year on April 14, commemorating the first time a Black man played in MLB, April 15, 1947. Mariner Ken Griffey Jr. received permission for that day to switch his usual #24 to Robinson's #42, and in doing so set the precedent for every team changing every player's number to 42 for one day, each April 14 in the years to come, starting in twelve seasons later, in 2009.

From MLB.com: *"Griffey was the first player to come up with the idea of wearing No. 42 on April 15. Interestingly, he implemented it twice.*

To trace the first time he broached the idea, we have to go all the way back to April 15, 1997, the 50th anniversary of Robinson's Major League debut, and the day Selig retired his number. Griffey, who was playing for the Mariners at the time, asked that his uniform number be flip-flopped, switching from No. 24 to 42.

Fast forward 10 years, and Griffey again wanted to wear No. 42 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Robinson's debut. But this time, since the number was retired, he had to ask permission.

So he called Selig at home.

"I said, 'Would it be possible if I wore 42 on Jackie Robinson Day?'" Griffey recalled during an interview with Harold Reynolds on MLB Network. "We had a 10-minute conversation. [Selig] said, 'Is it OK if I call Rachel [Robinson, Jackie's wife] and ask if it's OK?'"

Selig called Griffey back the next day and granted the request, but added he would like to extend the offer to wear No. 42 to anyone who wanted to.

"I said, 'The more, the merrier,'" Griffey said.

That year, Griffey and a handful of Black players from other teams took up the offer and wore No. 42. That was the protocol for the next two seasons—players had the option to wear the number, but it was an individual decision.

In 2009—five years after MLB officially designated April 15 as Jackie Robinson Day—Selig expanded the exercise. MLB announced that everyone who wore a uniform—players, coaches and managers—-would wear No. 42. That tradition continues today.

© GameWornGuides.com

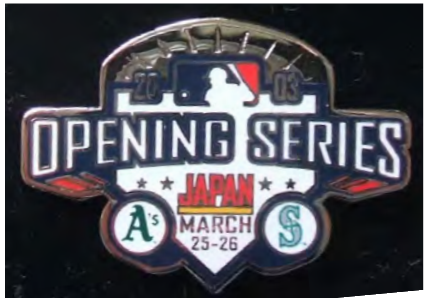
2003 Canceled Tour of Japan Jerseys

In 2003, the Mariners and A's were scheduled to travel to Japan for a two-game, season-opening series on March 25–26. Despite the neutral site, the A's were to be the home team for the two contests. Just a few days before the teams were scheduled to travel, Major League Baseball canceled the trip out of concern for a possible war between the United States and Iraq. The games were rescheduled to take place in Oakland during the regular season.

Given the last-minute change of plans, it is understandable that the teams would have already made up jerseys, including special ad patches for the tour's sponsor Hisamitsu, a pharmaceutical company. Here is one example, a road jersey made up pitcher Gil Meche that went unworn.

This is the only such example we've seen, so it is unclear what happened to the rest of them. Perhaps the two teams simply removed the ad patches and put the jerseys into regular circulation?

Both teams did eventually make it to Japan to start the season in 2012.



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2006 Sample Alternates

You aren't seeing double, but you are seeing something of a mystery.

Here you have two identical samples for a 2006 Mariners alternate jersey. Made in full-weight knit by Majestic, both share the same details in terms of jersey color, lettering style and pattern. Both are devoid of any trim and have the same patch on the left sleeve. Both even use "Player" (on a nameplate) and "6" (representing 2006, the year of the jersey) on back.

The only distinguishing feature? The text on the sample tag inside the placket. The jersey on the left reads "MAR-ALT06" and the one on the right says "MAR-06-ALT-J-FINAL."

OK, so an open-and-shut case then, this is the prototype and the identical final choice for the team's new-for-2006 alternate jersey.

But wait...the Mariners already had this exact, same jersey as early as 2003. But they did switch from Russell to Majestic when using this, so that's what this was for...but no, that had already occurred in 2005.

So what is it? Hard to know exactly, The team did lighten the color of the blue alternate jersey slightly in 2008, this may have been a test for that process, which may have taken time to implement. Aside from this, the jersey didn't otherwise change except for losing the nameplates (present here) in 2007, and then losing the white outline around the compass rose in 2009.

If any readers know more about these, let us know!

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2005-2019: Félix Hernández Knit Jerseys Only

2012

2014

2017

2015

2019

Above: *Félix Hernández salutes the Mariners home crowd as he leaves the field during his final game on September 14, 2019. Fittingly, he is wearing a full knit jersey identifiable by the lack of Flex Base underarm/ side panels.*

2015

Mariners legend Félix Hernández was faithful to his one team during his 15 seasons in the big leagues. And through that time, he was partial to one kind of jersey construction, traditional double knit. Though jerseys went from knit to Cool Base to Flex Base while he played from 2005–2019, he stuck with good old knit whenever he could. Except for a few exceptions for special holiday and throwback jerseys, it is possible to find King Félix's game worn and team issued jerseys in knit construction from seasons well after they were available to other players. Like the Cardinals did for Yadi Molina, who harbored the same feelings about knit jerseys, the Mariners went out of their way to outfit their longstanding ace with the jerseys he preferred. Several examples from throughout his later career, when other jersey constructions became the norm, are shown here.

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2012 Property of Ichiro and Tiny Customizations

Lots of baseball players have become so famous that we all know them by their first names. Some have even put their first names on the backs of their jerseys. But only one player we know about falls into both of those categories AND had his first name on his jersey tagging. In at least two examples, we have seen what are advertised as game used Ichiro jerseys with "Property of Ichiro" on the tail tagging where "Property of Seattle Mariners" usually appears. During his career, Ichiro had a deal with a company to market his memorabilia, so it is likely that, given his star power, he was allowed to order and use these jerseys in games to then sell them through his marketing partner. Here we have examples from two different 2012 jerseys, a one alternate and one home.

Note also on both examples that there is a hand-written note changing the +2" sleeve customization tag to +.25" (it is very hard to see on the alternate jersey tag). Apparently Ichiro liked longer sleeves—but only very slightly longer. We have also included an image from a 2011 Ichiro jersey (with "Property of Seattle Mariners" tagging) that includes this same notation that is easier to read. Also shown at right, tags from Ichiro's time with the Yankees (2014) and Marlins (2015), showing that the .25" modification was more formally expressed with actual printed tags later in his career.

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2016 Griffey Tribute #24 Batting Practice Jerseys

As part of the weekend of festivities honoring Ken Griffey, Jr.'s organization-wide number retirement, the Mariners gave the Kid's #24 one final appearance, and this time everyone wore it. For batting practice on August 6, every Mariners player wore #24 (with his own name) on the back of the team's typical batting practice jerseys. On the left sleeve, the BP jerseys also featured the blue and teal version of the Griffey Number Retirement patch that all of the team's jerseys sported over the celebratory weekend. Many players also wore their hats backward in honor of Griffey's trademark style.

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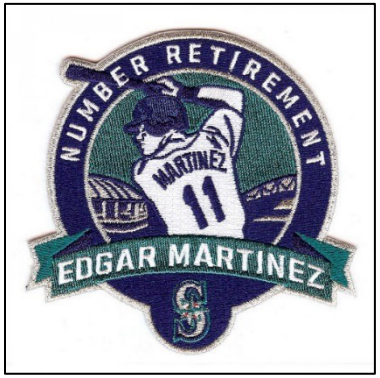
2017 Martinez Tribute #11 Batting Practice Jerseys

Like his teammate and fellow Hall of Famer/ Mariners number retiree Ken Griffey, Jr. got a year earlier, Edgar Martinez receives an all-team batting practice tribute on August 12, 2017. Every player wore Edgar's #11 on the Mariners standard batting practice jersey, which for that day, also included a special right sleeve patch to honor his number retirement.



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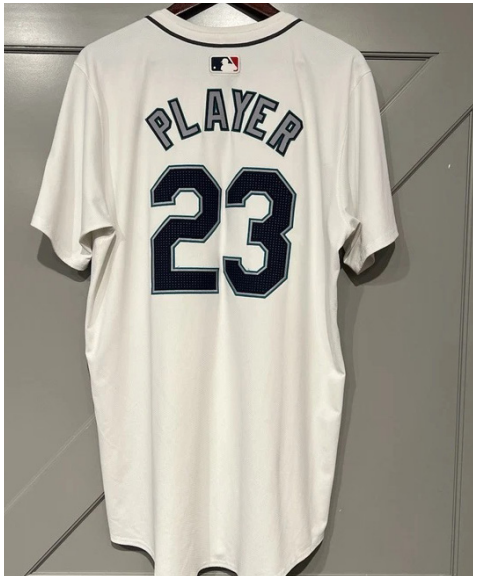
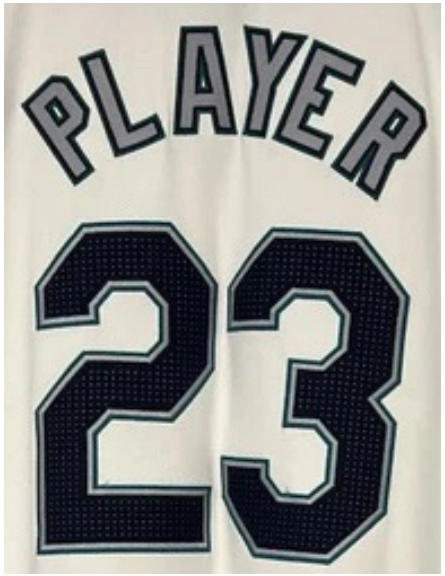
2023 Prototype Home





Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were “pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024.” Ultimately, the new template was in fact delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made up in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

This Mariners home jersey, at first glance, is mostly the same as what they wore before and after the switch in templates, but closer inspection reveals that this is VPE, including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, a lightweight team patch, and perforated back numbers. The tell-tale “Player” and “23” on back reinforce this as a sample, intended for the 2023 season.

The one item that differs significantly from Mariners home jerseys before and after the switch to VPE is the use of a different color pattern for the name on back lettering. Here it is gray/navy/Mariner green rather than the navy/metallic silver/Mariner green of the on-field jerseys. This may have been an error, or it could have been a new style that Nike or the team wanted to try. Either way, it was not adopted.

The heat-pressed inventory tag also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads “DH0501 MVR 2023 HOME CONVERSION JERSEY P2.” Here, “MVR” is a code Nike has used elsewhere for the Mariners, and “2023 home” is self explanatory. The “DH0501” indication is not clear, but this may be an internal model number. The use of “Conversion Jersey” and “P2” is also unclear. Other similar jerseys were labeled as “Conversion Jerseys” so it may refer to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and P2 may mean it is a second iteration of a sample.

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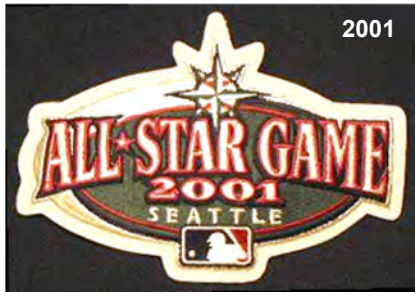
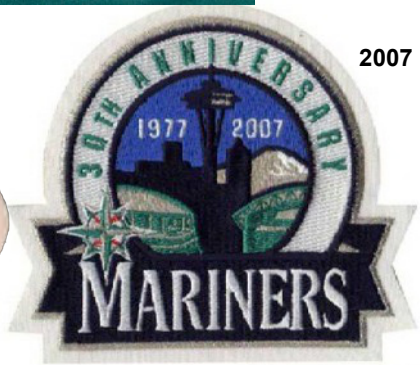
Commemorative Patches

Mariners Patches

- 1979: All-Star Game- The Mariners' trident inside a blue-edged star was the official logo for the 1979 All- Star Game held at the Kingdome. In 1979, all the Mariners wore the patch. But they continued to wear it in 1980, adopting it as a team logo. It was used on the front of the team's BP jerseys through 1986.
- 1995: Negro Leagues commemorative patch worn on all jerseys.
- 1997: 20th anniversary
- 2001: All-Star Game
- 2002: 25th anniversary
- 2007: 30th anniversary
- 2011: Broadcaster Dave Niehaus memorial (all season)
- 2012, March 28-29: Opening series in Japan Boeing patch, right sleeve of road gray and BP
- 2012: 35th anniversary
- 2013 "HY" patch for the passing former team owner and Nintendo president Hiroshi Yamauchi, starting September 20
- 2013, June 20: Mariners Félix Hernández, Raul Ibañez, and Kendrys Morales wore the "LEW" memorial patch of the Angels during a series with them in July. These players had a relationship with that team doctor.





2012 Opening Day in Japan (shown here on BP jersey)

2012

June 20, 2013 (three players, one game)

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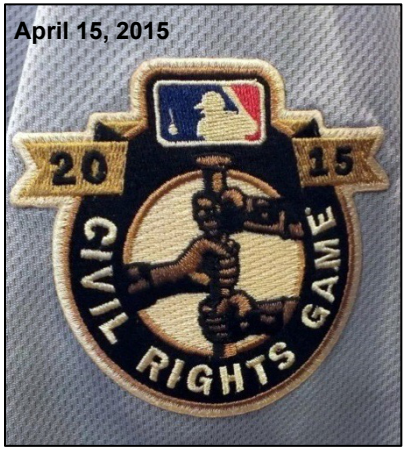
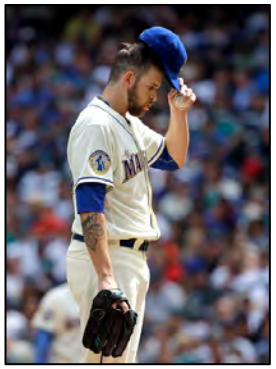


- 2015, April 15: Civil Rights Game Patch on right sleeve of road jersey.
- 2016: Ken Griffey, Jr. Number Retirement patch. Royal blue/yellow

  version worn on left sleeve of 1989 TBTC (8/5) and right sleeve cream home alternate (8/7). Navy/teal version worn on right sleeve of home jersey (8/6) and left sleeve of BP jersey (8/7).
- 2017: Mariners 40th anniversary patch. Navy/teal worn on right sleeve of home, road, and teal alternate. Royal blue/ yellow version worn on right sleeve of cream home alternate.

2016



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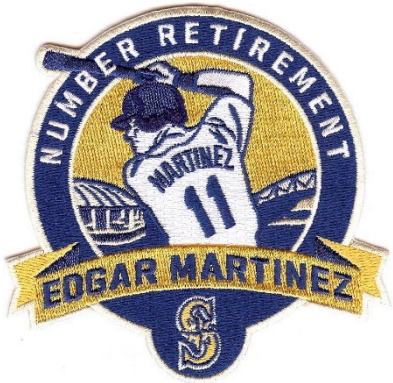
August 11-12, 2017



- 2017, August 11-12: Edgar Martinez number retirement. Navy/teal worn on right sleeve of home and teal alternate, in place of Mariners 40th anniversary patch. Royal blue/yellow version made for cream home alternate, but was not worn on field.
- 2019, March 20-21: Eneos (sponsor) Japan Opening Series patch.
- 2019, August 9-11: Edgar Martinez Hall of Fame celebration patch.
- 2023: All-Star Game patch, replacing team disc on all jerseys

March 20-21, 2019

August 9-11, 2019

2023

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2023-2025 Mariners Advertising Patches

Home, home alternate, City Connect

Road blue, alternate teal

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

In 2023, the team replaced their standard logo disc patch with the 2023 All-Star Game patch. The placement of the patch varied depending on the handedness of each player, perhaps in preparation for a sponsor that did not materialize. For 2004, the team disc returned, and it too varied sleeves, despite the team having on sponsor patches.

Finally, prior to the 2025 season, the Mariners struck a deal with Nintendo, a video game company, for a sponsor patch.

The Mariners use two distinct patches. Their home white, alternate home cream and City Connect use an orange rectangle with the Nintendo logo in white. The Road blue and alternate teal jerseys use an orange square with the Nintendo Switch 2 logo in white.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/ Document of Restoration

Darrell Johnson (Manager) 1978 Seattle Mariners Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0823J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Seattle Mariners Columbia Blue road style pullover jersey with white/gold/blue striped sewn on knit sleeve ends and V-neck collar. "SEATTLE" arched on front in Royal Blue over gold. Player numbers below in the same colors. On back, large player numbers similarly colored with one-color blue name on back above. The jersey has the sleeve patch that was first used as the logo for the 1979 All-Star game sewn to the left sleeve, and was then adopted as a team patch and remained in use afterwards. This patch was surely added when the jersey was re-issued the following year.

Darrell Dean Johnson (August 25, 1928 – May 3, 2004) was an American Major League Baseball catcher, coach, manager and scout. As a manager, he led the 1975 Boston Red Sox to the American League pennant, and was named "Manager of the Year" by both The Sporting News and the Associated Press. Johnson was hired to become the first-ever manager of the expansion Seattle Mariners on September 3, 1976. Johnson skippered the Mariners for approximately three and a half seasons until he was fired on August 3, 1980, and posted an overall win–loss mark of 226–362 (.384).(Wikipedia)

Restoration Performed: As received, the SEATTLE crest on front suffered from most of the thread holding it in place having failed. The jersey wore the numbers 35, and the name "COLEMAN" on back, the back number "5" autographed "Joe Coleman". Coleman was a coach for the Mariners' minor league Spokane Indians 1979-1980, and while it is an assumption, he likely participated in the MLB Mariners' spring training in one or more of those years. Removing the name and number lettering from the back, very clear sets of ghosts were apparent showing sun fading from both the names and numbers of Coleman and Johnson, the Coleman fading much more pronounced suggesting to me it was worn (or displayed) with Coleman on the back longer than it had been worn by Johnson. The jersey fabric is deeper blue below the belt, another typical artifact of sun-bleaching. I removed the gold thread from the front wordmark and replaced it. Using the Mariners team patterns and the light table, I re-created the name and numbers for Johnson, then aged and dyed them prior to sewing in place precisely over the original ghosts. The Coleman ghosts remain slightly visible, even when restored. While tagged as 1978, we left the 1979 patch on the sleeve.

Continued, overleaf

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red-tag style appropriate for 1978, stitched to the bottom left outside of the tail, designating the size as 44 (marked and measured). Two small white flag tabs are pinch-sewn under the right side of the tag; the top one says "Set 1 1978"; the bottom said "1 inch extra length"

Top, as received and prior to restoration. Below, images showing the ghosting after the removal of the Coleman lettering.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in generally good condition with some typical characteristic fading: the front wordmark is original with the stitching touched up, and the front numbers and back are properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no other alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by both Darrell Johnson in 1978 and later Joe Coleman, of the Seattle Mariners.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Document of Restoration

Seattle Mariners 1980 Stinson Home Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Year tagged 1980 Seattle Mariners jersey converted into minor league Wausau Timbers jersey. Original numbers still in place, but front crest had been replaced and NOB missing. Signs of two former NOBs present - Stinson and Edler, both of whom wore #15 on the 1980 Mariners. Original sleeve patch remains. Stitching around numbers front and back had failed in many spots, both colors.

Work Performed: Stripped all lettering. The jersey was filthy as well as well-worn, major glue. Remained from removal of TIMBERS crest. Deep cleaned and laundered, recreated Mariners crest from my original patterns in Royal and gold. Recreated vertically arched name on back from the clearly visible ghosts. Media blasted all new lettering to match the sheen of the old lettering elements. Applied front wordmark and NOB directly over old ghosts. Pulled all thread from the removed numbers and restitched them with new, reapplied them directly over old ghosts.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications
Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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http://GameWornGuides.com http://TheDream.Shop

Back

Document of Restoration

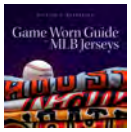
Seattle Mariners 1980 Beattie Road Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Un-year tagged 1980 Seattle Mariners jersey converted into minor league Wausau Timbers jersey. Original numbers still in place, but front crest had been replaced and NOB missing. Clear ghost of former NOB was present; Jim Beattie, who wore #45 on the 1980 Mariners. Original sleeve patch remains. Gold stitching around back numbers had failed in many spots.

Work Performed: Stripped Wausau crest. Major glue remained behind. Deep cleaned and laundered, recreated Seattle crest from my original patterns in Royal and gold. Recreated radially arched name on back from the clearly visible ghosts. Stitched all blue elements with violet thread in a similar stitch style to the match the faded thread of the original numbers. Applied front wordmark and NOB directly over old ghosts. Pulled only spots of loose thread from the back numbers and restitched them with new only in the spots that the original thread was missing.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator



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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Alex Rodriguez 1999 Seattle Mariners Autographed Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 29, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J21R

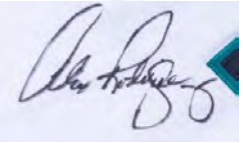
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1999 Seattle Mariners Russell Athletic size 48 with special tailoring, white six-button-front, full-weight knit home jersey issued to #3, Alex Rodriguez. A single corse of 1/8" Navy soutache borders the placket and circles around the back of the neck. "MARINERS" stitched team wordmark arched in three-color layered twill across both front panels in Navy/Mariner Green/ Metallic Silver. The team's compass logo is embroidered in three colors onto small twill patch that is sewn above the "M". The team's four color compass disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve. On the back, "Rodriguez" is stitched in the proper arch template onto a correctly serged-edge white nameplate. Beneath it is his number, 3 in the proper size and fonts. All the lettering on the back is in Navy Blue outlined with Mariner Green. The jersey is signed on the back left hand side, and a Beckett Letter of Authenticity accompanies the jersey referencing the signature. I have no opinion on the signature.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell "R" is embroidered in dark Navy in the end of the right sleeve. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag, is in the correct style for 1999 and showing the size 48, is stitched to the outside left tail. Beneath it is a white mylar fabric tag with "1999" printed on it, as is correct for Mariners 1999 team-issued jerseys. Layered under the left side of the patch there are a cascade of four overlaid fabric flag tags: 100% Polyester; 2" Extra Length Body, Tapered Body; 1" extra sleeve length. All alterations are evident when examining the jersey and are appropriate for the player and the year compared to other exemplars. The presence of these special tags, plus the notable lack of a size flag tag in the neck are hallmarks of Russell team-issued jerseys vs. ones made for retail sale.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells us that all lettering is original without alteration. All elements of the jersey, including the tagging are very crisp, and indicate light use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered as a Mariners 1999 team-prepared jersey. It is consistent with known exemplars. It appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue as worn by Alex Rodriguez of the Seattle Mariners from the 1999 season.



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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Lou Piniella (Manager) Seattle Mariners Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 10, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1110J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2001 Seattle Mariners Russell Athletic size 50, white six-button-front, full-weight knit home jersey issued to #14, team manager Lou Piniella. A single corse of 1/8" Navy knit trim borders the placket and circles around the back of the neck. "MARINERS" stitched team wordmark arched in three-color layered twill across both front panels in Navy/Mariner Green/ Metallic Silver. The team's compass logo is embroidered in three colors onto small twill patch that is sewn above the "M". The team's four-color compass disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve. On the back, "Piniella" is stitched using the team's condensed name font (often used for players with names eight letters or more in length) in the proper arch template onto a correctly single-needle serged-edge white nameplate. Beneath it is his number, 14 in the proper size and font. All the lettering on the back is in Navy Blue outlined with Mariner Green. On the center of the back of the neck is stitched a USA flag patch, as added over top the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch, after the events of 9/11 and worn that way through the end of the season. The 2001 All Star patch is stitched to the left sleeve, and the 2001 "100 Seasons" of the American Leagues stitched to the right. I was not able to find other reliably authenticated examples of Piniella jerseys from his post-playing days, but the size is slightly larger than his earlier player jerseys and is reasonable for the manager.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell "R" is embroidered in dark Navy in the end of the right sleeve. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag, is in the correct style for 2000 is stitched to the outside left tail. Beneath it is a white mylar fabric tag with "2000" printed on it, as is correct for Mariners 2000 team-issued jerseys. Pinch-sewn under the left side of the patch is a fabric flag tag: 100% Polyester and the size noted, 50. The presence of these tags, plus the notable lack of a size flag tag in the neck are hallmarks of Russell team-issued jerseys vs. ones made for retail sale.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells me that all lettering is original without alteration. All elements of the jersey, including the tagging show softening indicating normal use. There are a couple of stains on the front that could be dirt or tobacco. There are no signs of repair and the jersey is free of contrivance.

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered with the correct patches. It is reasonably sized for Piniella and is consistent with known exemplars of other 2001 Mariners jerseys. It shows no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue as worn by manager Lou Piniella of the Seattle Mariners during the 2001 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Authenticity

1995 Ken Griffey Jr. Seattle Mariners Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: June 10, 2020 **Certification Number**: 200610D1

This letter will serve as the opinion of Sports Investors Authentication LLC regarding the item in review.

Description: 1995 Seattle Mariners Russell Athletic size 46 Northwest Green six-button front full weight knit alternate jersey issued to #24, Ken Griffey, Jr. Everything is correct in this two year, 1995-1996 style alternate Northwest Green jersey (1994 was when it was first introduced but suttle changes took effect the following season). A single corse of 1/8" Navy soutache borders the placket and circles around the back of the neck. "MARINERS" stitched team wordmark arched in two color layered twill across both front panels in Navy/Metallic Silver. The team's compass logo is embroidered in three colors onto small twill patch that is sewn above the "M". The team's four color compass disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve. The 75th anniversary Negro League patch is on the right sleeve. On the back, "GRIFFEY" is stitched in the proper arch template onto a correctly serged-edge nameplate. Beneath it is his number, 24 in the proper size and fonts. All the lettering on the back is in Metallic Silver outlined in Navy tackle twill.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag, is in the correct style for 1995 and showing the size 46, which is the correct size for Griffey is this stage of his career, is stitched to the outside left tail. Beneath it is a white mylar fabric tag with "1998" printed on it. Layered under the left side of the patch there are two fabric flag tags; 100% Polyester and 2" Extra Length, (both are appropriate for the player and the year.) The presence of these small tags, plus the notable lack of a size flag tag in the neck are hallmarks of Russell team-issued jerseys vs. ones made for retail sale. The Russell "R" is embroidered in dark Navy in the end of the right sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells us that all lettering is original without alteration. Minor puckering and curling of the tags suggest that the jersey was washed a couple times. Jersey is original with no alterations and was removed from use following the end of the 1995 season.

Conclusion: An enormously popular player, Griffey claimed-game worn jerseys are in no short supply and appear in numerous period auctions. Only a very few are offered with provenance, this one is not. The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered as a Mariners 1995 team jersey. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light game use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is the considered opinion of Sports Investors Authentication that this jersey is genuine team issue and may have been worn by Ken Griffey Jr. of the Seattle Mariners during the 1995 season.

David Randolph
Managing Member

Bill Henderson
Lead Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Ichiro Suzuki 2001 Seattle Mariners Team Issued Home Jersey

Examination Date: December 7, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1207J01

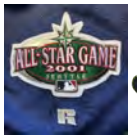
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2001 Seattle Mariners Russell Athletic size 48 (without special tailoring), Navy Blue six-button-front, full-weight knit jersey lettered for #51, Ichiro Suzuki. A single corse of 1/8" metallic silver soutache borders the placket and circles around the back of the neck. "MARINERS" stitched team wordmark arched in three-color layered twill across both front panels in Metallic silver/Navy/Mariner Green. The team's compass symbol is embroidered in three colors onto small white twill patch that is sewn above the center of the "M". The Mariners All Star Game patch is stitched to the left sleeve, as is correct for this style of jersey in 2001. On the back, in metallic silver outlined with Mariner Green, "ICHIRO" is stitched onto a serged-edge, color matching Navy nameplate. Beneath it is his number, 51 in the proper size and fonts.

Ichiro Suzuki joined the Seattle Mariners in 2001 as one of the most celebrated rookies in MLB history. Already a superstar in Japan, he earned both Rookie of the Year and American League MVP honors in his first MLB season, helping the Mariners to an amazing and record-tying 116 wins and a trip into the postseason.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The small MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in Navy/white/Blue-green is stitched to the back of the neck. The Russell "R" is embroidered in metallic silver thread at the end of the left sleeve. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is one of two styles correct for a 2001 issue, stitched to the outside bottom of the left tail. Tagging represents the size as 48, and the jerseys's actual chest measurement matches that tag. Beneath the locker tag is a white mylar fabric tag with "2001" printed on it, and is correct for Mariners 2001 team-issued jerseys. Pinch-sewn under the bottom center of the locker tag and overlapping the team year tag there is a single fabric flag tag that reads "100% Polyester 48", typical of team-spec jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells us that all lettering is original without alteration. All elements of the jersey, are very crisp. The year tag and the size flag tag are slightly wrinkled typical of light use and having been washed; all stitching is tight and intact. The jersey is offered without provenance, and its wear characteristics can not be guaranteed to be from game use.



Conclusion: This jersey is properly tagged and lettered, Its size is consistent with known exemplars worn by the player, careful examination shows it has no alterations of any kind. It shows signs of light wear. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is a genuine pro-model team issue prepared for Ichiro Suzuki of the 2001 Seattle Mariners.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Seattle Mariners 2014 "King" Felix Hernandez Game Worn Navy Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: November 4, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J13

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2014 Seattle Mariners Majestic size 52 Navy Blue six-button front, full weight knit alternate jersey issued to #34, Felix Hernandez. All lettering on the jersey is in three-colors; metallic silver/Navy/Mariner Green. "SEATTLE" stitched team wordmark arched in three color layered twill across both front panels. The team's compass logo is embroidered in three colors onto small twill patch that is sewn on top of the "S". In the On the back, "Hernandez" is stitched using the special team alternate jersey font in the proper arch template. Beneath it is his number, 34 in the proper size and font. The Mariners team disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve. The MLB silhouetted batter patch in Navy/white/green is stitched to the center of the back of the neck.

Provenance: The jersey is accompanied by a laminated and unsigned letter from the Mariners merchandising organization, certifying that this is a game worn jersey of Felix Hernandez. The jersey still has its Mariners team store paper hang tag attached to the back of the neck.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag, in the correct style for very 2014 is stitched to the outside left tail. Pinched under its bottom hem is a size 52 flag tag. Beneath it is a rectangular white mylar fabric tag with "Property of Seattle Mariners 2014" printed on it. The Majestic twin peaks logo is embroidered in white at the end of the left sleeve. The inside seam tag is coded with #0620, a team-spec code found on team issued jerseys. Notably, it does not have a MLB hologram or serial number attached to it, a feature that seems to be commonplace on game-used Mariners jersey sourced through MLB.com from this time period.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells us that all lettering is original without alteration. Some very minor yellowing and fraying of the team and manufacturer tags suggest that the jersey was handled and washed a couple of times.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered for Felix Hernandez and is accompanied by a legitimate-appearing but unsigned and non-serialized letter from the Mariners declaring it as game worn. The Mariners have had a documented practice of moving player-used jerseys through to their team store for sale to fans. In my opinion, it is reasonable to assume that this is a 2014 game worn Seattle Mariners Felix Hernandez jersey.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Seattle Mariners 1977 (Inaugural Season) Spring Training Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: August 30, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0830J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Seattle Mariners 1977-tagged home pullover jersey. Wilson size 42 marked and measured. White body with 1" blue/gold/blue knit trim sewn-in at the ends of the sleeves and around the V-Neck. Mariners crest arched on the front in dark Royal blue outlined with gold. The number 6 in the team's special font is stitched to the left chest and the center of the back, just 5 1/2" from the collar.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson size 42 tag is detached and pinned to the neck as received, covering stitching marks. jersey measures as a 42. This tag accurately reflects the size, is the proper style for use in 1977, and 1977 Mariners jerseys were made by Wilson. To the right of the tag location is a similar sized tan blob of glue residue that extends over the edge of the Wilson tag. On the lower outside left tail is a rectangular swatch of jersey fabric with "77 2" hand chain stitched on it. This tagging does not exactly match game-worn examples in my exemplar library, which use a smaller and thicker-thread/stroke chain stitching, as well as a different nomenclature. Exemplars have player number/two-digit year, while this has two digit year/(assumedly) set number. Other exemplars in my library show this tagging nomenclature used on similar jerseys with high-sewn numbers and no room for a name on back.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows heavy use. A light table evaluation reveals several interesting facts. The numbers on this jersey are original, their fabric showing typical significant puckering greater than the jersey they are attached to. This puckering pattern is impossible to duplicate if numbers are restored. The front MARINERS crest had been removed at some point, and then replaced. I hesitate to call it a restoration because it appears an old, original hand cut script was sewn back onto the jersey. I have seen this before on several 1977 Mariners jerseys, both home and road. A light table evaluation shows that the wordmark "MISSIONS" had been sewn in its place, a 1978 AAA minor league affiliate. However, the wear to the current MARINERS crest is significant with fraying, fading and puckering of the twill, both between the sewn layers of the wordmark and to the jersey fabric that it has been sewn to, and even some splitting of the fabric along the stitch lines. In other words, this appears to be a period wordmark replacement, and the wear to the jersey in its current state indicates that it was used frequently in this state AFTER wordmark replacement, OR an original stripped wordmark was returned the the front of the jersey rather than a new-cut one.

Continued, overleaf

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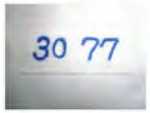
The light table images at left show the ghosts of the MISSIONS wordmark. Above center an example of a 1978 Missions jersey, above right showing the severe puckering under the replaced wordmark indicating heavy use after it was reapplied. Below, regular season jersey tagging is different from the spring training issues.



Observations/Conclusion: This was presented to me as the spring training jersey of catcher Larry Cox. Cox was #6 on the Mariners 1977 roster. At 5' 11" and 190 lbs, a size 42 would have been a tight fit but not impossible. I can find no other exemplars of Cox game worn jerseys to compare it to. 1977 Mariners jerseys are a challenge to authenticate for a couple of reasons. First they are difficult to research, as very little photo documentation exists of this expansion club especially in their first spring training, now some 47 years after the fact. In spring training, teams will traditionally wear the uniforms of the prior year MLB club, but because there was no prior year for the Mariners, a set of uniforms would have had to have been made for them to wear there. This jersey has year/set tagging that is different from other known game worn jerseys from the regular season, and significantly the number on back is too high to have allowed a name to be sewn above it, while the light table reveals that the number is original and that there never was a name sewn there. The very few spring training photos I have unearthed appear to show that the (unique) road uniforms used there ended up in the Mariners minor league system, where they were used without name on back. It is therefore reasonable to assume that the 1977 spring training issue home jerseys were handled the same way. The Mariners had two minor league organizations also called "Mariners" in 1977-78, with the class AAA San Jose Missions added in 1978. With the current wordmark in place it is impossible to see much of the ghosting directly underneath it, I would reasonably conclude that this jersey started life as a 1977 spring training jersey, probably issued to Cox, then may have been used in 1977 minor leagues as a "Mariners" jersey, then was stripped and repurposed as a 1978 "Missions" jersey before being returned to Mariners livery, and perhaps used again in 1979 or later. Teams were frugal, labor was cheap to do the stripping/sewing and there was simply no sense of nostalgia or collectibility for the uniforms used on the field in those days.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Pete Ladd 1986 (Tagged 1985) Seattle Mariners 1985 Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 16, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1116J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description/As Received: Rawlings pullover size 48 gray road jersey (marked and measured), originally Seattle Mariners road jersey, 1985 tagging. Blue V-neck with wide blue/gold/blue trim sewn on the tops of the shoulders. Three color blue/gold/blue numbers "46" on the back and on the left front chest. A light table evaluation shows that the team MARINERS crest had been stripped from the front, as a clear outline of the original stitching remains. Also missing was the player nameplate, leaving behind its own clear outline. In common practice at the time, MLB uniforms were handed down to the team's minor league clubs for reuse in the following years. In 1986-87, the Mariners had five minor league franchises, but with only one of them named "Mariners" MLB hand-me-downs either had to be stripped of the big-league team wordmark or had it covered up with a plate. Both methods were used by the teams. Experience shows that that typically at the end of the season, all uniforms that were sent down were stripped of team crests and player nameplates in bulk so they could be re-lettered and issued to minor league players the next year. This particular jersey was stripped but was never reused, as it stayed blank without a team name added to it. My experience has shown that this is a more typical occurrence with larger-sized jerseys that are less likely fit the younger players in the minors.

6' 3" 240lb. Pitcher Pete Lad, nicknamed "Bigfoot", appeared in 52 games, all in relief, during the full season, 1986 for the Mariners, compiling an 8-6 record with 6 saves and compiling a 3.82 ERA. Ladd's six-year MLB career ended after the 1986 season, and he played his final season of 1987 for the MiLB Albuquerque Dukes.

Restoration Performed: While #46 was issued in 1985 to 2 different pitchers, Mike Stanton and Jack Lazorko, the odd thing is is that the obvious ghost from the name on back nameplate is far too short for either of those two names. But it is the correct nameplate length for pitcher Pete Ladd who wore number 46 in 1986. Therefore, I doubt this jersey was worn in 1985, because there is really no remaining mark from a longer nameplate, and the light table confirms there was not another nameplate on this. My conclusion is that this was a leftover 1985 jersey that was issued to Ladd in 1986 when the team was still wearing the same style. My team template for the three color Mariners crest matched the ghost on the front of this jersey exactly, so it was cut from the correct Varsity Royal and gold twill and was sewn exactly over the old marks. "LADD" was cut in the same shade of blue using the proper 1985-86 font and stitched to a laser-cut nameplate that exactly covered the old ghost. There are no team repairs and the jersey remains in very good condition. Mariners jerseys of this vintage are seldom seen in original condition because of the team's practice of stripping then re-lettering them for reissue, but because this one never had anything else stitched on it before its restoration, it presents better than any other restored similar-era Mariners jersey that I have evaluated.

Continued, overleaf

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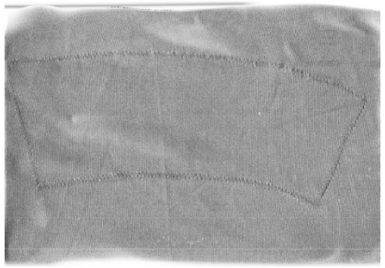
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tagging correct for 1985-86 is stitched to the outside left tail. Pinch-sewn under its right border is a small flag tab that reads SET 1 1985. This tagging matches exemplars.

Top: as received. The front numbers were originally sewn crooked, as seen. Below: Light table images below show the ghosts of the front Mariners wordmark, removed but never modified further with a minor league crest. Ghost of the original nameplate on the back can also be seen clearly on the light table. The replacement plate was made to exactly cover the old mark.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: with original player numbers, and with team wordmark and player nameplate properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Pete Ladd of the 1986 Seattle Mariners.



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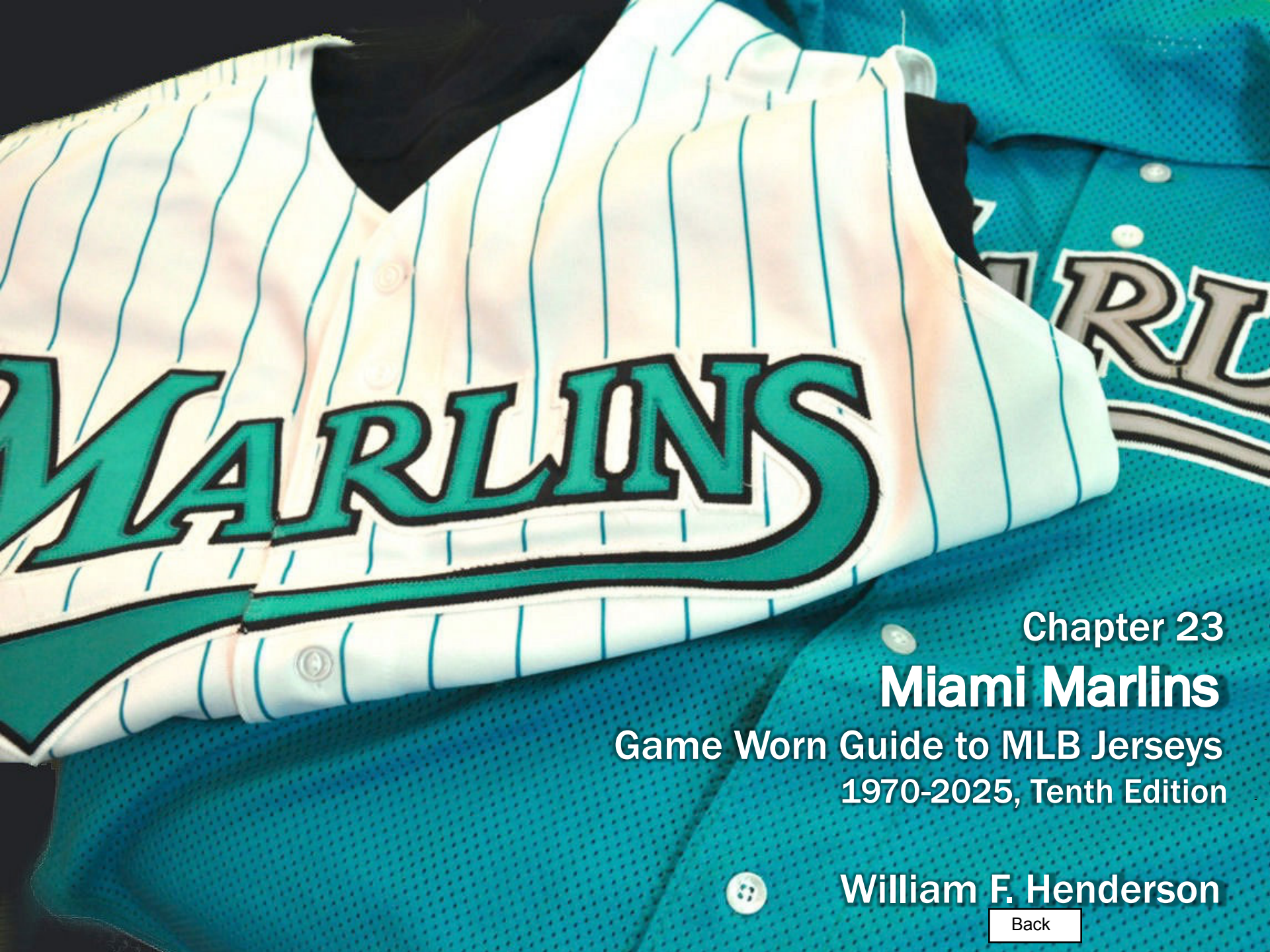

Chapter 23

Miami Marlins

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Back

Marlins Uniform History Notes

- The Marlins were added to the National League as an expansion team in 1993. Their flashy inaugural uniforms simply scream “1990s” with their combination of teal pinstripes and teal and black lettering, teal undershirts, teal bating jerseys, and even teal caps.
- The team was born after a long period of acrimonious negotiation with the city of Miami, and in the end, the lack of agreement on several terms—including the promise of a proper stadium—caused the team to call itself the “Florida” Marlins instead of “Miami Marlins.” Road uniforms were adorned with Florida wordmarks. Sleeve patches and caps and logos featured the jumping fish and an “F.”
- Notably, the Marlins introduced an alternate home vest as a part of their uniform lineup. In 1993, the Reds also introduced a vest to be worn as their primary home uniform jersey. They became the first teams to wear vests in 23 years, last worn by the Pirates during the first half of the 1970 season.
- Within the first couple of years, teal starts to be replaced by black in the Marlins’ wardrobe—first undershirts, then caps, then BP jerseys.
- A minor redesign in 2003 switches even more team elements from teal to black, as pinstripes and the main color of lettering in team wordmarks switch to black as well. A black alternate jersey is introduced, and metallic silver starts to be used on all elements—wordmarks, player numbers, and logos. The Marlins develop a preference for their black alternate jerseys, wearing them frequently at home and on the road. The pinstriped vest is dropped for 2003, and is replaced by an alternate pinstriped sleeved jersey with the Fish/F logo design on its left chest; the same logo is used on the cap.
- The black twill used by the team is metallic, and authentic Marlins jerseys are noticeably heavy, with four layers of twill lettering. The fronts and backs are sharp and stiff as well, because the metallic twill is thick, with almost razor-sharp edges and points. The many layers are inflexible to bend. The pointy edges of the front lettering—especially the metallic layers—rub on the sleeves like sandpaper when players move their arms. Game-worn jerseys often exhibit pulls and pilling on the insides of the sleeves from this contact.
- In 2010–2011, negotiations between the city of Miami and the team improve, and the prospects for a new stadium grow from glimmer to reality. In what is likely a political move, the team quietly drops the word “Florida” from its uniforms, removes the Fish/F patch from the sleeves, and retires the alternate Fish/F jersey. The “FLORIDA” wordmark on the road uniform is replaced by the “MARLINS” home wordmark. The only place the Fish/F logo remains is on team caps.
- Concurrent with the 2012 opening of “Marlins Park,” their new stadium, the team does a complete redesign that changes everything, including the team name (Miami Marlins, at last) its logos, wordmarks, and colors. Teal is left behind as a relic of the 1990s when it was originally so popular.
- The new uniforms are certainly different, featuring white, black, and red-orange as main colors, and turquoise and yellow as accent colors. The team logo changes from an “F” (Florida) to “M” (Miami). A Marlins-specific number font includes a drop shadow that frankly doesn’t work well on any uniform except the black one, and uses a player number font that is bolder than the standard block font used by most teams. Names and numbers are three-color.
- By 2019, under the direction of a new ownership group, the Marlins do another complete redesign, simplifying their uniforms to the point that all three jerseys have the same neon color lettering regardless of jersey color. While the home and road jerseys still say “Miami” on front in a new script, the black alternate jersey now has “Marlins” on front.
- In 2023, a 1993–2002 style throwback jersey is worn frequently, usually on home Fridays, celebrating the club’s 30th anniversary.
- In 2024, a light blue alternate is added to the lineup, stylized on the team’s Spring Training/batting practice jersey it started wearing in 2020. The legibility issues on the black alternate are also resolved, by “filling in” the hollow wordmark, numbers, and name on back.
- 2021 brings a City Connect uniform, drawing inspiration from the beloved minor league Cuban Sugar Kings. The vivid red jersey featured a front script reading “Miami” in white with teal trim, paying tribute to the city’s Cuban-American heritage. It included sleeve striping and a commemorative “Sugar Kings” sleeve patch, combining 1950s aesthetics with modern flair. The jersey quickly becomes a fan favorite and represents one of the bolder City Connect entries, before being retired after 2024.
- The 2024 City Connect 2.0 version introduces a bold new look with a black base and electric neon trim, evoking the visual energy of Miami nightlife and the city’s famed art deco palette. With vivid pink, blue, and yellow accents, the uniform leans heavily into modern streetwear and digital culture aesthetics.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Marlins Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1993	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Inaugural Patch	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Inaugural Patch	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Inaugural Patch	Russell
1994	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1996	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1997	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Jackie Robinson (Special)	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Jackie Robinson (Special)	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1998	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1999	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2000	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2001	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2002	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White PS Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	-	Russell

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Marlins Game Jerseys

2003-2011

2003-2009

2003-2011

2003-2010

2010-2011

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2003	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	10th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	10th Anniversary	Russell
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	10th Anniversary	Russell
	Alt Black	-	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	10th Anniversary	Russell
2004	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	World Champs 2003	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	World Champs 2003	Russell
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	World Champs 2003	Russell
	Alt Black		Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	World Champs 2003	Russell
2005	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
2006	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black		Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
2007	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	10th Anniv World Champs	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	10th Anniv World Champs	Majestic
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	10th Anniv World Champs	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	10th Anniv World Champs	Majestic
2008	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
2009	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	Team “F” / Fish	-	Majestic
2010	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt White Pinstripe	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2011	Home White PS	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 4 color	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Block 4 color	Block Light 4 color	No	-	-	Majestic

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Marlins Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2012	Home White	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	Marlins Park Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	Marlins Park Patch	Majestic
	Alt Firebrick Orange	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	Marlins Park Patch	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	Marlins Park Patch	Majestic
2013	Home White	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Firebrick Orange	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Firebrick Orange	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Firebrick Orange	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Firebrick Orange	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	16 Patch/Jose Fernandez*	Majestic
2017	Home White	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	16 Patch**/2017 ASG Patch/Felo memorial***	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	16 Patch**/2017 ASG Patch/Felo memorial***	Majestic
	Alt Firebrick Orange	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	16 Patch**/2017 ASG Patch/Felo memorial***	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	16 Patch**/2017 ASG Patch/Felo memorial***	Majestic
2018	Home White	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	25th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	25th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Firebrick Orange	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	25th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Marlins Font 3 color	Marlins Font 2 color	No	Logo “M”	25th Anniversary	Majestic
2019	Home White	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Black	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	Alt Black	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike

*Patch worn September 27 through the end of the season. The Marlins wore the black alternate jersey for all five remaining games of the season.
** Patch worn on left chest
*** Starting August 1

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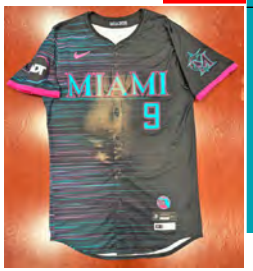
Marlins Game Jerseys

These three styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite



Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	Alt Black	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	City Connect	-	Varsity 2 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping fish	Marlins/Sugar Kings	Nike
2022	Home White	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	Alt Black	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball	-	Nike
	City Connect	-	Varsity 2 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping fish	Marlins/Sugar Kings	Nike
2023	Home White	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Black	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Varsity 2 color	Block font 2 color	No	Marlins/Sugar Kings‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
2024	Home White	-	Special font 3 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Special font 3 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Black (new lettering colors)	-	Special font 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue “Marlins”	-	Special font 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Varsity 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Marlins/Sugar Kings‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home White	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Black (new lettering colors)	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue “Marlins”	-	Special font 3 color	Block font 2 color	No	Jumping Fish/ baseball‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Special font 3 color	Special font 3 color	Block font 3 color	No	Logo “M”‡	ADT Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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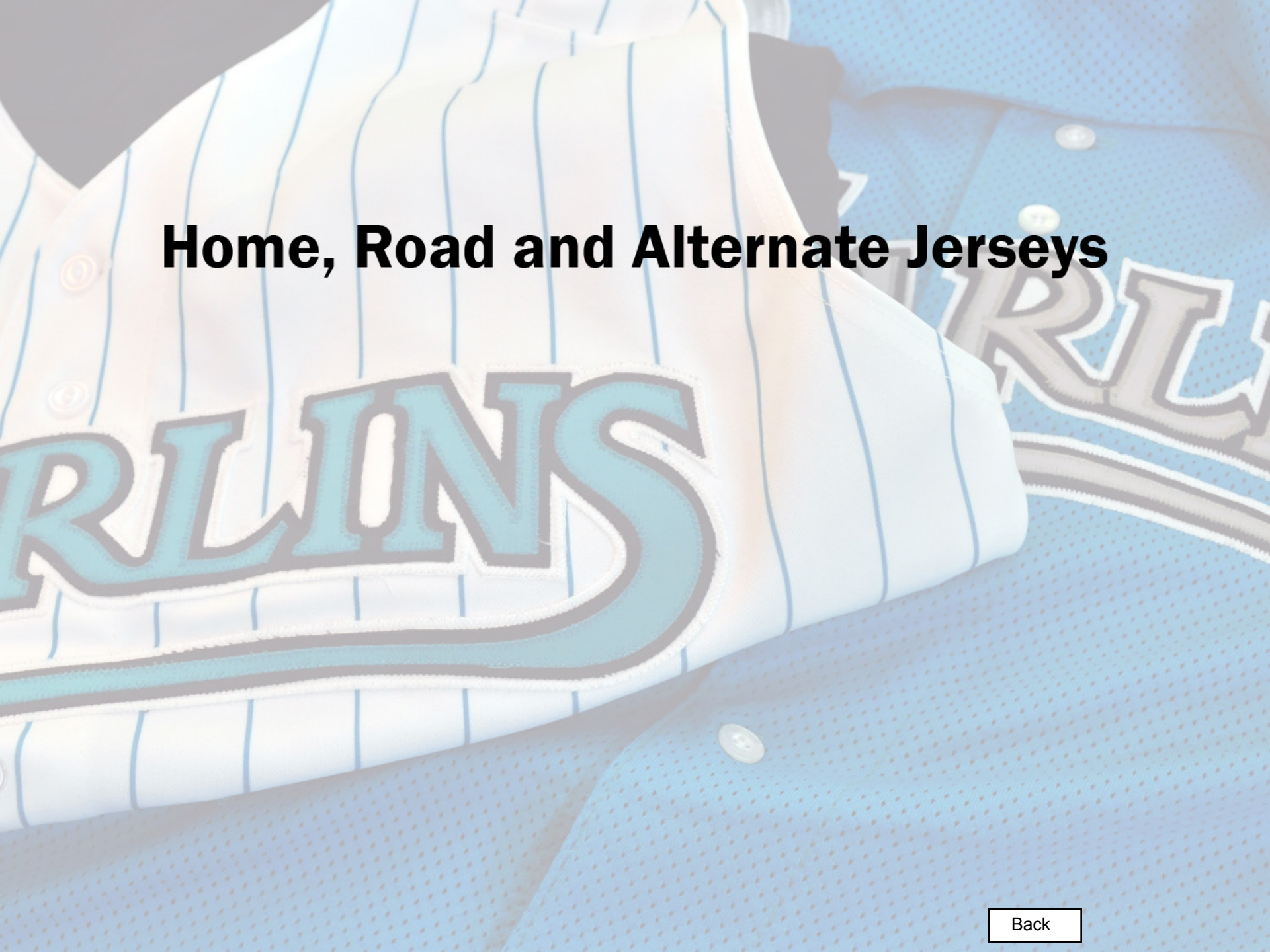
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys



Back

1993-2002 Home

White jersey with teal pin-stripes. Names are two-color: black/teal. Nameplates are used until 2001, no name-plate in 2002. Numbers are three-color: black/white/teal on front left and on back. Some 1993 jerseys are year tagged, some are not. None are team tagged after 1993.

Above: **1993-2001 jerseys use nameplates;** ***Below:*** **2002 jerseys do not.**

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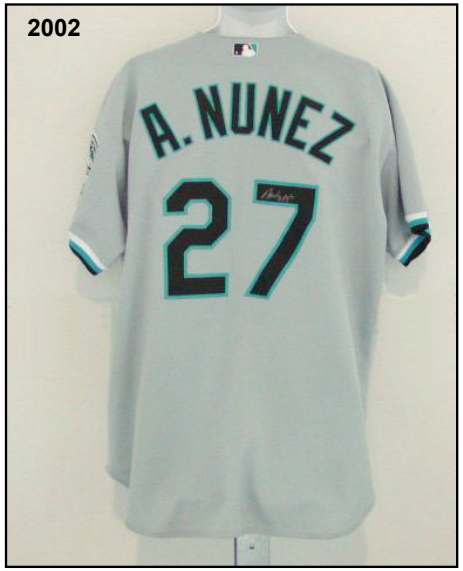
1993-2002 Road

1993

Early 1993

1993 mid-season

2002



1994

1997

Right: *Team tagging, from top: 1993 early in season with team year-tagging. Mid-season 1993 tag is a newer style and there is no year-tagging. Following 1993, there is no team year tagging.*

Same road jersey design for first ten years. Button front gray with handsome jumping fish and FLORIDA wordmark. White/teal/black sleeve knit end trim.

Name goes on gray nameplate through 2001. No nameplate in 2002. Name and numbers are all two-color, black/teal.

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1993-2002 Alternate Home Vest

- The Marlins and the Reds brought the vest jersey back to Major League Baseball in 1993—the first vests of the double knit era.
- Lettering format is identical to home jersey with sleeves. Nameplate used 1993–2001; no nameplate in 2002.
- Some 1993 jerseys are year tagged and some are not. After 1993 there is no team year tagging.
- The vest was worn with a teal or black undershirt. The teal undershirt was worn more often in the first few years, the black one in the next few. 1998–2002, they seem to have worn it exclusively with black undershirts; however, both colors are considered correct for all years.
- The undershirt was properly adorned with all of the team patches appropriate for the year.

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1994 Team Undershirt for Vest

The sleeved shirt worn under a team vest jersey is an important part of the uniform. But finding legitimate, team issued undershirts decades after they were made is often difficult.

Modern players frequently disregard team uniform guidelines for undershirts—and many teams decide not to push the issue. Some are happy simply if players wear undershirts of the proper color. One way that teams get around the resistance is by using "faux" vests: white-bodied jerseys with colored sleeves sewn in. Several teams, including the Blue Jays and the White Sox, have tried this after wearing actual vests first.

This garment is advertised as an original Marlins 1994 undershirt with the MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the sleeve, and the team logo at the crew neck. Amapro was an authorized "Diamond Collection" undershirt provider to MLB briefly in the early 1990s before the contract went to Russell.

Left: *Collar tagging on a 1993 example*

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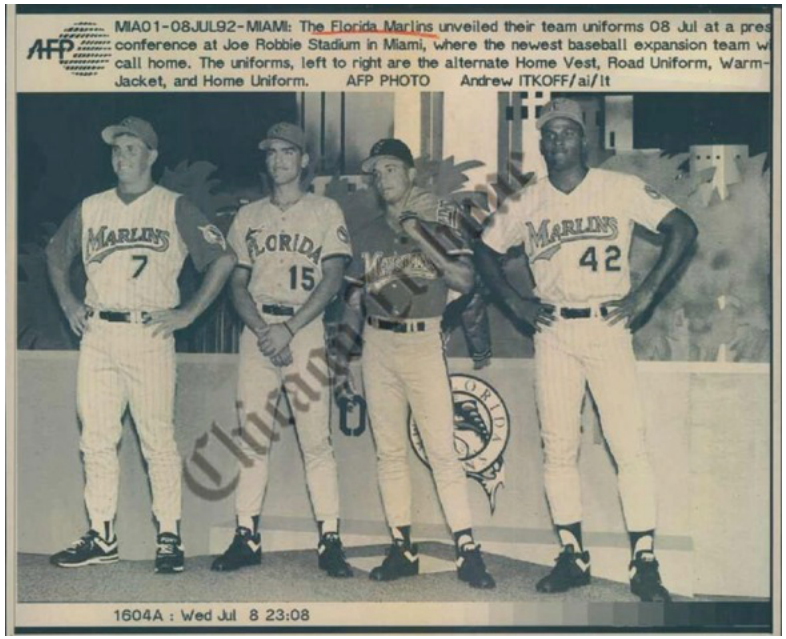

Left: This close up shows the features of the silver and black metallic twill used 2003–2011. The bottom layer of twill on the name and number of this jersey are a barely visible white outline. This lettering was thick, heavy, and abrasive to the touch.

Top: Almost a year ahead of their opening game, the Marlins showcased their slate of uniforms

Right: First-year uniforms featured a lot of teal. As years passed, teal accessories were replaced by black ones.

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Back

2003-2011 Home

2010

Stephen Kraljic Collection

2003

Pinstripes are now black, changed from earlier teal. There is a color change to lettering. Identify this jersey by metallic black and silver used in the lettering, and by a larger F/Fish logo patch on sleeve. No team tagging 2003–2004. Tagging resumes when Majestic begins manufacturing game jerseys, beginning in 2005. All numbers and letters are four-color: metallic black/metallic silver/teal/white. F/Fish sleeve patch through 2009, not used 2010–2011.

2004

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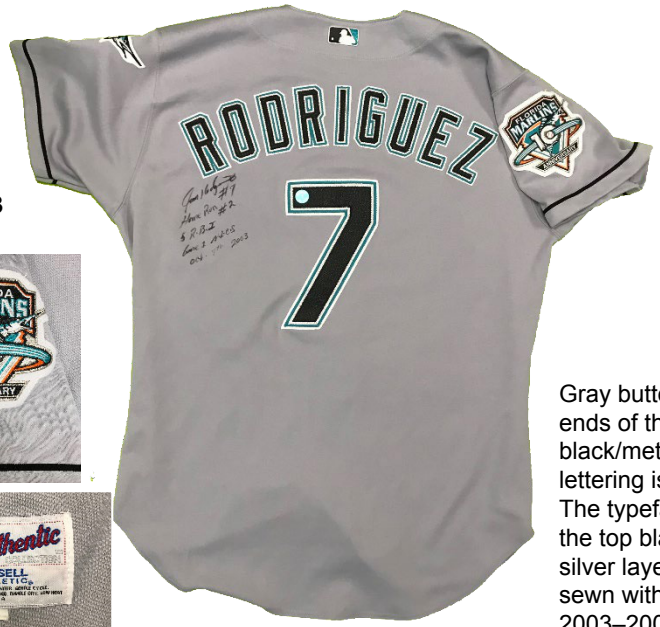
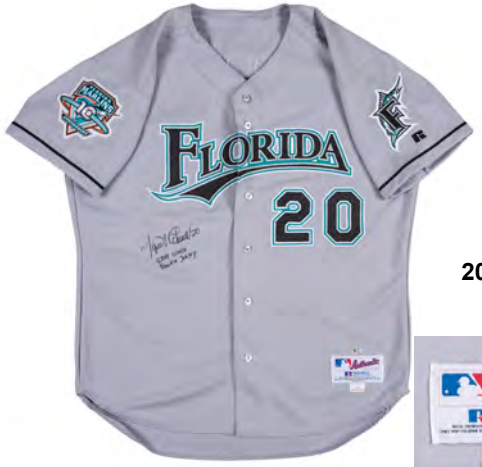
2003-2009 Road

2003



Gray button-front design, narrow black knit trim near the ends of the sleeves. Four-color name and numbers—metallic black/metallic silver/teal/white. The main color in the Florida lettering is now black. Name sewn directly; no nameplate. The typeface used for the names is a light block style, with the top black layer a full step thinner than the normal-width silver layer on which it sits. This allows four-color names to be sewn without making them too fat and long. No team tagging 2003–2004. Tagging resumes when Majestic begins manufacturing the Marlins' game jerseys in 2005.



2003

2006

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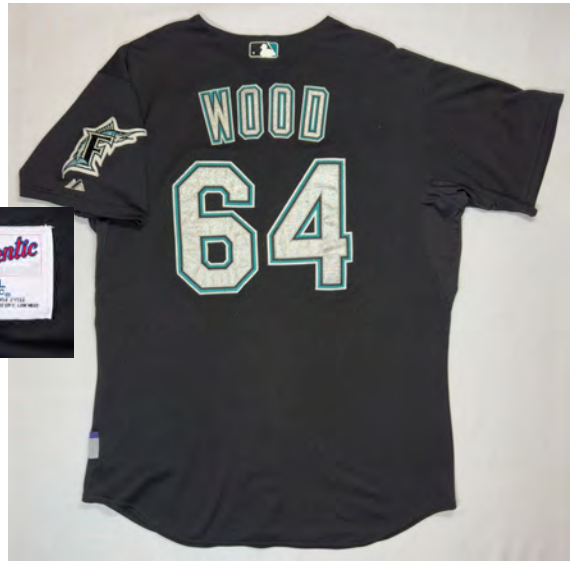
2003-2011 Alternate Black

2003



2006

- Black button-front design; no sleeve end trim. No numbers are used on front of this jersey.
- Four-color lettering and numbers and name on back—metallic silver/metallic black/teal/white. No nameplate.
- F/Fish logo patch on the left sleeve through 2009, not used 2010–2011.
- No team tagging 2003–2004. Tagging resumes when Majestic takes over making the game jerseys in 2005.

2003

Stephen Kraljic Collection

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2003-2010 Alternate Home

Left: *Tteam-issued but not game-worn. It has the 2003 World Series patch on the sleeve, but the Marlins did not wear the alternate home jersey in any World Series game that year.*

Pinstripes change to black from earlier teal. F/Fish logo on the left chest. This is the original team cap logo. When no commemorative patches are used, the sleeves of this style jersey are left plain.

No numbers are used on the front; nameplates not used. Name and numbers are four-color: metallic black/metallic silver/teal/white.

No team tagging 2003–2004. Tagging resumes when Majestic begins to manufacture Marlins game jerseys in 2005.

Although these remain in the official catalog as available uniforms for the Marlins to wear, they are rarely seen after 2007 and they do not turn up in any 2008–2010 news photo searches we have run.

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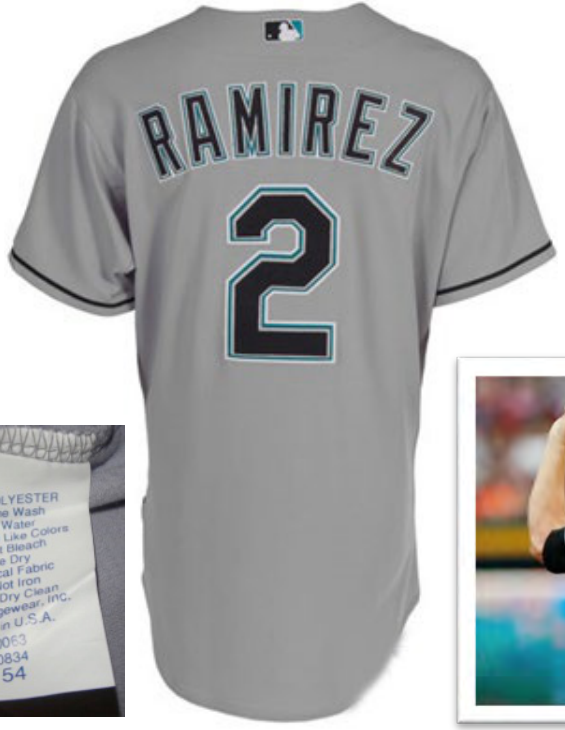
2010-2011 Road



When the Marlins joined MLB in 1993, they adopted the name of their state, rather than their city—publicly saying that team loyalty was intended to include all residents of the state, which had been without a MLB team until that date. But in reality, the team had been unable to come to terms with the city of Miami for a long-term plan to build a stadium, and in corporate retaliation of sorts, the team decided not to adopt the name of its home city. By 2010, the city of Miami and the team had come to an agreement on a stadium, and not coincidentally, the team made a subtle change to its road uniforms, finally removing the "Florida" script from the front and replacing it with the Marlins wordmark found on their home uniforms.

The "F/Fish" patch, which was the team's secondary logo, disappeared as sleeve patches after 2009; the F/Fish pinstriped alternate jersey was retired in 2010 as well. The only place the F/Fish still appeared was on the team's caps.

In 2012 the team would finally be rechristened as the Miami Marlins.

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2012-2018 Home

- With their full team redesign for 2012, the Marlins join only the 2012 Texas Rangers in using name of their locale and not their team name on their primary home jersey.
- Jerseys feature a bold, multicolored wordmark with stylized jumping fish; large team logo “M” patch on left sleeve.
- Numbers are in a new Marlins-specific font in three colors: black/orange 3D drop shadow/ metallic silver. Player names on back in a Marlins-specific variant of Block: black/metallic silver.
- White Cool Base jersey features narrow orange knit trim at the collar and near sleeve ends.

“Billy the Marlin,” the team’s ridiculous mascot, gains a bunch of rainbow colors on his fin and “uniform” pants, concurrent with the team redesign.

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2012-2018 Road

- The Marlins' gray road jersey is of the same design as the team's home jersey, with the exception of colors being switched around.
- The "Miami" wordmark on front has white as its primary color and metallic silver as an outline color, nearly opposite of the home white jersey.
- "M" sleeve patch follows the same pattern: white with rainbow highlights.
- Player numbers on back are in special new Marlins font: black, orange 3D drop shadow, and silver.
- Player names are in Marlins version of Block: black, outlined with metallic silver.

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2012-2018 Alternate Black

The Marlins have a strong preference for wearing the alternate black jersey at home and seemingly as their default road uniform. Front wordmark and left sleeve team patch are identical to the ones used on the gray road jersey, featuring predominately white lettering outlined in metallic silver. White names on back in special Marlins variant of Block, outlined in metallic silver. Back numbers are orange/black 3D drop shadow/silver. This color combination is the only one where one can see the intended drop shadow effect of the lettering.

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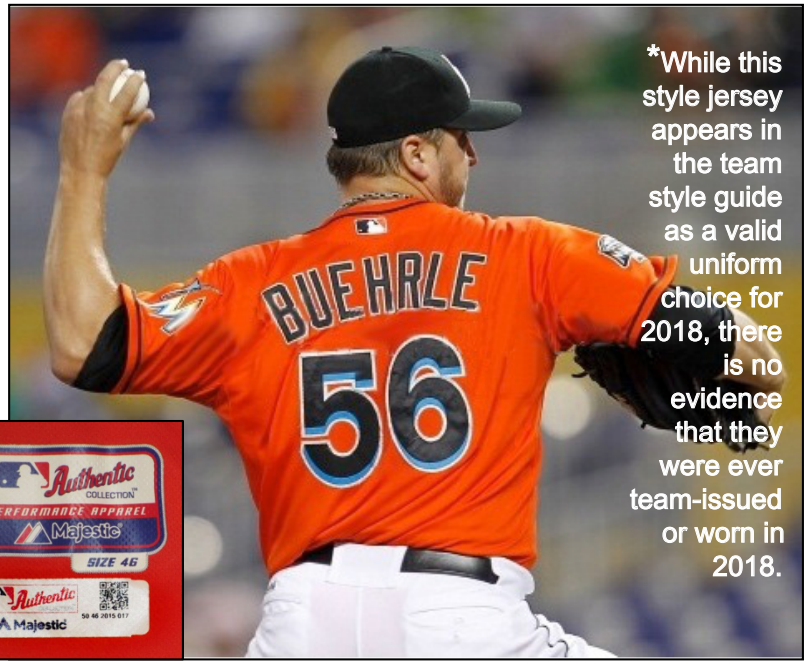
2012, 2015-2017* Alternate Home Orange/ 2013-2014 Alternate Orange



*While this style jersey appears in the team style guide as a valid uniform choice for 2018, there is no evidence that they were ever team-issued or worn in 2018.

"Nothing came easily during the process, and picking the "reddish orange" tone to represent a Florida sunset took nearly three months. While being careful to avoid the orange tones used by the New York Mets, Baltimore Orioles, Detroit Tigers and San Francisco Giants, after some back and forth, the color selected was in the Pantone color system ("warm red"). Still, it was not on MLB's uniform color palette, which meant even more months of back and forth with various baseball licensees and their suppliers… Thread samples sometimes took more than a month to produce, making it a difficult, and slow, exercise."

The Marlins alternate orange jersey is the only one in the team set that features the team's nickname instead of the city name. Black/bright blue 3D drop shadow/metallic silver numbers on back; black/metallic silver name on back. White "M" patch on sleeve.

Text at left is an excerpt from *Street & Smith's Sports Business Journal*.

Right: *The Marlins word-mark lettering is not layered twill like most teams'; each letter is a multicolored, embroidered applique that is then sewn to the jersey with metal-lic silver thread. This technique is used for all colors of jerseys, as well as the batting practice jersey.*

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Back

2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" jerseys, which are made from Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic states is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. The MLB logo on the back of the neck is now a rubberized patch (called CFX by Majestic) and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2019-2023 Home

The Marlins completely redesign their logos and uniforms, creating a third phase of uniform history in their 26th year. Though still ornate, the new home jerseys are simpler than the last set, ridding it of rainbow coloring and metallic twill. Here, the white Majestic Flex Base jersey features red/blue/black braid around each sleeve end, with the team's new Marlin and Ball logo in the same colors on the left sleeve. Front "Miami" script wordmark (which according to the team is based on the original Miami Marlins and the Havana Sugar Kings, former professional clubs that played in the 1950s) and the custom-font back numbers are black/blue/red drop shadow, with the shadow dropping down to the left. Names on back are black/blue. With black as the main color in the lettering, the other two twill colors recede somewhat, despite their brightness individually, bringing a subtlety that the last set lacked. Majestic makes these in 2019, Nike takes over starting in 2020.

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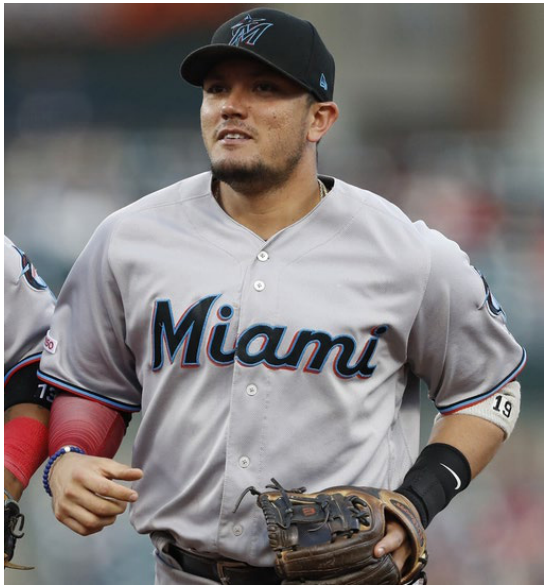
2019-2023 Road



Ever hear a song where the first verse is the same as the second verse? The Marlins 2019 road jersey is the uniform version of that, so to speak. It is, in fact, identical to the white Majestic Flex Base home jersey except that the fabric is gray rather than white. Otherwise, all of the same info applies. Red/blue/black braid encircles each sleeve end, with the team's new Marlin and Ball logo in the same colors on the left sleeve. Front “Miami” script wordmark (which according to the team is based on the original Miami Marlins and the Havana Sugar Kings, former professional clubs that played in the 1950s) and custom-font back numbers are black/blue/red drop shadow, with the shadow dropping down to the left. Names on back are black/blue. With black as the main color in the lettering, the other two twill colors recede somewhat, though not as much as on the home jersey, bringing a subtlety that the last set lacked. Majestic makes these in 2019, Nike takes over starting in 2020.

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2019-2023 Alternate Black

Bill Henderson Collection

2019

The seemingly-obligatory black Marlins alternate is redesigned for 2019, bringing the team name back to a Marlins jersey for the first time since 2011. And otherwise brings exactly the same specs as the home and road jerseys layered on a black Majestic Flex Base template. Red/blue/black braid encircles each sleeve end (the black part of the braid is invisible against the black jersey), with the team's new Marlin and Ball logo in the same colors (and mostly invisible) on the left sleeve. Front “Marlins” script wordmark and custom-font back numbers are black/blue/red drop shadow, with the shadow dropping down to the left. Names on back are black/blue. Here, the black-dominant lettering literally disappears into the jersey color, leaving the otherwise secondary colors to take over, creating an unusual, hard to see backlit-neon-shadow presentation. Nike replaces Majestic as manufacturer in 2020.

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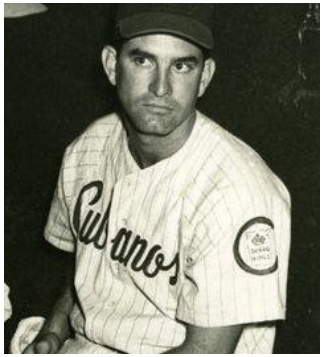
2021-2023 City Connect

Stephen Kraljic Collection

For their entry into the City Connect program, the Marlins pay tribute to an historic Cuban ball club in a way that is decidedly Miami. The Marlins call their City Connect jerseys "a modern remix of the iconic uniforms of the Cuban Sugar Kings, connecting the historic look with a refreshed style emblematic of our city." The Havana Sugar Kings played from 1954–1960, and were among the earliest clubs to field a team of players from across Latin America as well as African Americans. The team ultimately moved to Jacksonville, Florida, and the franchise eventually became the Marlins Triple-A affiliate, the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp. The jersey is bright red with wide white pinstripes on the body inly, not the sleeves. "Miami" is across the front in white/teal 3D drop shadow in a font that emulates the script on the Sugar Kings' uniforms (which were white with red stripes). Player names are white/teal and numbers are Varsity in white/teal 3D drop shadow. The left sleeve sports a Marlins logo patch while the right sleeve features a patch based on the Sugar Kings' own. In 2023, a sponsor patch replaced the Marlins patch, and patch locations differed based on player handedness. The "Sugar Kings" script is embroidered in teal/white above the jock tag. In 2023, the style code for this jersey changes from MMCR to O3VR.



A look at the original Sugar Kings uniform from the 1950s.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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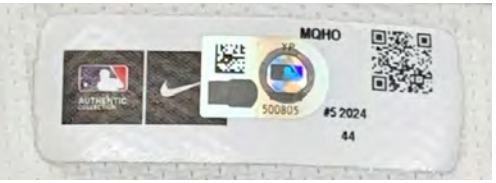
2024 Home

Scott Johnston Collection



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Marlins' five-year-old home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the team's front lettering now splits the "a" across the placket rather than splitting between the "i" and "a" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which makes it visibly wider. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Marlins' five-year-old road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the team's front lettering now splits the "a" across the placket rather than splitting between the "i" and "a" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which makes it visibly wider. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Black

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Marlins' five-year-old road jersey. But the biggest and most welcome change is not a result of the new template - the new colors for all of the jersey's lettering. When the jersey was introduced, the lettering was primarily black, which disappeared into the black jersey, even with the other layers. Now, all of the black has been replaced with white, so the front "Marlins" script wordmark and custom-font back numbers are white/blue/red drop shadow, with the shadow dropping down to the left. Names on back are now white/blue.

The changes from the VPE template include the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the team's front lettering now splits the "r" further to the left than before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which makes it visibly wider. The trim color is different as well, formerly black/blue/red, with the black disappearing into the jersey, the new trim is just blue/red, deleting the area of black that couldn't be seen anyhow. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Home Blue

Along with the updates to their black alternate, the Marlins introduce a new alternate in 2024. Evolving from their former batting practice jersey, the new blue alternate simply swaps out the “M” cap logo of the BP with the “Marlins” lettering of their black alternate. Front lettering and back numbers are black/white/red drop shadow, player names are black/white. Compared to the BP, the back name and numbers are smaller, with the name arching more radically, consistent with other Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) jerseys. With VPE, sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which makes it visibly wider than the BP jersey. The trim changes from black/blue/red to black/red/blue. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys.

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2024 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Marlins' City Connect jersey that was introduced three seasons prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The team sleeve patch appears to be printed now rather than embroidered. Otherwise, because this jersey has no trim on the neck, sleeves, or placket, it appears mostly the same as before. One minor change that isn't visible on-field - the "Sugar Kings" lettering above the jock tag is now heat pressed instead of embroidered as before. The Marlins use perforated numbers on this version of the jersey.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Note that this jersey also uses Nike's new-for-2025 white jock tag, seen at right. A handful of jerseys across the league use this new tag.

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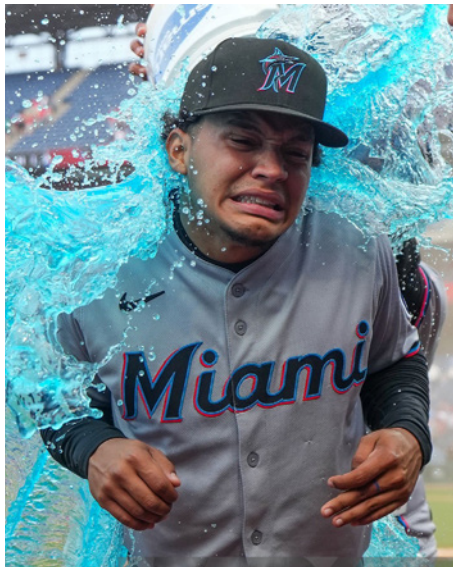
2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Marlins” lettering breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.



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2025 Alternate Black

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home Blue

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 City Connect 2.0

The Marlins introduce their City Connect 2.0 in 2025, and according to their press release (excerpts of which are reproduced below), the jerseys honor the past and present of Miami and its baseball team.

Colors: Teal represents the past of the inaugural 1993 team. Pink accents are like the bright lights in the city's skyline.

Wordmark: The "Miami" wordmark is like a time traveler, channeling classic elegance reminiscent of the Florida Marlins with lettering as energetic as the city's roots.

Horizontal pinstripes: A fresh take on the pinstripes that captures the essence of South Florida, blending tradition with a contemporary edge.

Jock tag: From the beaches to the ballpark, the Marlins celebrate the Sunshine State. It embraces the history, celebrates today and looks to build a legacy for tomorrow.

"MIA 305" is also heat-pressed into the collar, a reference to the city's airport code and area code.

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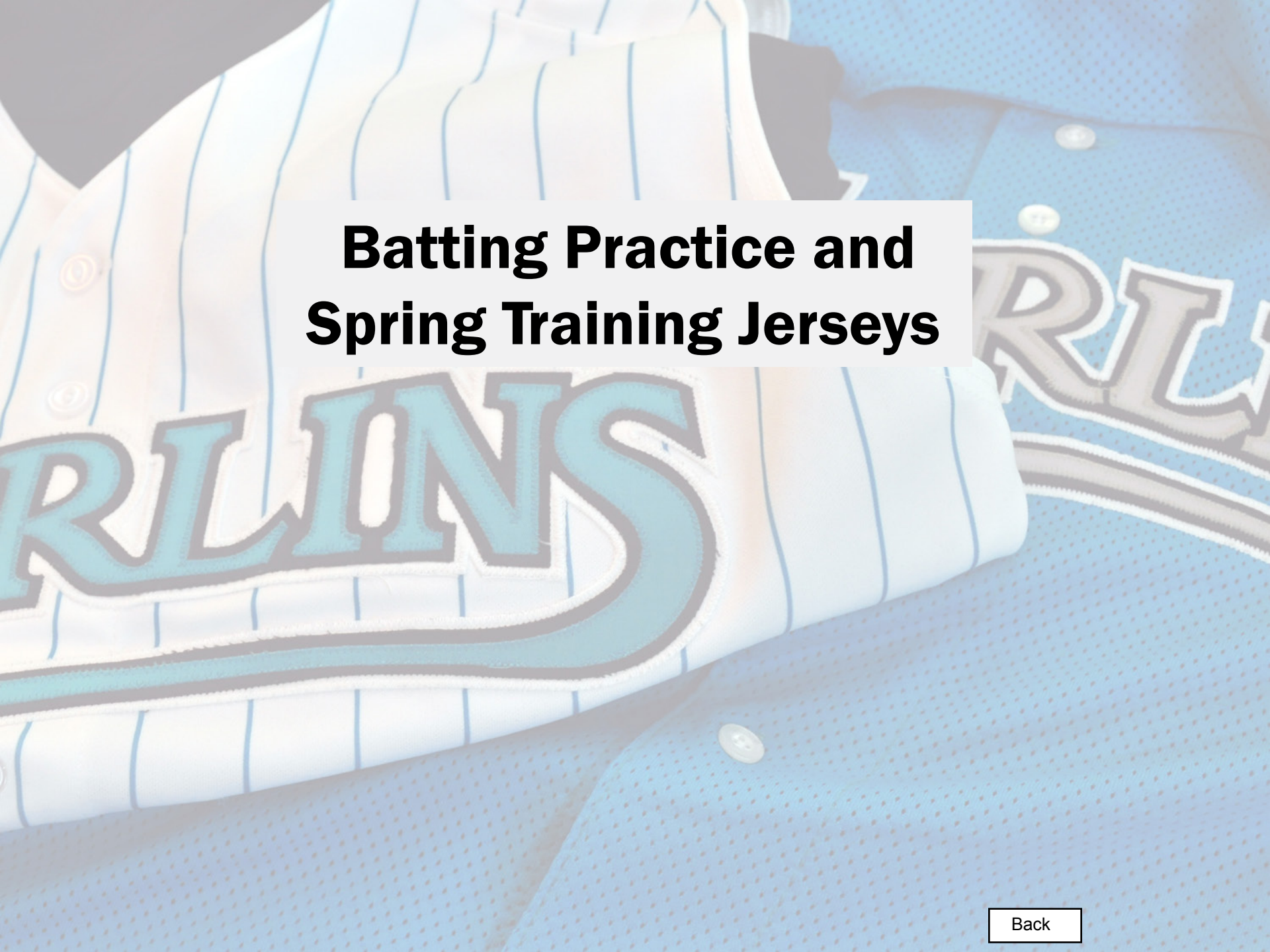
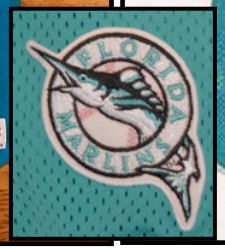
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



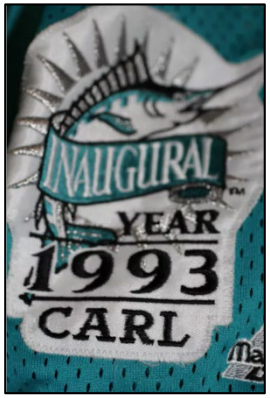
Back

1993 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection



First-year-only style. Teal mesh knit with gray/black/white Marlins script. Three-color knit sleeve trim in black/teal/white.



No numbers on front. Names on back, on nameplates. Two-color name: gray/black.

Three-color Block number: gray/black/white. Team patch used on the left sleeve. These were made for the team by Majestic and Russell; the Majestic jerseys are slightly more green in color; the Russell jerseys more blue.

Commemorative 1993 CARL patch should appear on the right sleeve of every game worn example.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Majestic provided its pullover zip-neck “Gamewarmer” batting practice jersey as an alternate for most teams in the mid-1990s. Here is an example of the one-year 1993-style, featuring the gray/black/white front wordmark. I have not yet seen one of these with player lettering on back.

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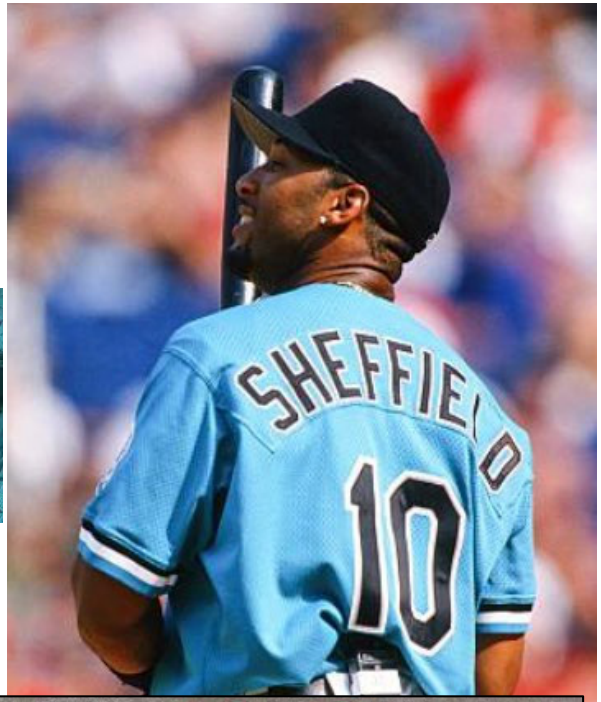
1994-1998 Batting Practice/ 1999-2002 Home Batting Practice

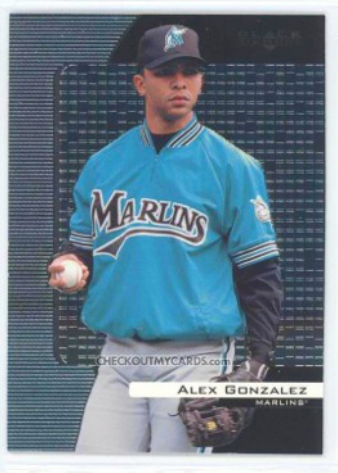


Same as the 1993 jersey but switched around logo colors: Teal mesh, with black/gray/white Marlins script. White/teal/black sleeve trim. Names on back two-color black/gray, on nameplate. All examples of team issued jerseys in my files of this style seem to be made by Majestic. Back numbers three color: black/gray/white. Team patch used on left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994-1999 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck #1

- Some players wear this alternate Majestic *Gamewarmer* zip-necked batting practice jersey occasionally in the late 1990s
- The jersey follows the color scheme of the then-current standard BP jersey, but it has twin sets of white/black/white bands sewn into the team neck trim and sleeve end trim elastic.
- Three-color Block numbers on back: black/silver/white. Names on nameplates are two-color: black and white.



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1994 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck #2

Although this style of zip-neck jersey was seemingly offered by Majestic to every team, only a few teams actively used them; fewer still numbered them for players. The Marlins used these jerseys more than most, and this one has the 1994 MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the sleeve.

I am assuming these jerseys were team issued, though I have yet to find photos of team members wearing this style on the field.

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2000-2002 Road Batting Practice

Black mesh fabric, teal/black/gray front lettering, knit sleeve ends in white/teal/black. Three-color numbers on back only: teal/black/white. Exact year of first use is not confirmed. Pre-2000 versions have no Silhouetted Batter patch at the back of the neck. Names on back; nameplates are used; names are three-color: teal/black/white.

Bottom right: We've included this style in every edition of this guide, previously. Black mesh BP, pre-2000 as they lack batterman patch on neck. Teal/black/white back numbers and front crest. Many exist, however, *I am now almost certain that these are minor league issue*; while I have one in my personal collection and many of these photos in my archives, all are missing nameplates and they show excessive wear typical of minor league issue. I have been unable to locate a single photo of the MLB Marlins wearing these, even in spring training. Any reader assistance would be welcome.

Minor League?

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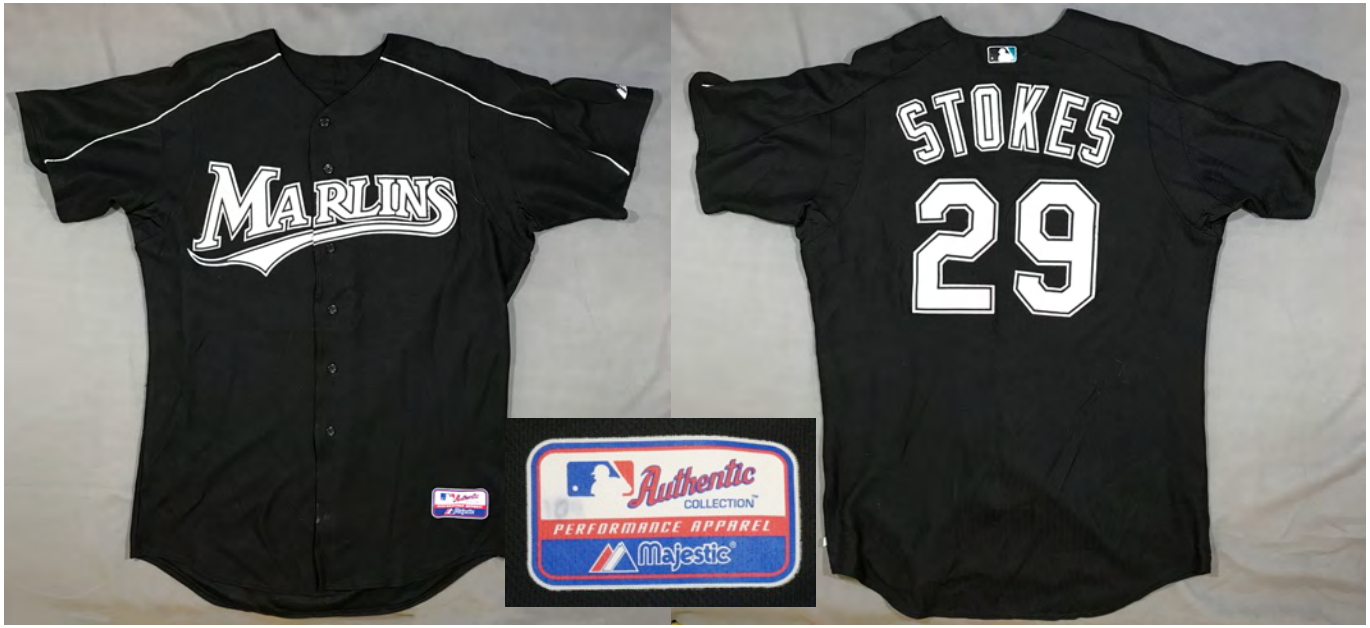
2003-2006 Batting Practice



A surprisingly plain design for a team that is typically so colorful.

Simple three-color white/black/metallic silver numbers and name; black jersey with narrow white piping sewn-in along the sleeve tops. The only hint of color is the green on the Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

Marlins redesigned Cool Base batting practice jerseys for 2007 remain a simple, solid black with white/black/gray lettering, names, and numbers. A white/black panel is sewn into the side for contrast. Team wordmark is now a heat-applied design, and not sewn tackle twill.

The official MLB Style Guide shows a separate and different Marlins ***road*** style BP jersey for 2007–2010: one with gray side panels, to be used with road gray pants (like the Blue Jays had done). However my photo research shows the white panel home jerseys always being used, regardless of the pants worn. I have never seen a gray-sided one, and strongly suspect that they were never made.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Batting Practice

MLB switched all teams to button-front batting practice jerseys for 2011, and the Marlins made the change, simultaneously dropping the listed gray-side-paneled road batting practice jersey that was listed in the official catalog but unseen 2007–2010.

All lettering is multi-layer tackle twill, white/black/silver. This is a one-year style, as the team changed its identity branding in 2012.

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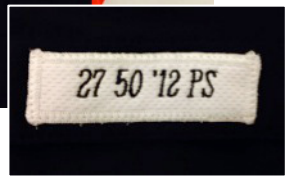
2012-2013 Batting Practice



A new button-front black batting practice jersey with orange side panels accompanies the Marlins' 2012 makeover. All lettering replicates that of the black alternate jersey. Names on back are layered twill white/metallic silver; numbers in orange/black 3D drop shadow/silver/twill.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

With the all-MLB BP jersey refresh for 2014, the Marlins opt to make a major change to theirs, removing the full front team name and replacing it with the club's sleeve logo on the left chest. Narrow black knit trim on the sleeve ends and neck opening is bisected with an orange stripe. Orange side panels continue, but now stop before the bottom of the jersey. On the back, names continue in a Marlins Block variant in white/metallic silver. Fancy numbers are three-color orange/black 3D drop shadow/metallic silver.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training jersey, intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Marlins use their regular season black alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are orange patterned twill/black 3D drop shadow/metallic silver. The name on back is white patterned twill/metallic silver. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Marlins spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training jerseys return for all teams in 2017, with some minor design modifications. As in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template, and features special printed twill decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from 2016. The Marlins again use their regular season black alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Marlins spend Spring Training. The Jose Fernandez 16 memorial patch appears on the left chest, as it does for all 2017 Marlins jerseys.

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2017-2018 Batting Practice

New for 2017: With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets that are void of player identification instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. Official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but is made from Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. The lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Marlins jersey is black with orange back and underarm gussets. The "M" logo, also seen on their caps and regular jersey patches, appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in orange/black 3D drop shadow/metallic silver in the Marlins special font on the left sleeve.

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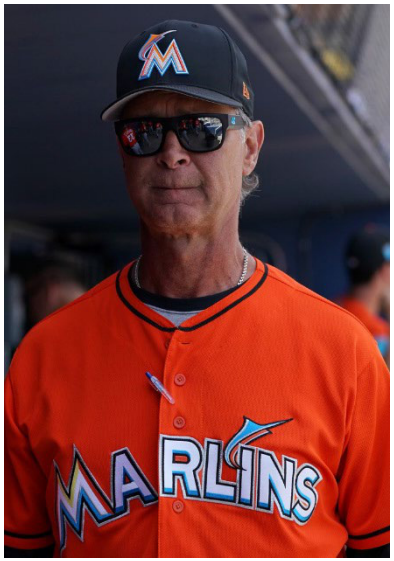
2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design theme of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Marlins use their orange alternate (though not worn in the regular-season this year) as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.



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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Marlins use a design separate from their regular season standard set, though worn as a batting practice jersey at times, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The back numbers are black/white/red drop shadow. The name on back is black/white. This style is also worn as a BP jersey in the regular season, without the Spring Training patch.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Marlins use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, but one worn as a batting practice jersey at times during the season, with black/white/red drop shadow back numbers. The name on back is black/white.

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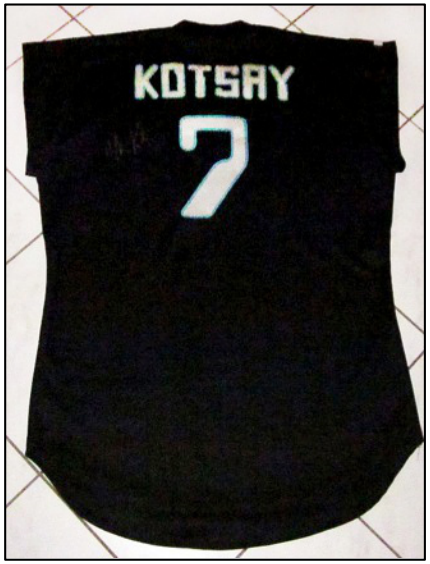
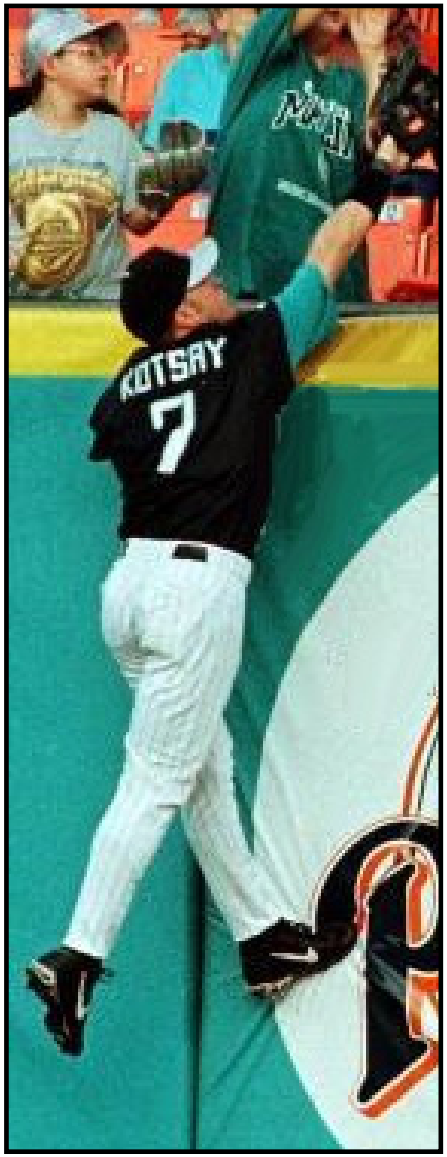
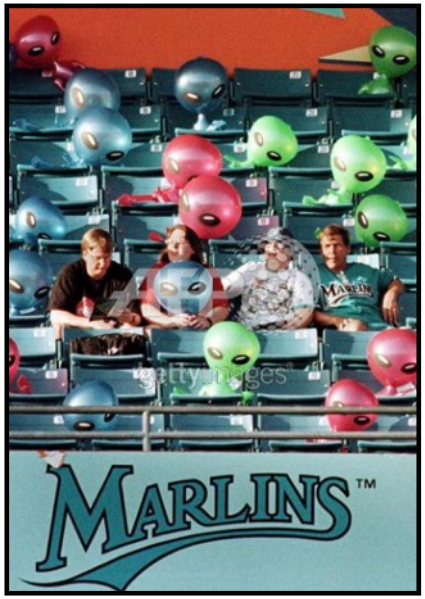
Special Events Jerseys

Back

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock







1999 Turn Ahead the Clock jersey, worn once in a July 23 game against the Brewers.

Worn with a teal undershirt. Name and number on the back are sewn in silver metallic outlined with teal, using “Computer” OCR type style for names and numbers.

Most teams gave these jerseys to the players who wore them in the game, so finding a game used one is an uncommon occurrence.

Left: *“Aliens” join the fans in the seats for this odd game.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1982 FSL Miami Marlins (Road)

Stephen Kraljic Collection

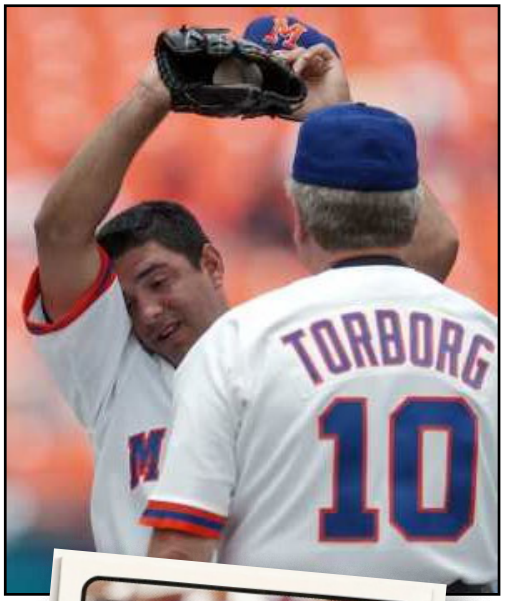
Existing as an MLB team since only 1993, the Marlins refused to be excluded from the Turn Back the Clock fun. They dressed as the minor league Miami Marlins of the Florida State League in home and road contests during 2002. These 1982-style double knit jerseys are made by Mitchell & Ness. Back-to-back road games were played wearing these, July 15–16, 2002 in New York vs. the 1982-attired Mets.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1982 FSL Miami Marlins (Home)

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The 2002 home Turn Back the Clock game was played July 22–24 against the 1970s-attired Braves, who wore their road blue 1974 jerseys. Knit replicas made by Mitchell & Ness.



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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1997

On June 14, 2007, the Marlins played the Cleveland Indians in an interleague Turn Back the Clock game, reprising the 1997 World Series between the two teams. The Marlins wore Majestic-made teal pinstripe vests for the event. The Indians did not need to wear retro; they were still wearing the same uniforms as they did a mere 10 years prior.

The Marlins wore black undershirts with the round team patch from 1997 on it as well. I wonder how many game attendees noticed that the Marlins were wearing “Throwback” uniforms?

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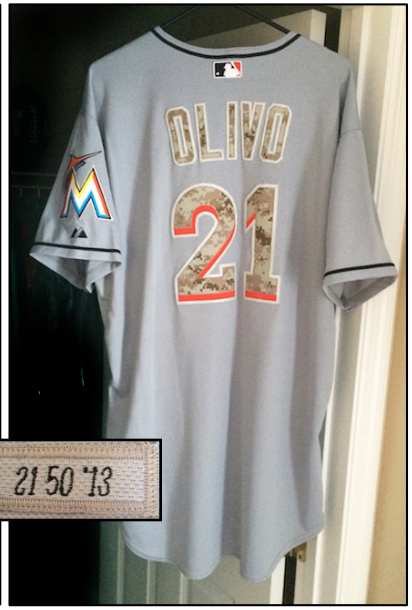
2010-2011 Hispanic Heritage

The Marlins wore these “Los Marlins” home jerseys in 2010 and 2011 for their annual Hispanic Heritage Days. These are identical to regular home jerseys except for the addition of the word “Los” above the regular wordmark.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

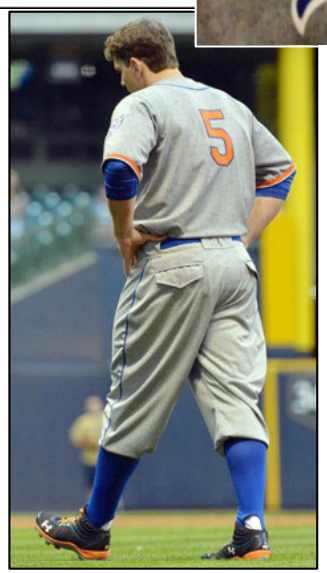


Esteban Jejarano photo

MLB decreed that all teams would wear camouflage-lettered jerseys for Memorial Day, May 27, 2013. The Marlins altered their road jerseys in response. Front wordmark is visible, thanks to a black outline. Back lettering in camo/orange 3D drop shadow/ white all but disappears into the background of gray—as is the specific job of camouflage—and the main reason it is not used for high-visibility applications such as team uniform lettering.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1956 Int'l League Miami Marlins

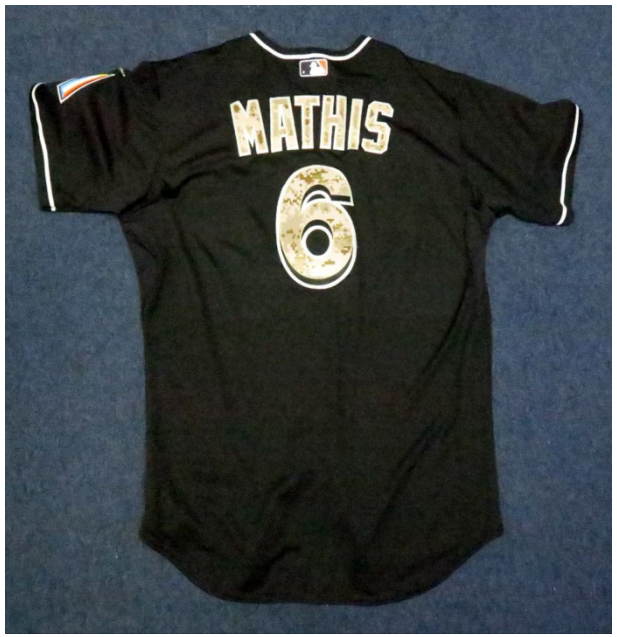


July 20, 2013: As the guests in Milwaukee for the Brewers' Turn Back the Clock game, the Marlins dressed as their namesake Miami Marlins, a minor league International League affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies in 1956. Satchel Paige pitched for them 1956-1959, and the throwback uniforms have a #29 patch on the sleeve to honor him.

These uniforms were made by Ebbetts Field Flannels. Lettering is orange and royal blue twill. Orange knit trim is at sleeve ends; royal blue on the placket.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Memorial Day



May 26, 2014: The Memorial Day theme of camouflage-trimmed uniforms repeats throughout MLB. This time, the Marlins wisely choose to alter their black jersey for a road game in Washington, making for a greater contrast and less invisible exercise.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1949 FIL Miami Sun Sox

June 8, 2014: The Marlins visited the Cubs for their Turn Back the Clock to 1942 day, and since there was no MLB team in Miami in 1942, the Marlins dressed as the 1949 minor league Miami Sun Sox of the Florida International League in gray knit replica uniforms by Majestic. The Sun Sox were an affiliate of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

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2015 Memorial Day

The Marlins are on the road again for Memorial Day, May 25, 2015, and once again use their road gray jerseys as the base, as they did in 2013. This year, however, they opt for a new lettering style. Front wordmark is desert camo, outlined in orange and silver; names on back are camo/orange, and back numbers are camo/black 3D drop shadow/orange. The layer of black helps the back numbers considerably, but the front and back letters are still hard to read. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white, rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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Back

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palette might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys, making the black knit trim clash somewhat with the red and blue decoration. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Marlins wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars, outlined in red for their back numbers.

The Marlins wordmark on front is in the blue-background twill, surrounded by thick red and silver embroidery, mimicking their typical jersey lettering construction but removing the complex shadow embroidery. This setup makes the Marlins one of a few teams (along with the Cubs and Reds) to have more than two colors on their front logo for this promotion. Player names on back are in red. Two-layer twill replaces the usual, complex multicolor lettering on the jerseys, and all drop shadows are eliminated. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Mother's Day

All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, May 8, 2016 and May 13-14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base™ construction, with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days); the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink; and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Marlins wear their home white jerseys, and the typically multicolor front lettering is rendered in pink with dark gray/silver outlines. The player names on back are dark gray; back numbers are pink/dark gray without the standard drop shadow. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally black, becomes dark gray. In 2017, it is worn with the Jose Fernandez memorial on the right sleeve.

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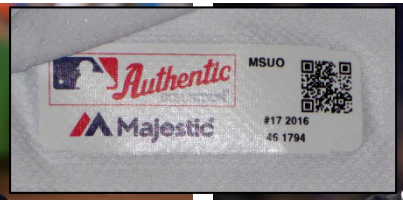
2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Marlins apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The typical multicolor front lettering and back numbers are rendered in three-color woodland camo/black/white on front, and two-color camo/black (minus 3D drop shadows) on back numbers, and player names appear in single-color black. The intricate multi-color beveling on the front logo is also removed. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also changed to single-color black from the usual orange.



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Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Father's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days); the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Marlins wear their home white jerseys, and the typical multicolor front lettering is rendered in light blue/dark gray/silver. The player names on back are rendered in dark gray; front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray without the typical complex drop shadows. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally black, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for 2016, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Marlins are on the road and wear their road jerseys. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill, and the Marlins select the blue twill version with red and gray outlines to replace their typical multicolor front lettering, removing the intricate beveling in the process. The back numbers (here with no 3D drop shadow) are replaced with special blue star twill/red, and the player names on back are red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016: team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim, normally black, becomes blue. The Marlins wear this same jersey on July 3 for a game against the Braves at Ft. Bragg, and include a left-chest Fort Bragg patch for that game, which is not carried over to Independence Day.

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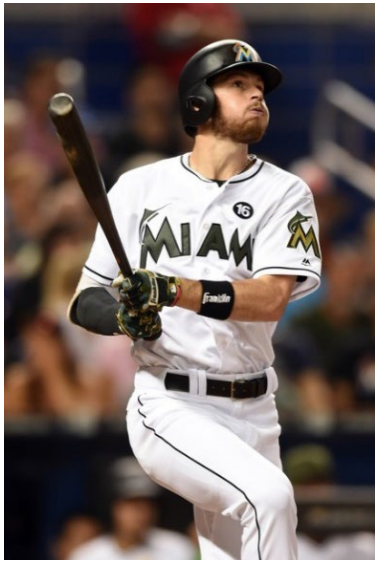
2017 Memorial Day



The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Marlins apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017. The Jose Fernandez “16” memorial patch is on left chest.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Marlins wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally black, becomes dark gray. The team's sleeve patch is also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. The Jose Fernandez "16" memorial patch is on left sleeve.

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2017 Independence Day

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 14, 2017, the Marlins wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue. The Jose Fernandez "16" memorial patch is on left chest.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Marlins wear jerseys with teal bodies and orange sleeves with white nicknames and orange numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/white/orange trim. The front features a simplified version of their home wordmark, rendered with embroidered outline and jumping fish graphic, here rendered in orange/black kiss-cut lightweight twill. The 2017 version has the Jose Fernandez "16" memorial patch on left chest.

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2018 Memorial Day

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are simplified to single-color white, and an all but invisible green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Marlins apply this style to their black alternate jerseys on May 26–28, 2018.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1993

The Marlins mark their 25th anniversary with a throwback to their 1993 inaugural home jerseys on June 8–10, 2018. Striking for the early 1990s, but soporific compared to Marlins uniforms that followed, this teal pinstriped jersey is reproduced in full knit by Majestic. Aside from the anachronistic addition of the team's 25th anniversary patch on the right sleeve in place of an inaugural patch worn in 1993, these are nearly indistinguishable from the originals. Front logo appears in teal/black/white, with black/teal player names (on proper plates) and black/white/teal on front and back numbers. The Marlins' original logo properly appears on the left sleeve, as it did when the team took the field at home for the first time. An excellent throwback effort though nothing less should be expected when only 25 years have elapsed.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the lettering—red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 2–4, 2018, the Marlins wear their home white jerseys with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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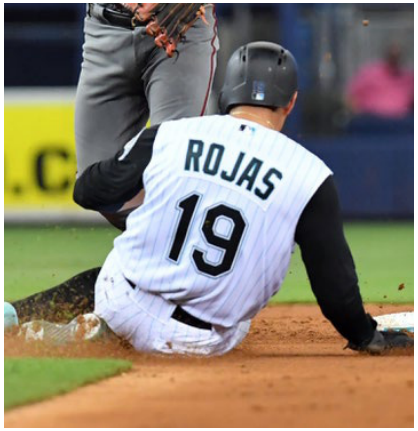
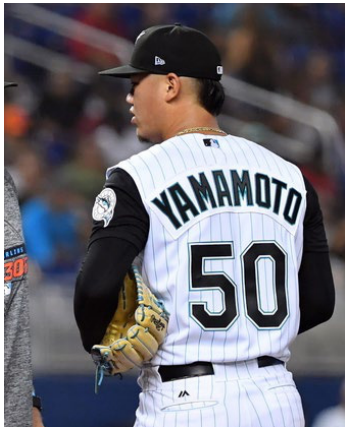
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1993

Apparently, the Marlins (or their fans) loved the teal so much from their 2018 throwback weekend that it resurfaces again July 26–28, 2019, this time mimicking the alternate vest version of the jersey used in 2018. And like that entry, this one is spot on in terms of accuracy as well. Rendered here by Majestic in full knit, this throwback commemorates the jersey that brought vests back to MLB in 1993 (along with the Reds the same year).

Minus sleeves, it is identical to the standard home jersey of the era—front logo appears in teal/black/white, with black/teal player names (on proper plates) and black/white/teal on front and back numbers. It was originally worn with a teal undershirt in the early '90s, but here appears with black, though the team's original logo patch is reproduced on the undershirt sleeves as it was in 1993.





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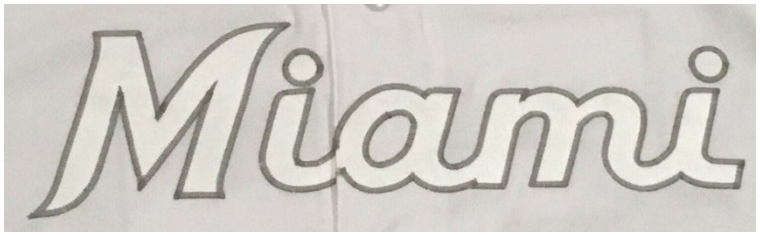
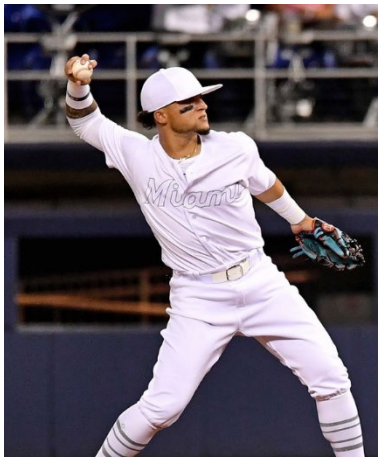
2019 Players Weekend





The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019.

Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Marlins wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2020 Negro Leagues Tribute (1920s Miami Giants)

Stephen Kraljic Collection

When the 100th anniversary of the Negro Leagues was recognized throughout Major League Baseball on August 16, 2020, the Marlins threw back not to a Negro League team, but to another African American team in Miami with close ties to the Negro Leagues. The Miami Giants, a semi-pro team of Black ballplayers in the 1920s and 1930s, frequently played against Negro League stars who came through Miami on barnstorming tours. The Giants later became the Miami Ethiopian Clowns, a longstanding barnstorming team. Made by Nike in Cool Base material, these cream-colored jerseys feature wide, black braid around the neck and placket, above the sleeve ends, and down the sleeves themselves. "Giants" appears in black twill on front in a squared-off block font, while player numbers on back are in a stylized form of block in black. Because this game took place on the day of the league-wide Negro League celebration, the 2020 Negro Leagues anniversary patch was worn on front left chest. Most were removed before the jerseys were auctioned off.

Right: *A notice about the Giants from a 1925 issue of the Miami Herald; An image of the Giants, with uniforms that mirror the Marlins' throwbacks.*

MIAMI GIANTS TO PLAY

The Miami Giants, colored baseball team, has been organized and will begin its activities at City Park, opposite the gas plant on N. W. Seventeenth street. The first games will be played against West Palm Beach on next Sunday and Monday. The West Palm Beach team has just returned from a tour of three weeks and is in good shape.

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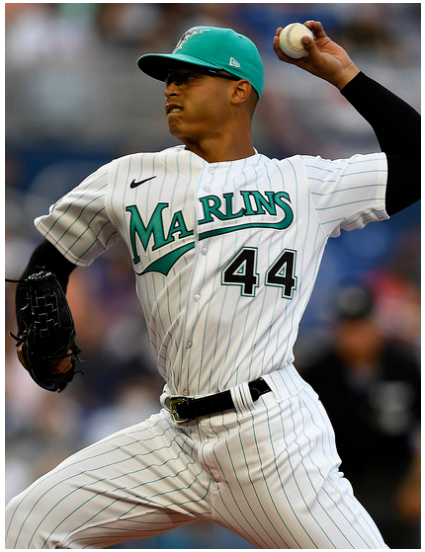
2023 Turn Back the Clock to 1993



For their 25th anniversary, five years prior, the Marlins threw back to their 1993 inaugural home jerseys for one game. In 2023, they wore them almost every home Friday. These teal pinstriped jerseys are reproduced in Cool Base fabric by Nike, and like those by Majestic from five years before, they are nearly indistinguishable from the originals.

Front logo appears in teal/black/white, with black/teal player names (on proper nameplates) and black/white/teal on front and back numbers. The Marlins' original sleeve patch appears, though it switches sides from player to player to be opposite the team's ad patch, which was not part of the original set. The team patch is sewn in a different orientation here, with the fish facing more to 11 o'clock than to 10 o'clock as it used to. The inclusion of the ad patch leaves no room for the Inaugural Season patch that the originals bore. Patches aside, it is still a very faithful reproduction of their first set.

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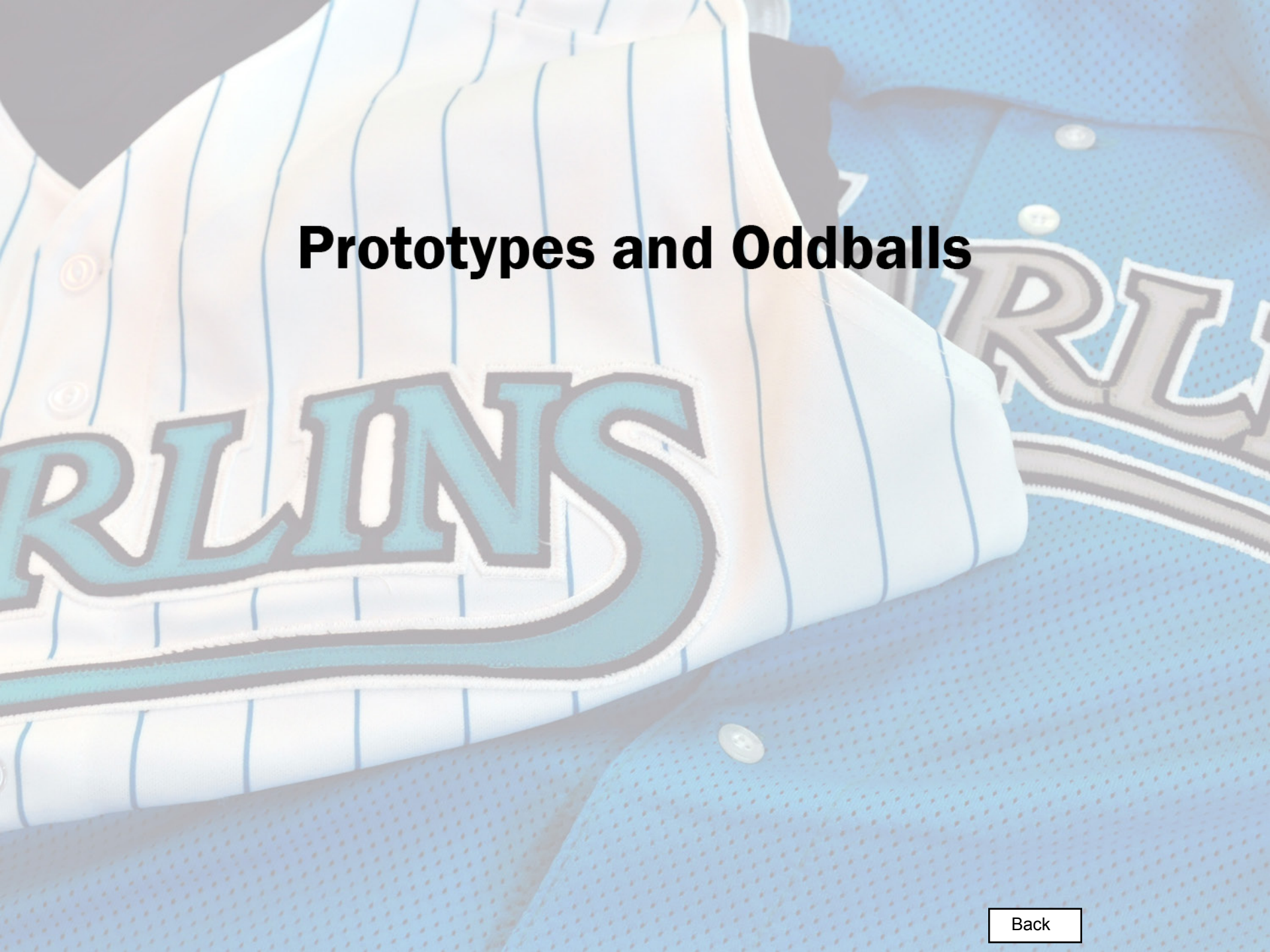
Prototypes and Oddballs



Back

1993 Prototype Home Faux Vest

The Russell tag on this jersey dates it to 1992–1993, and because the Marlins' first year was 1993, we can surmise that the Marlins were likely considering using a faux vest from the start: a white-bodied jersey with attached black sleeves. Other teams used this concept in production; among them the Angels and the Blue Jays, though several years later.

The Marlins did introduce an actual (sleeveless) vest in this style for 1993, issued with an accompanying teal or black undershirt. One thing that this prototype design would have promoted was commonality among the players on the field. When vests are used as a team uniform, players often wear all sorts of odd undershirts that don't match. Although the original 1993 team issued Marlins undershirts had the team patch on the left sleeve, game photos often show players wearing undershirts that have no patch on them at all. Notice that this jersey features a Russell logo sewn to the back of the neck like a real vest would. Perhaps they started with a production vest and added sleeves?

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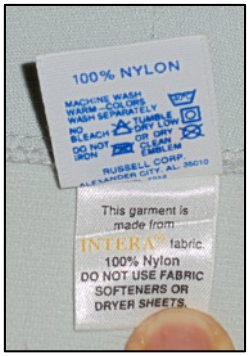
1993 Prototype Road

This specimen is very likely a pre-inaugural prototype design jersey by Russell, from the point in time that the Marlins were considering their uniform options for opening day. We know from the news article and photo early in this chapter that the team had settled on its uniform choices by July 8, 1992, and the shirt tagging ("Diamond Collection" tag with early logo and *Intera fabric* tag) is from 1992. Notice that there is no Russell "R" embroidered on the sleeve.

I bought this jersey blank and lettered it with the team's first manager's name. I have no proof that this is a MLB prototype, and it could have been destined for the minor leagues, but the Diamond Collection tagging is usually reserved for jerseys destined for the big league club.

The jersey body is the same grayish-green fabric used by the team, and the color combination for the front lettering is ultimately what was used on the road "FLORIDA" design that was chosen.



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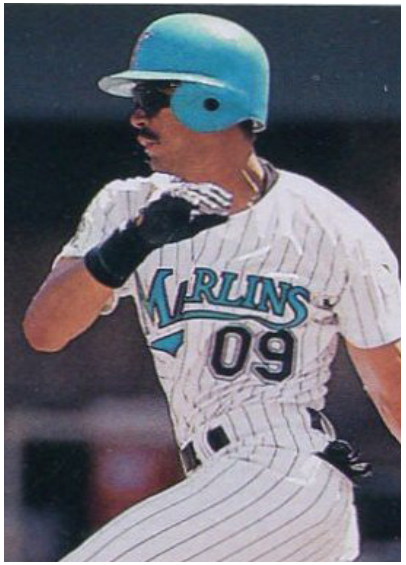
1993-1994 Benito Santiago Wears #09

1993

1993



Above: *Benito Santiago before (left) and after (center) his switch to "09" with the Padres, and also wearing the number with the Marlins (right).*

Twenty-season veteran catcher Benito Santiago started wearing number 9 in his second Major League season, during which he won the Rookie of the Year Award. Given that he was also born on March 9, why did he switch to the unusual choice of "09" in 1991? Simple, the vertical strap of his chest protector covered the number, and he wanted to make sure it was visible. Santiago's decision carried from the end of his tenure with the Padres in 1992 through his two following seasons with the Marlins in 1993 and 1994. The rest of his long career, he wore various other numbers for eight other teams (including "9" without the leading zero). And even though he wore the number for only a fraction of his playing days, it is frequently associated with him. Aside from a handful of players who wore "00" he is the only player we know of who has worn a leading zero in a jersey number.

Of note, outfielder Glenallen Hill once asked to wear "01" after being traded to Cleveland on June 27, 1991, but his request was denied, perhaps because manager John McNamara was then wearing "1". McNamara was fired two weeks later, and Hill took over "1"—without a zero—the next season.

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2000 Prototype Road

Photos courtesy of Robert Kuhl

- Here is an example of a prototype road jersey that the Marlins considered but did not adopt. The style of the Russell Authentic tag clearly places this jersey as from the 2000 season.
- The tackle twill wordmark is a fussy four-layer affair, featuring teal and black laid over a metallic silver outline layer, with a white layer outlining the whole thing. The flying fish is removed from the production jersey, and the tail under the word mimics that of the home jersey.
- Name and numbers on back are in three-color twill: black/teal/white. Name is on a plate. Sleeve-end knit trim is four-color(!): white/teal/black/metallic silver.
- Although not adopted in 2000, it was truly a sign of things to come, as the 2003 road jersey ***(bottom right)*** used the same wordmark with colors in different order, though the prototype's four-color sleeve end trim was not used.

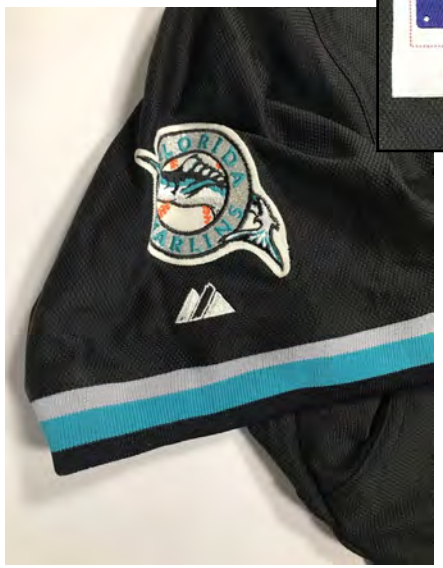
Eventual 2003 road jersey for comparison

© GameWornGuides.com

Early 2000s Experimental Tech-Fabric Batting Practice

Always on the lookout for things that are different, I came across a couple of these jerseys that are decidedly not the heavy black mesh batting practice jerseys cataloged for use by the team in 1999–2002. Similar in every other detail, these are made of the first-generation Cool Base fabric of 2003 that, while lighter weight, tended to have very poor durability. It was susceptible to fabric pulls and aggressive fading in use. While these were advertised by their owner as “game used,” they do not show obvious signs of use in the photos, but the Majestic “0006” tag on the inside seam is a characteristic of a jersey made to team specifications for use on field, vs. one that was made for retail sale. The flag on the back of the collar was a characteristic of on-field late-2001 jerseys (after 9/11) and both Penny and Floyd were on the team roster in 2001–2002; Floyd was not on the Marlins roster in 2003.

My guess is that these were test jerseys made by Majestic to try out the new fabric that they planned to use for all teams in 2002 or 2003.



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2012 Prototypes

Seemingly identical to those released for use in 2012, closer examination oft these prototypes show that the shape of the jumping fish, and the outlines and rainbow colors on the letter "M" on the team wordmark had not yet been finalized.

Above and below left, front logo as proposed on the prototype set; above and below right, the approved logo.

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2016 Jose Fernandez Tribute #16 Jerseys

This story appeared in the Oct. 10, 2016 issue of SPORTS ILLUSTRATED
By S.L. Price

Wednesday October 12, 2016

When the rain began, some mourners held out a hand and sort of smiled—of course, rain—while others looked down, jaws tightening. A few sought cover next to the looming ballpark, but not many, and not the players and coaches who just a minute before had filed out to wait in the middle of NW6th St. The hearse was coming. Everyone knew. Onlookers tracked its progress via helicopter feed on shared smartphones, staring at the lone black Cadillac as it sailed along a strikingly emptied 836 East. Now you could hear that helicopter, above, hovering in the sky.

It was just past 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28, the fourth day since the death of Jose Fernandez. Still the rain fell, but it wasn't the usual Miami afternoon deluge: The sun kept blazing and the light shower felt like relief, and the Marlins' owners and office staff, the exhausted players and coaches all wearing white T-shirts with RIP emblazoned on front, couldn't help but see it as another sign. Didn't weeping Dee Gordon, in their first game back after their teammate died, lead off with his first home run of the year, the longest shot of his life? Didn't slow-afoot Justin Bour, that dizzying Monday night, leg out his first-ever triple? Didn't the shattered players, all wearing Fernandez's number 16, somehow hold on to beat the playoff-chasing Mets, 7–3?

"That was God letting Jose shine through us one more time," Gordon said later. "Then today, when they drove him up? Right before it rained on us and then, as soon as he drove up, it was just ... gone. That's crazy."

But true: A siren sounded and then the car bearing the casket bearing the24-year-old body of Fernandez—Cuban-born, survivor of Fidel's jails and a raft on the Caribbean Sea, the most brilliant pitching talent of his generation—nosed into view. By then the first shock over the high-speed, 3 a.m. crash of his speedboat into a South Beach jetty on Sept. 25,which also killed friends Emilio Macias, 27, and Eduardo Rivero, 25, had ebbed. Now the impact of his loss upon his team, sport and community began to surreally hit home.

"It was,"said Ron Yacoub,the physical therapist who shepherded Fernandez through rehab after his 2014 Tommy John surgery, "upside-down world."

Indeed. Long derided for tin-eared relations with South Florida leaders and fans, owner Jeffrey Loria and Marlins management navigated the immediate aftermath with surprising deftness. A lone trumpet played a heart-crushing "Take Me Out to The Ballgame" to mark Monday's return to play. Fernandez's number was retired. The funeral procession would go onto hit the touchstones of the stricken Miami exile community—moving from here in Little Havana to a blessing at the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity to an impromptu stop at Westchester's La Carreta restaurant, where Fernandez ate pregame meals and employees raised their cups in a final cafecito toast. Never before had the team seemed so in tune with local sentiment.

"I don't remember an outpouring of sadness as big as this in my 56 years here," Miami mayor Tomas Regalado, born in Havana, said last Friday. "This was extreme. I know Joselito was popular and the fans and the millennials and old people loved him. But I didn't know it would hit them so hard. People are still crying."

I normally do not do much more than write a few lines about the reason for a team memorial. But the tragic death of Jose Fernandez in the early hours of September 25, 2016—a Cuban pitcher called "the best of his generation"touched a nerve in Miami.

http://www.si.com/mlb/2016/10/12/jose-fernandez-miami-marlins-death

Every player wore a Fernandez #16 jersey for this game, without objection from the league. Teammates wore a #16 patch on their left sleeves for the final week of the 2016 season, and on the left chest for the entire 2017 season. The team has no officially retired numbers, though no player has worn No.16 since Fernandez's death.

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2020 Nike Sample Home

Though Nike's 2020 entry into MLB jerseys resulted only in the rebranding and relabeling of Majestic's previous Flex Base jersey template, it appears that Nike still produced sample jerseys for team inspection. Here is one such example, made up for the Marlins.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the name "PLAYER" and number "20" are also typical for samples, where 20 represents the year for which the sample was made. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding that appears to read "MIA-HJ-D1-1-2020" (the tag photo is blurry) indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a Miami Marlins (MIA) home jersey (HJ). It is possible such samples were made for all of the teams jerseys, and possibly even some that made changes to the typical jerseys, but any such examples have yet to turn up.

Outwardly, this home white jersey appears just as it did on the field in 2020, a testament to the fact the team was not planning any changes for that season. However, there are still some small details in this sample that were updated before the full run of 2020 jerseys went into production. First, a heat-pressed neck tag which was not used in on-field jerseys. Next, an interior heat-pressed tag, almost twice as tall as the ones used by Majestic before and Nike after, appears inside the placket with the sample coding. This location was used by Majestic for team tagging, but Nike versions moved these tags below the jock tags on the lower front of the jerseys.

Finally, the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag is the same used for Majestic's version of the Flex Base template. By the time these jerseys were released in 2020, the product code had been updated to "0890" to reflect the new Nike jerseys, even though nothing had really changed.

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2023 Prototype Home

Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were "pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024." Ultimately, the new template was in fact delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made up in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

This Marlins home jersey, at first glance, is mostly the same as what they wore before and after the switch from Nike's version of Flex Base to VPE. Closer inspection reveals that the template is VPE - including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, a lightweight sleeve patch, and perforated back numbers. (The home jerseys ultimately did not use perforated numbers.) The tell-tale "Player" and "23" on back reinforce this as a sample, intended for the 2023 season.

Oddly, the sleeve-end trim appears in colors that the Marlins did not wear before or since, powder blue/white/royal blue. It looks more like something the Blue Jays would use, but perhaps at the sample stage, this was all that was available, or perhaps the team was considering a change it vetoed.

The heat-pressed inventory tag also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads "DH0502 MQM 2023 HOME CONVERSION JERSEY P2." There is also a small, handwritten "3" on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, "MQM" is a code Nike has used elsewhere for the Marlins, and "2023 home" is self explanatory. The "DH0502" indication is not clear, although Nike has used a "DX" prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of "Conversion Jersey P2" is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a second iteration of a sample.

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2023 Prototype Alternate

RGVDEAL on eBay

Here is another example of a 2023 Nike Vapor Premier Elite prototype jersey. Unlike the home prototype also shown in this chapter, this example is for what appears to be an rejected version of a new alternate jersey.

Given the details of this jersey, including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, and perforated back numbers, it is clear it is an early VPE sample. The tell-tale "Player" and "23" on back reinforce this as a prototype, intended for the 2023 season.

In contrast to the home sample that had a few slight style details changed, this alternate is unlike anything the Marlins wore before or since. It is medium blue in color and includes the same blue/white/royal blue sleeve trim of the home sample, more reminiscent of the Blue Jays than Marlins. In fact, a similar Blue Jays road sample had the same trim. Perhaps at the sample stage, this was all that was available.

The jersey sports the team's "M" cap logo on front left chest, with numbers in black/white/re drop shadow and player name in black/white. The front logo and all other lettering match the team's 2019-2023 spring training light blue jersey that was also used as an in-season alternate at times.

Like that of the home sample, the heat-pressed inventory tag on the alternate also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads "D09309 MQM 2023 ALT2 CONVERSION JERSEY P1." There is also a small, handwritten "2" on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, "MQM" is a code Nike has used elsewhere for the Marlins, and "2023 ALT2" is self explanatory, assuming that the black alternate was considered ALT1. The "D09309" indication is not clear, although Nike has used a "DX" prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of "Conversion Jersey P1" is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a first iteration of multiple samples.

Ultimately, the Marlins did adopt a new alternate blue jersey, but it was a modification to the existing spring training alternate rather than a new direction as represented in this rejected sample.

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2024 Prototype Home/Road

RGVDEAL on eBay

In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the ones shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. These Marlins home and road versions are examples. In many ways they replicate the team's home and road jerseys that they had worn since 2019, just carried over to VPE. This meant that the original sleeve-end trim was now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it, player names and numbers are smaller with names more arched, and back numbers are perforated (which was not an element of the team's final, on-field home and road jerseys for 2024).

RGVDEAL on eBay

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tags, which read "MARLINS HOME JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" and MARLINS ROAD JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the text "DH0502-100" and "DH0502-074" on the front tags mean. They are likely internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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Oddballs

Right: *this photo of the patch on the sleeve of an alternate batting practice jersey is clearly without the "CARL" included on that patch that was used during the regular season. This photo is likely from 1993 Spring Training.*

- ***Top left:*** Any jersey with the Authentic tag that I have never seen worn on the field catches my eye. The one at top left may have been an unused prototype 2003 BP jersey.
- The Authentic-tagged white BP at top and bottom center is a retail-only "authentic tagged" jersey and is not team worn. This store-bought garment has the 2003 World Series patch on the sleeve.
- The only thing odd about the two jerseys at right are the long names on the back. I love to see how the tailor manages these two—among the longest-ever player names in the major leagues.

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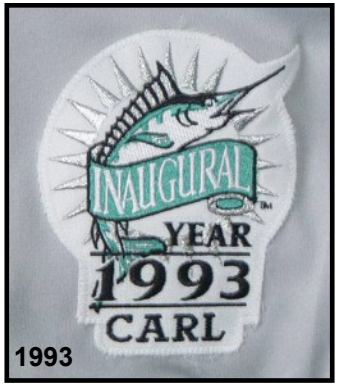
Back

Commemorative Patches

Back

Marlins Patches

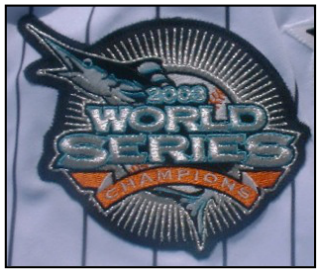


1993

1997: Special Marlins-only colors

Left: *1997 World Series: Neither the Marlins nor the Indians wore the World Series patch during that year's Series*

2003



2004: Worn on black alternate jersey and home pinstriped jersey

2004: Worn on white pinstriped home alternate and road gray jerseys

2007

- 1993: Inaugural Season/Carl patch. Most replica versions of this patch omit the "Carl" at the bottom, which honors Carl Barger, the Marlins' first president, who died before the Marlins played their first game. The Marlins retired the number 5 in his honor.
- 1997: Special Jackie Robinson Patch: The Marlins are allowed to change the colors on the patch to better match their team colors—the only team permitted to do so.

2012: Worn on white and black jerseys

2012: Worn on gray and orange jerseys

- 2003: 10th Anniversary, right sleeve all jerseys
- 2004: World Series Champs 2003. (Two versions. White-bordered version used on road gray and home alternate jerseys; black-bordered version used on black alternate and home jerseys.)
- 2007: 10th Anniversary of 1997 World Championship team.
- 2007, July 27: AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure" day in San Francisco.
- 2012: Marlins Park patch on right sleeve of all jerseys. Orange patch used on home white and alternate black jerseys. Black patch used on road gray and alternate orange jerseys.

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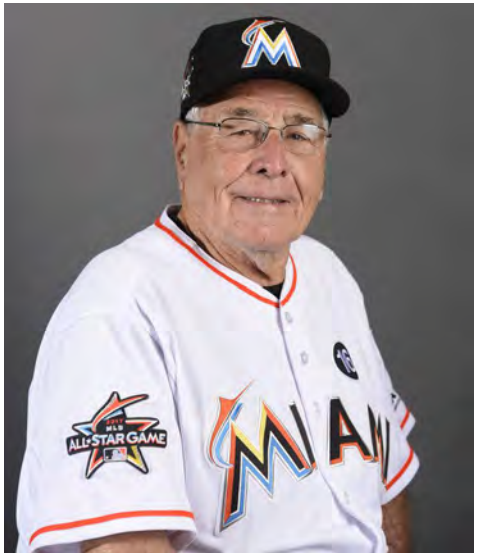
- 2016, July 3: Fort Bragg Game patch, worn on left chest of 2016 Stars and Stripes jersey in game vs. Atlanta Braves.
- 2016: Jose Fernandez #16 memorial starting September 27 through the final week of the season, and only on the right sleeve of the black jersey.
- 2017: All Star Game patch, right sleeve, all jerseys.
- 2017: Jose Fernandez #16 memorial patch on the left chest of all jerseys, all season.

2017



- 2017, starting August 31: FELO memorial patch for Rafael "Felo" Ramirez, Marlins' Spanish-language radio announcer. Worn above All-Star Game Patch, right sleeve.
- 2018: Marlins 25th anniversary patch, worn all season.
- 2018, February 23: MSD oval patch for victims of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas school shooting.
- 2018, March 29-April 1: MSD ribbon patch for victims of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas school shooting.

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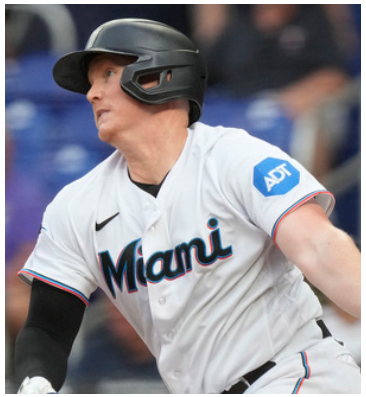
2023-2025 Marlins Advertising Patches



2025 City Connect 2.0

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Marlins struck a sponsor patch deal with ADT, a security system company. The patches first appeared on Opening Day 2023. The patch is a blue octagon with a white border and the ADT logo in white.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch. In 2023, the patch was also included on the team's throwback uniform.

In 2025, the team's City Connect 2.0 uniform had a sponsor patch colored to match the jersey. The patch is a black octagon with a teal/pink gradient border and the ADT logo in white/teal.

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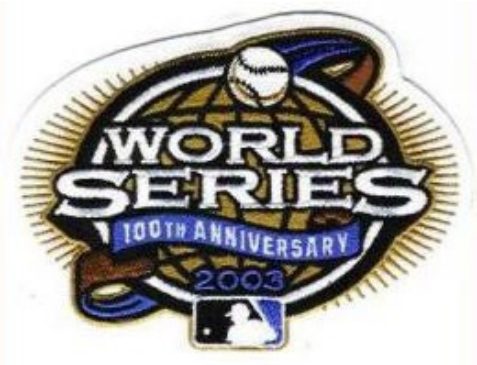
Marlins Postseason Patches

1997 World Series

The Marlins did not wear this patch in the 1997 World Series. Instead, they wore their specially alternate-color Jackie Robinson patch in the Series, the one that they had worn all season. Their opponents, the Cleveland Indians also eschewed the 1997 World Series patch in favor of the Jackie Robinson patch.



2003 World Series

(right sleeve) The Marlins wore their alternate black jerseys or home whites in every game of the 2003 Series.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Benito Santiago Florida Marlins Game Worn 1993 Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: February 21, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0221J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Florida Marlins gray-bodied size 42 (marked and measured) Russell six-button road jersey lettered for #09 Benito Santiago. "Florida" across both front panels with jumping fish design in Marlin Blue, black and white. White/teal/black knit trim sewn in at the sleeve ends. Team disk patch on the left sleeve, no patch presently on the right sleeve, though the clear outline of a removed 1993 Inaugural Season patch remains. Player number "09" on the left chest and on back in black, outlined with Marlin Blue. Name on back is in black outlined by Marlin Blue, stitched to a single-needle serged edged, perfectly color-matching plate. Notably, for several years of his career Santiago specified his number to be "09" because he did not like the fact that the straps of the catcher chest protector obscured his number on the field. With "09" the strap went between the numbers instead of overtop them. Notably, the back numbers on this jersey are sewn crooked.

In 1993 with the expansion Florida Marlins, Santiago played in 139 games and hit .230 with 19 home runs. During his 20 year career, While Santiago first made an impression with his offensive statistics, he soon became known for his defensive prowess, most notably for his strong throwing arm. Santiago was known for his ability to throw out would-be base stealers from a kneeling position. During his career, Santiago was considered the premier defensive catcher in the National League. He was a four-time Silver Slugger Award winner, a three-time Gold Glove Award winner, as well as a five-time All-Star. Santiago was the unanimous selection for the 1987 National League Rookie of the Year Award. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell R in teal outlined with black directly embroidered on the right sleeve end. Russell Diamond Collection tag on the front left tail, indicating the size as 42, and in the correct, specific style used in only 1992-1993 seasons consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. The Russell 1992-1993 only Intera® Fabric flag tag is stitched pinched under the bottom corse of stitching holding the locker tag in place, and this jersey lacks a size tag in the neck: both of these are characteristics of jerseys made for the purpose of team issue, vs. ones made for retail sale. Intera® fabric was a short-lived Russell innovation that was supposed to be a softer fabric, but it instead wrinkled and faded badly and was quickly discontinued. Not all 1993 Marlins jerseys were made of Intera® and I would observe that this one does not seem to be made of that fabric, regardless of the tagging; I am certain this one is made of standard 100% polyester and is mis-tagged from the factory, something that is believable to me as an authenticator, as both styles of jerseys were being made simultaneously in 1993. The Marlins team-tagged their jersey in 1993 (though some were not tagged) and the team tagging on this jersey matches exemplars. The tag is 1" x 3" piece of white knit jersey fabric with 09-SANTIAGO-93 SET 1 printed on it in a shiny black Plastisol ink.

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Wear & Repairs: This jersey exhibits clear signs of use by a catcher. It has signature wear to the nameplate and the center of the back numbers creating edge fraying and lose stitching, this caused by constant rubbing from the back strap of the catcher's chest protector. The removal of the 1993 sleeve patch is understandable; jerseys were recycled into spring training the next year where all year-specific patches were removed. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering stitching is original and without contrivance. There is no damage to note on this jersey and no signs of repairs.

Top left, the prominent glue mark on the right sleeve of the jersey in review is from the removal of the 1993 Marlins Inaugural Season patch. That patch is shown here, on an exemplar jersey. Middle row, signature fraying of the twill lettering from abrasion of the catcher's chest protector. Bottom row, matching 1993 Marlins exemplar tagging from my library. Note that the first and third tags below have 100% polyester tags, not the Intera® one.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits moderately heavy wear, and appears to have no contrivances of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine as issued to and worn by catcher Benito Santiago.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Gary Sheffield Florida Marlins Team Issued 1990s Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 2,2022 **Certification Number**: 20-0402J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Florida Marlins white with teal pinstripes size 48 six-button home jersey lettered for #10 Gary Sheffield. "Marlins" across both front panels with underline in Marlin Blue, black and white. Team disk patch on the left sleeve, no patch on the right sleeve. Player number "10" on the left chest and on back, in black, white and Marlin Blue. Name on back is in black outlined by Marlin Blue, stitched to a single-needle serged edged white plate.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell R in teal outlined with black directly embroidered on the right sleeve end. Russell Diamond Collection tag 1994-1999 style on the front left tail, indicating the size as 48, consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. A small "100% polyester" flag tag is stitched pinched under the bottom corse of stitching holding the locker tag in place, and this jersey lacks a size tag in the neck: both of these are characteristics of jerseys made for the purpose of team issue, vs. ones made for retail sale. Sheffield played on the Marlins 1993-1998, all years while this style of jersey was worn. The Russell locker tag style is consistent with that span of years. In 1997 the team wore a sleeve patch that was never sewn on this jersey. Unfortunately, the Marlins did not team tag their jerseys at all during this period, so it is not possible to conclude team issue or a determine a specific year of issue.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey exhibits little or no signs of wash or wear. All elements are crisp and clean. There are no signs of alteration or repair.

Conclusion: All characteristics of this jersey point to it having been sewn by Russell at its shop on a team-issue style jersey. It does not show signs of use, but it is correctly sized and player customized for Gary Sheffield. I would judge this to be an authentic team prepared/issued jersey.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Dave Magadan Florida Marlins Team Issued 1993-1994 Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: July 3, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0703J06

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Florida Marlins gray-bodied size 48 six-button home jersey lettered for #18 Dave Magadan. "Florida" across both front panels with jumping fish design in Marlin Blue, black and white. White/teal/black knit trim sewn in at the sleeve ends. Team disk patch on the left sleeve, no patch presently on the right sleeve, though light table examination shows the outline of a removed 1993 Inaugural Season patch. Player number "18" on the left chest and on back in black, outlined with Marlin Blue. Name on back is in black outlined by Marlin Blue, stitched to a single-needle serged edged perfectly color-matching plate.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell R in teal outlined with black directly embroidered on the right sleeve end. Russell Diamond Collection tag on the front left tail, indicating the size as 48, consistent with other jerseys worn by the player at this stage of his career. A small "100% polyester" flag tag is stitched pinched under the bottom corse of stitching holding the locker tag in place, and this jersey lacks a size tag in the neck: both of these are characteristics of jerseys made for the purpose of team issue, vs. ones made for retail sale. Magadan played for the Marlins in 1993 from April until the end of June when he was traded to the Mariners. He rejoined the Marlins in 1994, and played 74 games from April through July when he was released.

The Marlins team-tagged their jersey in 1993 (though some were not tagged), but not in 1994. Most 1993 jerseys were made from the special "Intera Fabric" that was troublesome and was quickly discontinued. Conversely, this jersey has no team tagging and is not Intera, and has a 1994 -and-later style Russell tail tag. In 1994 the Marlins wore the MLB 125th sleeve patch on their right sleeve, along with all the other teams in MLB. This jersey shows no signs that the 125th patch was ever affixed, yet it does show the removal outline of a 1993 Inaugural season patch. The nameplate construction especially bears the hallmarks of team issue; it is in exactly matching fabric and has a single-needle serged edge.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey does not exhibits clear signs of wash or wear. All elements are crisp and clean. There are no signs of alteration or repair. Regarding the ghost of the 1993 sleeve patch, while not certain, it is a *possibility* that this patch was added by a later collector-owner and then removed prior to being presented to me. These patches are available in reproduction.

At left, the Russell tag on this jersey, one usually seen in 1994 and after, with 100% Polyester tag. At right, typical Marlins 1993 tagging with earlier style Russell Diamond Collection logo, Intera fabric tag and team tagging. Top right, Magadan with 1993 patch on sleeve, bottom Magadan with 1994 sleeve patch. This jersey shows removal of 1993 sleeve patch and no evidence of the 1994 patch.

Conclusion: All characteristics of this jersey point to it having been sewn by Russell in 1994 at its shop on a team-issue style jersey. It does not show signs of use, but it is correctly sized for Dave Magadan. I would judge this to be an authentic 1994 team prepared jersey, but would not have been game worn, lacking its 1994 sleeve patch.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

2003 Miguel Cabrera Florida Marlins Gray Autographed "Rookie" Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 14, 2021 **Certification Number**: 211014J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Florida Marlins Miguel Cabrera gray road jersey Russell six button, size 50 without special tailoring. All layered twill four-color lettering; metallic black, metallic silver, Marlins blue, and white. Four-color "20" on back, "CABRERA" arched and direct sewn on back above his number, all in the same four-color pattern. Russell "R" logo is direct-embroidered to the end of the left sleeve in black thread, and above it is the Marlins Jumping Fish/"F" team secondary logo patch embroidered in black, silver, turquoise and white. On the right sleeve is sewn the Marlins' colorful 10th Anniversary patch, worn only in 2003. The MLB silhouetted batter logo patch is stitched to the center of the back neck, in the marlins colors of black, white and teal. A survey of other credibly authenticated Cabrera jerseys from early in the player's career show that he wore size 50 and 52 jerseys, often with 2" extra length. This jersey does not have extra length. It is signed on the front right below the team crest, "Miguel Cabrera 20 Game Used Rookie Jersey" in black marker, and on the back number "2" in silver Sharpie. I have no professional opinion on the validity of signatures.

Cabrera made his major league debut on June 20, 2003, at 20 years old. In his first season Cabrera batted .268 (84-for-314), with 12 home runs, 62 RBIs, 39 runs, 21 doubles, and three triples in 87 games played, and received NL Rookie of the Month honors for both July and September. Cabrera's postseason play helped propel Florida to the World Series title over the New York Yankees and landed him on the cover of *ESPN The Magazine* during the offseason. He finished fifth in the NL Rookie of the Year voting. *(Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell locker tag in the 2001-2003 style is sewn to the outer left front tail. Directly beneath the Russell tag is a small white fabric tag, " 50 100% Polyester" it is frayed, stand and curled from wear. Typical of 2003 Marlins team issued and game worn jerseys, there is no other team tagging at all. The jersey is MLB hologrammed, and its database entry is dated September 15, 2017 (14 years after the jersey's issue), and simply says "Inscription: Game Worn Rookie Jersey". It does not offer information on dates it may have been worn.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs of light, if any, wash and wear, as there is no notable puckering of the four-layer thick twill as quickly happens when these are laundered in hot water. The manufacturer and size tags are crisp and unfrayed/unstained. There is no piling to the gray jersey fabric as often happens in the wash with these jerseys that use abrasive metallic twill lettering. The player lettering on back is sewn onto the jersey only around its edges as is correct compared to exemplars. A light table examination shows no alterations.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits very light if any and wash wear, and appears to have no contrivances of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine as issued to Miguel Cabrera in his 2003 "Rookie" season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

2003 Miguel Cabrera Florida Marlins Black "Rookie" Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: October 14, 2021 **Certification Number**: 211014J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Florida Marlins Miguel Cabrera black alternate jersey Russell six button, size 50 without special tailoring. All layered twill four-color lettering; metallic silver, metallic black, Marlins blue, and white. Four-color "20" on back, "CABRERA" arched and direct sewn on back above his number, all in the same four-color pattern. Russell "R" logo is direct-embroidered to the end of the left sleeve in metallic silver thread, and above it is the Marlins Jumping Fish/"F" team secondary logo patch embroidered in black, silver, turquoise and white. On the right sleeve is sewn the Marlins' colorful 10th Anniversary patch, worn only in 2003. The MLB silhouetted batter logo patch is stitched to the center of the back neck, in the marlins colors of black, white and teal.

Cabrera made his major league debut on June 20, 2003, at 20 years old. In his first season Cabrera batted .268 (84-for-314), with 12 home runs, 62 RBIs, 39 runs, 21 doubles, and three triples in 87 games played, and received NL Rookie of the Month honors for both July and September. Cabrera's postseason play helped propel Florida to the World Series title over the New York Yankees and landed him on the cover of *ESPN The Magazine* during the offseason. He finished fifth in the NL Rookie of the Year voting. *(Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell locker tag in the 2001-2003 style is sewn to the outer left front tail. Directly beneath the Russell tag is a small white fabric tag, "50 100% Polyester" it is frayed, stained and curled from wear. Typical of 2003 Marlins team issued and game worn jerseys, there is no other team tagging at all. The jersey is not MLB hologrammed, and while that program began in 2001, it was still being used inconsistently in 2003. A survey of other credibly authenticated Cabrera jerseys from early in the player's career show that he wore size 50 and 52 jerseys, often with 2" extra length. This jersey does not have extra length.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs of moderate wash and wear, with softening of the fabric, puckering and fraying to the tagging, with even puckering of the four-layer thick twill. The player lettering on back is sewn onto the jersey only around its edges as is correct compared to exemplars. There are a significant number of loose threads on the lettering. A light table examination shows no alterations to the player lettering.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and appears to have no contrivances of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Miguel Cabrera in his 2003 "Rookie" season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike (Giancarlo) Stanton 2010 BP/Spring Training Rookie Jersey, Autographed

Examination Date: November 25, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1125J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Lightweight Majestic Coolbase black pullover BP style jersey with one-button neck, white mesh side panels, size XL, reasonably sized for the player. Vacuum-applied flock transfer team crest on front, in textured white outlined with black then gray. This style of jersey and lettering was worn only 2007-2010, but as Stanton's rookie season was 2010 and this is #80 (his regular season number was 27) we can safely assume this is from that year. Similarly applied three-colored flock lettering on back, in white/black/white. Jersey is autographed on the "0" on back in black marker and there is a Beckett authentication sticker next to the signature, serial number C03593. I have no professional opinion on the autograph. This jersey was presented without provenance, and was claimed to have been used in spring training, though this style was also used throughout the season as a pre-game batting practice shirt. I will note that the lettering for this style of jersey was unique, and hard to duplicate. Because of the process used to apply the player lettering, this one is quite likely original and authentic as made by Majestic in its facility.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: These jerseys were not team tagged in any way. The sole indication of team issue is the inside steam tag that is numbered with Majestic's code for team-specification jerseys, 0068. (If it was made for retail sale it would have the code 6800.) The tag shows wash wear with some staining and curling.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of light use and is without contrivance, damage or repairs. The inside seam tagging is slightly worn and curled. The fabric used on these jerseys faded quickly in use, and on this one fading is extremely minimal on the tops of the shoulders where it would appear first. The jersey presents in excellent condition.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent original condition and has the proper markings to be considered team issue. It shows light but appropriate wear and lacks any hint of contrivance. In my opinion, this jersey is authentic as worn by Mike/Giancarlo Stanton in spring training for the 2010 Florida Marlins.

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Chapter 24

New York Mets

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025 Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Mets Uniform History Notes

- The New York Mets joined the National League as an expansion team for the 1962 season. New York was still reeling from the loss of both its NL teams to California following the 1958 season.
- The Mets adopted the colors of the departed franchises as its own: royal blue from the Dodgers, orange from the Giants.
- The Mets' original uniforms were models of classic simplicity—blue pinstripes at home with a cursive "Mets" script, and road grays featuring "New York" in a Tuscan-style font lifted from the 1957 New York Giants (also used by the Red Sox and Angels at the time). As of 2025, the primary uniforms remain surprisingly faithful to those 1962 originals.
- So why is this chapter so long? The reason lies in the team's relentless experimentation with road jerseys, alternate designs, and small but frequent changes to the home uniform.
- The Mets made the change from flannels to knits in 1972 with no fanfare; the new knits looked identical to the 1971 flannel versions, keeping the same appearance through 1977.
- Beginning in 1978, the Mets adopted two-button pullover jerseys with the same front wordmark, adding sleeve and neck trim. Player names debuted in 1979. In 1983, "racing stripes" are added down the sides and over the shoulders, mirroring the road jersey changes of 1982.
- The racing stripe design continues through 1992, but in 1991 the home jersey reverts to a button-front design.
- The 1993–1994 seasons see a return to simplicity: racing stripes and other trim are dropped, and the front wordmark receives an underlining for these two years only.
- In 1995, the home jersey returns to a 1970 look—button-front pinstripes, simple wordmark, and no underlining—remaining this way through 1998.
- In 1999, a black drop shadow is added to all home uniform elements. This detail remains for 13 years, vanishing in 2012 and bringing the design full circle. The 2012–2025 uniform looks very much like the 1970 version.
- Road uniform changes have outpaced the home design. The original simple and beautiful 1962 Tuscan "NEW YORK" wordmark had carried through to 1973 without change. In 1974, the road gray changes to "Mets" script like the home, and in 1978 to a two-button Henley through 1981, as trim is added to the sleeves and neck. Player names debut in 1979 and in 1982 the pullover gains wide racing stripes and a V-neck. This look lasts through 1986.
- 1987's one-year road design has "New York" in script on a gray background, changes to a simple Yankees-like "NEW YORK" block lettering for 1988, changes back to a button front for 1991, then reverts back to a New York script (different from 1987) with an underline for 1993–1994.
- In 1995, the team returns to the classic Tuscan "New York" road script (last seen in 1973), which remains in use—through 2025—despite a black drop shadow being added from 1999–2011.
- All of which is enough—but we have barely mentioned the alternate uniforms. Blue alternates first appear 1982–1984 (as a V-neck), then return in 2013–2024 (as button-downs), when different versions are made for home and road. A "snow white" home alternate is introduced for 1997, gains drop shadows for 1998–2011, until it reverts back to its 1997 simplicity for 2012–2014. A black home alternate is introduced for 1998 and a road version in 1999. And while the home black alternate continues through the 2012 season, the road version quietly disappears after the 2008 season ends.
- By 2014, the black alternates are completely gone, replaced by aforementioned blue versions. Snow whites vanish for 2015. A camouflage alternate jersey comes for 2014 and lasts through 2015.
- New team ownership brings back the polarizing black jerseys for several games in 2021 before making them an official alternate in 2022. Their trim and wordmark will be tweaked several times over the next three seasons.
- 2025 introduces a revised road gray and a new alternate road pullover, both with retro touches. The road gray adds sleeve and neck trim reminiscent of the 1978–1981 and 1993–1994 road editions and the blue V-neck pullover revives the one-year 1987 "New York" style road script while evoking memories of the 1982–1984 alternate blue tops. The pullovers are the team's first since 1991 and only the third MLB team (Angels, Nationals) to adopt a pullover for regular use on the new Nike VPE template.
- In 2024, the Mets unveiled their City Connect uniform, drawing inspiration from the NYC subway. The charcoal gray jersey features large "NYC" styled in Mets road Tuscan font, with black pinstripes made up of circles and diamonds echoing local and express subway station markings. Back number and name is rendered in the same Tuscan font as the wordmar
- From 1970 to 2025, the Mets' uniform history reflects a blend of tradition and experimentation. Anchored by their signature pinstriped home whites and blue/orange palette, the team has introduced a wide variety of alternates over the decades. But while they've made periodic departures from their classic look, the team has consistently returned to its core visual identity.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com . Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Home Pinstripe Detail

1970–1986, 1993–1996: No pattern twill

1972–1992: zig-zag "engineered" woven-in pinstripes

1993–1994: straight pinstripes

1995–2025: wavy pin-stripes, not sewn into the fabric (non-engineered)

Left: *Early version of the "Skyline" patch featuring the tiny "NY" to the left of the team wordmark.*

1987–1992: *Dazzle* twill

Sadly, the entire remaining original vintage supply of dazzle twill was destroyed in a fire and flood at Liebe Company's St. Louis headquarters in the late 1990s.

1997–2011: *Glacier* twill

2012: Return to no pattern twill

A consistent point—the player numbers and name styles always copy the color pattern of the Mets script. For example, if it is three-color *Mets* or *New York* front script, the numbers and name are three-color. If the team script has a drop shadow, then the name and number will have a drop shadow. The twill used for the player name and number lettering is always the same type as the front wordmark.

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Year by Year Summary

Mets Game Jerseys

1970-1971

1970-1971

1972-1977

1972-1973

1978-1982

1974-1977

1978-1981

1982 only

1982-1986

1983 only

1983-1990

1983-1984

1987 only

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch		Spalding
	Road Gray Flannel	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch		Wilson
1971	Home White Flannel	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch		Spalding
	Road Gray Flannel	Varsity 2 color*	Varsity 2 color*	No	-	Skyline Patch		Wilson/ Spalding
1972	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch/Armband	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch/Armband	-	Wilson
1973	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Wilson
1974	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
1975	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
1976	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch/armband for Joan Payson and Casey Stengel	NL Centennial	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch/armband for Joan Payson and Casey Stengel	NL Centennial	Goodman
1977	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Goodman
1978	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
1979	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
1980	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
1981	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block Serifs 2 color	Block Serifs 2 color (X)	Rawlings Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	Skyline Patch	-	Rawlings
1982	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Blue	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1983	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Blue	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1984	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alternate Blue	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1985	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	25th Anniversary	-	Goodman
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	Yes	25th Anniversary	-	Goodman
1987	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings

* Spalding jerseys use Block lettering, not Varsity
(x) Jerseys issued and lettered after the start of the season used regular Block, not Block w/Serifs

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Mets Game Jerseys

1983-1990

1988-1990

1991-1992

1991-1992

1993-1994

1993 Only

1994 Only

1995-1998

1995-1997

1997 only

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1988	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	-	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	-	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	-	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	-	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	"S" (Bill Shea) Memorial	-	Russell
	Road Gray	-	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	"S" (Bill Shea) Memorial	-	Russell
1993	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	-	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Russell
1994	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Miracle Mets 25th Anniv	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Miracle Mets 25th Anniv	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Mets Disc	-	AIS
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	AIS
1996	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Mets Disc	J McSherry Memorial	AIS
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	J McSherry Memorial	AIS
1997	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Mets Disc	Jackie Robinson	AIS
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond/XCond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Jackie Robinson	AIS
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond/XCond 3 color	No	Mets Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell

The Mets official *Skyline Logo* is a beautifully balanced design that was born with the Mets in 1962. ***At left*** is the original version. Note the small NY at the left center. *In the center* is the 1998 freshening of the design. Note the stitching has been slightly changed, the NY hidden in the buildings eliminated and the white outlines made thinner. *At the right* is what is known as the *Midnight* variant of the logo, incorporating black, used on alternate jerseys and BPs.

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Mets Game Jerseys

1998 only

1999-2009

1998-2011

1998-2011

1998-2014

1999-2008

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1998	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	AIS
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	AIS
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Russell
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Russell/AIS
1999	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	AIS
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Russell/AIS
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Russell/Rawlings
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Russell
2000	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Rawlings
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Rawlings
2001	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	9/11 Embroidery*	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	9/11 Embroidery*	Rawlings
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	9/11 Embroidery*	Rawlings
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	9/11 Embroidery*	Rawlings
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	9/11 Embroidery*	Rawlings
2002	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Mets 40th & 9/11 Embroidery	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Mets 40th & 9/11 Embroidery	Rawlings
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Mets 40th & 9/11 Embroidery	Rawlings
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	Mets 40th & 9/11 Embroidery	Rawlings
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	Mets 40th & 9/11 Embroidery	Rawlings
2003	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
2004	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular) BOB MURPHY after 8/3	Shea Stadium 40th/Tug	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular) BOB MURPHY after 8/3	Shea Stadium 40th/Tug	Majestic
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular) BOB MURPHY after 8/3	Shea Stadium 40th/Tug	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black) BOB MURPHY after 8/3	Shea Stadium 40th/Tug	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black) BOB MURPHY after 8/4	Shea Stadium 40th/Tug	Majestic
2005	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
2006	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
2007	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
2008	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Shea Stadium Final Year	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Shea Stadium Final Year	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	Shea Stadium Final Year	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	-	Majestic
2009	Home White PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	New Stadium Inaugural	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alternate White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	New Stadium Inaugural	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	New Stadium Inaugural	Majestic

Footnotes detailed on next page

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Mets Game Jerseys

2010-2011

1998-2011

1998-2011

1998-2014
(xx)

2012-2025++

2012-2024

2012-2014

2014-2015

Change to Flex Base

2013-2024

2013-2021

2016

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2010	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)		Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)		Majestic
	Home Cream PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)		Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)		Majestic
2011	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)		Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)		Majestic
	Home Cream PS	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)		Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)		Majestic
2012	Home Cream PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets 50th Anniversary	Gary Carter Memorial (Kid 8)	Majestic
	Alt Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets 50th Anniversary	Gary Carter Memorial (Kid 8)	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets 50th Anniversary	Gary Carter Memorial (Kid 8)	Majestic
	Alt Black Home	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	Mets 50th Anniversary+	Majestic
2013	Home Cream PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	2013 All Star Game		Majestic
	Alt Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	2013 All Star Game		Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	2013 All Star Game		Majestic
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	2013 All Star Game		Majestic
	Alt Black Home**	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	2013 All Star Game		Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	2013 All Star Game		Majestic
2014	Home Cream PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Kiner Memorial/FC Memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Kiner Memorial/FC Memorial****	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	Kiner Memorial/FC Memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mr. Met Patch	Kiner Memorial/FC Memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Black Home**	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc (Black)	Kiner Memorial/FC Memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mr. Met Patch	Kiner Memorial/FC Memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	American Flag	Kiner Memorial/FC Memorial****	Majestic
2015	Home White PS++	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mr. Met Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mr. Met Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	American Flag	-	Majestic
2016	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc (Regular)	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mr. Met Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mr. Met Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Nostalgia 1986	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	25th Anniversary Patch	-	Majestic
2017	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Majestic
2018	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	"Rusty" memorial disc	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	"Rusty" memorial disc	Majestic
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	"Rusty" memorial disc	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	"Rusty" memorial disc	Majestic
2019	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Black Seaver Memorial^	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Black Seaver Memorial^	Nike
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Black Seaver Memorial^	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Black Seaver Memorial^	Nike

During 1995-1999, the Mets likely had several complete sets of uniforms, some made by Russell and others by AIS. Mets jerseys from this point onward have been seen with set numbers such as Set 9 and Set E, indicating multiple sets were made, most likely for the purpose of being sold as game used by the team.

* 9/11 Embroidery added to sleeve after the September Disaster, worn through the end of the season, then again, all the next year

*** Bob Murphy memorial added as direct embroidery after 8/3/04

**** Kiner memorial from start of season, "FC" Frank Cashen memorial added July 4.

xx Unconfirmed if team sets actually exist for 2013-2014

+ "KID 8" Gary Carter patch worn on left chest

++The home pinstripe jersey loses the drop shadows, has cream-colored base fabric 2012-2014, changes to a pinstripe with a white base fabric 2015

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Pinstripe Seaver Memorial	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Pinstripe Seaver Memorial	Nike
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Pinstripe Seaver Memorial	Nike
	Alt Blue Road	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	Pinstripe Seaver Memorial	Nike
2022	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc	-	Nike
2023	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alt Blue Home	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡*	Nike
2024	Home White PS	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Mets Disc/Harrelson and Grote memorials‡**	Mays Memorial/New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡**	Nike
	Road Gray	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Mets Disc/Harrelson and Grote memorials‡**	Mays Memorial/New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡**	Nike
	Alt Blue Home	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Mets Disc/Harrelson and Grote memorials‡**	Mays Memorial/New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡**	Nike
	Alt Black (lettering change)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Mets Disc/Harrelson and Grote memorials‡**	Mays Memorial/New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡**	Nike
	City Connect	-	Fancy 2 color (perf)	Fancy 2 color	No	NY Subway Token/ Harrelson and Grote memorials‡**	Mays Memorial/New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡**	Nike
2025	Home White PS	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Kranepool Memorial/ Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray (trim change)	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Kranepool Memorial/ Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue Pullover	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Kranepool Memorial/ Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Black	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Kranepool Memorial/ Mets Disc‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Fancy 2 color (perf)	Fancy 2 color	No	Kranepool Memorial/ NY Subway Token‡	New York Presbyterian Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player
*starting April 10, 2023, new version used starting April 26, 2023
**In 2024, the Mets start the season with a memorial patch for Buddy Harrelson above the team disc. On June 29, they add a memorial to Jerry Grote by creating a single patch with the Harrelson and Grote memorials above the team disc, and also add a memorial "24" patch in memory of Willie Mays on the opposite sleeve, above the sponsor patch.

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home

1970

The Mets wore flannel uniforms for their first ten years of existence from their beginning in 1962 through 1971. The Mets' original home jersey is a masterpiece of classic simplicity—proving that a uniform doesn't need excessive ornamentation to be attractive.

The jersey fabric is cream-colored flannel with a blue chalk pinstripe. All lettering is royal blue felt on top of a base layer of orange twill. "Mets" is slanted across the chest. Front Block font numbers are on the left chest in the same color combination. Block numbers adorn the back, and no player names are used. The Mets classic "Skyline" patch is sewn on the left sleeve. Spalding is the manufacturer both years.

This 1970 jersey is identical to the one introduced in the team's inaugural 1962 season. The only change has been the addition of front numbers in 1965 and the sleeve patch added for 1963. Except for the addition of player names, the 2025 edition remains virtually unchanged—55 years hence.

1971

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1970-1971 Road

The Mets' road jersey for 1970 remains unchanged from the 1962 original, except for the addition of front numbers in 1965. The "NEW YORK" font used on the front is known as Tuscan, and it has also appeared on uniforms of the Red Sox and Angels. In these final years of flannels, the lettering uses royal blue felt layered over orange tackle twill.

Road jerseys are made by Wilson at the end of the flannel era, and Wilson continues as the supplier into the knit era. Wilson's Varsity number font is used on road jerseys both before and after the switch to knits, remaining consistent, and it differs from the Block font used by Rawlings on home uniforms.

1947 New York Giants road uniform for comparison.

© GameWornGuides.com

1972-1977 Home

The Mets' first double-knit home uniform closely replicates the 1971 flannel. Block numbers in royal/orange appear on both front and back. The jersey features a zigzag pinstripe pattern, visible in the close-up photo ***(inset, lower left),*** and typical short-cropped tailoring of the sleeves. Back numbers use Rawlings' standard Block font, while front numbers use Rawlings' Front Block variant. No names appear on back; they first appear on Mets home uniforms in 1979.

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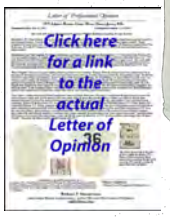
1972-1973 Road

1972

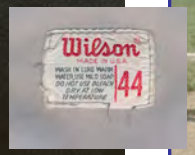


The Mets' first double-knit road jersey is identical in design to the 1971 flannel. This jersey style appears during two separate periods—1972–1973 and again in 1995–1997—but the versions are not identical.

These early Mets road jerseys have no names on the back, feature sleeve ends with no trim, and use Varsity font numbers (while home jerseys use Block font). The difference in number fonts between home and road jerseys likely stems from the Mets not specifying a font style—so Wilson defaulted to their house font, Varsity.

The Mets' Skyline logo patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Note the different ball-stitching pattern on this early patch.

1972



1973

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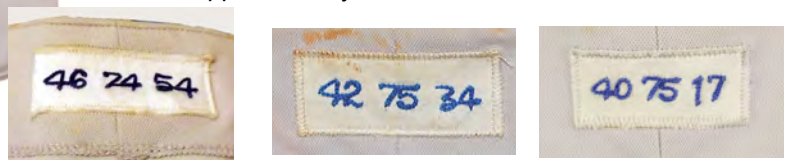
1974-1975 Road

Rawlings takes over as the supplier of Mets road uniforms in 1974–1975. The team's home script replaces the legacy "NEW YORK" lettering across the front for the first time in 1974. The jersey features seven gray buttons and narrow blue knit trim around the placket. The Mets' Skyline patch is sewn to the left sleeve. The Rawlings red tag is sewn to the outer right tail, and player tagging is stitched inside the back of the neck onto shiny twill.

The player number font changes to Block with Serifs (notably with "feet" on the 1, 4, and 7), which differs from the Block font used on home jerseys. It's curious that Rawlings, making both home and road sets, used a different font for each—but that is the approach they took.

1974



1974

1974

© GameWornGuides.com

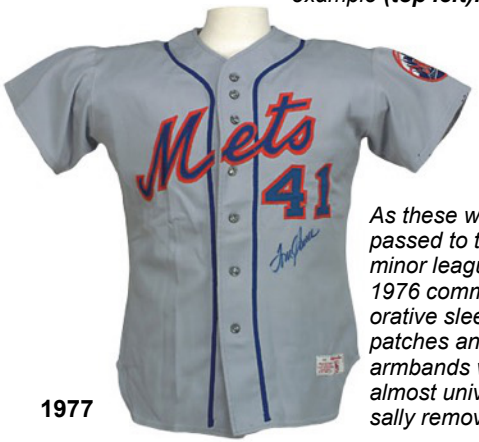
1976-1977 Road

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The road jersey remains button-front with royal blue knit trim around the collar and down the placket, with seven gray buttons. In 1976–1977, jerseys are produced by Goodman & Sons of Southern California and display a noticeably slanted and somewhat distorted version of the Mets script, tilted too far to the right. Two-color, extra-wide Block with Serif numbers—royal/orange—are used, again differing from the home jersey style. No names on back.

Right: *Photo of Mays & Aaron can be dated to 1976 by the Mets script and the 1976 pillbox Mets cap. The photo is from the Hall of Fame game. Note Mays' 1976 armband, also visible on the example* ***(top left).***

Stephen Kraljic Collection



As these were passed to the minor leagues, 1976 commemorative sleeve patches and armbands were almost universally removed.

1976 jerseys have no collar tagging, while 1977 jerseys do ***(right).*** *Goodman uses its own fonts for player names that, typical of their work and the era's technology, are inexact and appear hand-drawn. Oddly, the twill used for player numbers differs from the team script, as surviving examples show uneven fading between the two.*

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1978-1982 Home

1978

1979

This pullover jersey features a two-button Henley-style neck. Sleeve and neck trim is knit in royal blue/orange/royal blue. Note the following year-to-year differences: 1978 is the final year without player names on back 1979–1981 names are sewn on nameplates using the blocky Rawlings font—also seen on Cardinals and Orioles jerseys. Names are sewn in a steep semi-circular arch with a wide white border surrounding them on the nameplate. In 1982, names remain on a plate but switch to Rawlings' taller and narrower NOB Block font, used by most other teams. Player numbers are positioned unusually low—typically 9–9½" from the collar. That same year, the sleeve "Skyline" patch is removed. Nameplates were routinely stripped at the end of each season, and uniforms were sent to the minor leagues. Assume that any surviving examples have had their nameplates replaced.Notice Rawlings tag position – can be either inside or outside the tail.

- 1978–1979: Tag inside tail.
- 1980–1981: Tag outside tail or inside collar
- 1982: Tag inside collar.

1982

© GameWornGuides.com

1978-1980 Road

1979

1981

1979

Robert Loglisci collection

Rawlings resumes as the maker of all Mets uniforms. The jersey shifts to a Henley pullover (two-button neck). The Mets script no longer has a break in the middle and is layered royal blue/orange twill. Front numbers use Rawlings' Front Block variant. The Mets' Skyline patch is sewn on the left sleeve. There are no names on back in 1978, but they appear on all road jerseys beginning in 1979. Names are steeply arched, and numbers are positioned very low.

From 1978–1980, all jerseys—home and away—use Block Standard numbers. (Road jerseys change to Block with Serifs in 1981.)

Rawlings tag placement:

- 1978–1979: Tag inside the tail
- 1980: Tag outside the tail

© GameWornGuides.com

1981 Road

Below: *I restored the nameplate on the Johnson jersey. It is reasonable to assume that all 1981 Mets jerseys encountered today have had their original nameplates replaced, as they were stripped in bulk and sent to the minors.*

The 1981 road gray jerseys are otherwise identical to the 1978–1980 versions, but they oddly use the Block with Serifs number font—most noticeable on numerals with “feet,” such as 1, 4, and 7. The home jerseys, also made by Rawlings, continue to use the standard Rawlings Athletic Block font. The Rawlings tag is located outside the tail.

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1982-1985 Road

1982

1983

For 1982, the team switches to Rawlings gray V-neck jerseys for road use. Sleeve end trim is removed, and wide orange/blue/orange "racing stripes" are added along the sides and over the tops of the sleeves. The trim is sewn into the construction of the jersey, not applied on top. Numbers use Rawlings' Block font. Nameplates are still used to make it easier to reissue jerseys in the minor leagues after MLB use concludes. Most surviving examples in the hobby have replacement nameplates. Rawlings uses two fonts for player names: Condensed and Extra Condensed, with the latter reserved for longer names. By 1985, neck tagging changes from the older hand-chain stitching to machine embroidery.

1984

1985

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1982 Alternate Road

This one-year-only style was worn exclusively on the road. Although easily mistaken for a batting practice jersey, this alternate is made of solid (non-mesh) fabric and features orange/royal blue/orange trim on the sleeves and neck. Batting practice jerseys have white or gray in the trim and do not have names on back. Identify game-worn versions by the year and set tags sewn into the neck — BP jerseys do not have these tags.

The Mets script is orange trimmed with gray. The name on back and the numbers on front and back all match the Mets script: orange trimmed in gray — not white. Back numbers are in the Block font, while front numbers use the Front Block variant. Names on nameplates are used on this seldom-seen jersey.

Bill Henderson Collection

Stephen Kraljic Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1983-1985 Home

1983

Block Condensed typeface used for short names, Extra Condensed style for longer names, at the stitcher's discretion.

n 1983, the home jersey adopts a V-Neck and also receives the racing stripe trim introduced on the road jerseys in 1982. Royal blue collar trim is used. The Skyline patch is removed from the sleeve with the addition of the stripes. Two-color lettering, names, and numbers are all rendered in royal/orange. Player names are sewn on nameplates every year. Front numbers are often widely spaced, with placement varying seemingly at the whim of the stitcher.

1983

1985

1984

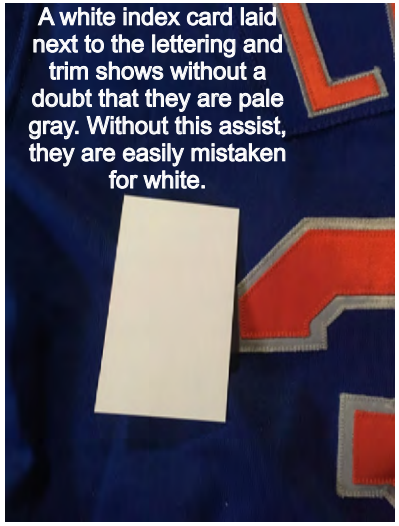
© GameWornGuides.com

1983 Alternate Home

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Over the years, there has been much discussion among my panel of devoted Mets collectors and experts about the on-field use of these alternate home jerseys. Clearly, these jerseys exist—we've held them in hand, and photos show them complete with proper tagging. But the debate remains: *were they ever actually worn in a game?* As one expert contends, we have no proof they were—but we also have no proof they weren't! Most of the game videotapes from the 1983 Mets season were wiped and reused by WOR-TV, leaving little visual archive of the year.

With orange/pale gray/orange trim on the neck and sleeves, and light gray outlines around the lettering, this jersey closely resembles the home batting practice jersey of the same period. The key differences: the game jersey includes white outlines and trim, and it features either names sewn on a nameplate or numbers positioned low enough to allow for one. BP jerseys, by contrast, have no name on back and are made of a lighter-weight, solid fabric. BP jerseys are also untagged for year and set. Note that the sleeve and collar trim are different from the similar-looking 1982 alternate home jersey.



A white index card laid next to the lettering and trim shows without a doubt that they are pale gray. Without this assist, they are easily mistaken for white.

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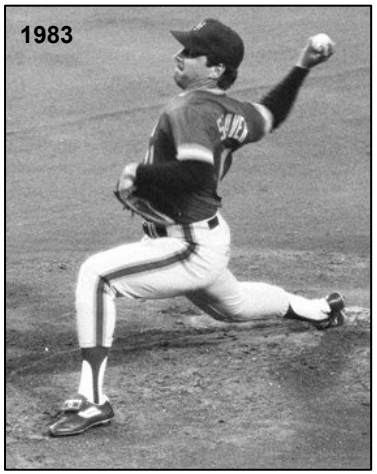
1983-1984 Alternate Road

The 1983–1984 alternate jersey features gray/orange Mets lettering sewn across the front. The trim is orange/gray/orange. This jersey closely resembles the 1984–1986 road BP jersey, with the exception that it includes a name on back, sewn on a nameplate. The BP jersey, made of mesh, lacks a name on back and has no year/set tagging. Game-worn versions can be identified by the year and set tags sewn into the neck—BP jerseys do not have these tags. Even experts admit that the Mets' use of royal blue alternate jerseys in the mid-1980s is poorly documented. These game jerseys are nearly indistinguishable from the 1981–1986 road BP jersey (shown later in this chapter), which lacked a name on back, and had no year/set tagging.



© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Home

David Louie Collection

Long names get the extra-condensed font treatment Deciding when to apply that template is entirely up to the stitcher, though eight letters appears to be the trigger.

Goodman takes over as the Mets' uniform supplier for what turns out to be their 1986 championship season. The jersey remains a V-neck with royal blue neck trim, and wide racing stripes continue along the sides and over the sleeve tops. To the casual observer, the jersey appears identical to the 1985 Rawlings version—but to detail-obsessed collectors, there are noticeable differences. The Mets logo is proportioned differently—"clunky," some say—especially at the left side of the "M" and the top of the "S." The script is also slightly larger, with "METS" spanning 11.5 pinstripes in 1986 versus 10.5 in other years. Goodman's number fonts differ as well: the back numbers are taller and narrower, while the front numbers are taller and bolder. Nameplates are still used. Condensed font is applied to regular-length names, while Extra Condensed is used for longer names.

Jerseys with "SET P" tagging were made for the 1986 postseason

© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Road

Goodman returns for a single year to produce the team's 1986 jerseys—its championship season—and uniform experts can spot the differences. They note that the Mets script appears "clunkier" in 1986, especially at the far left of the "M" and the top of the "S." The logo is also larger on the Goodman jerseys compared to those made by Rawlings.

Names are sewn on nameplates, and two fonts are used: Condensed and Extra Condensed, depending on the length of the player name. Goodman's number fonts differ from Rawlings', though the differences are subtle. A 25th Anniversary patch is sewn on the left sleeve, positioned over the racing stripe.

Jerseys with "SET P" tagging were made for the 1986 postseason.

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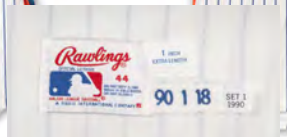
1987-1990 Home

1987

1990



Rawlings becomes the official supplier of team uniforms to MLB in 1987. If a team chooses to use Rawlings, the company has the right to display its logo on the jersey sleeve. The Rawlings logo is embroidered in white over the racing stripe near the end of the right sleeve.

The use of player nameplates is discontinued in 1987; names are now sewn directly onto the jersey. Continuing recent tradition, the Mets use a two-color Condensed font for shorter player names and Extra Condensed for longer ones.

The Mets also switch to a special fabric known as "dazzle twill," used on both the blue and orange layers of their jersey lettering. Dazzle twill is finely ribbed, almost like micro-corduroy, and reflects light differently than standard matte twill.

Dazzle twill closeup

1987

1988

1989

© GameWornGuides.com

1987 Road

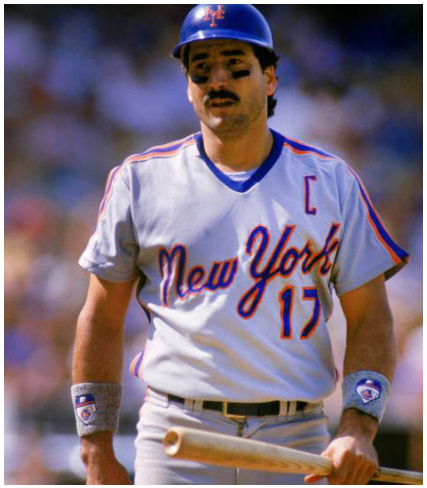
Above: *The Stottlemyre jersey has the odd 1987-only rarely seen Rawlings variant tag.*

Left: *A few 1987 jerseys have surfaced with "PO87" tagging—apparently made for a postseason the Mets never reached.*

Stephen Kraljic Collection

This one-year-only road jersey features a cursive *New York* script, used exclusively in 1987. Royal blue V-neck trim debuts on the road jersey and will remain through 1990. Front numbers are in a two-color Front Block style; back numbers and names use two-color Block. Nameplates are not used. Wide racing stripes run over the sleeve tops and down the jersey sides. The Rawlings script logo, appearing for the first time, is embroidered near the end of the right sleeve

It is reasonable to assume that many of these jerseys went directly from on-field use in 1987 to the collector market, as a relatively high number have surfaced and still retain the original NOB. Starting in 1987, the Mets discontinue use of nameplates, and the practice of removing player names before sending jerseys to the minors ends. Additionally, road jerseys featuring the MLB city name were rarely useful in the minors unless the front lettering was also removed. However, several 1987 road jerseys we've seen clearly once had the NOB covered with a blank nameplate for later use.



Right: *"C" on Keith Hernandez's chest denotes his status as team captain.*

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1988-1990 Road

1988

1990

1990

An uninspired, utilitarian block-lettering style is adopted for the 1988 pullover gray road jersey. The “NEW YORK” wordmark appears in Block Condensed font and is rendered in dazzle twill. No front numbers are used. Dazzle twill is used for all names and numbers. Some retail-sale versions are produced using standard, non-dazzle twill.

Thick, five-banded racing stripe trim continues down the sides and over the shoulders. The V-neck is trimmed in royal blue. On the back, three-color names and numbers—royal blue/orange/white—are applied. Numbers use the Block Standard font, while shorter names use Block Condensed and longer names use Block Extra Condensed. These names appear slightly taller than in previous years. There are no distinguishable differences between the 1988, 1989, and 1990 versions.

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1991-1992 Home

1991

Extra condensed font often used for longer names

1991

1992

Button-front jerseys, last worn in 1977, return in 1991. Lettering remains in dazzle twill, and for the first time, the home jersey adopts a three-color treatment, including an almost invisible layer of dazzle white beneath the blue and orange. 1991 is the final year of the Rawlings contract. In 1992, Russell becomes the new supplier. Russell's "R" logo replaces the Rawlings script, but all other design elements remain unchanged. The William A. Shea memorial patch is added to the left sleeve of the 1992 jersey. Dazzle twill reflects light attractively, but it is notoriously difficult to customize accurately—and very few retailers or customizers are able to replicate it properly. Most retail authentic jerseys found in the hobby are incorrectly made without dazzle twill. However, this also makes it more difficult to counterfeit them convincingly.

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1991-1992 Road

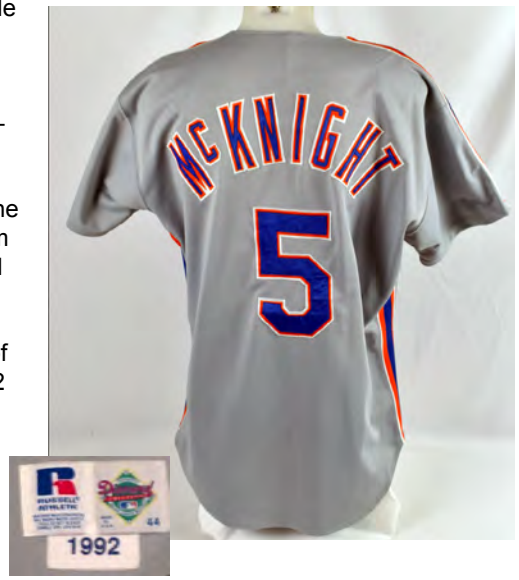
1991

The 1991–1992 road jersey retains the lettering style of the 1988–1990 version but switches to a button-front design. Royal blue neck trim is eliminated, so the collar is left plain. Lettering is made of ribbed dazzle twill.

The name on back is rendered in three-color Block Condensed font, with Extra Condensed used for longer names. Numbers are also three-color Block, all in royal/orange/white.

1991 is the final year of the Rawlings contract with MLB; Russell takes over in 1992. Aside from the sleeve logo change and relocation of the tagging to the outside of the left tail (from the inside), all else remains the same. The William A. Shea memorial patch is sewn on the left sleeve of the 1992 jersey.

1992



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1993-1994 Home

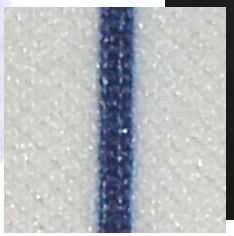
1993

The home jersey features the word "Mets" with an underline across the front. Names and numbers are three-color: royal blue/orange/white. The blue used for the lettering is darker than before—known as Varsity Royal Blue. Dazzle twill is discontinued, and regular smooth twill returns. Pinstripes are straight (not engineered in a zigzag pattern). Team tagging is discontinued after 1992.

1993

Above: *Extra condensed font is used for long names.*
Below left: *Pinstripes are "printed" on, not woven in.*

1994



1994

Bill Henderson Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

The 1993 road jersey features a three-color "*New York*" script with an underline across the front. This script differs from the version used in 1987. The oversized front wordmark eliminates a buttonhole, replaced instead with a necessary Velcro fastener to secure the placket. This year only, the sleeve ends feature royal blue/orange/royal blue elastic trim. Lettering in plain, non-textured twill. Mets Skyline patch returns to the left sleeve for the first time since 1981.

Back numbers use the Block Standard; names appear in three-color Block Condensed, without nameplates. Longer names are set in Block Extra Condensed. As with the home jersey, all lettering and numbering is rendered in three colors: royal blue/orange/white.The blue used is a darker shade than pre-1993. Team tagging dicontinued.

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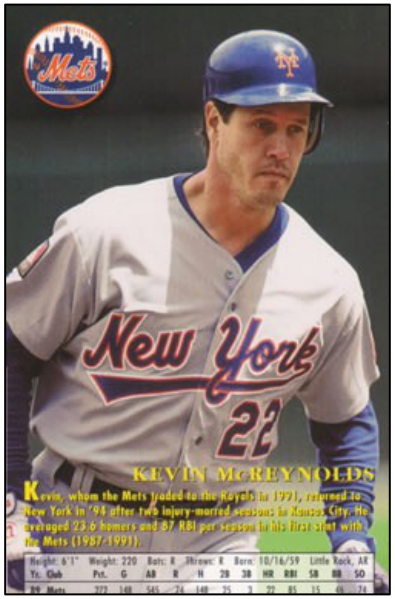
1994 Road



This one-year-only style is nearly identical to the 1993 road jersey, but sharp eyes will notice that the royal blue/orange/royal blue sleeve trim has been removed, leaving plain sleeve ends. As in 1993, the oversized front wordmark eliminates a buttonhole and uses a Velcro fastener instead.

Three-color Front Block variation front numbers—royal blue/orange/white—are added for 1994. Front numbers in 1994 are noticeably larger than in any other year. All jerseys of this style include the Miracle Mets patch on the left sleeve and the MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the right. All lettering is made of non-textured twill, and the blue remains the darker shade introduced in 1993. No team tagging in 1994.

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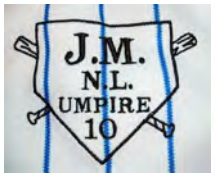
1995-1996 Home/1997-1998 Home Pinstripe

1995



1996 right sleeve after Opening Day

"L" tag indicates special tailoring

1998

1997–right sleeve

This style is a throwback to the 1965–1977 home jersey, with a white outline added to all lettering, numbers, and player name on back (NOB). All lettering is in three-color royal/orange/white.

While 1998 marks the first year that black is added as an accent color on Mets white alternate jerseys—and the first appearance of black alternate jerseys—the 1998 version of the home pinstripe jersey is the only one in the lineup that remains unchanged from 1997. It does not have a black drop shadow around the lettering. The skyline patch on the sleeve is also the older style that lacks a black drop shadow on the Mets text. Black drop shadows on the patch and jersey lettering first appear in 1999.

The twill used for the lettering varies throughout the run of this style. Non-patterned twill is used in 1995–1996, and patterned glacier twill is used in 1997–1998. The name and number twill matches the wordmark fabric. Numbers appear on both the front and back. Front numbers use the Front Block variation; back numbers are in Block Standard, regardless of manufacturer. Names on back are in Block Condensed, with Block Extra Condensed used for longer names.

From 1995–1998, the Mets turn to California-based uniform maker AIS to supply their jerseys. No team tagging used. AIS jerseys never have a maker's mark sewn on the sleeve ends, as this is not contractually permitted. Notably, with the introduction of the "snow white" alternate jersey in 1997 and then the black alternate in 1998, the pinstripe home jersey is worn less and less frequently as time progresses.

Above right: *Non-patterned twill 1995–1996*

Right: *Glacier twill 1997–1998*

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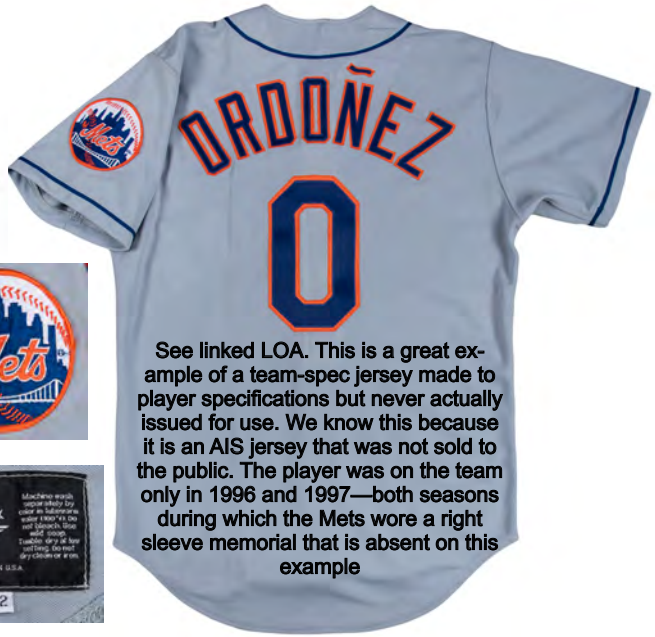
1995-1997 Road



See linked LOA. This is a great example of a team-spec jersey made to player specifications but never actually issued for use. We know this because it is an AIS jersey that was not sold to the public. The player was on the team only in 1996 and 1997—both seasons during which the Mets wore a right sleeve memorial that is absent on this example

1995

1996

1996 right sleeve after Opening Day

Made by AIS from 1995–1997, this style is nearly identical to the 1972–1973 road jersey. The two-color "New York" wordmark on the front appears in royal blue and orange. However, unlike the earlier version, this jersey features thin royal blue knit trim on the sleeve ends, a different number font, and NOBs, which distinguishes it from the 1972–1973 model. The Skyline patch appears on the left sleeve. No year tagging. Back numbers are in Block, front numbers in the Front Block variation. NOB follows the Mets style of standard-length names in Block Condensed, and longer names in Block Extra Condensed. No nameplates are used. Standard twill is used in 1995–1996, with glacier twill used in 1997.

1997

© GameWornGuides.com

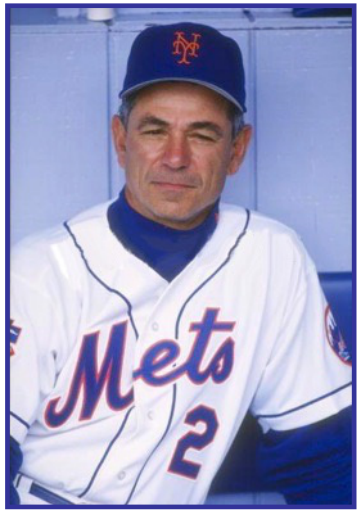
1997 Alternate Home

Bill Henderson Collection

Front numbers in Front Block font, back numbers in Block standard. Names in three- color Block condensed, no nameplates. Longer names in Block Extra Condensed.

Game-worn jerseys are made by Russell, whose “R” logo is sewn on the right sleeve.

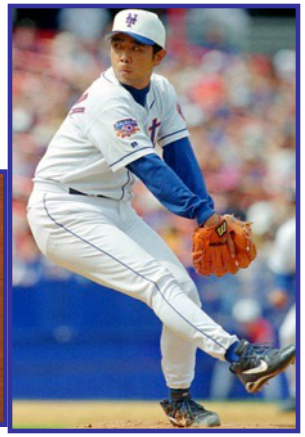
Team-issued jerseys use identical glacier twill for numbers and names as the Mets script.



The Mets introduce a home white alternate jersey in 1997. Mets script, name on back, and numbers are in three-color royal blue/orange/white. Blue glacier twill is used, and in 1997 only, the orange layer is also usually glacier twill.

Note there is no drop shadow on the white jersey for this one year only.

1997 was the final year that the Mets used the extra condensed font for long names.



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1998-2011 Road

AIS 1998-1999

1998

1999

A team redesign for 1998 adds black as a team color. A black drop shadow is added to the New York wordmark. This same jersey design is used for 14 seasons and is made by AIS, Rawlings, and Majestic.

Numbers and names are identical to the Mets lettering, in both Glacier twill and team colors, with a drop shadow. Back numbers are in Block; front numbers are in Front Block.

Player names are now in Block Condensed — even for longer names. The practice of using Block Extra Condensed for long names is discontinued.

The Mets Skyline sleeve patch in 1998 is the same one that had been used in recent prior years ***(left, top)***. The patch changes in 1998 to a "Mets" script with a barely visible black drop shadow ***(left, bottom).***

Above: *1999 sleeve patch detail.*
Left: *glacier twill detail.*

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1998-2011 Road, continued: Rawlings 2000-2002

2000

Three-layer twill lettering; only the top (blue) layer uses glacier twill.

Above: *Rawlings locker tagging incorporating tabs for side, set/year and special tailoring.*

Rawlings supplies the Mets road gray jerseys for three seasons, 2000-2002. Although outwardly nearly identical to the 1999 jersey, several changes are noted: the Rawlings logo is embroidered in blue at the end of the left sleeve, and the Rawlings "Authentic Collection" tag is stitched inside the front left tail. The MLB silhouetted batter is now sewn to the back of the neck — in the Mets colors of blue, white, and orange. Rawlings uses gray pearl buttons on most jerseys.

The tragic events of 9/11/2001 are marked on all jerseys still in rotation after that date, by the USA flag sewn over the MLB logo on the back of the neck. The team also adds special 9/11 embroidery to the right sleeve end. In 2002, the 9/11 embroidery returns, with a Mets 40th anniversary patch sewn above it. The direct embroidery is applied by the Mets' local tailor, Stitches of Whitestone, NY.

Oddly, many of the 2000–2001 Rawlings jerseys seem to be made with flat tails — a feature not seen since Spalding used it for MLB jerseys in 1972. Flat tails are discontinued in 2002.

2001, pre-9/11

2001, post-9/11

2002

Above left and right: *2001 jerseys from before and after 9/11/2001.* ***Far right:*** *Mets "Skyline" patch used in these years has a (very) subtle black drop shadow on the "Mets" script.*

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1998-2011 Road, continued: Majestic 2003-2011

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

2006 or 2007

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

2006

The Mets switch to Majestic for all uniform styles in 2003. Aside from changes to the sleeve logo and the locker tag inside the left tail, everything else appears to remain the same over the next nine seasons.

Compared to the Rawlings 2000–2003 jerseys, Majestic uses lighter-colored ivory buttons on the gray uniforms. The 2004 jersey features the Shea Stadium 40th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve. A Tug McGraw inscription appears on all 2004 jerseys, as it was used throughout the season. Bob Murphy embroidery is added following the announcer's death on 8/3/2004. Both embroidery applications are applied by the Mets' expert local stitcher, Stitches of Whitestone, NY.

2004

© GameWornGuides.com

1998-2011 Alternate Home White

Russell 1998-1999

1998

1998

The "snow white" alternate jersey introduced the prior year returns for 1998, but with black drop shadows added to nearly everything. Russell is a manufacturer in 1998–1999 (1998 exclusively). Numbers and name identical to Mets script lettering colors, all using drop shadow. Back numbers are Block, front numbers are Front Block variation (royal blue/orange/black drop shadow). Glacier twill is used for the top layer of all lettering, numbers and name. Player names are now in Block Condensed, even long names. The practice of regularly using Extra Condensed for longer names ceases.

The 1998 white jersey differs from the other styles used that year in that it uses a sleeve patch without a drop shadow on the word Mets. 1999 jerseys use both types of patches, some with a drop shadow and some without ***(right)***. No team tagging is used. The Russell "R" logo is embroidered on the end of the right sleeve as is contractually permitted for that maker.

1998–1999

1999 (some)–2005 with drop shadow

In 1999 both Russell and Rawlings provide a set of white uniforms to the Mets. Only Russell jerseys display a manufacturers' sleeve logo. While 1999 is not year tagged, can be identified by the absence of NOBs.

1999

Stephen Kraljic Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1998-2011 Alternate Home White, continued: Rawlings 1999-2002

1999

Rawlings supplies the Mets alternate white jerseys for four seasons, 1999–2002, sharing manfucturing with Russell in 1999.

In 1999, the Mets experiment with removing player names from home jerseys. The move proves unpopular with players and lasts only one season. In 1999 there is no embroidered sleeve logo, as Rawlings is not contractually permitted to display it there. The Mets sleeve patch now features the almost-invisible black drop shadow version, as seen on other light-colored jerseys.

Starting in 2000, player names return to the back. The Rawlings logo is embroidered in blue at the end of the left sleeve, and the Rawlings "Authentic Collection" tag is stitched inside the front left tail. The MLB silhouetted batter is now sewn to the back of the neck in the Mets' colors of blue/white/orange. Rawlings uses gray pearl buttons on most jerseys.

Many 2000–2002 Rawlings jerseys feature flat tails — an unusual trait for the modern era.

2000

1999 only—no NOB, numbers sewn an inch or so higher to compensate.

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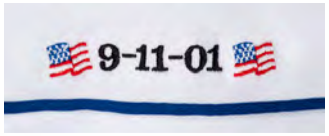
1998-2011 Alternate Home White, continued: Rawlings 1999-2002

2001



2001

2002

In 2001, the tragic events of 9-11-2001 are marked on all jerseys still in rotation after that date by the USA flag sewn over the MLB logo on the back of the neck. The team also adds commemorative 9-11 embroidery to the end of the right sleeve.

In 2002, the 9-11-01 sleeve embroidery returns, with a Mets 40th anniversary patch sewn above it. The direct embroidery is applied by the Mets' local tailor, Stitches of Whitestone, NY.

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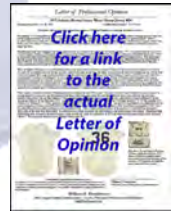
1998-2011 Alternate Home White, continued: Majestic 2003-2011

2004



2006

2008

2009

2005-2011: Non-drop shadow patch returns but is slightly different in detail than the pre-1999 patch. Authenticated examples of both drop-shadow and non-shadow exist, and they seem to have been used interchangeably for a few years.

The Mets begin using Majestic for all uniform styles in 2003. Aside from the addition of the Majestic logo on the sleeve and the locker tag inside the left tail, the design remains unchanged for the next nine seasons. Year-tab tagging resumes in 2004, sporadically.

The 2004 jersey includes the Shea Stadium 40th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve. “Ya Gotta Believe TUG” black embroidery is featured below that patch. Bob Murphy embroidery is added above the skyline patch on the left sleeve after the announcer’s death on 8/3/2004. Both embroidery applications are applied by the Mets’ expert local stitcher, Stitches of Whitestone, NY.

- 2008: Shea Stadium final season
- 2009: Citi Field Inaugural patch

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1998, 2009-2012* Alternate Black/1999-2008 Alternate Home Black

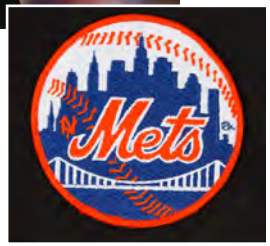
AIS 1998

1998

Russell 1998

1998

MDA Foundation patch (worn one game only)



Above: *Sleeve logos tell us what the player is wearing. AIS jerseys have a blank right sleeve;* ***Left:*** *While Russell's have a blue company logo.*

The "Mets in Black" era begins in 1998, with black added as a team color. The black alternate Mets script jersey is introduced that year and, in its first season, is worn both at home and on the road. In 1998, both AIS and Russell produce sets of this jersey style. Russell jerseys are contractually permitted to display the Russell "R" logo embroidered on the right sleeve; AIS jerseys have blank sleeves. All player names are set in Block Condensed font, regardless of name length.

This is a black button-front jersey with royal blue narrow knit trim on the front and around the collar. Names and numbers mimic the Mets lettering colors exactly, with the top layer in patterned glacier twill.

Only in 1998 does the jersey feature the regular Mets Skyline patch on the sleeve. Starting in 1999, the black-themed Midnight Skyline patch is used.

** While MLB's official style guide lists these as active Mets uniform styles for 2013–2014, I do not believe they were team-issued in those years. Game photos on Getty from both seasons show no examples of them being worn, and I have never seen a credible game-worn example offered for sale.*

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1998, 2009-2012* Alternate Black/1999-2008 Alternate Home Black, continued: Rawlings 1999

1999

In 1999, Rawlings is the sole supplier of the black jerseys, which are worn only at home that season. The team removes player names from the back in 1999 — a move unpopular with the players. Names return in 2000. All lettering is in glacier blue/white/dark orange. With the absence of player names, back numbers are sewn six inches from the collar instead of eight.

The "Midnight" version of the skyline sleeve patch is introduced in 1999. It is worn exclusively on the black jerseys. This style is worn frequently at home throughout the year, as is the Snow White jersey, while the traditional pinstripe sees far less use.

No Rawlings logo appears on the right sleeve, as it was not contractually permitted in 1999.

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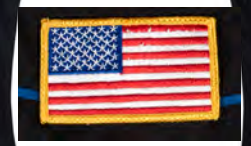
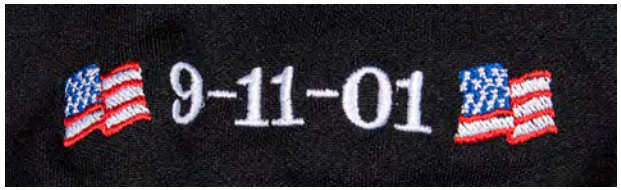
1998, 2009-2012* Alternate Black/1999-2008 Alternate Home Black, continued: Rawlings 2000-2002

2001



2000

2002



Embroidery used after 9/11 and throughout the 2002 season.

Rawlings continues as the sole supplier of this style of jersey from 2000–2002. Beginning in 2000, Rawlings is contractually allowed to display its company logo on the left sleeve. Tagging remains hidden inside the left tail.

2000 jerseys have no sleeve patch on the right sleeve until the postseason. In 2001, jerseys feature a plain right sleeve. After 9-11-2001, commemorative sleeve embroidery is added to the end of the right sleeve, and a USA flag is stitched to the center of the back collar, covering the Silhouetted Batter. In 2002, the Mets 40th anniversary patch is added, with the 9-11 embroidery returning beneath it.

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1998, 2009-2012* Alternate Black/1999-2008 Alternate Home Black, continued: Majestic 2003-2012*

2005

In 2003, the Mets turn to Majestic to make all of their uniforms. Other than the addition of the Majestic logo on the left sleeve end and Majestic tagging on the left tail, the jersey appears identical to its predecessors. All player names continue in Block Condensed font, regardless of name length. The Mets "Midnight" skyline patch is on the left sleeve, Royal blue knit trim bands the placket and the sleeve ends.

Through the 2011 season, blue glacier twill is used for the top layer of the lettering, sewn over white and a dark orange drop shadow. In 2012, plain twill replaces glacier, as glacier is shelved. While still technically available, the black jersey is rarely worn in its final three years. Notably, it is worn twice in 2012: on June 3, commemorating pitcher John Franco's induction into the Mets Hall of Fame (Franco is most associated with the "Mets in Black" era), and again on July 21.

Memorial patches that appear in these years:

- 2004: "YA GOTTA BELIEVE TUG" black embroidery below the Shea Stadium 40th Anniversary patch
- BOB MURPHY embroidery arched above the skyline patch on the left sleeve is added to all uniforms in use after August 3.

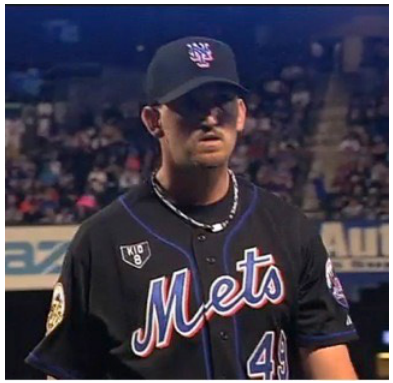
2009: Citi Field Inaugural patch.

2012: Mets 50th Anniversary patch (right sleeve), Gary Carter "KID 8" patch (right chest).

2004

2009

2012



** While according to MLB's official style guide, this technically was still a Mets uniform style available for use in 2013-2014, I do not believe these were team-issued in these years. Game photos on Getty from those two years lack even a single image of them being worn, and I have never seen a credible game-worn example offered for sale.*

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1999-2009 Home Pinstripe

AIS 1999

1999

While black drop-shadows are added to other Mets jerseys in 1998, the classic pinstripe is spared — until 1999. A royal blue pinstripe jersey with no trim, featuring three-color lettering in glacier blue/orange/black drop-shadow. Though listed as the Mets' primary home jersey, its usage declines over time as the team prefers the snow white alternate at home and frequently wears black both at home and on the road.

AIS produces this style only in 1999, when the team goes "retro" and omits player names from all home jerseys. The players dislike the anonymity, and the experiment ends after one season. Names return in 2000. From that point forward, all names are in the same Block Condensed font, regardless of length. The skyline patch now features a barely visible black drop shadow on the Mets script.

1999 only: no NOB used

After the tragic events of 9/11/2001, the Mets added special sleeve end embroidery and a USA flag to the back of the neck. To date, I have not seen a 2001-tagged jersey in the home pinstripe style with these elements in place. My theory is that, given there were only a couple of weeks left in the season, the Mets opted not to alter this style of jerseys and wore the white and black jerseys alone until the end of the 2001 season. In 2002, both the sleeve embroidery and the 40th anniversary patch were present on Mets pinstriped jerseys.

Rawlings 2000-2002

2000

2002

© GameWornGuides.com

1999-2009 Home Pinstripe, continued: Majestic 2003-2009

2005

Majestic takes over making all the team's uniforms starting in 2003. Other than the addition of the Majestic logo on the left sleeve and their tag inside the left tail, all else appears visually identical to prior years. The sleeve patch changes for 2005, but it appears the old style was used interchangeably, probably as old stock was used up.

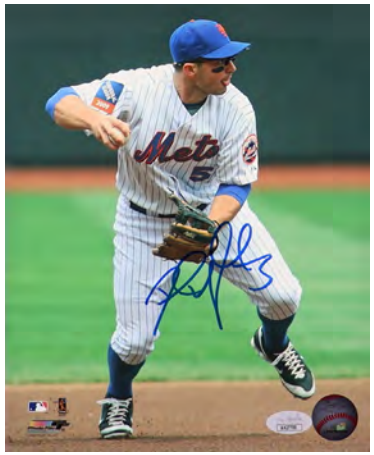
Starting in 2005, the non-drop shadow patch returns but is slightly different in detail than the pre-1999 patch. Authenticated examples of both drop-shadow and non-shadow versions exist, and they seem to have been used interchangeably for a while.

Left: *Starting 2005 Non-drop shadow patch returns but is slightly different in detail than the pre-1999 patch, Authenticated examples of both drop-shadow and non-shadow exist, and they seem to have been used interchangeably for a while.*

2009: Citi Field Inaugural Patch

2004

2003



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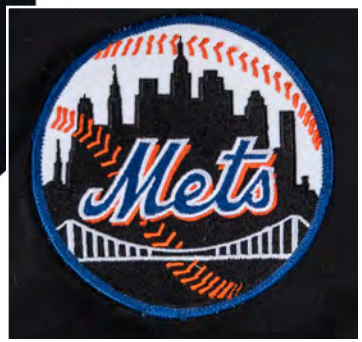
1999-2008 Alternate Road Black

Russell 1999



The road black alternate jersey is added for 1999. The "New York" wordmark is rendered in royal blue/white/orange with a drop shadow. This jersey is a black button-front with royal blue knit trim on the front and around the collar. Name and numbers mimic the Mets lettering colors exactly, in both Glacier Twill pattern and colors, using a drop shadow. Back numbers are Block, front numbers are Front Block. Player names are in Block Condensed, even for long names. Names on back are used in all years.

Three makers supplied the Mets with this style jersey during its ten-year run:

– 1999: This style jersey is made exclusively by Russell. Russell "R" logo on right sleeve; no commemorative patches.

– 2000–2002: Made exclusively by Rawlings.

– 2003–2009: Made exclusively by Majestic.

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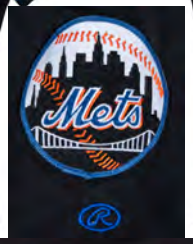
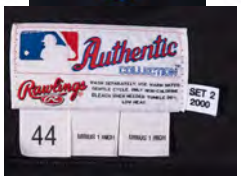
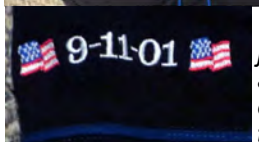
1999-2008 Alternate Road Black, continued: Rawlings 2000-2002

2000







This 2001 John Franco jersey, offered on an auction site, was the only example I could find of this style jersey with 9-11 embroidery. A survey of press photos of the Mets from post–9/11 through the end of the season—a period of less than three weeks—reveals no images of the team wearing this style of jersey. It seems reasonable that it is authentic—given the dead-on accuracy of the embroidery work—and the front captain "C," which was done in this ornate style only in 2001 as far as I can tell.

2002

2000–2002: This style made exclusively by Rawlings. Oddly, these Rawlings jerseys seem to all be made with flat tails, generally a feature that is added only when players request it.

- 2000: Rawlings logo on the left sleeve beneath the Mets disk patch. No patch is worn on the right sleeve, and no commemorative patches are used. MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is added to the back of the neck as a running change.
- 2001: Rawlings logo on the left sleeve beneath the Mets disk patch. No patch is worn on the right sleeve until after 9/11, when 9-11 embroidery and a USA flag patch are added to the back of the neck on all jerseys in circulation.
- 2002: Rawlings logo on the left sleeve beneath the Mets disk patch. Mets 40th Anniversary patch and 9-11 embroidery are added to the right sleeve.

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1999-2008 Alternate Road Black, continued: Majestic 2003-2008

Above and top right: *While both of these jerseys are from 2004, the jersey at left was retired/sold to fans before the Bob Murphy embroidery was added to the left sleeve late in the season. During these years, the Mets began making many extra sets of jerseys—presumably for planned sale to collectors—as jerseys appear to have been worn only briefly before being sold.*

This style is made exclusively by Majestic during its six-year run. The Majestic logo is embroidered in white on the left sleeve. No memorial patches are used, except for 2004.

Memorial patches for 2004:

– "Ya Gotta Believe TUG" black embroidery is placed below the Shea Stadium 40th Anniversary patch.

– "BOB MURPHY" embroidery, arched above the Skyline patch on the left sleeve, is added to all uniforms in use after August 3.

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2010-2011 Home Cream Pinstripe

For 2010, the Mets announced that they were introducing a new “retro” home jersey—a pin-striped design in cream-colored Cool Base fabric. The bright white uniforms once again became designated as their home alternate uniforms.

The change was a step toward tradition, but the continued use of black drop shadows on the team script, player name, and number undercut the retro aesthetic. It felt like a collision of 1960s and 1990s styles—an odd choice for a uniform introduced in the 2010s.

The Mets’ “Skyline” sleeve patch appears without a drop shadow.

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2012-2014 Home Cream Pinstripe

2013

2012

2013

2014

Just in time for the team's 50th anniversary, the Mets return to basics and finally eliminate all the dated black drop shadowing from their home, road, and home alternate jerseys. All blue accessories return as well, including hats and undershirts.

The blue-pinstripe jersey retains the cream-colored Cool Base fabric introduced in 2010.

In both 2012 and 2013, the Skyline sleeve patch is replaced with commemorative patches. The Skyline patch returns for 2014.

Player names and numbers on the back are in two-color twill—blue and orange. No nameplates are used.

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2012-2023 Road

2012

2016

The road gray jersey also returns to its roots for 2012, losing the black drop shadowing that had adorned both the front wordmark and all of the player name and number lettering. All lettering is now blue/orange. No nameplates are used. The team switches back to regular, non-pattern twill, moving away from the Glacier-style twill they had been using since 1997. Except for being made of Cool Base fabric, it is practically identical in appearance to the 1995–1997 road jersey. The Skyline sleeve patch is replaced in both 2012 and 2013 with commemorative patches. The Skyline patch returns for 2014. In 2023, the team disc changes sides based on the player's handedness, and an ad patch is added. Originally made by Majestic, the jersey's manufacture is taken over by Nike in 2020. Note the change in style code from Majestic's NMRR to Nike's NM2R.

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2012-2014 Alternate Home White

2012

As part of the 2012 50th anniversary redesign, the “Snow White” home alternate jersey also loses all traces of the black drop shadowing that had defined it since 1998. Except for being made of Cool Base fabric, it is practically identical in appearance to the one-year 1997 home alternate jersey.

The Skyline sleeve patch is replaced in 2012 and 2013 with special patches: the 50th Anniversary Skyline patch and the All-Star Game patch, respectively. The Skyline patch returns in 2014. Player names and numbers on the back are in two-color twill—blue and orange. No nameplates are used. The team switches back to regular, non-pattern twill, moving away from the Glacier-style twill they had been using since 1999.

The popular white jersey is dropped before the start of the 2015 season, and as a result, the pinstriped jersey again becomes white instead of cream-colored.

2014

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2013-2016, 2022-2023 Alternate Home Blue/2017-2021 Alternate Home

2013

Team sleeve patches

2013

2014-2016

2017-2023

2017

2014

2020

Note the change in style code from Majestic's NMAE to Nike's NM3E.

We had suspected the Mets' pared-down jersey lineup would not last long. For 2013, they added both home and road blue alternate jerseys. The home version features orange-on-white lettering and thin orange knit trim on the placket and approximately ½" above the sleeve ends. The All-Star Game patch appears on the left sleeve for 2013, followed by a Mr. Met patch, which last appeared on the sleeve of a 2009 Turn Back the Clock jersey. In 2017, the Mr. Met sleeve patch is replaced by the team disc patch, which remains on the left sleeve through 2022. In 2023, the team disc changes sides based on the player's handedness, and an ad patch is added. Originally made by Majestic, the jersey's manufacture is taken over by Nike in 2020.

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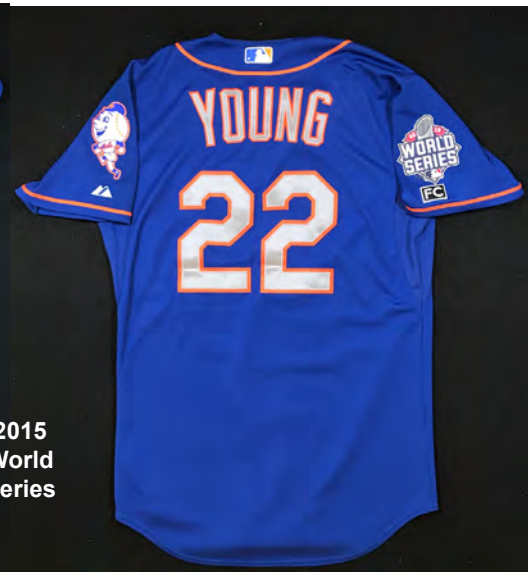
2013-2021 Alternate Road



2015 World Series

Closely resembling the team's 1995–1997 road batting practice jersey, this blue road alternate jersey features "New York" in the team's characteristic road jersey font in plain (not patterned) gray twill outlined with orange. Thin orange knit trim is sewn on the placket and near the sleeve ends. All player names and numbers—front and back—are also in gray/orange.

The All-Star Game patch is on the left sleeve for 2013, and Mr. Met replaces it for the 2014 season. In 2017, the Mr. Met sleeve patch is replaced by the team disc patch. Originally made by Majestic, the jersey's manufacture is taken over by Nike in 2020. The jersey is discontinued following the 2021 season in favor of a black alternate

2014

Left sleeve patches

2013

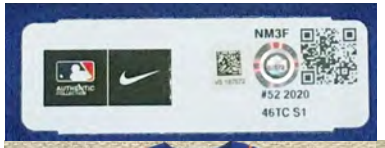
2014-2016

2017-2021

2013

2019

Note the change in style code from Majestic's NMAF to Nike's NM3F.



2020

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2014-2015 Alternate Home Camouflage

2015

Bill Henderson Collection

2014

2014

The 2014 addition of a digital camouflage alternate jersey gives the Mets an absurd total of *seven* different uniforms in their official on-field collection for 2014. They announce at the start of the season that they will wear these on five Mondays throughout the season, dubbed “Military Mondays,” where service personnel can receive up to four complimentary tickets for themselves and their guests to attend. These jerseys have the American flag sewn to the left sleeve, and all lettering is sewn in blue over orange.

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2015-2023 Home Pinstripe

The Mets tweak their home jersey slightly for the 2015 season, changing the base color of the blue-pinstriped jersey from cream to white. Other elements remain the same. All lettering is done in blue/orange two-layer twill. No nameplates are used. Originally made by Majestic, Nike takes over manufacture in 2020. Note the change in manufacturer style code from NMH1 for Majestic to NM11 for Nike. In 2023, the team logo disc moves to the sleeve opposite the player's throwing arm, and an ad patch is added.

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2016 Alternate Home "1986" Nostalgia

Stephen Kraijic Collection

Honoring the 30th anniversary of their 1986 World Series victory, the Mets introduce a throwback to that year in their regular jersey rotation for 2016. The jersey is a very convincing replica of the 1986 racing-stripe pullovers, down to the nameplates on the back. This version of the Flex Base template omits the usual side vent feature, replaced by the orange/royal blue/orange stripes. The look is capped off by the period-appropriate 25th anniversary patch worn by the Mets in 1986.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016 Flex Base Jersey Construction

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

n 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10–20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch called "CFX," introduced by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from previous Cool Base jerseys.

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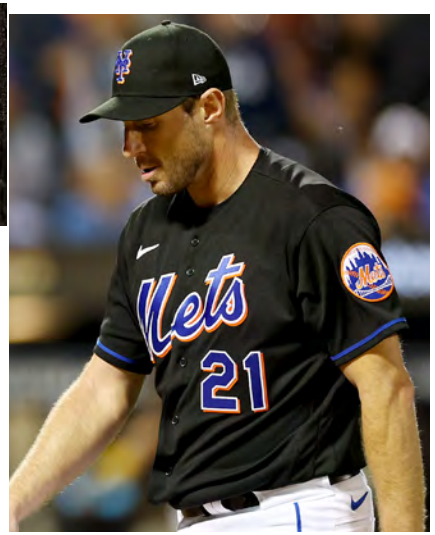
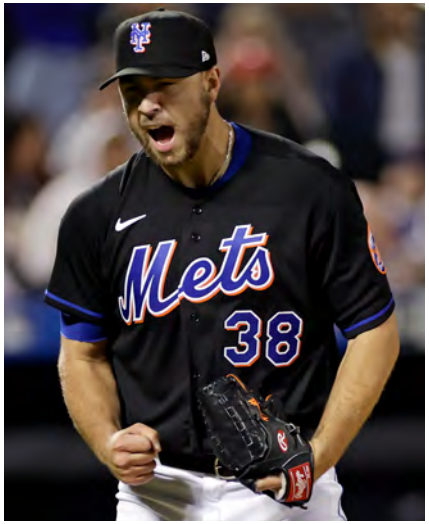
2022-2023 Alternate Home Black

After surprising fans with a slightly different black jersey in 2021, the Mets make this black jersey an official alternate starting for the 2022 season. This black Nike Flex Base jersey has royal knit trim above the sleeve openings only, unlike the 2021 version which also featured trim around the neck and placket. It features the standard Mets skyline logo patch (rather than the "blackout" version used a decade ago) on the left sleeve. All lettering, front and back, is Varsity royal/white/orange drop shadow and is plain twill, not the old-style, patterned glacier twill that was used previously. In 2023, team disc changes sides based on the player's handedness, and an ad patch is added.





Looking for the 2021 edition of the Mets black jersey? You will find it in the Special Events Jerseys section, as it was not a regular style issued for regular use that season.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys, all teams switch from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. The jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one-and-done” season of changes that brings intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolls back some—but not all—of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys differs from earlier versions in several key ways:

- VPE home jerseys are off-white or light cream in color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now sewn into the jersey at the seams. Placket trim remains, but the trim is now spaced more tightly due to the narrower placket width.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply a reduced version of the back numbers. This differs from past practice, where front numbers were typically a bolder, wider variant.
- Team logo sleeve patches—and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches—change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or sublimated cloth or twill.
- All lettering is done using a new, more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all, jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Mets' classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide reduction in the size of back names and numbers, with the name lettering now arched more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the team's front lettering now splits the "e" across the placket, rather than between the "M" and "e" as before. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys. In 2024, the Mets start the season with a memorial patch for Mets Hall of Famer Buddy Harrelson, located above the team disc. On June 29, they honor Jerry Grote by combining his and Harrelson's memorials into a single patch above the team disc, and also add a memorial "24" patch in memory of Willie Mays on the opposite sleeve, above the sponsor patch.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Mets' road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it, which makes the band of blue appear wider. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before though the front lettering splits in roughly the same place as before. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys. In 2024, the Mets start the season with a memorial patch for Mets Hall of Famer Buddy Harrelson, located above the team disc. On June 29, they add a memorial to Jerry Grote by creating a single patch with the Harrelson and Grote memorials above the team disc, and on the same day, add a memorial "24" patch in memory of Willie Mays on the opposite sleeve, above the sponsor patch.

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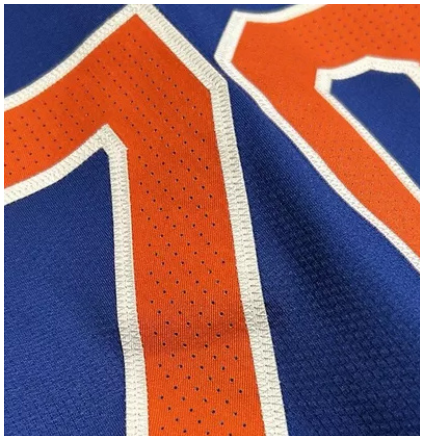
2024 Alternate Home Blue

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Mets' blue alternate jersey, which has been part of the team's uniform rotation since 2013. The most visible change is the league-wide reduction in the size of back names and numbers, with the name lettering now arched more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it, which makes the band of orange appear wider. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together, and the team's front lettering now splits the "e" across the placket rather than splitting between the "M" and "e" as before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys. In 2024, the Mets start the season wearing a memorial patch for Mets Hall of Famer Buddy Harrelson, located above the team disc. On June 29, they honor Jerry Grote by combining his and Harrelson's memorials into a single patch above the team disc, and also add a memorial "24" patch in memory of Willie Mays on the opposite sleeve, above the sponsor patch.



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2024 Alternate Home Black

In advance of the 2024 season, the Mets adjust their popular black alternate jersey, which was reintroduced in 2021, modified in 2022, and updated again for 2024. This version removes the white layers from all lettering and changes the orange drop shadow into a standard orange layer, making all lettering blue/orange. Meanwhile, the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of other changes. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is also now sewn in to the end of the sleeves rather than sewn on top of it, which makes the band of blue appear wider. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so placket trim appears closer together than before though the front lettering splits in roughly the same place as before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys. In 2024, the Mets start the season with a memorial patch for Mets Hall of Famer Buddy Harrelson, located above the team disc. On June 29, they add a memorial to Jerry Grote by creating a single patch with the Harrelson and Grote memorials above the team disc, and on the same day, add a memorial "24" patch in memory of Willie Mays on the opposite sleeve, above the sponsor patch.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The Mets introduce their City Connect jersey in 2024, and unlike some other teams that use their "city" jersey to represent a state or region, the Mets focus solely on New York City for inspiration. Symbolic elements of the design include:

- The gray uniform is inspired by New York City's concrete, while the jersey's pinstripes are made up of circles and diamonds, representing New York City's local and express subway lines.
- The purple color used as an accent pays homage to the city subway's 7-Line, which connects to Citi Field.
- The letters "NYC" across the front are meant to pay tribute to the entire city, not just Queens.
- The sleeve patch is designed to evoke a New York City subway token.
- Player names on the back are written in the Tuscan font that the Mets have historically only used on the fronts of their road jerseys.
- Near the bottom of the uniform top is a purple inscription reading "The World's City" representing the diversity of New York City

Because this jersey premiered in 2024, it exists only in the Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. Despite that fact, it appears that the sleeve trim is sewn on to the jersey rather than sewn in to the sleeve, perhaps because of its width and intricate pattern. Back numbers are perforated. In 2024, the Mets start the season with a memorial patch for Mets Hall of Famer Buddy Harrelson, located above the team disc. On June 29, they add a memorial to Jerry Grote by creating a single patch with the Harrelson and Grote memorials above the team disc, and on the same day, add a memorial "24" patch in memory of Willie Mays on the opposite sleeve, above the sponsor patch. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back names and numbers are enlarged— in most cases, back to 2023 sizes— and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, replacing the printed or lightweight embroidered patches used in 2024. The 2025 version of this jersey also features the Ed Kranepool memorial "7" patch above the team disc. Note also the use of the white Nike jock-tag on front, one of a handful of uses of this new tag, which is typically black and shows easily through white pants.

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2025 Road

The Mets update their road jersey for 2025, after using the prior version on the VPE template for only one season. They remove the trim around the neck and placket and replace it with neck trim in blue/orange/blue. Matching blue/orange/blue sleeve-end trim also replaces the blue-only trim of the last version. This jersey also incorporates the other league-wide changes to road gray jerseys for 2025. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys experienced noticeable sweat-staining during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn onto the jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back names and numbers are enlarged— in most cases, back to 2023 sizes— and perforated numbers are gone. The “New York” lettering appears larger than in 2024, though this is difficult to confirm without examining the jersey in hand. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, replacing printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version of this jersey also has the Ed Kranepool memorial “7” patch above the team disc.

2025 Alternate Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version of this jersey also has the Ed Kranepool memorial "7" patch above the team disc.

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2025 Alternate Road

The Mets introduce a new blue road alternate for 2025, replacing the previous blue alternate worn since 2013. The new entry is inspired by past Mets looks. It is a pullover like their 1980s jerseys, with blue/orange/blue sewn-in neck and sleeve trim. The VPE pullover template has an unusual “notch” in the collar, making it more of a “Y” neck than a “V” neck. The trim follows the neck opening into this odd notch. The team’s “New York” script is revived here, having last appeared on the road jerseys in 1987. All lettering front and back is blue/orange, creating an outline effect on the same-color blue jersey base. Even though the jersey is new, it also incorporates the other minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams’ non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version of this jersey also has the Ed Kranepool memorial “7” patch above the team disc.

Although intended solely for road use, it is worn at home (with white pants typically worn with black jerseys) on June 26, 2025. This marks the first instance of the team wearing a jersey with “New York” at home in its history, excluding special Negro League–tribute games and the 9/11 20th anniversary game played in 2021.played in 2021.

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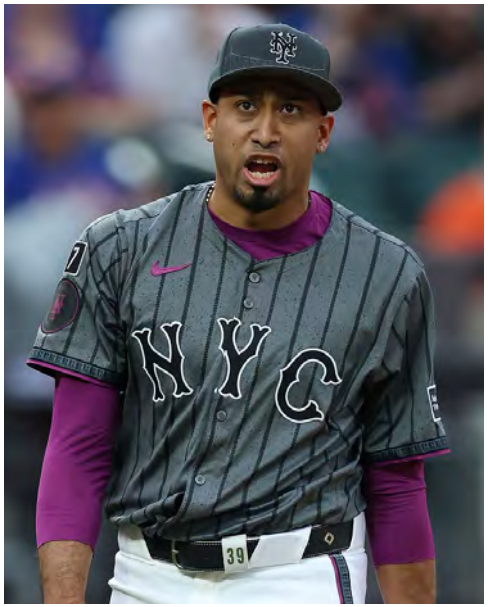
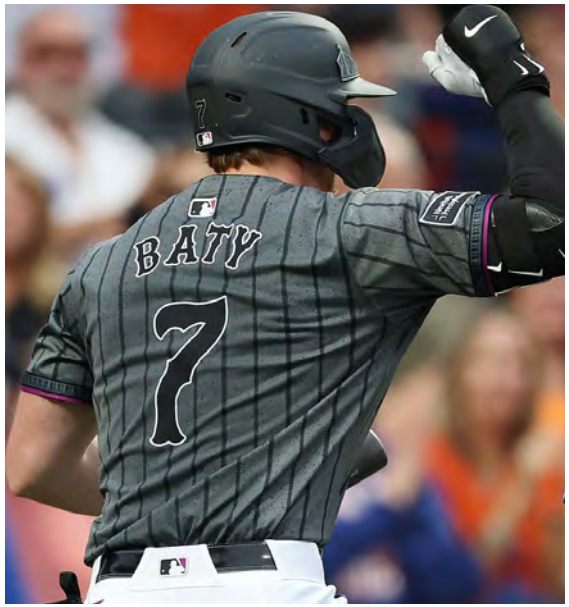
2025 City Connect





The Mets bring back their City Connect jerseys, introduced just one year before, for 2025. League-wide, Nike has not prioritized making the same updates to most City Connect styles for 2025 as it has for other types of jerseys. Though it is hard to tell from game photos, it is likely that these jerseys are exactly the same as they were in 2024, including small, heavily arched player name lettering and perforated back numbers—though more research is needed to confirm this. The 2025 version of this jersey has the Ed Kranepool memorial “7” patch above the team disc.

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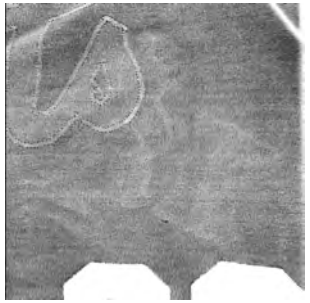
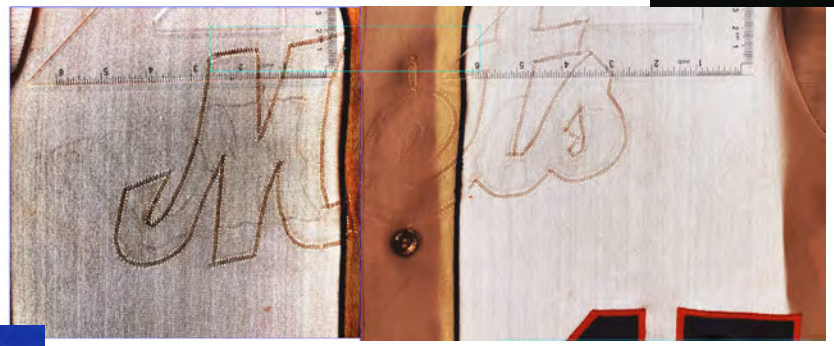
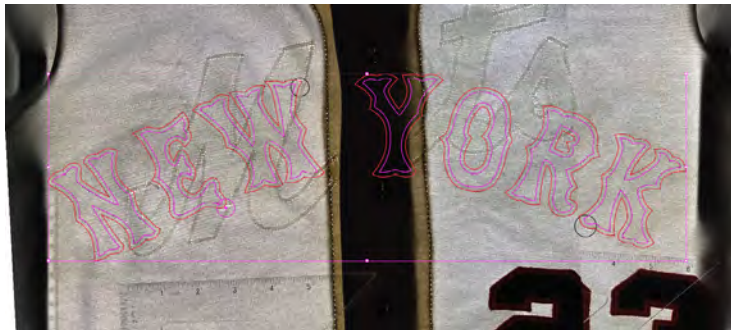
Mets Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues

Like all MLB teams have done for decades, MLB equipment that has been used in the "bigs" gets sent to the minor leagues for more service when its MLB service is through. Never is this more apparent than on road jerseys that originally bore the name of the big club's city: these are not useful in the minors unless the city name is stripped and replaced with the club team name, or in some cases the name of the minor league city. I have restored many Mets jerseys that have passed through the minor league system. For example in 1974, of the Mets' six minor league clubs, three were named "Mets". These jerseys went to one of these before ending up in the hands of collectors. These photos and the attached linked documents show the restoration process.



Light table image, enhanced and then "flipped" top photo negative shows the ghosts of the "RK" in "NEW YORK" that remain.





A typical Dream Shop jersey Restoration: The light table and photo-enhancement techniques can show us what was once on the jersey, even though it has been washed dozens of times since the original lettering has been removed. How? The old lettering las left its mark, through a combination of left-behind adhesive, thicker fabric beneath the original lettering due to less washing abrasion, and different fading from uneven exposure to sunlight. Additionally, points of intersection of the old lettering, usually in the corners of the letters reveal tiny holes where overlapped stitching caused stress to the fabric especially when lettering was hurriedly removed. Using original patterns gleaned from scanning surviving original examples, the new lettering is trued to match the ghosts, layer stitched with element-matching bleached thread, then media blasted with a fine abrasive to remove the sheen from the lettering, then organically dyed to simulate the patina of years of use. Look at the image to the left that shows how the replacement "NEW YORK" matches the original 33 sewn below it.

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Mets Jerseys Made for the Minor Leagues

Like most teams, the Mets have a farm team system with several teams named after the parent club. And while MLB hand-me-downs are frequently gifted to these clubs, they also order their own gear, as there is just not enough of the MLB jerseys to go around. I frequently see Mets minor league jerseys represented as MLB-issued when they are not. To distinguish them, look for differences in trim and especially in manufacturers, which often differ from those contracted to outfit the major league club.

On this page are some examples on jerseys that were made for minor league Mets clubs.

Tagging sewn inside back tail

Above: *a collector shared these with me, comparing a Mets MiLB issue on the left next to a Mets MLB issue on the right. You can see the minor differences; the MiLB jersey was made by Russell with the same tag style shown at left.*

Left: *A respected dealer in the hobby offered a large number of these white mesh jerseys for sale, noting them as "2010 Spring Training jerseys." They are actually from the Mets' Minor League camp at Spring Training. Their use continued through at least 2012. Note the name on the back, in one-color instead of the regular season three-color, and the fact that it is sewn on a nameplate to make it easier for the team to apply--and remove--from these probably frequently reissued garments.*

Right: *I'd love to have had the chance to examine this Mets "Tides" MiLB jersey...my instincts tell me it might have been a 1960s MLB Mets road jersey in an earlier life. I'll likely never know.*

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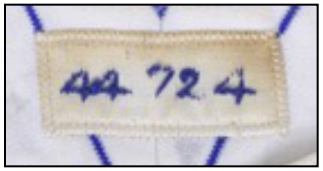
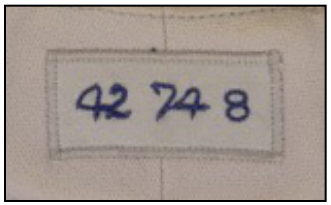
1972-1979 Mets Tagging

Above: 1972 Wilson jersey

1972–1977 Rawlings jerseys have numeric code tags inside the collar, and red Rawlings tag on right tail, either inside or outside. Red Rawlings tag often has flag tag affixed.

1977 Goodman road jersey tagging, in back of collar





1978, with strip tag also found in collar

1978–1979, Rawlings was the team's sole supplier; jerseys usually have numeric code strip tag sewn right next to shirt tail tag, flag tags used as well.

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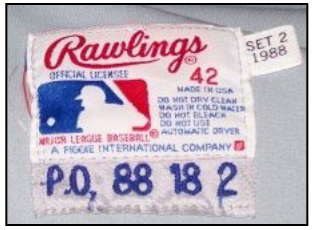
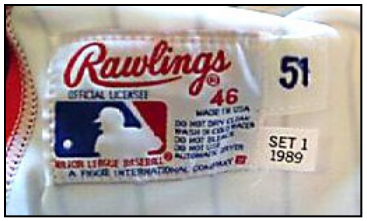
1980-1989 Mets Tagging

1986 Goodman tagging

Odd Rawlings tags seen only for a part of 1987





- 1980 team-coded strip tag returned to inside collar, Rawlings tag and year flag tag sewn on outside of front tail.
- All tagging inside collar 1982–1985.
- 1986 jerseys are made by Goodman, tagging on outside front tail.
- In 1987, tags inside front left tail
- Tagging with “P” or “P.O.” designation means jerseys were made for the playoffs. The 1987 set was not used, as the Mets narrowly missed the postseason

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1990-2009 Mets Tagging

Rawlings 1990–1991, tag found inside the front left tail

Russell 1992–1999. Tag on outside front left tail. 1992 is only year with a team tag or date designation. Other years have plain Russell jock tag usually with tiny 100% polyester flag below.

Majestic 2002–2008 tagging is found on inside front left tail.

AIS 1995–1999, tag normally found inside back tail in the center. Usually not year tagged, though we have found some year tags on 1999 jerseys

Rawlings 2000–2002, tag found inside the front left tail

The Mets used a wide array of jersey manufacturers, and each one used its own tagging style.

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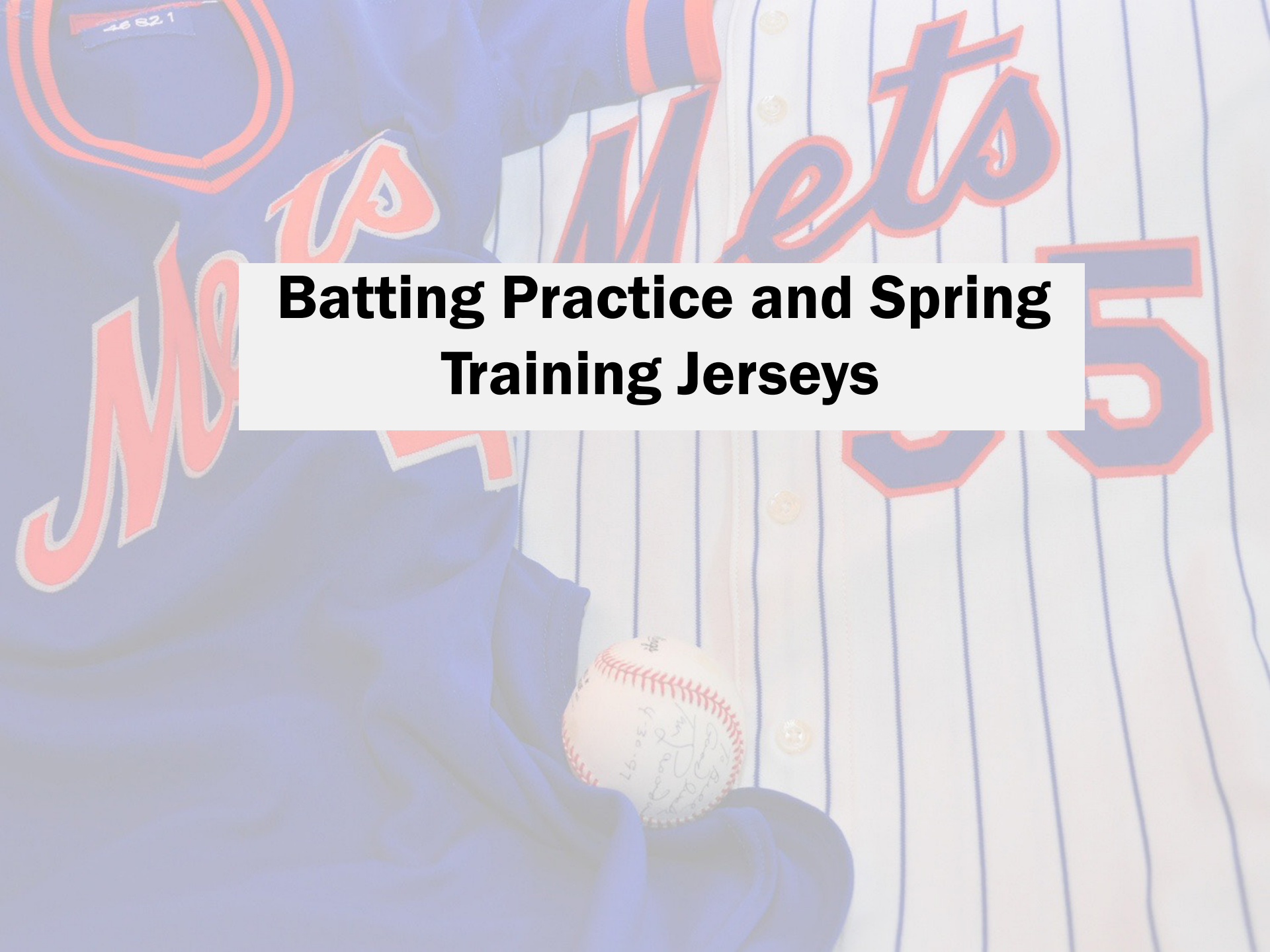
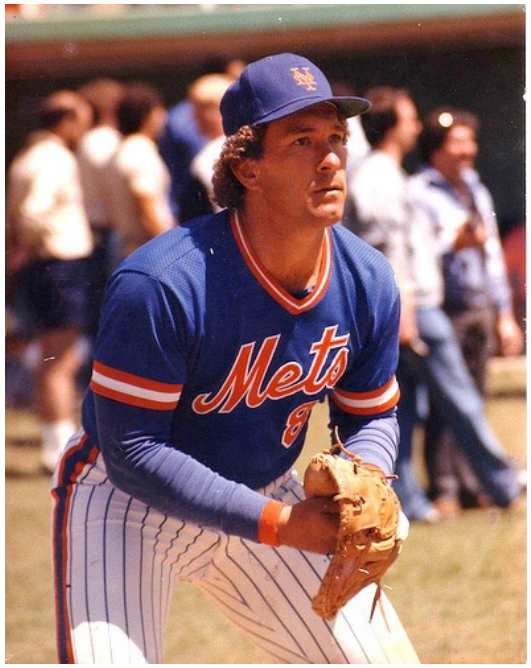


Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1981-1986 Home Batting Practice

V-neck is rounder 1981–1985, sharper in 1986



1981 is the first year the Mets are issued team BP jerseys. From 1981–1983, the home BP jersey features a royal blue solid (non-mesh) body, with orange/white/orange sleeve and neck trim, using block numbers with serifs. These are easily mistaken by collectors for the 1983 home alternate jersey. Note that names on the back are not used on BP jerseys through 1994. Unlike the BP jersey, the home alternate has a name on the back, is made of a heavier fabric, and features sewn-in team year/set tagging inside the collar—features the BP jersey lacks.The fabric changes to mesh from 1984–1986. Lettering remains orange/white. Block Standard numbers are used from 1984–1986.

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1981-1986 Road Batting Practice

1981 (solid fabric); note use of Block with Serifs numbers in 1981–1983

Predicting a common future marketing trend, the Mets also have a road version of their batting practice jersey from the very beginning, starting in 1981.

From 1981–1983, the road variation of the BP jersey is made of royal blue solid (non-mesh) lightweight fabric, with orange/gray/orange trim at the sleeve ends and neck. The fabric changes to mesh for 1984–1986.

1983

Stephen Kraljic Collection

1984 (mesh fabric)

All lettering and numbers are gray/orange. Block-with-serifs numbers are used from 1981–1983, with regular Block numbers used from 1984–1986, coinciding with the switch to mesh jerseys. This style looks nearly identical to the road alternate game jersey used from 1983–1984, but that jersey includes names on back and is made of a heavier, solid (non-mesh) fabric. No names are used on Mets batting practice jerseys of this era.

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1982 Alternate Road Batting Practice

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Relatively uncommon, these are one-year-only, solid knit (not mesh) light-weight royal blue jerseys. The outlines around the numbers and the NY logo are gray, just like the trim used on Mets road alternate and road BP jerseys of the 1980s. Examples are known to have been made by both Rawlings and Russell.

This version "NY" batting practice jersey features no trim on sleeve ends or V-neck.

No names on back. Numbers appear on both the front and back. Rawlings back numbers are in Block style; front numbers use the Front Block variation. Russell uses Varsity numbers on both front and back.

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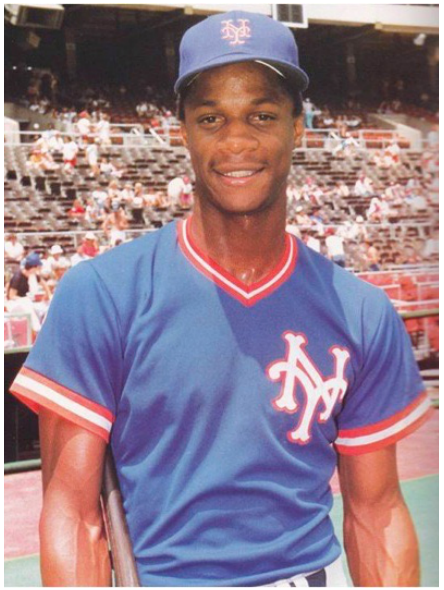
1983 Alternate Road Batting Practice



This also appears to be an alternate BP jersey, though it is unclear whether this was a mid-season change for all players or if both styles were used concurrently. Orange/gray/orange neck and sleeve end trim. Made of a light-weight solid fabric (not mesh). No number on the front. On the back, two-color block numbers—gray/orange—are used. No name on back.

Left: *Darryl Strawberry at The Vet in Philadelphia. I'd recognize those brown seats anywhere.*

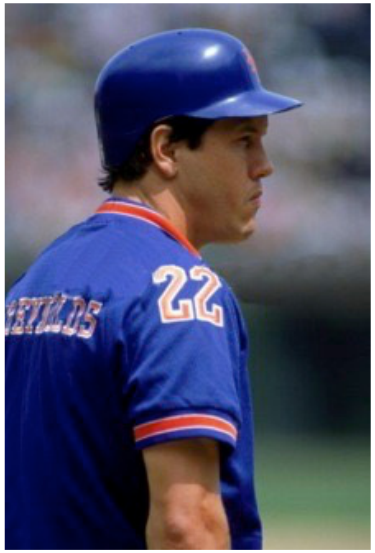
© GameWornGuides.com

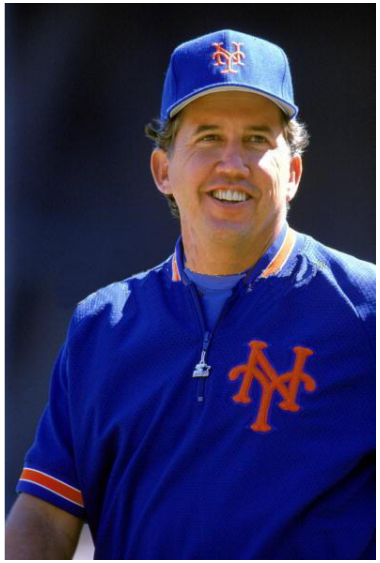
1985-1991 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Jackets or jerseys? We include them here, as they are short-sleeved and customized for each player. These pullover, zipper-neck satin-fabric BP jerseys made by Starter appear in photographs from 1985 through 1991. They feature the Mets' skyline patch on the left sleeve and multi-striped sleeve trim. They have several odd characteristics. The "NY" logo on the front is in a deep pile chenille-style embroidery. No numbers appear on the back. However, tall, thin, oddly shaped numbers—unlike the Mets' standard font—are sewn high on the right sleeve. This sleeve number font appears to be exclusive to Starter.

Players' names are embroidered directly across the upper back in small, straight-line lettering (under 2" tall). The font resembles a two-color Varsity Light.





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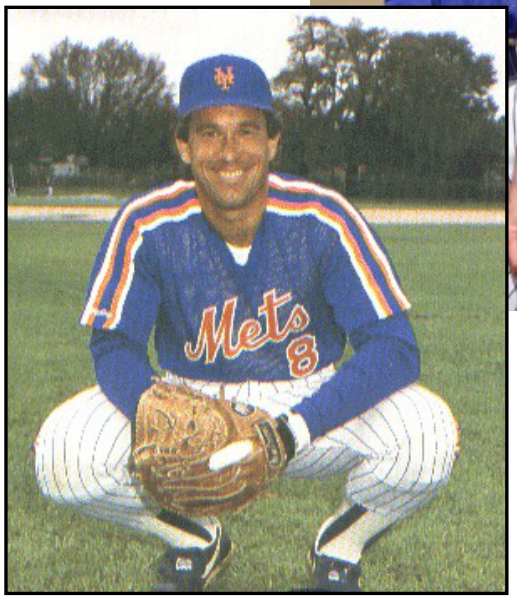
1987-1992 Home Batting Practice

The 1987 BP jersey features shoulder top trim that is even more garish than that of their game jerseys. Trim appears only on the sleeves, unlike the game jerseys where it runs down the sides.

The BP sleeve trim consists of five stripes, compared to the three-stripe trim on game jerseys. It is a complex five-banded white/orange/royal blue/orange/white pattern. Lettering and numbers are orange/white. NOBs are not used. Back numbers are Block style; front numbers are the Front Block variant.



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1987 Road Batting Practice

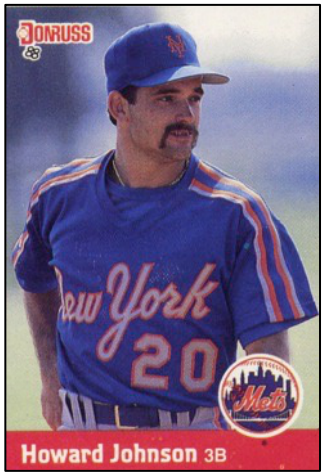
Bill Henderson Collection

Left: *Rawlings red jock tag is sewn inside the tail.*

Below: *The new-for-1987 Rawlings sleeve logo is direct embroidery.*

This one-year style matches the new-for-1987 road gray jersey wordmark. The “New York” script appears in gray/orange. Two-color Front Block number on the front. Two-color gray/orange Block number on the back. No names are used.

Note the short-bodied cut of this jersey—an odd feature also seen on many 1987 game jerseys.



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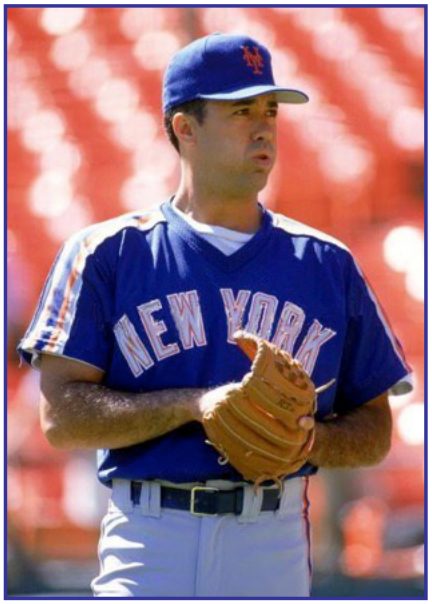
1988-1992 Road Batting Practice



On game-spec models, the Majestic sleeve logo is embroidered. On retail models, like this one, it is a rubbery heat-pressed decal

This road BP jersey mirrors the design of the new 1988 road game jersey. It is made of royal blue mesh fabric and features even more complex seven-striped sleeve tops: white/gray/orange/royal blue/orange/gray/white.

The front features "NEW YORK" in simple three-color block letters. Only numbers appear on the back; no names are used. Lettering is in three-color gray/orange/white.

Above: *This retail authentic jersey incorrectly features the wide "racing stripe" trim sewn up the sides. It should appear only on the tops of the shoulders.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1993-1994 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

This is the only such jersey in this style we have come across. It is the alternate two-pocket zip-neck jersey from Majestic, branded “The Gamewarmer.” Majestic made these available to every team as an alternate BP jersey. While some teams used them, most did not. In some cases, individual players received them.

These have an elastic waist that causes them to ride up on the wearer whenever arms are raised, and most players considered them uncomfortable. We have found no photos of Mets players wearing this style, which was part of the Majestic Diamond Collection of on-field wear.

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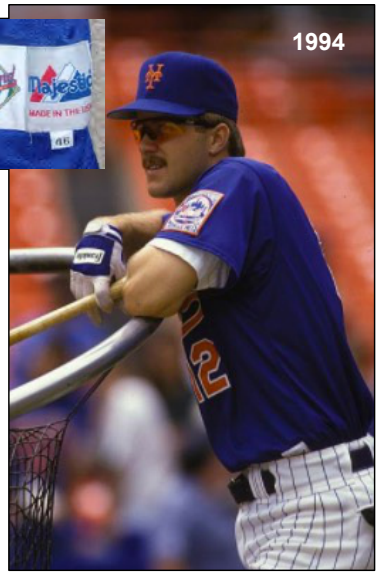
1993-1994 Home Batting Practice

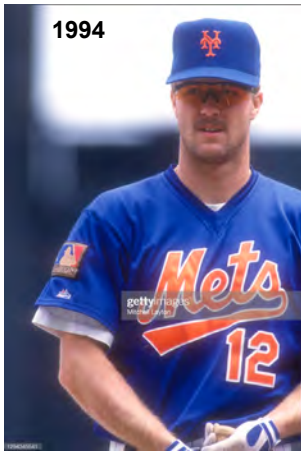
1993

1993



1994

In 1994, the left sleeve 'Skyline' patch is replaced with the Mets 25th Anniversary of the Miracle Mets patch, and the 125th MLB patch is added to the right sleeve.



1994

The 1993–1994 home BP jersey copies the style of the 1993–1994 home jersey, featuring a very fat version of the Mets script with an underline.

The 1993 version features only the Skyline patch on the left sleeve. In 1994, it is replaced with the Mets' 25th Anniversary of the Miracle Mets patch on the left, and the MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the right.

Numbers on the front are Front Block Variant; back numbers are Block. All two-color (orange/white). No names on back.

This style of BP jersey was used for several more years by Mets minor league teams. These Minor League jerseys usually have Rawlings tags.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Road Batting Practice

This one-year style is used only for road games in 1993. The front features the same "New York" script as the 1993 road game jersey. It is made of shiny royal blue micromesh fabric. The Mets skyline patch is sewn on the left sleeve. No number appears on the front; no name appears on the back.

The back features a two-color Block number in orange/white. These are very hard to find.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994 Road Batting Practice

Nick DiSalvo Collection

Above: *Worn during Spring Training with the Skyline sleeve patch (left); Regular season version with the 1994 Miracle Mets anniversary patch (right)*

This is another one-year-only road batting practice jersey for the Mets. This version features a more ornate "New York" wordmark in gray/orange/white, along with front and back numbers. Back numbers are Block style; front numbers use the Front Block variation. No names appear on the back. The lettering is thick and bold, making it difficult to read.

This jersey was worn with the 25th Anniversary of the Miracle Mets patch on the left sleeve in 1994. It appears that these were recycled for Spring Training use only in 1995, with the anniversary patch replaced by the Mets' familiar Skyline patch. Game-worn examples are very hard to come by. There may have been two sets of these—one with the Skyline patch and one with the 1994 25th Anniversary patch.

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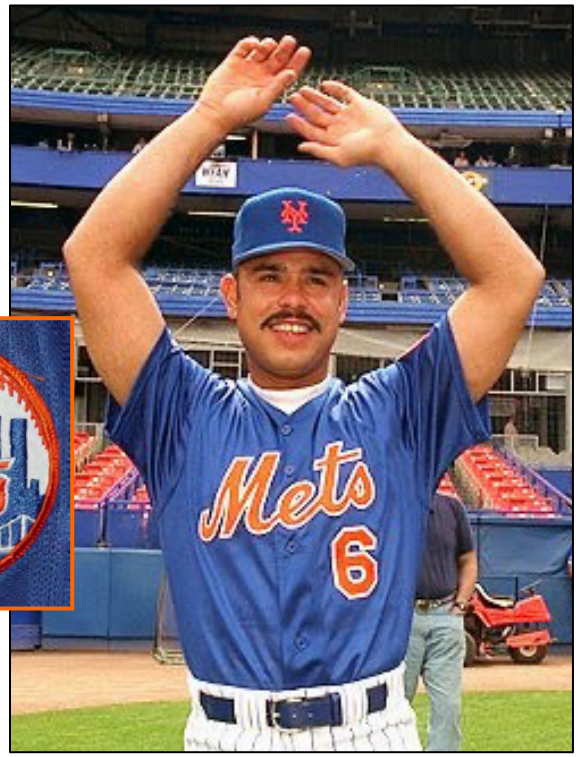
1995-1997 Home Batting Practice/1998 Home Blue BP



Solid royal blue shiny fabric, two-color name and number on front and back, Skyline patch on the left sleeve. No trim. Even though the Mets went to a primary black batting practice jersey in 1998, this jersey stays in the lineup through 1999 (but without NOB) and is sometimes, though rarely, used as a pregame warm-up for just a little while longer.

Back numbers are Block, front numbers are Front Block style.

This is the first Mets jersey with names on back. Standard-length name is in Block Condensed, longer names are in Block Extra Condensed. No nameplates used.

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1995-1997 Road Batting Practice

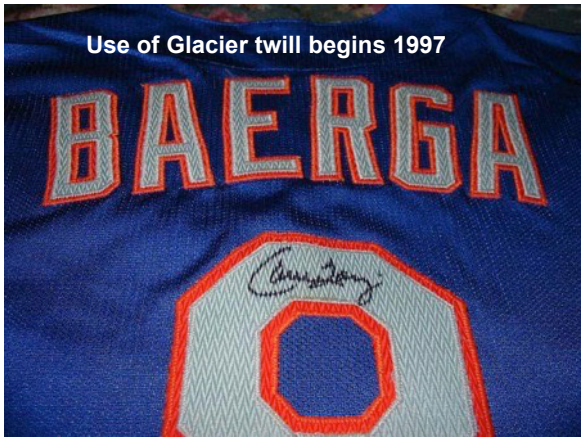
Bill Henderson Collection

1997

This road BP jersey mirrors the general design of the 1995–1997 road jersey. Names and numbers are two-color, gray/orange. The Mets skyline patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

The gray top layer is plain twill 1995–1996, and Glacier twill style in 1997.

Back numbers are Block; front numbers use the Front Block variation. Standard-length names are in Block Condensed, while longer names use Block Extra Condensed. No nameplates are used.



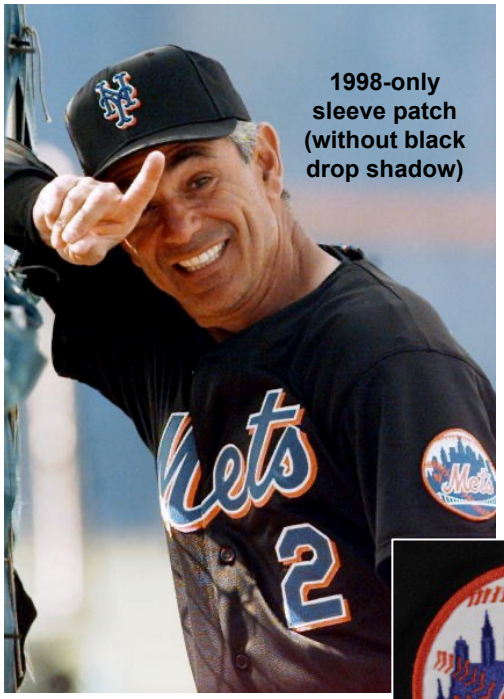
Use of Glacier twill begins 1997

© GameWornGuides.com

1998-2002 Home Black Batting Practice

1998

2002

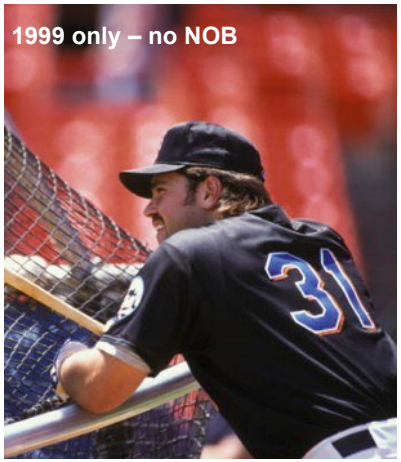


1998-only sleeve patch (without black drop shadow)

Regular patch 1998 only

"Midnight" patch used starting 1999

1998



1999 only – no NOB

Nearly indistinguishable from the 1998–2002 alternate home black game jersey, the batting practice jersey lacks the game jersey's royal blue knit trim on the front placket and at the sleeve ends.

Lettered identically to the home black alternate jerseys, with names and numbers in three-color royal/white/orange drop shadow.

These jerseys are button-front mesh in 1998–1999, then switch to shiny button-front micro-mesh around 2000. Retail "Authentic"-tagged black mesh BP jerseys were also sold in a pullover version. However, the team did not wear these—at least not at the Major League level.

The 1998 jersey features the regular Mets Skyline patch on the sleeve, while the 1999–2002 versions use the new Midnight Skyline patch.

Player names appear on the back of these BP jerseys—except in 1999, when names were dropped at home for one season only. Beginning in 1998, the Mets use Block Condensed in three-color for all player NOBs, including very long ones.

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1998-1999 Road Blue Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Top right: *1998 patch*

Right: *1999 patch — a very subtle black drop shadow is added to "Mets" script, and the baseball stitching design changes.*

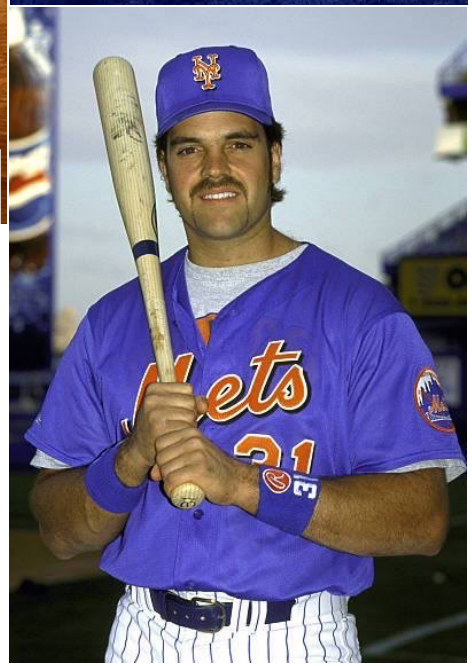
These blue BP jerseys were worn by the Mets during Spring Training road games in 1998. In 1998, black became the Mets' new primary color across the board. However, the team retained a blue road batting practice jersey as part of the uniform lineup.

It is nearly identical to the 1995–1997 version, except that all lettering now features black drop shadows in keeping with the updated style. Lettering consists of gray over orange with a black drop shadow. The gray twill uses a Glacier pattern.

In 1998, the Mets' regular skyline patch—without a drop shadow—is sewn on the left sleeve. In 1999, the sleeve patch is updated to include a black drop shadow.These blue jerseys are discontinued after the 1999 season, as all BP jerseys shift to black..

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Home Blue Batting Practice



For a single year, as the Mets began their transition into the “Mets in Black” era, the team retained their traditional blue batting practice jerseys but added an almost invisible black drop shadow to all lettering.

The fabric is a silky, lightweight polyester. All lettering is three-color plain (non-patterned) layered twill.

The jersey is made by Majestic, with Block numbers on the front and back. No player names.

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Road Black BP/2000-2002 Road Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

This road style is introduced the same year as the black alternate road jersey and looks nearly identical to it. The BP jersey is made of shiny black fabric but lacks the royal blue front and sleeve-end knit trim found on the game jersey.

Lettered identically to the road black alternate jerseys, with names and numbers in three-color royal/white/orange drop shadow. The Midnight Mets Skyline patch is used exclusively on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2004 Batting Practice

Orange-body batting practice jerseys debut as part of MLB's league-wide standardization of BP jerseys in 2003.

Names and numbers are rendered in three colors: royal/white/black drop shadow. Front numbers use the Front Block variant; back numbers are in Block Standard. No nameplates are used. The Mets midnight-style Skyline patch is used on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2006 Batting Practice

The Mets discontinued their garish orange BP jerseys after just two years. These jerseys feature a royal blue body with black shoulders, separated by orange piping.

Main lettering, numbers, and player names are in black Glacier twill, outlined in white with an orange drop shadow. The Mets midnight-style black Skyline patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

In 2007, the Mets switch to lightweight Cool Base batting practice jerseys, along with all other MLB teams. The jerseys resemble the team's 2005–2006 batting practice design but lack a front number. Contrasting orange and black side panels are integrated into the design.

All lettering and designs are single-layer heat-pressed appliqués. Note the very narrow white outline around the orange numbers and player name—an addition introduced in 2007.

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2011 Batting Practice

All of MLB's batting practice jerseys change for 2011, becoming button-front designs. Side panel trim changes to solid black, replacing the black-and-orange combination used in 2010.

Player numbers are added to the front in 2011, with names and numbers continuing on the back. No sleeve patch is used. All lettering is now three-color—black/white with an orange drop shadow. The white outline around the orange drop shadow from the prior year disappears. Since 2007, the team logo script has been a heat-applied appliqué rather than sewn tackle twill. However, in 2011 all lettering returns to tackle twill.

This is a one-year style, as the Mets eliminate drop shadows after 2011 as part of a minor redesign that removes black as a team color.

Worn as a game jersey on August 29, 2011, in the second game of a doubleheader against the Marlins in New York.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012-2013 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

This light-weight Cool Base jersey is a button-front design in royal blue, with no contrasting side panels and very thin orange trim at the sleeve ends. Sewn twill names and numbers appear on the back.

Like the team's 2012 home and road jerseys, the 2012 batting practice jersey eliminates drop shadows from all lettering—including the front script and the player name and numbers. All lettering uses Block font in orange on white.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

As part of MLB's league-wide BP jersey redesign in 2014, the Mets took the opportunity to add color to their previously conservative solid blue batting practice jerseys. Orange side insert panels are introduced, and orange/blue knit trim is added to the collar and sleeve ends. All lettering is orange over white twill.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

In 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training–specific jersey intended for preseason workouts and games. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill—decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols—as the main twill layer for every team.

The Mets use their regular-season blue home alternate as the base for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are in orange patterned twill with white outlines. Front numbers are the standard orange/white.

The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve—styled like an Interstate highway sign—reading "2016" and "FL" to represent the Mets' Spring Training location.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training–only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with minor design updates. As in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template. It features special printed twill decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill: single-color white with gray printing, replacing the team-specific versions from the year before.

The Mets once again use their regular-season blue home alternate as the base for their Spring Training jersey, replacing last year’s Mr. Met sleeve patch with a team disc—consistent with the change made to the alternate jersey in 2017. The name and back numbers are rendered in white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard orange/white, as used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve, styled like an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” to represent the Mets’ Spring Training location.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

Above: *The front wordmark sewn in layered twill, sleeve and back numbers use Majestic's new "lightweight kiss-cut" twill.*

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Numbers are in what Majestic calls "lightweight twill" (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Mets jersey is royal blue with royal blue back with orange underarm gussets. Their classic "Mets" script appears on the front left chest in orange/white. Player number in orange/white block on left sleeve and back of jersey in 2017, on sleeve only thereafter.

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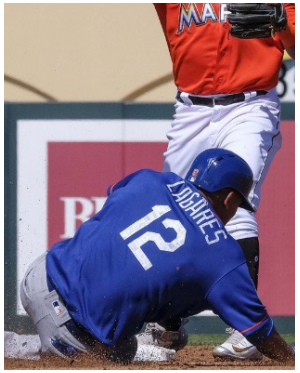
2018 Spring Training

Giampiero Berardi Collection

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring player names and numbers in each team's regular fonts, but using a single layer of twill printed with Spring Training and 2018-specific patterns.

The Mets use their regular-season blue home alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard orange/white, as used in the regular season. A new CFX patch—shaped like home plate—is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" to represent their Spring Training home.



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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the template of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, but without 2016's sublimated twill patterns. The Mets use their regular-season blue home alternate, adding a new CFX plastic patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The player name and front and back numbers are orange/white.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified league-wide in 2020. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the sleeve patch indicating the year and location of each team's training site, and use the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as worn during the regular season—making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates.

For 2020–2023, the Mets use their regular-season blue home alternate with orange/white name and front and back numbers.

© GameWornGuides.com

Special Events Jerseys

1988-1989 St. Patrick's Day

Game jersey courtesy of Nick DiSalvo

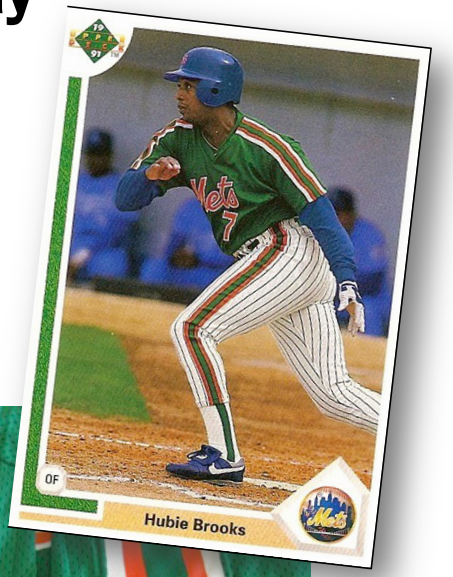
Majestic made the 1988 and 1989 green and orange St. Patrick's Day mesh jerseys. The orange/white trim sewn into the sleeve tops is knit material. No manufacturer brand marks are used on the sleeves.

Stephen Kraljic Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1990 St. Patrick's Day

- Because St. Patrick's Day falls during Spring Training, when media coverage is light. Though photos aren't available for every year, the Mets have been regular participants in the wearing o' the green.
- In 1990, the team not only wore green mesh jerseys, but also debuted green and orange (ugh) racing stripe–style pants for the occasion.
- Complete 1990 uniforms appear for sale more than occasionally, suggesting they were all auctioned off at season's end.



Bottom right: *1990 Rawlings-made jerseys use dazzle twill for wordmark and numbers, while 1989 Majestic-made jerseys use normal twill.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1991-1992 St. Patrick's Day

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Rawlings made the 1991–1992 green and orange St. Patrick's Day mesh jerseys. The Rawlings script logo is embroidered on the right sleeve end, centered within the racing stripe trim. Dazzle twill is used for both the wordmark and numbers. The only difference from the 1990 version is the style of the jock tag.

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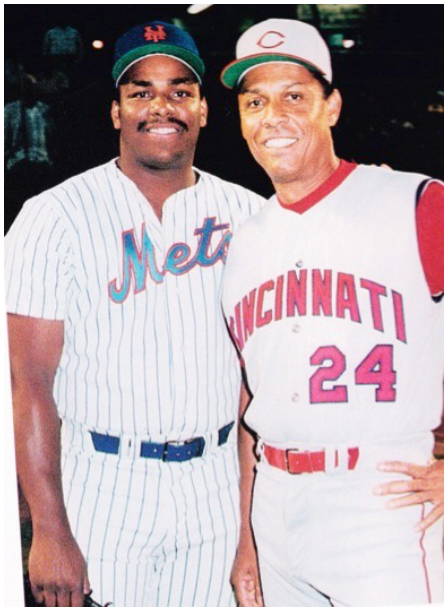
1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1962

Stephen Krajjic Collection



Nick DiSalvo Collection

The Mets' first Turn Back the Clock game, held on August 30, 1992, was billed as a "Nostalgia Game," featuring the 1962 Mets against the 1969 Cincinnati Reds. Both teams wore Rawlings double knit replicas of their flannel uniforms from those years.

A Rawlings "glued-on" appliqué logo ***(inset)*** is applied to the left sleeve—a style typically found on minor league uniforms. There are no front numbers, as was standard in 1962. However, the Skyline sleeve patch—which was not used in 1962—incorrectly appears on the Nostalgia jersey. The front script appears to be sewn slightly too high.

Original 1962 jersey (reissued in 1964 with the corresponding sleeve patch)

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

On July 17, 1999, the Mets played an Interleague game against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Both teams wore 1969 Turn Back the Clock flannels for the occasion. The Rays dressed as the minor league 1969 Tampa Tarpons,

All uniforms were created by Mitchell & Ness.

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1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

This very strange—but refreshingly creative—jersey design was part of 1999's Turn Ahead the Clock promotion. The game was held on July 27, 1999, in New York against the Pittsburgh Pirates. The jerseys featured a one-color metallic silver name and number sewn on the back.

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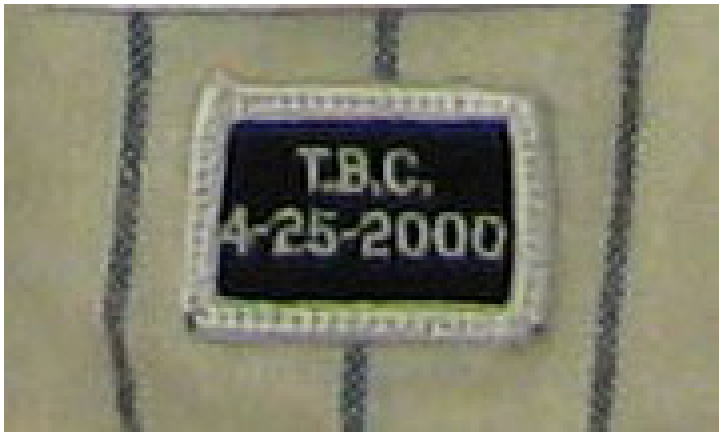
2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

This game-worn jersey is from the April 25, 2000 contest vs. the Reds, who were also attired in 1969 flannels. The Mitchell & Ness flannel is a faithful replica of the original, right down to the checkerboard pattern of the pinstripes ***(inset).***

Unfortunately, defects in the pinstriped flannel fabric caused several players to rip large holes in their uniforms—mostly in the pants—during the game.



Photos: Nick DiSalvo

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2001 Negro Leagues Tribute (1947 New York Cubans)

Stephen Kraljic Collection

July 15, 2001: The Mets dressed in these Rawlings white full-zip knit reproductions of the 1947 New York Cubans of the Negro Leagues, a year when the Cubans won the Negro Leagues World Series.

Their opponent was the Toronto Blue Jays, who dressed as the 1930s Chatham All-Stars.

2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1986

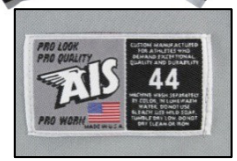
Stephen Kraljic Collection

In 2002 the Mets called on Rawlings to make reproductions of their 1986 uniforms for use in games on July 15-16 vs. the Florida Marlins, who did not exist in 1986. The quality of these Rawlings reproductions is pretty good, but Mets purists have some issues. First, the jersey is missing the 1986 sleeve patch. Secondly, there is a discrepancy with the way the pinstripes align with the shoulder seams. Mets-style jerseys always have their pinstripes vertical all the way to the shoulder racing stripes. These have raglan-style sleeves; the pinstripe that runs across the top of the shoulder is a trait of Yankee jerseys. Note the tiny Rawlings logo on the left sleeve end.

Above: *Specially tailored, this jersey has had more than two inches of its tail removed, certainly to meet its owner's specifications.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2004-2006 Negro Leagues Tributes (1940s New York Cubans)



2004 with felt lettering

2005 with twill lettering

The Mets appeared in Negro League tribute road games, as the New York Cubans of the Negro National League, wearing nearly identical uniforms made by AIS in 2004, 2005, and 2006—representing (we believe) the 1944 and 1945 New York Cubans teams.

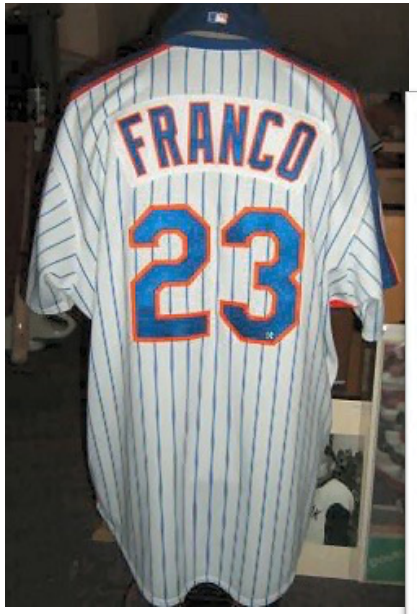
The 2004 version uses all felt lettering, while the 2005 and 2006 versions feature twill lettering. These uniforms were worn on June 13, 2004 against the Kansas City Royals (Monarchs); July 9, 2005 against the Pittsburgh Pirates (Crawfords); and August 11, 2006 against the Washington Nationals (Grays).

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1986

Majestic made these near-perfect replicas of the Mets' 1986 home uniforms, marking the 20th anniversary of their World Championship season. Aside from the slightly wide side racing stripe trim, the uniform is quite accurate.

The games were held on August 19–20, 2006, against the Colorado Rockies, who did not exist in 1986. The Rockies wore their standard road grays.



Note that the MLB collar logo does not appear on game-worn versions. It appears on later retail versions.

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2007-2008 Hispanic Heritage

Hispanic Heritage Day is celebrated on August 24, 2007, and August 22, 2008, with identical jerseys—except for the Shea Stadium patch added to the right sleeve in 2008.

The jersey simply adds the word “Los” before the Mets’ usual script on a standard white alternate jersey. Everything else is identical to a standard jersey.

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Civil Rights Game

Stephen Kraljic Collection

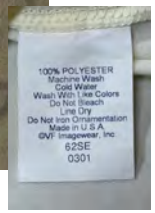

Photo courtesy Aaron Doster

- This Civil Rights Game preceded the start of the regular season on March 29, 2008, and featured the Mets against the White Sox in Chicago.
- The uniforms for both sides were again oddly uninspired—just as they had been in 2007. The jerseys featured a generic “New York” in very plain blue lettering, with thin orange knit trim around the sleeve ends and no Mets insignia anywhere.
- The back numbers are one-color blue block font, no NOB.
- The Civil Rights Game patch is affixed to the left sleeve.

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2009 Hispanic Heritage

Hispanic Heritage is celebrated again on July 31, 2009, with a revised version of the “Los Mets” jersey—this time rendered in white Cool Base home jerseys with pinstripes, instead of the white alternate home jerseys of previous years.

The Mets’ standard home jersey is modified by a small tacked-on cursive “Los” above and to the viewer’s left of the Mets script. The 2009 version has the Citi Field Inaugural patch on the right sleeve. The rest of the lettering is in blue Glacier twill over orange, with a black drop shadow.

© GameWornGuides.com

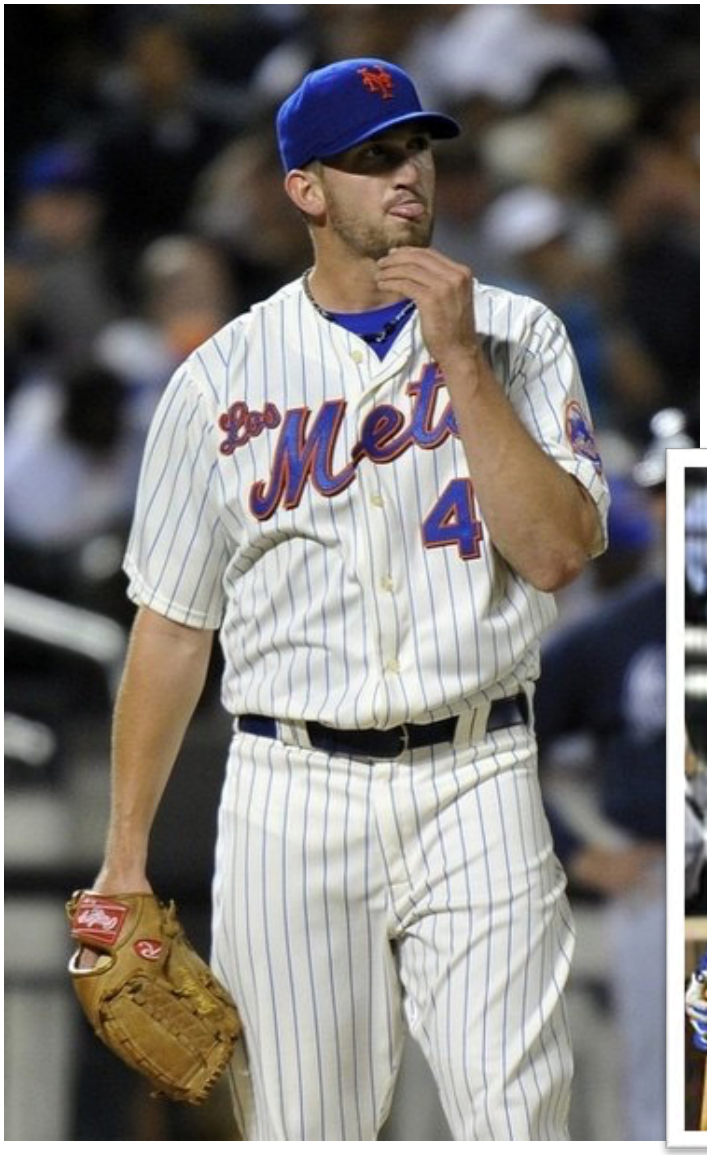
2009 Turn Back the Clock "Fauxback"

- For three games, August 14–16, 2009, the Mets hosted the San Francisco Giants and wore an odd, whimsical Turn Back the Clock uniform throughout the series.
- The jerseys were made of cream-colored Cool Base knit fabric and featured an oversized "NY" on the front, reminiscent of uniforms worn by the New York Giants when they played in New York in the early 20th century.
- Mr. Met made his first-ever appearance in Mets uniform form, shown as a sprightly, running figure on the patch adorning the right sleeve.

Original 1907 New York Giants

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Hispanic Heritage



- Hispanic Heritage is celebrated again on August 13, 2010, with a revised version of the “Los Mets” jersey—this time using cream-colored Cool Base home jerseys instead of the white alternate home jerseys of previous years.
- The standard Mets jersey is modified by a small tacked-on cursive “Los” above and to the viewer’s left of the Mets script.
- The rest of the lettering is identical to the Mets’ regular home jersey: blue Glacier twill over orange with a black drop shadow.

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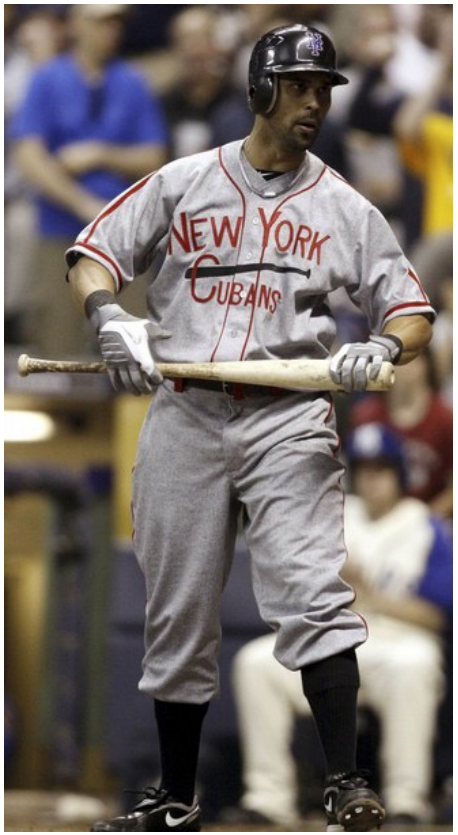
2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1948 New York Cubans)

Derek Damian Collection



The Mets honored the Negro Leagues by wearing the road gray uniforms of the 1948 New York Cubans during a May 29, 2010, game against the Brewers. This marked the first of two occasions in 2010 in which the Mets dressed as the Cubans, though they wore different uniforms each time.

These loose-fitting knit uniforms are made by AIS, using a mottled fabric designed to resemble scratchy wool—even from close range.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1944 New York Cubans)

- In a game played in Pittsburgh on August 21, the Mets again dressed as the New York Cubans of the Negro League—this time facing the Pirates, who dressed as the 1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords.
- The knit uniforms were reportedly made by AIS.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Hispanic Heritage

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The Mets celebrated Fiesta Latina Nights on August 5 and September 1, 2011. The Mets' jerseys for this year are royal blue with orange knit trim, featuring "Los Mets" across the front in orange/white twill. The skyline patch is on the left sleeve. Overall, this design looks far less like an afterthought than the Los Mets jerseys of the prior four years.

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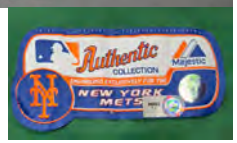
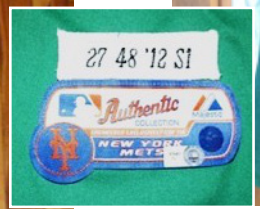
2012-2013 St. Patrick's Day

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The Mets' 2012–2013 edition of the St. Patrick's Day jersey is a green, button-front BP-style jersey with white side panels. The Gary Carter "8-Kid" memorial patch is sewn to the right sleeve of the 2012 jersey. All lettering is orange, outlined in white. Game-worn 2012 jerseys have strip tagging; 2013 jerseys do not.





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2012 Hispanic Heritage

This jersey is worn twice in 2012, on July 6 and August 24. This marks the second year that this style of Hispanic Heritage jersey is worn. However, this time, all lettering is in white/ orange, reversing the previous year's colors.

In 2012, the 50th Anniversary patch appears on the left sleeve, and the Gary Carter KID/8 memorial is on the right.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1989

The Padres host a 1989 Turn Back the Clock game on August 3 and dress the Mets in replica 1989 road uniforms, complete with wide, five-striped trim on pants, jersey sides, and shoulders, and three-color blue/orange/white lettering throughout. The “NEW YORK” front wordmark is newspaper-headline plain, and the Gary Carter 8/KID memorial patch is sewn to the right sleeve.

As we’ve come to expect, players wear these uniforms two sizes larger than their 1989 counterparts would have deemed acceptable, though a few players wear their pants cuffed high to show their blue socks. The NOB font on back is slightly too wide compared to what was used in 1989.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1993

Stephen Kraljic Collection

On April 16, 2013, the Mets visited the Rockies for a Turn Back the Clock game commemorating Colorado's very first game—also against the Mets—on April 5, 1993. In a twist, the Rockies asked the Mets to wear their home uniforms from 1993, while the Rockies wore 1993 road uniforms for the game in Colorado.

To the Rockies' everlasting credit, they were still wearing the same home uniforms twenty years after their inaugural season—the only change being the addition of front numbers.

The Mets' 1993 pinstriped uniforms were a short-lived style (1993–1994) that featured an oversized Mets wordmark with an underline. All adornment features three colors: blue, orange, and white. The Majestic reproductions of the Mets' uniforms are highly accurate.

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2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams in Major League Baseball wear camouflage-accented uniforms on May 27, 2013, to honor servicemen and women. Playing at home that day, the Mets modify their cream-colored pinstriped home jersey by replacing all blue twill with desert camo. The 2013 All-Star Game patch is sewn on the left sleeve.

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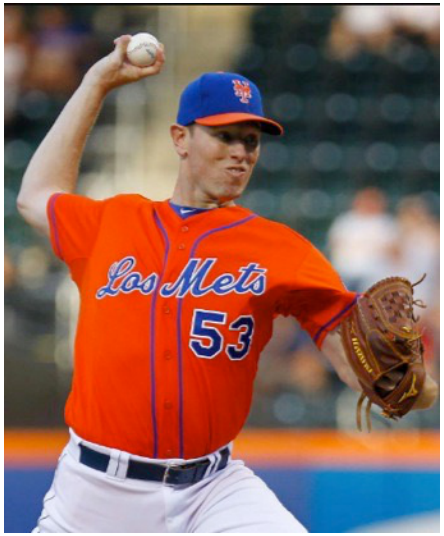
2013-2014 Hispanic Heritage

2014

For the 2013 Hispanic Heritage game, the team reverses the colors used in the prior year—using an orange body with blue knit trim and blue/white lettering—but otherwise follows the same layout as 2012. The 2013 version (worn July 24 and August 24) has the All-Star Game patch on the left sleeve. The 2014 version (worn July 29 and September 12) features Mr. Met on the left sleeve, and both the Frank Cashen and Ralph Kiner memorial patches on the right.



2014

2013

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Memorial Day

Again playing at home on Memorial Day—May 26, 2014—the Mets this time choose to modify their snow-white home alternate uniforms for use in the MLB-wide promotion. As in the previous year, all blue lettering is replaced with desert camouflage twill. The left sleeve features only the Ralph Kiner memorial patch.

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2014-2015 Negro Leagues Tributes (1905 Brooklyn Royal Giants)

The Mets visited Pittsburgh on June 28, 2014, for the Pirates' annual Negro Leagues tribute, and faced the Braves on June 20, 2015, in a similar event. Both games, the Mets wore unique AIS-made solid royal blue uniforms representing the Brooklyn Royal Giants (1905–1942).

Above: *2014 tag with set tag,*
Left: *2015 edition did not have small set tag. Otherwise the jerseys are identical.*

The uniforms are made of knit fabric, with all lettering sewn on in orange felt rather than twill. The Royal Giants were named after the Brooklyn Royal Café, owned by their founder John Conner.

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2015 Memorial Day

For Memorial Day on May 25, the Mets return to the same basic design as their 2013 jersey. This time, the base pinstriped jersey is white instead of cream, and the usual Mets team disc replaces the All-Star patch seen in 2013. The MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors. As with the 2013 model, all blue twill is replaced with desert camouflage on the wordmark, player name, and numbers, front and back.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue—regardless of the team's normal color palette. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as on the team's standard jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar.

The Mets wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars. All lettering is outlined in red, including the front logo as well as the front and back numbers. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms on Mother's Day—May 8, 2016, and May 13–14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink, and the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the collar appears in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Mets wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. Player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at the back of the neck is rendered in black and dark gold for all teams. The new league-wide template—with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines—makes this set more legible than in prior years.

The Mets apply the camouflage trimmings to their home jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering, as well as the front and back numbers, is rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. As with other teams, the Mets' sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black.

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2016-2017 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms for Father's Day—June 19, 2016, and June 17–18, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on the left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the collar appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Mets wear their home jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. Player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.

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2016 Negro Leagues Tribute (1905 Brooklyn Royal Giants)

Derek Damian collection

In a June 25 road game against the Braves, the Mets throw back to the 1905 Brooklyn Royal Giants of the Negro Leagues for the third time in as many seasons, while the Braves wear uniforms representing the Negro League Atlanta Black Crackers.

These jerseys are essentially duplicates of the previous two throwbacks by AIS. This royal blue Majestic knit jersey features all-orange lettering in old-school felt, along with wide orange sleeve trim and the Royal Giants patch on the left sleeve. The Majestic logo is moved to the right sleeve, as the braiding and patch leave little room on the left.

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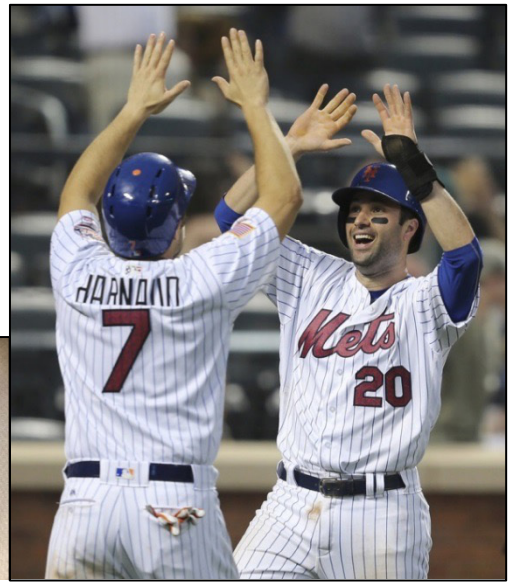
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each jersey includes a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" MLB logo appliqué sewn on the back of the neck.

The Mets wear their standard home jersey. All clubs choose between two styles of star-spangled lettering twill, and the Mets select the red twill version with blue outlines for their front lettering and both front and back numbers. Player names on back are blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue—replacing team colors.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1986

Visiting Wrigley Field on July 20, the Mets wear the road version of their 1986 throwbacks for a single game against the Cubs, who wear their 1986 home set. These gray knit Majestic pullovers feature wide, bold racing stripes up the sides and sleeves, closely resembling the originals.

All lettering is royal-blue/orange, and nameplates correctly appear on the back. The Mets' 25th anniversary patch adorns the left sleeve, just as it did in 1986.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses each team's fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two similar dark colors are difficult to distinguish, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, and the MLB logo on the back collar and team patches are rendered in olive green and black.

A green bar patch with five black stars—representing the five branches of the U.S. military—appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are simplified to single-color black. The Mets apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017, and May 26–28, 2018 (day game only on May 28). The 2018 version features the "Rusty" memorial patch for Rusty Staub on the right sleeve

© GameWornGuides.com

2017 Memorial Day (Home)

As with the road version, this iteration of the Memorial Day jersey replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style using the team's fonts in dark olive green with black outlines—colors that are difficult to distinguish, especially at a distance. All player names on back are in single-color black, while the MLB logo on the back collar and the team patches are rendered in olive green and black. A green bar patch with five black stars—representing the five branches of the U.S. military—appears on the right sleeve. The Mets apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017, the Mets wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Road)

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3–4, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the Mets wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue. The 2018 version has the "Rusty" memorial patch for Rusty Staub on the left chest.

2017-2018 Players Weekend/2018 Little League Classic

2018 patch

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Mets wear jerseys with royal blue bodies and orange sleeves with white nicknames and orange numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/white/orange trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in orange/white kiss-cut lightweight twill. The 2018 version has the "Rusty" memorial patch for Rusty Staub on the left chest.

This jersey was also worn on August 19, 2018 for the Little League Classic with this patch on the left sleeve.

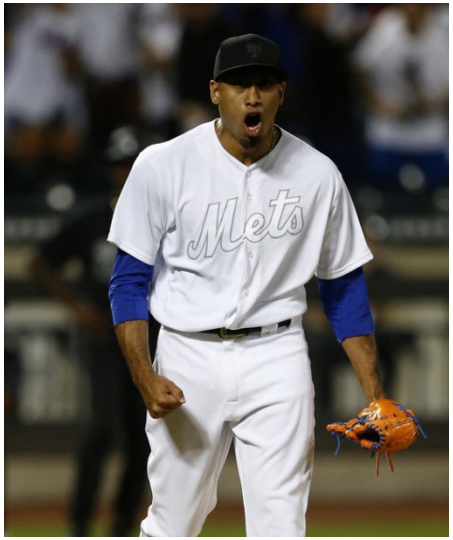
© GameWornGuides.com

2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its head, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white. All team sleeve patches and trim are removed, leaving a clean, yet stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and the special patches where players could write messages of inspiration. MLB states that this new approach is meant to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear players choose to wear during the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019.

Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. The back-of-collar CFX MLB logo appears in silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs—a white “45” in a black circle—on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys.

The Mets wear a white version of their home jersey, with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray, and the nickname on back in gray.



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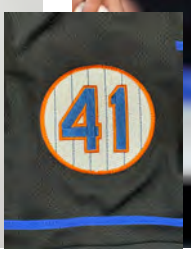
2021 Alternate Home Black

Stephen Kraljic Collection



The Mets bow to fan pressure and bring back black jerseys for the first time in 10 seasons. They are announced as a “surprise” to debut on July 30 and are worn five times through the end of the season. The new black Nike Flex Base jersey closely mimics the last official iteration of the style. All lettering—front and back—is in royal/white/orange drop shadow in regular twill (rather than the Glacier twill used in the earlier part of this jersey’s original run). The Mets Skyline patch on the left sleeve is the standard version, not the “blackout” version that the original black jersey used for most of its run. All uses of this jersey in 2021 feature the Tom Seaver memorial patch on the right sleeve. The following season, a slightly different version of this jersey—without the Seaver patch and with different trim—becomes an official alternate for the team..

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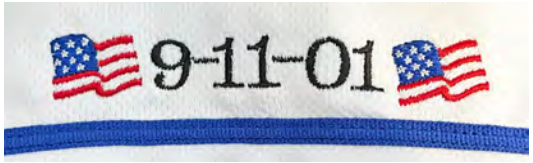
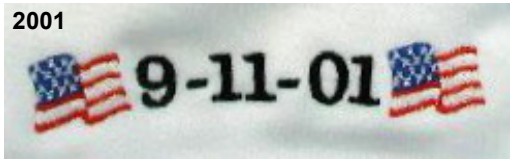
2021 - 20th Anniversary of September 11, 2001



On September 11, 2021, the Mets welcome the crosstown Yankees in a special game to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 tragedy. For the occasion, the Mets wear a special Nike Flex Base alternate home jersey that combines the overall look and feel of their “snow white” alternates from 2001—worn on September 21, 2001, the first game back after the attacks. This time, however, the jersey features “NEW YORK” on the front in the Tuscan font of the Mets’ road jerseys, instead of the traditional Mets script.

Royal knit trim encircles the neck and placket and appears above the sleeve ends. Two special additions—the American flag patch on the back of the neck (replacing the MLB logo) and the 9-11-01 and flags embroidery on the right sleeve—echo the jerseys the Mets wore for the remainder of the 2001 season after September 11.

2001



Left: *the original 2001 embroidery, showing the difference between the two.*

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2022 Roberto Clemente Day

The Mets hosted the Pirates on September 15, 2022—Roberto Clemente Day throughout MLB. Since 2020, the Pirates have had the entire team wear “21” in honor of Clemente on his commemorative day, and the Mets followed suit for the 2022 matchup.

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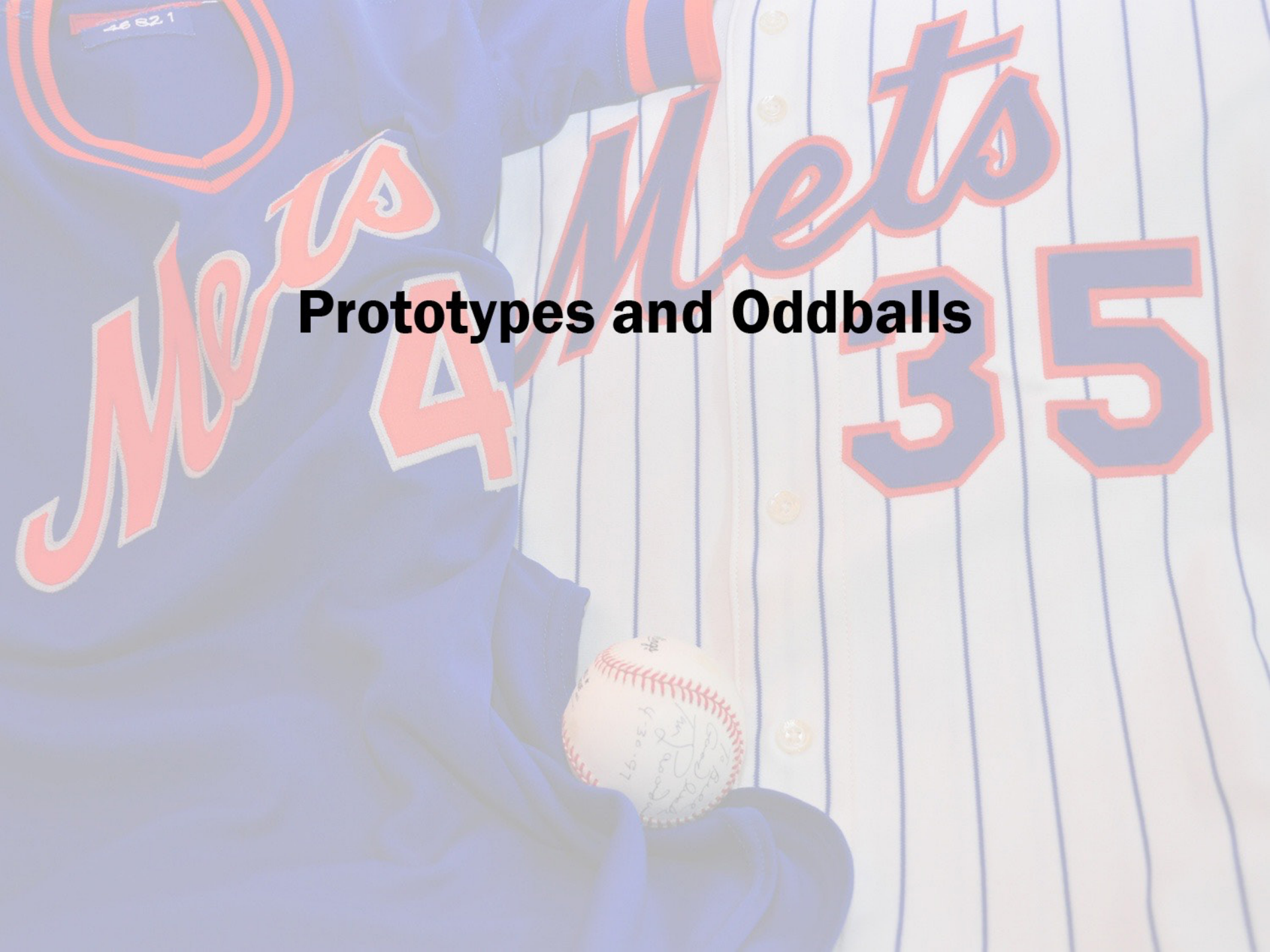
Prototypes and Oddballs



1972 Sample Home?

Offered here is a sample Mets home jersey, identifiable by tell-tale sample tagging in the neck. The Mets switched from flannel to knit for the 1972 season, and it is likely that this was a prototype presented to the team for review in advance of that change. The manufacturer tag in the tail also dates it to this era, though Rawlings used the same tag into the 1980s—long after the Mets had abandoned this style—so that doesn't help narrow the date. However, the jersey exhibits rounded front tail ends, which were a feature of the earlier Mets home knit jerseys, also made by Rawlings, in 1972–1973. That detail helps further narrow the possible time period for this example.

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1982-1983 Prototype Orange Batting Practice?

This orange Mets batting practice jersey never appeared in the team's official line-up, so it may have been a prototype from the early 1980s. Rawlings tagging dates it between approximately 1973 and 1984, but the style is most similar to the 1982 and 1983 alternate road batting practice jerseys. Like those examples, this jersey is made of solid fabric rather than mesh. It is possible that this item was a sample for a potential alternate or road BP jersey that was rejected in favor of the more traditional blue versions. It would be 20 years before the Mets introduced an orange BP jersey for on-field use. The gray in the logo and back numbers indicates this would have been a road jersey. A panel of Mets experts believes this was never intended as a prototype of an MLB jersey.

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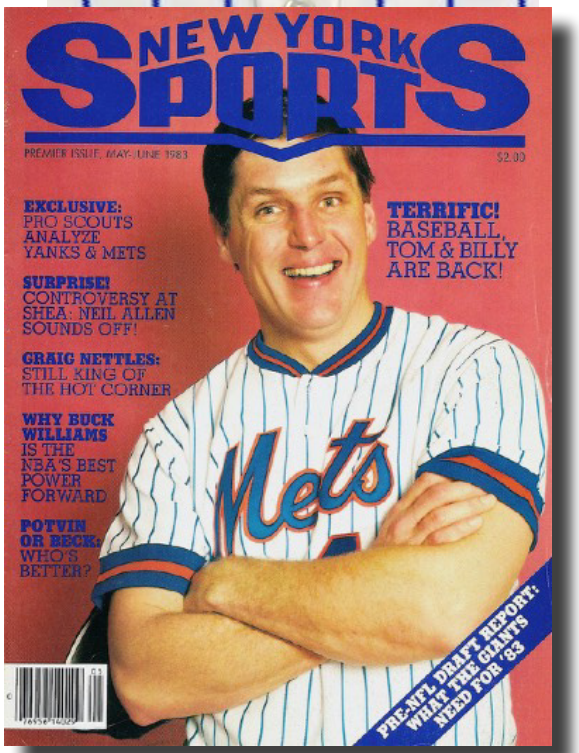
1983 Tom Seaver Acquisition “Press Events” Jersey

Andrew Liput Collection

The Mets changed jersey styles for the 1983 season, but that new style had not yet been introduced when Tom Seaver was reacquired from the Reds in December 1982. He would go on to play one final season for the Mets in 1983 before leaving for the Chicago White Sox in 1984.

A hometown hero, Seaver’s return after more than five years generated widespread excitement and was heavily covered by the New York media. As is customary, a jersey was produced for Seaver to display and wear at these events. While I do not specialize in photo-matching, images from his press conference, team PR photos on Getty Images, and the May–June issue of *New York Sports* magazine ***(bottom right)*** clearly show Seaver holding and wearing the jersey in review, without question.



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1985-1987 Powder Blue Oddball

Mets historian and frequent contributor Michael Cesarano shares an unusual Rawlings Mets jersey he purchased on eBay in 2009 for under $20. The Rawlings collar tag—featuring four small lines of text beneath the logo—was used from 1985 to 1987. Michael notes that the back is blank, and the layered twill front logo is heat-pressed onto the jersey without any stitched edging.

Michael notes:

"Its collar stitching is very unusual for a baseball jersey. NY chest logo is pressed on but not stitched, as if the jersey was not finished.

There is a plastic piece of what looks like a retail tag going through the collar; why would this be present on a prototype jersey that was presumably never available for retail sale? Since the jersey is likely from a time when authentic jerseys were not so widely available to consumers it is possible that this is some kind of prototype that was considered. However, at present we have no concrete evidence that the Mets ever considered or were even shown this jersey, which is why I had not thought to show this to you previously."

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1986 All-Star Game Jerseys Without Nameplates

Held in the Houston Astrodome, the 1986 MLB All-Star Game featured no fewer than five Mets: Gary Carter, Sid Fernandez, Dwight Gooden, Keith Hernandez, and Darryl Strawberry. And beginning the Mets' All-Star Game jersey shenanigans that would continue in 1988 (see several pages ahead), the five Mets took the field in a look ever-so-slightly different than the rest of the season.

All five Mets appeared in their standard home pinstriped pullovers with two-color lettering throughout. But none of them had nameplates on back, leaving their names to clash with the jersey stripes for one night only.

Many teams make special uniforms for their players to wear at an All-Star Game, and some even sewn on special tags to commemorate the honor for their selected players. We have not seen one of these Mets jerseys appear in the hobby, so aside from the nameplate, we do not know if there were any such tributes. But we do know that if these jerseys were to come up for sale, a discerning collector might pass on them, citing the lack of the characteristic nameplate. Proving, once again, there are never any absolutes when it comes to MLB jerseys—especially for those made decades ago.

© GameWornGuides.com

1987 Prototype Road Batting Practice

This is most likely a prototype jersey produced by Rawlings to demonstrate how a new design would look in real life. Note that this Rawlings mesh batting jersey uses three-color twill on all lettering and numbers, unlike the two-color lettering used in 1987. It is pro-tagged by Rawlings as “Set 2 1987”, but the jersey appears unused. None of the team-used, two-color-lettered jerseys I’ve seen have a year or set tag sewn in like this one does. The tag is sewn inside the front tail. This three-color scheme was indeed adopted and used on all road batting practice jerseys in 1988—but with a different team wordmark design. A nearly identical jersey was used for the Mets’ road batting practice jersey in 1994 (pictured several pages back).

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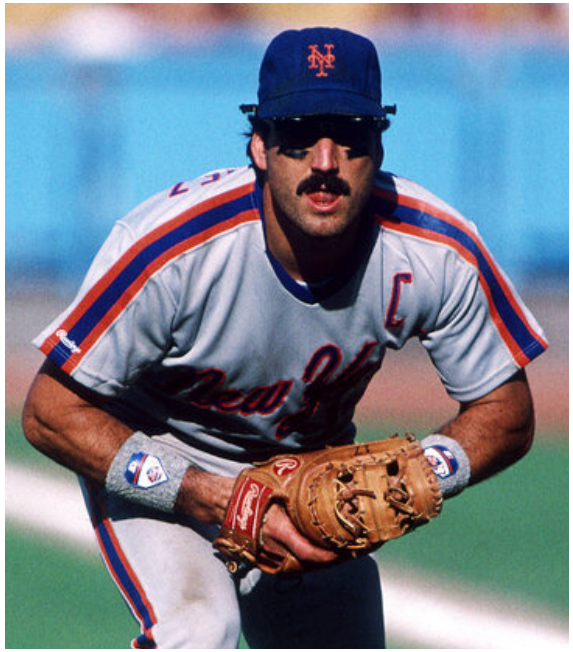
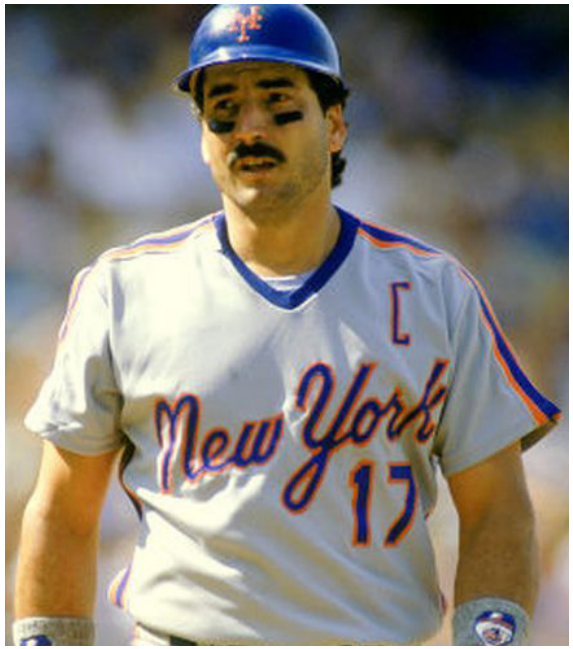
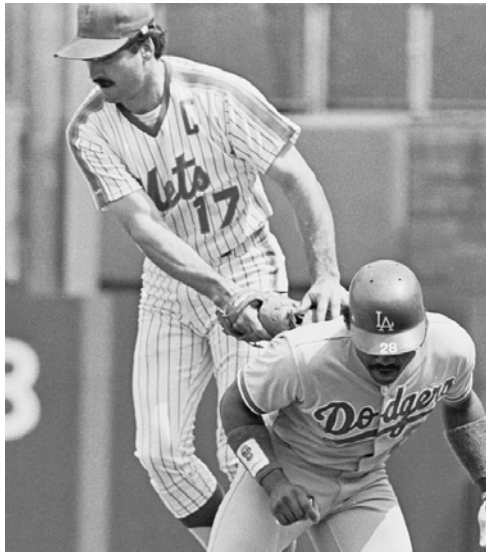
1987 Keith Hernandez Captain's "C"







Captain's patches are more commonly seen on hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, but there have been instances where baseball players have worn them as well.

According to a story in Newsday, Keith Hernandez—named the Mets' first-ever captain in 1987—found the captain's "C" attached to his jersey the following day. He said he liked the "C" because it was "an ego thing," but felt it was too large on the jersey. The following year, when Gary Carter was also named a co-captain and did not want to wear the "C," Hernandez asked to have his removed.

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1988 All-Star Game Batting Practice

The page covering this jersey has changed with each edition of this guide. I think we now finally have the full story. For the 1987–1992 seasons the Mets wore a BP jersey like this, but with the wide ”racing stripes” sewn in only on top of the sleeves, NOT on the sides like this one. Some player photos and baseball cards found during research had convinced me that this particular style had been worn by the MLB Mets in the 1987 season, which was disputed by Mets collectors (see a page from earlier editions of this Guide, ***bottom left)***. Subsequently, photos of a jersey claimed to be a Gary Carter All-Star jersey in this style appeared, and we dismissed it as a fake. But since then, a few more photos of the 1988 All-Star Game have surfaced, and lo and behold, we have photo evidence of David Cone wearing this very jersey in pregame activities. Tagging indicates that these jerseys were issued specifically for this game.

Confusing things is the fact that the Mets’ Port St. Lucie minor league team wore this same style jersey for multiple years (baseball card, ***near left)***. The minor league version has the Rawlings logo glued to the left sleeve end as seen on the older book page. The All-Star jerseys seem to have no Rawlings sleeve logos at all. There were four Mets on that 1988 All-Star roster, and we have accounted for two of their jerseys here.

© GameWornGuides.com

1989 Prototype Road

This Rawlings road gray button-front jersey with 1989 tagging may have been a prototype—though it is certainly an oddball. By 1987, the Mets were leaning heavily into tight V-neck pullovers and bold, wide racing stripes. Meanwhile, this jersey mimics the look of the team's earliest 1962 road uniforms and lacks even basic trim at the placket or sleeve ends.

It seems an odd choice to have been produced "in the cloth" for team review. Furthermore, selecting Kevin Elster—who had just completed his first full season in 1988, hitting an unspectacular .214 in 149 games—seems like a peculiar decision.

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-1993 Prototype Charcoal

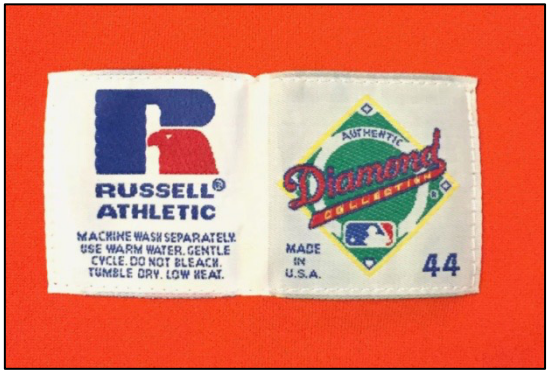
Made of solid game-weight fabric, this dark-charcoal gray jersey features a gray Russell "R" embroidered on the right sleeve end. The Russell locker tag is the 1992–1993 style. Keep in mind that in 1992, Russell was about to be named the official supplier of MLB game jerseys—though teams could remain with other manufacturers if they had a preference or an existing contract.

The wordmark style used here is the same one that appeared on the 1993 and 1994 game road jerseys and road BP jerseys, but in two colors only. This design adds a third gray (or possibly white) outline to the lettering. Ultimately, the Mets did switch to Russell for 1993—but without adopting a charcoal-colored alternate jersey.

Below: *The team's actual 1993 road and 1993 road batting practice jerseys, as worn during that season.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1995 Prototype Orange?



This orange Mets jersey appeared on eBay listed as a “Bobby Jones Spring Training Jersey.” The Russell tagging dates it to approximately 1993–1995. In 1993–1994, the Mets used a front wordmark with an underscore. In 1995, they switched to AIS for most of their jerseys, although Russell still produced some home versions.

It’s possible this was a sample alternate jersey created by Russell when the Mets reverted to a non-underlined wordmark in 1995. The blue/orange/white lettering closely resembles that of the AIS-made road jerseys from that season. Still, the presence of a neck tag is atypical for a team-issued jersey, even a prototype. More research is required.

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1992-1993; 1996-1997 Prototype Batting Practice

Lance Lopera photo

At left, the Russell tail tag identifies this as a 1992–1993 creation. The sleeve stripes, which incorporate road gray, represent a design element that was ultimately not used.

At right is an interesting batting practice jersey, believed to be a prototype produced by AIS for team consideration in 1996 or 1997. We can narrow the date to these years because the Mets' "Skyline" patch on the sleeve is pre-1998, and Bobby Valentine was named manager in 1996. AIS made its first Mets on-field uniform in 1996. Note the football-jersey-style sleeve trim, featuring white, orange, and silver. The team script and player number are sewn in three-layer tackle twill (blue/orange/white). The player name is in one-color (white) twill.

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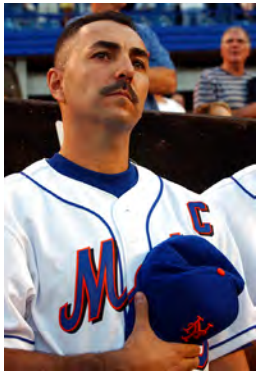
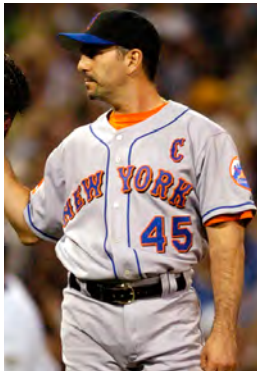
2001-2004 John Franco Captain's "C"





Captain's patches are more commonly seen on hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, though they have occasionally been worn in baseball as well.

Pitcher John Franco was named a Mets captain in 2001, a designation he held through his final season with the team in 2004. During those years, most of his jerseys—including BP jerseys—featured the captain's "C" on the left chest. The letter was styled to match the color pattern of each jersey.

Home, home alternate, and BP jerseys featuring the script "Mets" used a block-style "C." In contrast, the road and road alternate jerseys with "New York" on the front used a Tuscan-style "C" to match the lettering.

© GameWornGuides.com

2004 Bob Murphy Memorial Patch V1.0

More here: https://metspolice.com/2014/05/08/memorial-patches-embroidery-ralph-kiner-bob-murphy/

For the 2004 season, the Mets were awash in patches. In addition to the usual "Skyline" patch on the left sleeve, the team planned to wear a large and colorful Shea Stadium 40th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve. But when former Met and fan favorite Tug McGraw died on January 4, 2004, the team decided to add a small, directly embroidered memorial inscription to the right sleeve below the Shea patch. Then, on August 3, 2004, recently retired Mets broadcaster Bob Murphy died, and the team wanted to memorialize him as well. At that point, things were getting crowded on the right sleeve.

While we have documented the eventual final result of the Murphy memorial elsewhere in this chapter, it appears that there was an earlier version that was actually embroidered on the jerseys of several players, above the Shea patch on the right sleeve. It said "Murphy" in large letters with the direct embroidery of a microphone below it. After review, the team appears to have abandoned this design and instead placed "BOB MURPHY" arched above the Skyline patch on the left sleeve.

Rather than discard the jerseys with the improper embroidery, the team simply covered it with a jersey-colored piece of twill. After all, it was nearing the end of the season—and who would notice?

Collector Steve Kraljic has one of these "beta" black jerseys and has shared photos with us, issued to Jason Phillips. "Stitches" of Whitestone, NY, the Mets' local stitching shop, was responsible for the direct embroidery. Mets expert Nick DiSalvo reports that several other such jerseys exist, including examples issued to pitchers Al Leiter and John Franco.

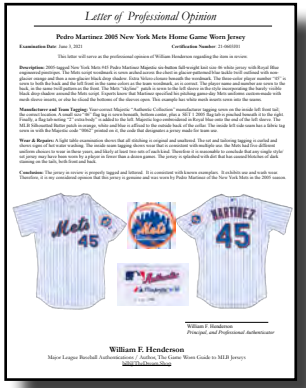
© GameWornGuides.com

2005 Pedro Martinez Sleeve Alterations

Hall of Famer Pedro Martinez was a long, lanky pitcher who generated significant velocity despite his smaller frame. Though lean-limbed, he opted for comfort through special jersey tailoring.

In his Red Sox days, he and other players (like Manny Ramirez) first accomplished this by ripping open the sleeve seam, leaving it to hang open. Apparently, MLB frowned upon this type of modification. Soon after, during his time in Boston and continuing into his Mets tenure, Martinez's jerseys were specially tailored with extra material—often mesh—sewn into the sleeves to provide more room and eliminate the loose ends.

The image here, and the notes of the accompanying Letters of Opinion linked below, detail this special request.



Letter of Professional Opinion

Pedro Martinez 2005 New York Mets Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 1, 2021 **Certification Number:** 21-0003101

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2005-tagged New York Mets #45 Pedro Martinez Majestic six-button full-weight knit size 46 white jersey with Royal blue engineered piercings. The Mets script wordmark is sewn arched across the chest in glacier-pattered blue tackle twill outlined with non-glacier orange and then a non-glacier black drop shadow. Extra Velcro closure beneath the wordmark. The three-color player number "45" is sewn on the placket and 1/2" from the sleeve hem. Opaque name and number are sewn to the back, again in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style incorporating the barely visible black drop shadow around the Mets script. Experts know that Martinez specified his pitching game-day Mets uniforms custom-made with mesh sleeve inserts, or else he sliced the bottoms of the sleeves open. This example has white mesh inserts sewn into the seams.

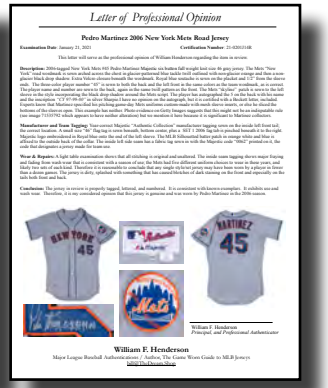
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Year-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the inside left front tail, the correct location. A small size "46" flag tag is sewn beneath, bottom center, plus a SET 1 2005 flag tab is punched beneath it to the right. Finally, a flag-left sewing "2" is also found in the left. Majestic logo embroidered in Royal blue onto the end of the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouette Batter patch is orange white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. The inside left side seam has a fabric tag sewn in with the Majestic code "3B62" printed on it, the code that designates a jersey made for home use.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The cut and tailoring tagging is curled and shows signs of fact-a-tor washing. The inside seam tagging shows wear that is consistent with multiple use. The Mets had five different uniform choices to wear in these years, and likely at least two sets of each kind. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that any single style of jersey may have been worn by a player in fewer than a dozen games. The jersey is splashed with dirt that has caused blotches of dark staining on the tails, both front and back.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Pedro Martinez of the New York Mets in the 2005 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authenticator / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
MLBAuthenticator.com



Letter of Professional Opinion

Pedro Martinez 2006 New York Mets Road Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number:** 21-0003101R

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2006-tagged New York Mets #45 Pedro Martinez Majestic six-button full-weight knit size 46 gray jersey. The Mets "New York" road wordmark is sewn arched across the chest in glacier-pattered blue tackle twill outlined with non-glacier orange and then a non-glacier black drop shadow. Extra Velcro closure beneath the wordmark. Royal blue sashacks is sewn on the placket and 1/2" from the sleeve hem. The three-color player number "45" is sewn on the placket and 1/2" from the sleeve hem. Opaque name and number are sewn to the back, again in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style incorporating the black drop shadow around the Mets script. The player has autographed the 5 on the back with his name and number in black ink. The Mets "Jackie" patch is sewn to the right sleeve in the style with the black drop shadow around the Mets script. Experts know that Martinez specified his pitching game-day Mets uniforms custom-made with mesh sleeve inserts, or else he sliced the bottoms of the sleeves open. This example has neither. Photo evidence on Getty Images suggests that this might not be an indepatable rule (see image 1510792 which appears to have neither alteration) but we mention it here because it is significant to Martinez collectors.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Year-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the inside left front tail, the correct location. A small size "46" flag tag is sewn beneath, bottom center, plus a SET 1 2006 flag tab is punched beneath it to the right. Majestic logo embroidered in Royal blue onto the end of the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouette Batter patch is orange white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. The inside left side seam has a fabric tag sewn in with the Majestic code "3B62" printed on it, the code that designates a jersey made for home use.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The inside seam tagging shows major fraying and fading from wash wear that is consistent with a season of use; the Mets had five different uniform choices to wear in these years, and likely at least two sets of each kind. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that any single style of jersey may have been worn by a player in fewer than a dozen games. The jersey is dirty, splashed with something that has caused blotches of dark staining on the front and especially on the tails both front and back.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and unaltered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Pedro Martinez in the 2006 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authenticator / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
MLBAuthenticator.com

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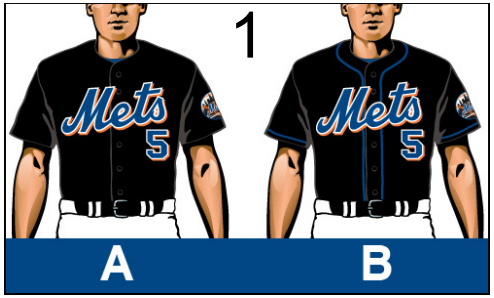
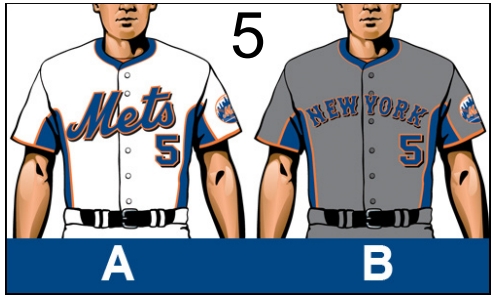
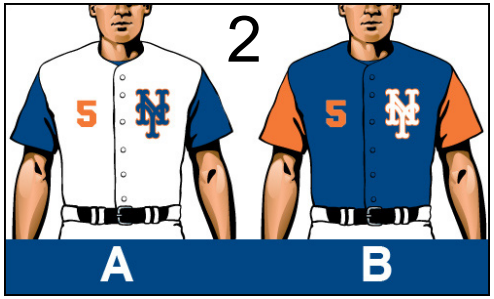
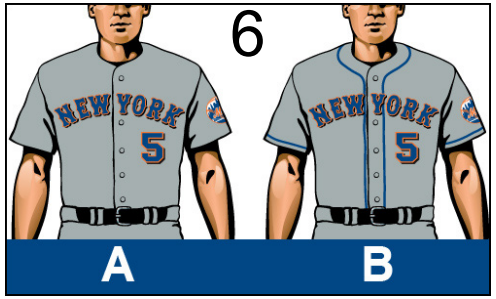
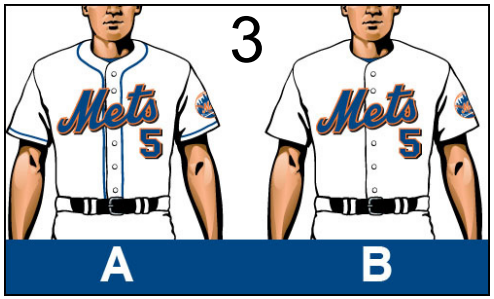
2009 Uniform Survey and Prototype?

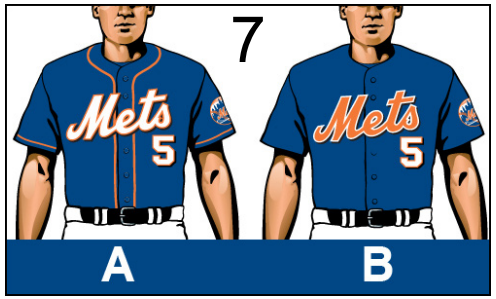


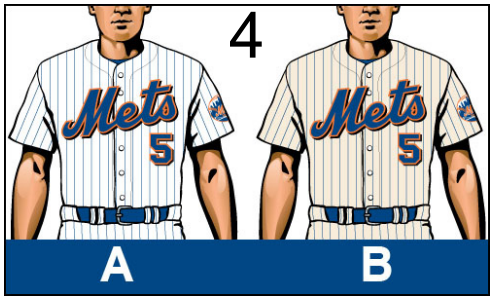












In May 2009, the Mets sent out a uniform survey to fans to gauge interest in potential changes to their set of jerseys (along with a handful of other questions). Some of the options ranged from the mundane to the....well, absurd. The examples from the survey are shown here, with numbering added for easier reference.

The team did make changes to their uniforms in the years following the survey, which included updates similar to the options here. The home jersey changed from white to cream in 2010, mirroring he 4B option. The team removed all drop shadows in 2012, so none of the other versions shown here became reality in exactly the same form, but 2013 brought new blue home and road jerseys, similar to what was previewed in 7A and 7B.

Surveys with design mock-ups are one thing, but an oddball jersey up for sale many years ago (made even more odd by the presence of retail tags) looks like the combination of a standard home jersey and a color-blocked jersey with several neck and underarm inserts similar to 5A. It is impossible to know if this strange, singular jersey (shown top right) is related to the survey, but the weird color-block pattern is a curious coincidence. More research is required, and any reader input is welcome!

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2010-2011:

Which is the "Official" Skyline Patch?

- All three of these Skyline patch variants were found on authentic Mets jerseys in 2010–2011 and appear to have been used interchangeably.
- The most obvious differences include the shape, location, and number of "stitches" on the ball; the shape of the "M"; the spacing between the "t" and the "s"; and the profile of the buildings in the background. All three patches differ in these details.

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2012 Unused Prototype Orange "Los Mets"

Jersey selection as used in 2013

This jersey design was considered as a finalist for use as a Mets Hispanic heritage jersey for 2012, and ultimately was not selected. Note the tail tagging by Majestic that codes it in case the Mets had decided to go ahead with it. The team finally decided on a blue jersey for 2012 with this same script. But the effort was not for naught, because the 2013 Los Mets jersey used this same design, albeit with different sleeve patches ***(inset).***

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Oddball Retail Authentic Jerseys - End of Run, 2015

Barely worth a footnote, as the Mets discontinued the snow white, cream-colored pinstriped and black jerseys after the 2015 season, Majestic released a final run of retail (6300 tag code) jerseys in all three styles with the Mr. Met patch on the right sleeve. The team never wore this patch on any of these jerseys on the field. Why did Majestic do this? Who knows. Perhaps they had a bunch of extra patches to get rid of, too.

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2023 Prototype Home

Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were "pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024." Ultimately, the new template was in fact delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made up in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

This Mets home jersey is stark and shocking in its plainness, almost akin to the team's "Snow White" alternates of years before. However, the Mets last used a pinstripe-free home jersey in 2014, so either Nike did not have the proper striped fabric available for the sample, or the team was considering a change. Many of the 2023 samples had very odd elements (see the road version on the next page) so it is likely it was the former reason rather than the latter.

Given how plain the jersey is, it is hard to tell it is VPE, but close inspection reveals the lower MLB logo on back, the band of fabric around the neck opening, a lightweight sleeve patch, and perforated back numbers. The tell-tale "Player" and "23" on back reinforce this as a sample, intended for the 2023 season. Oddly, the player name is not small and harshly arched like VPE, instead, it mirrors the team's back lettering before the switch. Perhaps, like the Royals, the Mets considered keeping their full-size name-on-back lettering at one point, and were "talked out of it" by Nike.

The heat-pressed inventory tag also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads "DH0766 NME 2023 HOME CONVERSION JERSEY P1." There is also a small, handwritten "1" on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, "NME" is a code Nike has used elsewhere for the Mets, and "2023" and "HOME" are self explanatory. The "DH0766" indication is not clear, although Nike has used a "DX" prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of "Conversion Jersey" and "P1" is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a second iteration of a sample.

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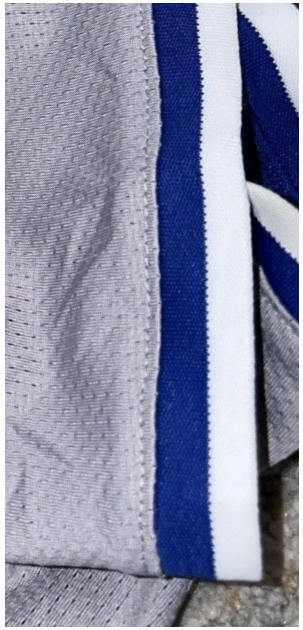
2023 Prototype Road



RGVDEAL on eBay

Here's a "brother" sample to the home version on the previous page, but where that one was strikingly minimalist, this one is over-the-top. Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were "pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024." Ultimately, the new template was in fact delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made up in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

This Mets road jersey, to an casual fan, is mostly the same as what they wore before and after the switch from Nike's version of Flex Base to VPE. Closer inspection reveals that the template is VPE - including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, a lightweight sleeve patch, and perforated back numbers. (The road jerseys ultimately did not use perforated numbers.) The tell-tale "Player" and "23" on back reinforce this as a sample, intended for the 2023 season.

Oddly, the sleeve-end trim appears in colors that the Mets did not wear before or since, royal blue/white. It looks more like something the Royals would use.

Meanwhile, the sewn-in neck opening trim and the knit trim around the neck and down the placket are gray. That's an odd choice for a gray jersey, but even more strange is that the two bands, perhaps at the sample stage, this was all that was available, or perhaps the team was considering some change it vetoed based on the features of the new template.

The heat-pressed inventory tag also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads "DH0771 NME 2023 CONV. JERSEY ROAD P2." There is also a small, handwritten "2" on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, "NME" is a code Nike has used elsewhere for the Mets, and "2023" and "ROAD" are self explanatory. The "DH0771" indication is not clear, although Nike has used a "DX" prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of "Conv. Jersey" and "P2" is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a second iteration of a sample.

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2024 Prototype Home/Road

RGVDEAL on eBay

In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the ones shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. These Mets home and road versions are examples. In many ways they replicate the team's home and road jerseys that they had worn for years, just carried over to VPE. This meant that the original sleeve-end trim was now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it, player names and numbers are smaller with names more arched, and back numbers are perforated (which was not an element of the team's final, on-field home and road jerseys for 2024).

RGVDEAL on eBay

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tags, which read "METS HOME JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" and METS ROAD JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" with 44 being the size, atypical of earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the text "DH0766-100" and "DH0771-074" on the front tags mean. They are likely internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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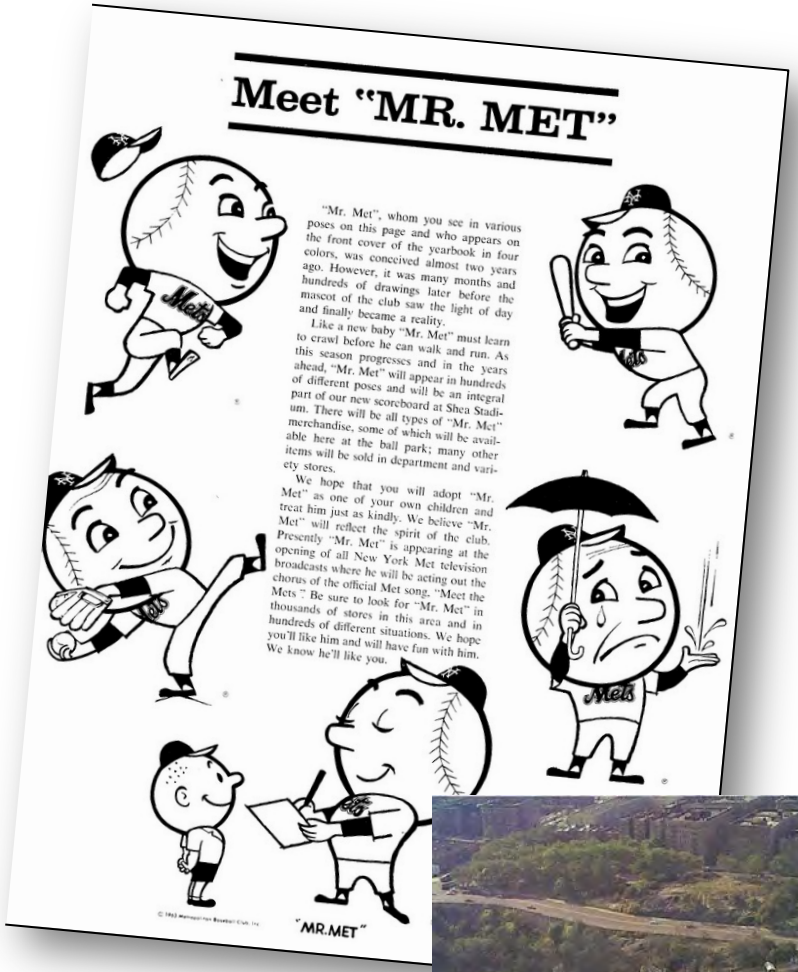

Meet "MR. MET"

"Mr. Met", whom you see in various poses on this page and who appears on the front cover of the yearbook in four colors, was conceived almost two years ago. However, it was many months and hundreds of drawings later before the mascot of the club saw the light of day and finally became a reality.

Like a new baby "Mr. Met" must learn to crawl before he can walk and run. As this season progresses and in the years ahead, "Mr. Met" will appear in hundreds of different poses and will be an integral part of our new scoreboard at Shea Stadium. There will be all types of "Mr. Met" merchandise, some of which will be available here at the ball park; many other items will be sold in department and variety stores.

We hope that you will adopt "Mr. Met" as one of your own children and treat him just as kindly. We believe "Mr. Met" will reflect the spirit of the club. Presently "Mr. Met" is appearing at the opening of all New York Met television broadcasts where he will be acting out the chorus of the official Met song, "Meet the Mets." Be sure to look for "Mr. Met" in thousands of stores in this area and in hundreds of different situations. We hope you'll like him and will have fun with him. We know he'll like you.

"MR. MET"

Left: Classic design,1963.

Right: Your author with Mr. Met, included here for no other reason than the fact that I like Mr. Met.

Below: The Polo Grounds, former home of the departed New York Giants, and the home of the Mets 1962-1963 until Shea Stadium was ready.

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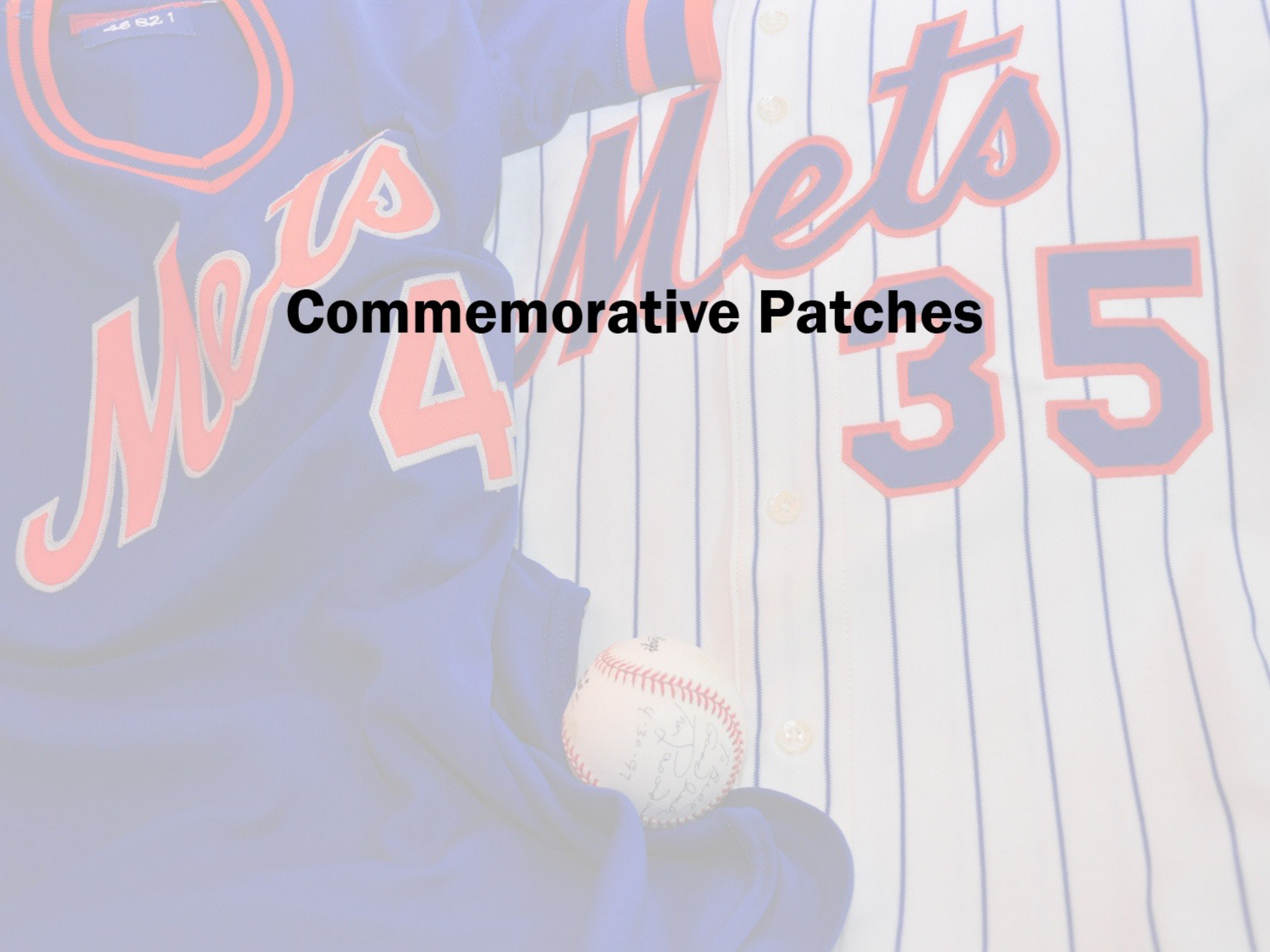
Commemorative Patches

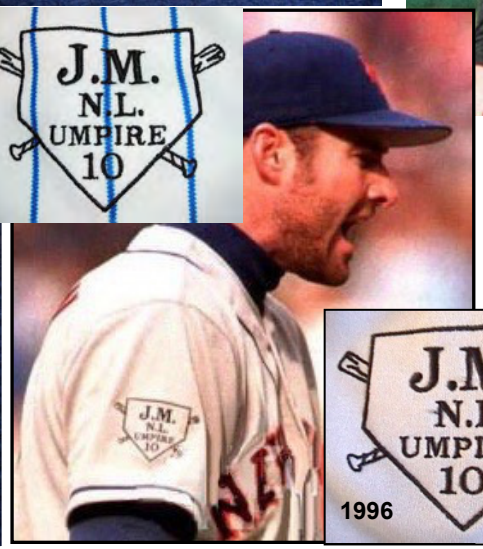


Mets Patches

August 15, 1999

1992

1994



1996

March 29-30, 2000

- 1972: Black armband on left sleeve for Gil Hodges (all season).
- 1976: Black armband on left sleeve for Mets' first owner, Joan Payson, and for first manager Casey Stengel, both of whom died prior to the start of the 1976 season.
- 1986: Mets 25th Anniversary.
- 1992: Memorial for William Shea (all season). Shea helped bring National League Baseball back to New York, and Shea Stadium was named for him.
- 1994: Miracle Mets 25th Anniversary patch worn in place of the sleeve Mets disc. MLB 125th Anniversary patch is worn on the other sleeve that year.
- 1996: John McSherry memorial — the umpire died on Opening Day in Cincinnati. McSherry was a New Yorker, and his funeral was held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan. This is direct embroidery in black thread on the sleeve, not a patch.
- August 15, 1999: AIDS ribbon worn at San Francisco for "Until There's a Cure" Day.
- March 29–30, 2000: Opening Series in Tokyo vs. Cubs. AIU Insurance patch worn on right sleeve of white home alternates (March 29) and road grays (March 30). Patches were likely removed after the game.

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Mets 1998-1999 MDA "Shirts off Our Backs"

Like several other teams in MLB and minor league baseball, the Mets held auction-style fundraisers for players' uniforms in both 1998 and 1999. Fans placed bids during the game, and after the game, the winners received the jerseys from the players in a postgame ceremony.

The Mets' version of this fundraiser supported the Muscular Dystrophy Association. These jerseys had special patches on the right sleeves.

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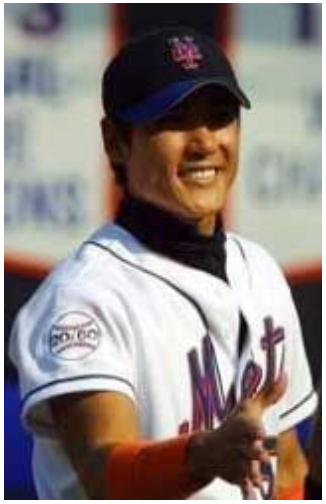
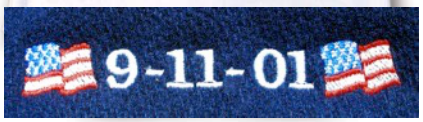
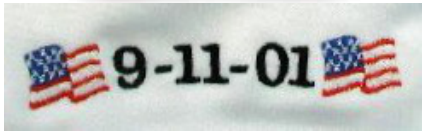
April 9, 2001



2001, after September 11

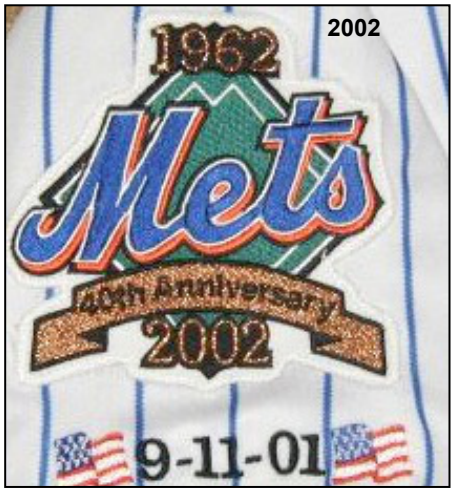




Right: *Because the Mets market so many game-worn jerseys during the season, relatively few in circulation have the 9-11 embroidery.*

Right: *Same embroidery with "9-11-01" and twin American flags returns on all jerseys and is used for all of 2002.*

Far right: *Tug McGraw inscription is on all 2004 jerseys, as it was used all year. Bob Murphy embroidery was added after the announcer's death on 8/3/2004.*



- 2001, April 9: Opening Day only — a "20/60" patch honoring Met legend Tommie Agee and rookie Brian Coles.
- 2001, after September 11 and all of 2002: Two small flags and "9-11-01" were embroidered directly on the right sleeve. In 2002, the embroidery appeared below the 40th Anniversary patch.
- 2002: Mets 40th Anniversary.
- 2004: Shea Stadium 40th Anniversary.
- 2004: On game jerseys only, a small embroidered inscription — "Ya Gotta Believe, Tug" — appeared below the Shea patch in tribute to former Met and Phillie Tug McGraw.
- 2004, after August 3: "Bob Murphy" was embroidered directly (not a patch) above the Skyline patch in memory of the longtime broadcaster, following his death.

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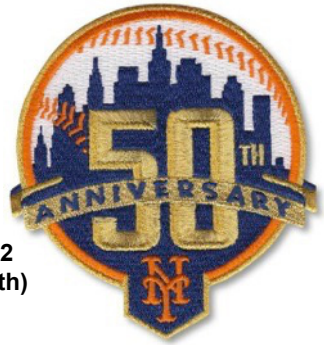
2009



2012 (both)

2013

- 2008: Shea Stadium final season.
- 2009: Citi Field inaugural season patch.
- 2012: 50th Anniversary patch on left sleeve in place of the Mets disc. On the black alternate, the patch appears on the right sleeve.
- 2012: Gary Carter memorial ("Kid 8") on the right sleeve; on the black alternate, it appears on the left chest.
- 2014: Memorial patch for Ralph Kiner featuring an announcer's microphone.
- "FC" patch honoring former General Manager Frank Cashen.

2014

2014

A note on Mets' sleeve embroidery: Several of the Mets' sleeve commemoratives — including McSherry, Tug McGraw, Bob Murphy, and the 9-11 with flags design — are embroidered directly onto the garments and are not separate patches. This work was done by the Mets' official tailor, Stitches, of Whitestone, NY.

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June 14, 2016

- 2016: June 14: An actual safety-pinned ribbon (not a patch) worn in honor of the victims of the Orlando nightclub massacre.
- 2016, July 30: Mike Piazza patch in honor of his number retirement.
- 2018: “Rusty” memorial patch for former player Rusty Staub, starting March 31.
- 2020: Black memorial patch for Tom Seaver, starting September 5.
- 2021: Pinstriped memorial patch for Tom Seaver, worn all season.
- 2022, July 9: “17” patch in honor of Keith Hernandez’s number retirement.
- 2024, June 8–9: MLB World Tour London Series patch and Build Submarines sponsor patch were worn for two games against the Phillies in London. The patches replaced the team disc and standard sponsor patches — appearing on the home jersey (June 8) and the road jersey (June 9). Placement varied by player handedness, with patches appearing on opposite sleeves. A Buddy Harrelson memorial patch was worn above the sponsor patch for this series.

July 30, 2016

2018

2020, starting September 5

July 9, 2022

2021

June 8-9, 2024

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2024, through June 28

2024, starting June 29

- 2024, through June 28: Buddy Harrelson memorial patch worn as a standalone patch above the team disc from the start of the season through June 28, when it was replaced by a combined memorial patch honoring both Harrelson and Jerry Grote.
- 2024, starting June 29: Combined memorial patch for Buddy Harrelson and Jerry Grote, featuring a background color matching each jersey. This patch is placed over the team disc. Additionally, a black circle patch with a white “24” honoring Willie Mays is worn above the sponsor patch.
- 2025: “7” memorial patch for Ed Kranepool, worn above the team disc.

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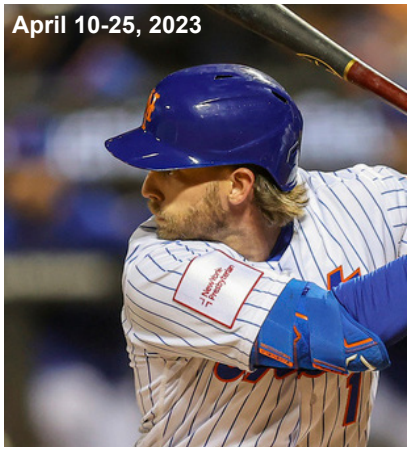
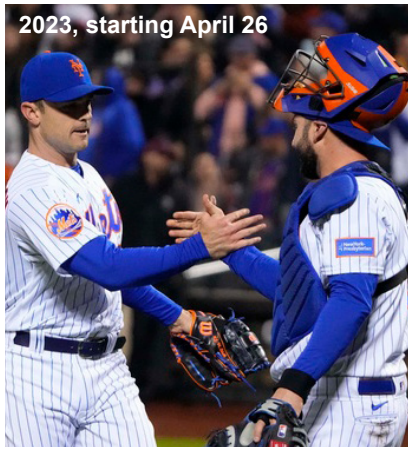
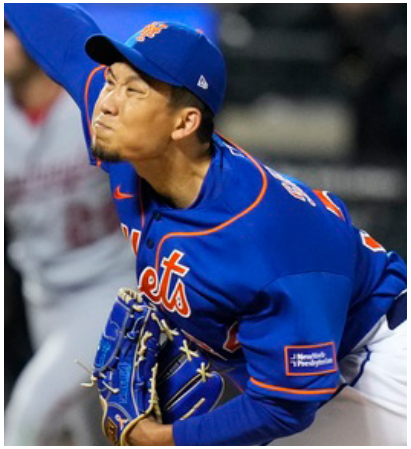
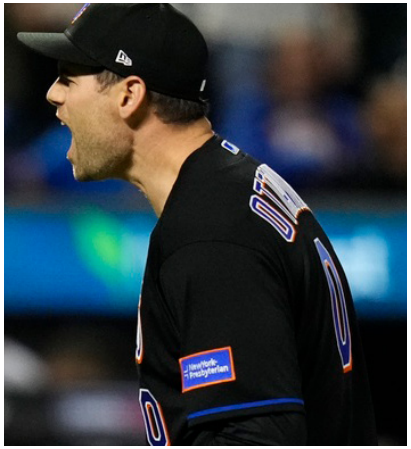
2023-2025 Mets Advertising Patches









April 10-25, 2023

2023, starting April 26

2024, City Connect

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell the placement of an advertising patch — up to four inches square — to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Mets struck a sponsor patch deal with New York Presbyterian Hospital. The patches first appeared on April 10, 2023, and featured a white square with a red border and the sponsor's logo in red.

Team owner Steve Cohen called them the "Phillies colors" and vowed to change them to something more appropriate for the Mets. On April 26, a new version debuted. It featured a blue rectangle with an orange border and the sponsor logo in white.

A black-and-white iteration of the second version of the patch was introduced for the City Connect jersey in 2024.

The placement of the patch varied depending on each player's handedness. The team's normal logo patches remained on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

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Mets Postseason Patches

2000 World Series (right sleeve)

2015 World Series
(right sleeve)

2015 NL Division Series
2015 NL Championship Series

2016 NL Wild Card (right sleeve)

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1973 New York Mets Game Worn Bob Miller Home Jersey

Examination Date: October 21, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1021J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review:

Description: New York Mets home white with blue pinstripes, seven button, Rawlings jersey issued to player #30, who in 1973 was pitcher Bob Miller. "Mets" script angled on the front in Royal Blue with dark red-orange twill as properly used by the Mets pre-1976. The player number is on the left front and on the back in the correct font for the 1973 Mets. There is no player name on the back, as correct for 1973. The front placket has been custom-reinforced on the back on both the button and buttonhole) with a second layer of pinstripe knit. The jersey is an appropriate size for Miller to have worn. The Mets skyline disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve and is very faded from wash.

The Mets won the National League pennant in 1973, losing to the Oakland A's in the 1973 World Series. Miller joined the Mets in the final week of the 1973 season, pitching in only one game, and did not appear in the 1973 World Series. He then pitched for the Mets in 58 games in 1974 before ending his career.

An examination of this jersey shows that the METS wordmark and the numbers "3" on front and back appear factory-stitched at the same place and time, likely at the Rawlings factory. However the "0" on both back and front are not original, crudely stitched in the manner common to work done in the clubhouse. The numbers are also not properly centered on either front or back. See "wear and repairs" below for more.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag showing the size as 44, appropriate for 1973, is stitched inside the front right tail. White flag tag pinched under the right edge says SET 1 #8P 1973. The hand-embroidered team tagging patch that once appeared inside the back of the neck is missing, it has been removed, but the stitching outline of it remains.

William F. Henderson
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bill@TheDream.Shop

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows easily at least a full season of use; its fabric is grayed from many washings, and the lettering is burnished and not shiny any longer. Given the fact that Miller played for only one game in 1973, it is highly likely that this was likely actually one of the two jerseys that had been issued that season to fellow pitcher #31 Harry Parker- with the "1" removed and crudely replaced with a "0" for that final few days of the season. If there is evidence of the "1" having been there remains hidden under the left vertical stroke of the 0, on both front and back. It could have been worn again by Miller in 1974; it could have been used later in spring training and in the minor leagues. The "0s" on back and front show wash-fraying of the edges due to sloppy attachment to the jersey with very wide zigzag stitching that is not exactly along the edge, typical of a clubhouse stitching job, and also shows jersey-fabric puckering underneath that indicates that the jersey was washed (probably) many times with the current numbers in place.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is consistent with known exemplars. While it is missing its collar tag, it has the proper manufacturer tagging in its tail for 1973 and exhibits ample use. In my professional opinion, this is a game worn Mets jersey worn by Bob Miller in 1973 and also probably also earlier that season by pitcher Harry Parker.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Jerry Grote 1972 New York Mets Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 9, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0509J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson made, size 44 (marked, now measured as a 42 caused by shrinkage) gray double knit button front New York Mets jersey, with #15 in team font on both front and back. Blue soutache on the placket, Mets "skyline" patch on the left sleeve. Team strip tagging inside collar and linen lining inside the placket. 1972 was the first year the Mets wore double knit jerseys, switching from the earlier flannels. Black armband at the end of the left sleeve. Autographed "Jerry Grote" in blue marker on the front left, below the front numbers. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

In 1972, Jerry Grote appeared in 62 games for the Mets, Hitting .210 with 3 home runs. That season the Mets platooned Grote and Duffy Dyer at catcher. (Baseball Almanac) In his 16-year major league career, Grote played in 1,421 games, accumulating 1,092 hits in 4,339 at bats for a .252 career batting average along with 39 home runs and 404 runs batted in. He ended his career with a .991 fielding percentage, which at the time of his retirement was eighth highest all-time among catchers. He is the Mets all-time leader in games played as a catcher (1,176). Grote caught 116 shutouts in his career, ranking him 15th all-time among catchers. (Wikipedia)

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey had been circulated to the minor leagues, as had nearly all Mets MLB issues of the era. The blue soutache trim was half gone and what remained was partly detached; The front "New York" had been stripped off after its MLB use was through, and the blue over orange "Mets" home jersey style script had been sewn on to replace it. In 1973, three of the six Mets' minor league affiliates had the same name as the parent club. The jersey shows heavy but even use, with a great deal of fading of the front numbers which had come partly detached. The original skyline patch was on the sleeve, and there was extremely minor evidence of the original presence of the black armband that had been below it. The light table revealed the ghost of the original "NEW YORK" wordmark on front, and also showed that the numbers on back were not original to the garment. The "5" was in the correct font but did not sit exactly on top of the original ghost, and the "1" was the wrong font, using the style used on the MLB Mets' Rawlings home jerseys.

Because the jersey was autographed, it could not be laundered. I stripped the remaining soutache shards and replaced it with the same vintage trim. I replaced the armband with original materials. After spot cleaning and steaming the front where I had removed the replacement "Mets" wordmark, I cut the NEW YORK lettering from my team template, and matched it to the ghosts on front. I then both media-blasted the cut lettering and organically dyed it to simulate the patina of the front numbers to which it would be

Continued, overleaf

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Above left, as received. At left ghost images of the original New York are difficult to see but definitely present, appearing as orange staining. Below, the ghosts of the original back numbers

adjacent. I stitched the lettering using suitably faded thread to match the original numbers, and touched up the stitching of the front numbers only where they were coming off. On back, even though the "5" was not original to the jersey, we elected to leave it as it was team applied, vintage, and in the correct font. Most likely, it was a "take off" numeral from another stripped MLB jersey. I replaced the back "1", recreating the original font and performing the same aging steps to make it better match the adjoining 5.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer's tag noting the size as 44 is in the correct style for 1972 and is stitched properly to the left front tail, the tag shows very heavy but even wear, and it remains firmly attached. The 3 1/2" gray knit-fabric strip tag inside the back of the collar is hand chain-stitch embroidered. "15 44 72" (player number 15, size 44, 1972) in the familiar style of the Wilson factory stitcher, embroidery using black thread. The collar tag has been sewn in place prior to the placket of the jersey having been stitched closed, making the stitching thread that holds it in place invisible from the outside of the jersey. The tagging matches exemplars for the 1972 Mets' road jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the team sleeve patch and the front numbers were, when received, originals sewn to the jersey. The linen lining inside the collar remains stained and worn from use, but is intact and still firmly attached. While the use of the jersey would be deemed as "heavy", it is even and consistent, and the jersey is undamaged. There are no signs of repairs, and even the full set of seven buttons appear original.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good professionally restored condition. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by catcher Jerry Grote of the 1972 New York Mets.

William F. Henderson

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Nelson Briles 1978 tagged, 1979 New York Mets Home Spring Training Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 4, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0804J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made New York Mets size 44 (marked and measured) two-button Henley two-button neck pullover jersey, (a style first worn by the Mets in the 1978 regular season) white with Royal Blue engineered pinstripes, Royal/orange/Royal knit trim bands the sleeve ends and the neck opening. "Skyline" logo patch on the left sleeve. Mets script in Royal Blue over orange on front, player number 59 on front and back, as issued to pitcher Nelson Briles in spring training, (where 1978 jerseys were worn) Exhibits typical wide number spacing seen on Mets jerseys of that year. No names on back were used on 1978 jerseys. Fonts are correct for the team as used by Rawlings in that year. Size 44 is appropriate for Briles, matching exemplars.

In a 14 year career with four teams, Briles compiled a 129-112 record with an overall 3.44 ERA. After being released by the Orioles following the 1978 season, Briles spent Spring Training 1979 with the Mets. Photos of him in Spring Training, he appears to be wearing this same jersey, when examining the intersection of the pinstripes with the sewn lettering elements. Though he failed to make the club, he appears in a Saturday Night Live skit featuring actual Mets players. Fictional Dominican second baseman Chico Escuela (portrayed by Garrett Morris) was also with the Mets that Spring attempting to make a comeback at 41 years old. However, he was feeling some resistance from his teammates as his tell-all book about his playing days with the Mets, Bad Stuff 'Bout the Mets, had just hit bookstores. Briles commented that he could not forgive Escuela for writing such a book. (*Wikipedia*). It surely appears that Briles is wearing this jersey in the SNL video.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1978 inside the front right tail as is correct, noting the size as 44. A small white rectangle of white twill fabric sewn to its right is hand chain stitched with the codes "44 78 59" in blue embroidery thread (size 44, 1978 player #59) . These are all accurate for Briles.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the lettering on the jersey is original. There are a few dirt stains on the tails and sleeve tops. The lettering is softened with some minor fraying of the edges of some of the orange twill Some of the lettering stitching is coming loose running down the centerline of the back; the first place that stitching wear is generally seen. The knit trim, often bleached, is bright and unfaded on this example. Overall, this jersey is in very good used condition, probably having been used for several seasons in the minors before being retired (this style jersey was worn by the team through spring training 1983)

Continued, overleaf

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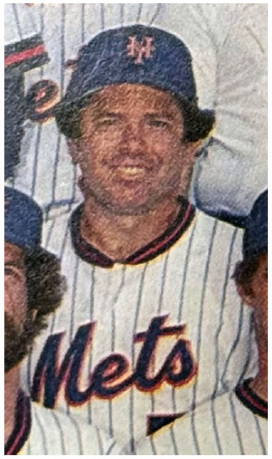
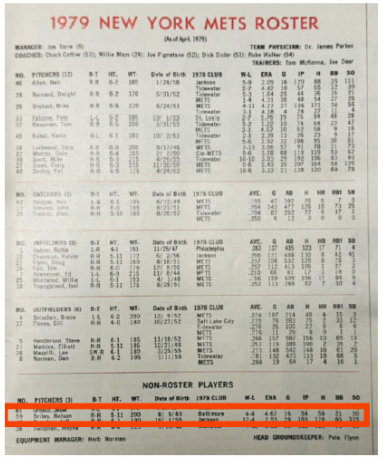




1979 NEW YORK METS ROSTER

(As of April, 1979)

MANAGER: Joe Torre (5)
COACHES: Chuck Cottier (53); Willie Mays (24); Joe Pignatano (52); Dick Sisler (51); Rube Walker (54)
TEAM PHYSICIAN: Dr. James Parkes
TRAINERS: Tom McKenna, Joe Dear

NO.	PITCHERS (12)	B-T	HT.	WT.	Date of Birth	1978 CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	IP	H	BB	SO
46	Allen, Neil	R-R	6-2	185	1/26/58	Jackson	5-9	3.09	16	123	88	35	111
						Tidewater	2-7	4.42	10	57	65	12	39
28	Burnand, Dwight	R-R	6-2	170	5/31/52	Tidewater	1-4	3.64	18	67	66	22	28
						METS	1-1	1.54	5	46	44	27	25
26	Drabek, Mike	R-R	6-6	220	6/24/51	METS	4-11	4.77	27	136	171	34	64
						Tidewater	3-1	4.18	4	34	27	11	6
33	Falcone, Pete	L-L	6-2	185	10/ 1/53	St. Louis	2-7	5.70	19	76	84	48	28
32	Hausman, Tom	R-R	6-5	200	3/31/53	Tidewater	5-2	1.57	10	74	64	23	42
						METS	3-3	4.67	10	52	54	9	16
40	Kobel, Kevin	R-L	6-1	183	10/ 2/53	Tidewater	3-3	2.57	10	63	58	9	18
						METS	5-6	2.92	12	108	89	30	51
38	Lachemann, Steve	R-R	6-0	200	8/17/46	METS	7-13	3.56	37	91	78	31	73
22	Morris, Jerry	R-R	6-4	215	2/ 2/50	Cal-METS	9-6	3.28	68	119	119	63	67
30	Scott, Mike	R-R	6-3	215	4/25/55	Tidewater	10-10	3.93	28	192	196	83	91
37	Swan, Craig	R-R	6-2	185	11/30/50	METS	1-6	2.43	24	44	44	54	19
49	Zachry, Pat	R-R	6-6	175	4/24/52	METS	10-6	3.23	21	138	120	69	78

NO.	CATCHERS (3)	B-T	HT.	WT.	Date of Birth	1978 CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	H	HR	RBI	SB
42	Hodges, Ron	L-R	6-1	185	8/22/49	METS	.195	47	187	36	0	7	4
7	Simons, John	R-R	6-0	185	8/21/51	METS	.254	143	477	135	12	77	26
29	Tourtelot, Allen	R-R	5-10	165	8/28/57	Tidewater	.254	61	252	77	3	31	2
						METS	.250	4	12	3	0	0	0

NO.	INFIELDERS (8)	B-T	HT.	WT.	Date of Birth	1978 CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	H	HR	RBI	SB
5	Hebner, Richie	L-R	6-1	191	11/26/47	Philadelphia	.283	137	485	133	17	71	4
13	Chapman, Kelvin	R-R	5-11	172	6/ 2/56	Jackson	.266	10	188	50	0	12	1
12	Flynn, Doug	R-R	5-11	165	1/ 6/54	METS	.264	151	448	118	3	42	41
15	Frazier, Lee	R-R	5-11	160	10/ 8/50	METS	.257	112	413	106	1	31	0
27	Hernandez, Ed	L-L	6-3	215	11/ 8/44	METS	.219	66	91	17	3	19	0
25	Martinez, Wilfredo	L-L	6-1	193	4/ 1/48	METS	.256	159	579	146	17	95	5
18	Youngblood, Joel	R-R	5-11	175	8/28/51	METS	.252	113	266	67	7	30	4

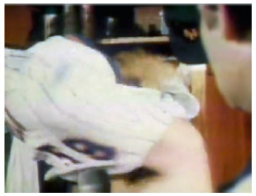
NO.	OUTFIELDERS (6)	B-T	HT.	WT.	Date of Birth	1978 CLUB	AVE.	G	AB	H	HR	RBI	SB
4	Boswell, Dave	L-L	6-2	200	12/ 8/52	METS	.274	107	314	48	4	15	3
17	Flores, Bill	R-R	6-0	180	10/27/52	Salt Lake City	.273	76	303	75	2	31	12
						Tidewater	.276	36	100	27	5	8	4
						METS	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0
5	Henderson, Steve	R-R	6-1	185	11/18/53	METS	.264	113	360	104	10	40	13
31	Mazzilli, Lee	L-R	6-1	185	10/ 2/55	METS	.267	138	461	123	7	51	7
16	Mazzilli, Lee	L-R	6-1	185	10/25/55	METS	.271	148	542	146	18	62	20
						Tidewater	.18	132	473	113	18	66	5
8	Norman, Dan	R-R	6-2	195	1/11/59	METS	.266	19	64	17	4	10	1

NON-ROSTER PLAYERS

NO.	PITCHERS (3)	B-T	HT.	WT.	Date of Birth	1978 CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	IP	H	BB	SO
51	Grant, Jim	R-R	6-1	200	8/ 5/43	Baltimore	4-4	4.67	14	54	56	21	10
59	Briles, Nelson	R-R	6-1	185	12/ 1/55	Jackson	11-8	3.55	36	185	178	42	115
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EQUIPMENT MANAGER: Herb Norman
HEAD GROUNDSKEEPER: Pete Flynn

Far left: Nelson Biles as he appeared in the Mets team photo, taken late in spring training 1979. He is listed as a non-roster player in April 1979, but he was released before the start of May. Bottom row: Screen grabs from the famous Saturday Night Live sketch about fictional player Chico Escuela's comeback attempt with the Mets after he had written a tell-all book called "Bad Stuff 'Bout the Mets". Briles has a role in the sketch, and these screen grabs are of him in uniform, surely matching the one in review.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good original condition: The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Nelson Briles of the New York Mets during spring training 1979.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Joel Youngblood 1979 New York Mets Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: February 9, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0209J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made New York Mets size 44 (marked and measured) two-button Henley two-button neck pullover jersey, white with Royal Blue engineered pinstripes, Royal/orange/Royal knit trim bands the sleeve ends and the neck opening. "Skyline" logo patch on the left sleeve. Mets script in Royal Blue over orange on front, player number 18 on front, as issued to Joel Youngblood, 18 on back as well. Fonts are correct for the team as used by Rawlings in that year. Size 44 is appropriate for Youngblood at this stage of his career, matching exemplars. The jersey is autographed just above the front numbers "Joel Youngblood #18 1979". I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

1979 was Youngblood's third year on the Mets, where, as a versatile player, he platooned at multiple positions in both infield and outfield. He played in 158 games that year, batting .275 with 16 home runs. (Baseball Almanac). In 1408 games over 14 seasons, Youngblood posted a .265 batting average (969-for-3659) with 453 runs, 180 doubles, 23 triples, 80 home runs, 422 RBI, 60 stolen bases, 332 bases on balls, .329 on-base percentage and .392 slugging percentage. He finished his career with a .955 fielding percentage. He played at least one inning at every position except pitcher in his major league career. (Wikipedia)

Restoration Performed: As is typical of Mets jerseys of this period, this jersey had been stripped of its original nameplate. Of their five minor league clubs in 1980, four were named "Mets, and team jerseys were almost always sent to one of these clubs after a season's worth of use in MLB. This jersey bore a faint stitching imprint of a a very long removed nameplate in a steep arch, typical of the club and the proper length for the name "YOUNGBLOOD" using the wide letter spacing the team employed. I made a new nameplate from a pair of color-matching period warp-knit game worn pants and serged the edge like original and stitched it over the ghost of the old nameplate. Before stitching the name lettering to the plate, I media-blasted and organically dyed the new lettering to make it better match the game-aged original elements. The thread holding the back numbers in place was excessively worn and much of it was completely missing. We elected to repair the numbers "in place" vs. removing them to re-stitch them to better preserve the originality of the 1979 lettering. The front numbers were missing entirely, so I remade them from the original team patterns and covered the original ghosts exactly.

Continued, overleaf

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At left: the jersey prior to restoration, and other examples of 1979 Mets jerseys showing similar tagging to the jersey under evaluation. Below, photos of Youngblood in his Mets uniform showing his wall-to-wall nameplate.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1981 inside the front right tail as is correct, noting the size as 44. A small white rectangle of white twill fabric sewn to its left is hand chain stitched with the codes "44 79 18" in blue embroidery thread (size 44 1979 player number 18) in the familiar hand of the Rawlings factory stitcher. These are accurate for Youngblood. A white flag tab is sewn under the right edge of the red Rawlings tag; "SET 1 1979".

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the lettering on the jersey is original, save for the missing front numbers and the original nameplate which had been removed. This jersey is in reasonably good used condition, probably having been used for a few seasons in the minors before being retired. The knit trim, often bleached, is bright and unfaded on this example. The restored nameplate color match is very good as it was made from a pair of matching similar-aged pants. The original lettering is burnished from use and washing, with fraying edges and missing most of its original sheen. The two buttons at the neck appear to be the originals.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, mostly original condition: the numbers on back are all original, and the nameplate and front numbers have been properly restored with replacements near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Joel Youngblood of the 1979 New York Mets.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Mike Scott 1982 New York Mets Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 12, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0812J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made New York Mets size 44 (marked and measured) two-button Henley two-button neck pullover jersey, white with Royal Blue engineered pinstripes, Royal/orange/Royal knit trim bands the sleeve ends and the neck opening. Plain sleeves, Mets Skyline patch was omitted from left sleeve for 1982. Mets script in Royal Blue over orange on front, player number 30 on front, as issued to pitcher Mike Scott, exhibiting typical wide spacing seen on Mets jerseys of that year. 30 on back as well. Fonts are correct for the team as used by Rawlings in 1982, the first year that the tall/narrow Rawlings font was used, replacing the legacy shorter and square font. Size 44 is appropriate for Scott at this stage of his career, matching exemplars.

In this, the fourth year of his 13 year career, Mike Scott appeared in 37 games, 22 as as a starter, compiling a 7-13 record with three saves and a 5.14 ERA. Many call the eventual 1983 trade of Scott to the Astros one of the worst ever made by the Mets, as Scott went on to stellar career with the Astros winning the Cy Young Award in 1986, and NLCS MVP honors, while leading the league in strikeouts that year. He threw one no-hitter, was selected to the All Star squad three times and has had his number retired by the Astros. (*Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1982 inside the back of the neck as is correct, noting the size as 44. A white flag tab, printed SET 1 1982 is pinch-sewn under the bottom right corner of the Rawlings tag, A small white rectangle of white twill fabric sewn beneath it is hand chain stitched with the codes "30 82 1" in blue embroidery thread (player number 30, 1982, set 1) matching exemplars. These are all accurate for Scott.

Restoration Performed: As is typical of Mets jerseys of this period, this jersey had been stripped of its original nameplate. Of their six minor league clubs in 1983, five were named "Mets, and Mets MLB team jerseys were almost always sent to one of these clubs after a season's worth of time was spent in the big league. The jersey had previously been restored inaccurately and when I received it it bore a replacement nameplate using an inexact font and an improper name arch. On the light table, this jersey revealed the stitching imprint of its original nameplate, typical of the club and the proper length for the name "SCOTT". I made a new nameplate from a pair of color-matching same-period warp-knit game worn pants and serged the edge as original, then stitched it over the ghost of the old nameplate. Before stitching the name lettering to the plate, I media-blasted and organically dyed the new lettering to make it better match the game-aged original elements.

Continued, overleaf

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Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the lettering on the jersey is original, save for the loss of its original nameplate. The vertical lines of thread holding the back numbers in place along the centerline of the back are slightly worn and coming loose. This is the typical location for thread failure to begin, especially on a pitcher's jersey. We elected to leave this alone for the sake of originality. This jersey is in very good used condition, probably having been used for a season or two in the minors before being retired. The knit trim, often bleached, is bright and unfaded on this example. The restored nameplate color match is very good as it was made from a pair of matching similar-aged pants. The lettering is burnished from use and washing, with slightly fraying edges and missing most of its original sheen. The centermost edges of the back numbers exhibit some minor fraying. The jersey is free of damage, repairs and is bright and clean despite its use.

Above: the jersey as received and prior to restoration. At right, tagging from other Rawlings-prepared 1982 Mets game jerseys from our exemplar library. At right, Scott in his 1983 Topps card, photo taken in 1982, perhaps wearing this jersey,

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good mostly original condition: the numbers on front and back are all original, and the nameplate on back has been properly restored with a replacement near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Mike Scott of the 1982 New York Mets.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Document of Restoration

New York Mets 1972 Road Jersey #45

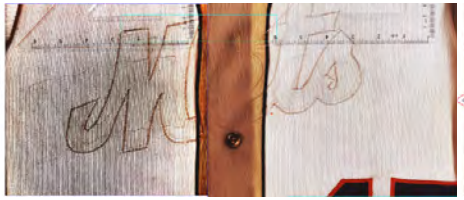
Examination Date: November 7, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1107J01

This is not an opinion of authentication; it is simply a documentation of a restoration performed.

Description: Gray double knit button front New York Mets jersey, with #45 in team font on both front and back. Blue soutache on the placket, Mets "skyline" patch on the left sleeve. Wilson made size 44 with team strip tagging : "45 44 72" inside the back of the collar. Linen lining inside the placket. 1972 was the first year the Mets wore double knit jerseys. The jersey is in good condition.

Restoration Performed: Jersey had been repurposed for minor league use, with the original "NEW YORK" stripped from the front and blue-orange Mets script replacing it. This was a common alteration for team road jerseys of the time. I stripped the Mets script off the front, cleaned the glue outlines, and steamed the fabric to help erase the old holes. The light table revealed the clear evidence of the original NEW YORK lettering ghosts in the team font. I recut new lettering, media blasted it and dyed it to simulate age to match the player numbers on the jersey, then stitched it in place using bleached colored thread to match original appearance.

I added a black memorial armband to the end of the left sleeve as was worn that year for the death of Gil Hodges. There was no clear evidence of the former presence of an armband, but this is not totally unusual, as these were applied with a wide straight stitch and the holes from the thread likely closed up though many minor-league washings.



Conclusion: With my restoration, this jersey has been properly returned to original 1972 specifications.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rusty Staub 1974 New York Mets Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 25, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0325J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings 7-button-front double knit road jersey, issued to #4, Rusty Staub. Size 44 marked and measured, consistent with other jerseys worn by Staub at this point in his career and reasonable given the player's height and weight. "Mets" across both panels of the front in Varsity Royal twill outlined with dark red-orange. 1974 was the first year for this road jersey design; previously the team's road jerseys always had "New York" arched on the front. For 1974, the road jersey now mirrored the appearance of the team's home jerseys albeit without their blue pinstripes. 1974 was also the first year that Rawlings provided the team's road uniforms, replacing vendor Wilson. Notably, the gray polyester fabric used by Rawlings in 1974 did not retain its gray color. This one has faded to a pale off-white beige color, and without knowing that it had originally been gray one might assume it was simply dirty white. This fabric color failure is evident in every 1974 Mets road jersey I have evaluated, as well as in all photos in our reference library. The button configuration features three closely-spaced gray pearl buttons all stuffed into the top four inches of the jersey, above the METS wordmark, with the final four buttons more widely spaced below the wordmark. Narrow old-style dark blue soutache rings the placket. The heavily puckered Mets "skyline" patch is stitched to the left sleeve; sleeves are characteristically short as was the style in the early 1970s. The player number 4 is stitched to the left chest and on the back, just 5" from the collar, and in the same two-color twill as the team wordmark. The number font is correctly Rawlings full-block (or, Block with Serifs.)

Rusty Staub was a popular and versatile player who enjoyed a 23 year career, with the Houston Colt 45s/Astros, Expos (twice), Mets (twice),Tigers, and Rangers. He is the only major league player to have 500 hits with four different teams. He, Ty Cobb, Alex Rodriguez and Gary Sheffield share the distinction of being the only players to hit home runs before turning 20 years old, and after turning 40 years old. In 1974, in 151 games played for the Mets, Staub hit .258 with 19 home runs. His number #10 was retired by the Montreal Expos. (*Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia*)

Continued, overleaf

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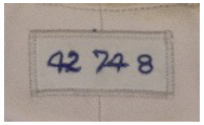
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings *"The Mark of a Pro"* red tag appropriate for 1974 is stitched to the outside of the left tail, an uncommon placement but consistent with other 1974 Mets team issues. Tightly zig zagged inside the back of the collar is a 1" x 2 1/4" pale gray tackle twill team tag, with "44 74 4" (size 44, 1974, player #4) hand chain-stitched on it in dark blue embroidery thread, in the familiar handwriting of the Rawlings factory stitcher and matching exemplars. The stitching holding the tag in place is invisible from the outside of the back collar, meaning it was properly applied there before the placket was stitched closed at the factory. There is a small faded black marker "C" penned to the right of the collar tag, likely an artifact of later minor league use.

Wear & Repairs: Moderately heavy wear is apparent on this jersey, though the aforementioned severe color fading of the gray fabric makes it look more worn than it otherwise would. The twill lettering is still bright but is burnished from wash abrasion, is slightly puckered and has lost its sheen. All stitching is very tight, small, bright, a characteristic of other 1974-75 Mets jerseys I have handled. The old-style traditional blue soutache shows wear, missing its "fuzz" in a spot. There are some dirt stains on the front tails of the jersey that likely would wash right out. A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements of the jersey are original; some fabric puckering exists behind them all. Mets jerseys were regularly sent to the minors for a second life when their major league service was through, and I have little doubt that this jersey did an extended tour of duty in the club's farm system. In 1975 the Mets had five minor league clubs, of which four were named "Mets". In prior years, when team road jerseys had said "NEW YORK" on front, these jersey were stripped and re-lettered with "Mets", something no longer necessary with the new style of the 1974 MLB road jerseys.



Far left, wash puckering and staining visible behind the back numeral; shows tiny tight stitching that is typical on 1974 Mets jerseys. Also shown; exemplar tagging from four other 1974 Mets road jerseys.

Conclusion: This jersey is in generally good but well-used condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has the correct team tagging It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and game worn by Rusty Staub of the 1974 New York Mets.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Dock Ellis New York Mets 1979 (Final Season) Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: May 25, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0525J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made New York Mets size 44 two-button Henley two-button neck pullover jersey, Royal/orange/Royal knit trim bands the sleeve ends and the neck opening. "Skyline" logo patch on the left sleeve. Mets script in Royal Blue over orange on front, player number 35 on front, exhibiting typical wide spacing seen on Mets jerseys 1978-79. 35 on back as well; front and back numbers are sewn slightly crooked, going downhill to the right. Ellis wore various sized jerseys throughout his career. Exemplars in our library show a size 42 in 1975 and 46 in 1976, so size 44 in 1979 is deemed reasonable. Ellis played on the 1979 Mets for less than one month. A midseason acquisition, he probably wore a spare jersey that was on hand in the clubhouse. No one else wore #35 in 1979.

Famously, as a Pirate, Ellis threw a no-hitter on June 12, 1970, and later stated that he accomplished the feat under the influence of LSD. Ellis was the starting pitcher for the National League in the All-Star Game in 1971 and later that year, the Pirates won the World Series. Joining the Yankees in 1976, he helped lead the team to the American League pennant, and was named the league's Comeback Player of the Year. Ellis was traded to the New York Mets on June 15, 1979. Ellis went 3–7 with a 6.04 ERA with the Mets. Ellis requested the Mets send him back to the Pirates, and he returned to Pittsburgh in September. Ellis made three relief appearances with the Pirates that year, retiring after that season. Ellis finished his career with a lifetime win–loss record of 138–119 and an ERA of 3.46. *(Wikipedia)*

Restoration Performed: As is typical of Mets jersey of this period, this jersey was presented to me without its nameplate. Of their five minor league clubs in 1980, four were named "Mets", and team jerseys were typically sent to one of these clubs after a season's worth of time was spent in MLB. This jersey bore a clear stitching imprint of a removed nameplate in a steep arch, typical of the club and the proper length for the name "ELLIS" using the wide letter spacing the team employed (see photo of Ellis in 1979). I made a new nameplate from a pair of period Mets' game worn pants and serged the edge like original and stitched it over the ghost of the old nameplate.

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Above left: the jersey prior to restoration. Above right. Ellis pitching in 1979 in his home uniform, showing the steep arch and wide spacing of the letters on his nameplate. At right, two other examples of 1979 Mets road jerseys showing their similar tagging to the jersey under evaluation. The TORRE example claims to have its original nameplate, the #29 example is missing its nameplate as most examples are.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1979 inside the left front tail as is correct, not in the size as 44. The tag is very loose, held on by thread on only two sides. Exemplars show a 1979 SET flag tag under the right border, and this one likely did as well, but with the stitching gone it is now absent. A Mets strip tag is sewn to its left with a white zig zag stitch, the tag's lettering hand-embroidered in the familiar hand of the Rawlings factory stitcher onto a piece of white tackle twill (also correct for the Mets) says 44 79 35... (size 44 1979 player number 35). These are all accurate for Ellis.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the letting on the jersey is original, and that a nameplate had been removed. This jersey is in good used condition, probably having been used for a season or two in the minors before being retired. The knit trim, often bleached, is bright and unfaded on this example. The restored nameplate color match is very good considering it was made from a pair of matching similar aged pants.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: the numbers on front and back are all original, and the back has been properly restored with a nameplate near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Dock Ellis of the 1979 New York Mets.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Randy Jones New York Mets 1981-1982 Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: Jan 30, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0130J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made New York Mets size 42 two-button Henley two-button neck pullover jersey, Royal/orange/Royal knit trim bands the sleeve ends and the neck opening. "Skyline" logo patch on the left sleeve. Mets script in Royal Blue over orange on front, player number 35 on front, exhibiting typical wide spacing seen on Mets jerseys 1978-82. 35 on back as well; Jones wore a size 40 jersey earlier in his career, moving to size 42 jersey as the years passed. This is a reasonable size for him to have worn in 1981-82. The jersey is autographed on the front and inscribed "#35 Game Worn 1981"

Jones was signed by the Mets prior to the start of the 1981 season, and was assigned #25, since his preferred number 35 was already being worn by pitcher Ed Lynch. For 1982, Lynch switched to 36 and Jones adopted #35. A light table examination clearly shows the change of the first digit on this jersey from 2 to 3, both front and back. Further, the replacement numbers are sewn on using a different thread type and wider stitch spacing than the other elements, both typical of a clubhouse number change (vs. one done at Rawlings). The Mets were a frugal team and it is not unusual for a player's prior year jersey to be used as his backup the next year.

After eight years in San Diego, where he had been an All-Star and won a Cy Young award, Jones' two years with the Mets were decidedly less spectacular. In those two years combined he appeared in a total of 51 games compiling an 8-18 record in 167 innings pitched. He was traded to the Pirates at the end of the season, and retired before ever pitching for the Bucs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1981 outside the right front tail as is correct, noting the size as 42 (marked and measured). A Mets strip tag is sewn to its right with a gray zig zag stitch, the tag's lettering hand-embroidered in the familiar hand of the Rawlings factory stitcher onto a piece of gray knit fabric (also correct for the Mets) says 25 81 1… (player #25 1981, set 1). These are all accurate for Jones, as noted above.

Restoration Performed: As is typical of Mets jersey of this period, this jersey was presented to me without its nameplate. Of their six minor league clubs in the mid-1980s, five were named "Mets", and team jerseys were typically sent to one of these clubs after a their time was over in MLB. The thread on the numbers, especially the replacement numbers "3" on back and front showed significant wear that would indicate further use after 1982 in the minors, and I touched up said stitching only where needed to secure the numbers more tightly to the jersey. This jersey bore a clear stitching imprint of a removed nameplate in a steep arch, typical of the club and the proper length for the name "JONES" using the steep arch and wide letter spacing the team employed by the team. I made a new nameplate from a pair of fabric-matching period Mets' game worn pants and serged the edge like original. I media blasted the new lettering and dyed it to match the rest of the vintage elements and stitched it over the ghost of the old nameplate.

Continued, overleaf

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Top left: the jersey prior to restoration. Below, a close-up of the front number "3" showing a stitching pull ghost line (highlighted in red) that shows where the bottom of the original "2" had been, and two other examples of 1981 Mets road jerseys showing similar tagging to the jersey under evaluation.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: number changes are team-original and reasonably explained, and the player nameplate has been properly restored with one near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Randy Jones of the 1981-1982 New York Mets.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Daryl Strawberry 1987 New York Mets Home Game Jersey, Autographed

Examination Date: April 25, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0425J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings made size 42 (marked and measured, tapering to the waist is observed but not tagged) pullover jersey, home white with blue engineered-stye pinstripes, New York Mets Darryl Strawberry #18. "Mets" script on an angle on front in Royal Blue outlined by orange, "18" beneath it on the left chest. On back the number repeats with the player's name arched above using the Mets extra-condensed lettering font reserved for long names. All sewn-on elements are rendered two layer dazzle twill, a shiny ribbed fabric that the Mets began using on their home jerseys in 1987. Name on back is direct sewn, no nameplate is used as is correct for 1987. Wide orange/blue/orange racing stripes are sewn-in to the tops of the sleeves and up the sides of the garment, paired with a blue knit V-Neck collar. The jersey is autographed in blue Sharpie on the front below the "M" in Mets, and to the left of the back numbers. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autographs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings "Action Tailored" red tag correct for 1987 is sewn inside the lower left tail, noting the size as 42. A small white flag tab pinch-sewn under its right border reads SET 2 1987. There is no extra length tailoring marked, though at 34" in length this jersey is an inch longer than typical; Strawberry inconsistently sometimes received anywhere from 1" to 4" extra length on his jerseys. The Rawlings script is embroidered in white near the end of the right sleeve; 1987 was the first year that this appeared,

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in excellent condition and shows at best very light use. Everything is stitched tightly, the fabric is clean without notable stains or pulls. There is no notable puckering of the lettering or the fabric beneath it. The tags are still crisp and unwrinkled. If worn and washed, I would judge it to be a single use.

Conclusion: This jersey matches all of the specifications of an authentic team issued and game-worn 1987 Mets Darryl Strawberry jersey in terms of size, tailoring, lettering style and fabrics. It does not display obvious use or wear, but shows no contrivance in its construction or stitching.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Eddie Murray 1993 New York Mets Autographed Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 30, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0130J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Russell-made six button full weight knit gray size 46 (marked and measured) jersey lettered for #33 Eddie Murray of the New York Mets. Russell was the sole on-field provider of Mets jerseys in 1993. This is a one year team road jersey design; plain gray body with sewn-in 1" elastic sleeve end trim in Royal Blue banded with orange through its center. Script "NEW YORK" with underline tail in blue/orange/white on the chest. The player number 33 is sewn to the center of the back, the name "MURRAY" is radially arched on the back above the numbers. All lettering is three layer twill, Varsity Royal, dark orange and white, in the correct fonts for Mets jerseys in 1993. On the left sleeve is the Mets team "Skyline" patch. Murray has autographed the front left of the chest in black Sharpie and added "#33" beneath. I have no professional opinion on the autograph, however there is a serialized JSA tag on the tail tag (AP56550) that certainly refers to the autograph. The jersey was presented to me without provenance, and without the accompanying JSA certificate.

Murray played first base for the Mets in 1992-1993. In 1993 he appeared in 154 games and compiled a batting average of .285 with 27 home runs. (*Baseball Almanac*) Murray is one of only seven players in MLB history to be in both the 3,000 hit club and the 500 home run club. After his 21 year career he was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2003. (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: On the front outside left tail is the Russell Diamond Collection locker tag, in the correct style for 1993. Pinched beneath the tag is sewn an "Intera Fabric" tag that appeared only on some 1992 and early 1993 jerseys. The Russell R is embroidered in dark blue on the right sleeve end. Mets jerseys were not team-tagged in 1993, however the front tail placement of the Intera fabric tag and the lack of a back-of-the-collar size tag, plus the fact that the jersey is a size 46, not a size made for retail sale, indicate to me that this jersey was made for team issue. Murray wore progressively larger jerseys through his career, from size 44 in 1977 to size 50 in 1997. I would judge a 1993 jersey in size 46 is a reasonable match.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows very light wash and wear. A light table examination shows that all elements are original without alteration, and the jersey has no repairs or contrivances.

Conclusion: This jersey in review is in excellent condition, is properly lettered and has no alterations or contrivances of any kind, and has characteristics that tell me it was made to team-issue specifications and it shows minimal use. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to specifications and worn by Eddie Murray of the 1993 New York Mets.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Mike Scott 1979 New York Mets Rookie Season Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 6, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0806J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made New York Mets size 44 (marked and measured) two-button Henley two-button neck pullover jersey, Royal/orange/Royal knit trim bands the sleeve ends and the neck opening. "Skyline" logo patch on the left sleeve. Mets script in Royal Blue over orange on front, player number 30 on front, as issued to pitcher Mike Scott, exhibiting typical wide spacing seen on Mets jerseys 1978-79. 30 on back as well. Size 44 is appropriate for Scott at this stage of his career.

Scott joined the Mets as a rookie, and was on their opening day 1979 roster. He appeared in 18 games that season, 9 as a starter, compiling a 1-3 record with a 5.36 ERA in 52.1 innings pitched. He went on to have a 13 year MLB career, with three All-Star Game appearances, and finished his career with a 124-108 record. His player number was retired by the Houston Astros, where he had been traded in 1983. (Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)

Restoration Performed: As is typical of Mets jerseys of this period, this jersey had been stripped of its original nameplate and was presented to me with an incorrect reproduction in place, which I removed. Of their five minor league clubs in 1980, four were named "Mets", and team jerseys were typically sent to one of these clubs after a season's worth of time was spent in MLB. This jersey bore a faint stitching imprint of a removed nameplate in a steep arch, typical of the club and the proper length for the name "SCOTT" using the wide letter spacing the team employed. I made a new nameplate from a pair of period Mets' game worn pants and serged the edge like original and stitched it over the ghost of the old nameplate. I media-blasted and organically dyed the new lettering to make it better match the game-aged original elements.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1979 inside the left front tail as is correct, noting the size as 44. A small white flag tab is pinch-sewn under the right side of the Rawlings tag, reading "SET1". A Mets team strip tag made of white tackle twill is sewn to its left with a white zig zag stitch, the tag's lettering hand-embroidered in the familiar hand of the Rawlings factory stitcher says 44 79 30... (size 44 1979 player number 30). These are all accurate for Scott.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the letting on the jersey is original, and that an original nameplate had been removed. This jersey is in very good used condition, probably having been used for a season or two in the minors before being retired. The knit trim, often bleached, is bright and unfaded on this example. The restored nameplate color match is very good as it was made from a pair of matching similar-aged pants. The lettering is burnished from use and washing, missing most of its original sheen. There is a small white vertical scuff mark on the bottom of the back "3".

Continued, overleaf

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Above left: the jersey prior to restoration. Below, other examples of 1979 Mets road jerseys showing similar tagging to the jersey under evaluation. The TORRE example claims to have its original nameplate, the #29 example is missing its nameplate as most unrestored examples are.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: the numbers on front and back are all original, and the back has been properly restored with a nameplate near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Mike Scott of the 1979 New York Mets.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Howard Johnson 1992 New York Mets Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 3, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0703J07

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Russell-made six button full weight knit gray size 46 (measured as a 44) button front jersey lettered for #20 Howard Johnson of the New York Mets. (Johnson wore almost exclusively size 44 jerseys at this point in his career. I will note that the jerseys styles with the inset side trim always fit more snugly, so it is not unusual to see this one in a size 46.) Russell was the sole on-field provider of Mets road jerseys in 1992. Jersey has inset 2 1/2" wide "racing stripes" in white/orange and blue on the tops of the shoulders and down the sides. Arched Block-Condensed "NEW YORK" is in blue/orange/white on the chest. The player number 20 is sewn to the center of the back, the name "JOHNSON" is radially arched on the back above the numbers. All lettering is three layer in dazzle twill, correct for Mets jerseys in 1992. On the left sleeve is the black and white "S" disk memorial for William Shea, worn in 1992 only.

Howard Johnson enjoyed a 14 year MLB career, playing nine of those years with the Mets. In 1992, After a brilliant 1991 season, Johnson had a disappointing 1992 outing. Johnson appeared in 100 games for the Mets, hitting .223 with 7 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: On the front outside left tail is the Russell Diamond Collection locker tag, in the correct style for 1992. Pinched beneath the tag is sewn a 100% Polyester tag, and another fabric flag tag now washed clean of any writing that might have been on it. This tag may have had additional tailoring information on it. The Russell R is embroidered in white on the right sleeve end. Sewn beneath the Russell tagging is a 1 1/8" x 3 1/8" piece of white knit fabric with NEW YORK METS 92s printed in blue silkscreen plastisol ink. The tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows good signs of wash or wear. All the lettering is still firmly attached and is slightly softened from repeated washing. The tagging is slightly wrinkled and puckered. The jersey fabric is slightly puckered underneath the sewn-on numbers. A light table examination shows that all lettering is original without alteration, and the jersey has no repairs or contrivances.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has the correct team tagging and uses the Mets' special lettering fabric. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and game worn by Howard Johnson of the 1992 New York Mets.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dwight Gooden 1994 New York Mets Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J17

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1994 New York Mets Russell, six-button jersey, lettered for #16 Dwight Gooden. Royal Blue engineered pinstripe upward-sloped "Mets" script with underline, #16 below and on the left side. "GOODEN" arched on back and direct-sewn without a nameplate in the Mets correct block condensed font, with player number "16" centered below. All lettering is blue over orange over white, exactly as used on on-field jerseys in 1994. Jersey is autographed, "Doc Gooden Game Used 1994" on the back below the numbers and the autograph is certified by Beckett (I offer no opinion on validity of the signature). There are two sleeve patches, both unique to strike-shortened 1994: on the right sleeve is the MLB 125th Anniversary patch; on the left sleeve is the Mets rectangular "25th Anniversary of the Miracle Mets" patch. 1994 was Gooden's final season with the Mets after eleven years with the team. He posted a 3-4 record that year.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection size 48 tag sewn on the lower left outside tail, in the correct style for use in 1994, with a small 100% polyester flag tab pinched below. The Russell "R" logo is direct embroidered on the end of the right sleeve. 1994 Mets jerseys were not team tagged in any way, though the presence of the 100% polyester flag tab and the absence of the collar flag size tag indicate that this jersey was indeed made to team-issue specifications and not for retail sale. Our exemplar library of authenticated Gooden game jerseys shows that at this point of his career he was wearing a size 46 jersey, and for years had preferred 2" extra length tailoring. This jersey is a size 48 without special tailoring.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey does not show obvious signs of wash or wear. A light table examination indicates that all elements are original and unaltered. All elements are crisp and all twill lettering unpuckered. If used, in my opinion it was not worn and washed more than once.

Conclusion: it is my opinion that this jersey is genuine issue to Dwight Gooden of the New York Mets during the 1994 season, with attribution of game use by Gooden by his inscription on the jersey. The jersey in review is reasonably sized for the player though it lacks his customary tailoring. It is properly team-lettered and numbered.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rey Ordóñez 1996-1997 Style Game Model Mets Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J19

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: AIS-made six button full weight knit gray button front jersey lettered for #0 Rey Ordóñez of the New York Mets. AIS was the sole on-field provider of Mets road jerseys, in this specific style 1995-1997. Ordóñez joined the Mets in 1996 and work #0 in 1996-1997 only. Jersey has royal blue soutache trim 1/2" from the sleeve ends and on the placket. Stylized "NEW YORK" is arched in blue/orange on the chest. The player number, 0, is sewn to the left chest and the center of the back, the name "ORDONEZ" with tilde is radially arched on the back above the numbers. All lettering is to team specification. The Mets' skyline disk patch is sewn on the left sleeve, and is the correct style for 1996-1997. Notably, in both 1996 and 1997 the Mets wore commemorative patches on the right sleeve that do not appear own this jersey. In 1996, the Frank McSherry memorial was direct embroidered (not a patch) on the sleeve end of all on-field jerseys after the first few days of the season and then worn all year. In 1997 the Jackie Robinson "Breaking Barriers" patch was worn all season long. This jersey has neither patch, and the light table reveals no signs that either was ever there. The jersey is autographed on the upper right chest. (I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Inside the back right tail is the AIS locker tag in the correct style for 1996-1997. A tiny size 42 flag tag is added below (a reasonable size for Ordóñez to have worn). There is no visible AIS tagging on the jersey, as is contractually regulated. Only Russell could display its brand on sleeves in those years.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows no real signs of wash or wear. All the lettering is still crisp and the tagging is unblemished. A light table examination shows that all lettering is original without alteration.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent new condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Rey Ordóñez of the New York Mets, but not game worn.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tom Glavine New York Mets Game Worn Autographed Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 5, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0305J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2006-07 New York Mets #47 Tom Glavine Majestic full weight knit size 44, six button gray jersey. The Mets "New York" road wordmark is sewn arched across the chest in glacier-pattered blue tackle twill outlined with orange and then a black drop shadow. Extra velcro closure beneath the wordmark. Royal blue soutache is sewn on the placket and 1/2" from the sleeve ends. The three-color player number "47" is sewn to both the back and the left front in the same colors as the team wordmark, as is correct. The player name and number are sewn to the back, again in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style incorporating the black drop shadow around the Mets script. The autograph and inscription is for pitcher Dontrelle Willis: "To Dontrelle-Keep up the good work. I enjoy watching you. Good Luck! "Tom Glavine" is written in black Sharpie between the back player number and name (I have no opinion on the autograph). Glavine played for the Mets 2003-2007. Trying to narrow down the exact year of use for this jersey is difficult— the Mets wore this style and made by Majestic for all these years, all with the same manufacturer tag; we can eliminate 2004 as a possible year of use because that year's jerseys had commemorative sleeve patches. In our archives, 2003-2005 jerseys seemed to all have year/set flag tags. Jerseys attributed to 2006-2007 seem to arbitrarily lack year/set tags.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Period-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the inside left front tail. A small size "44" flag tag is sewn beneath, bottom center. Majestic "twin peaks" logo embroidered onto the end of the right sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch in orange white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. The inside left side seam has a fabric tag sewn in that is frayed and washed clean of its printing. There are no team year, set or tailoring tags on this jersey, which is correct. There are two very frayed fabric tags pinched under the bottom of the Majestic tag, also washed clean of any printing that may have been on them. However, based on the jerseys appearance and Glavine's preferred tailoring, we can assume they referred to extra jersey length and extra length sleeves.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The inside tagging shows extreme fraying and fading from wash wear that is consistent with long term use. However, the jersey itself presents well and all sewn elements are crisp and bright and show minimal wear, aspects somewhat typical of a jersey worn by a pitcher.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tailored, tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Given the lack of year/set tagging, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Tom Glavine of the New York Mets during most likely in either the 2006 or 2007 seasons.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Pedro Martinez 2006 New York Mets Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J14

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2006-tagged New York Mets #45 Pedro Martinez Majestic six button full weight knit size 46 gray jersey. The Mets "New York" road wordmark is sewn arched across the chest in glacier-patterned blue tackle twill outlined with non-glacier orange and then a non-glacier black drop shadow. Extra Velcro closure beneath the wordmark. Royal blue soutache is sewn on the placket and 1/2" from the sleeve ends. The three-color player number "45" is sewn to both the back and the left front in the same colors as the team wordmark, as is correct. The player name and number are sewn to the back, again in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style incorporating the black drop shadow around the Mets script. The player has autographed the 5 on the back with his name and the inscription *"CY 97-99-00"* in silver Sharpie.I have no opinion on the autograph, but it is certified with a Beckett letter, included.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Year-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the inside left front tail; the correct location. A small size "46" flag tag is sewn beneath, bottom center, plus a SET 1 2006 fag tab is pinched beneath it to the right. Majestic logo embroidered in Royal blue onto the end of the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch in orange white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. The inside left side seam has a fabric tag sewn in with the Majestic code "0062" printed on it, the code that designates a jersey made for team use.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The inside seam tagging shows major fraying and fading from wash wear that is consistent with a season of use; the Mets had five different uniform choices to wear in these years, and likely two sets of each kind. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that any single style/set jersey may have been worn by a player in fewer than a dozen games. The jersey is dirty, splashed with something that has caused blotches of dark staining on the front and especially on the tails both front and back.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and has been photo matched. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Pedro Martinez in the 2006 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tom Glavine New York Mets 2006 Autographed Home White Game Jersey

Examination Date: March 5, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0305J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2006 tagged New York Mets #47 Tom Glavine Majestic full weight knit size 44, six button white alternate jersey. The Mets script wordmark is sewn slanted across the chest in glacier-pattered blue tackle twill outlined with orange and then a black drop shadow. Extra velcro closure beneath the wordmark. Royal blue soutache is sewn on the placket and 1/2" from the sleeve ends. The three-color player number "47" is sewn to both the back and the left front in the same colors as the team wordmark, as is correct. The player name and number are sewn to the back, again in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style WITHOUT incorporating the black drop shadow around the Mets script, not typical of Mets jerseys of this period (1999-2009). However, close examination of news photos from the 2006 season do indeed show that some players (Glavine included) were issued their snow-white jerseys with the old style, pre 1998 non-black-drop shadow sleeve patch! The jersey is autographed in black Sharpie between the back player number and name adding the inscription "CY 91, 98" (I have no professional opinion on the autograph).

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Period-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the inside left front tail. A small size "44" flag tag is sewn beneath, bottom center. Majestic "twin peaks" logo embroidered onto the end of the right sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch in orange white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. The inside left side seam has a fabric tag sewn in that bears the style code "0062", the code used for team-issued style full weight knit jersey. There are two crisp, slightly curled fabric tags pinched under the bottom of the Majestic tag, +1 slv and +2" body. This is Glavine's preferred size and tailoring, as seen on exemplars in our reference library. Notably: the bottom stitching line of the tag has been altered, showing where the stitches were ripped out and then re-sewn, assumedly when the year and tailoring tags were added. This is not typical, but in this case I will note that the special tailoring DOES exist, and there was certainly no conscious effort to hide the new stitching as it is misaligned with the first set of holes. (See photos on the next page.)

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. A careful examination of the stitching on this jersey leads me to conclude that the team logo and the player name and number were all sewn on this jersey at the same time on the same machine with identical sized stitches and thread. The jersey shows minimal wear, perhaps having been washed once or twice, with a couple of small pulls on the fabric (sleeve under the disk patch, front placket near the neck) It notably does not show the typical chafing a jersey with Velcro causes to itself in the washing machine, where the Velcro strip abrades the fabric that surrounds it.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Pedro Martinez 2005 New York Mets Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 3, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0603J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2005-tagged New York Mets #45 Pedro Martinez Majestic six-button full-weight knit size 46 white jersey with Royal Blue engineered pinstripes. The Mets script wordmark is sewn arched across the chest in glacier-patterned blue tackle twill outlined with non-glacier orange and then a non-glacier black drop shadow. Extra Velcro closure beneath the wordmark. The three-color player number "45" is sewn to both the back and the left front in the same colors as the team wordmark, as is correct. The player name and number are sewn to the back, in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style incorporating the barely visible black drop shadow around the Mets script. Experts know that Martinez specified his pitching game-day Mets uniforms custom-made with mesh sleeve inserts, or else he sliced the bottoms of the sleeves open. This example has white mesh inserts sewn into the seams.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Year-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the inside left front tail; the correct location. A small size "46" flag tag is sewn beneath, bottom center, plus a SET 1 2005 flag tab is pinched beneath it to the right. Finally, a flag tab noting "2" extra body" is added to the left. Majestic logo embroidered in Royal blue onto the end of the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in orange, white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. The inside left side seam has a fabric tag sewn in with the Majestic code "0062" printed on it, the code that designates a jersey made for team use.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The set and tailoring tagging is curled and shows signs of hot water washing. The inside seam tagging shows wear that is consistent with multiple use. the Mets had five different uniform choices to wear in these years, and likely at least two sets of each kind. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that any single style/set jersey may have been worn by a player in fewer than a dozen games. The jersey is splashed with dirt that has caused blotches of dark staining on the tails, both front and back.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Pedro Martinez of the New York Mets in the 2005 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Al Leiter 2001 Mets Home Black Alternate Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 25, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1125J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2001 Rawlings six button full weight knit black home Alternate style jersey lettered for #22 Al Leiter of the New York Mets. Rawlings was the sole on-field provider of Mets jerseys in 2001. Black-bodied jersey has royal blue knit ribbon trim 1/2" from the sleeve ends and bordering the placket. Stylized "METS" is slanted in blue/white/orange drop shadow on the chest. The blue layer is in team-specific "Glacier" style pattered fabric. The player number 22, is sewn to the left chest and the center of the back, the name "LEITER" is radially arched on the back above the numbers. All lettering is to team specification, and the top layer (only) of all lettering is in blue glacier twill, a herringbone-patterned fabric used by the Mets 1997-2011. The Mets' black background "Midnight" variant of the skyline disk patch is sewn on the left sleeve, and is the correct style for 2001. A Velcro closure is added between the second and third buttons. The post 9-11-2001 Mets sleeve embroidery is present on this example, matching exemplars. Also indicating use post 9-11 is the gold-edged USA flag stitched to the back of the neck.The MLB silhouetted batter patch is sewn to the back of the neck, but is properly covered by the flag patch sewn on top of it.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Inside the front left tail is the Rawlings Authentic Collection locker tag. There are two added flag tags: A size 48 flag tag is added below (the proper size worn by Leiter in 2001, matching exemplars) and a small flag tab that reads "SET 2 2001" is sewn to its right. The Rawlings "R" inside an ellipse is embroidered in blue to the end of the left sleeve. Contractually in 2000 Rawlings was allowed to have its logo displayed there.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original without alteration. The jersey shows signs of light wash and wear. All the lettering is still crisp, the stitching tight, and the tagging is slightly curled but unblemished. There is some puckering on the team sleeve patch. Given the fact that the Mets had five different uniform styles in 2001, and the players were issued at minimum two sets of each style, the wear this jersey displays is entirely reasonable for at least a partial season's worth of use.

Conclusion: It is my considered opinion that this jersey is a genuine issue to Al Leiter of the New York Mets in the 2001 Season. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear with no alterations of any kind. It is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered, including post-9/11 memorials.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

David Wright 2005 New York Mets Game Worn Black Home Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: June 3, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0603J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2005-tagged New York Mets #5 David Wright Majestic six-button full-weight knit size 46 black jersey with Royal Blue soutache trim. The Mets script wordmark is sewn arched across the chest in glacier-patterned blue tackle twill outlined with non-glacier white and then a non-glacier orange drop shadow. Extra Velcro closure added beneath the wordmark. Royal Blue soutache outlines the placket and is also sewn 1/2" from the end of each sleeve. The three-color player number "5" is sewn to both the back and the left front in the same colors as the team wordmark, as is correct. The player name and number are sewn to the back, again in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets midnight-variant "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style incorporating the orange drop shadow around the Mets script. Wright wore both size 46 and 48 jerseys at this time of his career. The back number is autographed by the player in silver Sharpie. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Year-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the inside left front tail; the correct location. A small size "46" flag tag is sewn beneath, bottom center, plus a SET 1 2005 flag tab is pinched beneath it to the right. Majestic logo embroidered in white onto the end of the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch in orange, white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. The inside left side seam has a fabric tag sewn in with the Majestic code "0062" printed on it, the code that designates a jersey made for team use.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The set and tailoring tagging is curled and shows signs of hot water washing. The inside seam tagging shows wear that is consistent with multiple use. the Mets had five different uniform choices to wear in these years, and likely at least two sets of each kind. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that any single style/set jersey may have been worn by a player in fewer than a dozen games. The jersey is splashed with dirt, mostly visible on the back to the right of the player number and appears to be unwashed.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by David Wright of the New York Mets in the 2005 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Piazza 1999 New York Mets Game Worn Black Road Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: March 15, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0315J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1999 Russell six button full weight knit black Road Alternate style jersey, size 50 with special tailoring, lettered for #31 Mike Piazza of the New York Mets. While the jersey has no year tagging, 1999 was the only year that Russell made these jerseys both without the MLB Silhouetted batter on the back of the neck (added in 2000), and with the black-themed "Midnight" Mets disk logo on the sleeve, introduced in 1999. Jersey has narrow royal blue soutache trim 1/2" from the sleeve ends and bordering the placket. Stylized "NEW YORK" is arched in blue/white/orange drop shadow on the chest. All other player lettering on the jersey follows the same color theme. The player number, 31, is sewn to the left chest and the center of the back, the name "PIAZZA" is radially arched on the back above the numbers. All lettering is to team specification, and the top layer (only) of all lettering is in blue glacier twill, a herringbone-patterned fabric used by the Mets 1997-2011. A Velcro closure is added between the second and third buttons.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Outside on the front left tail is the Russell Diamond Collection locker tag as used in 1999, showing the garment's size as 50, correct for Piazza. There are two added flag tags: A 2" extra length flag tag is added below (the proper tailoring for Piazza) and a small flag tag that reads "100% Polyester". The Russell R logo is direct-embroidered on the end of the right sleeve. While a set of black 1999 jerseys was also made for the team by Rawlings, contractually in 1999 only Russell was allowed to have its logo displayed in that spot.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examinations shows that all lettering is original without alteration. The jersey shows signs of light to moderate wash and wear. All the lettering is still crisp, the stitching tight, and the tagging is slightly curled and mildly frayed but unblemished. Given the fact that the Mets had five different uniform styles in 1999, and the players were issued at minimum two sets of each style, the wear this jersey displays is entirely reasonable for a partial season's worth of use. As a note, there are several shiny spots and horizontal shiny scars on the black fabric on back both above and below the player name, characteristic of the improper use of an iron or a heat plate and may have occurred when the jersey was lettered.

Conclusion: It is my considered opinion that this jersey is a genuine issue and worn by Mike Piazza of the New York Mets in the 1999 Season. It exhibits moderate use and wash wear with no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered, and is the proper size with special tailoring preferred by Piazza.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rickey Henderson 2000 Mets Road Black Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: November 4, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J18

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2000 Rawlings six button full weight knit black Road Alternate style jersey lettered for #24 Rickey Henderson of the New York Mets. Rawlings was the sole on-field provider of Mets road jerseys in 2000. Jersey has royal blue soutache trim 1/2" from the sleeve ends and bordering the placket. Stylized "NEW YORK" is arched in blue/white/orange drop shadow on the chest. The player number, 24, is sewn to the left chest and the center of the back, the name "HENDERSON" is radially arched on the back above the numbers. All lettering is to team specification, and the top layer (only) of all lettering is in blue glacier twill, a herringbone-patterned fabric used by the Mets 1997-2011. The Mets' black background "Midnight" variant of the skyline disk patch is sewn on the left sleeve, and is the correct style for 2000. The MLB silhouetted batter patch is sewn to the back of the neck, newly added to all MLB team jerseys for 2000. A Velcro closure is added between the second and third buttons.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Inside the front left tail is the Rawlings Authentic Collection locker tag. There are four added flag tags: A size 44 flag tag is added below (the proper size worn by Henderson) and a small flag tag that reads "SET 2 2000" is sewn to its right. Tags also designate MINUS 1 INCH (*length*) and SLEEVE MINUS 1 INCH. The jersey displays the custom-tailored flat tails preferred by Henderson. The Rawlings "R" inside an eclipse is embroidered in blue to the end of the left sleeve. Contractually in 2000 Rawlings was allowed to have its logo displayed there.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examinations shows that all lettering is original without alteration. The jersey shows signs of light wash and wear. All the lettering is still crisp, the stitching tight, and the tagging is slightly curled but unblemished.. Given the fact that the Mets had five different uniform styles in 2000, and the players were issued at minimum two sets of each style, the wear this jersey displays is entirely reasonable for a partial season's worth of use.

Conclusion: It is considered my Opinion that this jersey is a genuine issue to Rickey Henderson of the New York Mets in the 2000 Season. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear with no alterations of any kind. It is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered, and has all the special tailoring preferred by Rickey Henderson.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jose Reyes 2007 New York Mets Black Road Alternate Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 18, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0118J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2007-tagged New York Mets #7 Jose Reyes Majestic six-button Cool-base knit size 44 black jersey with Royal Blue soutache trim. The Mets Road "NEW YORK" wordmark is sewn arched across the chest in glacier-patterned blue tackle twill outlined with non-glacier white and then a non-glacier orange drop shadow. Royal Blue soutache outlines the placket and is also sewn 1/2" from the end of each sleeve. The three-color player number "7" is sewn to both the back and the left front in the same colors as the team wordmark, as is correct. The player name and number are sewn to the back, again in the same twill pattern as the front. The Mets midnight-variant "skyline" patch is sewn to the left sleeve in the style incorporating the orange drop shadow around the Mets script. Reyes wore size 44 jerseys throughout his career.

In 2007 Reyes played in 160 games for the Mets, batting 280 with 12 home runs. Reyes is a four-time MLB All-Star. He led MLB in triples in 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2011. Reyes also led the National League (NL) in stolen bases in 2005, 2006, and 2007. He was the NL batting champion in 2011. He is also the New York Mets' all-time leader in triples and stolen bases. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Year-correct Majestic "Authentic Collection" Cool-base style manufacturer tagging heat pressed on the outside of the left front tail, noting the size as 44 (marked and measured) ; the correct location. A SET 3 2007 flag tab is pinched into the inside side seam, stacked with two other tags: the Majestic garment style tag that shows the jersey as style 0063, the proper code for team issue Cool-base jerseys, and a small tag noting +1" sleeve length. The Majestic logo embroidered in white onto the end of the left sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch in orange, white and blue is affixed to the outside back of the collar. This jersey was presented without provenance. And while the MLB authentication/hologram program was in operation in 2007, it was not implemented universally. The Mets were an early purveyor of team-issued gear sold at its stadium store, and sold it usually "as is" without any letters of authenticity.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The set and tailoring tagging is curled and shows signs of repeated hot water washing. The inside seam tagging shows wear that is consistent with multiple use. the Mets had five different uniform choices to wear in these years, and had multiple sets of each kind (this one is marked as set 3). Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that any single style/set jersey may have been worn by a player in fewer than a dozen games. The jersey presents well, but has clearly been worn and washed. There are a few stray loose threads and scuff marks.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine to Jose Reyes of the New York Mets in the 2007 season.

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Document of Restoration

New York Mets 1973 Road Jersey #23

Examination Date: September 26, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0926J02

This is not an opinion of authentication; it is simply a documentation of a restoration performed.

Description: Gray double knit button front New York Mets jersey, with #23 in team font on both front and back. Blue soutache on the placket, Mets "skyline" patch on the left sleeve. Wilson made size 42 with team strip tagging : "23 73 42 inside the back of the collar. Linen lining inside the placket. The jersey is in fair condition with fading, staining and missing a button and some of its trim from wear.

Restoration Performed: Jersey had been repurposed for minor league use, with the original "NEW YORK" stripped from the front and blue-orange Mets script replacing it. This was a common fate for team road jerseys of the time. We stripped the Mets script off the front, cleaned the glue outlines, and steamed the fabric to help erase the old holes. The light table revealed the clear evidence of the original NEW YORK lettering ghosts in the team font, with faint impressions of the lettering outlines and a couple of holes in the fabric in the corners of the old lettering caused during removal (marked in the photo below with small circles) I recut new lettering, media blasted it and dyed it to simulate age to match the original player numbers on the jersey, then stitched it in place. using bleached colored thread to match original appearance. I replaced the shredded soutache trim with period-correct materials.

Continued, overleaf

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Tom Seaver 1982 New York Mets "Press Events" Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: June 4, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0604J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made New York Mets size 46 (marked and measured) two-button Henley two-button neck pullover jersey, white with Royal Blue engineered pinstripes, Royal/orange/Royal knit trim bands the sleeve ends and the neck opening. No "Skyline" logo patch on the left sleeve, that feature exclusive to 1982. Mets script in Royal Blue over orange on front, player number 41 on front, as issued to pitcher Tom Seaver, exhibiting typical wide front number-spacing seen on Mets jerseys of that year. 41 on back as well in correct fonts. Player name on a white single-needle serged edge nameplate. Fonts are correct for the team as used by Rawlings in 1982. Size 46 is appropriate for Seaver at this stage of his career, matching exemplars. Seaver has signed the jersey in bold blue Sharpie below the front numbers. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph. Auction photos show the presence of a serialized PSA sticker inside the neck, but that sticker was no longer in place when I examined the jersey here.

Tom Seaver was re-signed by the Mets from the Reds in December of 1982 and played for the Mets again for a single season in 1983 before leaving for the Chicago White Sox in 1984. A hometown hero, Seaver's re-signing created a lot of local excitement, and was well covered in the New York media. As is the custom, a jersey was produced for Seaver to display and wear at these events. While I do not specialize in photo-matching, pictures of him at his team press conference as well as in team PR photos on Getty Images and on the cover of the May-June issue of New York Sports Magazine clearly show Seaver holding and wearing the jersey in review, without question. Dozens of points of alignment clearly show the pinstripes crossing the lettering as well as their position in relation to the neck buttons and the sleeve end and collar trim, as well as where the sleeves are sewn to the body of the jersey. There are also two tiny pieces of blue thread poking out under the connector stroke between the letters "TS" in METS On the front, which is visible on the magazine cover photo.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1982 correctly sewn inside the back of the neck, showing the size as 46 (marked and measured). There is no year or set tagging on this jersey, and notably when Seaver played his first regular season game for the Mets in 1983, the team had changed uniform styles, wearing new ones with wide "racing stripes" over the tops of the shoulders and up the sides; but because the Mets (technically) wore their 1982 uniforms in 1983 spring training, it is very possible that Seaver could have worn this particular jersey there if the need arose, however, in 1983 Spring Training, baseball cards and news photos show the team wearing their blue BP jerseys.

Continued, overleaf

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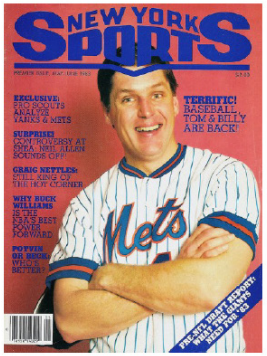
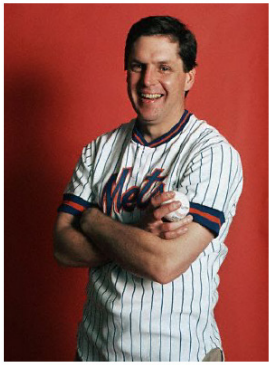
Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the lettering on the jersey is original. This jersey is in excellent condition, there is a ground- in dirt mark on the front left shoulder, perhaps where a bat handle with pine tar would have been laid. The knit trim, often bleached on period examples, is bright and unfaded here. There are no repairs and the jersey is without contrivance.



Seaver Rejoins the Mets With a Year Guaranteed



Here, Seaver as he appeared when the team signed him, wearing the jersey in review. Besides the dozens of points of intersection of elements, note the tiny stray blue thread ends that are visible on the front wordmark. Below, the jersey being held up by Seaver at his signing press conference, overlaid with the image of the jersey in hand showing perfect alignment with all elements. Bottom center shows the PSA sticker (certifying the autograph) that is no longer with the jersey as reviewed.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent original condition: The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Tom Seaver of the New York Mets prior to the start of the 1983 regular season.

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Chapter 25

Washington Nationals

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970–2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Nationals Uniform History Notes

- The current Washington Nationals were born for the 2005 season when the Montreal Expos relocated to Washington, DC.
- The Orioles opposed the Expos relocation to Washington, contending the Washington market was "theirs" and the competition would be harmful to them. MLB did not agree, and the move was approved.
- The team name was not actually decided until very late; and many hoped that the Senators name would be revived. Others wanted the team named the "Grays" after the Negro League franchise that had sometimes called Washington, DC home. Controversy swirled, and the city council of the District of Columbia argued that "Senators" was an inappropriate name for a team from the District, since "Senators" was a federal Government term, and the team belonged to the District, not the Federals. Whatever.
- While some rumors persisted that the Nationals would retain elements of the Expos uniform, this was not the case. The Nationals uniform was completely new, with ornate three–color, bevel–lettered wordmarks on both home and road jerseys. The original team colors were navy, red, and metallic gold.
- Despite being in only their 21st year, it is surprising that this relatively brief period requires so many pages of detail to cover it!
- Not only have the Nationals made constant changes to their uniforms in their first two decades of existence, but they have used an array of alternate jerseys, changed batting practice jerseys with abandon, and have participated in their fair share of Turn Back the Clock games.
- To start, inaugural player numbers are an ornate affair with a 3D beveled look that frankly looks good on paper but is hard to visualize in three dimensions when sewn on cloth. Home jersey says "NATIONALS," road jersey "WASHINGTON."
- While that home jersey is used unchanged through the 2010 season, the road jersey lasts only four years before being replaced in 2009 by a script "Washington" jersey.
- For 2011, the home uniform also changes to the curly–W logo, and all player numbers are simplified to eliminate the three–toned, gold–beveled font.
- The first alternate jersey appears for 2006, in bright red with an interlocking "DC" on the left chest. It changes for 2009 to have the curly–W logo on the chest, and two years later it is modified slightly again.
- A rather ornate stars–and–stripes–themed blue jersey appears for 2009, and features the "DC" logo on the chest. This jersey lasts only two years before it too is changed to also feature the curly–W wordmark, but now in stars–and–stripes. It disappears after 2019, but not before it is joined by a similarly decorated white version in 2017.
- The 2018 season introduces an additional blue alternate with a script "Nationals" on front—a feature that had only appeared on batting practice jerseys before. The jersey is a fixture in the team's 2019 postseason title run. A white alternate version of the jersey joins it in 2020, becoming the team's primary home jersey in 2023. Both script jerseys lose front numbers with the transition to Nike's VPE template in 2024.
- In 2022, the Nationals introduce their first City Connect jersey, inspired by the cherry blossoms that bloom each spring in Washington. The soft gray base, adorned with sublimated cherry blossoms, was paired with pale pink accents and "Washington" appeared across the chest in a script font resembling park signage. A cherry blossom branch adorned the left chest, creating the most delicate and thematically cohesive designs in the City Connect series.
- With the Nike VPE template rollout in 2024, two new jerseys make their debuts: a road gray block–letter "WASHINGTON" replacing the venerable script "Washington" after a 15–year run, and an alternate home white pullover with contrast–raglan sleeves that is rarely worn. This bumps the alternate red curly–W jersey from the lineup, the first time the team is without a red alternate since its maiden 2005 season. The pullover is notable because its one of the first two to appear with the VPE template, along with an Angels nostalgia–inspired jersey.
- In 2025, the pullover is mothballed after just one year and the alternate red curly–W is reinstated, albeit with some changes to the trim elements
- A City Connect 2.0 uniform also debuts in 2025, the base color a faded American denim blue, evoking the city's historic architecture and weathered streets, while a subtle street grid pattern was integrated into the fabric to reflect Washington's iconic layout. The 3D–style interlocking "DC" logo on the chest paid homage to both the Nationals' 2005–2010 branding and the 1956 Washington Senators. Pink cherry blossoms on the patch and cap tie the design back to the team's CC 1.0 look..
- In Turn Back the Clock games, the Nationals have appeared as the Montreal Expos and also the old American League Washington Senators. Homestead Grays uniforms often used for Negro Leagues tributes.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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2005–2010

2005–2008

2006–2008

2009–2010

2011–2019

2011 – 2020

2017–2020

All Jerseys Change to Flex Base

2018–2020

2020

Nationals Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2005	Home White	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Inaugural team shield	–	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/words	–	Majestic
2006	Home White	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	–	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars		Majestic
2007	Home White	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	RFK Stadium^	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	RFK Stadium^	Majestic
2008	Home White	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	New Stadium Inaugural	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Disc/Stars	New Stadium Inaugural	Majestic
2009	Home White	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Interlocked DC	–	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special font	4 color special font	3 color block	no	Interlocked DC	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	3 color special font*	4 color special font	2 color block	no	Interlocked DC	–	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color special font*	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Shield	–	Majestic
2010	Home White	3 color special font	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Interlocked DC	–	Majestic
	Road Gray	3 color special font	4 color special font	3 color block	no	Interlocked DC	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	3 color special font*	4 color special font	2 color block	no	Interlocked DC	–	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color special font*	3 color special font	2 color block	no	Team Shield	–	Majestic
2011	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
2012	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
2013	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	Navy Yard**	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	Navy Yard **	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
2014	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
2015	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	10th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	10th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	10th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	10th Anniversary	Majestic
2016	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
2017	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate White	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Majestic
2018	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate White	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alt Blue (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	All Star Game	Majestic
2019	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alternate White	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Blue (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	MLB 150th	Majestic
2020	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	2019 WS Champs	Nike
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	2019 WS Champs	Nike
	Alternate White	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	2019 WS Champs	Nike
	Alt White (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	2019 WS Champs	Nike
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	2019 WS Champs	Nike
	Alt Blue (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	2019 WS Champs	Nike

^ September 14–23 only

* Front numbers are the same font as the back, but lack the 3D–style sculpturing found on the back numbers. ** Navy Yard shooting memorial patches worn only after September 21 through to end of season.

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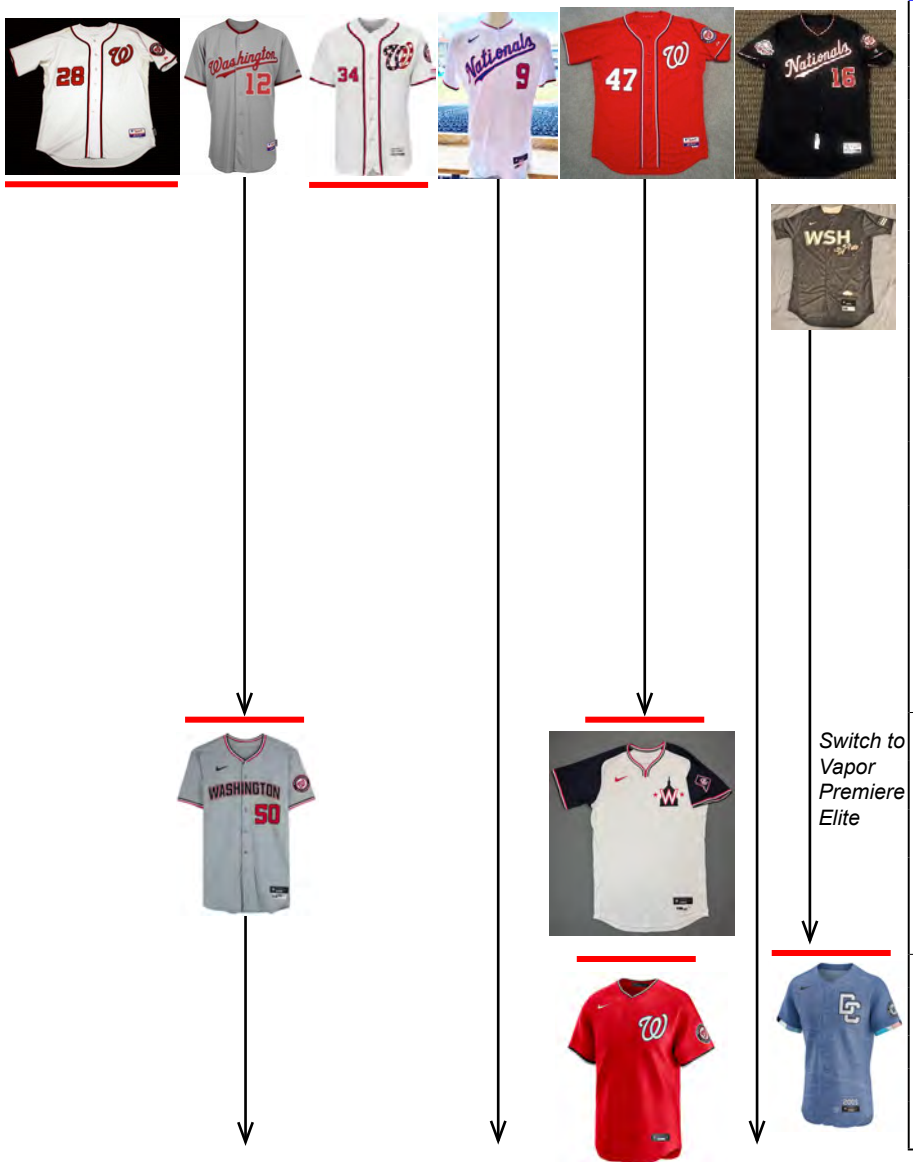
These six styles continue from previous years



Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White (Curly W)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Alternate White	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Alt White (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Alt Blue (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
2022	Home White (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	Alt Blue (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc	–	Nike
	City Connect	–	Custom 3 color	1 color block	no	Recolored DC flag	Gray/pink team disc	Nike
2023	Home White (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Ted Lerner Memorial/Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Road Gray (Script)	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color Varsity Bold	3 color block	no	Ted Lerner Memorial/Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Alternate Red	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Ted Lerner Memorial/Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Alt Blue (Script)	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Ted Lerner Memorial/Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	City Connect	–	Custom 3 color	1 color block	no	Ted Lerner Memorial/ Recolored DC flag‡	–	Nike
2024	Home White (Script)	–	2 color Varsity Bold (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	no	Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Road Gray (Block "Washington")	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	no	Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Alternate White Pullover	–	2 color Varsity Bold (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	no	DC Outline‡	–	Nike
	Alt Blue (Script)	–	2 color Varsity Bold (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	no	Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	City Connect	–	Custom 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	no	Recolored DC flag‡	–	Nike
2025	Home White (Script)	–	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Road Gray (Block "Washington")	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Alternate Red	–	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	Alt Blue (Script)	–	2 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	Team Disc‡	–	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	–	3 color Varsity Bold	2 color block	no	District of Columbia Disc‡	–	Nike

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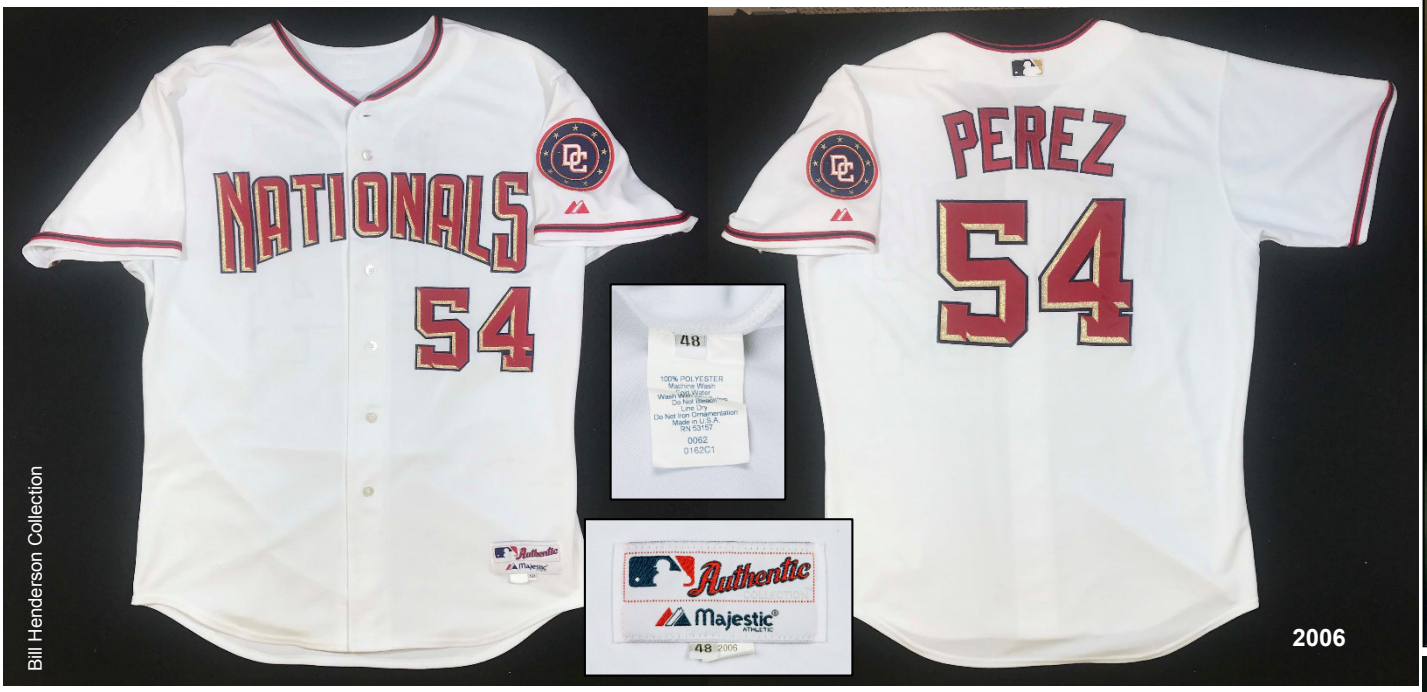
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

2005–2010 Home



Bill Henderson Collection

The Nationals' home jersey features the wordmark "NATIONALS" across the front in a bridge design—flat on top and arched on the bottom. All lettering is red/metallic gold/navy. Red top layer is a very complex cut shape to give the appearance of being beveled. Lettering and numbers front and back are similarly styled. NOB is two–color, red/navy, no nameplate used. Inaugural sleeve patch says "Established 1905" at the bottom. Patch changes to a simple disc for 2006–2008, then to an interlocking DC for 2009–2010.

2006–2008

2005

2006

2005

2009–2010

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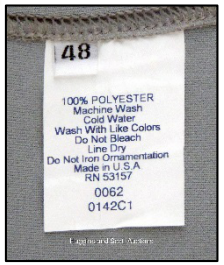
2005–2008 Road

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



2006–2008

The Nationals' road jersey features the wordmark "WASHINGTON" across the front in a bridge design flat on top and curved on the bottom. All lettering is navy/metallic gold/red. Navy top layer is a very complex cut shape to give the appearance of being beveled. Logos and numbers front and back are similarly styled. NOB is two–color, navy/red, no nameplate used. Sleeve patch for 2005 spells out the team name. For 2006–2008 it is a simple DC logo ringed by gold stars.

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2006–2008 Alternate

This patch used all three years on left sleeve

A red alternate jersey was introduced in the Nationals' second season. It is similar but not identical in appearance to the 2005 batting practice jersey. Three–color, 3D numbers on both front and back, navy/metallic gold/white. Names on back with no nameplates used, Block, white/navy. Sleeve patch is the navy–blue "DC" disc with the ring of gold stars.

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2009–2010 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

The road gray jersey body and trim itself is the same as the prior year, but the front lettering is completely changed. The bridge–arched "Washington" lettering from the prior years is replaced by a red script wordmark with underline, reminiscent of the Washington Senators' late 60s–early 70s uniforms. Numbers and names completely shuffle their colors from prior years. Numbers on front are red/blue/white; numbers on the back are complex four–color red/metallic gold/blue/white. Names are red/blue/white without nameplates used. Using different numbers/colors on the back and the front looks somewhat odd to me. The sleeve patch is an interlocked "DC" red/gold/blue.

Above: *wordmark splits awkwardly in the middle of the letter "h," which may be geometrically correct but rarely works well in practice. Note heavy wash fading and resulting mismatch of underarm panels on this well–worn game jersey, a problem with Cool Base jerseys. Jersey below is made of non–Cool Base heavy knit fabric.*

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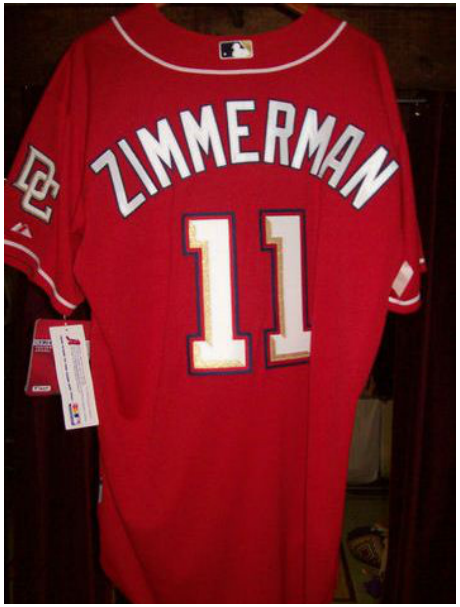
2009–2010 Alternate Red

The red alternate jersey changes significantly from 2008. White knit trim is added to the front and sleeve ends, and the "DC" logo on the front is replaced by the stylized cursive "curly W" in white outlined in blue, similar to the batting practice jersey design. Notice that these Nationals' jerseys with the wordmark on the left chest have another unique feature—the buttons are evenly spaced. Normally, there is an extra wide space between buttons left for the team wordmark. I don't understand why other teams with similarly positioned team designs (like the Yankees) don't do this as a matter of course. This jersey is intended to be worn at all Saturday and Sunday home games. Numbers on back are white/metallic gold/red/blue; numbers on the front are white/red/blue and lack the fancy sculpted accents of the back numbers. Names are white/blue. Note the low placement of the front numbers. The sleeve patch is the same style interlocked "DC" as found on the standard home and road jerseys, except its colors are in a different order. This patch is white/gold/blue.

Left: *Photo taken June 16, 2009 features the MLB Father's Day cancer awareness blue ribbon patch worn by all MLB teams that day.*



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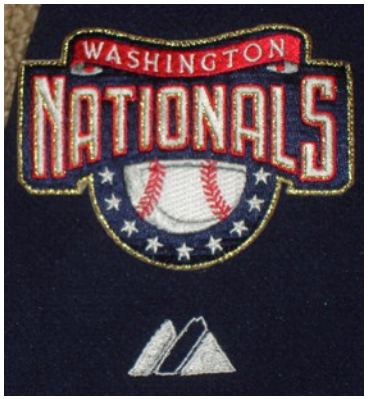
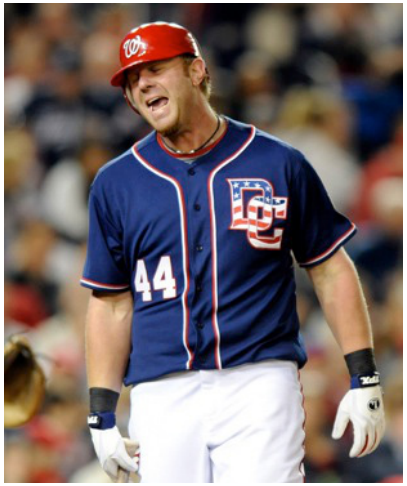
2009–2010 Alternate Blue

Bill Henderson Collection



This jersey looks like something left over from a 1976 Bicentennial sale at Walmart. Some see it as a desecration of our flag by incorporating its image into a corporate logo. I just see it as a bad design.

The alternate blue jersey is intended for special occasions, such as commemorating Independence Day, September 11 and for use in military tribute games. It is meant to be worn with a special blue cap that repeats the jersey's "DC" logo. This jersey features white and red knit trim around the sleeves, collar, and down the front of the jersey. Numbers on back are white/gold/red; numbers on the front are white/red only and lack the fancy sculpted accents of the back numbers. Names are white/red. Note the low placement of the front numbers. The Nationals' primary logo patch is used on the left sleeve. It is similar but not identical to the team inaugural patch used on the 2005 home uniform. This is the only team jersey to use this patch.



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2011–2021 Home

The Nationals change their home jersey again for 2011, replacing the old, ornate front wordmark with this stylized "curly W," their new primary logo, on the left chest. Colors are greatly simplified too, reduced to only two –red and navy blue. All of the 3D beveling previously found on the numbers is gone, and while that style looked good on paper, in color and in cloth it was hard to visualize the 3D impact that they were supposed to convey. The resulting number font without the extra beveling is just an extra bold variant of Wilson Varsity. Front numbers on the right chest do not align with the logo on the left, something that always looks odd to me. The sleeve patch is a new team disc. Knit trim on placket and sleeve ends is also two–color, red/navy. Majestic is manufacturer through 2019, Nike takes over in 2020. It is deleted after the 2021 season, replaced by the white jersey with the "Nationals" script.

Note the even–spaced ("pro spaced") buttons that sensibly omit the extra space between buttons two and three, since there is no wordmark crossing the placket there. I am surprised other teams do not adopt this feature.

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2011–2023 Road

2015

A couple very small changes for 2011 that only an eagle eye would notice. First, note that the wordmark has been altered to split between the letters “s” and “h” instead of right in the middle of the letter “h” as it did before. As I commented back on the previous jersey’s page, this is a common graphic designer’s issue, and while the exact center of the word might be in the center of a letter, in practice it is not a wise idea to split a letter like this in cloth as it rarely looks right. The sleeve trim is moved a fraction of an inch down on the sleeve, so it now covers the sleeve end. The sleeve patch is changed to the new–for–2011 disc patch with the “curly W” in the center. It is on the left sleeve through 2022, and switches sleeves based on player handedness in 2023. Player numbers lose their gold bevel layer and are now just red/blue/white. Majestic is manufacturer through 2019, Nike takes over in 2020.

2020

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2011–2023 Alternate Red

There are very minor changes made to the red alternate jersey for 2011. All knit trim changes to blue/white from the earlier white alone. The sleeve trim moves to the ends of the sleeves, a fraction of an inch lower than before. The sleeve patch changes to the new–for–2011 “W” disc from the earlier interlocking DC letters. It is on the left sleeve through 2022, and switches sleeves based on player handedness in 2023. All player lettering is simplified, reduced to two–color, white with a blue outline. Majestic is manufacturer through 2019, Nike takes over in 2020.

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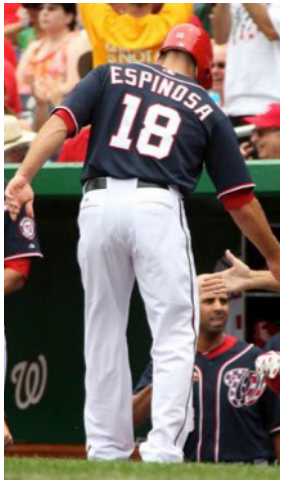
2011–2019 Alternate Blue Stars–and–Stripes

2012

The blue "Stars and Stripes" special–occasion alternate changes, at least slightly for the better. First, the front chest logo becomes a stylized "curly W," filled in with the stars and stripes pattern. The shade of blue used for the jersey itself is slightly darker than before. The sleeve patch changes to the new–for–2011 "W" disc patch. Finally, the old bevel–blocked 3D numbers are simplified for 2011 to become two–color, white outlined with red. The font is a stylized and slightly bold version of the old standby, Wilson Varsity. 2016–2019 worn exclusively at home. It is discontinued after 2019.

2019



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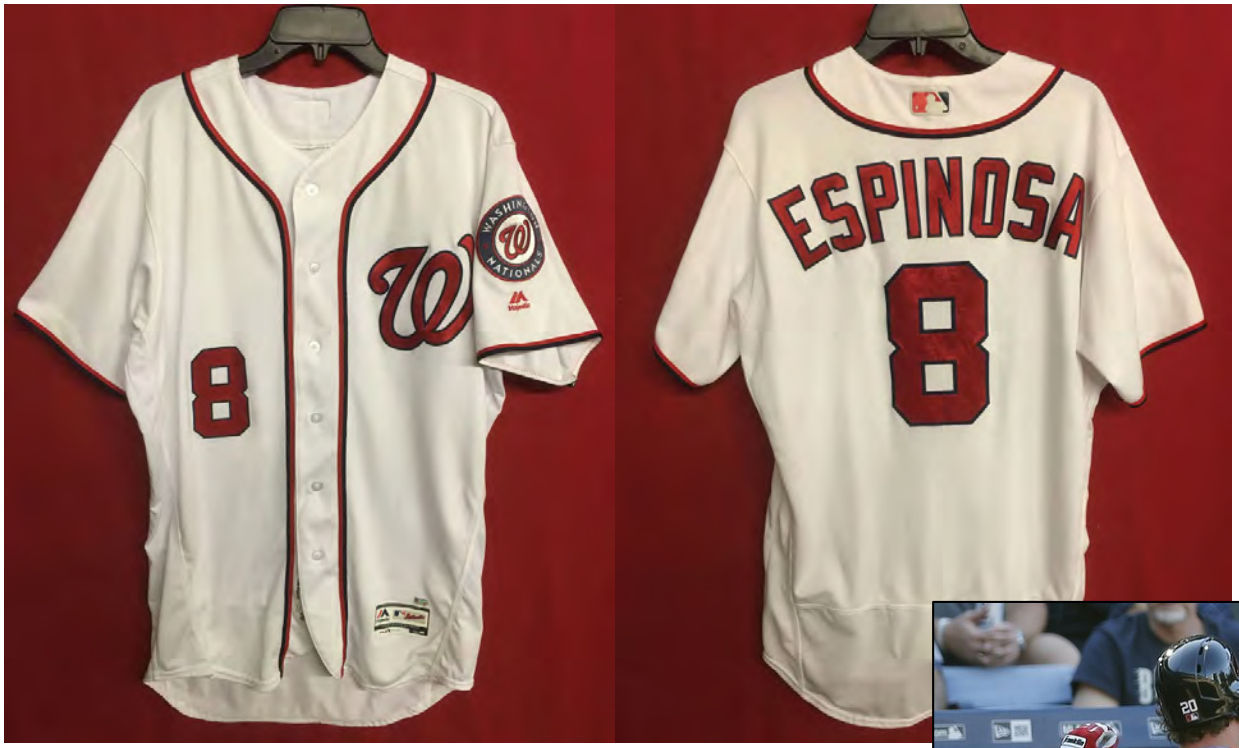
2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.



In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on–field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10–20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat–pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of prior years.

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2017–2020 Alternate Home White Stars–and–Stripes

The Nationals add yet another Stars and Stripes jersey, this one based on their white home jersey. Aside from the front “curly W” logo, which is now filled with the same stars–and–stripes pattern as the other patriotic version, the rest of the trim, patches, and lettering are identical to the home jersey. Majestic makes this jersey from 2017–2019, Nike was set to take over manufacture in 2020. Though it is in the team’s style guide for 2020, it is not worn on the field that year, essentially replaced by the new “script Nationals” home white alternate version, and it is unclear if Nike made a set at all. It is officially deleted from the lineup after the 2020 season.

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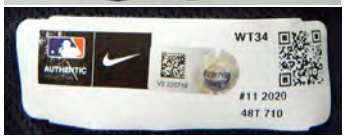
2018–2023 Alternate Blue Script



Back in 2011, the Nationals toyed with the idea of introducing a script “Nationals” jersey, going so far as to produce a prototype that appears later in this chapter. The “Nationals” script eventually made it big on the 2017 batting practice jerseys, but in 2018, for the first time, it made its way on to the field in game action in the form of this blue alternate. Made by Majestic on a blue Flex Base jersey, the script “Nationals” appears in white/red on front, with red/white front and back numbers in the Nats’ custom font and white/red player names on back. White/red braid encircles the neck and just above sleeve openings. The team disc patch adorns the left sleeve from 2018–2022, it switches sleeves based on players’ handedness in 2023. In 2018, the MLB All–Star patch appears on the right sleeve, honoring Washington as host. This jersey cemented its place in Nationals lore during the 2019 playoff run, with the team going 11–3 in the look during the postseason, including their World Series victory over the Astros. Majestic is manufacturer through 2019 (with inventory tag code WTA4), Nike takes over in 2020 (changing the code to WT34).

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2020–2021 Alternate Home White Script/2022–2023 Home

For 2019 Spring Training, the Nationals took to the field with a new white version of their blue alternate introduced the year before, featuring the "Nationals" script front. In 2020, it became an official look when it was adopted for the regular season and added into the team's rotation. (Note that the "ST" code on the tag above likely stands for Spring Training, but the code on the Spring Training version was actually "WTAE.") Built on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, the "Nationals" front script appears in blue/red matching the colors of the player names on back. Front and back numbers, both in the Nationals' custom font, are red/blue. Blue/red braid encircles the neck and just above sleeve openings. It 2022, it is elevated to official home jersey, replacing the white "curly–W" jersey. Midway through the 2022 season, some jerseys began to have the sleeve trim at the very end of the sleeve, though this change was not universal on–field until 2023. The team disc patch resides on the left sleeve through 2022, then switches sleeves based on players' handedness in 2023. For 2020 season, a 2019 World Series Champs patch is on the right sleeve. In 2023, the jersey bears the "TNL" patch, in memory of late Managing Principal Owner Ted Lerner.

During the 2022 season, the Nationals moved the trim on their home jerseys from just above the sleeve end to the very end of the sleeve. The change was not consistent for every player in 2022—in fact, players appeared on–field with both versions at the same time, as seen above. By 2023, the switch to trim at the end of the sleeve became the standard.

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2022–2023 City Connect

The Nationals combine two springtime traditions in Washington, D.C., baseball and cherry blossom trees with their City Connect entry. This Nike Flex Base jersey is in a charcoal gray color with subtle cherry blossom pattern printed throughout. “WAS” adorns the front in a white/light pink beveled typeface, with charcoal outline and light pink drop shadow. The back numbers are in the same color configuration. The font is meant to evoke chiseled lettering on monuments, as well as the “W” of the 1924 Washington Senators uniforms. Names on back are single–color light pink. A recolored version of Washington, D.C.’s flag appears on the left sleeve, and a recolored team disc patch is on the right. The team disc sleeve patch is deleted in 2023, perhaps in preparation for an ad patch that does not materialize. Finally, an applique of a cherry blossom tree, with its petals scattering in the spring breeze, resides above the jock tag.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league–wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off–white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn–in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi–circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte–finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro–perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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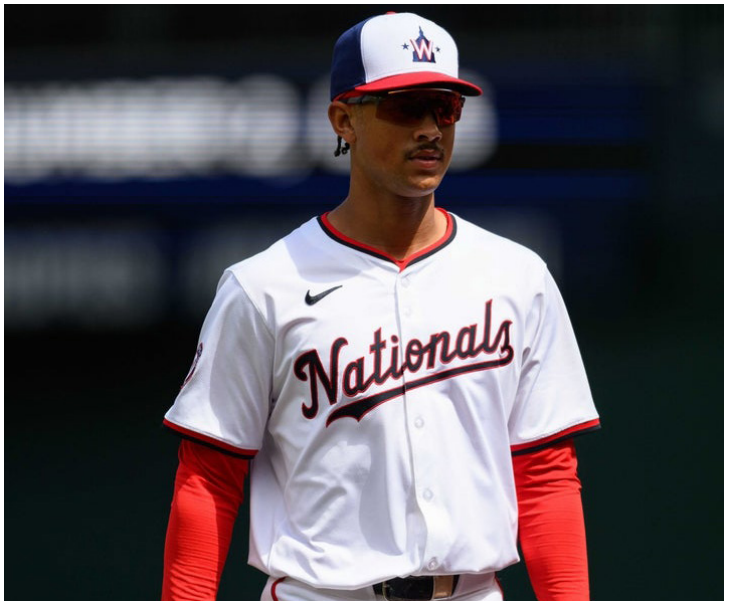
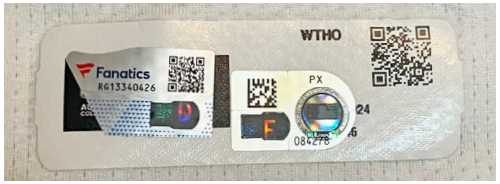
2024 Home

Dominick Hyman Collection





The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Nationals' home jersey. The most visible is the league–wide shrinking of back names and numbers, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Front numbers are deleted. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's script splits tin the same place, though the lettering is thinner and less steeply angled than before. Neck and sleeve–end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which makes it visibly wider. Neck trim color order reverses from the previous version. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys.

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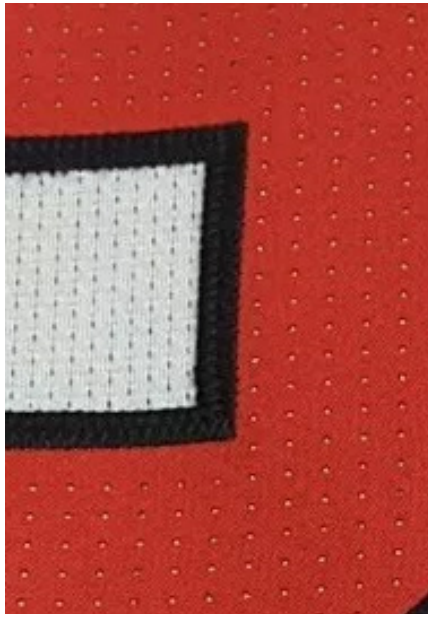
2024 Road



The Nationals introduce a new road jersey for 2024, ditching script and moving to block letters for “Washington” in blue/white/red. Player names are in blue/red, while front and back numbers appear in red/blue. Blue/white/red trim encircles the neck and sleeve openings. Since this jersey is launched in VPE, it bears the hallmarks of the template, including the league–wide shrinking of back names and numbers, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve–end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Home Pullover

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The Nationals introduce a new alternate jersey for 2024, a white pullover with blue raglan sleeves. Like other VPE pullovers, it has a strange notch in the front of the collar, making it more of a "Y" neck than a "V" neck. Blue/white/red trim borders the neck opening, including the notch area, and also appears on sleeve ends. The front of the jersey includes a logo used on the team's BP and alternate caps, a "W" in white/red superimposed on a blue outline of the Capitol dome with a red star on either side. A new blue patch in the shape of the District of Columbia, bordered in red/white with "DC" in white/red over it, appears on the sleeve. Player name and back number are red/blue. Since this jersey is launched in VPE, it bears the hallmarks of the template, including the league–wide shrinking of back names and numbers, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve–end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The style is short–lived. It is worn 11 times and then deleted after the season following just a single year of use.

Above: *Note that the wash tag on some, but not all, team–spec versions of this jersey have an "09P0" code rather than the typical "09B0." Our educated guess is that the "P" is for "pullover" and the "B" is for "button–front."*

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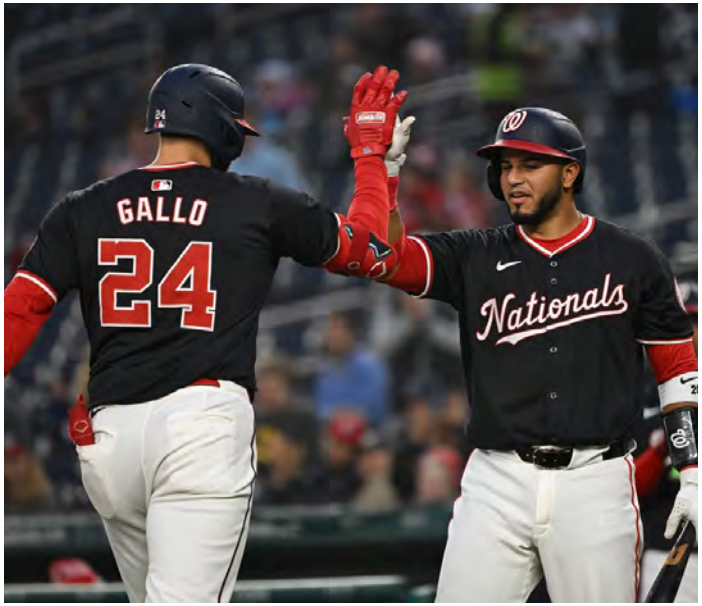
2024 Alternate Blue

Stephen Kraljic Collection



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Nationals' blue alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league–wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Front numbers are deleted. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's script splits tin the same place, though the lettering is thinner and less steeply angled than before. Neck and sleeve–end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which makes it visibly wider. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Nationals' City Connect jersey that was introduced two seasons prior. The most visible change is the league–wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Otherwise, because this jersey has no trim on the neck, sleeves, or placket, it appears mostly the same as before. The team uses perforated numbers on this version of the jersey. The style is replaced by a new City Connect 2.0 in 2025.

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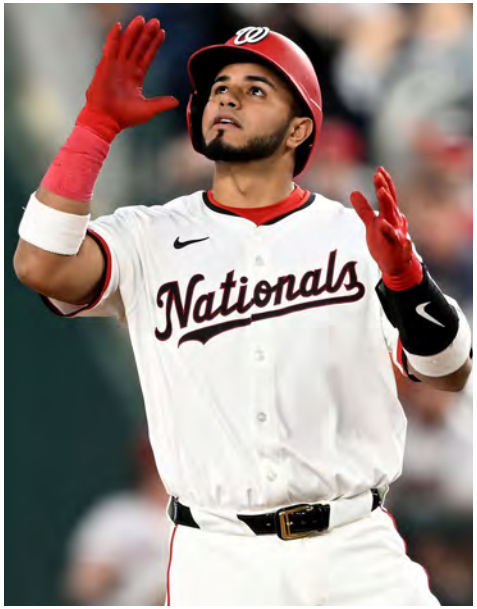
2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non–gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Nationals, however, do not restore the front number on this style, last used in 2023. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The jersey has the new–for–2025 white Nike jock tag, which is used on a handful of jerseys around the league. The team also added an ad patch starting on July 1.



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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat–staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre–2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes (even though this jersey did not exist in 2023), and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Washington” lettering breaks in the same place as in 2024, that is to say, awkwardly across the “I” as seen in the photos on this page. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team also added an ad patch starting on July 1.

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2025 Alternate Red

The Nationals continue their tinkering in 2025, deleting their one–year–only pullover alternate, and replacing it with a red alternate instead. This jersey is very similar to the red alternate that the pullover replaced with a few small changes. The earlier alternate had blue/white trim around the collar and placket, while this one has it just around the neck opening. Further, the last red alternate had a front number, which does not appear on the 2025 version. Sleeve–end trim, formerly white/blue, is now blue/white. Despite the updates, visually, it is a very similar appearance, and in that way is something of a correction after the odd pullover of 2025. The jersey is made on the VPE template, and though in its first year, it still carries the updates made to VPE since 2024, including that back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team also added an ad patch starting on July 1.

Above: *The previous version of the Nationals red alternate, which the team used from 2011–2023. It is the inspiration for the 2025 version, with minor modifications.*

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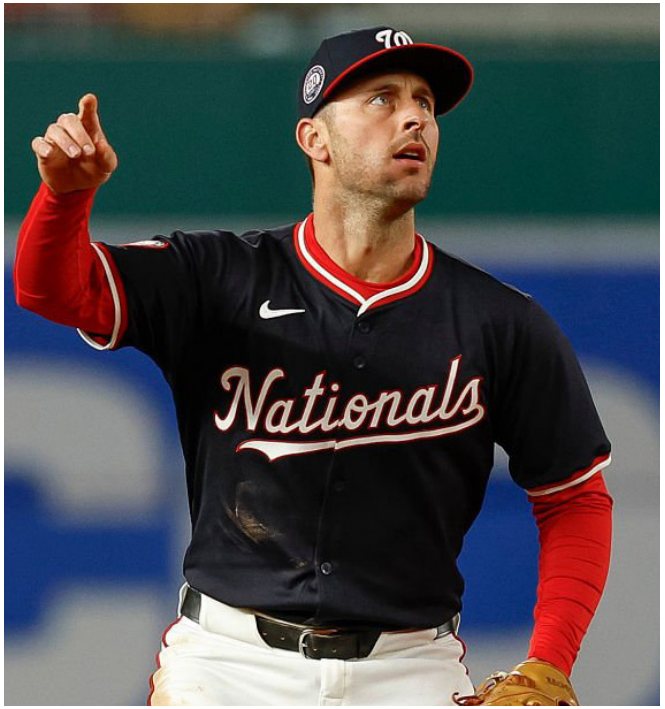
2025 Alternate Blue



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non–gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Nationals, however, do not restore the front number on this style, last used in 2023. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team also added an ad patch starting on July 1.

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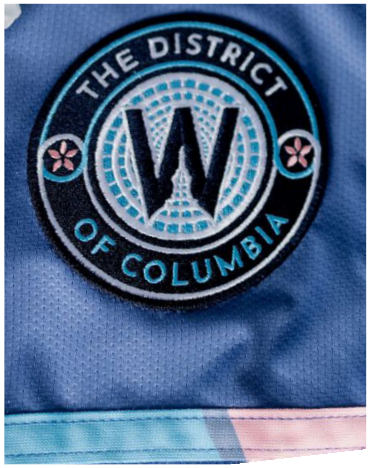
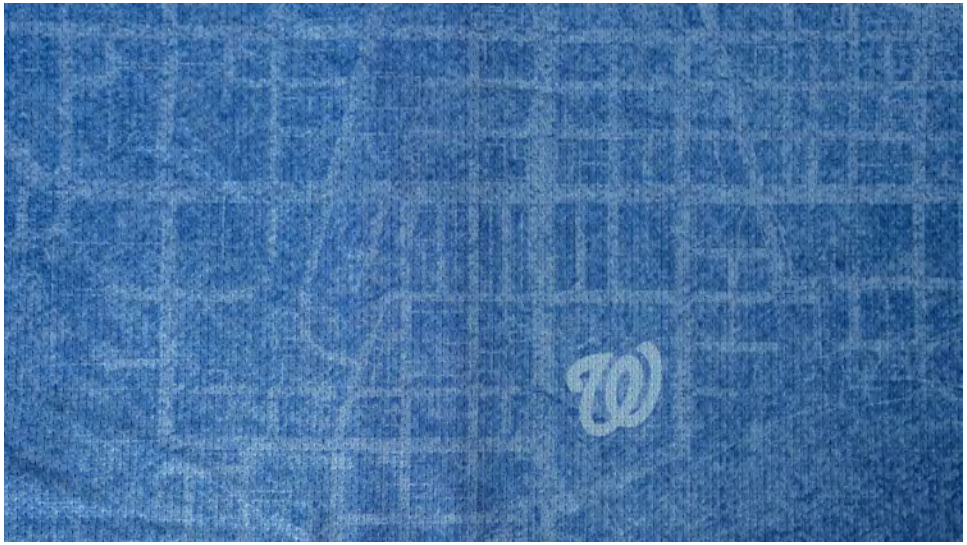
2025 City Connect 2.0



The Nationals replace their gray, cherry blossom City Connect 1.0 set with a new uniform in 2025 that they call “the Blueprint.” According to the team’s press release: “The denim color jerseys depict the design of the city street grid. On the chest is an interlocking “DC” logo, worn by the Nats from 2005–2010. The logo’s (and back numbers’) 3D treatment is a reference to the 1956 Washington Senators. Player name is white/blue with no shadow. The circular arm patch reads “The District of Columbia” with the block “W” and Capitol Dome design.” In additional the sleeve–ends have a multi–color pattern the team says is “a mosaic pattern...that highlights the city’s diversity.” Toward the bottom of the jersey’s front and back, a “curly W” logo represents the location of the team’s ballpark within the city. “2005” is heat–pressed above the jock tag, representing the year the team was founded. Like many retail–friendly City Connect details, it is likely to be invisible when worn by actual players on the field. Numbers are not perforated. It is hard to know for sure, but it appears that the jersey may have been made on the modified VPE template that 2025 road jerseys used, in that it lacks the extra band of trim around the neck opening, and sleeve–end trim appears sewn on rather than sewn in to the jersey. Both elements may simply be a result of the intricate design on the jersey itself, and the width of the sleeve trim, more than a change in template design. More research required. The team also added an ad patch starting on July 1.



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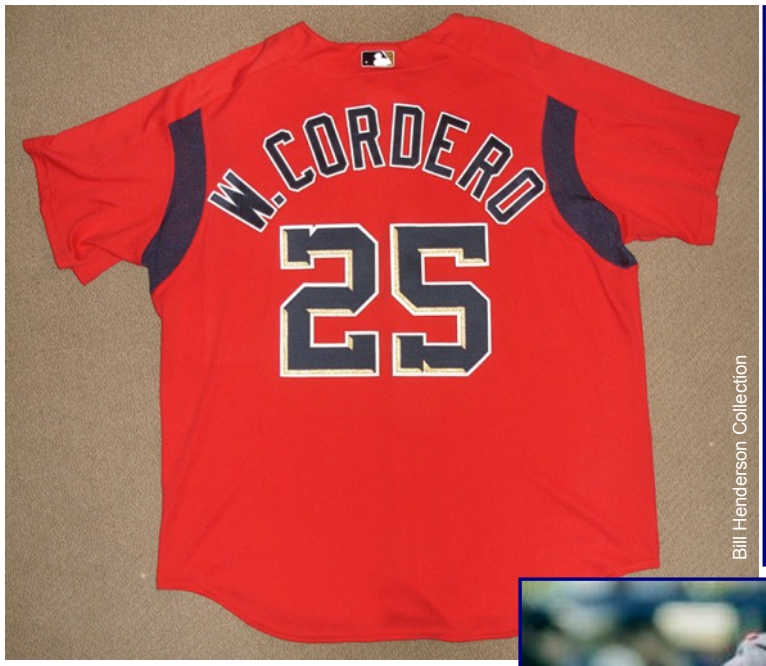
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

2005 Batting Practice



Bill Henderson Collection

The Nationals' 2005–only red bating practice jersey features the interlocked "DC" logo on the left chest in navy/gold/white. Navy blue sleeve inserts are used. Back numbers are navy/gold/white. The navy top layer is a very complex cut shape to give the appearance of being beveled. For 2005 only, the batting practice jersey has the same number style as the game jerseys. Logos and numbers front and back are similarly colored. NOB is two–color navy/white, no nameplate used.

The Nationals wore these jerseys at least once in a MLB game in 2005, on the road against the Phillies.

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2006 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

For 2006, the team reversed its colors to produce a navy blue batting practice jersey with red sleeve inserts. This is also a one–year style. The front “DC” team logo changes its color alignment slightly as it changes to while/gold/red. Player names are omitted. Numbers on the back are still in the Nationals special font, but are in a simple two–color white/red, deleting the bevel–effect top layer that is used on game jerseys

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2007–2010 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

In 2007, along with the rest of Major League Baseball, the Nationals change to the new Majestic Cool Base BP jersey, which is very colorful and lightweight. Features one–button neck with bright white and red side panels. The logo on the jersey front changes to the “curly W” that is used on the team’s hats. Numbers, logos and lettering are all heat–applied designs, and not sewn or embroidered tackle twill. Numbers and names are white/red. Numbers are in the Nationals’ special font style, but lack the gold, bevel effect of game jersey numbers.

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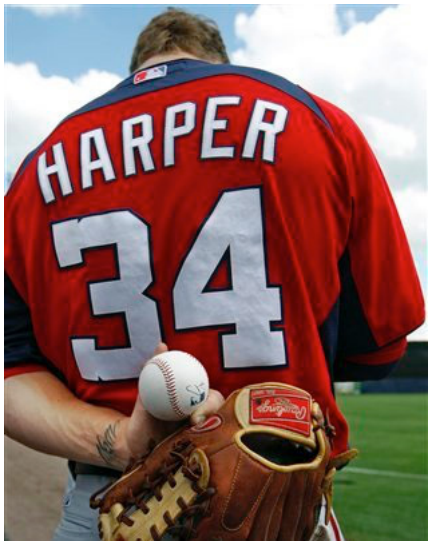
2011–2013 Batting Practice



MLB changed the batting practice jerseys simultaneously for all teams for the 2011 season. Button fronts with simplified contrasting trim, the Nationals' new duds are solid red with blue side panels and a blue panel above the player name on back. Player names and numbers are on back only, in two color white outlined with blue. All adornments go back to twill lettering.

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2014–2015 Batting Practice

2014 brings a league–wide freshening of batting practice jerseys, and the Nationals use the opportunity to make a noticeable change (mostly) to the back of their jerseys. Previously, the backs were red with a blue panel above the player name. For 2014, this is reversed, and the whole back, except for the panel above the player name, is made navy blue. The main color of all back lettering remains white as before, but the outlines switch to red from 2013's blue. Knit sleeve ends and neck opening trim are banded red and navy. Identify also by the tall jock tag on the front tail, replacing the oblong one from the prior years.

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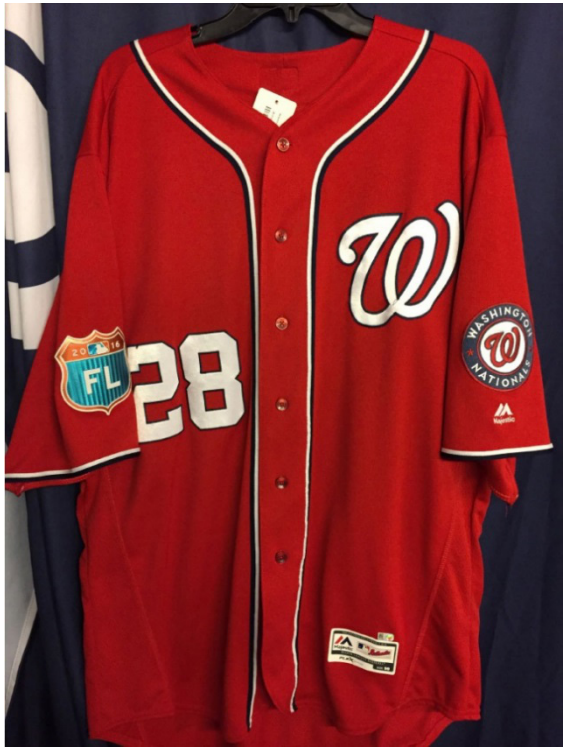
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training



For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training–specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Nationals use their regular season red alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill/blue. Front numbers are the standard white/blue. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Nationals spend Spring Training.

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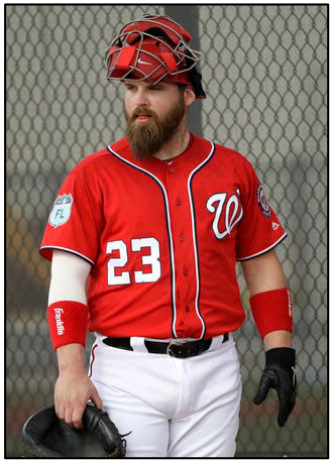
2017 Spring Training



Spring Training–only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single–color white with gray printing, replacing the many team–specific combinations from the year before.

The Nationals again use their regular season red alternate as a basis for their spring training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard white/blue, as is used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Nationals spend spring training.

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2017–2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat–pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail.

The Nationals jersey is red with blue back and underarm gussets. The script “Nationals” logo adorns the front in white/blue. This is the first use of the script Nationals wordmark that would be adopted in 2018 for the blue regular season alternate and later for a home white alternate. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white/blue in Nationals special font on left sleeve. A “curly W” patch is on the right sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general template of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts using one layer of white twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018–year–specific patterns. The Nationals use their regular–season red alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard white/blue, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate and featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home replaces the usual team disc on that sleeve. The 2018 All–Star Game patch is sewn on the right.

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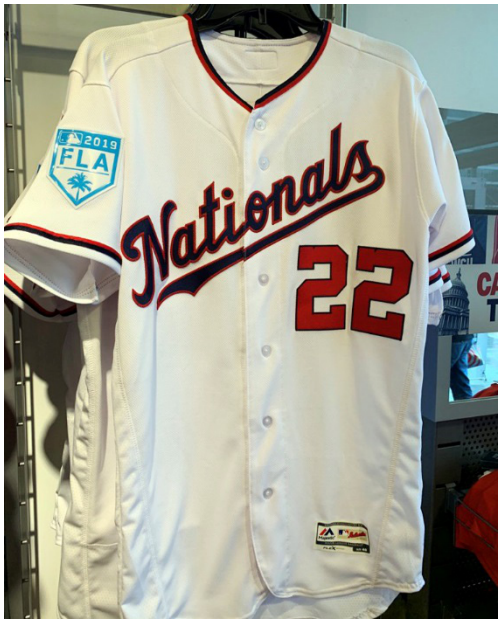
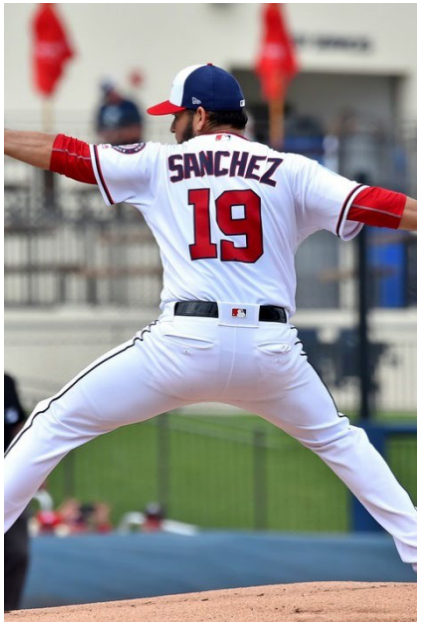
2019 White Spring Training





The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the template theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single–color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi–layered team–color twill like 2016, but without 2016's sublimated twill patterns. The 2019 Nationals use a jersey design unique from their regular–season standard set (but one they will adopt as a regular–season home alternate in 2020 and upgrade it to their primary home jersey in 2022) as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. Front "Nationals" script and player names on back are blue/red, while front and back numbers are red/blue.

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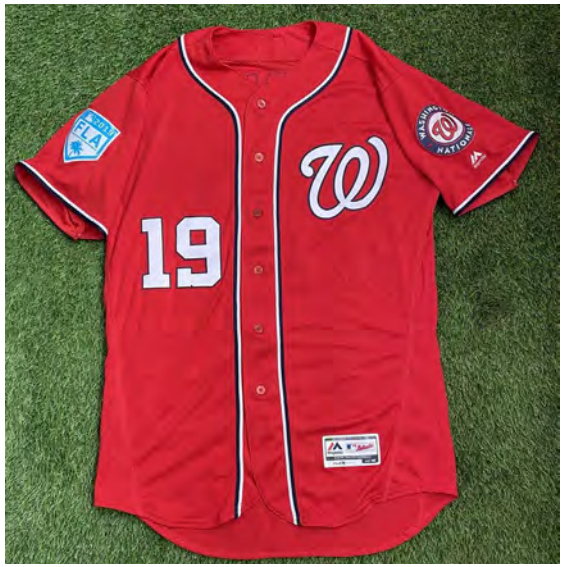
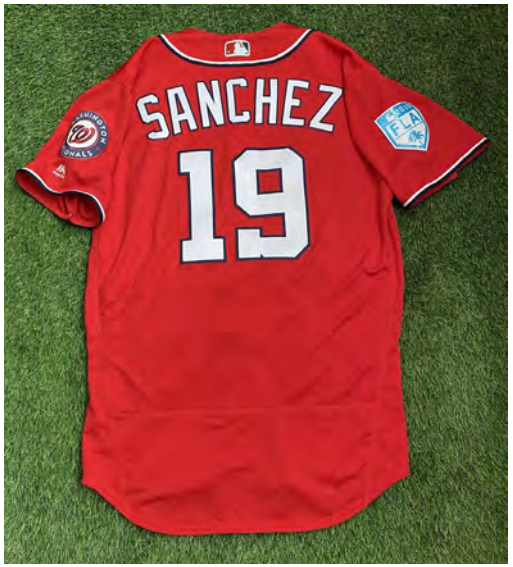
2019 Red Spring Training





The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the template theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single–color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi–layered team–color twill like 2016, but without 2016's sublimated twill patterns. The 2019 Nationals use their red alternate as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. All front and back lettering is white/blue.

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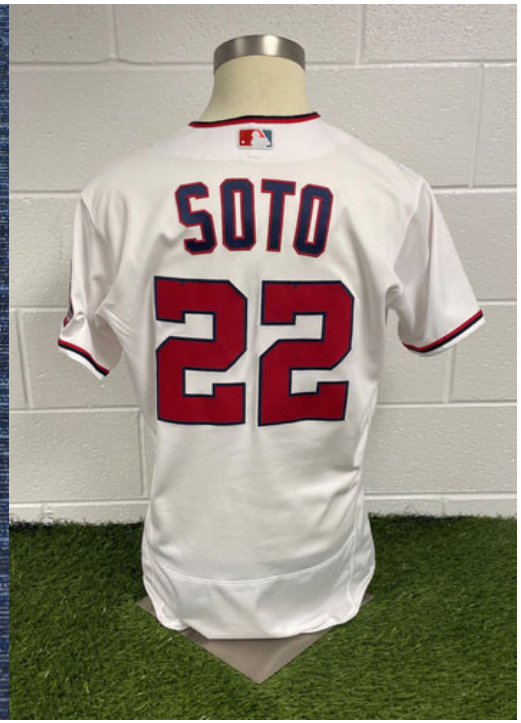
2020–2023 White Spring Training



2020

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league–wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non–patterned, multi–layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular–season alternates. For 2020–2023, the Nationals use their 2019 spring training jersey, which was adopted as a regular–season home alternate for 2020 and upgraded to the primary home jersey in 2022. It is a white jersey with "Nationals" script on front, with red/blue front and back numbers and blue/red player name on back. The 2020 version of the jersey also has the 2019 World Series Champions patch ***(left)*** on the right sleeve.

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2020–2023 Red Spring Training

2020

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league–wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and the lettering is the same non–patterned, multi–layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular–season alternates. For 2020–2023, the Nationals use their regular–season "curly–W" red alternate, which was their Spring Training jersey from 2016–2018. All lettering is white/blue. The 2020 version of the jersey also has the 2019 World Series Champions patch ***(left)*** on the right sleeve.

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Special Events Jerseys

2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1937–1938 Homestead Grays)

June 2, 2006: The Nationals visit the Brewers for a Turn Back the Clock Negro League contest. The Nationals wear 1937–1938 road uniforms of the Homestead Grays; the Brewers dress as the 1923 Milwaukee Bears. The knit uniforms were made for the teams by AIS.

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2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1944 Homestead Grays)

August 11, 2006: The Nationals take their turn dressing as the Homestead Grays and invite the New York Mets for a throwback contest to the 1944 Negro Leagues. Both the Nats and Pirates often use the Grays as a throwback team uniform because the original Homestead Grays played their home games in both Washington and Pittsburgh in 1941–1944. The Mets dressed as the New York Cubans. AIS made the uniforms for both the Nationals and the Mets for this game.

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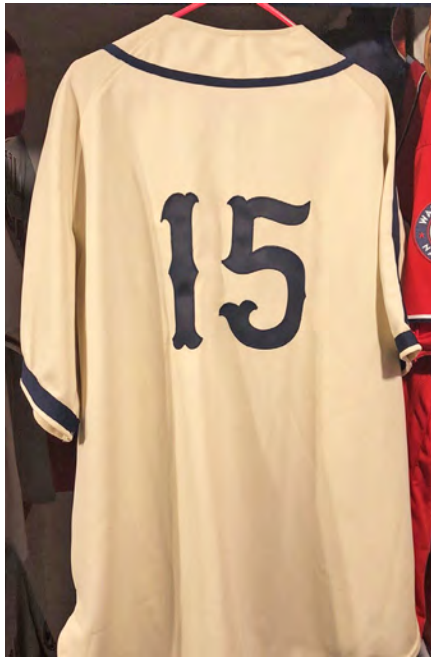
2007 Negro Leagues Tribute (1943 Homestead Grays)



In a home game on August 3, 2007, the Nationals dressed as the 1943 Homestead Grays, vs. the St. Louis Cardinals, who dressed as the St. Louis Stars. Chicago White Sox late–1970s “Leisure Suit” number font used on the back. Both the Nationals and the Pittsburgh Pirates dress as the Homestead Grays in many Negro League games, as the team played home games in both cities. Made by AIS, these uniforms appear identical to those worn by the Pirates in several such games.

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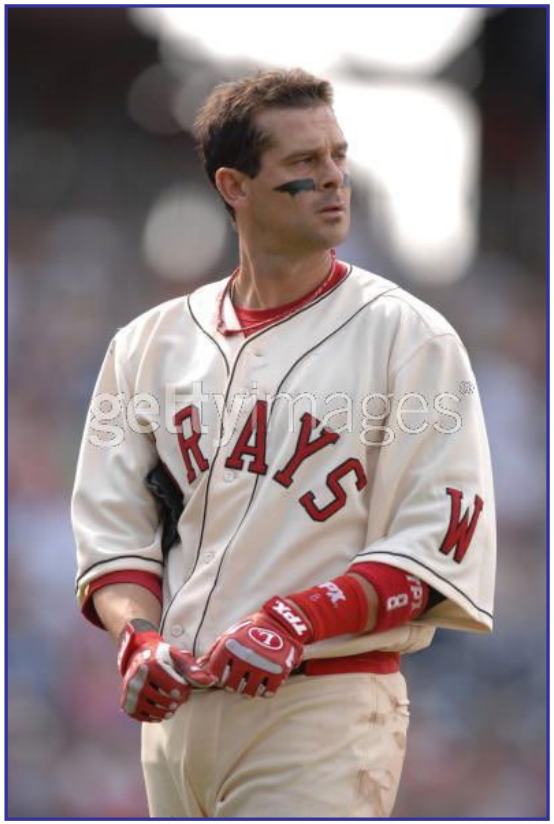
2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Homestead Grays)



"Grays vs. Grays": Game played at home May 3, 2008 vs. the Pirates. This game is unique in that both teams dressed as the Grays. The Pirates dressed in away uniforms as the 1935 Grays. The Grays played home games in both Pittsburgh and Washington 1941–1944.

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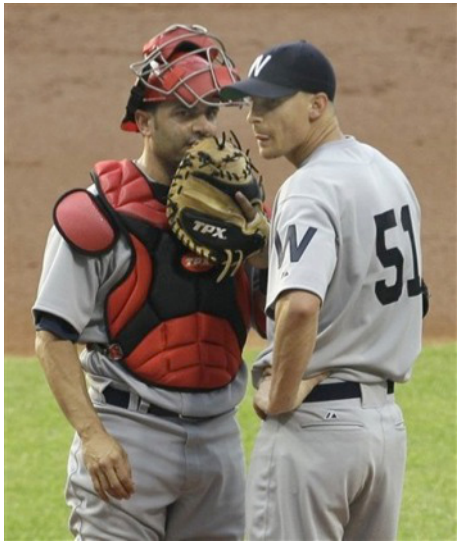
2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1920 Washington Senators

The Washington Nationals and Cleveland Indians wore throwback uniforms on June 12, 2010 to commemorate each city's first World Series wins in 1920 and 1924. The Nationals' uniforms were stark in their plainness. The front of the jersey is completely blank, and the only ornamentation was a navy "W" on the left sleeve. Varsity numbers used on back, which is a modern addition, as player numbers were not yet used in 1920.



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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1970 Washington Senators

Bill Henderson Collection

June 26. 2010: the Baltimore Orioles celebrated the 40th Anniversary of their 1970 World Series triumph wearing replicas of those uniforms, as the Nationals donned Washington Senators uniforms from that season as well. These uniforms looked familiar to me, and I recalled that the Texas Rangers had worn the same style in 2008 in a Turn Back the Clock game of their own. A photo of the uniform from that game is below. Interestingly, the wordmark is not identical, the "S" is different and the overall script is fatter.

Texas Rangers May 4, 2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1968—the Senators' script is not identical to the Nationals' 2010 version

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1936 Washington Senators

The Nationals visited the Padres on June 11, 2011, and both teams wore 1936–style uniforms. The Nationals wore the uniforms of the 1936 American League Washington Senators, and the Padres the 1936 Pacific Coast League Padres.

The Nationals/Senators uniforms have nothing on the front at all, featuring only a red "W" outlined with navy on the left sleeve. Back numbers are in Varsity Bold in the same color combination. Knit uniforms are made by Majestic.

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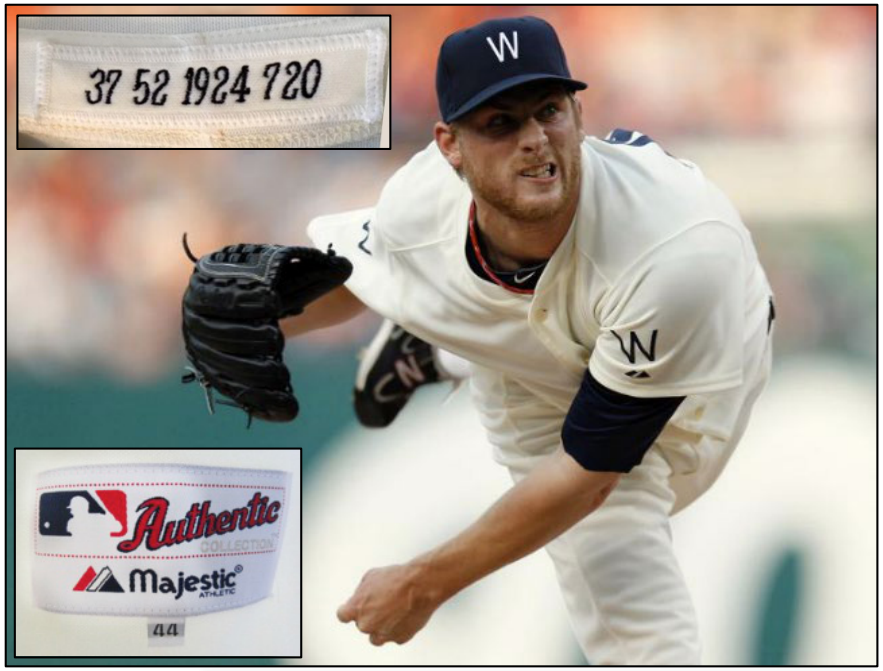
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1924 Washington Senators



July 5, 2012: The San Francisco Giants visited Washington and the Nationals wore these replica ivory–colored knit 1924 throwbacks made by Majestic. A small, thin "W" adorns each sleeve, and the Red Sox–style numbers added to the back are a modern touch, as teams did not wear numbers in 1924. In the history of MLB, the team was officially known as the Senators only from 1901 to 1904. Then they officially became the "Washington Nationals" until the Senators nickname was restored in 1956. However, through their entire existence, the team continued to be mainly referred to as the Senators by fans and media.

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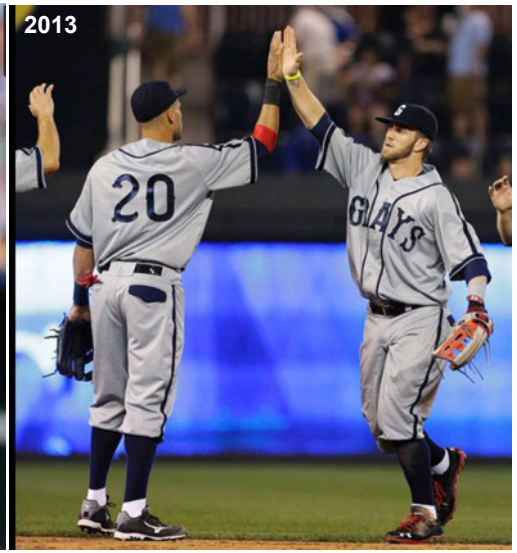
2012–2013 Negro Leagues Tributes (1943 Homestead Grays)

2012



2013

2012

July 28, 2012: The Nationals visit Milwaukee and play the Brewers, who dressed as the Milwaukee Bears. **August 24, 2013:** At Kansas City (Royals dressed as Kansas City Monarchs). AIS knit uniforms in gray that are the same style as have been worn by the Pirates in Negro League tribute games.

2012

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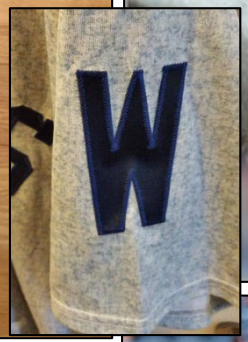
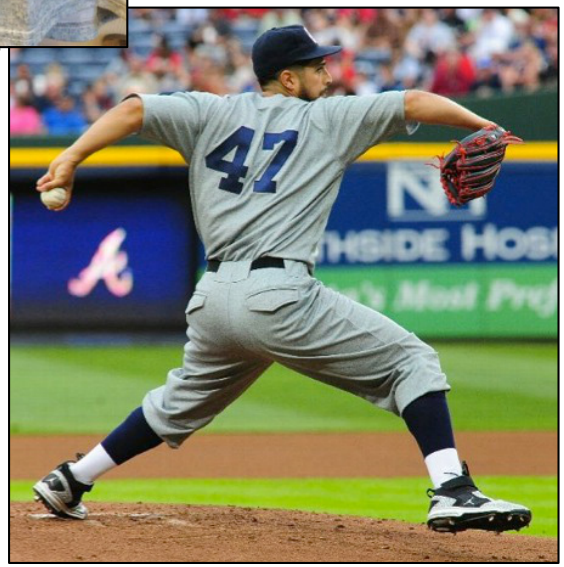
2013 Negro Leagues Tribute (1944 Homestead Grays)



June 1, 2013: The inaugural Atlanta Braves Heritage Weekend features a Negro Leagues tribute game between the Braves, dressed as the Atlanta Black Crackers, and the Nationals, dressed as the 1944 era Homestead Grays. The Grays called both Washington and Pittsburgh home during the early 1940s, playing half their home games in each city. These AIS knit uniforms replicate flannel very well in both the mottled color and the feel of the fabric. Navy lettering, tallish “W” on left sleeve, Varsity numbers (same as the Yankees home jerseys) on back.



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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013–2014 Memorial Day

The Nationals were at home on both May 27, 2013 and May 26, 2014. MLB decreed that all teams would wear camouflage–lettered uniforms on these days. The Nationals replaced all red on their insignias, player names and numbers with U.S. Military desert camouflage twill. Game worn jerseys were auctioned on MLB.com.

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2015 Memorial Day

The Nats are on the road for Memorial Day, May 25, 2015. After two years of applying desert camo to their home jerseys, the road gray becomes the camo canvas, outlined in red and white for all back and front lettering. The white background of the home jersey with its blue outlines make that version much more legible than this one, and though the Nats' bold, serifed number font helps, the rest of the lettering nearly disappears. This incarnation features the Nationals' "10 Years" patch, and the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/ khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.–based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re–lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. Though the Nationals already have a patriotic–themed jersey, they forego that alternate to conform to the rest of the teams taking part in this promotion. The Nationals wear their home white jerseys with the red–background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016 St. Patrick's Day

Stephen Kraljic collection

The Nationals go green for St. Patrick's Day 2016 in a spring training game held March 17. Based on their home jersey, this Flex Base model is white, with front logo and front and back numbers in green/gray. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. There are no player names on back. The team's left sleeve patch is reduced to shades of gray and white, while the right sleeve sports a green shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the 2016 St. Patrick's Day promotion. The usual placket trim on the jersey is removed in favor of green knit trim around both sleeves.

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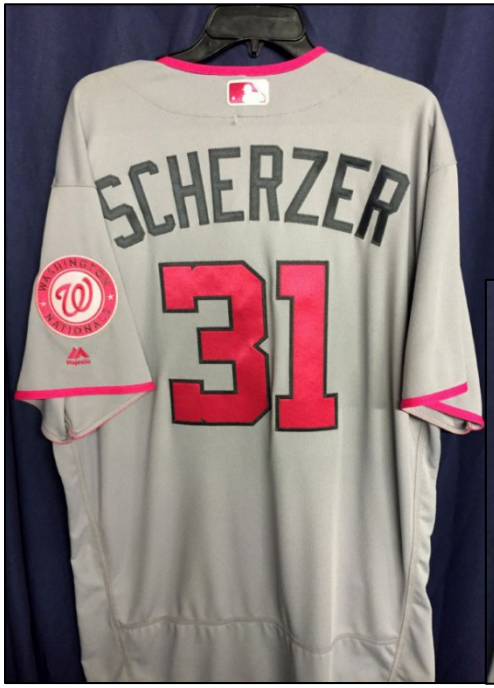
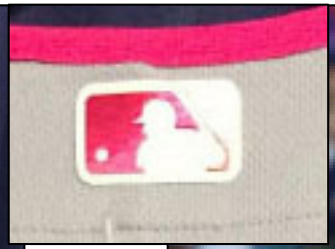
2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.





All teams wear special pink–trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, May 8, 2016. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Nationals wear their road gray jerseys and the typically three–color front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in pink with dark gray outlines while the player names on back are rendered in single–color dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally red/blue/red, becomes pink.

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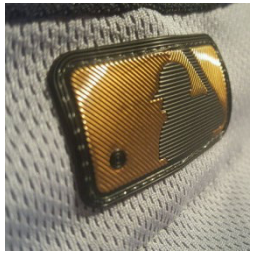
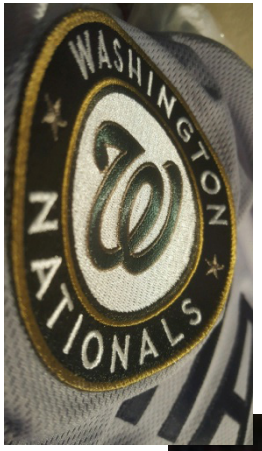
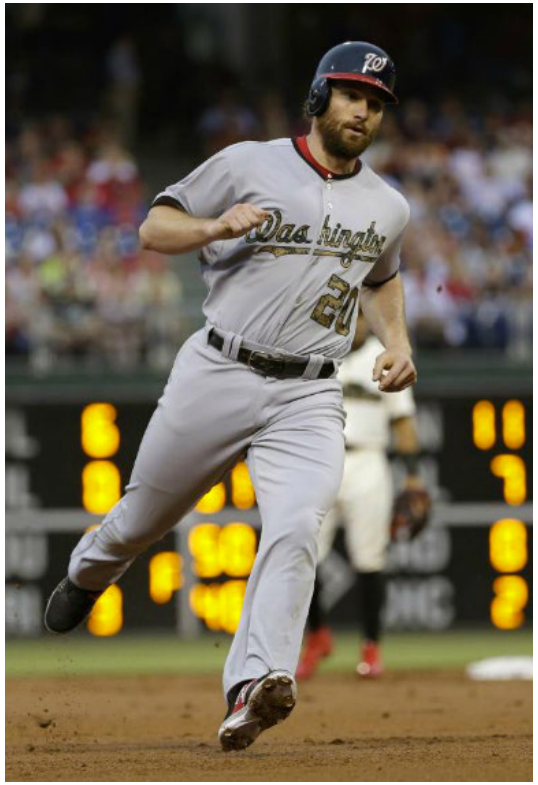
2016 Memorial Day







The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league–wide template, with higher–visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Nationals apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The typically three–color front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in two–color woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single–color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single–color black from the usual red/blue/red.

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2016–2017 Father's Day

All teams wear special light blue–trimmed uniforms for Father's Day, Sunday, June 19, 2016 and June 17–18, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. The back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Nationals wear their road gray jerseys and the typically three–color front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are single–color dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally red/blue/red, becomes dark gray.

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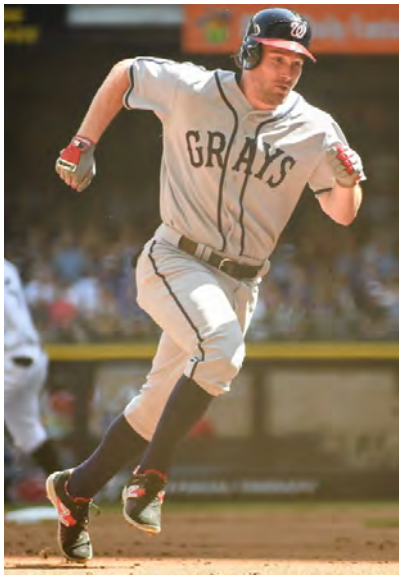
2016 Negro Leagues Tribute (1943 Homestead Grays)

Stephen Kraljic collection

On June 25, the Nats take the field honoring the Negro League's Homestead Grays in this particular road uniform for the third time This version is the first made by Majestic, with the 2012–2013 incarnations made by AIS. Like its predecessors, player customization is limited to the number on back, in a special and ornate font, one–color navy blue twill. Majestic's front lettering appears smaller than the style used by AIS, and the sleeve and neck trim are the same size throughout, whereas sleeve trim on recent AIS jerseys was wider. The opposing Brewers countered with Milwaukee Bears Negro League jerseys for the game.



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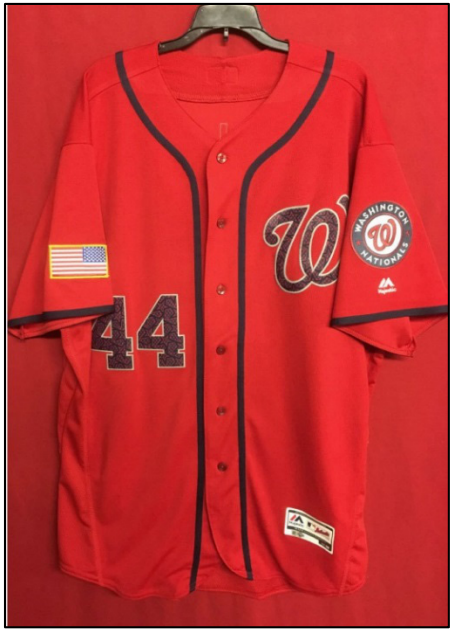
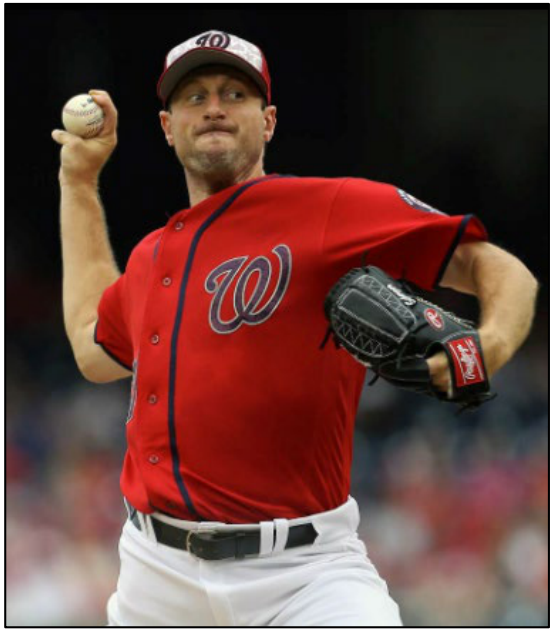
2016 Independence Day





MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Nationals are at home and wear their alternate red jersey.

All clubs have a choice of two styles of star–spangled lettering twill and the Nationals select the blue twill version with gray outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with the player name in a lighter shade of gray than the outlines, allowing for somewhat better legibility. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim, normally white/blue, becomes single–color blue.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink–trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi–colored lettering is done in the lightweight–twill style. The Nationals wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering, and front and back numbers in pink/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally red/navy, becomes dark gray.

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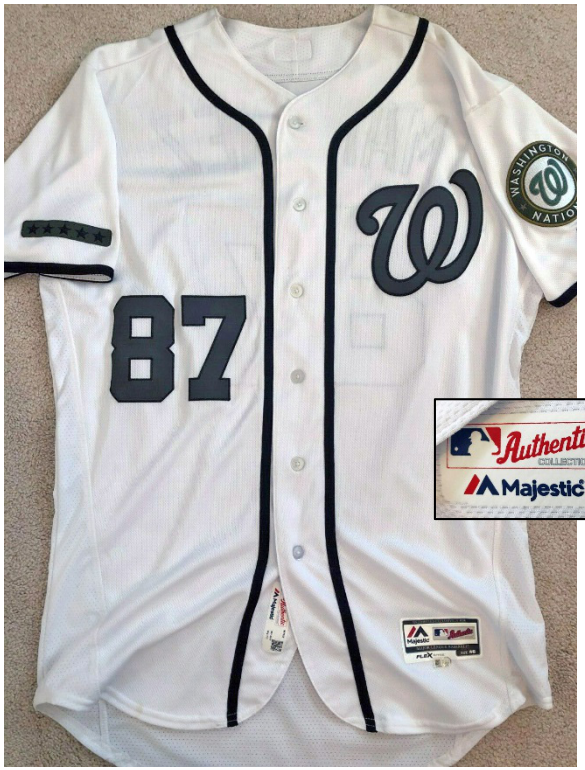
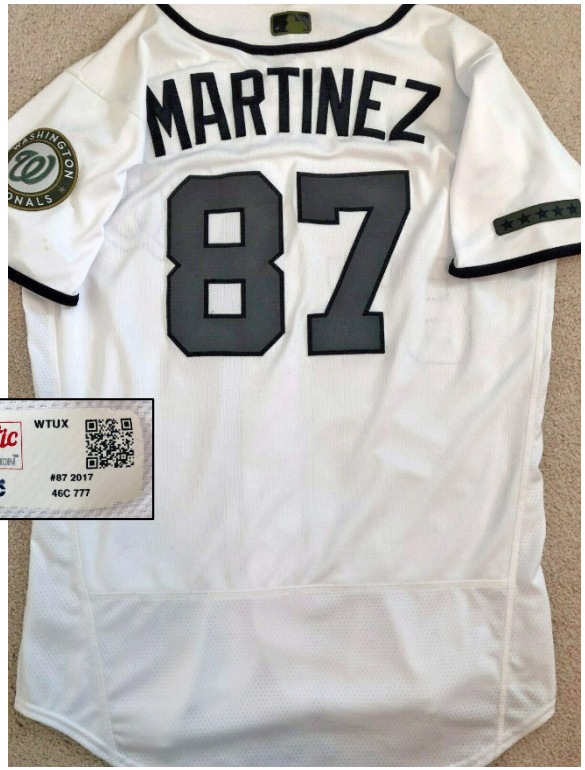
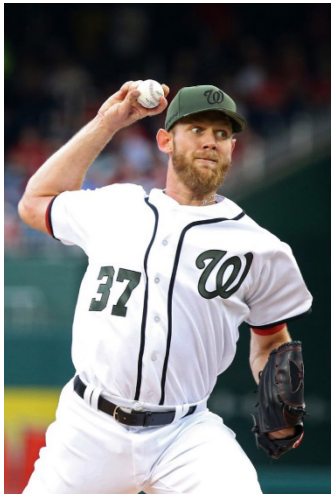
2017 Memorial Day (Home)







The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single–color black, while the back–of–collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single–color black. The Nationals apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017.

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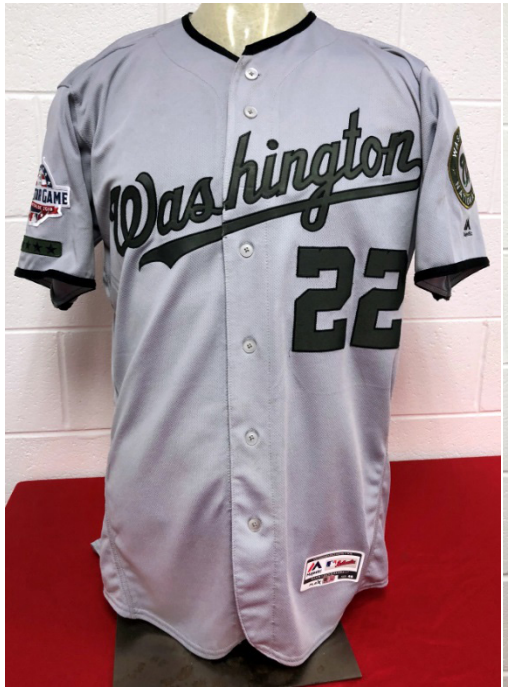
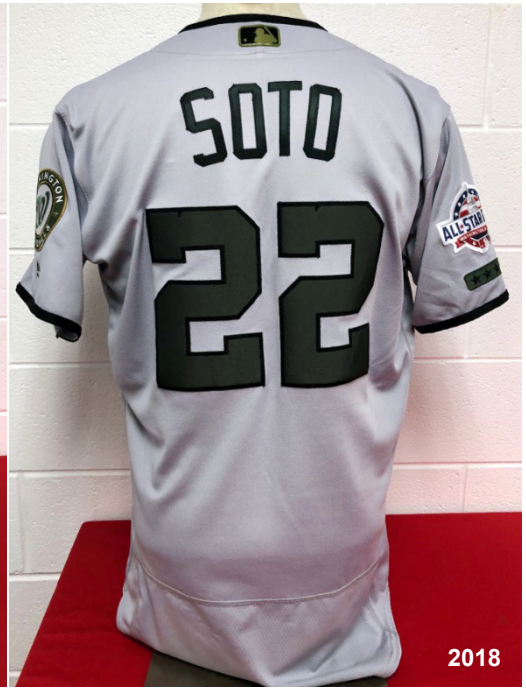
2017–2018 Memorial Day (Road)





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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less–busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill—appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017, the Nationals wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single–color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single–color blue.

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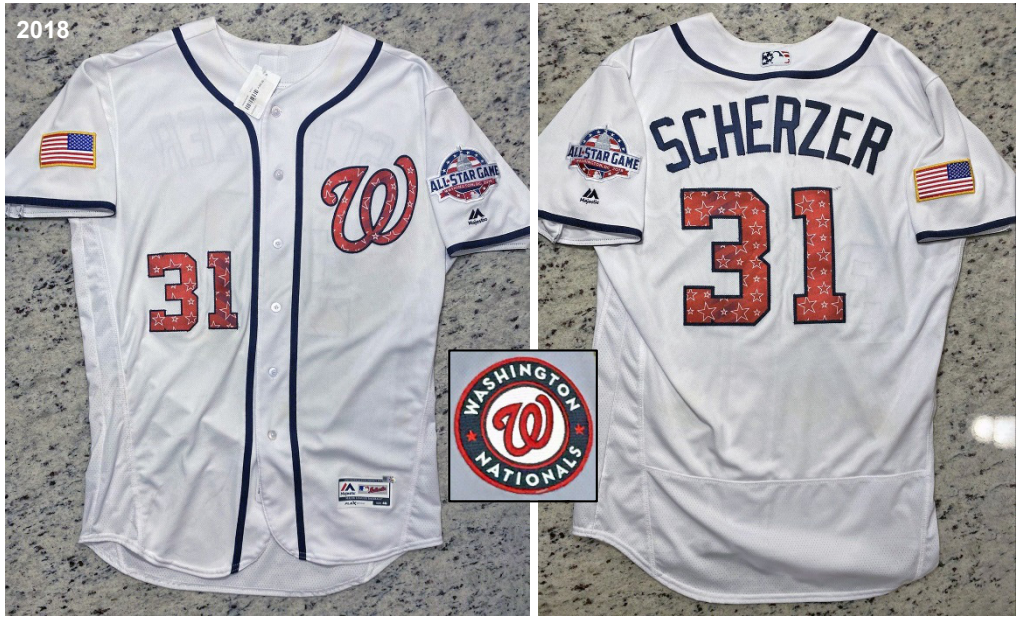
2017–2018 Independence Day (Home)



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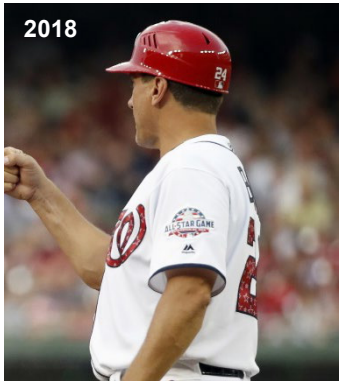

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team–standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two–toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back–of–collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat–pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Nationals wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V–neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features the new "Nationals" in script with a tail, and the "curly W" cap logo beneath, here rendered in red/white kiss–cut lightweight twill.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly–colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back–of–collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat–pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Nationals wear jerseys with red bodies and navy blue sleeves with white nicknames and navy blue numbers on back. Sleeves and V–neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features the "Nationals" in script with a tail, and the "curly–W" cap logo beneath that they premiered for 2017 Players Weekend, here rendered in navy blue/white kiss–cut twill.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1969 Montreal Expos

The Nationals began life as the Montreal Expos in 1969, relocating to Washington in 2005. On what would have been the Expos 50th anniversary season in 2019, the Nats throw back to their predecessors' inaugural 1969 road uniforms (at home against the visiting Royals, who wore 1969 home throwbacks) on July 6. The original 1969 Expos set was full of "firsts" for MLB, including the first use of a custom number font, and only the second use of powder blue on the road (after the White Sox), though the Expos' 1969 road flannels were more blue–gray than true blue. The Majestic full–knit replicas lean more powder blue than blue–gray and are a fair representation of the originals.

The red/white/blue sewn–on knit trim that adorns sleeve ends is much wider than it was in 1969. The now–classic stylized "M" in three–color twill surmounts the all–lower–case blue *"expos"* on the left chest is slightly misproportioned shorter than the original, while single–color blue numbers reside on back and right front chest. However, the number font is a little narrower than the originals, and the back numbers are placed lower than the Expos' set in 1969. Nevertheless, these still looked wonderful in the day–game sun, especially with the Royals' clean 1969 look checking in across the diamond.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button–front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back–of–collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys.

The Nationals wear a black version of their alternate blue “Nationals” jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2020 World Series “Gold Program”

Keeping with the trend of almost every World Series winner since 2004, for their home opener (and many other games throughout the season), the Nationals adorn their new white alternate jersey, minus front numbers, with the gold treatment, but in a slightly different approach than other recent victors. On back numbers, the layer of gold is added *on top of the existing blue/red number*. Meanwhile, for front wordmark and player name, the gold resides *between the existing blue/red lettering*, creating a blue/metallic gold/red look. Both the team’s logo disc patch on the left sleeve and the 2019 World Champs patch on the right are recolored in blue and gold rather than the usual red, white, and blue. And, in the style of World Cup soccer, a gold star rises above the left–sleeve patch, representing the team’s first championship.

Of note, the sleeve trim is located at the very end of each sleeve, rather than slightly above it as it is on the regular version of these jerseys. Players also wore a combination of “Black Lives Matter” and “United for Change” patches above the left–sleeve star on July 23 only. Kudos to the Nationals for finding a new way to use this time-tested adornment.

Nike brands this style of uniform as “Gold Program” starting in 2020, their first year making uniforms for MLB. The name stuck for other teams’ versions in subsequent years.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

2005 Prototype Home

Here is a surviving prototype of the Nationals' first home jersey made up by Majestic for the team's consideration and approval, prior to their inaugural 2005 season. It has prototype tagging inside the placket (translates roughly to Washington home jersey #5) carries the typical lettering for "Player #5" on back and has a "0062" (team issue) inside seam tag. A nice piece of history for its owner.

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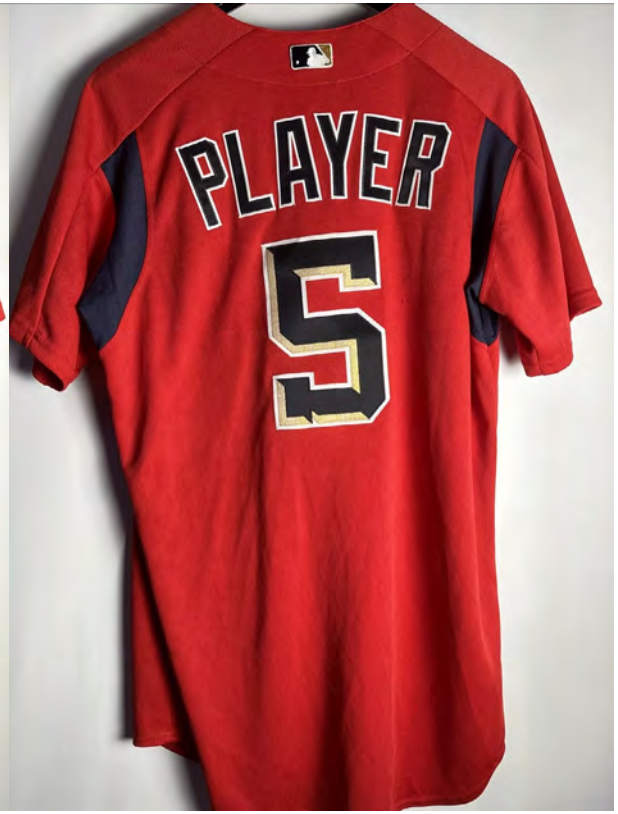
2005 Sample Batting Practice



Here's one you don't often see – a sample jersey, with appropriate sample tagging that reads it is the "approved" sample. As the sample tag attests, this is a "NATIONALS–APPROVED SAMPLE" of their first BP jersey from their inaugural 2005 season. As would be expected, it uses "PLAYER" and "5" on back, with "5" representing the year. Like the 2007–2010 BP sample on a following page, this one lacks tail tagging. Ultimately, the team used this style for only a single season, despite going so far as to have this declarative, almost celebratory one made. A fun side note, assuming this was the only "approved sample" made, it means this would be the very first copy of the team's very first BP jersey—a "1 of 1" of sorts.

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2007–2010 Prototype Batting Practice?

Found on an auction site, this jersey appears to be a Majestic 2007–2010 style batting practice jersey, though it lacks tail tagging. It has a Silhouetted Batter on the back of the neck, although it is misplaced (too low). But even with these missives, I believe it is legit. It has the pre-2007 front wordmark.

Below– production jerseys from immediately before and after

For comparison, see the actual 2007–2010 batting practice ***(bottom left, center)***, and the 2006 BP ***(bottom right)***. I suspect it may be a design prototype.

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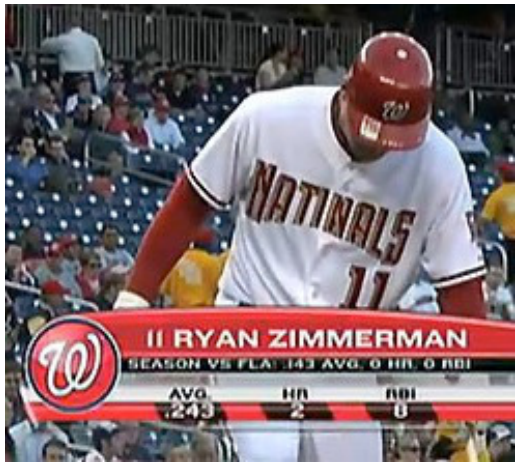
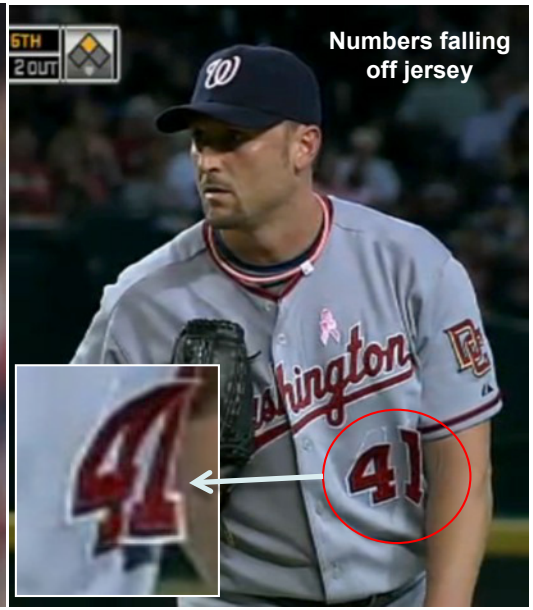
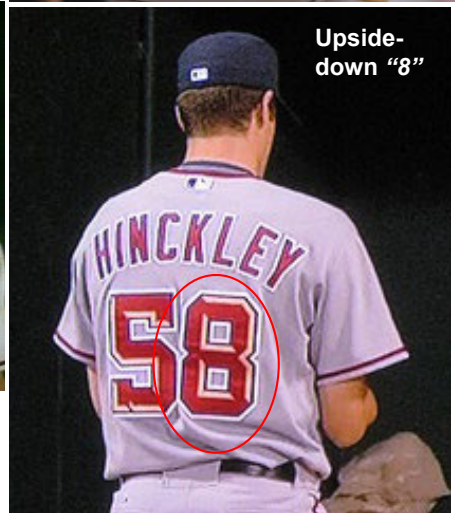
Oddballs: 2009 Nationals Quality Control



Zimmerman, Ledesma, and Dunn with misspelled team name



All the examples on this page (save one) happened during the first month of the 2009 season. We will reserve comment, but were amused that cartoonist Mike Ricigliando in *USA Today Sports Weekly* noticed too, Below is a single panel borrowed from his weekly cartoon.



©*USA Today Sports Weekly*, May 6–12, 2009

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2011 Prototype Home

I quite like this Nationals 2011 home jersey prototype (note the use of player number “11” as a clue of the year it was designed.) Majestic prototype code inside placket probably decodes to “Washington home Design 2, January 2011.” I’d like to see design 1 also— or perhaps that is the version we see today on the field that they went with and used? This design was picked up for the 2017 batting practice jersey, though the “S” is different between the two versions, and the production version has the word at a steeper incline. It appears again for a 2019 Spring Training jersey, which was adopted as a regular season alternate in 2020 and ultimate as the team’s primary home jersey starting in 2022.

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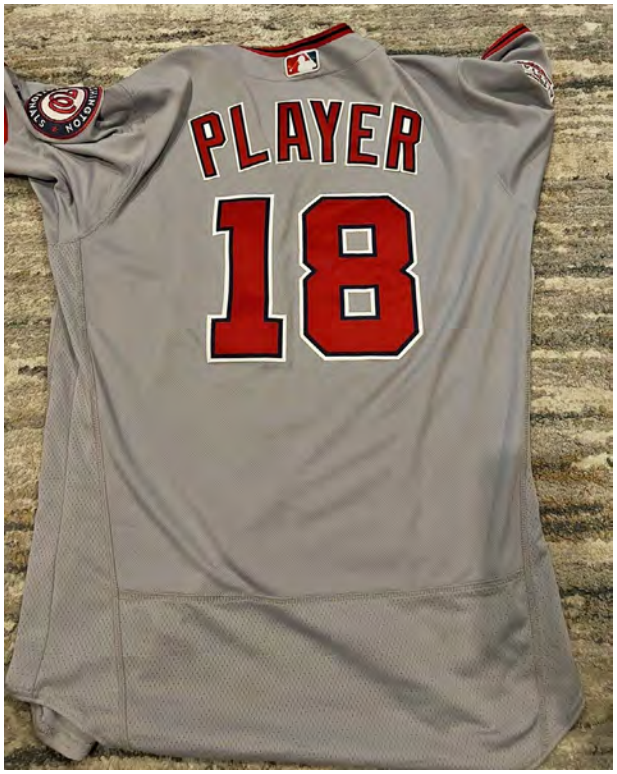
2018 Sample All-Star Game



This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. It is size 46, a common sample size, and the use of "PLAYER" and "18" as the name and number on back are typical of samples (where "18" represents 2018, the year this jersey was intended to be used). The jersey itself is unchanged from what the team wore on the road since 2011, so the only element here that is truly a different is the use of the 2018 All-Star Game patch on the right sleeve. It seems odd, even unnecessary, to create a sample like this for something as small as the addition of a single patch, but clearly the team and/or Majestic wanted a "proof of concept" for what this would look like. Considering, also, that the team wore the All–Star patch on all of its jerseys that season, it is possible that examples were made for each on–field style, however, this is the only one we've seen so far.

Of note, the All-Star patch shown here is CFX, the rubbery plastic type that players wore in the All–Star Game itself. The Nationals wore a standard embroidered version during the regular season (shown at right). Perhaps this jersey was a test for using the CFX patch all year, and the idea was rejected? Or, less likely, it may have been a sample of what the CFX patch would look like for that year's All-Stars. But since the host Nationals' players would have worn white for that game, and All-Stars also wore star-shaped patches indicating how many All-Star appearances each had, that is probably not the case here.

The embroidered All-Star patch the Nationals wore on-field in the 2018 regular season.

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2025 Prototype City Connect 2.0

The Nationals enter City Connect 2.0 territory in 2025, with a completely new uniform that speaks to the street grid of DC, and to “American Denim.” Prior to unveiling the jersey in early 2025, Nike made up samples for team review, and this is one that appears similar to what they wore on the field, but with one subtle but major element missing.

The team’s final City Connect 2.0 jersey has a sublimated map graphic representing the DC city street grid on the body of the jersey, which this prototype lacks. It is possible that this sample dates to before that element, or this version, without the pattern, was in consideration but rejected in favor of the one with the grid design.

Aside from the grid pattern, this prototype features perforated numbers and the smaller, heavily-arched player name on back that was part of Nike’s Vapor Premiere Elite rollout in 2024.When this jersey appeared on field during the 2025 season, it no longer had perforated numbers and the player name was larger and less arched, both elements likely victims of the “market correction” against many of the reviled 2024 changes.

As we would expect, the jersey uses “PLAYER” and “25” on back, where 25 stands for the year the jersey will be used. This practice is almost universal for Nike samples of the era. Note also the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads “NATIONALS CC JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT”, with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Here, “CC” stands for City Connect, and there is also a small, handwritten “3” on the bottom corner of the tag, something that many Nike samples have, though the numbers differ. Also, the designation of “regular fit” was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use “bucket sizing” on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike’s 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the “HJ4615–480” text on the front tag means. It is likely it is an internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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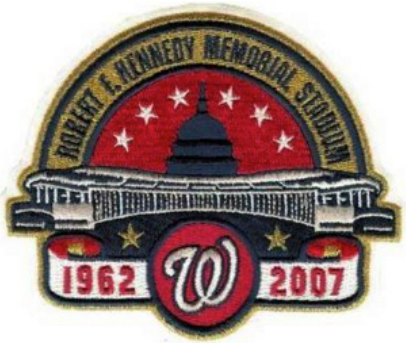
Commemorative Patches

Nationals Patches

2005



September 14–23, 2007

2008

May 21, 2013

September 20, 2013

September 22, 2013 double-header: game 1 right, game 2 below left.

2015

- 2005: Nationals Inaugural year in DC, home jersey only.
- 2007: RFK Stadium farewell, last homestand of the season only September 14 through 23, home and alternate red only.
- 2008: Inaugural Season for new stadium, home and alternate red only.
- 2013, My 24: Red AIDS ribbon for “Until There’s a Cure” Day at San Francisco.
- 2013, September 20, 22: Patch for Navy Yard shooting tragedy. Oddly, worn on the chest of white uniform day 1, then on the sleeve two games later. It must have been a stick–on patch that was removed before being laundered, and then was reapplied.
- 2015: 10 Years patch.

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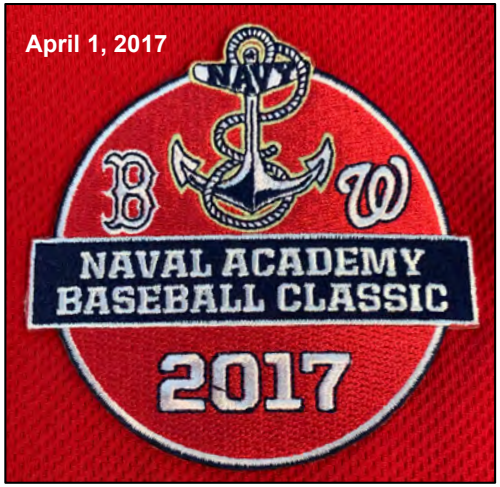

- 2017, April 1: Naval Academy Baseball Classic patch on left chest of Spring Training jersey
- 2018: All–Star Game patch, right sleeve of all jerseys.
- 2020: 2019 World Series Champions patch, right sleeve of all jerseys.
- 2023: Ted Lerner Memorial patch

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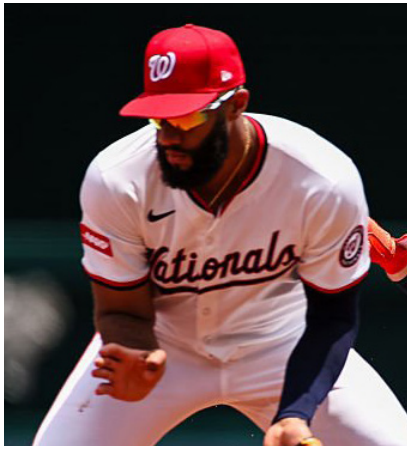
2025 Nationals Advertising Patches



Home white

Road,
red alternate,
blue alternate,
City Connect 2.0

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Nationals struck a sponsor patch deal with AARP, an interest group focusing on issues affecting those 50 and older. The patches first appeared on July 1, 2025. There are two versions of the patch, a red patch with white AARP logo for the home jersey, and a white patch with a red AARP logo and gray border for all other jerseys.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

In 2023 and 2024, the location of the team's usual logo sleeve patch varied depending on the handedness of each player, perhaps in preparation for a sponsor that did not materialize until midway though 2025.

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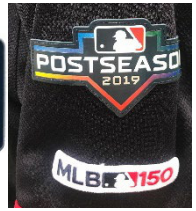
Nationals Postseason Patches

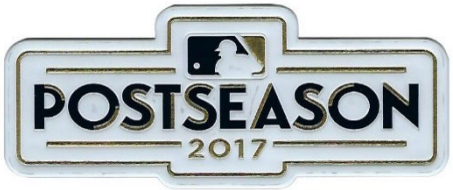
2014 NL Division Series (right sleeve)



2019 NL Wild Card 2019 NL Division Series 2019 NL Championship Series (right sleeve, above MLB150 patch)

2016 NL Division Series (right sleeve)

2019 World Series (right sleeve, MLB150 patch removed)



2017 NL Division Series (right sleeve)

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bryce Harper 2012 Washington Nationals Game Worn Red "Rookie of the Year" Jersey

Examination Date: February 8, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J22

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic Cool Base six button, size 48 red alternate jersey of #34 Bryce Harper. The size is correct for Harper. Navy/white knit trim bands the ends of each sleeve and rings the placket. Curly-W Nationals logo is stitched to the left chest in white outlined with Navy Blue layered twill. Player number 34 on the right front panel and centered on the back; HARPER radially arched above, all in the same two colors. The fonts and placement are correct for the 2012 Nationals. MLB Silhouetted Bater logo patch sewn on the back of the neck in red/white/blue. Nationals team secondary logo disk stitched to the left sleeve. Harper was the National League Rookie of the Year in 2012. The jersey has a MLB hologram sticker EK 049084 which is registered in the MLB Game worn database as used on May 20, 2012. However, experience says it is likely that this jersey was worn for multiple prior games and was probably simply pulled from use on that day.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic "M" direct embroidered on the end of the left sleeve. Majestic Authentic Collection tag denoting the size as 48 is heat pressed to the bottom outside of the left front tail. Pinch-stitched inside the right side seam is Majestic's style tag, showing the code 0630, which is the style number assigned to team-specification jerseys compared to this made for retail sale. 3 1/2" x 1" red serged-edge jersey-fabric team strip tag is stitched into the back of the neck, with the code "34 48 '12 638" machine embroidered into it . This decodes to Player 34, size 48, 2012, with an inventory reference code of 638 that like relates to an internal team list of issued jerseys. All tagging is correct for the team and the player, matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination reveals that all lettering is original and without contrivance. While the jersey remains in overall very good condition, it shows signs of wear and wash. The inside tags are weathered and puckered, the twill lettering has softened and is slightly wrinkled, and all white stitching and twill has taken on an ivory/tan cast, stained by infield dirt.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered , tagged and has no alterations of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for and worn by Bryce Harper of the 2102 Washington Nationals.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

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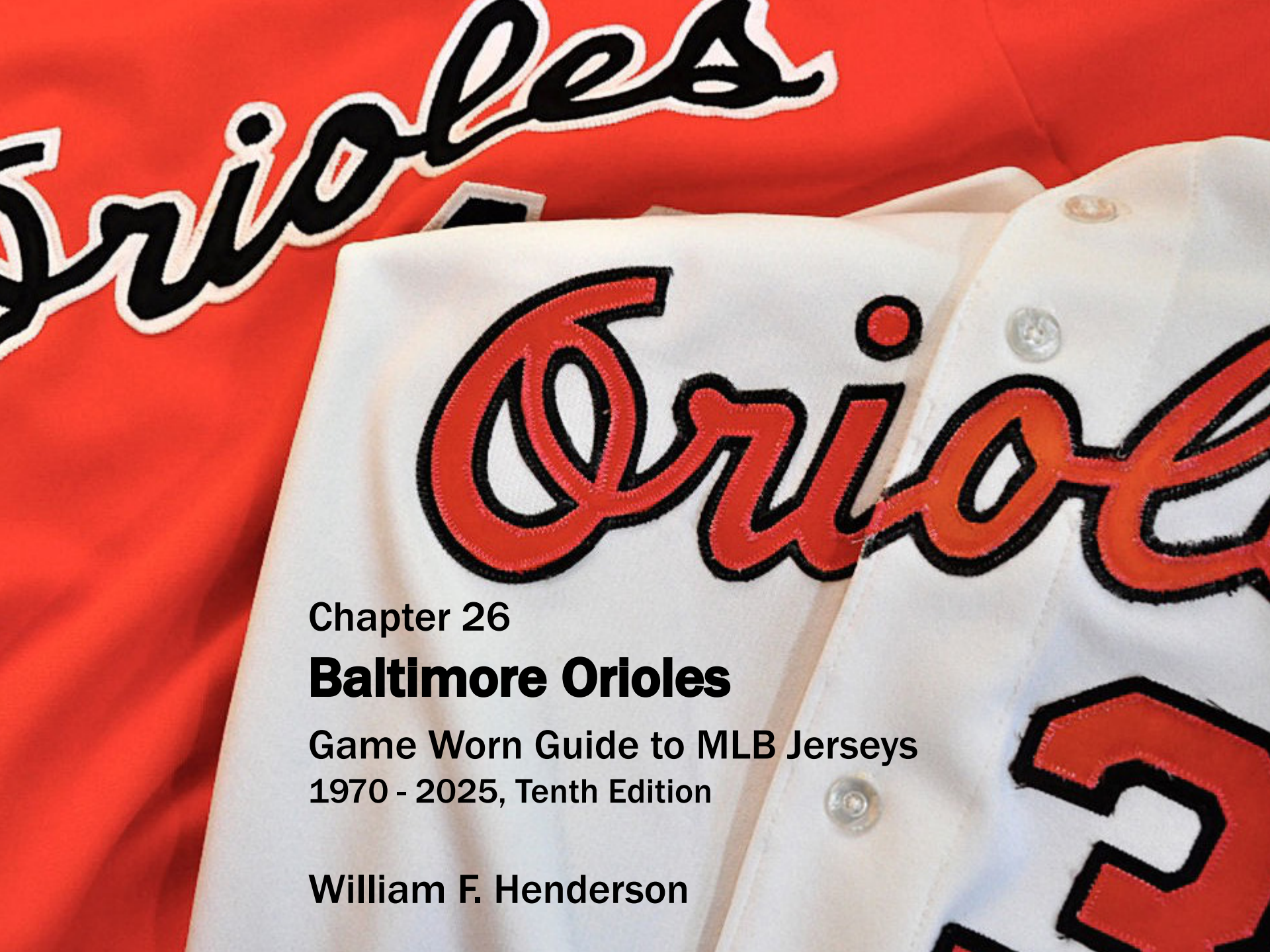

Chapter 26

Baltimore Orioles

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970 - 2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Orioles Uniform History Notes

- The St. Louis Browns moved to Baltimore in 1954 and were renamed the Orioles. Their uniforms have always been a class act, with variations on a theme over the decades but sticking with orange and black; for most years displaying the classic team script and avoiding jarring uniform redesigns.
- The design that started the 1970s knits migrated almost untouched from 1966's freshening of the team scripts both home and road.
- The Orioles were one of the few teams that "eased " into the knit era, switching gradually to home knits in 1971 and to road knits for the 1971 postseason, leaving old-time flannels in the dust for 1972.
- The Orioles wore their home white knit uniforms for the first time on opening day in 1971, then alternated with the old flannels every other home game up until the All-Star break. Knits were worn in the 1971 All-Star Game (the Orioles sent six players) and in the World Series against the Pirates (who had switched to new double knits during the 1970 season). After the All-Star Game, the team wore the new-style knit uniforms every game at home.
- The double knit road uniform appeared for the first game of the ALCS series against the Oakland A's. It sported the Baltimore script on the front just like the flannels it replaced. Spalding made the Orioles' road jerseys in the late 1960s, and continued to supply them through 1972.
- Like most other teams, the Orioles went to knits full-time for 1972. However, the team's overall look was similar. Names had been added to the jerseys in the mid-1960s. The most notable change was the new uniforms featured wide orange, white, and black striped trim on the sleeve ends and orange and black trim at the neck.
- After experimenting with garish all-orange knit button front uniforms for just a few games in 1971–1972, an orange V-neck pullover is added as an alternate jersey in 1975 and is worn through 1984, then brought back in 1987. The jersey lineup remains remarkably steady from 1972 to 1988, with only small tweaks to trim, nameplates and fonts.
- 1989 ushers in a minor refresh, with an underline added to the script Orioles wordmark and the orange pullover becoming a button down, although it's almost never worn.
- A new alternate black V-neck pullover replaces the orange alternate in 1993, and is tweaked to a 2-button Henley pullover the very next year, a portent of the dizzying jersey variations yet to come in the next decade.
- Despite having only three main jerseys (home white, road gray, alternate black), the 1995–2003 period produces a head spinning number of small variations (trim, wordmarks, patches, mesh/solid fabric, nameplates) too long to summarize on this page. Further complicating things, numerous changes are made by ownership in knee-jerk fashion just before the season, and some even during the season, seemingly on a whim. Many undocumented oddball variations continue to turn up in the hobby as well.
- The beloved cartoon bird, first banished as part of the 1989 refresh, starts to sneak back into use for the 2002 season, first as a sleeve patch. 2012 welcomed him back fully to the flock, as he again adorned the team cap. Many believe he should never have left that perch.
- 2004–2025 returns to relative stability, with a basic set of white, gray, and alternate black jerseys with minimal changes. The most notable changes include the return of a script "Baltimore" wordmark to the road gray for the first time since 1972 and the addition of an orange alternate in 2012 after a 20-year hiatus.
- In 2023, a new City Connect uniform features a stark black design. Hidden colorful patterns on the inner collar and sleeve ends symbolize the city's vibrant neighborhoods, though these details were initially meant to be revealed only if players rolled up their sleeves—an idea later abandoned after player pushback led the team to sew the cuffs with the color exposed. The block "BALTIMORE" chest lettering and "B" sleeve patch use a speckled font inspired by local art institutions
- The Orioles are a team that historically has used a lot of sleeve patches, with many variations.

To knowledgeable Orioles fans, the guy in the circular logo in the background of this page is known as the "Walsh Bird." He is named after famous advertising illustrator Stan Walsh, who created icons like Snap, Crackle & Pop for Kellogg's, and the Hamm's Beer Bear. The Walsh Bird first appeared in 1966.

The Orioles tout their latest cartoon bird as a hybrid of two earlier versions. But the bird's history is much more complex than that.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1970-1971

1970-1971

1971-1988

1972

1971-1972

1973-1988

1975-1984 then 1987-1988;

Not used in these two years

Orioles Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	vertical arch block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	vertical arch block 2 color	No	-	-	Spalding
1971 Change mid-year	Home White Flannel	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	vertical arch block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Home White Knit	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray Flannel	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	vertical arch block 2 color	No	-	-	Spalding
	Road Gray Knit (Postseason Only)	Front Block 2 color	Block Variant 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Spalding
	Alt Orange Knit	Powers Block 2 color	Powers Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Powers
1972	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block Variant 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Spalding
	Alt Orange	Powers Block 2 color	Powers Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Powers
1973	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	No	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	No	-	-	Wilson
1977	Home	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1979	Home	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1980	Home	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color*	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch 2 color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home	Descente Block 2 color	Descente Block 2 color	Descente Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Descente
	Road	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home	Descente Block 2 color	Descente Block 2 color	Descente Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Descente
	Road	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Sand Knit
	Alt Orange	Varsity 2 color	7" Varsity 2 color	vertical arch black only	Yes			Wilson
1984	Home	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	30th Anniv/Champs	-	Rawlings
	Road	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color*	Yes	30th Anniv/Champs	-	Sand Knit**
1985	Home	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Sand Knit
1986	Home	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Sand Knit
1987	Home	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Orange	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	EBW memorial	-	Rawlings
	Road	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	EBW memorial	-	Rawlings
	Alt Orange	Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-		Rawlings

* Rawlings Block used only on Rawlings Jerseys. Other makers used their versions of Block.
# Descente-tagged set for 1980 may have been used only in Spring Training

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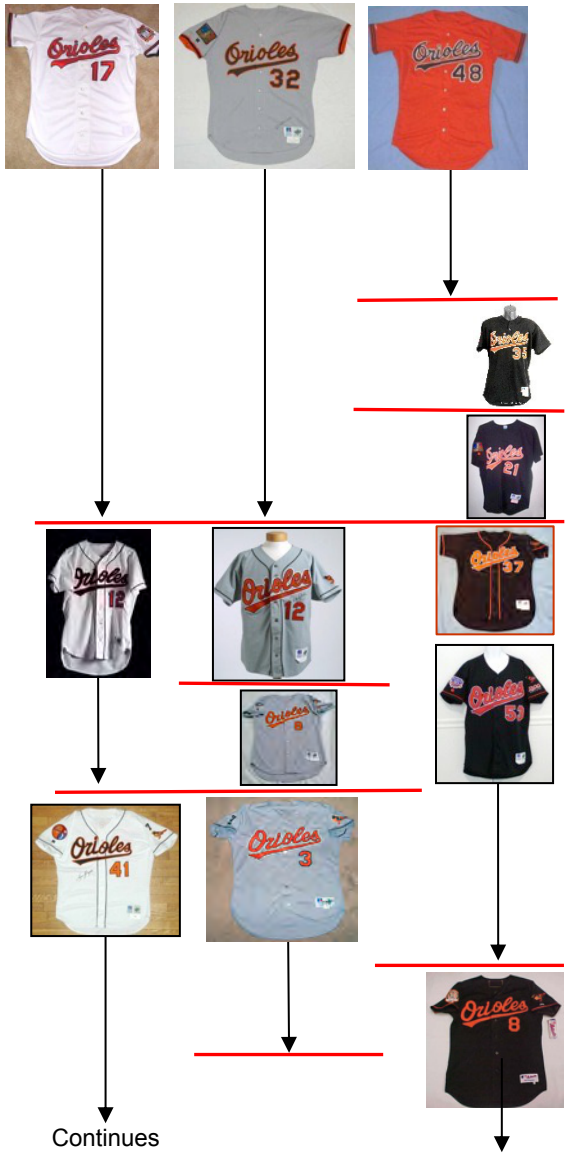

Orioles Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1989	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	Memorial Stadium (first week)	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1993	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Russell
1994	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	MLB 125th	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	MLB 125th	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	-	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	"Ornithologically Correct" Bird	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	"Ornithologically Correct" Bird	-	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	"Ornithologically Correct" Bird	-	Russell
1996	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	"Ornithologically Correct" Bird	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	"Ornithologically Correct" Bird	-	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	"Ornithologically Correct" Bird	-	Russell
1997	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	"OC" bird+Baltimore 200	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	"OC" bird+Baltimore 200	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	"OC" bird+Baltimore 200	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	One year "Robin" Style Bird	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes	One year "Robin" Style Bird	-	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	One year "Robin" Style Bird	-	Russell*
1999	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	#7 Memorial**	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	#7 Memorial	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	#7 Memorial	Russell
2000	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	Yes/No (both)	"Lifelike" Bird	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	-	Majestic
	Alt Black style2@	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	-	Majestic

* See "Oddball" pages for the 1998 Alternate that was used briefly at the beginning of the season, made by Majestic, but Majestic logo blacked out on sleeves because Russell was contracted manufacturer

** Team played exhibition game at Camden Yards against Cuba, May 3,1999. A set of home jerseys exists with BOTH Bird and #7 on left sleeve, special Cuba patch on right sleeve

* @ A set of 1999-style alternate black jerseys was sewn for 2000. Two weeks before the start of the season they were scrapped in favor of the new, all black/ no white outline style

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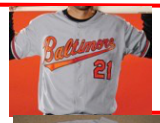
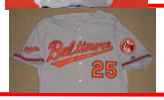
Orioles Game Jerseys





Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2001	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	AL 100th Ann./Ripken Career****	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	AL 100th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	8" Block 3 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Lifelike" Bird	AL 100th Ann./Ripken Career****	Majestic
2002	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Fun Bird"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Fun Bird"	Pentagon Memorial***	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Fun Bird"	-	Majestic
2003	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Fun Bird"	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Fun Bird"	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	"Fun Bird"	-	Majestic
2004	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	50th Anniversary	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	50th Anniversary	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	50th Anniversary	-	Majestic
2005	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Ripken Streak 9/5-9/8	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Hendricks memorial	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Hendricks memorial	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Hendricks memorial	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	McKay armband after 6/8	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	McKay armband after 6/8	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Orioles Baseball disc	diagonal Orioles script	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Orioles Baseball disc	diagonal Baltimore script	Majestic
2010	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Orioles Baseball disc	diagonal Orioles script	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Orioles Baseball disc	diagonal Baltimore script	Majestic
2011	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Flanny patch**	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Orioles Baseball disc	diagonal Orioles script/Flanny patch**	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Orioles Baseball disc	diagonal Baltimore script/Flanny patch**	Majestic
2012	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Orioles Park 20th Anniv	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Orioles Park 20th Anniv	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Orioles Park 20th Anniv	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Orioles Park 20th Anniv	Majestic
2013	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Earl Weaver/4 memorial	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Earl Weaver/4 memorial	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Earl Weaver/4 memorial	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Earl Weaver/4 memorial	Majestic
2014	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	60th Anniversary/Clancy*	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	60th Anniversary/Clancy*	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	60th Anniversary/Clancy*	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	60th Anniversary/Clancy*	Majestic
2015	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 25th	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 25th	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 25th	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 25th	Majestic
2018	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	MLB 150th/ F. Robinson "20"	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	MLB 150th/ F. Robinson "20"	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	MLB 150th/ F. Robinson "20"	Majestic
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	MLB 150th/ F. Robinson "20"	Majestic
2020	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike

Change to Flex Base

* Tom Clancy patch added March 31 through end of season
*** Team wore Pentagon memorial patch on game of September 11, 2002 only
**** Cal Ripken Patch worn last weekend of season only

** Flanny memorial patch worn for Mike Flanagan after August 26 through end of season

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Orioles Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	-	Nike
2022	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 30th anniversary,	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 30th anniversary,	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 30th anniversary,	Nike
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc	Camden Yards 30th anniversary,	Nike
2023	Home White	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	Brooks Robinson Memorial‡*	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	Brooks Robinson Memorial‡*	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	Brooks Robinson Memorial‡*	Nike
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	8" Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	Brooks Robinson Memorial‡*	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 2 color	Custom 1 color	No	Script B disc‡	Brooks Robinson Memorial‡*	Nike
2024	Home White	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡**	Nike
	Road Gray	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡**	Nike
	Alt Black	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡**	Nike
	Alt Orange	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡**	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 1 color	No	Script B disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡**	Nike
2025	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Orange	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Rawlings Block 2 color	No	Baltimore Orioles disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 1 color	No	Script B disc‡	T. Rowe Price Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

* Memorial was a "5" on black jersey Sept. 26, 2023, then a patch on all jerseys starting Sept. 27, 2023 for rest of season

** Starting June 24

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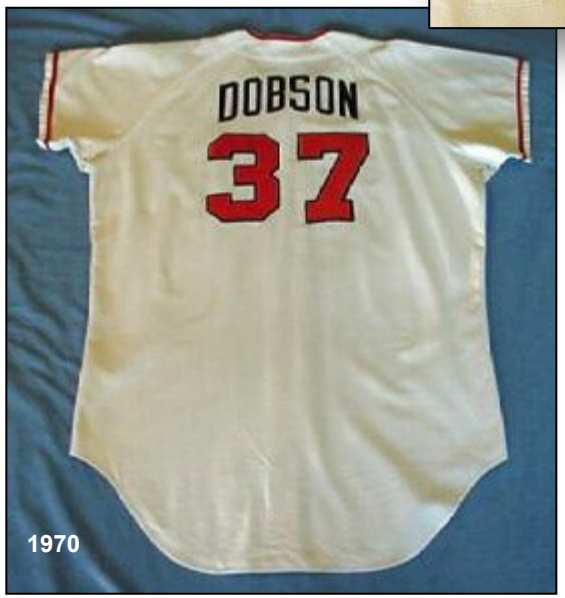
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-Mid 1971 Home (Flannel)

The Orioles 1970 home whites are a classic design that had been used in this style since 1966. Flannel home uniforms were made by Wilson and were year and set tagged on the front tail. The Orioles were an early adopter of player names on back, and they were rendered in the elegant vertical arch style. Narrow orange and black uniform braid trim rings the sleeve ends and collar. Both front and back numbers were cut using Varsity, the Wilson "standard" font, and were a rather small size on the reverse, specified as a 6" number.

Flannel home uniforms were issued for 1971, and were worn every other home game for the first half of the season, alternating with the new knits. After the All-Star break, the team switched exclusively to the home knits, leaving the flannels behind.

Barry Halper Collection



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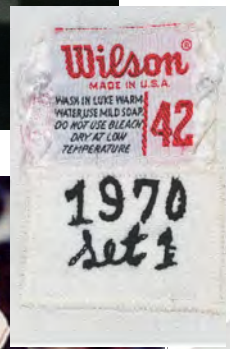
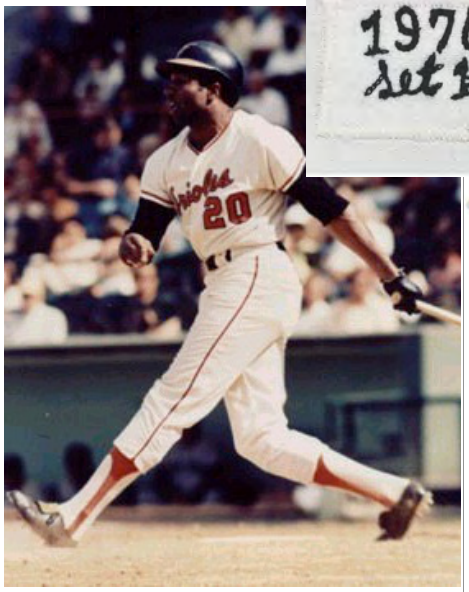
1970-Mid 1971 Home (Flannel), continued

1971



1970



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1970-1971 Road

1970

Rawlings made the Orioles road uniforms in 1970–1971, and did things their own way, compared to the Wilson home uniforms. They used different style trim and their own player name and number fonts. The gray flannel road jersey featured the "Baltimore" script in orange outlined with black and an underline. Wilson Block numbers on front and reverse in the same colors. Player names in two-color Rawlings Block in a fairly steep radial arch, different from the Wilson home jerseys (one-color, vertical arch).

This basic design dates back to 1956. Though the Orioles began the switch to knits at home at the start of 1971, alternating them with the older flannels for the first half of the season, they stayed with flannels on the road up until the playoffs. When the 1971 postseason began, the Orioles unveiled knit road uniforms and never looked back.

1970

© GameWornGuides.com

1970-1971 Road, continued

1971

1971

© GameWornGuides.com

1971-1988 Home (Knit)

1973

Barry Halper Collection

1971

In 1971, white knits were worn every other home game at first, alternating with the old-style flannels, up until the All-Star break. Knits were worn in the All-Star Game, and then completely replaced the home flannels for the second half of the season. Back numbers are bigger than those on flannels they replace.

The example at top is autographed: "*My 1971 Gamer*" by Brooks Robinson. Assuming that he is correct and that the autograph is legitimate, we note that the Rawlings tag on the front tail is one we have identified was used in 1972 and after. The Frank Robinson jersey below shows the usual 1971 Rawlings tag. I am always suspicious of star player jersey authenticity, regardless of what a signature says.

There is no team tagging apparent on these. Note that the shirt tail is cut straight across and hemmed flat, unlike the tapered tails used in later years. This flat tail style is seen on other very early knits, 1971–1973.

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1971-1988 Home (Knit), continued

For the fascinating story behind this jersey, follow this link.

Home jerseys are rather consistent during this 18-year period. Orioles with no underline on the front in orange/black. Black/white/orange sleeve end knit trim.

Above: *clearly with extra length tailoring, although there is not a tag noting it as such. 1977 is the first year for separate player nameplates.*

Block style numbers front and back. Front numbers are two-color orange/black. Names on back are two-color orange/black. Through the 1976 season, player names were directly sewn to the jersey backs. Starting in 1977 nameplates were used.

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1971-1988 Home (Knit), continued

1983

When Rawlings stitched the home uniforms for the Orioles, they used the Rawlings "house fonts"—a sans serif number font shared by many other teams that we have come to refer to simply as "block", with the front numbers and back numbers in different proportions to each other. Looking at the photo-matched Ripken jersey at left, it is clear that the 8 on the front is a different design/shape than the number on the back; it is not just the same number made smaller. The Rawlings house alphabet is used, a distinctively squat font, and notably the same one as used by the Cardinals. The black outline around the Orioles lettering is thicker than that used by the Cardinals, and the reason is simply that the black outline was hand-cut using scissors after the orange letter was sewn down. The Orioles directed the black outline be thicker, and the shop obliged.

Beginning in 1977, names were sewn on nameplates for ease in removing them and re-issuing the same jerseys to other players, or for sending them without names to the minors. The Orioles preferred a very steep arch for names regardless of how short or long the name was. A steep arch allowed for the fitment of very long names without the need for a condensed version of the alphabet.

1985

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1971-1988 Home (Knit), continued

1987

Above: *Manager Cal Ripken Sr.'s jersey with its twin inside pockets, for cigarettes and reading glasses.*

Starting in 1987, Rawlings was named the "Official Uniform Supplier to Major League Baseball" and was contractually allowed to begin to display their company logo on jerseys sleeves; a first. Look carefully and you will see it direct embroidered into the black sleeve stripe on the jersey's left sleeve.

1988

1987

Right: *In this period, the Orioles often use steeply arched names and low-sewn back numbers.*

1987

Bill Henderson Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1971-1972 Alternate

Many thanks to collector Bruce Genther for supplying these from his personal collection

Sports Illustrated

These bright uniforms were worn a couple of times in 1971 and then a few times again in 1972 before being retired. It is almost 100% certain that the same set of jerseys was used in both years. Sold to the Orioles by Brooks Robinson Sporting Goods, uniform made by Powers Manufacturing. Shirt is button front with 3/8-inch black/white/black ribbon trim around neck opening. Orioles in black on white script slanted across jersey front.

Five-inch "Powers Style" black on white number below team logo (Powers Manufacturing's variation of Varsity.) Three-inch black/white/black polyester knit trim on end of sleeves. Player's name on back direct sewn in three-inch plain black twill letters radially arched above an 8-inch black/white "Powers Style" Varsity numbers. Pants are orange with traditional tunnel belt loops and 3/8-inch ribbon trim of black/white/black down outer seam of pants. Solid black stirrup socks worn only with this uniform. The uniforms received mixed reactions, with burly O's slugger Boog Powell grumbling he looked like a pumpkin wearing them.

Steve's Baseball Photography page

Sports Illustrated photo from 1971 shows Brooks in the complete uniform. The small caption at the bottom reads: "Glorious too is Brooks after grand-slam homer in uniform supplied by his own firm."

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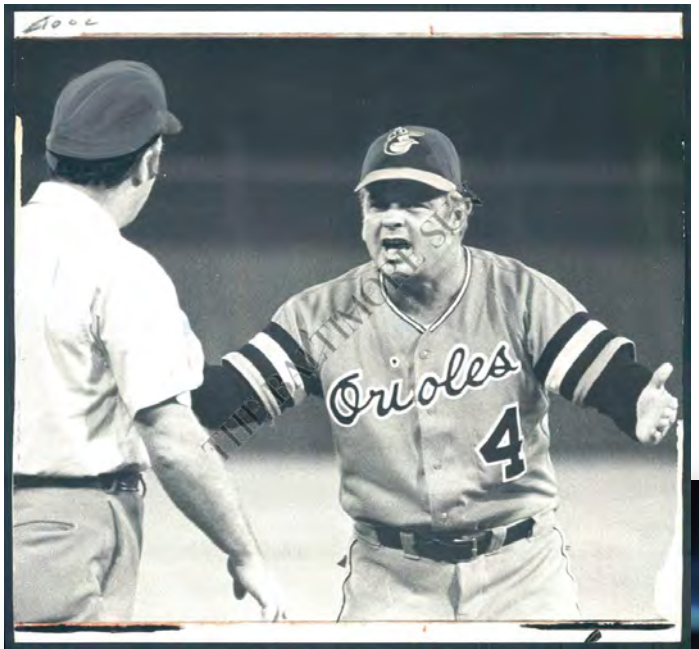
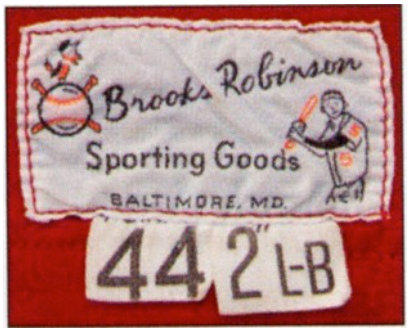




Article credit: September 17, 1971 Gettysburg (PA) Times

Orioles Really Stand Out With Bright New Uniforms

By GORDON BEARD
Associated Press Sports Writer

BALTIMORE (AP) — "I just wish," said pitcher Dave McNally, looking at his new orange uniform, "that the guys who ordered these, would have to wear them."

The Orioles, standouts of baseball in recent years, stood out more than ever as they donned their brightly colored double-knits for the first time Thursday night.

The Orioles drew whistles from opposing New York Yankees' players and a few of the fans when they took the field for a pregame fielding drill. They had worn their normal white home uniforms for batting practice.

WERE SELF CONSCIOUS

The reaction from the players was mixed, although a majority seemed a bit self conscious even before leaving the privacy of the clubhouse.

Boog Powell, the big first baseman, stayed inside during infield practice, and right fielder Frank Robinson also was absent after changing into the new uniform.

"I'm going to stay here until the last possible minute," Boog said, as he pulled on the orange outfit with black lettering and numerals, and a white "Orioles" script trimmed in white. The trimming of the sleeves and the pants' piping is black and white, and the socks are black.

"NOT SO BAD"

"Oh, they're not so bad," reserve outfield Curt Motton said. "I think a lot of people will like them when they get used to them."

"I'm just glad to have one in my locker," said reserve Tom Shopay.

"That's right," said outfielder Merv Rettenmund. "There are some guys in Rochester and Dallas-Fort Worth (Baltimore farm clubs) who'd like to be wearing this orange. I'll wear anything as long as it says, 'Orioles' and is legal."

"I like 'em," Chico Salmon said. "It brings out the blackness in me."

The Baltimore front office looked at sample material and colors during the last off-season, but didn't place an order until about a month ago. They have three other white home uniforms.

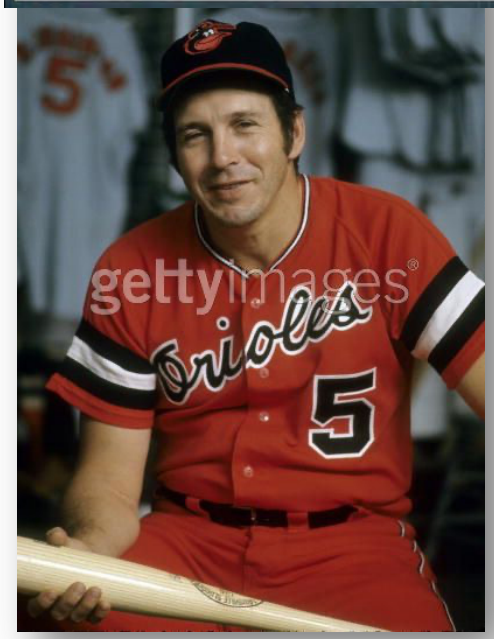
The orange outfits are to be worn for variety both at home and on the road, perhaps once during a series. There has been no decision whether to use them in postseason play.

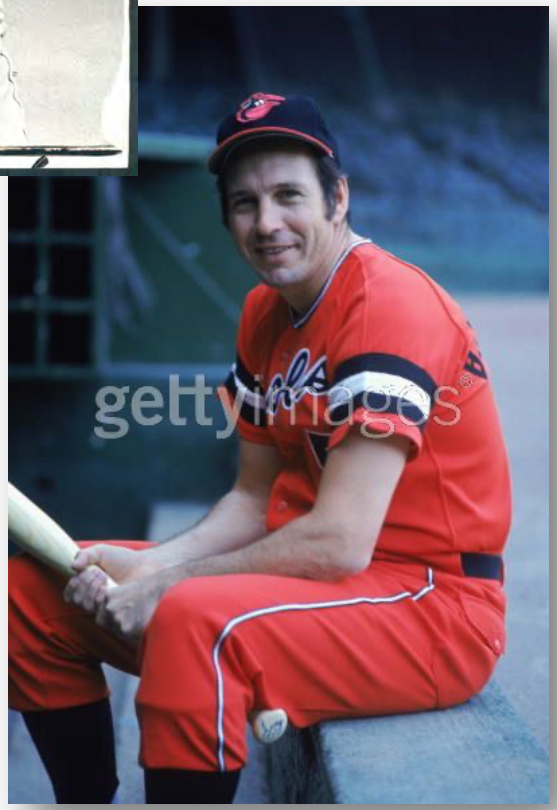
The Oakland Athletics, winners of the American League West who probably will oppose Baltimore in the playoffs, wear green and yellow uniforms as a departure from the traditional home whites or road grays.

At the turn of the century, the New York Giants wore all-black uniforms, while more recently the Chicago Cubs have worn baby blue and the Chicago White Sox pale blue.

"Where's my parka?" McNally said as he headed for the field and the start of the game. "I'm going to hide as much as possible."

"It makes no difference to me," said Brooks Robinson. His sporting goods store filed the order for the uniforms.





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1971 Postseason Road

These Spalding gray knit jerseys with wide knit sleeve end trim appeared for the first time in the 1971 postseason, in the first game of the ALCS against Oakland. The new knits have the same Baltimore script lettering on the front as the flannels of 1971, however the trim is completely different. Notice how wide the sleeve end trim is on the Spalding jerseys—much wider than that of the home jerseys made by Rawlings. The fabric is a sort of bluish gray; noticeably different looking than the old gray flannels (compare to photo at lower left). These jerseys were not recycled in 1972—as the practically identical 1972 versions had the sleeve stripes reversed, now with the black stripe closest to the shoulder.

(Many thanks to Orioles historian Mark Huesman for searching through microfilm and calling out the difference between the 1971 postseason and 1972 regular season jerseys)

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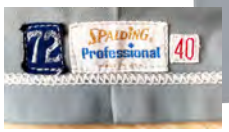
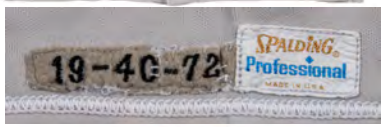
1972 Road





Baltimore script on front in orange/black. One-year style. Notice very wide sleeve knit trim in black/white/orange.

Gray knits were worn for the first time in the 1971 postseason for just a total of four games, but these are not the same jerseys reused from 1971! Notice that the sleeve stripes are reversed in color-order from the 1971 jerseys. Having the orange stripe at the end looks better, since most players wear it with a black undershirt. Two-color block numbers and names—orange/black, front and back. Two-color block name on back radially arched, no nameplate used. I cannot personally vouch for the originality of the McNally ***(above)***, which has oddly shaped numeral “1”s on front and back.

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1973-1980 Road

Wilson replaces Spalding as the manufacturer for 1973. Baltimore script is replaced with Orioles script used on home jerseys. Always two-color numbers and name, orange/black. Wide sewn-in knit sleeve ends in black-white-orange, and orange-black collar trim.

Like the home jerseys of this period, even though the shirt's basic design and the team script stay constant over the 16 years that this style road jersey was worn, the contracted manufacturer and the name/number lettering changes over the years. Each manufacturer used their own fonts to sew the sets at their factories. On these, Wilson's Varsity numbers front and back. Numbers on back are small, 7" Varsity style that are like the front numbers, just made larger. This is not typical—generally the larger back numbers for teams are proportioned differently that the front font. Player names are vertical arch during this period, direct-sewn and not on nameplates through 1977, nameplates are used after.

Wilson jerseys feature a sewn-in white linen lining on the placket and around the collar, for player comfort.

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1973-1980 Road, continued

Player names on back during this period were individually hand-drawn on an drafting table by a skilled artist, transferred to orange twill then cut by hand with scissors. The cut orange letter was sewn down to the black backing, then the black outline was cut completely by hand and only by eye. As a result, no two are exactly alike, and photo-match of original examples is possible from news photos of the day. I restored the name on back of the Reggie Jackson, above left, using the clearly visible ghosts of the removed name as my guide. See the linked letter of restoration.

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1975-1984 Alternate

Pullover orange V-neck, Orioles with no underline. Identify by black/white/orange sleeve end trim. 1975–1984 jerseys are made by Wilson. Varsity-style numbers on front, small 7" numbers on back two-color black/white. Vertical arch names direct-sewn; however many were reissued with nameplates on back to cover old names and the damage left from names being removed. In my opinion, because during each season these were so infrequently used by the team, they were reissued again and again in subsequent years, saving the team the cost of issuing full new sets. On these pages are a number of this style jersey that I have restored for collectors; each is on its second or third player name. And while in 1975–1976 these were issued without nameplates and the names direct-sewn, by 1977 they started using nameplates to make it easier to re-issue the jerseys to new players. Many of the 1975–1976 jerseys ended up with nameplates to cover the damage; holes made from the sloppy removal of old player names.

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1975-1984 Alternate, continued

1977 and later orange jerseys used nameplates to make it easier to change player names for re-issue. All of the examples on this page have nameplates. The D. Martinez ***(above)*** in my collection appears to be original, as does the Weaver. The Morales ***(bottom left)*** had its NOB restored by me.

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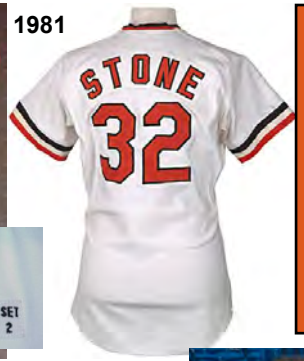
1981-1982 Home (Descente-made)

1981

1981

1982

1981



***Looking for the 1980-Tagged Descente home Orioles jerseys?**

For this edition, these have been moved to the "Oddball" section later in this chapter. Our research leads us to conclude that these jerseys were never issued and worn by the team during a major league season.

Japanese maker Descente nosed into the MLB market in 1977, providing some uniforms to the Pittsburgh Pirates through 1984. They also supplied sets of home uniforms to the Baltimore Orioles for 1980* through 1982. Descente jerseys can be identified by their unique number fonts on both front and rear. This was a quainter time in professional sports when the player number and name fonts were acceptable so long as they were the right color and were "close" to the team standard. The 1981–1982 Descente sets had revised numbers from the 1980 produced set. Based on the number of these in the hobby with player names stripped from the back, these sets surely went to the minors and were reused in Spring Training. All examples on this page have likely had their NOBs restored.

Right: *While we cannot see any manufacturer tagging, The front number font tells us that these players are wearing 1981–1982 Descente uniforms in this photo.*

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1981-1988 Road

Rawlings 1981-1982

1982

1981 marks the road jersey's switch to Block names and numbers, and the end of vertical arched player names.

1981

Rawlings replaces Wilson in 1981 as the supplier of Orioles road jerseys. Outwardly appearing generally the same as the prior Wilson issues, with the same slanted orange-on-black Orioles script and Black/white/orange sewn-in knit sleeve ends and orange/black knit neck trim, there are some changes. Inside the jersey, the linen lining inside the collar and placket is gone. Rawlings also took the liberty to change the player name and number fonts to their own house font, replacing the Wilson versions. Prior to the days of computer-graphics font standardization and intense team branding, this sort of event was common practice in baseball; teams were seemingly far less concerned with the same fonts being used on different makers' uniforms. The Rawlings block-style numbers are larger and player names are switched to a non-vertical arched Rawlings-Block alphabet. Nameplates continue to be used. Player names were very steeply arched compared to most other teams.

Rawlings was the sole supplier of the team's road jerseys in 1981–1982, and after a four-year hiatus, again in 1987–1988 (in 1983–1986 Sand-Knit was the sole supplier of Orioles road jerseys).

There are a special set of Rawlings road jerseys year tagged as 1984, and we have learned that these were made for the Orioles postseason Tour of Japan. They notably have an orange Rawlings logo tag sewn to the right sleeve end, something that would not be allowed in MLB until the 1987 season. See these in the "Special Events" section of this chapter.

1982

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1981-1988 Road, continued: Sand-Knit 1983-1986

1986

1985

1985

1985

When Sand-Knit took over making the Orioles' road jerseys from Rawlings for the 1983 season, they adopted the Rawlings template nearly exactly... the script was the same, and the fonts used for name and numbers were practically identical. Nameplates continued to be used. The Sand-Knit jersey body was slightly less tailored than the Rawlings one, shorter in length and wider in the waist. Sand Knit tagging was different, using their odd hollow-letter Plastisol ink lettering screened onto long white fabric tapes that were zig-zagged to inside of the jersey tail. Tagging consisted of a two-character year, then a star, then the numeric size of the garment. The size followed by a "Z" indicated special-request tailoring, usually extra length, then a strip of fabric for the player name, and finally (but not always) a small square sewn on for the player number. 1983–1985 was sometimes printed, often player name and player number were hand written in black marker. 1986 all was generally machine printed. Jerseys without a player number in the tagging were often "extra" jerseys issued to the team for ad-hoc use during the season.

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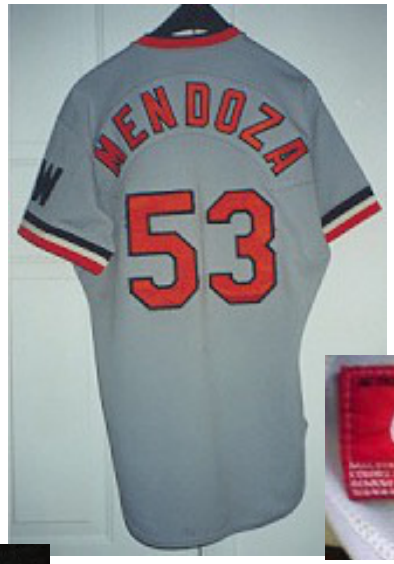
1981-1988 Road, continued: Rawlings 1987-1988

1988



1987 tagged, also used in 1988

The EBW Sleeve memorial was used in 1988, so the Mendoza's jersey 1987 year-tag demonstrates the Orioles' practice of reissuing and re-using jerseys year to year. The Williamson example above left does not follow the team player name font pattern exactly (look at the inside opening of the "A" for example) and it is reasonable to assume that the nameplate is a replacement. The Aase example at left is also tagged 1987. I restored its nameplate exactly using the team template.

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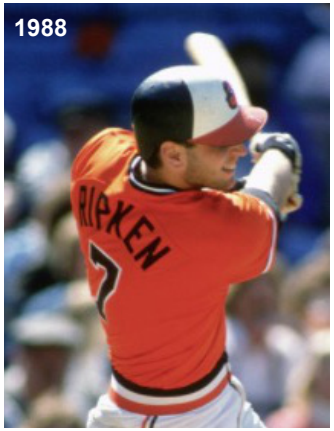
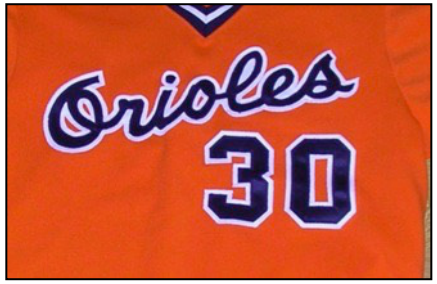
1987-1988 Alternate





*Compare earlier style 1975–1984 Wilson front team script **(above)** which is slightly heavier in stroke than Rawlings **(below)**. Different font is used for the player numbers.*

These jerseys were infrequently worn during the regular season, and the frugal Orioles carried over some/many 1987 jerseys and re-used them in 1988. Generally, red Rawlings tags were seen in 1987, white tags in jerseys newly-issued in 1988. Many/most of these in the hobby have had their name-plates removed or restored.

Pullover orange V-neck, Orioles with no underline. Identify by black/white/orange sleeve end trim. The 1987–1988 jerseys are made by Rawlings. Rawlings' Orioles script is slightly less bold than the Wilson version; wordmark outline is thinner. Numbers are now 2-color Block with Serifs. Player names are Block and Block Condensed on nameplates, no vertical arch is used. Manufacturer's label and team tagging are sewn inside the front left tail, not visible from the outside.

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1989-1994 Home

1990

1992

1991

Click to See Letter of Opinion

1994

Sleeve trim starting 1991

"Orioles" with underline (added for 1989). 1989-1990 Rawlings jerseys have sewn-on black/orange/black knit trim at the ends, starting 1991 have sewn-in stretchy knit black/orange/black sleeve ends. No trim at collar. Numbers on front and back, name on back, all color keyed identically to team script, two-color orange/black. Block and Front Block numbers used exclusively. Nameplates used. Rawlings made these 1989–1991; Russell 1992–1994.

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1989-1994 Road

1989

1994

1991

1989-1990

1991-1994

Russell tagging is, at best, inconsistent 1992–1994.

Orioles with underline (added for 1989) on front. Back Block numbers and Front Block numbers formatted identically to team script two-color black/orange. Names on back two-color black/orange, nameplates used. In 1989–1990, sleeve ends have black/orange/black sewn-on knit trim is used. 1991–1994 features orange/black/orange sewn-in elastic knit trim. Made by Rawlings 1989–1991, and Russell from 1992–1994.

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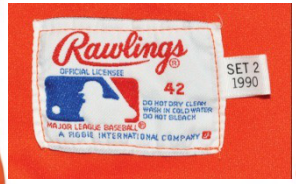
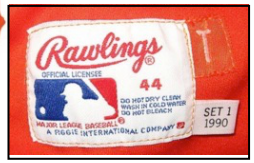
1989-1992 Alternate

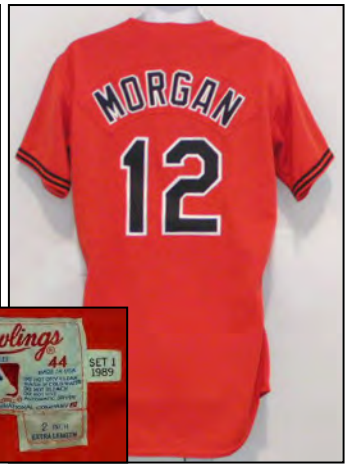




"T" sewn next to Rawlings tag indicates jersey has been tapered at the waist.

1992

Solid (non-mesh) orange fabric. "Orioles" underlined. 1989–1990 sleeve trim is sewn-on knit braid; 1991–1992 is sewn-in elastic knit sleeve end. Numbers switch to Block numbers on the back and Front Block numbers on front. Name two-color black/white on nameplate. Rawlings 1989–1991, Russell 1992.



Chris Creamer's (https://www.sportslogos.net) research tells us that these were worn only one game each in 1989 (July 3 vs. Detroit), and 1990 (Aug. 29 vs. NYY)

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1973-1990 Orioles Team Tagging

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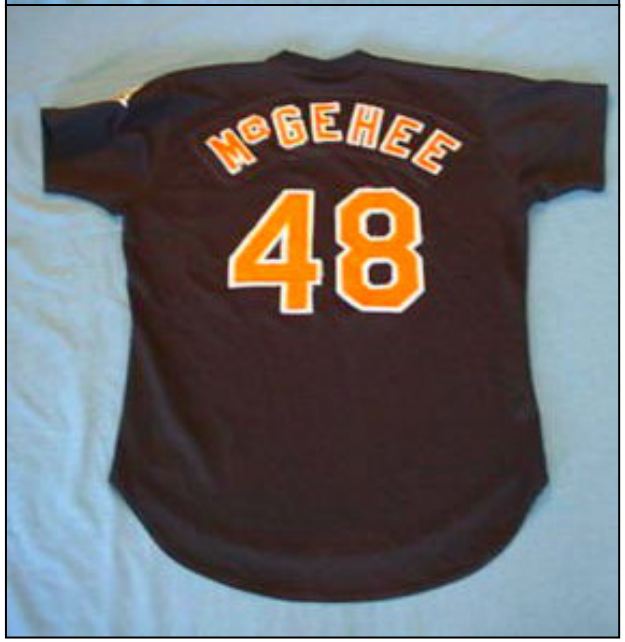
1993 Alternate



Solid fabric knit black pullover with a V-neck collar replaces the seldom worn orange alternate. Orioles script with under-line, orange/white Block and Front Block numbers. Player name font uses the squatter Rawlings variant for NOB. Names are on nameplates. Russell "R" direct embroidered in orange to the end of the right sleeve. As this is used only in 1993, all team-issued or game worn jerseys should have the 1993 Baltimore All-Star Game patch on the sleeve, or at least evidence that it had once been sewn there.

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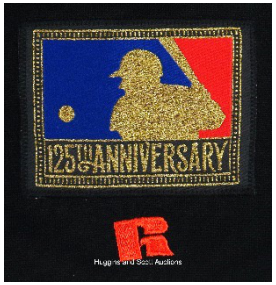
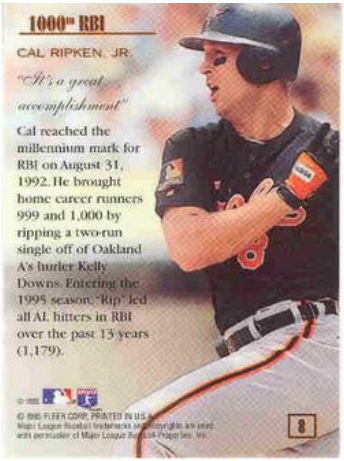
1994 Alternate

Huggins and Scott Auction

Huggins and Scott Auctions





Appearing almost identical to the prior year's V-neck, the 1994 alternate changes to a two-button Henley neck, presumably for player comfort. All two-color orange over white lettering, names on back in the Rawlings Block style and stitched to nameplates. Russell "R" direct embroidered in orange to the end of the right sleeve. All 1994 jerseys have the MLB 125th Anniversary patch sewn to the right sleeve.

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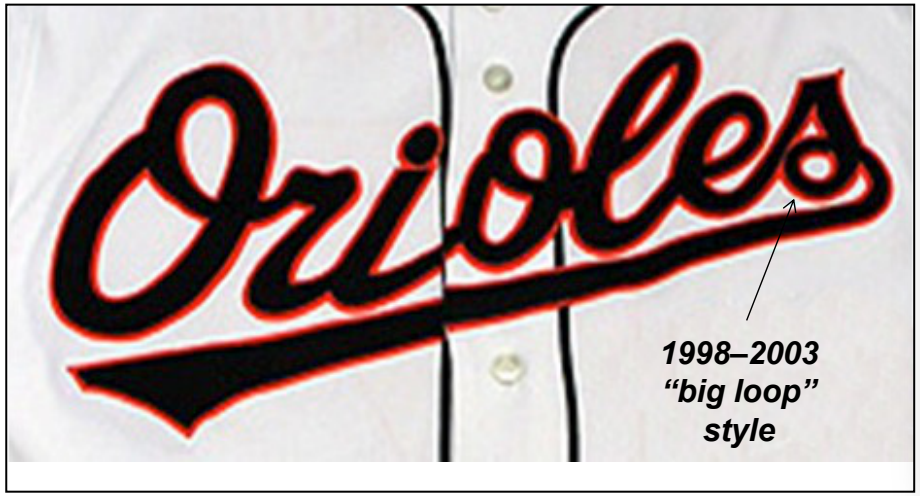
1995-2003: Orioles Home Wordmark Variations

Readers: the next 20 or so pages have an unusually large amount of detail on the 1995–2003 Orioles uniforms, all styles. The team made many small running changes to uniforms in this period which are not formally documented anywhere else.



- To the casual observer, all home jerseys from 1995 through 2003 appear the same: similar colors of all elements and similar trim. All years of this style of home jersey have both placket and sleeve end trim
- However, the front wordmark changes slightly during this style run.
- 1995–1997: Thick logo, small loop, sewn at a steeper angle of incline.
- 1998–2003 thinner stroke logo, big loop, sewn at a less-steep angle of incline

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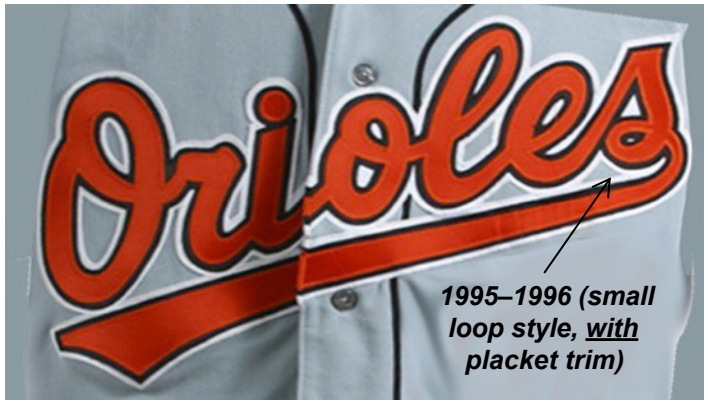
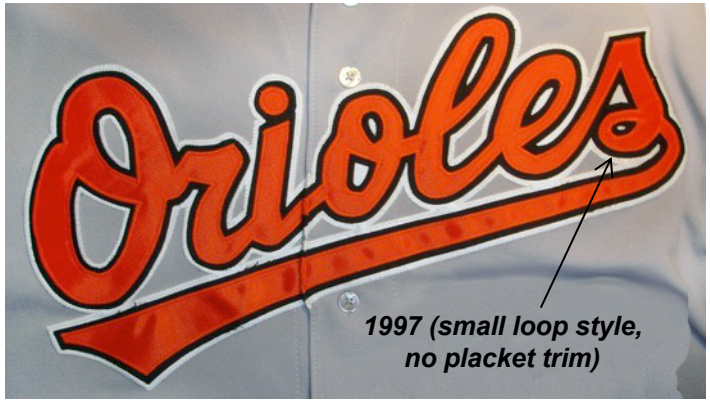
1995-2000: Orioles Road Wordmark Variations



1995–1996 (small loop style, with placket trim)



1997 (small loop style, no placket trim)

1998–2000 (big loop style, no placket trim)

1995–1996

All road jerseys 1995–2000 feature a three-color front wordmark orange/black/white. All player names and numbers are two-color orange/black. They look identical, but there are variations when one looks closely.

Three subtly different style variants are used during this six year period.

1997

Jerseys in all years have black knit trim near the sleeve ends. However, the 1995–1996 version of the road jersey features this same trim on the front placket as well. This front placket trim disappears for 1997.

1998-2000

There are two versions of the Orioles wordmark used. The “small loop” style is used 1995–1997. The “big loop” style is used 1998–2000. The 1998–2000 wordmark style is less bold and sewn at a less steep incline than the 1995–1997 style.

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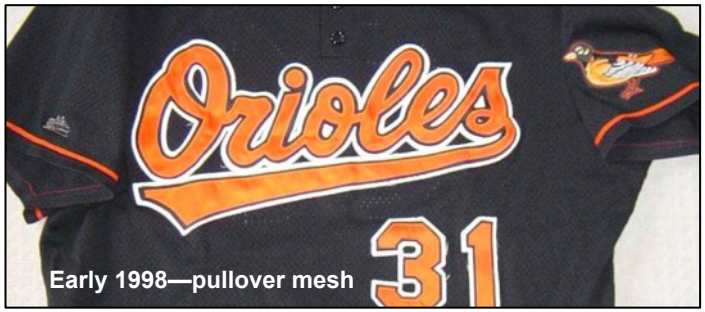
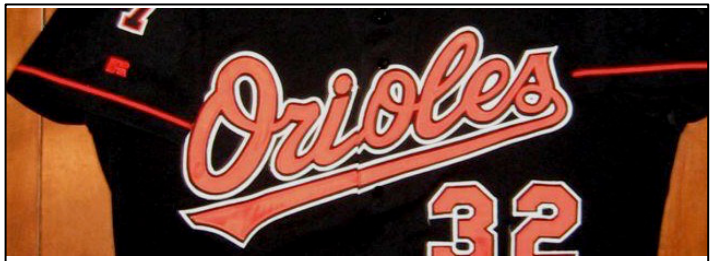
1995-1999: Orioles Alternate Wordmark Variations

1995; in 1996 *issued but unworn*

1996–1997



Early 1998—pullover mesh



1998-1999, in 2000 *issued but unworn*

•**1995**: Full placket orange knit trim and at sleeve ends. Three-color wordmark (orange/black/white) with the small loop in the "s" and the second "o."

•**1996, team issued but not used:** A set of jerseys identical to 1995's is team-tagged and issued, but before the season, team ownership decided that the orange trim on the placket looked too flashy and had to go. Reportedly the trim was removed, *but I do not believe that happened to all of them*. I have many photos of 1996 team-tagged orange placket trimmed jerseys in my archives. I believe these were all sold into to the hobby, probably as "team issued" but many now show up incorrectly identified as "game worn." There surely were tens of thousands of these made for retail sale, and the stock of these were almost certainly sold at retail, probably without any notation that they were different from the team's actual on-field jerseys.

The "small loop" wordmark, 1995 through early 1998

The "big loop" wordmark, used most of 1998 through 1999

The Orioles black alternate game jerseys of 1996 through 2000 have a detail history as tangled as a bird's nest. Again, to the casual observer, all the jerseys shown on this page look identical to one another, but they are not. Year by year, we will go though the variations in script and trim here.

• **1996–1997** Small loop wordmark, sleeve trim present but no placket trim of any kind.

• **Early 1998:** A set of "temporary" black alternates was made from batting practice jerseys. They are mesh, have the sleeve end knit trim added, with the small-loop design. Used for the first few games.

• **Later 1998–1999**: The front wordmark is changed to the new, "big loop" design, knit trim is used on sleeve ends only.

• **Early 2000:** The wordmark is changed at the last possible moment, orange outlined with black, losing the white. A set of the old-style three-color lettered jerseys is made for 2000 but not used on the field, replicating the odd situation of 1996.

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1995-2003 Orioles Team Sleeve Patches

Ornithologically Correct Bird
1995–1997

Robin Style Bird 1998 only

Lifelike Bird 1999–2001

Fun Bird 2002–2003

According to the Orioles publicity material:

The Baby Bird & Orioles Fun Birds: In 1997, the Orioles created a group of "fun birds" which have played a variety of roles in the Orioles organization. The Baby Bird, also known to little O's fans as the Dugout Club Bird, was designed to appeal to a younger Orioles fan. As he improves his baseball skills, the Fun Bird is illustrated executing various baseball drills.

- In 1989, the Orioles dumped the fan-favorite cartoon bird cap logo that they had worn since 1966. An old fashioned-style bird replaced him, looking much like the type that had been used on caps between 1954–1965, and also prior during the pre-MLB Orioles' time in the International League.
- 1995–1997: The bird patch is first used on the sleeve. The replacement bird had a fat body and a tiny head and was known as the *Ornithologically Correct Bird.* In 1995, this bird appeared on the left sleeve, where he stayed through 1997.
- 1998: The bird was redesigned to make him look even more realistic, but some claimed he now looked more like a robin than an oriole. Identify by the white crescent behind the bird's eye
- 1999: The bird was redrawn again. This style of patch used from 1999 through 2001 is known as the "Lifelike Bird."
- 2002–2003: a version of the cartoon bird returns to the left sleeve. Specifically he is known as the "Fun Bird."

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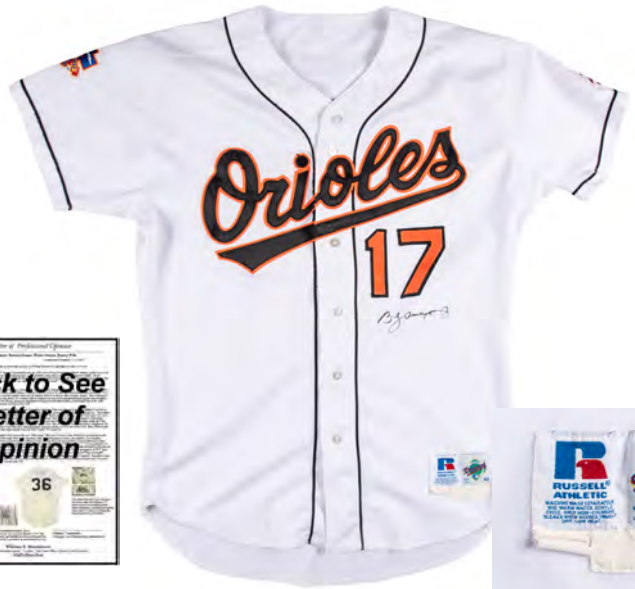
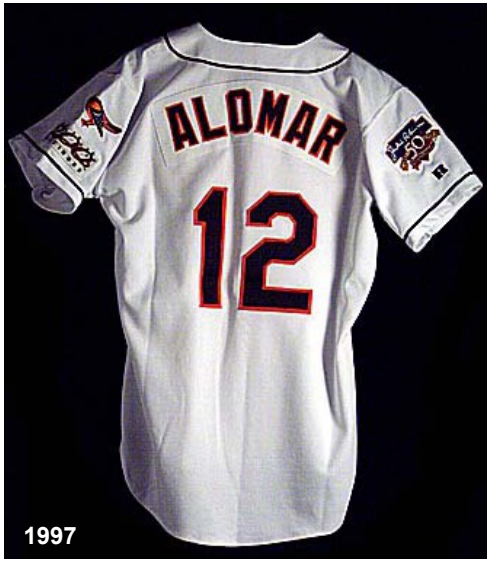
1995-1997 Home



*1997 moves the sleeve oriole patch up higher to accommodate the one-year **Baltimore 200** patch, above left.*

1995



1997

For 1995, “Orioles” is now taller and thinner; more stylized with underline, and is now black/orange. This uses the“small loop” wordmark; look at the loop in the final flourish of the “s” just before the start of the tail. Compare to the “big loop” style “s” 1998–2003.

Front number colors are now reversed from other lettering. Front Block numbers. Back number and name are two-color black/orange.

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1998-2003 Home

Russell 1998-1999

In this revised version, the jersey is very similar to 1995–1997 style, but Orioles script is now even slightly thinner, taller and even more stylized. Look for the “big loop” of the letter S before the underline. While the style of this jersey remains basically the same 1998–2003, there are enough year-to year detail changes that we will break these out into smaller groups.

For 1998, the Orioles wordmark is generally sewn at a less steep angle of incline than in 1995–1997. Player name/number lettering is identical to earlier jersey.

The 1998 jersey is the only one to feature the “robin bird sleeve patch”, named derisively because critics said that the bird on the patch more closely resembled an American Robin than a Baltimore Oriole. This patch style lasted only one year. Player nameplates are used in 1998, the final year for them.

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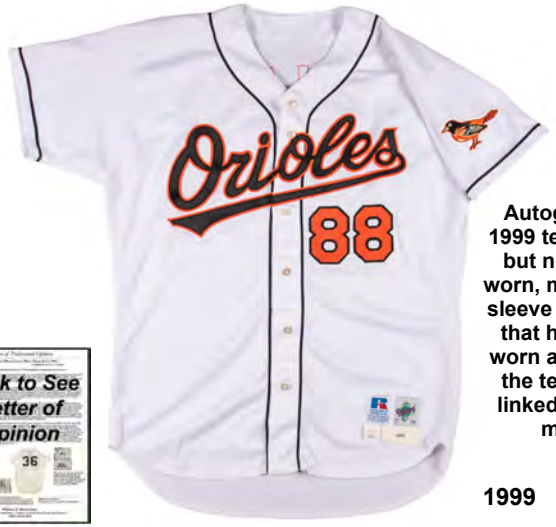
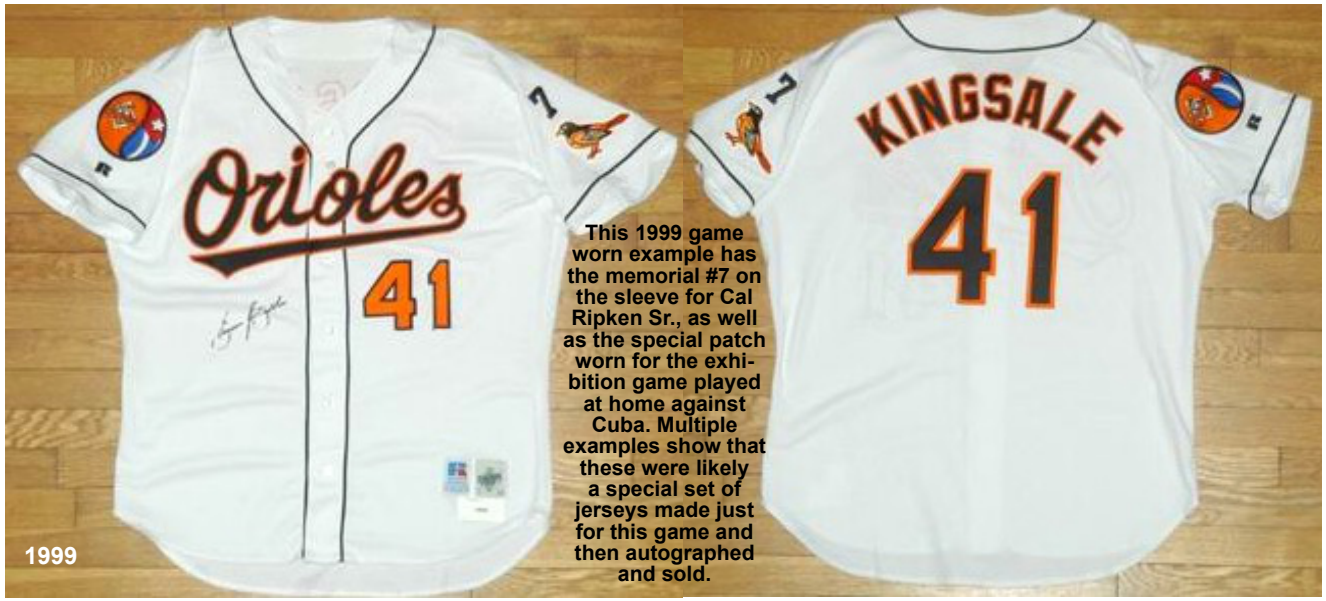
1998-2003 Home, continued: Russell 1998-1999



Autographed 1999 team issue but not game worn, missing #7 sleeve memorial that had been worn all year by the team. See linked LOA for more.

1999

For 1999, the sleeve patch is changed to a new bird patch that is known as "the lifelike bird". Otherwise the jersey remains identical to 1998. The team wears an embroidered black with white outline "7" patch on the left sleeve to memorialize Cal Ripken Sr. who had passed during the off-season. The use of nameplates stops, and for 1999 player names on back are direct sewn. 1999 is also the final year that Russell was the team's uniform supplier and the last year that the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is absent from the back of the collar.



This 1999 game worn example has the memorial #7 on the sleeve for Cal Ripken Sr., as well as the special patch worn for the exhibition game played at home against Cuba. Multiple examples show that these were likely a special set of jerseys made just for this game and then autographed and sold.

1999

Above: *game photo shows the proper application of the "7" memorial on the right sleeve as worn all season.*

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1998-2003 Home, continued: Majestic 2000-2003

2000

For 2000, Majestic takes over making the Orioles uniforms and besides the addition of the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck (a running change for all MLB uniforms) and the Majestic logo embroidered onto the end of the left sleeve, everything else remains exactly the same as 1999. 2000 is the only year in this style-run without any memorial patches on the sleeves. As before, no nameplates are used. Majestic does not year/set/player tag jerseys, making it more difficult to ascertain if a jersey is team issued.

For 2001, the American League 100th Anniversary patch is added to the right sleeve, and following the tragic events of 9/11, an American flag is sewn over-top the batterman logo on the back of the collar. Finally, celebrating his retirement, a Cal Ripken career patch is added to the right sleeve replacing the American League 100th patch.

2001, October 5–6 only

2001

2001, October 5–6

Early 2000 jerseys with nameplates:
Above: Dated news photos show the team wearing Majestic home jerseys (only) with nameplates in April 2000, a feature they had dropped after 1998. Photos from later in the year show no nameplates *(Getty Images)*

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1998-2003 Home, continued: Majestic 2000-2003

2002

For 2002–2003, the final two years of the current uniform iteration are marked only by the change of the bird sleeve patch. The team reverts to its earlier imagery, reviving the "Walsh Bird" so popular during the 1960s–1980s. He is christened the "Fun Bird" and is shown in a new crouched batting stance on the left sleeve patch sewn just above the Majestic logo. No team tagging on these.

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1995-1996 Road

1996

1995

1995–1996 road jersey has black knit trim on placket, around collar and near sleeve ends. The Orioles wordmark used has the “small loop” design, three-color orange/black/white. Block style numbers, nameplates used, two-color name and numbers, front and back orange/black. “Ornithologically Correct” bird patch used both these years.

Stephen Kraljic collection

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1997 Road

- **1997** road jersey is a one-year variant that has no front placket trim and has the “small loop” wordmark.
- All 1997 jerseys also should have both the Baltimore 2000 patch (in gray) sewn below the bird on the sleeve (which necessitates the bird being sewn higher up than in other years) and the 1997-only Jackie Robinson “Breaking Barriers” patch on the right sleeve.
- All other aspects of trim and lettering are identical to the 1996 jersey: three-color wordmark, two color name and number, names on nameplates.

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1998-2000 Road

Russell 1998-1999

1998

For **1998** the wordmark changes to the three-color "big loop" style. Nameplates are used for the final time in 1998, and they disappear after that. "Robin bird" patch used for 1998 only.

Right: *"Big loop" is shorthand to distinguish between the styles of this wordmark, and refers to the opening inside the S.*

1998

© GameWornGuides.com

1998-2000 Road, continued: Russell 1998-1999

1999

1999 is the final year of Russell making the Orioles' uniforms. It is also the final year of MLB jerseys having no logo patch on the back of the neck. The Russell R appears embroidered on the right sleeve end, narrow black trim rings the sleeve ends only. Nameplates are discontinued for 1999. The bird patch on the sleeve changes to the style now known as the "lifelike bird" that is used through the 2001 season. A small "7" embroidered memorial patch (not twill) is sewn on the right sleeve. It is bordered with white embroidery, and we've learned from Joe Hilseberg, a stitcher who was there at the time that several iterations of these patches were made. On white and gray jerseys sometimes the patch 's white outline was darkened with black magic marker to make the patch seem all black. I can vouch for this, as I have restored one of these where the patch had been removed, leaving a black marker stain around its perimeter that was a b!tch to get off!

1999

1999

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1998-2000 Road, continued: Majestic 2000

For 2000, Majestic takes over for Russell as the supplier of the Orioles' uniforms. While the design remains the same as 1999, there are a few small changes. Besides the removal of the 1999 memorial "7" from the sleeve, Majestic's logo is now on the left sleeve (vs. the right sleeve where the Russell logo had appeared) and The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo patch is stitched to the back of the collar; a running change for all MLB teams. The Orioles' patch is black, white and orange, matching team colors.

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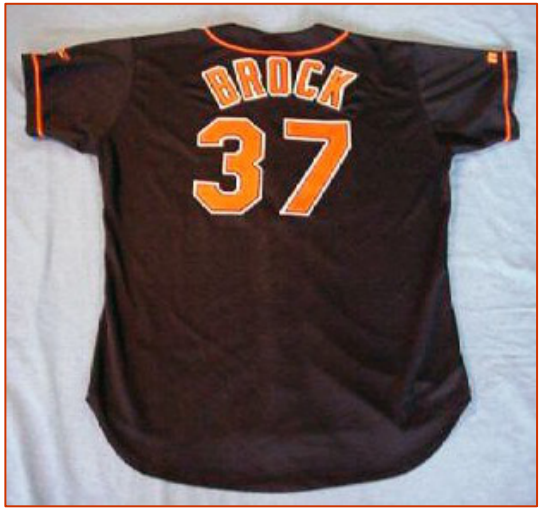
Early 1995 Alternate

The **early 1995** on-field alternate black jersey ***(left)*** has "small loop" style of wordmark, orange knit trim on the sleeve ends, around the collar and down the placket. All lettering is orange/black/white. Front Block numbers on front, Block Standard on back. Three-color player NOB. But by July the team taken to wearing their black mesh BP jerseys in games instead.

Reportedly, for some reason, ownership had a negative issue with the orange placket trim on these and preferred the batting practice jersey be worn instead.



Team tagged 1995 Alternates with no orange placket trim (as in,1996 style?) Yes, I've seen a couple, and I question their authenticity. These are always superstar player jerseys, which I never use in isolation to verify a style. I need to see game photos and/or common player lettered jerseys before I'll consider that these are a real thing.

Sleeve patch 1995–1997

Right: *Game action photos from July and August 1995 show the team wearing the mesh black BP in games, explained further on the next page. Note the lack of names on back, front numbers, and the presence of the Majestic sleeve logo, which by contractual rights should not have been displayed during games.*

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July/August 1995 Batting Practice as Game Jersey

July–Aug 1995: Blame the heat, perhaps, but these action photos show that the Orioles wore their black mesh batting practice jerseys for some games in the hottest months of the summer in 1995. While you can't see the mesh fabric in these pictures, note the lack of front numbers, the absence of player names on back and the white Majestic logo on the right sleeve.

This was surely not a sanctioned move, as by contract, Majestic logos could not be displayed on game uniforms in that year. We wonder what Russell had to say about this.

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1996-1997 Alternate

This version of the sleeve patch is used only 1995–1997

1996–1997 on-field black alternate is identical to 1995 model, only without the orange placket knit trim. Knit trim remains around the sleeve ends only.

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Oddballs: 1996 & 2000 Black Alternate Jerseys Team Ordered but Not Game Used

1996 issued, unused

1996: The orange knit trim on the placket and around the back of the collar were never present on game used Orioles alternate jerseys. However, at least one set of them were created for the team with year tagging. The unconfirmed story is that team ownership (OK, Peter Angelos) ruled them too flashy and ordered them remade without the orange placket knit trim at the last moment.

These team-tagged 1996 jerseys often appear for sale as "game used" when they were not. Also, there were a great many of these made for retail sale, still sold in 1996 and beyond sold as "on-field authentics" even though the official on-field look had changed.

2000: Incredibly, the team did the same thing again in 2000, when they changed the black jersey at the last moment before opening day, removing the white outlines, creating a set of unusable black jerseys that appear as "game used 2000" when they were never used on the field.

One can imagine the frustration at Russell and then Majestic when the Orioles changed their minds at the last moment on what they would be wearing on the field. There must have been thousands of now obsolete jerseys in stock for retail sale, these were either sold beside the new ones, or more likely were dumped at a loss to the discounters.

And...2000 Majestic jersey issued, also unused. Majestic had newly acquired the Orioles jersey contract for 2000, and the Orioles greeted them with a problem.

Left: *1996 game photo of a certain rather infamous incident. You can see there is knit trim on the sleeve ends but not on the jersey front.*

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Even more 1996-1998 "Orioles" Script Tweaks??

Or...How many versions of the script are there?

Left: *Less often seen: aggressively leaning wordmark. Note especially the negative space between the O and R, and R and I. The less-italic variant is pictured on the other three jerseys on this page.*

- Amidst all of the varieties of Orioles jerseys year-to-year in this period that would only be noticed by fanatic detail freaks (like us), discussions among collectors have been raised about if there were different variations of the Orioles scripts in use on the field at the same time.
- The claim was that there were multiple versions of the script in use concurrently in 1995–1999. I will admit that it is surely possible that old "small loop" and later "big loop" jerseys were being used simultaneously in 1998, as the changes were small and the team likely had old stock to use up.
- But are there really more versions of the wordmark than these two? Researching this chapter I have looked at many hundreds of game photos and I had to admit that it surely does appear like there were two versions of the Orioles script as collectors have suggested: one leaning aggressively forward, one appearing more nearly upright.
- I have also concluded that some these apparent differences are an illusion; appearing because jersey scripts were sewn oddly inconsistently from one another. Generally, a template is used to ensure that angles are consistent from garment to garment. But as you can see on this page, the Orioles wordmark is sewn at different angles on different jerseys, giving it a totally different look.
- Three of the four jerseys pictured at left all use the same word mark, yet all four have their wordmarks sewn at different angles onto the jersey. Was this an intentional running change? Or simply poor quality control?

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Early 1998 “Batting Practice Based” Mesh Alternate

Bill Henderson Collection

1998 sleeve patch: The one-year-only *Robin-style Bird.*

Below: Sharpie blacked-out out sleeve logo.

Early 1998: The Orioles wore these black mesh alternates only a couple of times. They were converted from batting practice jerseys, but the gamers can be distinguished from the pullover pregame jerseys in the following ways:

1. Front numbers are on game jerseys but not BP jerseys.
2. These jerseys feature the player’s name on the back which is not found on the Orioles BP jerseys.
3. Sleeve trim has been added -there is no sleeve trim on Orioles BP jerseys.
4. Oriole one-year Robin Bird style patch, found on gamers only, not on BP jerseys.
5. Majestic logo, blacked out on these jersey with permanent marker, because Russell was the official supplier of game jerseys. There was no need to black it out on the pregame jerseys, where Majestic was the official supplier.

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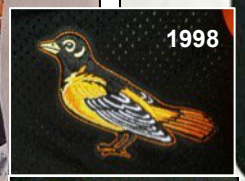
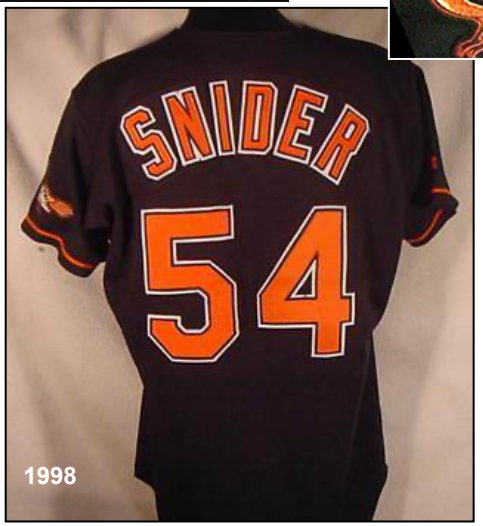
Mid 1998-1999 Alternate

A set of this style jerseys was also sewn for the team's use for the 2000 season. Then, two weeks before the season began, they were scrapped to be replaced with the new for 2000 style shown in the pages ahead. A set of these jerseys exists in the hobby with 2000 team tagging, they are team issued but not game worn. An example is shown in this chapter.





New "big loop" wordmark, Nameplates in 1998, none in 1999, different bird sleeve patch if 1998 or 1999. All else remains the same as prior year. Trim stays on sleeve ends only.

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1995-2000 Four Puzzling Oddballs

- Ready for more? Even considering all the exceptions on the past 15 pages, these four jerseys defy description, I will leave them to your judgment.
- ***Top left:*** This supposed Bobby Bonilla game issued jersey offered for sale on eBay has both the pre-1996 front placket trim AND the 1998 and later big-loop wordmark. The tiny flag tag attached to the Russell jock tag indicates it is very likely from “team issued” stock.
- ***Middle left:*** This supposed Eddie Murray game issued jersey has front placket trim but none on the sleeve ends
- ***Bottom left:*** This game worn 1997 Rocky Coppinger game jersey has no sleeve trim.
- ***Near left (column):*** This likely team issued/tagged 1995 jersey, has 1996 tagging but no placket trim. #48 is hitting coach Rick Down. I always say, beware of famous name player jerseys (Bonilla, Murray) because they are likely to be fakes created for profit, but that does not help explain the Coppinger and Down jerseys. I suggest these are team issued inconsistencies.

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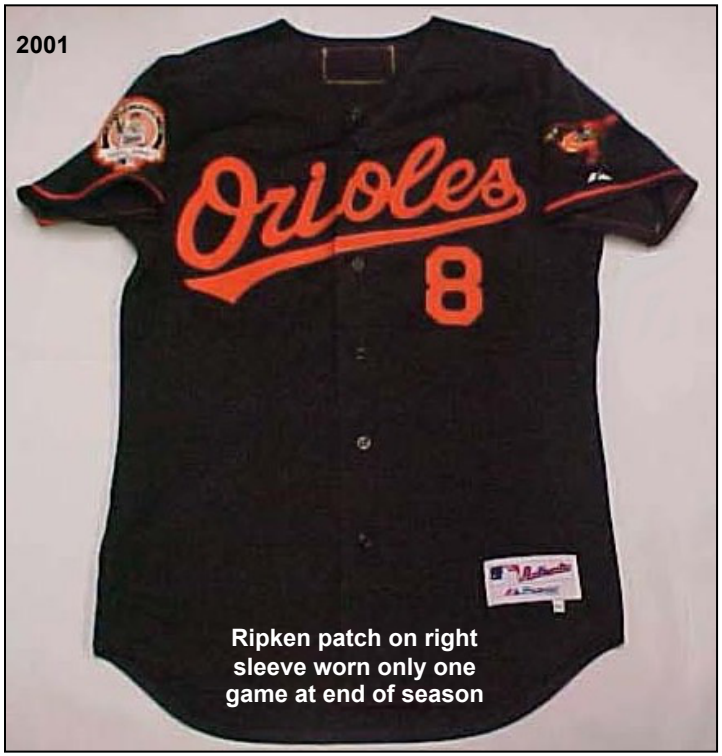
2000-2011 Alternate/2012-2023 Alternate Black



This jersey was used almost unchanged except for patch detail for 24 years! Team logo and all the other lettering is two-color, orange/black. The black outline is hard to see– but it is there! 2000-2008 jersey is full-weight knit. Black jersey typically worn for Friday games, home and road.

Starting 2009, Orioles' jerseys are no longer full knit fabric. Year-to-year differences limited to the sleeve patches which change constantly. *On the left sleeve,*

- 2000-2001 - "Lifelike Bird"
- 2002-2003 - "Fun Bird"
- 2004 - 50th Anniversary
- 2005, 2007-2008 - no patch

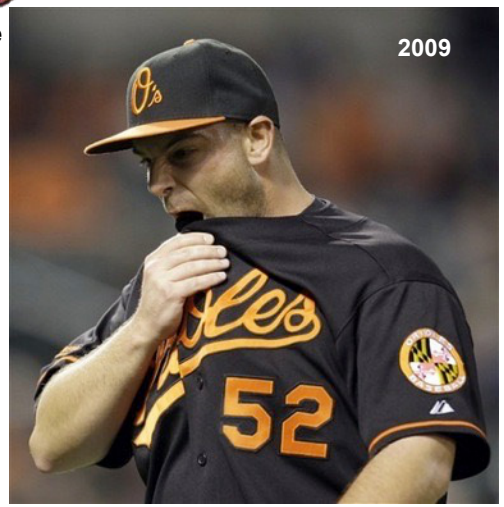
(continued, next page)

Left sleeve 2000–2001

Left sleeve 2009–2023

Left sleeve 2002–2003

2009 Alternate has two patches—"Orioles Baseball" on the left side, and a tiny diagonal "Baltimore" script on the right.



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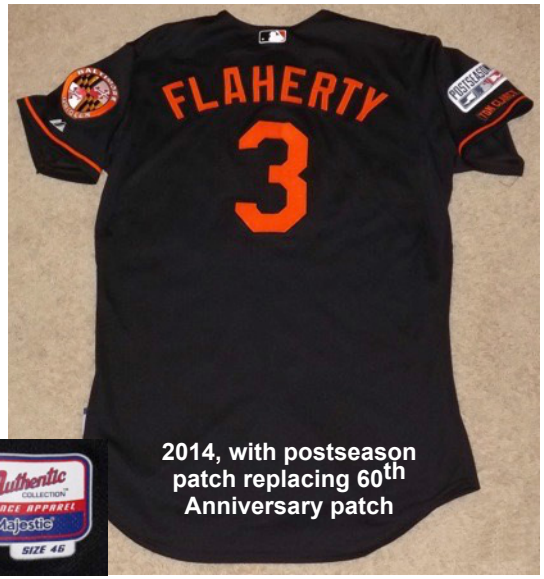
2000-2011 Alternate/2012-2023 Alternate Black, continued

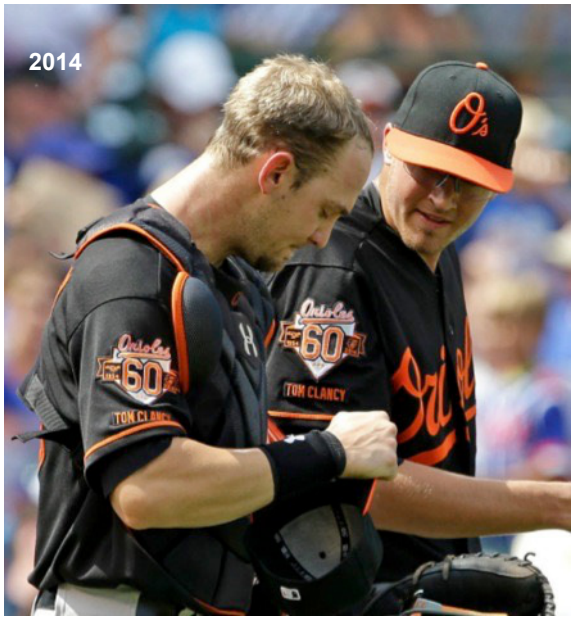


2014, with postseason patch replacing 60th Anniversary patch

Left: *2014 Postseason jersey shows removal of the 60th Anniversary from the right sleeve and replaces it with the MLB Postseason patch. Got all that?*

Sleeve patches, continued:

- 2006: "44" memorial patch for Elrod Hendricks on left sleeve.
- 2009-2011: Round Orioles Baseball sleeve patch on the left sleeve and diagonal "Baltimore" script on the right sleeve.
- 2011: Flanny memorial for Mike Flanagan
- 2012: Camden Yards anniversary on right, new round "Baltimore Orioles" disc with Maryland flag colors on left.
- 2013-2023: "Baltimore Orioles" disc on the left sleeve (through 2022, and varies sleeves in 2023), but on the opposite sleeve:
    - 2013 - Earl Weaver "4" Memorial Disk
    - 2014 - 60th Anniversary and Tom Clancy patches
    - 2015-2016, 2018, 2020-2021 - no patch
    - 2017 - Camden Yards 25th patch
    - 2019 - MLB 150 and Frank Robinson "20"
    - 2022 - Camden Yards 30th anniversary
    - 2023 - Brooks Robinson memorial



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2000-2011 Alternate/2012-2023 Alternate Black, continued

2007

2011

2017

2020

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2001-2008 Road

2001: USA flag added to the back of the collar after the events of 9/11/2001.

2002–2003: Fun Bird patch now on left sleeve No patch on the right sleeve, except worn with 9/11 memorial Pentagon patch 9/11/2002 (shown)

2004: 50th Anniversary patch on left sleeve

Majestic takes over from Russell as the maker of Orioles uniforms starting with the 2001 season. On raid gray jerseys, the white outline is removed from the team script, leaving it a simpler orange over a black outline. Besides adding their embroidered black logo to the end of the left sleeve, the MLB logo "silhouetted batter" is sewn to the back of the neck, a running change for all MLB teams. Majestic ceases team-tagging jerseys, making determining team issue/game worn status more difficult.

Through the eight-year run of this style, note the following variations for each season:

- 2001—Lifelike Bird sleeve patch.
- 2002–2003—Fun Bird patch replaces Lifelike Bird.
- 2004—50th Anniversary left sleeve patch instead of cartoon bird.
- Sleeves blank—no team patches in 2005, 2007–2008.
- 2006—left sleeve features #44 Elrod Hendricks memorial patch.

2005, representative of 2007 and 2008 as well. No sleeve patches these years. Jersey back is representative of all these years

2006—left sleeve #44 Elrod Hendricks memorial patch.

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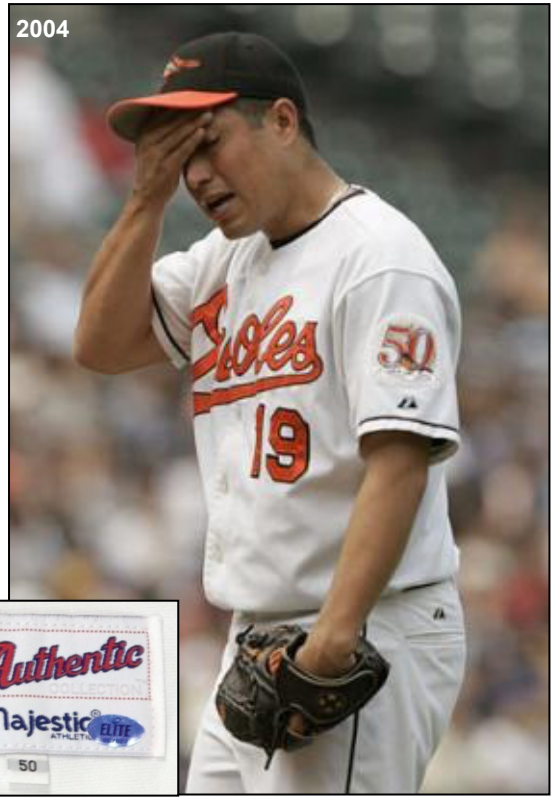
2004-2008 Home

Change to orange/black front script, once again. Numbers and names two-color, orange/black. No nameplates used.

Sleeve patches vary by year. 2004 only: the prior team bird patch on the left sleeve is replaced with 2004 50th anniversary patch. No team logo sleeve patch used 2005–2008. 2006 version has 44 Elrod Hendricks memorial patch on the left sleeve.

Year/set tagging is absent on Orioles jerseys 2004–2008.

Left: *2006 "44" memorial for Elrod Hendricks is direct-embroidered to the sleeve in black to the left sleeve.*



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2009-2023 Home

- Nearly identical to the prior year's home jersey, the 2009 version has new black/orange/black narrow knit sleeve trim to replace the older black trim.
- New State of Maryland flag colors disc patch adorns the left sleeve through 2022, and varies sleeve placement depending on the handedness of each player in 2023. The version on the home jersey says "Baltimore Orioles" in the wording around the ring.
- Jersey back lettering is identical to prior years, orange/black block numbers and letters.
- Starting 2009, Orioles' jerseys are Cool Base only.
- Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.

- The Orioles use many memorial and commemorative patches through this jersey's run (some starting mid-season), including:
  - 2004: Orioles 50th anniversary
  - 2006: Elrod Hendricks memorial
  - 2008: Jim McKay memorial
  - 2011: Mike Flanagan memorial
  - 2012: Camden Yards 20th Anniversary
  - 2013: Earl Weaver memorial
  - 2014: Orioles 60 Years and Tom Clancy Memorial
  - 2017: Camden Yards 25th anniversary
  - 2019: Frank Robinson memorial
  - 2022: Camden Yards 30th anniversary
  - 2023: Brooks Robinson memorial

See Patches section for more detailed information.

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2009-2023 Home, continued

2014

2017

2021

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2009 Road

To those of us living in the area, it is hard to look at the Orioles patch and not be reminded of the door of a Maryland State Police cruiser.

- Road gray jersey has “Baltimore” script for the first time since 1972. The new script is stylized in that it narrows as the word goes on, different from the home jersey script which does not have this characteristic.
- Sleeve ends have new black/orange/black trim, also found on the new-for-2009 home jersey.
- State of Maryland patch is found on the left sleeve; however this version says “Orioles Baseball” instead of “Baltimore Orioles” on the home jersey.
- On right sleeve is a small Orioles wordmark, a miniaturization of the home uniform’s front script.
- Uniform back is as before, two-color block name and numbers with no nameplates used.
- Starting 2009 Orioles’ jerseys are no longer full-weight knit fabric.

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2010-2011 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

- The Orioles announced no changes for their 2010 uniform, yet change it they did. This page helps explain why the Orioles chapter is close to 200 pages when the team seemingly has made no major changes to its overall look in fifty years.
- It also explains why, with each revised edition of this book, I spend dozens of hours researching the Orioles, searching through news photos: far more than any other team, poring over game pictures looking for mid-year changes that are never announced.

- Look closely at the jersey on this page. There is a *tiny difference* between it and the 2009 road jersey on the prior page.
- Notice that the word breaks more logically between the “L” and the “T," instead of in the middle of the “T” as it awkwardly had done before. This change increases the space between the “L” and “T” but few will notice, whereas the break right in the middle of the “T” always looked misaligned in use. This is one of the perils of using a word as long as “Baltimore” on a jersey front.
- Like the 2009 wordmark, it has a *vanishing* point that causes the word to grow more narrow as it gets nearer to the end of the word.
- I wonder aloud, who in the Orioles front office feels compelled to mess with such things?

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2012-2023 Road

Let's review:

2009
Tapered word and break in the middle of the "t."

2010–2011
Tapered word and break between the "L" and the "T."

Starting 2012: No taper to word, break between the "L" and the "T."

Got it?

2009

2010–2011

2012

- The change to the road jersey for 2012 is slight, but to me it begs the question of why the Orioles can't get things the way they want them the first time and leave them alone.
- The change is to the "Baltimore" script, which has had its angle of incline decreased and also removed its vanishing-point taper (in plain English, that means that its height stays the same from end to end, and does not taper to become more narrow toward the end of the word).
- The jersey back is unchanged from 2011.
- These changes are so small that if I didn't mention them they might go unnoticed.
- The Orioles diagonal script is removed from the right sleeve in favor of the "Baltimore Orioles" disc starting 2012.
- In 2023, the team disc patch varies which sleeve it appears on based on the handedness of each player.
- Originally made by Majestic, Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.

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2012-2023 Road, continued

NOTE: 2017 jersey recycled for use in 2019

- The Orioles use many memorial and commemorative patches through this jersey's run (some starting mid-season), including:
  - 2012: Camden Yards 20th Anniversary
  - 2013: Earl Weaver memorial
  - 2014: Orioles 60 Years and Tom Clancy Memorial
  - 2017: Camden Yards 25th anniversary
  - 2019: Frank Robinson memorial
  - 2022: Camden Yards 30th anniversary
  - 2023: Brooks Robinson memorial

See Patches section for more detailed information.

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2012-2013 Alternate Home Orange/2014-2023 Alternate Orange

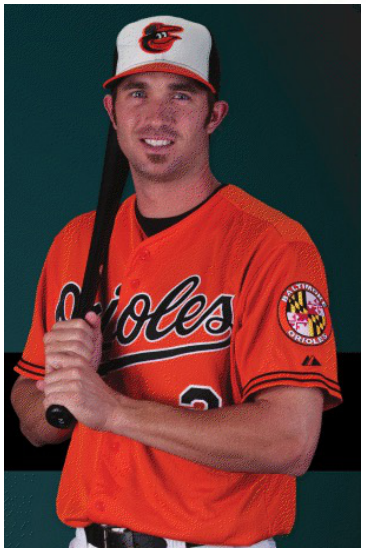
Since its first brief appearance in 1971, the Orioles orange jersey has often been part of their lineup, so its return for 2012, accompanied by the nostalgic cartoon bird on the team caps, is no surprise. The jersey is typically worn on Fridays (worn only at home 2012–2013, both home and road starting 2014).

The orange jersey was last in the lineup in 1992. The new 2012 edition uses the 2012 version of the Orioles script with underline, in black outlined with white. Front Block numbers are on the front, Block numbers are on the back as are block player names, all in the same black/white combination. Majestic 2012–2019, Nike takes over in 2020.

"Baltimore Orioles"/Maryland flag disc is sewn on the left sleeve through 2022, and varies sleeve placement in 2023. . The Orioles use many memorial and commemorative patches through this jersey's run (some starting mid-season), including:

- 2012: Camden Yards 20th Anniversary
- 2013: Earl Weaver memorial
- 2014: Orioles 60 Years and Tom Clancy Memorial
- 2017: Camden Yards 25th anniversary
- 2019: Frank Robinson memorial
- 2022: Camden Yards 30th anniversary
- 2023: Brooks Robinson memorial

See Patches section for more detailed info.



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2012-2013 Alternate Home Orange/2014-2023 Alternate Orange, continued:

2013

2016

2020

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2023 City Connect

Baltimore checks in to the City Connect program with a predominantly black ensemble with "Players Weekend 2019" vibes. According to the team, the color choice shows the "surface level" at which people from outside of Baltimore view the city. However, the hidden pops of color, inside the collar and sleeve ends, represent the various neighborhoods of the city and their "colorful interior." The blocky typeface used for the front logo (in speckled white/black) was inspired by the Globe Collection and Press at the Maryland Institute College of Art. According to the team, "the speckles and imperfections represent the shared grit the Orioles and the Baltimore community possess." Player names on back in orange, and numbers in white/black, share a similar font, without the speckles. The patch above the jock tag reads "You Can't Clip These Wings," which is taken from a work by Baltimore poet Kondwani Fidel, representing the city always "flying to new heights." Finally, the script "B" on the jock tag patch and the sleeve patch reflects the team's road uniforms lettering.

Paul Lukas/uni-watch.com

Nike and the Orioles intended for the hidden sleeve trim to be revealed when players rolled up their sleeves, but they overestimated the number of players who would do so. Soon after the uniforms debuted, the team took the matter into their own hands according to tweets from Baltimore beat writer Andy Kostka. "The Orioles' official city connect jerseys they're wearing tonight have been altered. The cuff of the sleeve used to have the color on the inside and needed to be rolled up to show it. Now the cuff of the sleeve has color on the outside and none on the inside—no roll necessary...the cuffs were sewn up."

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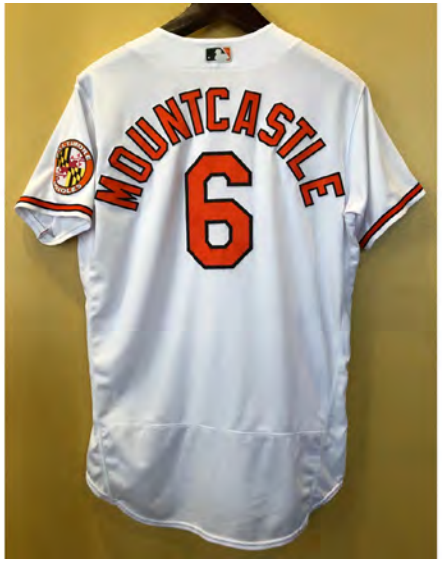
2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023



Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Jeremy Crandall Collection

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

Rob Hemstetter Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Orioles home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's front lettering still splits between the "i" and "o" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which changes the proportions of the black and orange stripes. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Starting June 11, the team's ad patch appears on the sleeve opposite the team disc patch.

2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Orioles home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's front lettering still splits the "t" rather than splitting between the "t" and "i" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which changes the proportions of the black and orange stripes. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Starting June 11, the team's ad patch appears on the sleeve opposite the team disc patch.

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2024 Alternate Black

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Orioles alternate black jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's front lettering still splits between the "i" and "o" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which changes the proportions of the black and orange stripes. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Starting June 11, the team's ad patch appears on the sleeve opposite the team disc patch.

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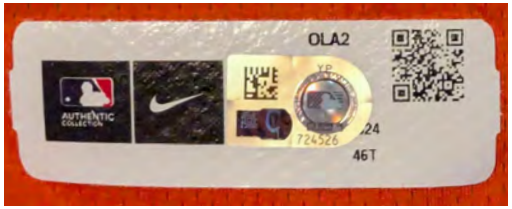
2024 Alternate Orange

Jeremy Crandall Collection



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Orioles orange alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the team's front lettering still splits between the "i" and "o" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn into the sleeve rather than on to it, which changes the proportions of the black and orange stripes. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Starting June 11, the team's ad patch appears on the sleeve opposite the team disc patch.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Orioles' City Connect jersey that was introduced just one season prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket, but the front lettering still splits between the "T" and "I" as before. However, this means less of the colorful trim inside the collar and down the inside of the placket - a detail almost never seen on field. The sleeve-end trim is sewn on to the sleeves rather than into them, which would be typical of VPE. But given the trim's width, which is much wider than standard VPE trim, the team takes this approach. It also ensures that it is visible for every player, contrary to the expectation that players would roll up their sleeves to show it in 2023 (which was also corrected by creative sewing). The Orioles use perforated numbers on this version of the jersey. Starting June 11, the team's ad patch appears on the jersey opposite the "B" patch sleeve. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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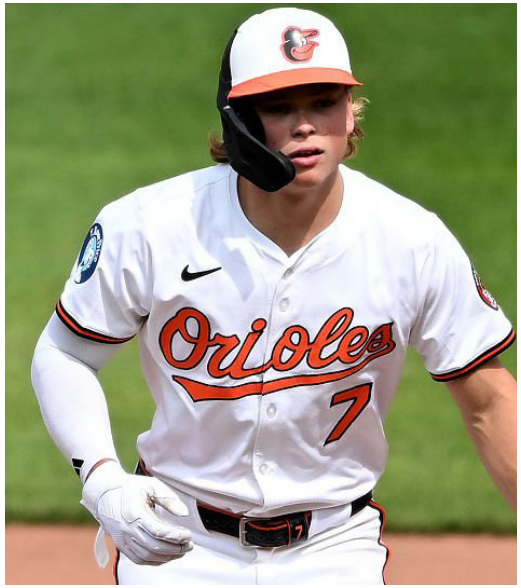
2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.



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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Baltimore” script breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Black

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Orange

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. In a flashback to the early 1970s, the Orioles pair these jerseys with matching orange pants for some games in 2025.

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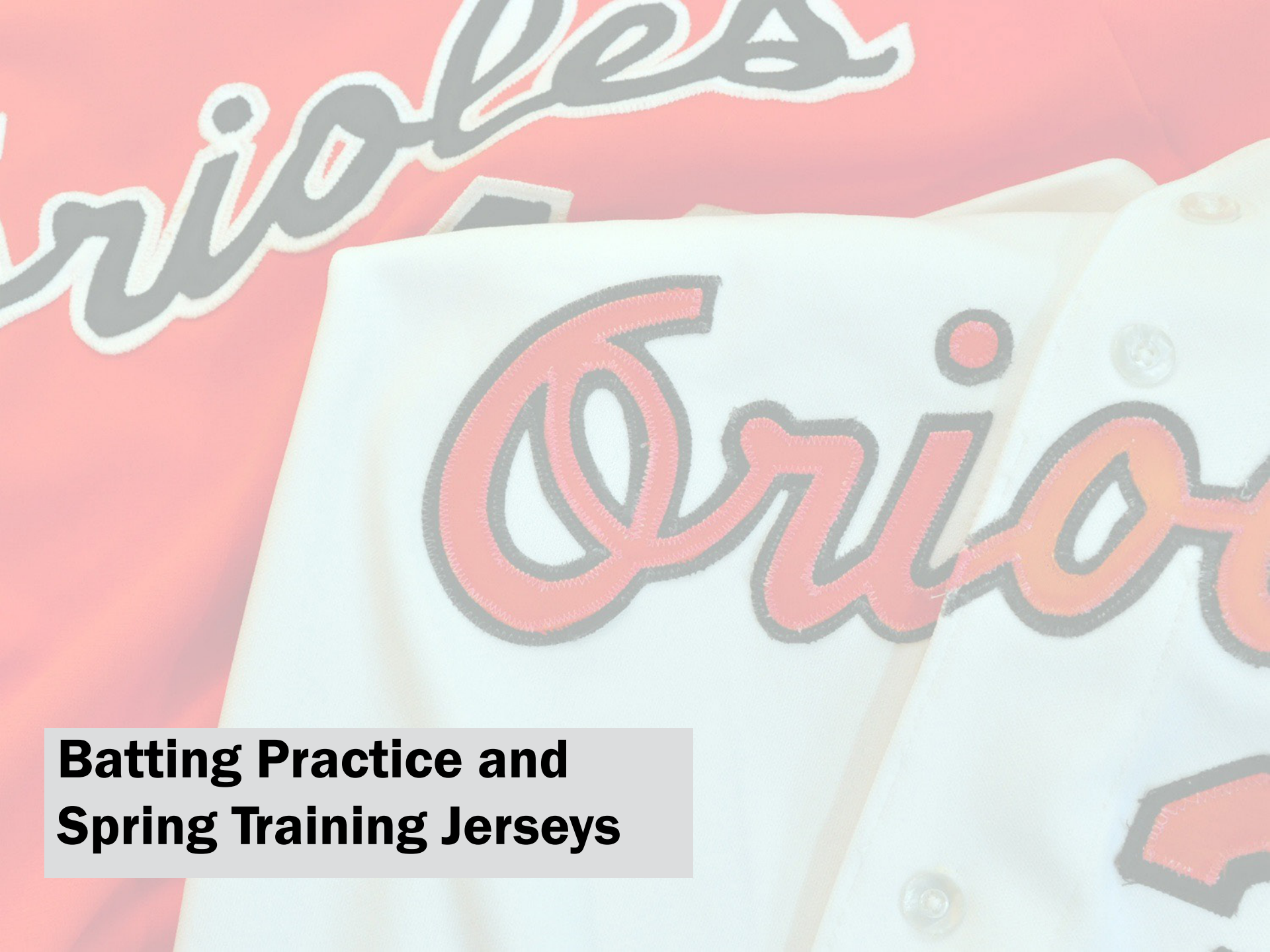

Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1980 Spring Training Batting Practice

- No photos of this jersey being worn on the field, but the Sand-Knit tags tell us about their place in history. The top tag is known as the "Exclusive Sand-Knit" tag shows that these were made especially for the team and to team specs. They may have been made available for retail sale, but in this era there really was no consumer market or wide distribution of on-field team apparel.
- Jersey features heat-pressed/screened-on team script and numbers on back.
- The jersey's *"Medalist Sand-Knit*" tag style was used only in 1980.

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1985-1987 Spring Training Batting Practice

- This jersey style can be dated by the Rawlings tag with its four lines of washing instructions, only used in 1985–1987.
- All lettering and numbers are screen printed. I have seen these represented as Spring Training jerseys, regular season batting practice jerseys and minor league jerseys. In fact, they could have been used for all three.
- There is noticeable fading between the shoulders of the jersey and the tails which would normally be tucked in and kept away from the sun.

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1985-1986 Spring Training Batting Practice

- No photos of this jersey being worn on the field, but the Sand--Knit tags tell us much. The top tag, known as the "Exclusive Sand-Knit" tag shows that these were made especially for the team and to team specs. This style may have been made available for retail sale, but in this era there really was no consumer market or wide distribution of on-field team apparel.
- This jersey features heat-pressed/screened-on team script and numbers on back.
- This jersey's "*Sand-Knit by MacGregor"* tag style dates it from late 1985 or 1986.

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1985-1988 Black Batting Practice

I have seen these made of both mesh ***(right)*** or lightweight solid black knit fabric ***(above)***. Both have solid orange sleeve bands sewn in, not sewn on top.

One-color orange Varsity numbers on back, no names on back.

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Late 1980s, 1992-1994 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Majestic made these mesh pullovers with the zippers at the neck, and offered them to all of the teams in Major League Baseball. Many declined to use them, they were offered for retail sale but are rather rare. The one at the left carries a late-1980s style wordmark. The one center has the 1993–1994 wordmark.

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1986-1988 Orange Batting Practice

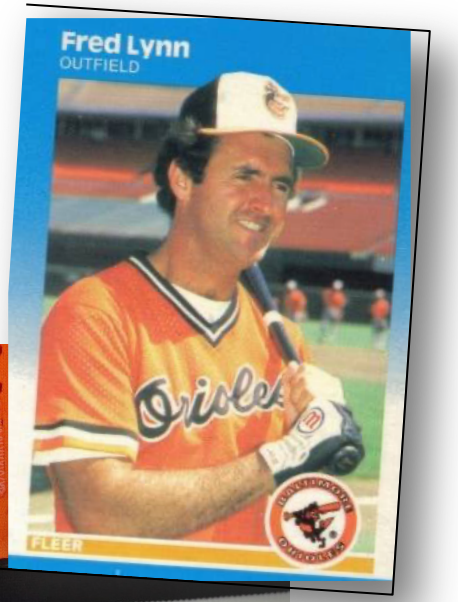
These orange mesh Majestic and Rawlings jerseys were used by the Orioles in Spring Training and during the season as warmup jerseys, best estimate, 1986–1988. Note that Rawlings used Full Block numbers, majestic used Varsity.

The Fred Lynn baseball card shown is from 1987. This jersey is also seen in some 1989 cards, with photos taken in 1988.

1986 and later Orioles major league orange BPs have sewn-on lettering, Minor league Orioles jerseys look very similar but have heat-pressed lettering, and often have front numbers as well.

Bobby Tolan collection

Rawlings tag style changes during 1988.



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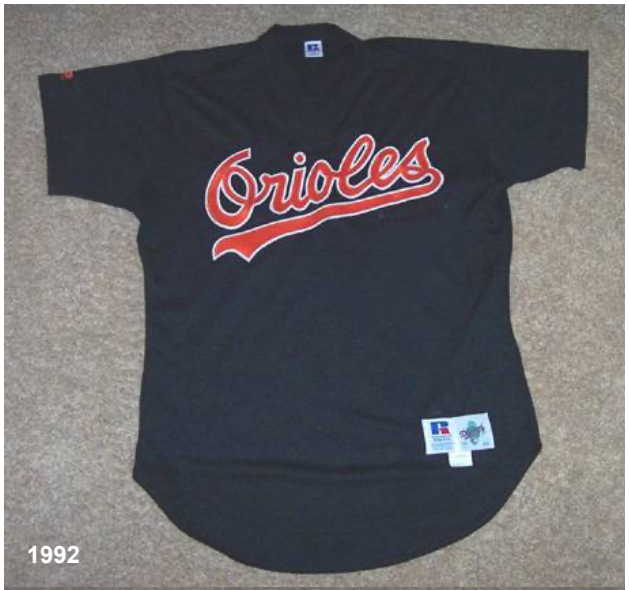
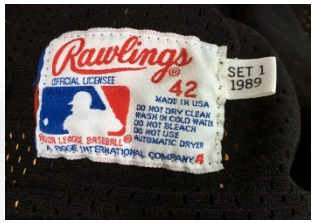
1989-1992 Black Batting Practice



The 1990 card at right is likely a 1989 photo and has Rawlings script on the sleeve. Like most batting practice jerseys, it is not year tagged.

These jerseys are V-neck. The Rawlings ones are likely 1989–1991 and are made of heavyweight mesh. The Russell version is lightweight solid fabric. The numbers and lettering are all sewn on. No player names on back used.



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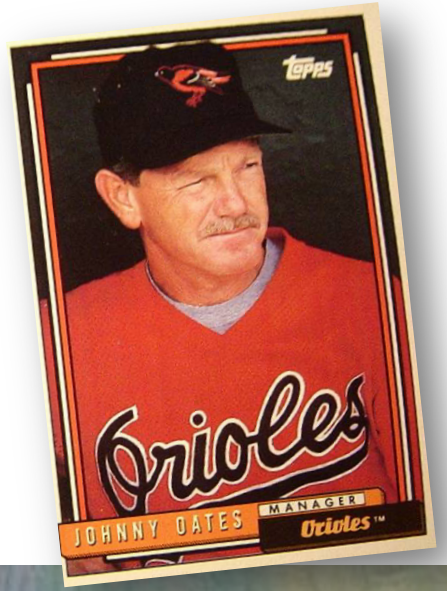
1989-1992 Orange Batting Practice



Mesh fabric, black/white Orioles with underline. It matches the style of the team's 1989–1994 jersey lettering and is identical in script style to the BP jersey on the prior page. Chances are good that it is from the same years as that one. Black/white numbers sewn on, on back only. No name on back.

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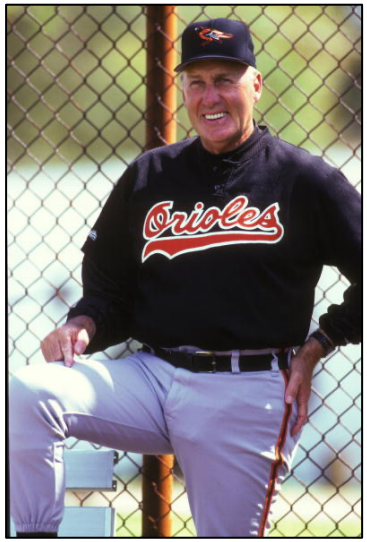
1992-1994 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection



1992

The "fat logo" is a shorter, more squat revision of the team script looks very much like the team secondary logo script, also used only from 1992–1994 (directly below). There may be some overlap between this style and the Rawlings/Russell version used 1989–1992. Two-color orange/white logos and numbers. Examples are seen with both Block and Majestic Varsity numbers, as above.

The "Fat" logo was used only in 1992–1994. After 1994, the word "Baltimore" no longer appears in the team script logo.

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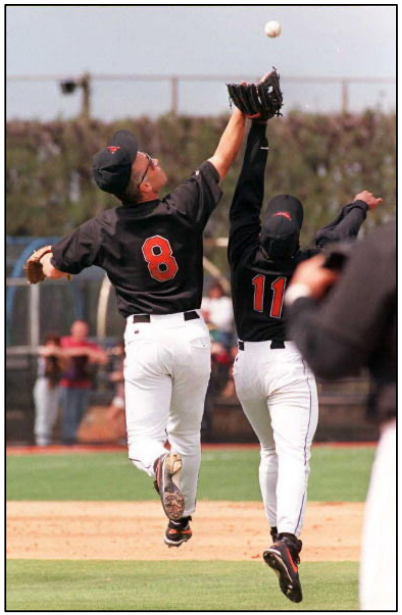
1995-2000 Batting Practice

2000



Heavy mesh construction, one-button neck. No numbers on front; no names on back. Three-color block numbers on back, orange/black/white.

Notice that the front wordmark stays the same, “small loop” style for all years. It does not change like the game jersey does for the 1998 season.

Sleeve patches on BPs are the same as used on game jerseys. These were worn in regular season games several times in July and August, 1995.

1997

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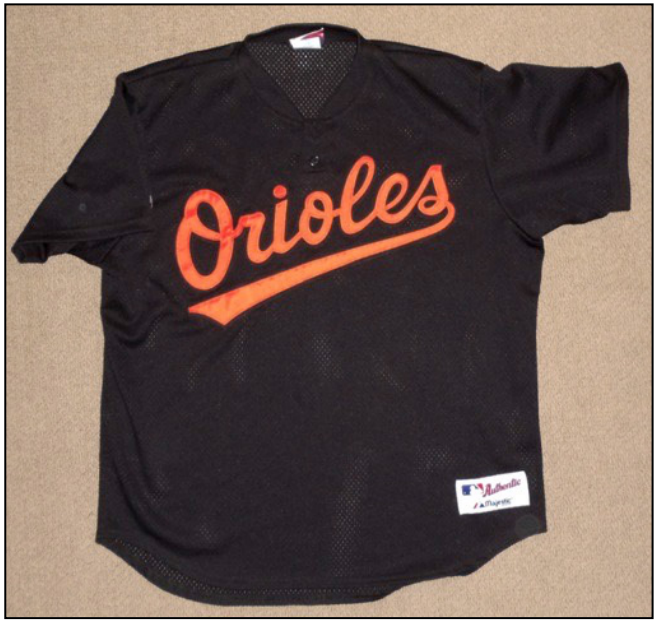
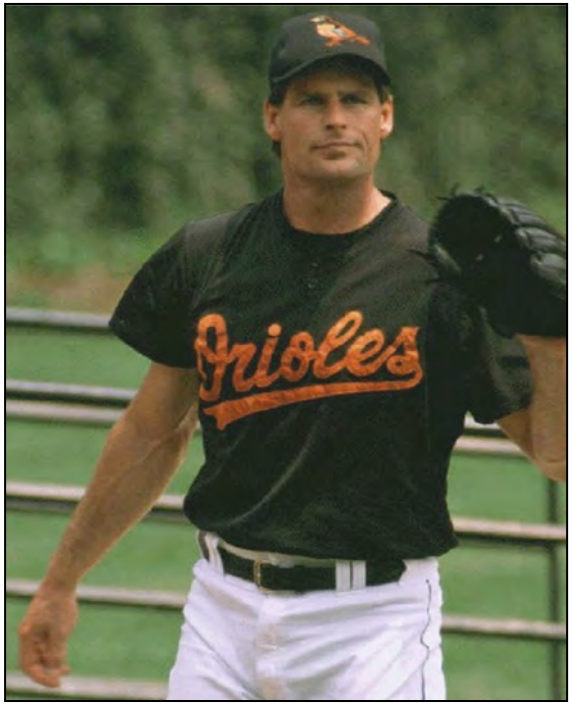
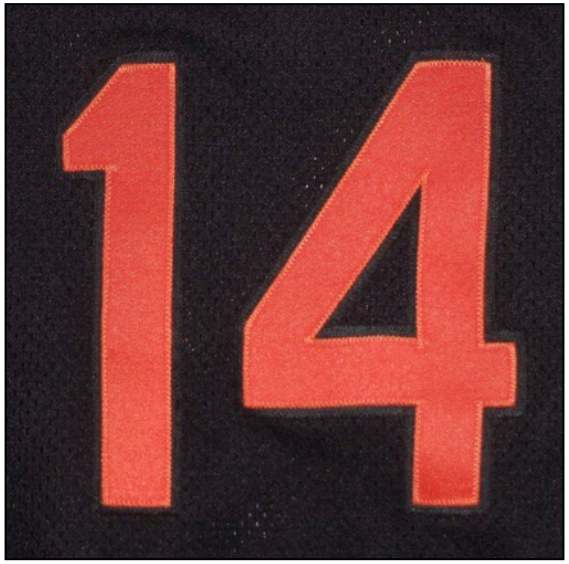
2001-2002 Batting Practice







Two-button neck pullover. Identify by two-color orange/black Orioles script on the front, sewn on mesh fabric.

Two-color orange/black numbers on the back. Black outline is impossible to see unless you are inches away. No numbers on front; no names on back.

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2003-2006 Batting Practice

New softer, non-mesh moisture-wicking fabric, black sleeve inserts, button front. One-color twill team script on front, one-color black Block numbers on back. No names on back.

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2007-2008 Batting Practice

Major League Baseball switches to Majestic Cool Base batting practice jerseys in 2007. New are one-button necks and white/black side insert panels. Front team script and back numbers are heat appliqués, and are not sewn tackle twill. The black lettering has a narrow orange outline that is difficult to see in these photographs. These were worn in regular season game action at least once, on June 20, 2008.

As shown in the photo, bottom center, some of these were worn during Spring Training without player names on back.

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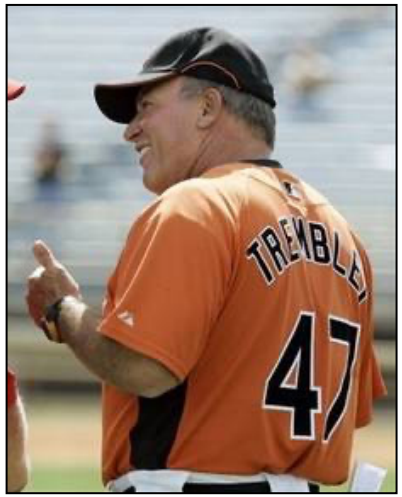
2009-2010 Home Batting Practice

- Batting practice jersey is included with the Orioles' redesign for 2009. Where previously there was one style, there are now different batting practice jerseys for home and on the road.
- The home BP has its side panel colors reversed from the prior years' design-the white panel is now on the top where it had been on the bottom before.
- Front logo script is now two-color—black outlined with white.
- On back, name and numbers are black outlined with white in Block font.



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2009-2010 Road Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Brand new for 2009 is a black batting practice jersey with the "Baltimore" tapered script from the team's new road jerseys.

Side panels are orange on bottom and white on top.

All back lettering is one-color orange. Names and numbers on back appear in Block font.

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2011-2013 Home Batting Practice

Batting practice jerseys for all teams change to button fronts for 2011. The Orioles continue with both an orange home jersey and a black road jersey. The orange batting practice jersey features black lettering with white outlines both front and back.

Solid black side panels are featured, as is a solid black panel above the name on back.

Name and numbers are in Block style. Back lettering reverts to sewn-on twill.

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2011/2012-2013 Road Batting Practice

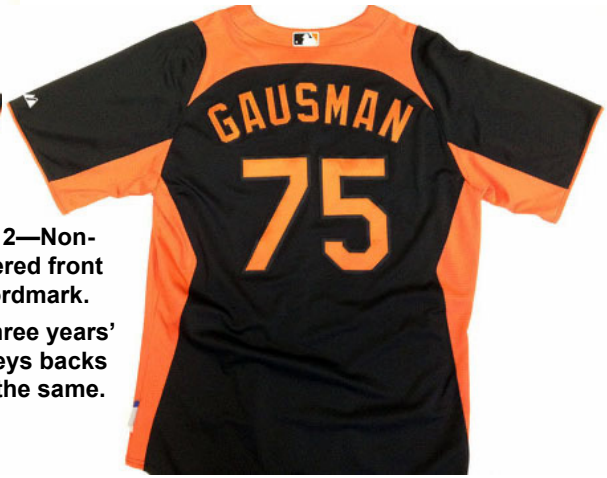
2011 with tapered wordmark

There are two versions of this BP jersey illustrated here: the 2011, and 2012–2013 versions.

In the "game jersey" section of this chapter we covered year-to-year changes in the team's wordmark. For 2012 and 2013 the "Baltimore" wordmark changes its proportions, remaining the same height end to end instead of tapering to become narrower to the end as it had in 2011. The variants are shown here side to side to simplify the comparison.

2012—Non-tapered front wordmark.

All three years' jerseys backs are the same.



The Orioles continue with two different batting practice jerseys for 2011, orange for home and black for road, as they switch to button-front shirts.

Side panels are now solid orange, back names and numbers are also solid orange. An orange panel is above the NOB. All lettering is orange outlined with black.

2011

2012

Player names on back are used during the regular season, but not during Spring Training.

2012

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2014-2016 Home Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

The Orioles make a slight revision to their orange home batting practice jerseys for the 2014 season, removing the back yoke and returning to a more traditional solid orange from the earlier black/orange two-tone effect. Black insert side panels are smaller than in previous years.

Numbers on back are black/white Block, no player names used 2014, then added for regular season 2015–2016. Black/orange/black trim now adorns the neck and sleeve ends. The Majestic jock tag on the front shirt tail changes to a vertical rectangular design.

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2014-2016 Road Batting Practice

The black “Baltimore” jersey receives changes for 2014 that are similar to the home orange BP jersey on the prior page. The yoke panel over the shoulders changes to black to match the body of the jersey, and the size of the orange side panels shrinks from the prior design. Orange/black/orange trim is added to neck opening and sleeve ends. Player numbers are orange over black, and no player names on back are used.

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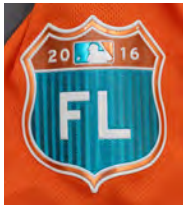
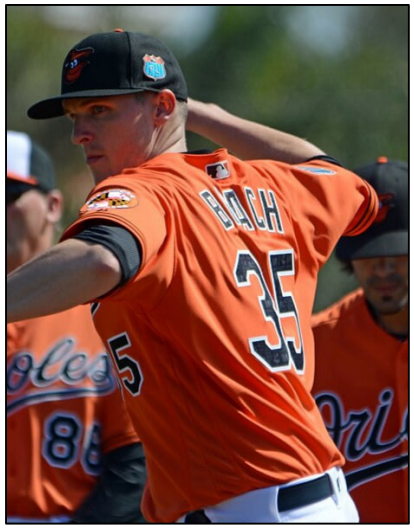
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

Kyle Mace Collection

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for work-outs and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Orioles use their regular season orange alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are black patterned twill/white. Front numbers are standard black/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing the Orioles Spring Training home.





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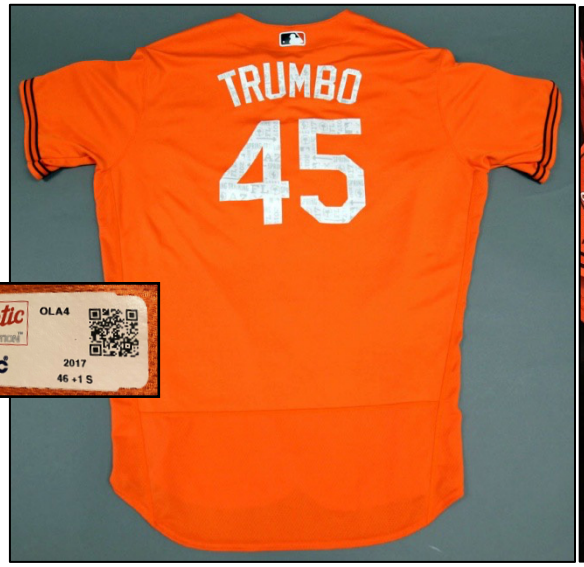
2017 Spring Training



Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. Orioles again use their regular season orange alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are standard black/white, as is used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Orioles spend Spring Training.

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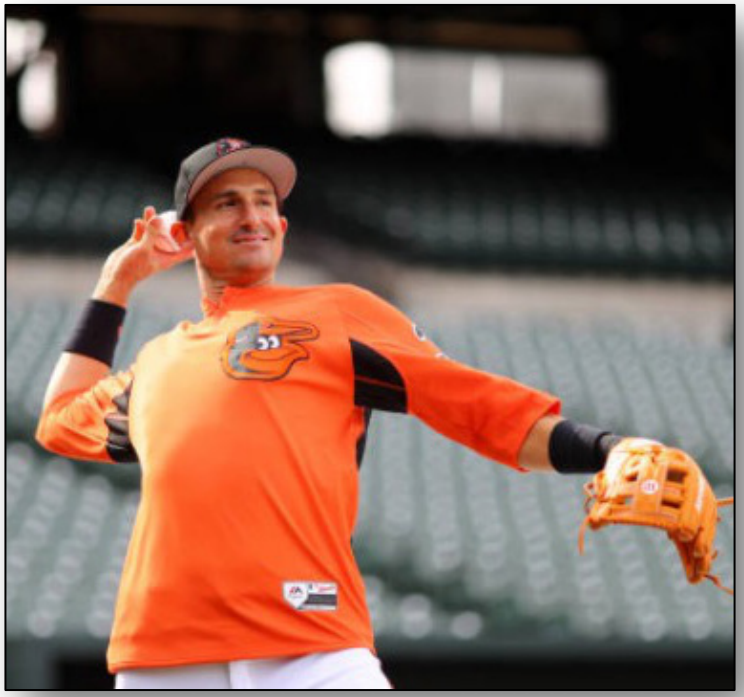
2017-2019 Batting Practice



With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Orioles jersey is orange with black back and underarm gussets. The Orioles' cartoon bird logo, also seen on their caps, appears here on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is a contrasting black, and is devoid of any lettering. Player number in black/white Block instead on the left sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts using only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Orioles use their regular-season orange alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are standard black/white, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the design template of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's sublimated printed twill patterns. The Orioles use their regular-season orange alternate as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The Frank Robinson memorial patch is on the left chest. All lettering is black/white.

Kyle Mace Collection

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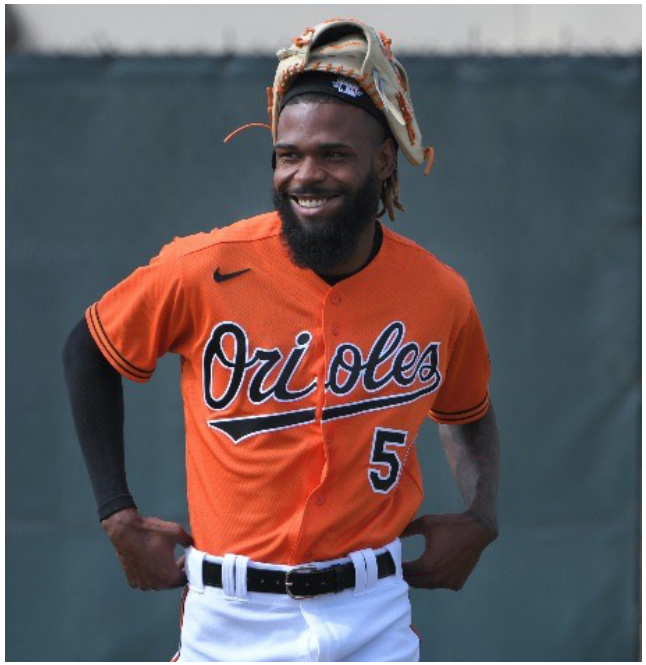
2020-2023 Spring Training



Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020–2023, the Orioles use their regular-season orange alternate jersey, with black/white name and front and back numbers.

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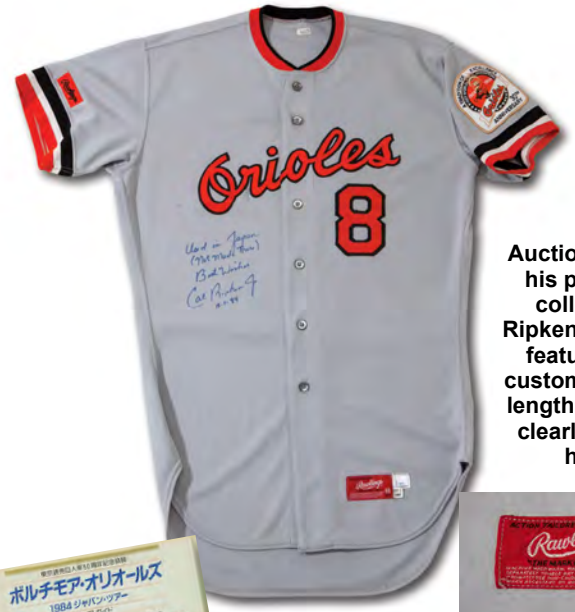
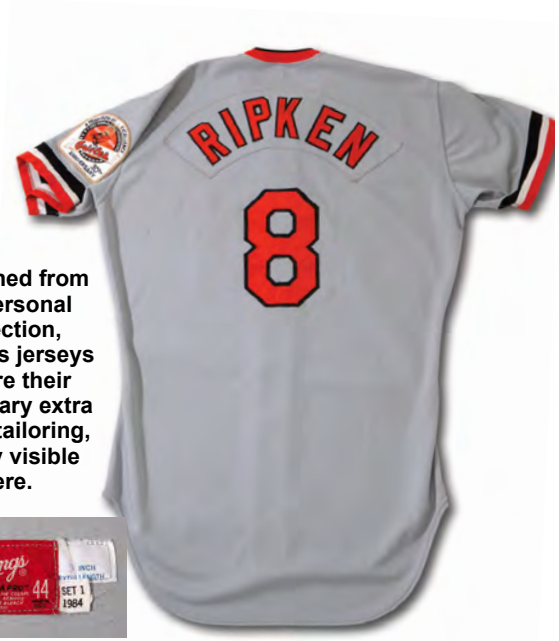
Special Events Jerseys

1984 “Tour of Japan”





Auctioned from his personal collection, Ripken’s jerseys feature their customary extra length tailoring, clearly visible here.

‘World Series’ Loses Luster in Japan

By CLYDE HABERMAN

TOKYO, Oct. 9 — For Japanese, this was going to be the “true” World Series, not the series between American teams, but the series that would confront itself to North America. This was the chance to show Japan convincingly as No. 1.

The 1983 American champions, the Baltimore Orioles, would play the winner of the 1984 Japan Series. It would have been nice; many agreed, to have had 1984's best, but the logistics were tricky, and so this arrangement was the most expeditious route for.

In the original scenario, there was little doubt that the Japanese champion would be the Yomiuri Giants, whose owner, the Yomiuri communications empire, is also the owner of the entire team. This is a wealthy and powerful sacrosanct of the Tokyo-based Giants, the country's first professional team, and for most baseball fans, the embodiment of just about all virtue. Of course, the Giants would win.

A funny thing happened, though. The Orioles finished fifth, 19 games behind the victorious Detroit Tigers in the American League's Eastern Division. And the Giants faded early in a dismal third. Goodbye, real World Series.

Instead, it is the Giants' archrivals from Hiroshima, the Carp, who have been dispatched to face the Orioles, Americans for the last few days. To many Japanese, it is as if nonsense

Cal Ripken scoring for the Orioles in a game at Tokyo. The Carp catcher is Kiyoshi Yamasaki.

Continued on Page 6A, Column 1

Over the years I have come across a few examples of Rawlings-made 1984–tagged Orioles road jerseys. My earlier assumption was that in 1984 both Sand-Knit and Rawlings shared outfitting for the team. What I have learned is that when the Orioles toured Japan after the 1984 season, playing the Japanese Giants in an exhibition series, Rawlings supplied the team’s uniforms for the trip, just as they had for the Cincinnati Reds in 1978.

All examples I have seen are Rawlings flag-tagged as 1984 Set 1, but there were apparently two sets made, judging from the fact that we have photo examples of two different Cal Ripken autographed jerseys from that event.

Notably, these special jerseys have an orange tag sewn near the end of the right sleeve with the Rawlings script embroidered on it in black. Sleeve logos were not permitted by MLB until 1987, so this gave us a taste of what was to come. The pants also have a large orange Rawlings logo on the backside.

While the program for the Series was filled with stock photos of the two teams taken earlier, a commemorative magazine was issued afterwards that contains photos taken during the series. In one of them we can clearly see the orange Rawlings tag on Ripken’s jersey sleeve. My educated guess is that the players were allowed to keep these uniforms after the trip, and a few—including both the Ripken jerseys (both tagged as “Set 1”)—have surfaced at auction.

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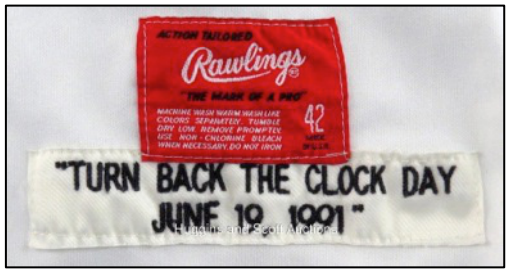
1991 Turn Back The Clock to 1966

Original 1969 for comparison

The Orioles were among the first teams to have a Turn Back the Clock day. on June 19, 1991 against the visiting Minnesota Twins.

The original 1966 flannel jersey was recreated by Rawlings in knit for the contest in the 1966–1971 style. Block with Serifs numbers are used, though original was Varsity, player names are Vertical Arched Block - a nice touch.

At right, Boog Powell's (nearly identical) 1969 home uniform, also #26, likely with NOB restored.



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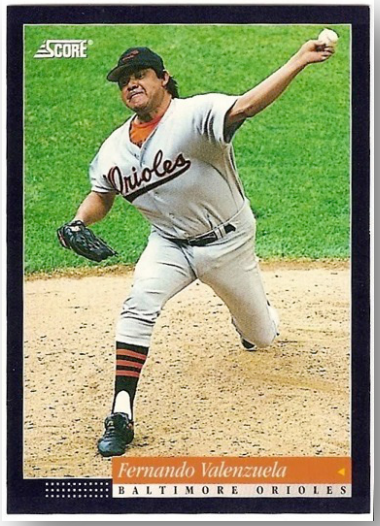
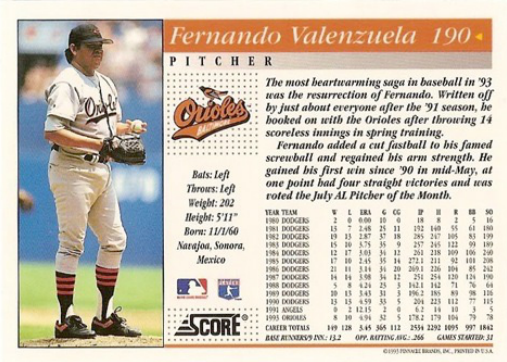
1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1954

This 1993 Turn Back the Clock game on June 19, 1993 vs. the Cleveland Indians. These were made by Russell in double knit as were other MLB teams' 1993 Turn Back the Clock uniforms. Gray jerseys devoid of trim with Orioles script in 2-color twill, one color numbers on back with no player names.



Left: *An actual 1954 (home) jersey shows that the reproductions were very good indeed.*



Fernando Valenzuela 190

PITCHER

The most heartwarming saga in baseball in '93 was the resurrection of Fernando. Written off by just about everyone after the '91 season, he hooked on with the Orioles after throwing 14 scoreless innings in spring training.

Fernando added a cut fastball to his famed screwball and regained his arm strength. He gained his first win since '90 in mid-May, at one point had four straight victories and was voted the July AL Pitcher of the Month.

Bats: Left
Throws: Left
Weight: 202
Height: 5'11"
Born: 11/1/60
Navajoa, Sonora, Mexico

YEAR	TEAM	W	L	ERA	G	CG	IP	H	R	BB	SO
1980	DODGERS	2	0	0.00	10	6	18	8	2	5	16
1981	DODGERS	13	7	2.48	25	11	192	140	55	61	180
1982	DODGERS	19	13	2.87	37	18	285	247	105	83	199
1983	DODGERS	15	10	3.75	35	9	257	245	122	99	189
1984	DODGERS	12	17	3.03	34	12	261	218	109	106	240
1985	DODGERS	17	10	2.45	35	14	272.1	211	92	101	208
1986	DODGERS	21	11	3.14	34	20	269.1	226	104	85	242
1987	DODGERS	14	14	3.98	34	12	251	254	120	124	190
1988	DODGERS	5	8	4.24	25	3	142.1	142	71	76	64
1989	DODGERS	20	13	3.43	31	3	196.2	185	80	98	116
1990	DODGERS	13	13	4.59	33	5	204	223	112	77	115
1991	ANGELS	0	2	12.15	2	0	6.2	14	10	3	5
1993	ORIOLES	8	10	4.94	32	5	178.2	179	104	79	78
CAREER TOTALS		149	128	3.45	365	112	2554	2292	1095	997	1842

BASE RUNNERS/9 INN.: 13.2 *OPP. BATTING AVG.: .266* *GAMES STARTED: 31*

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1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1970

Stephen Kraljic collection

This version of the Baltimore-script road jersey is made by Mitchell & Ness for a Turn Back the Clock game played on August 4, 1994, but this time in knit, not flannel.

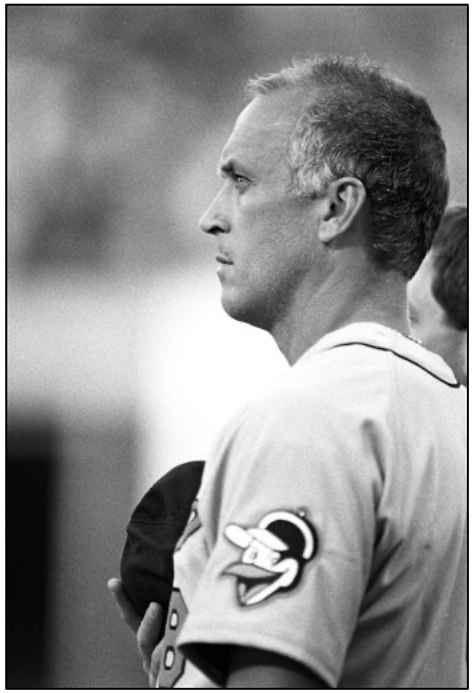
Replica is nearly dead-on accurate, save for numbers which are Block with Serifs compared to original Block Standard.

The game was played in Milwaukee against the Brewers, who also dressed in 1970 uniforms.

1970 Original for comparison

© GameWornGuides.com

1995 Turn Back the Clock to 1961



Game jersey photos courtesy James Sheu

The Angels very first game in 1961 was against the Orioles in Baltimore, and this game held on August 26, 1995 was a recreation of this contest, though played in Anaheim in 1995.

The excellent gray knit uniforms were made by Mitchell & Ness with simply a year tag at the bottom of the tail that reads ”1961." Except for the 1961 sleeve patch and zipper front, these appear identical to the uniforms Mitchell & Ness made for the prior year’s Turn Back the Clock to 1970 game.

From an Angels press release:
“The Angels will celebrate their 35th anniversary with a "Turn Back the Clock Night," in which the Angels and Orioles will wear replicas of their 1961 jerseys for tonight's 7 o'clock game. The game is a sellout, the Angels' second of the season.”

From a period news report:
“The Orioles and Angels will play in their 1961 uniforms in a turn-back-the-clock night tomorrow. Some of the Orioles tried on their uniforms yesterday, the shirts sporting a cartoon bird on the left sleeve and a zipper up the front. "There won't be any sliding there," said catcher Chris Hoiles.”

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1996 Turn Back the Clock to 1930s Int'l League Orioles

Played at Texas against the Rangers April 21, 1996. The Orioles wore these Mitchell & Ness knit replicas of 1930s Baltimore Orioles of the International League.

The front wordmark on this jersey is chain stitched in the St. Louis Cardinals style. Design support was provided to Mitchell & Ness by Ebbets Field Flannels for the creation of this uniform.

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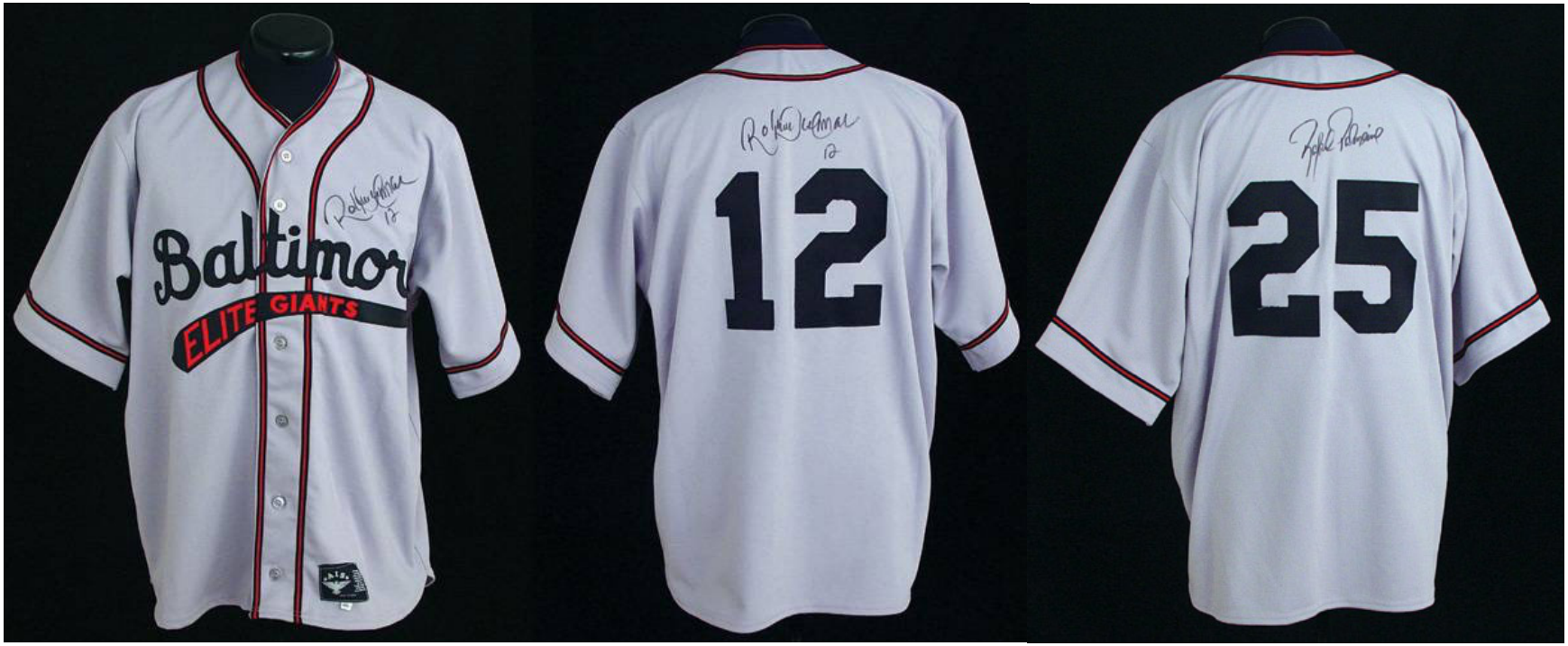
1997 Negro Leagues Tribute (1949 Baltimore Elite Giants)



On July 5, 1997 the Orioles played in their first Negro Leagues tribute game, on the road at Detroit as the 1949 Baltimore Elite Giants. The home team opponent was the Tigers, dressed as the 1920 Detroit Stars.

Uniforms are rendered in double knit by AIS. All uniforms from this game are autographed and auctioned for charity.

Top: Autographs: #12 Roberto Alomar, #25 Rafael Palmeiro

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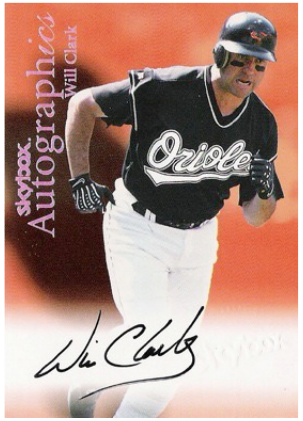
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock



One of the few retail jerseys made, lacks silver trim and embroidered Russell R on right sleeve opening.

Shown is the Orioles' version of this ill-received promotional game from July 25, 1999. The Orioles jersey used the team's 1999 lettering and art, but rendered it in sliver/black/white. Sleeves and neck are trimmed with metallic silver braid.

Unlike other teams' jerseys, that had logos simply sublimated into the weave of the fabric, this Orioles jersey features ornate, three-layer tackle twill with glitter fabric for all lettering and numbers.

Retail versions of the jersey, of which very few were made, are minus the silver trim of the game jerseys, also have slightly different front lettering and lack the Russell "R" on the sleeve.

Ball girls wore jerseys numbered 2050 (for the year 2050) with the name "orb girl" on the backs.

Video highlights of the game here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gDqjl63X4I

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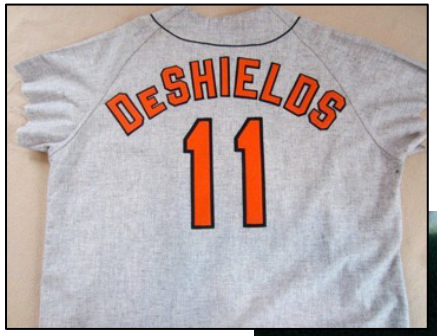
2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1970

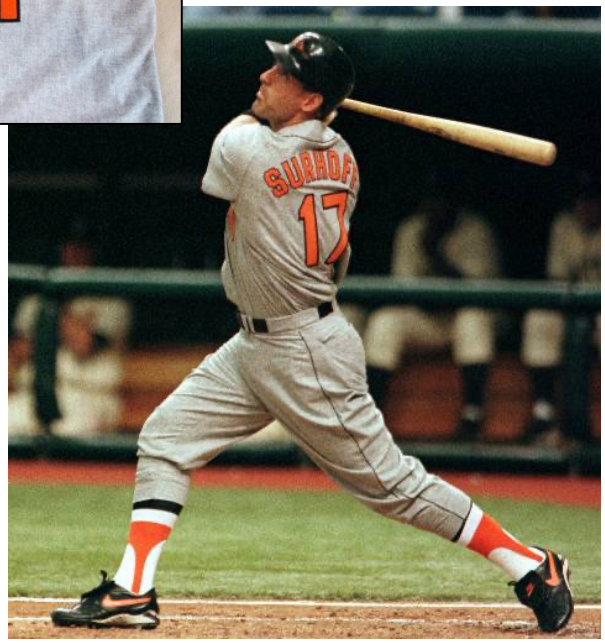


Original 1970

Game on May 29, 2000 in Tampa Bay vs. the Rays, who dressed as the 1965 minor league St. Petersburg Saints.

This version of the Baltimore-script road jersey is made by Mitchell & Ness, this time in flannel just like the original. As usual, highly accurate reproductions from Mitchell & Ness (original 1970 jersey, inset).

Note the “hacked” sleeve ends on the DeShields jersey above at right/center. Often players who have gotten used to specific tailoring on their game jerseys will take a proactive pregame scissors exercise to Turn Back the Clock uniforms that displease them.



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2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Stephen Kraljic collection

As the tag on the jersey indicates, this one was intended to be worn on July 18, 2001 in game two of a twin bill against the Rangers, who were to have worn reproductions of their 1976–1980 road blue jerseys. However, when a train carrying hazardous materials derailed near Camden Yards, this game, and two following it, were postponed ***(bottom right).*** Though the Rangers do not appear to have had the chance to wear their throwbacks, the Orioles made good use of these for an August 15 home game against the Royals, who wore their regular uniforms.

Mitchell & Ness made the jerseys for this game. Examples we have seen appear to be rather short and wide in construction, certainly not cut like the originals which were typically worn nearly skin-tight. Comparing the reproductions to the originals there are a number of differences ***(see original, inset)***. The copies have a front wordmark that is slightly smaller and less bold than the original, looking more like the 1987–1988 version. The originals used Varsity numbers front and back; the copies incorrectly use Block. Front numbers are too small, back numbers are too big. Names on back should be vertical arch and they are not.

Original 1979

Train fire postpones third straight Orioles game

By David Ginsburg, Excerpted from CBC Sports, July 20, 2001

A persistent fire aboard a derailed train forced postponement of Friday night's scheduled Angels-Orioles game at Camden Yards, the third game knocked out by the accident.

The derailment occurred late Wednesday afternoon between games of a scheduled day-night doubleheader against the Rangers. Because the accident took place deep in a lengthy tunnel, cleanup operations have been slow and arduous.

The 60-car freight train was carrying hydrochloric acid and other hazardous chemicals.

The second game of Wednesday's doubleheader was postponed, and a split doubleheader between the Orioles and Texas on Thursday also was called off.

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2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1944 St. Louis Browns

*As far as accuracy is concerned, there is not much comparison between the actual uniform and the Majestic version, sad to say. Actual 1944 road jersey shown **(bottom right).***

Original 1944

Saturday, June 7, 2003, the St. Louis Cardinals hosted the Baltimore Orioles with the two teams wearing retro 1944 St. Louis Cardinals and St. Louis Browns uniforms. The Browns were the pre-move name of today's Orioles.

This was the first time the Orioles had "returned" there since they left as the Browns after the 1953 season. This game was a recreation of the 1944 World Series between the two teams.

Original flannels rendered here in double knit fabric. The scoreboard that day referred to the Orioles as the "Browns" and the stadium announcer announced the Orioles throughout the day as the Browns as well.

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2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

Majestic jerseys were used to represent 1983 in 2003. The visitor was the Phillies, the Orioles opponent in the 1983 World Series. Games played 6/28 and 6/29.

Perhaps picky—but in these earlier years, the jerseys used larger, nearly 5” front numbers rather than the style used here, which is identical to the then-current 2003 home jerseys. Notice use of old-style white front panel batting helmets.

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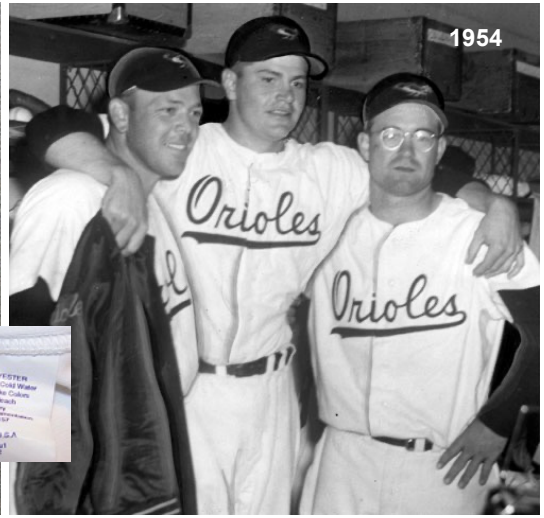
2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1954



Mark Huesman worked for the local Baltimore shop that lettered Orioles game jerseys for many years. Of these 1954 jerseys, he recalls, "The 1954 jerseys showed up (from Majestic) with player names on them, and only THEN was I asked if the jerseys were supposed to have them. The answer was "no," so ALL of the jerseys had the names removed before the game started." Close-up photos of jerseys from this game show low numbers and the marks from the removed-NOBs.

2004 is the Orioles 50th anniversary, and the team scheduled five Turn Back the Clock games; one for each decade of the team's past.

May 8, 2004 as the first-year 1954 Orioles. This originally flannel uniform design is replicated by Majestic in double knit.

Actual 1954 jerseys had one-color, black numbers; these have two-color numbers.

© GameWornGuides.com

2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1968

Kyle Mace Collection

Turn Back the Clock day remembering the 1968 Orioles, vs. the 1968 Braves played on June 26–27 at home. This original flannel vest design is rendered by Majestic in double knit.

Reasonably faithful copy of the originals, but numbers should be Varsity style; Block style is used on reproductions. Names on back are properly radially arched, although not exact same font. Two-color narrow knit trim on replicas does not match the three-color orange/black/orange style that was used on originals.

The Orioles saved money by using the same pants they wore in the 1975 Turn Back the Clock game later that season, and the side trim is not correct for 1968.

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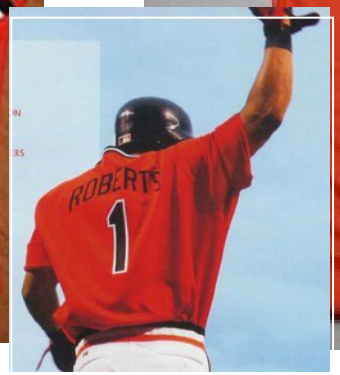
2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1979



Original features wide white outline on the wordmark, Varsity numbers and vertical arched NOB

Two games, held on July 24–25, 2004 in Baltimore against the Minnesota Twins. The Twins also dressed in 1979 garb.

Majestic made these jerseys, and they are close but not exact copies of the originals. Compared to the originals, the new ones use a properly sized wordmark but with a white outline that is too thin (see the centers of the L, E, and S), more like the 1987–1988 version. Numbers are Block when they should be Varsity. Names on back are indeed on nameplates as the originals, and are done properly in vertical arch, a welcome but unusual attention to detail in modern times!

In 2004, there was one Turn Back the Clock game for each decade of the Orioles history. The 5th game was to be on August 21, 2004 but photos from that day show the team wearing their 2004 home uniforms with the 50th anniversary patch instead. It is unclear if a 1990s throwback game occurred.

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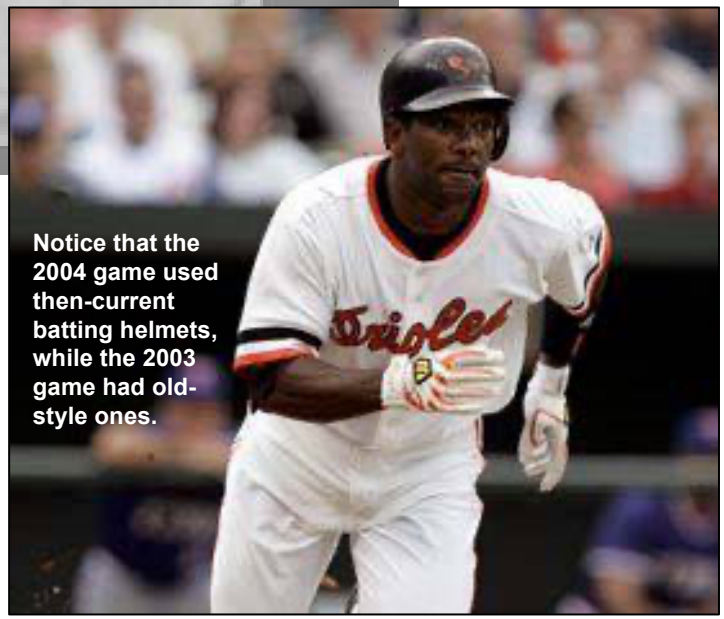
2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

- Majestic jerseys were again used to represent 1983 in 2004. These jerseys appear identical to the 2003 edition.
- Again, same comment as the prior year's jerseys; perhaps picky, but in these earlier years the jerseys used larger nearly-5" front numbers. The number style used here is the smaller size, identical to the then-current 2004 home jerseys.

***Below*: Original 1974–1975 jersey for comparison**

August 7–8, 2004: The opponents are the Texas Rangers who wore 1975 powder blue road uniforms. Note Orioles' use of their current modern dark batting helmets unlike the old fashioned set with front white panels used in 2003, shown on a prior page.



Notice that the 2004 game used then-current batting helmets, while the 2003 game had old-style ones.

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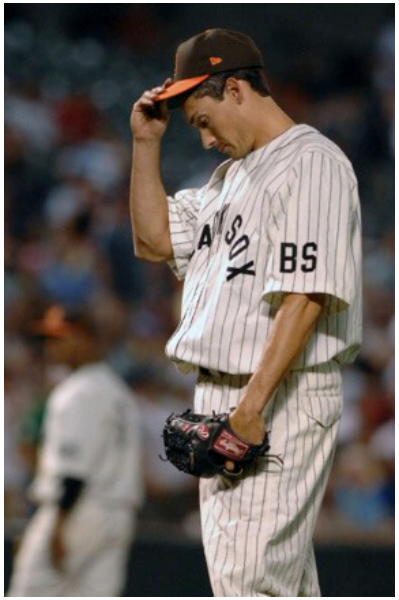
2007 Negro Leagues Tribute (1932 Baltimore Black Sox)



- Game was played on September 6, 2007 against the Boston Red Sox, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Negro Leagues Black Sox' 1932 championship season.
- Ebbets Field Flannels made these Negro League uniforms with traditional flannel. Notice the half sleeves common with uniforms of the 1930s era, and notice how catcher Ramon Hernandez (#55) hacked off the sleeve ends which most likely irritated him.

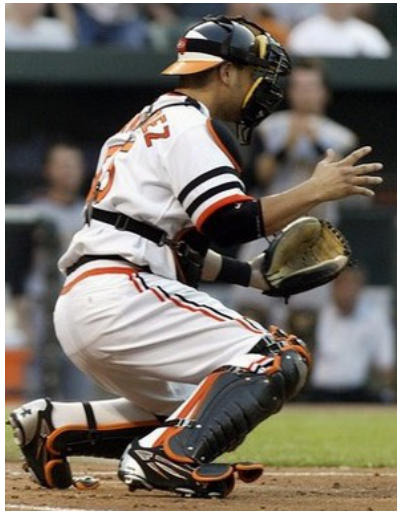
© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Game played June 13, 2008 against the Pirates, honoring the Orioles-Pirates matchup in the 1979 World Series.

Notice the black armbands which are not part of the original throwback uniform, they are added to the 2008 version by the Orioles for the death of sportscaster Jim McKay. Front numbers are an inch smaller than the originals were.

This game was a late addition to the promotion schedule—announced at the end of May—giving the teams fewer than two weeks to prepare. Perhaps this is why the Pirates wore their current, modern road gray uniforms in the contest.



© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

Game played on July 23, 2008 in Baltimore against the visiting Blue Jays who wore their 1983 powder blue road uniforms. Commemorated the 25th anniversary of the Orioles World Series Championship win against the Phillies.

It is possible that these are the same uniforms as had been used just a few weeks prior in the Turn Back the Clock game of June 13, but with a commemorative patch sewn on the sleeve for this event. Note the presence of the black armband (for sportscaster Jim McKay) on the game action photos on the bottom row.

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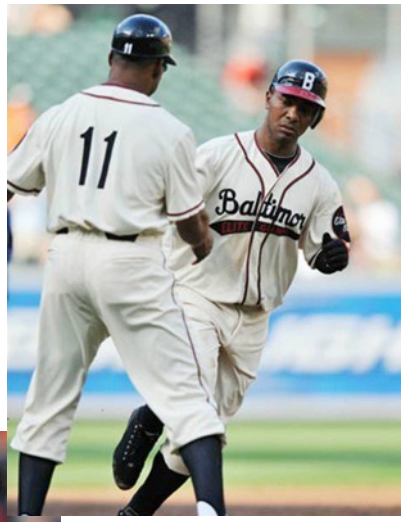
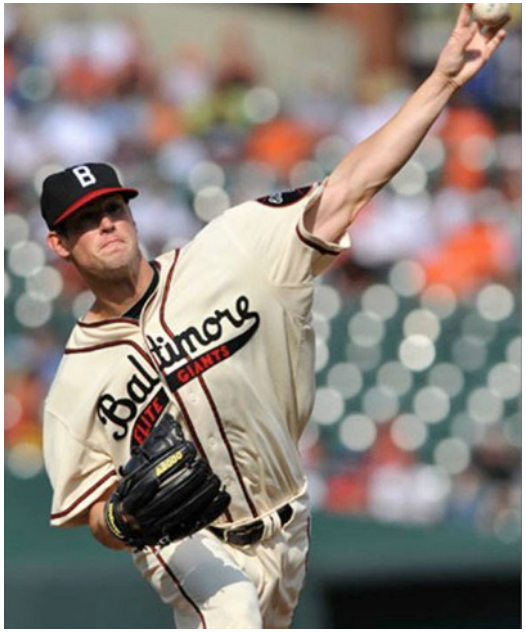
2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1939-1949 Elite Giants)





- In a Negro Leagues tribute game on September 5, 2009, the Orioles dressed as the Baltimore Elite Giants.
- Double knit uniforms likely made by AIS.
- They played the Texas Rangers, who dressed in their normal royal blue jerseys and gray pants.

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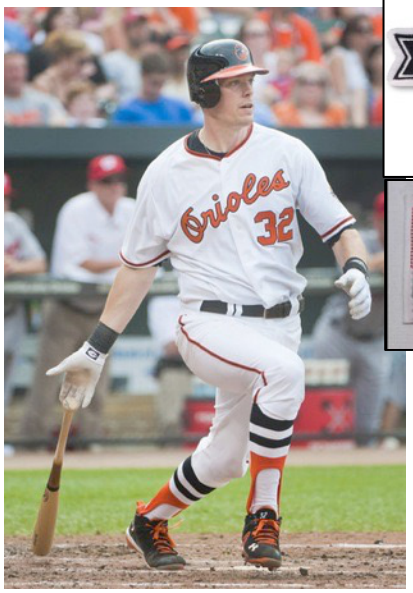
2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1970

- In an interleague contest between close neighbors, the Orioles hosted a Turn Back the Clock game on June 26, 2010 and invited the Washington Nationals.
- Both teams wore 1970s throwback uniforms made by Majestic. The Nationals dressed as the 1970 Washington Senators.
- Commemorative patch on left sleeve.
- Back numbers should be smaller, names should be vertical arched and they are not.



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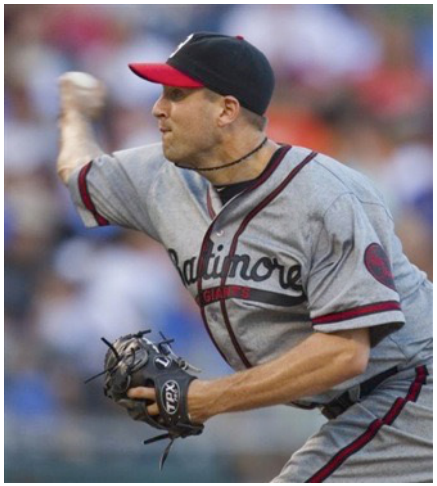
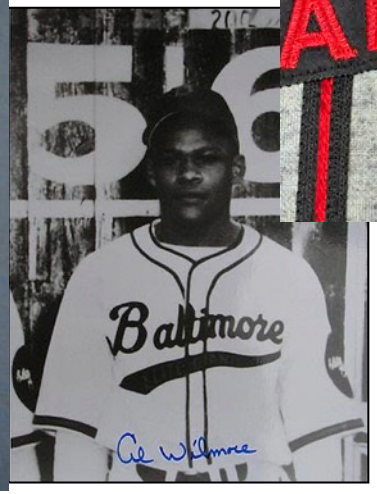
2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1950s Baltimore Elite Giants)

Stephen Kraljic collection



Game played Saturday July 31, 2010, Orioles vs. Royals, who wore home uniforms of the 1949 Kansas City Monarchs. Knit uniforms made by AIS.



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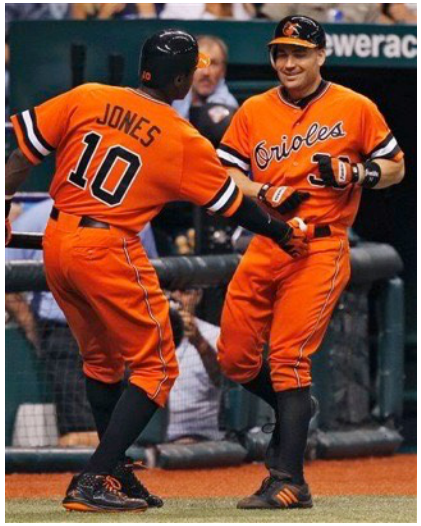
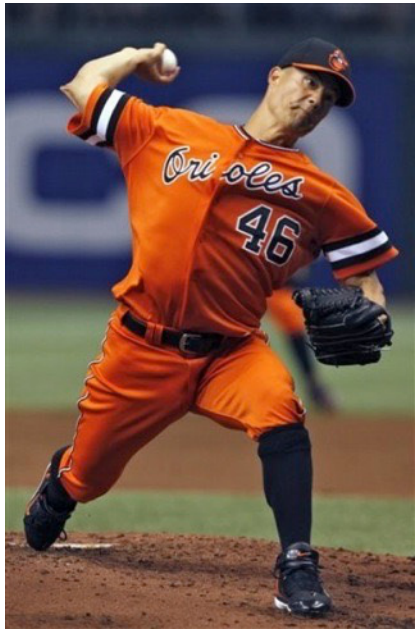
2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1971-1972





August 13, 2010: The Rays hosted a Turn Back the Clock game, and invited the Orioles to participate. The Rays wore the 1970 Tampa Tarpons (minor league) uniforms. The Orioles wore all-orange uniforms that were worn only a few times in 1971 and 1972.

According to the *Baltimore Sun*, Buck Showalter didn't seem all too pleased by having to wear the throw-back, saying "I'll break out the jacket today." After the game, Showalter vowed that the team would not wear these uniforms again, which was somewhat the same reaction that the team's management had back in the early 1970s.

Recall that as manager of the Dia-mondbacks, Showalter had a similar negative reaction to wearing purple pinstripes and the D-Backs' purple alternate uniforms.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1971

- The Pirates hosted a Turn Back the Clock game to 1971 on June 21, 2011. Both teams wore Majestic recreations of their 1971 knit uniforms.
- The Orioles first wore these knit uniforms in the 1971 World Series against the Pirates, and I am shocked to see that the sleeve stripes are in the correct order for the unique 1971 jersey! This same style uniform was worn in 1972, but the sleeve stripes had changed order over the winter, putting the orange stripe at the sleeve end.
- This is an admirable job of research for this Turn Back the Clock jersey, especially impressive because it is a road jersey and therefore was ordered by the home team Pirates.

Above: *Knit road gray jersey as worn in 1971 postseason (left); 1972 road gray jersey features sleeve stripes in reverse order (right).*

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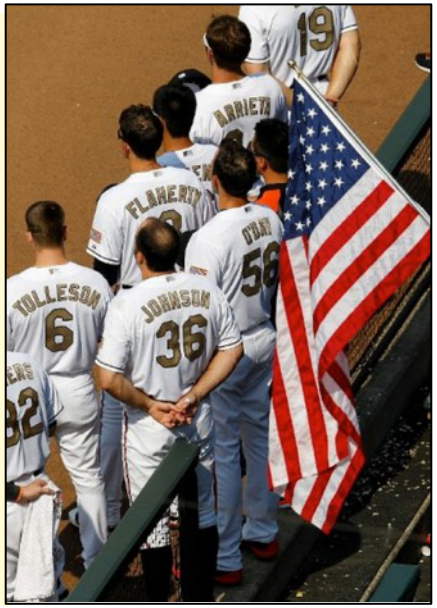
2012 Military Appreciation Day

The Orioles "Camo" jersey for the day prior to Memorial Day 2012 has an interesting feature which had not seen before in MLB. Instead of the jersey body being made of camouflage fabric, only the team wordmark is such. The player names and numbers are in a complimentary olive color, outlined with brown. Narrow knit trim on the jersey is in olive and brown. The American Flag patch is worn on the left sleeve, and the Orioles 2012 Camden Yards commemorative patch is on the right. The only item "out of place" is the orange and black stripe on the pants. MLB was so "taken" with this concept that they ordained the style for all teams for future Memorial Day games, with arguably poor results.

From the Orioles Website:

The Orioles will host a special Military Appreciation day on Sunday, May 27 for their game against the Kansas City Royals. All Orioles uniformed personnel will wear special jerseys with the Orioles script in camouflage and numbers and names in dark green. The game-worn jerseys will be autographed, authenticated and auctioned off at www.orioles.com/military to benefit the Fort Meade Alliance's Foundation.



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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013-2014 Memorial Day

2013

2014

2013

Recall that the Orioles originated the "Camouflage Twill Wordmark" idea with their Military Appreciation Day 2012 uniforms. In 2013, MLB adopted the idea league-wide. The Orioles were the road team for Memorial Day in both years, playing respectively in Washington (Nationals) May 28, 2013, and Milwaukee (Brewers) May 27, 2014. Both years they wore the same road gray jersey with all lettering in camo. Unlike in 2012, where the wordmark was camo and the player name/numbers were olive twill, all lettering is desert camouflage. Camo on gray is very difficult to see, and the only saving grace is that all lettering is outlined in black.

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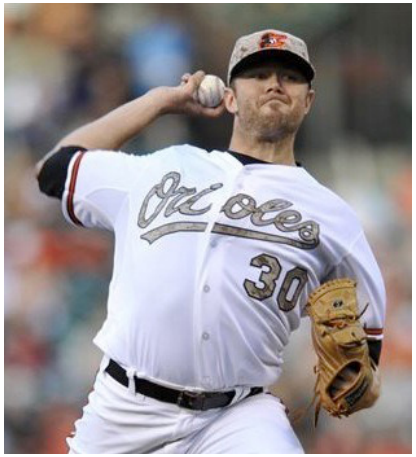
2013 “Army Birthday” Celebration



June 14, 2013: Desiring a home repeat of the 2012 event, the Orioles converted a set of home uniforms to camouflage wordmarks, but this year they also make player names and numbers of camouflage twill as well. The Earl Weaver memorial patch is on the right sleeve of all game used jerseys. Sleeve-end trim is black/ orange/black just like the 2013 home jersey.

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2014 Negro Leagues Tribute (Baltimore Black Sox)

Stephen Kraljic collection

Visiting Kansas City on May 18 for the Royals' annual Negro Leagues tribute game, the Orioles dressed as an unspecified year of the Baltimore Black Sox. The very plain gray uniforms were made for the occasion by Majestic, and auctioned by the Royals after the game. All adornment is single-color Block Font black twill.

(Probably) 1929 Baltimore Black Sox

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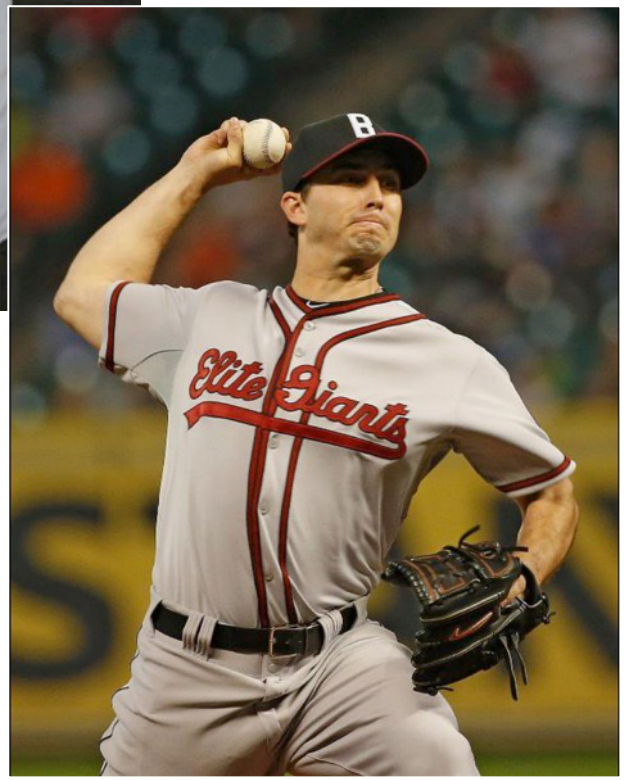
2014 Civil Rights Game (Baltimore Elite Giants)



For the first time in the short history of the Civil Rights Game, Negro Leagues throwback uniforms were worn. This year's contest was played on May 30 at Houston's Minute Maid Park between the Orioles and Astros. The Orioles wore the uniforms of the Baltimore Elite Giants, made by Majestic. Team uniforms were auctioned on MLB.com after the game.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1954

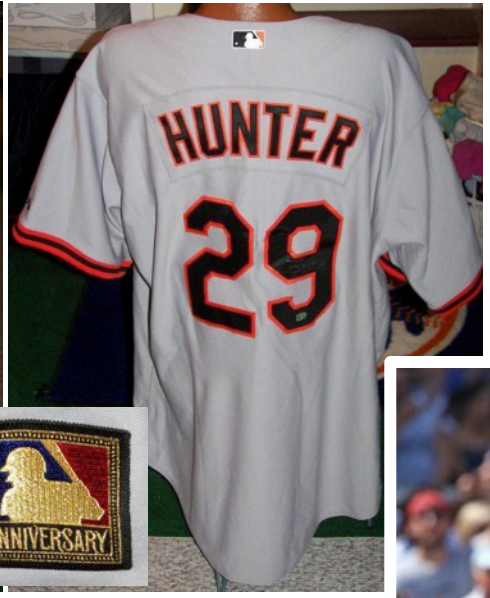
Kyle Mace Collection

Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the team's arrival in Baltimore, the Orioles held a Turn Back the Clock game on August 8. The visiting St. Louis Cardinals wore their regular uniforms. This is the second time the Orioles have reprised the 1954 season, having done so ten years prior in 2004, but on the road that time. These cream-colored, full-weight knit uniforms are more accurate than the earlier set, as you can see from comparing to the actual 1954 uniform, inset. Back numbers are correctly one-color this time, though they are not the *exact* font, nor are they bold enough, but overall a fine effort.

Original 1954 Rawlings jersey for comparison

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1994



As part of the Cubs' year-long celebration of Wrigley Field's 100th birthday, the Orioles participated in a throwback game to 1994 on August 24 against the Cubs at Wrigley. The Majestic uniforms are near perfect, including nice touches like player nameplates on back and the proper Rawlings Block NOB font (no one has bothered with this detail before, and I am impressed), as well as including the 1994-only 125th MLB Anniversary patch sewn to the right sleeve. These are nearly indistinguishable from the originals.

Though we focus especially on jerseys in this Guide, purists point out that the striped orange/black stirrups that were a part of this throwback uniform are incorrect. The Orioles wore plain black stirrups in 1994.

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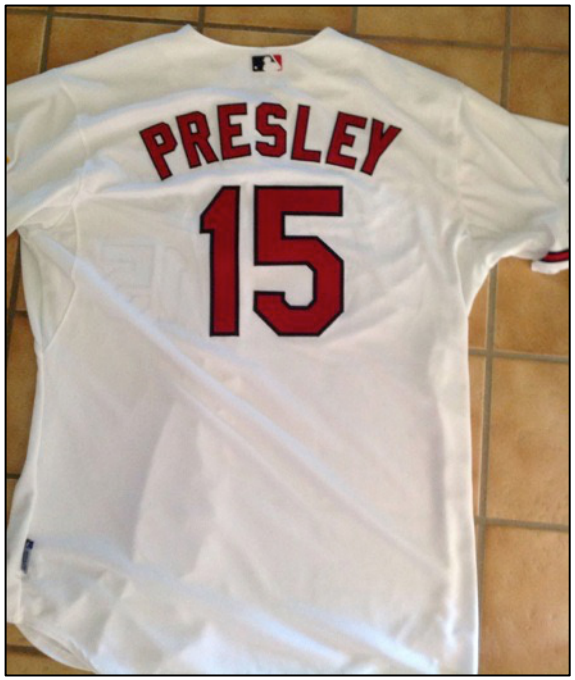
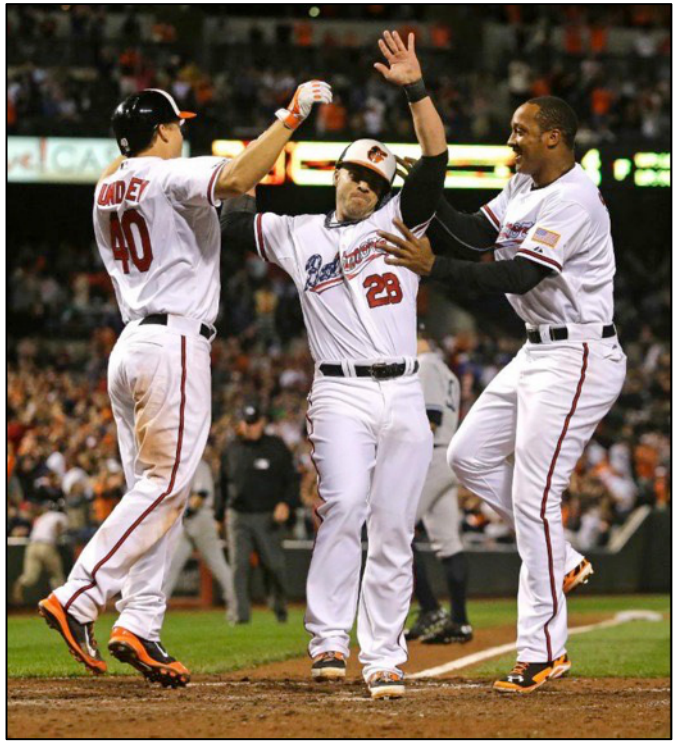
2014 “Stars and Stripes”



The nationally televised against the Yankees on September 14, 2014 was specially planned to mark the 200th anniversary of the writing of the *Star-Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key of Baltimore. The song became the United States’ National Anthem in 1931. The Orioles’ white Majestic uniforms featured the road “Baltimore” wordmark emblazoned in unique star-spangled twill. All player name and number lettering was changed to red outlined with blue, and all uniform trim was also changed to red/blue/red for the day. An American flag patch adorned the left sleeve.



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2015 “Baltimore” Home Jersey

Bill Henderson Recreation

In the wake of rioting that spread across Baltimore in April 2015, the Orioles canceled games, played three “home” games in Tampa against the Rays (in their white home uniforms), and even played one home game that was closed to the public, with an official attendance of zero. Once order was restored and the team was able to return to Camden Yards and their fans on May 11, the Orioles honored their community by wearing “Baltimore” on their home jerseys instead of the usual “Orioles.” Other than the road wordmark, the rest of the jersey is the same as usual. The example shown above is not an original, it is an exact duplicate I made in my shop. It will need to suffice for illustration purposes until we can locate an original one to share.

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2015 Memorial Day

For the Orioles' Memorial Day home game on May 25, the team applies the desert camo treatment to its home white uniforms. Very similar to the "Army Birthday" jerseys of 2014; however, the camo twill is outlined in orange on these. This detail is unusual, as most other teams simply replace their top layer of twill with camo for these jerseys, but the Orioles' usual outline color is black. Either way, the effect isn't quite as bad as other Memorial Day entries, retaining a modicum of legibility, even from a distance. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys, which causes a clash with the preexisting orange and black trim. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Orioles wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016 St. Patrick's Day

The Orioles go green for St. Patrick's Day 2016 in a Spring Training game held March 17. This Flex Base jersey is in white, with front logo and back numbers in green/gray and player name in green. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a green shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the 2016 St. Patrick's Day promotion. The Orioles' left-sleeve team disc patch is rendered in shades of black, gray, and white (unusual, as it entirely changes the representation of a state flag's familiar colors). Green knit trim encircles both sleeves.

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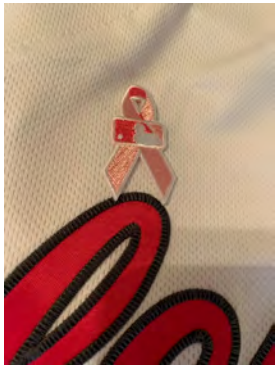
2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Orioles wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white (unusual, as it changes the representation of a state flag's familiar colors). All jersey trim, normally black/orange/black, becomes dark gray.

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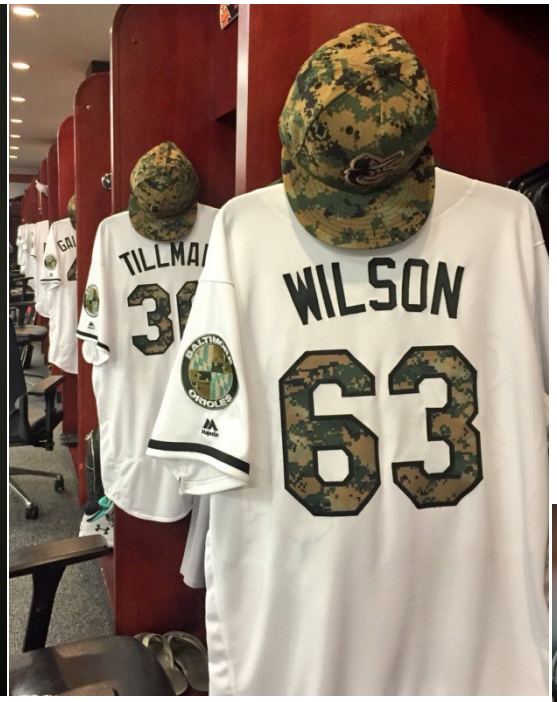
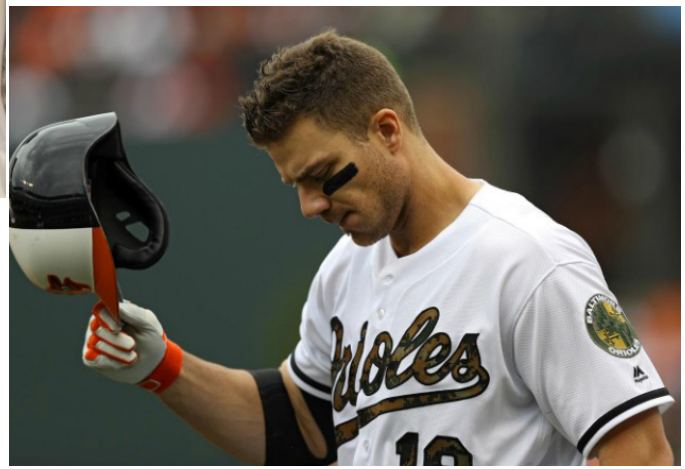
2016 Memorial Day





The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Orioles apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black (unusual, as it changes the representation of a state flag with very familiar colors), and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from the standard black/orange/black.

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2016-2017 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special light blue trimmed uniforms for Father's Day June 19, 2016 and June 17–18, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Orioles wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white (unusual, as it changes the representation of a state flag's familiar colors). All jersey trim, normally black/orange/black, becomes dark gray.

Kyle Mace Collection

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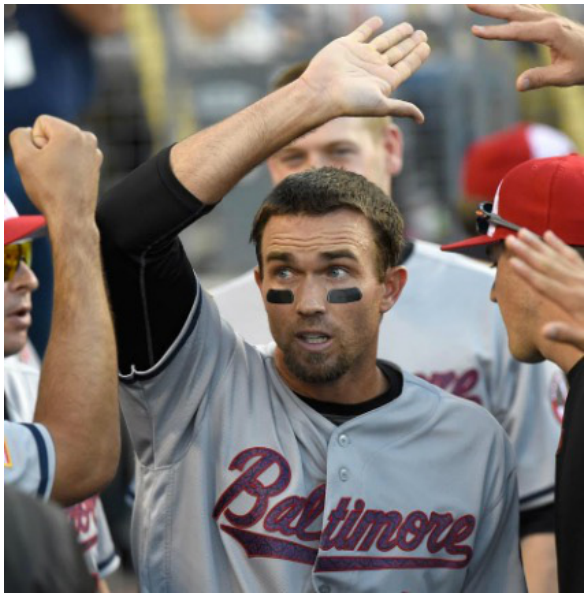
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Orioles are on the road and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Orioles select the blue twill version with red outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with a red player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, which means the representation of the Maryland flag on the Orioles patch is now different from the flag itself. This creates an unusual situation where MLB is changing the colors of a state flag (not unlike they did with the Rangers' patch) to honor America. All jersey trim, normally black/orange/black becomes single-color blue.

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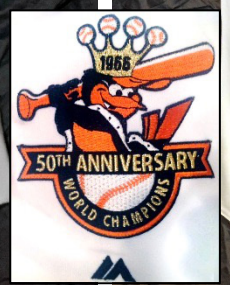
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1966



To celebrate the 50th anniversary of their 1966 World Series victory, the Orioles revisit that year's home jersey on July 8. The Majestic knit jerseys feature the wordmark and front and back Varsity numbers in orange/black with a black name on back. Orange/black/orange braid circles the neck and sleeve ends, and a 50th anniversary patch graces the left sleeve. Names on the backs of the 1966 originals were vertically arched, but are not on this version. The wordmark is very close to accurate, though the originals had the negative space inside "les" filled with black rather than open as they are in the throwback

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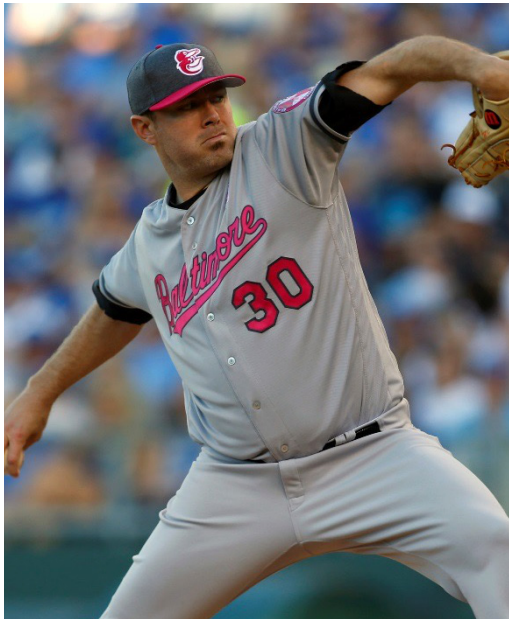
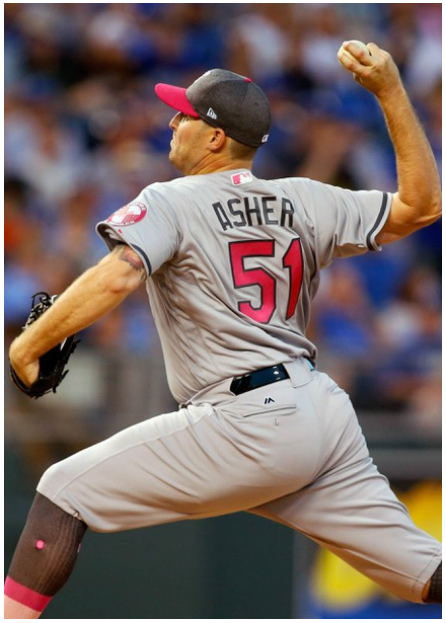
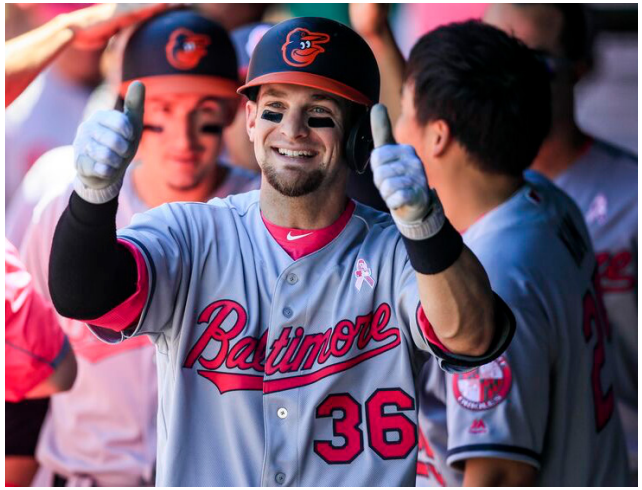
2017 Mother's Day





Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Orioles wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally black/orange/black, becomes dark gray.



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2017 Celebrate Maryland Day

This example is not game worn; Hellickson joined the team after this game had taken place!

Marylanders are exceptionally proud of their state flag, and they should be; a thing of beauty. The Orioles already honor the flag in their sleeve patches, and on May 20, 2017, they expand the celebration all over their home jerseys. Where all the lettering is usually orange/black, the orange on these Majestic Flex Base jerseys gives way to twill printed with the state flag on the front and back numbers and "Orioles" front script. Player names on back are red outlined with black. What works on a rectangle, however, gets busy on lettering (perhaps why the smaller NOB lettering is left as-is), but it hardly matters – the flag is one of the prides of Maryland, and the Orioles are their team.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Orioles apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017 and May 26–27, 2018.

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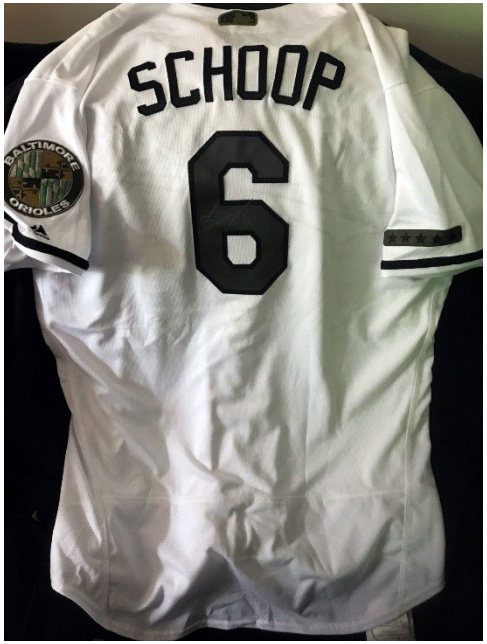
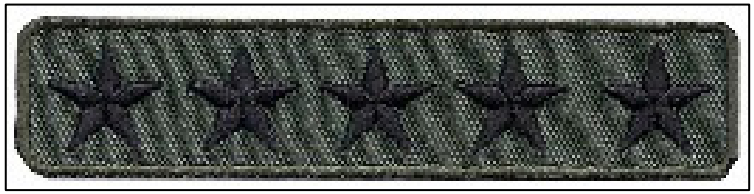
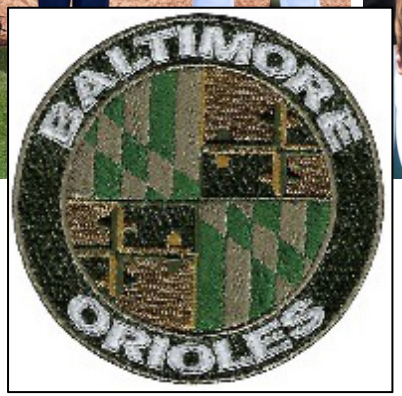
2017-2018 Memorial Day (Home)







The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Orioles apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017 and May 28, 2018.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017, the Orioles wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill–appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3–4, 2017 the Orioles wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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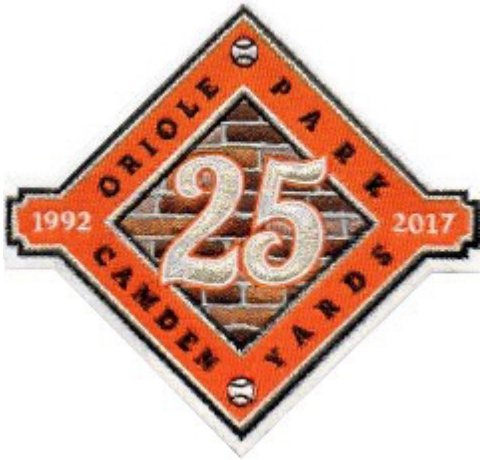
2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1992

Camden Yards started a welcome trend of vintage-inspired, anti-cookie-cutter ballparks when it opened in 1992, and as part of the park's 25th anniversary celebration in 2017, the Orioles threw back to their 1992 home jerseys on August 19. Aside from the 2017 anniversary patch on the right sleeve, these Majestic full-knit jerseys are excellent reproductions of the originals. One inaccuracy, in 1992, the black/orange/black knit trim on the sleeve ends would have been a sewn-in, stretchy knit sleeve end vs. the sewn-on knit braid used here. Numbers on front and back and name on back are all colored identically to the team logo script, orange/black. Block and Front Block numbers just like the originals. You can see the difference between these two fonts on the #9 example at left. Names appear on nameplates as they did in 1992 as well. Overall, almost indistinguishable from the set from two-and-a-half decades before.



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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Orioles wear jerseys with gray bodies and orange sleeves with white nicknames and orange numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/white/orange trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in orange/black kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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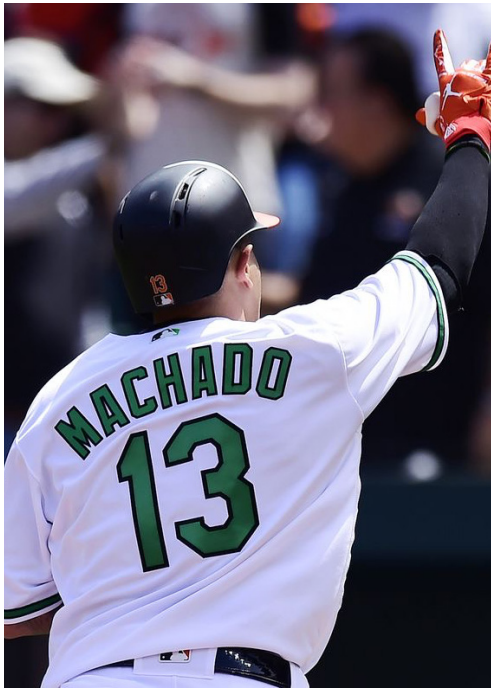
2018 Earth Day



On Earth Day, April 22, 2018, the Orioles celebrate by color-shifting their home jerseys from orange to green. All typically orange elements on these Majestic Flex Base jerseys, including the middle color of sleeve trim, and all front and back lettering, take on green as a main color with black outlines. The left-sleeve team patch appears in shades of black, white, and green, similar to the St. Patrick's Day jersey from 2016, but with black taking the place of gray. This results in the Maryland state flag taking on an unusual green color scheme, but celebrating Earth seems to take precedence over celebrating Maryland on this day, and the Orioles have other days to honor Maryland anyway. Overall, this is a surprisingly sharp set, and the use of black and green makes for a more attractive presentation than the league-wide use of gray and green on St. Patrick's Day, in this writer's opinion. The team, did not, however, get new pants or helmets (which is understandable) so the orange elements in those accouterments look out of place.

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2018 Independence Day

For July 2-4, 2018, the Orioles' Independence Day jerseys is a subtle change to the 2017 road entry. Here, the printed twill on the uniforms appears in blue patterned twill/red for front lettering and front and back numbers, switching the layout from the year before. Similarly, the player name on back is now red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. The Orioles wear their road gray jersey. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2018 Celebrate Maryland Day

For the second entry on Celebrate Maryland Day on July 14, 2018, the Orioles bring back the Maryland flag-themed twill, this time applied to their Majestic Flex Base black alternate jerseys rather than last year's home jerseys. While all lettering on the usual black alternate is orange/black (yes, black outlines on a black jersey), all but the player name are here rendered in Maryland flag twill, outlined in orange, while players names are solid orange.

Against a white jersey, the flag twill is busy, but on black, it takes on more of a camouflage feel, with the black parts of the twill melting into the jersey base and the red flag elements spilling into the orange outlines. The black outlines from the year before pulled this set together in a stronger way, but one imagines that Orioles fans still loved the tribute.

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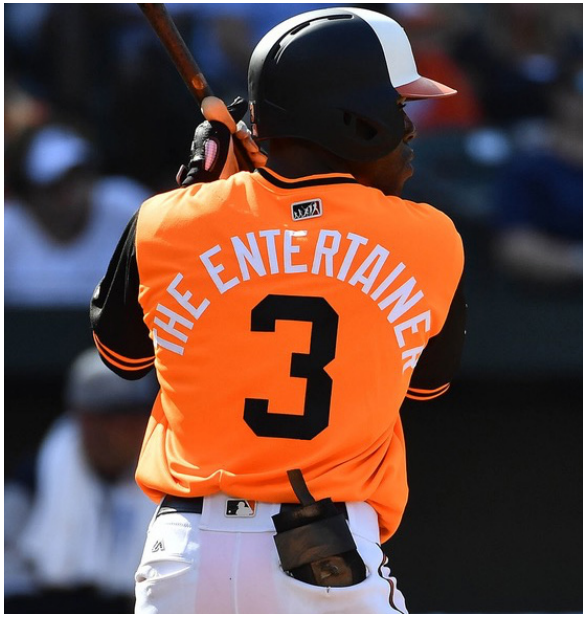
2018 Players Weekend



Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Orioles wear jerseys with orange bodies and black sleeves with white nicknames and black numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/black/orange trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in black twill.

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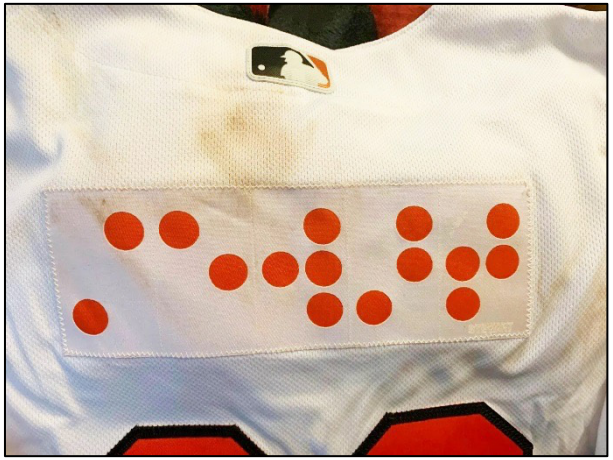
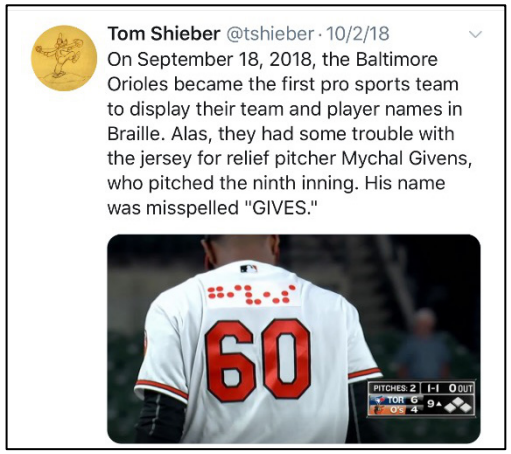
2018 Braille

The National Federation for the Blind celebrated its 40th anniversary in Baltimore in 2018, and the Orioles paid tribute by being the first pro team to wear Braille on their jerseys on September 18. The team's front wordmark and player names on back were both rendered in Braille, with team name and front an back numbers in orange/black and player name in orange. For player names, a solid strip of orange twill was covered with a solid one of white, with the dots cut in the proper places, allowing the orange to show through, to spell the player name. Team name on front appears to be kiss-cut twill on a white patch. Though there are also Braille numbers, of course, it is likely the team decided to keep their typical orange/black front and back numbers so the players would be more easily identifiable for fans and broadcasters.



Whoops!



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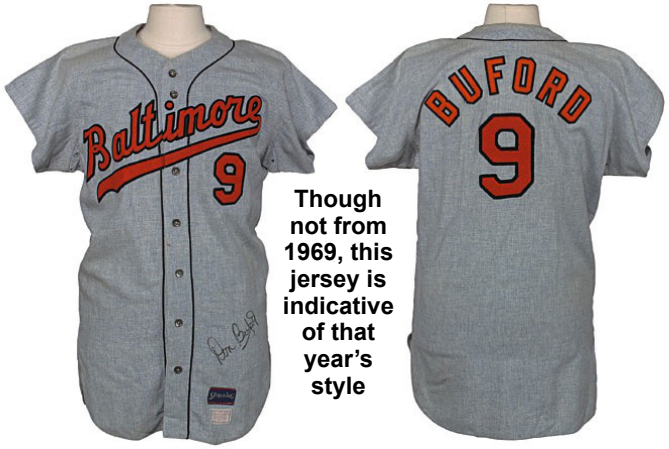
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

The Orioles don 1969 throwbacks on the road to era-match their hosts the Mariners, who wear Seattle Pilots uniforms on June 22, 2019. The full-knit Majestic replicas are close, getting some details right, like the black knit trim around neck and placket and the 1969 MLB anniversary patch. The front wordmark is a faithful representation too, but the player names on back were more arched in 1969, while black outlines on all lettering was more pronounced a half-century before.

The remake also features the “20” disc honoring Frank Robinson, which of course, was not on the originals.



Though not from 1969, this jersey is indicative of that year’s style

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2019 Celebrate Maryland Day

Kyle Mace Collection

After two years of flag-pattern twill on Celebrate Maryland Day, the orioles mark the occasion on June 29, 2019 with a whole new approach. The flag pattern now moves to the raglan sleeves of these Majestic Flex Base jerseys, while all other lettering appears in black/orange. Of note, the Orioles normally wear set-in sleeves, so this sleeve construction is exclusive to this event. As with their other jerseys that year, the right sleeve bears the “20” circle patch in honor of Frank Robinson, though it is very hard to see on the flag-adorned sleeves.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1989

Again, as in 2017, when the Orioles supposedly turned the clock back to 1992, they wore essentially the same jersey as seen here, now represented as the 1989 home jersey to mark the 30th anniversary of the "Why Not?" Orioles on August 9. These Majestic Cool-base fabric but NOT Flex base constructed jerseys (no vented side panels or special tail, standard Majestic tagging on the front) are excellent reproductions of the originals, though the black/orange/black knit trim on the sleeve ends was set slightly higher in 1989. Numbers on front and back and name on back are all colored identically to the team logo script, orange/black. Block and Front Block numbers just like the originals as well. Names appear on nameplates as they did in 1989.

Overall, almost indistinguishable from the set from three decades before, and the throwback from two years before. Which should sound familiar if you had read that page. These feature the Frank Robinson memorial on the right sleeve.

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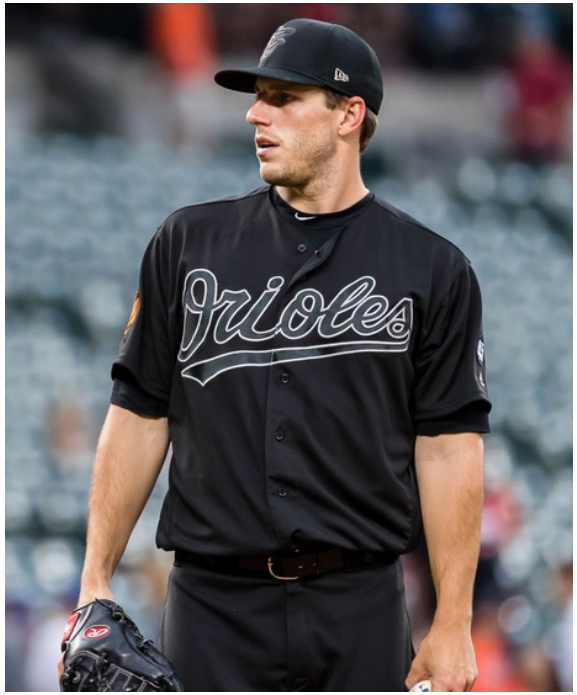
2019 Players Weekend



The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve, and the Orioles add the Frank Robinson memorial patch on the right. They removed both before auctioning off the jerseys. The Orioles wear a black version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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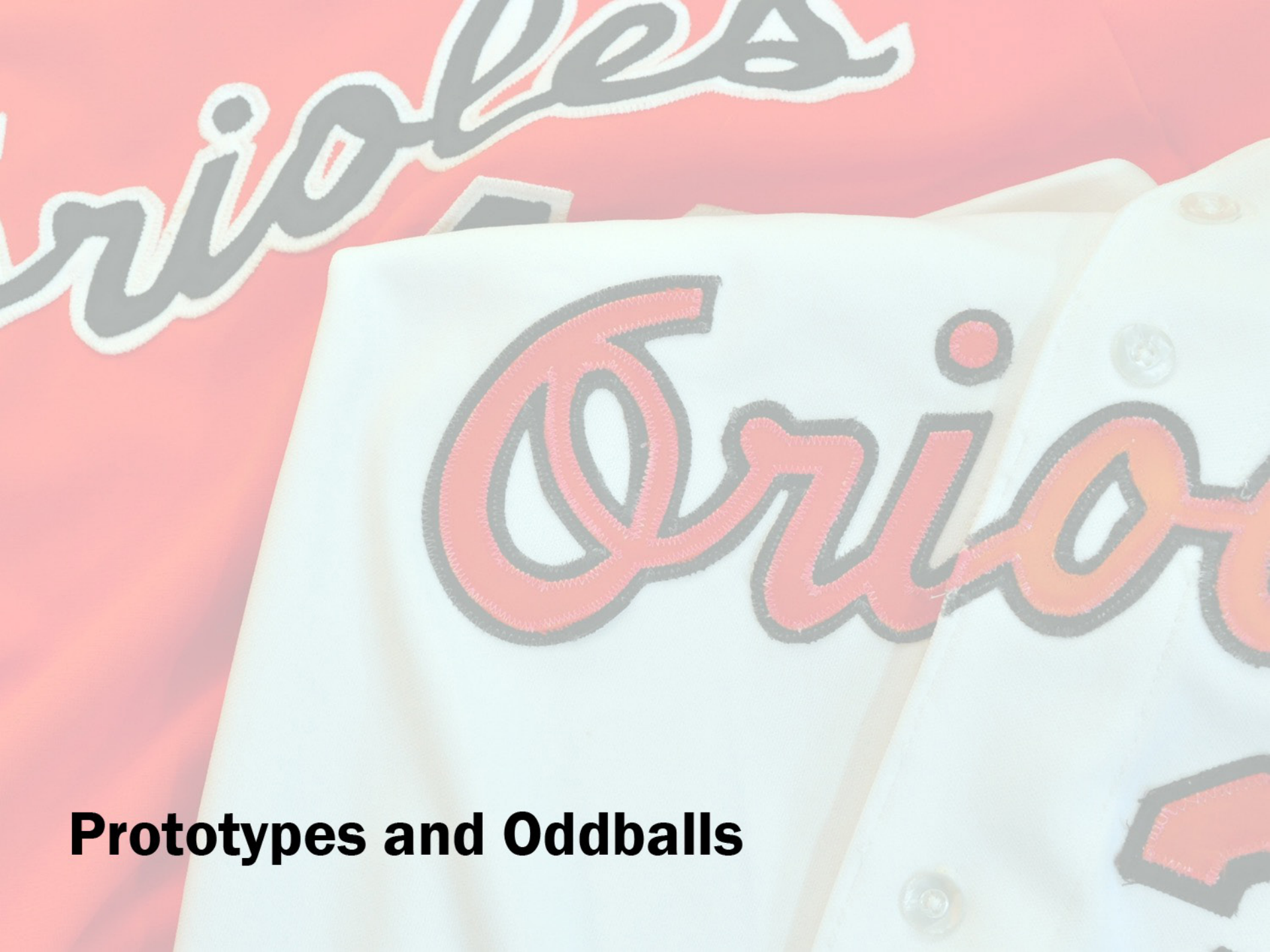
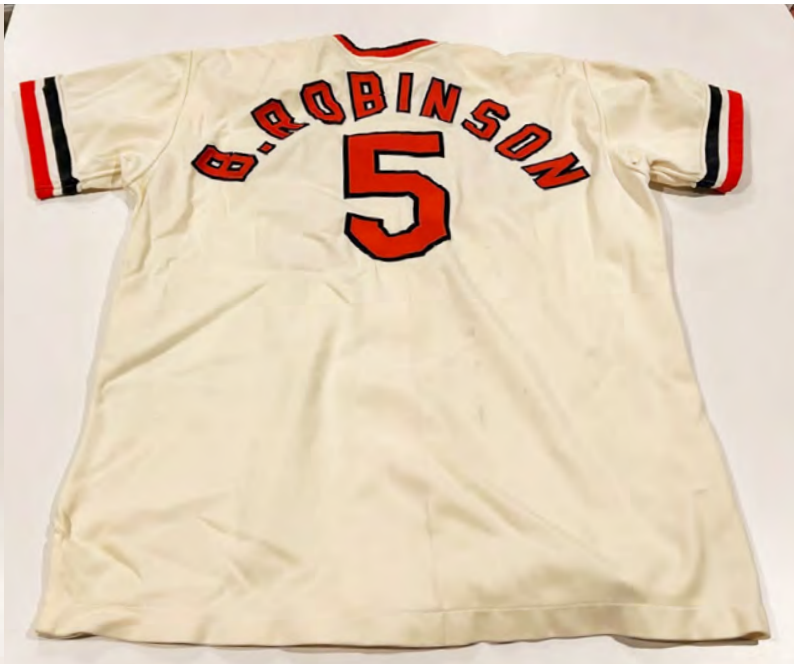


Prototypes and Oddballs

1972 Sample Home?



The Orioles gradually transitioned to knit home jerseys during the 1971 season, mixing them with flannels to start, and adopting them full-time after the All-Star break. Here is a sample of an early Orioles home knit jersey, identifiable by the sample tagging in the neck. There are a few odd elements to this one. First, it features a Rawlings tag that was more often used in 1972 and after, which dates to a year or so past when the team switched to knits. The sample tag, however, reveals that the fabric content of the jersey is 60% nylon and 40% cotton—an unusual mix for early pro Rawlings knits, which were more often 95% polyester and 5% nylon. Perhaps after a season of using heavier polyester jerseys in 1971, the team requested a version that may have been lighter for the 1972 season? Aside from the fabric, the jersey appears identical to others of the era, including the flat-hemmed bottom that was typical of Orioles Rawlings jerseys of the time. This jersey is appears to be quite yellowed, more so than others of the era, which may be a result of the fabric. When Russell made 100% nylon jerseys in the early 1990s (branded as “Intera”) they yellowed considerably faster than standard polyester knit.

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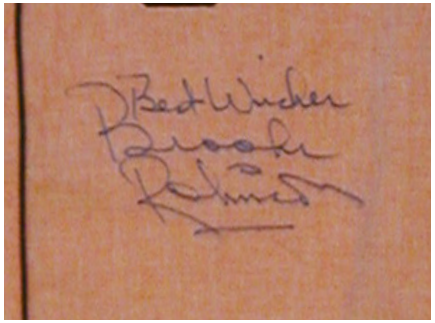
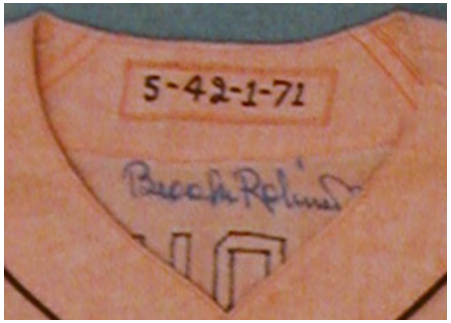
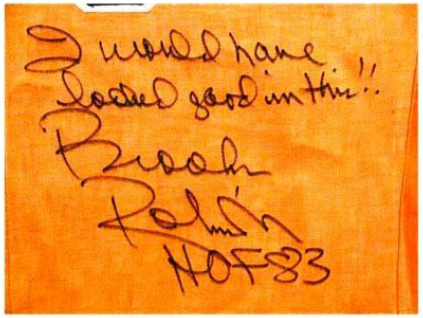
1971 Prototype Orange Flannel?







In 1971, Wilson created flannel prototypes of an orange jersey, but so far as we know, never produced them in quantity and the team never wore them in a game. Here are two different examples in different styles and apparently two different shades of orange. The version on the left, paler without white outlines on the lettering, has a neck tag reading "5-42-1-71" for the uniform number, size, version, and year. Tagging on the other version (if present) is not visible.

The eventual orange uniform worn in 1971 was made of the new miracle double knit fabric instead of the old wool flannel.

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1975 Prototype Alternate (Wilson)

The Orioles introduced an orange alternate jersey for use in the 1975 season. This is very likely the Wilson prototype that was created to show the club what it might look like.

Below, an actual game used Don Baylor jersey for 1975 shows removal of the original player nameplate, and the clumsy reattachment of direct-sewn NOB with too-large letters in an incorrect two-color font.

Wilson sewed a white tag in the collar of their prototypes listing codes for its characteristics. In this case, the garment is described as a “polyester warp knit," probably with internal numeric codes for color and trim, noted with team lettering on the front, including a 4” front number and a 6” back number. Varsity, Wilson’s “house font” is used.

As a custom, they often used the number of a popular player or sometimes of the team manager on prototype jerseys. #25 on the Orioles was Don Baylor. Save for the fact that the final product used a player NOB, this prototype is identical to the orange jersey as used for 1975 *(right)*.

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1975 Prototype Alternate (Rawlings)

Offered here is another mid-70s orange Orioles jersey, this time by Rawlings. It appears to be a sample for the second iteration of their orange jerseys, a pullover introduced in 1975. At the time, Rawlings made the team's home jerseys, but Wilson had the market cornered on their road and orange alternates.

Ultimately, the team went with Wilson for this style, which had "Orioles" on front, rather than "Baltimore" as shown here. The Baltimore lettering on this example is a crude reproduction of what the team used on its road jerseys, but since Rawlings didn't make those, they likely hand-drew and cut something "close enough" to show the team the sample.

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1980 Home Descente-made Unused

We have encountered more than a few 1980-tagged Descente jerseys in the hobby. Our Orioles experts tell us their recollection is that these 1980 uniforms did not meet with team approval, and that they do not believe they were ever issued to MLB players during the 1980 season. It is likely that they were stripped of nameplates and were sent to the minors. All surviving examples of 1980 Descente jerseys we have encountered are either without nameplates on back or have had nameplates recreated for them.

We continue to look for photo evidence of these in use during the 1980 season or even in Spring Training.

The number font on the Descente 1980-tagged jerseys is somewhat like that used by the Tokyo's Yomiuri Giants of Nippon Professional Baseball's Central League (above, far right). One wonders what miscommunication may have occurred and how this font found its way all the way to the Orioles yet being so far "off" the Orioles standard. It seems to have been an expensive mistake.

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1987 Prototypes Home/Road

I am going to assume that these are MLB Orioles prototypes, made by Rawlings, mostly because they have an MLB roster player's name on back. Otherwise I might consider them minor league jerseys or prototypes. Larry Sheets appeared in 135 games for the 1987 Baltimore Orioles, so this is not likely a minor-league rehab assignment jersey either, but we can't rule that out.

They have an old-time feel, with a deep drop shadow on all elements except player name, a style reminiscent of the 1940s St. Louis Browns, who were the Orioles' predecessors. Orioles swinging bird patch on the left sleeve, Rawlings logo on right. Orange/black/orange sewn on knit trim at sleeve ends, around collar and extending down the placket complete the look.

A reader sent this ghostly photo which shows a drop shadow style jersey missing the placket trim of the example above. I can't account for this and I've never seen another. "For your consideration only."

Original 1940s St. Louis Browns jerseys; a possible point of inspiration?

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1987 Prototype Road

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Here we have another 1987 Orioles road prototype from Rawlings, one a little less ornate than those shown on the page prior. Though the team did move to road jerseys that looked similar to this one in future years, the team ultimately did not select this option for 1987.

Note that all of the 1987 samples on this and the prior page used a whimsical version of the "Fun Bird" patch (this example is nicely chain stitched). Another version of this bird would finally make it on to Orioles uniforms in 2002.

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1989 Prototype Road Batting Practice?

If it was any other team than the Orioles (or maybe the Giants) we would dismiss a BP jersey with late 1980s tagging and screened on lettering as a retail item, or at best minor league, not an MLB product. But the Orioles didn't seem averse to screened-on lettering, the jersey features the city script, usually seen only on MLB issues, and it has the Rawlings pro tail tag and sleeve logo seen on game issue jerseys. This one looks new and unused, and since we've never seen one in a player photo, we'll guess it is a prototype not used by the club. The sewn-in side stripes are an interesting feature.

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1995 Prototype Road

This jersey is a Russell prototype, most likely from 1995. It features small differences from that year's eventual production jersey. On this one, the sleeve knit trim is orange instead of black, the knit trim is added to the placket and collar, and the roughly drawn bird patch on the sleeve shows the cartoon bird making a catch instead of using the realistic looking bird patches that were actually used in those years. It may also have been a minor league prototype, as this style bird has been used there.

Also, note that the white outlining on the team script is slightly different from the production version, notice the white-filled areas between the "R" and "I" and the "L" and "E".

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1996 Turn Back the Clock Prototype?

In 1996, the Orioles threw back to the1930s International League Orioles in a road game at Texas. The jerseys featured a beautifully chain stitched Orioles version of a “Birds on Bat” logo now most familiar to us from the Cardinals. Mitchell and Ness made the uniforms for that game, but here we have an example of that style, made by Powers Manufacturing. Though in business since 1902, Powers has had very little footprint in MLB jerseys, except for a one-year association with the Orioles, making their first orange alternate jerseys. The chain-stitched logo on this Powers jersey is almost identical to that on the Mitchell and Ness version, except for the use of a yellow bat here rather than black. Back numbers are also in a different font from what was used on the field. Given that home teams usually order throwback uniforms, it is curious to see this version from a manufacturer whose only association was a brief connection to the road team. During this time, however, a team’s regular-season uniform manufacturer had right of first refusal on throwbacks, and if they did not want to make them, the team was free to seek out other options. It is possible this was made up as a sample for consideration, or was simply a promotional jersey for one of the teams, or even a Minor League issue. More research is required.

Below: *The jersey as used on-field in 1996, made by Mitchell and Ness.*

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Oddball Orange Batting Practice Jersey

These are Diamond Collection tagged and use the front lettering style seen on game jerseys starting in 1995. They feature three-color number on back only, black/orange/white. Name on back one-color, black, no nameplate. I am told by my Orioles experts that these were used in Fantasy Camp and never by the team in the regular season.

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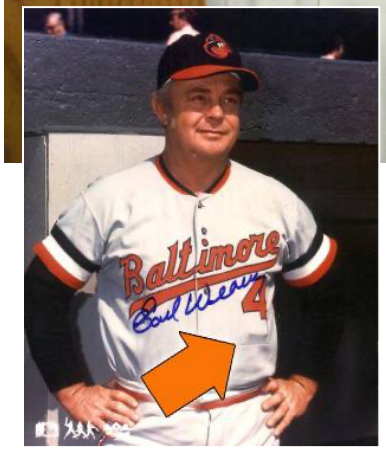
Oddballs– Earl Weaver and Cal Ripken Sr. Smoking Uniforms

Look carefully at these two game worn Earl Weaver jerseys and see the pocket on each sewn on the inside behind the front number to hold his ever present cigarette pack! The same treatment is given to the Cal Ripken, Sr. orange jersey at the right.



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1997 Mesh Oddballs

It's hard to say what these are, so I simply offer them for your consideration. We know that the Orioles turned a set of black mesh batting practice jerseys into game jerseys in 1998, and these two jerseys found up for sale originating at different ends of the earth (one in Japan) are eerily similar and equally hard to explain.

They are black mesh Russell BP-style jerseys with a Henley style two-button neck. One has a narrow ribbon of orange sleeve trim, and the other does not. They are identically year tagged for 1997, have the full set of (3) team patches correct for 1997 on the sleeves. The players are from the 1997 roster and their names are on mesh nameplates with serged edges. One even has special tailoring noted (and observed) on a neck tag typical of what would be done at the factory. Notably, size 46 (the Tarasco) was not a retail-offered size; it was made only for use by the team.

Two other odd things to note: One is that the back numbers are much smaller than team spec, with custom proportions and outlines, and the two jerseys have numbers that are clearly from the same pattern. And when we checked with friends who were stitchers for the Orioles at that time, they have no recollection of these at all. Majestic made the team's BP jerseys in 1997, and names were not used on the team's mesh jerseys, and they cannot recall digitally-printed date tags on any Russell BP jerseys.

If these are home-made, someone went to a lot of trouble and chose to make two of them for non-star players, including adding team tagging and doing special tailoring. All we can say is that the Orioles are the masters of the perplexing and odd. In short, these are professionally executed but we have no record of them being issued or worn.

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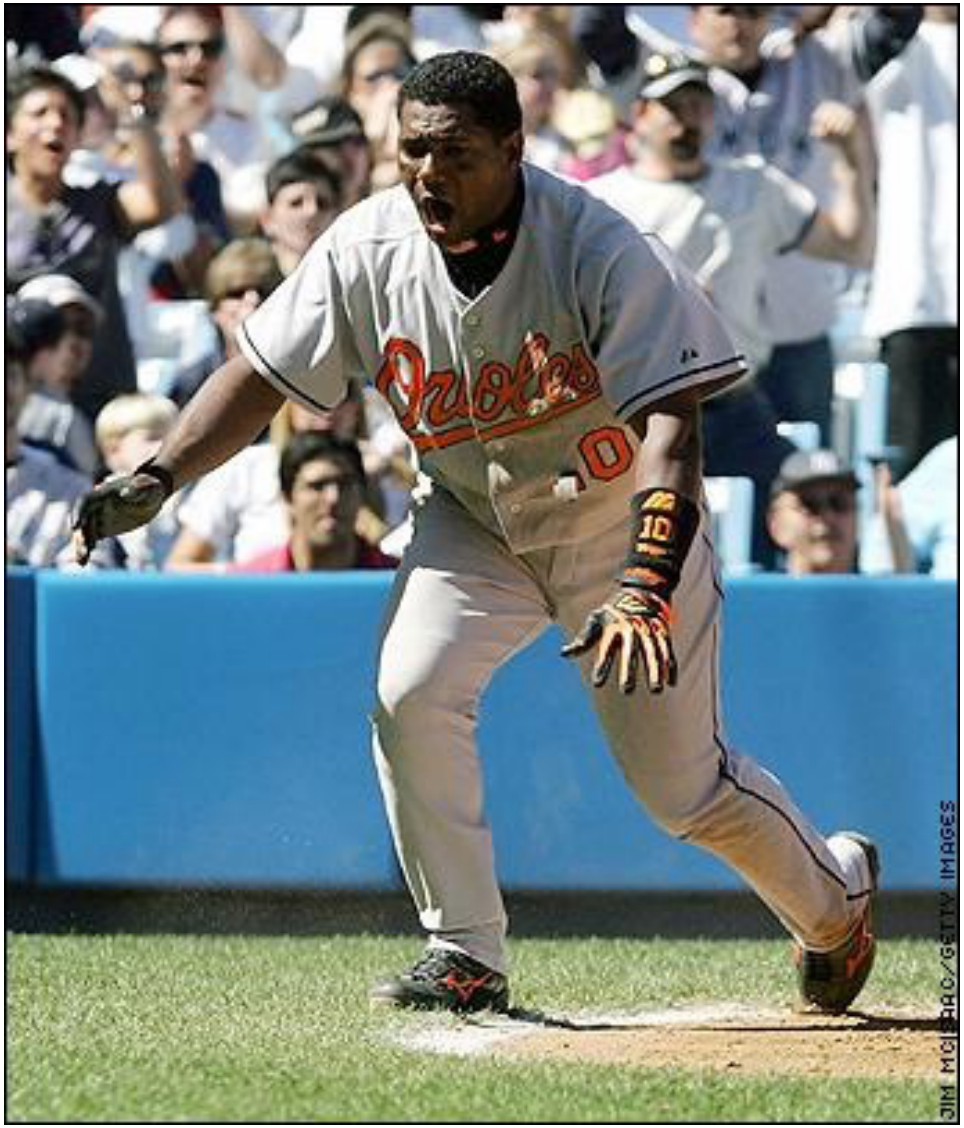
Oops.



Far left: Anyone remember to put thread in that sewing machine? The loose number eventually fell off during the game.

Above Right: On what letter does that tilde accent really belong?

Left: Doesn't he spell his name with a "z" at the end?

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Curious Button-Front Black Mesh Batting Practice

I honestly thought we were done with finding exceptions to the Orioles jerseys…. But we found two more from the personal collection of player Tom Lawless. While the #9 example has two-color back lettering, his is all one-color lettering with no outline. Note the different fonts on the backs of both of his.

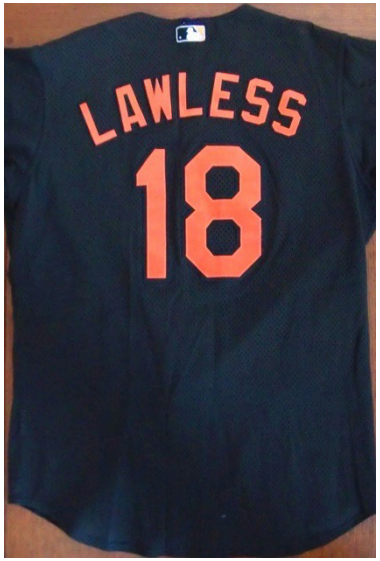
Where does this style fit?? It is at least 2000 or post-2000, since it has the silhouetted batter patch. One of the Lawless examples has a 2000s style Rawlings tag on it.

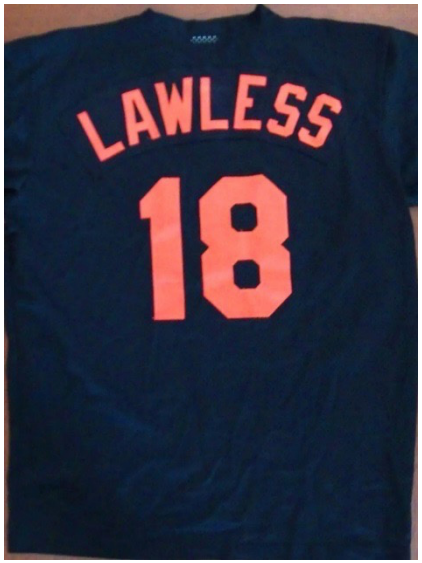
I did a casual search for Spring Training photos, and I do not see this in use 2000, 2001, 2002. It is the same style wordmark and number outlining as 2001–2002.

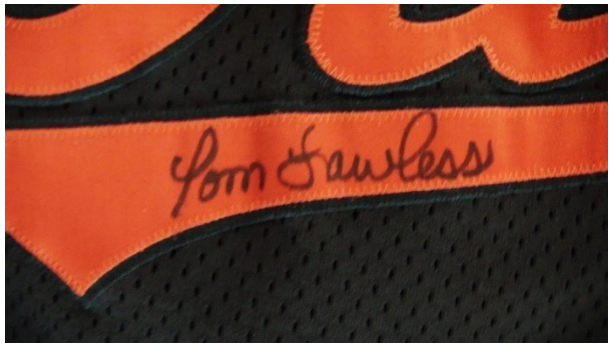
Note that this is a ”0006” coded jersey, which means “on-field.”

And, these are pre-2003 Cool Base BP. Could be minor league.

Thoughts?







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2023 Prototype Home/Road

Right: A detail of the odd-color sleeve-end trim.

RGVDEAL on eBay

RGVDEAL on eBay

Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were "pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024." Ultimately, the new template was delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

These Orioles jerseys are mostly the same as what they wore before and after the switch from Nike's version of Flex Base to VPE. Closer inspection reveals that the template is VPE - including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, a lightweight sleeve patch, and perforated back numbers. The tell-tale "Player" and "23" on back reinforce this as a sample, intended for the 2023 season.

Oddly, the sleeve-end trim on the home version appears in colors that the Orioles did not wear, royal blue/white/powder blue. Perhaps at the sample stage, this was all that was available.

The heat-pressed inventory tags also reveal some info, and leaves some mysteries. The home reads "DH1620 OLE 2023 CONV. JERSEY HOME P2"; the road says "DH1620 OLE 2023 CONV. JERSEY ROAD P2."

There is also a small, handwritten "1" on the bottom corner of each tag. Here, "OLE" is a code Nike has used elsewhere for the Orioles, and "2023", "HOME", and "ROAD" are self explanatory. The "DH1620" indication is not clear, although Nike has used a "DX" prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of "Conv. Jersey" and "P2" is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a second iteration of a sample.

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Ad(d) or Subtract? 2024 Ad Patch Problems

The Orioles 2024 ad patches arrived mid-season, and as far as we can tell, were heat-pressed on to the jerseys. As such, we have come across a couple of instances of patch issues that likely didn't make their sponsors (or clubhouse staff) too happy.

On June 15, just a few days after the patch debuted, Orioles catcher Adley Rutschman's ad patch was half-detached from his orange alternate jersey during the second inning. It looks like the shoulder pad from his chest protector may have been the culprit. It was fixed later in the game.

On August 6, Jackson Holliday's road jersey was missing the patch entirely. It does not appear as if the patch was fixed during the game, but he did have it back on his sleeve the following night.

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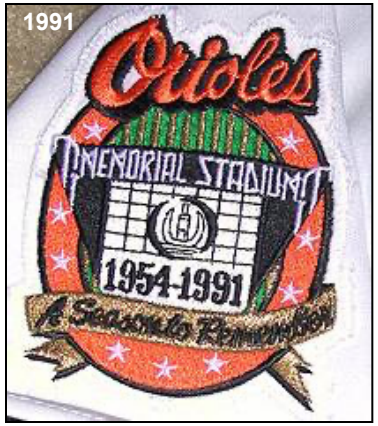
Commemorative Patches

Orioles Patches

1984

1988



1991

*The **Memorial Stadium patch** was supposed to be worn on home jerseys all year in 1991 to commemorate the team's final year at the old ballpark. However, after an early season losing "streak" of only two games, the patch was blamed, ordered banished, and it was removed.*

1993

- 1984: 30th Anniversary of 1983 World Champs
- 1988: EBW memorial sleeve lettering for owner E.B. Williams. Letters are heat pressed vinyl.
- 1991 Memorial Stadium Final Year
- 1993: All-Star Game
- 1997: Baltimore 200 – in white, gray or black background

1997

1997

*The **Baltimore 200 patch** was made in three color combinations, one for each of the jerseys used in 1997. It was designed so that the background was the same color as the jersey fabric, so that when applied, only the logo would be visible.*

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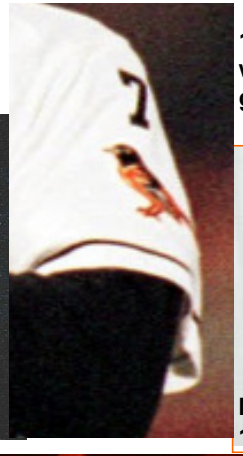


1999 memorial 7 as worn only in Cuban game

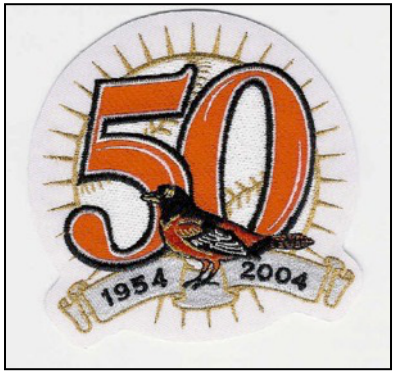
May 3, 1999

October 5-6, 2001

September 11, 2002

2003 Spring Training only

- 1999: May 3: Cuban Exhibition Game sleeve patch worn on right sleeve of home jersey for exhibition game only, Ripken "7" memorial moved to left sleeve for the game.
- 1999: Cal Ripken Sr. Memorial 7 on right sleeve. Of the black numerals, some were twill and some were glued and sewn flock. All the numerals for the black jerseys were twill. For black jerseys, three-color twill: Black/orange/white. These specific numbers were hand-cut and applied by the Orioles' local lettering shop.
- 2001, October 5-6: Cal Ripken Retirement
- 2002, September 11: Pentagon 9/11 Memorial patch, (road game in NYC).
- 2003 Spring Training: On BP only, #51 memorial disk for Pitcher Steve Bechler who died during Spring Training while participating in conditioning drills, later attributed to his use of a weight loss supplement, which eventually resulted in an FDA ban on the substance, Ephedra.
- 2004: 50th anniversary (white, gray and black background versions made).
- 2005, September 5-7: Cal Ripken 10thAnniversary of "The Streak."



2004 home jersey version

2004 road jersey version

2004 alternate black jersey version

September 5-7, 2005

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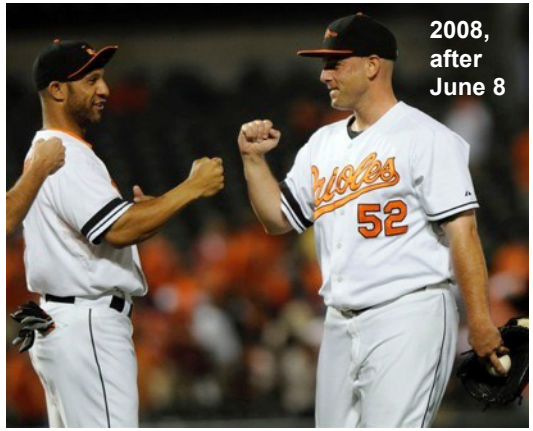
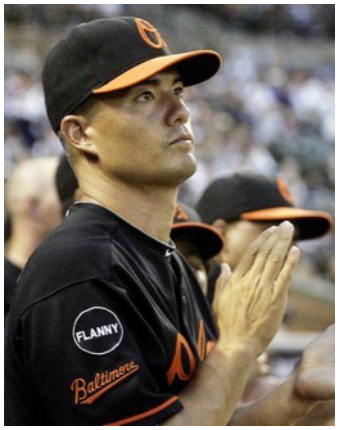
2006





2012

2013

2013

- 2006: Flock material glued-on 44 for death of Elrod Hendricks on right sleeve, worn all year long on all uniforms.
- 2008, after June 8: (Sportscaster) Jim McKay Armband on home and road uniforms.
- 2011, after August 26: “Flanny” memorial patch for Mike Flanagan former pitcher, Orioles executive, and broadcaster.
- 2012: 20th Anniversary of Oriole Park at Camden Yards patch worn on all uniforms.
- 2013: Earl Weaver memorial #4 disk, which was so large that it presented curling problems on players’ sleeves.

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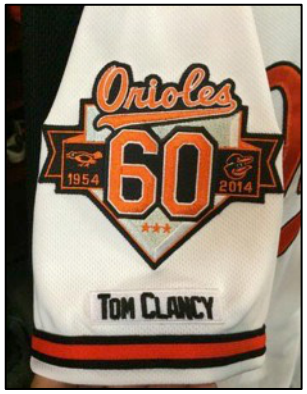
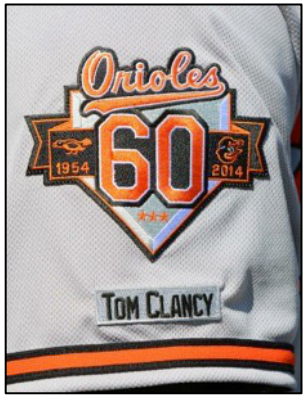
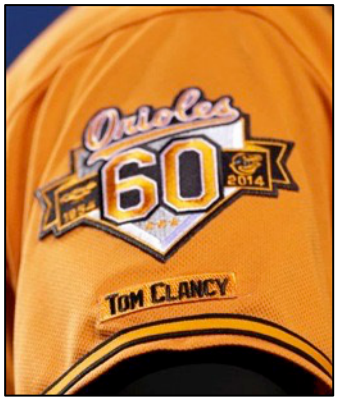
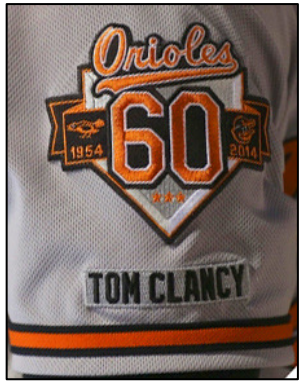
2014 – Earlier in season

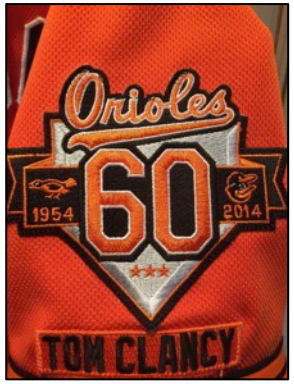


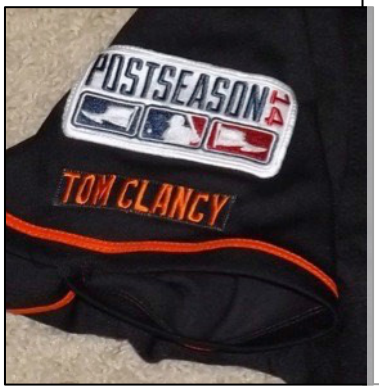




2014 – Later in season







2014: Orioles 60 Years patch, same version worn on all color of uniforms.

AND…this entry seems to be a beautiful summarization of this history of Orioles' uniforms. A team that on the surface appears consistent, but where the devil is in the details, and those details seem to change weekly.

Shown here are *EIGHT* distinct versions of the Tom Clancy patch worn to commemorate the death of the author and Orioles investor worn after March 31, 2014. First, there was a different Clancy patch for each color jersey, sewn beneath the "Orioles 60" patch.

But next notice that the top row of patches has the first letters of the first and last name in a larger font than the rest of the word. Apparently, these are jerseys from earlier in the season.

Below that we feature patches with the letters in the Clancy patch all the same size. These are from later in the season.

Notice that the postseason sleeve patch replaced the anniversary patch, but the Clancy patch remains.

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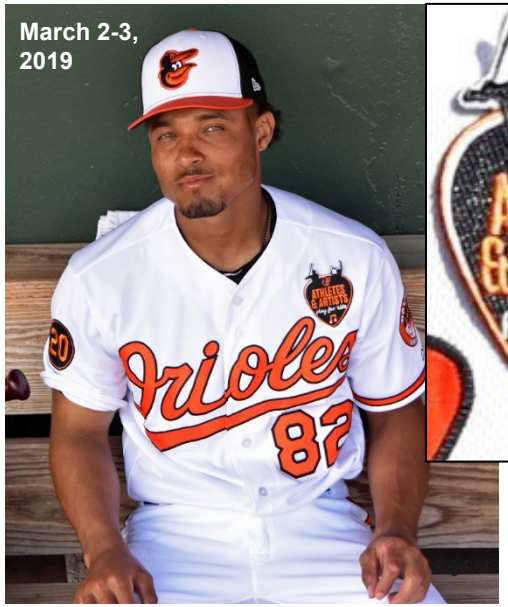
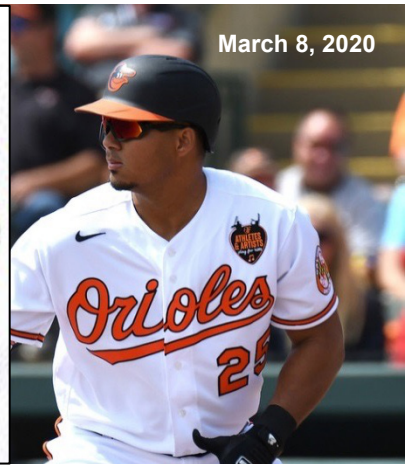
- 2016, July 5 and 6: 50th anniversary of 1966 World Series, right sleeve of road jersey, also July 7 on throwback jersey
- 2017: Camden Yards 25th anniversary, right sleeve on all uniforms





- 2019: Frank Robinson “20” memorial, worn on right sleeve during season, and on left chest in Spring Training
- 2019, March 2-3 and 2020, March 8: Athletes and Artists patch, a charity that supports arts education and girls’ empowerment

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- 2020, September 6: 25th Anniversary of Cal Ripken's 2131st consecutive game
- 2022: Camden Yards 30th anniversary, right sleeve on all uniforms
- 2023, August 5: 40th Anniversary of 1983 World Series Championship
- 2023, September 26: Orange/black "5" on sleeves in memory of Brooks Robinson, who died that day. It appears to be heat pressed or a decal rather than a patch, twill, or embroidery.
- 2023, starting September 27: "5" disc patch in memory of Brooks Robinson

Reproduction of the original patch, created by your author on commission from the original art. We've never seen an original one in the cloth. These were not produced as souvenirs.

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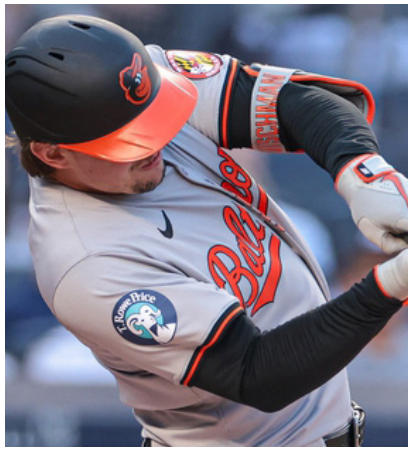
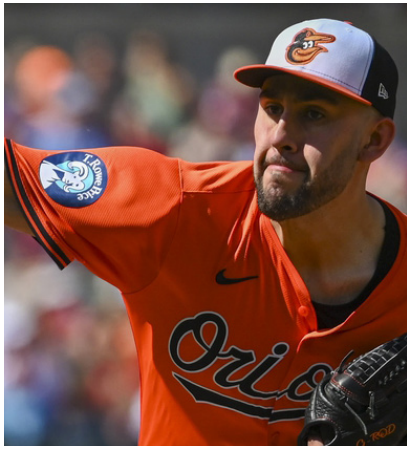
2023-2025 Orioles Advertising Patches





Home, road, orange alternate

Black alternate, City Connect

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Orioles struck a patch deal with T. Rowe Price, a wealth management services company. The patches first appeared on June 11, 2024. The patch includes the company's logo, a bighorn sheep, in white and navy on a light blue circle, surrounded by a navy circle with the company's name in white on the home, road, and orange jerseys. On the black jersey and the City Connect, the field behind the sheep is navy and the circle around the logo is light blue with the company name in white.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. It is heat-pressed on to the jersey, so instances of patches missing or falling off in-game have occurred.

In 2023, the location of the team's usual logo sleeve patch varied depending on the handedness of each player, despite not having a patch sponsor until mid-way through 2024.

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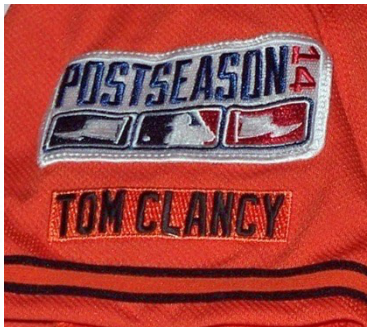
Orioles Postseason Patches



2014 AL Division Series
2014 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve, above "Tom Clancy" patch, replacing anniversary patch)

2016 AL Wild Card
(right sleeve)

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Jim Palmer Baltimore Orioles 1970 Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: January 15, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0115J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Spalding-tagged Baltimore Orioles 1970 size 46 (marked and measured) road gray flannel jersey, #22. Black soutache rings the placket, Baltimore script with underline stitched on the front. Player numbers on left front chest and on back; player name above on back in steep arch consistent with team standard. All lettering is in straight-stitched orange felt over black felt. Seven original dark gray four-hole pearl buttons, six-hole diamond-shaped underarm gussets, side vents on the tails. Palmer's autograph in black marker on the front below the numbers. I have no professional opinion on the autograph. Size 46 is correct for Palmer matching exemplars at this stage of his career.

Jim Palmer played 19 years in Major League Baseball (MLB) for the Baltimore Orioles (1965–1967, 1969–1984). Palmer was the winningest MLB pitcher in the 1970s, with 186 wins. He also won at least 20 games in eight different seasons and won three Cy Young Awards and four Gold Gloves during the decade. His 268 Orioles victories are the most in team history. A six-time American League (AL) All-Star, he was also one of the rare pitchers who never allowed a grand slam in any major league contest. Palmer appeared in the postseason eight times and was a vital member of three World Series Champions, six AL pennant winners and seven Eastern Division titleholders. He is the only pitcher in history to earn a win in a World Series game in three different decades. He is also the youngest to pitch a complete-game shutout in a World Series, doing so nine days before his 21st birthday in 1966, in which he defeated Sandy Koufax in Koufax's last appearance. He was one of the starters on the last rotation to feature four 20-game winners in a single season in 1971. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1990 in his first year of eligibility.

In 1970, Palmer appeared in 39 regular season games for the Orioles, all as a starter, going 20-10 with a 2.71 ERA. He also appeared in three games of the 1970 postseason, going 2-0. The Orioles won the World Series in 1970, beating the Cincinnati Reds four games to one. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Continued, overleaf

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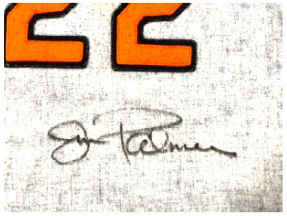
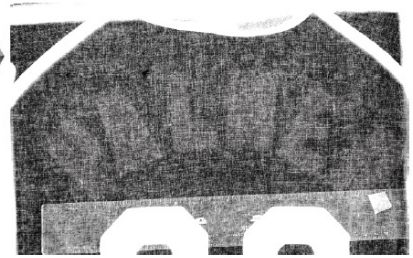
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop



As received, original and intact except for missing player name on back. Below, photo-enhanced negative image of the the name on back ghost as seen on the light table. Other photos on this pages are exemplars and tagging from other 1971 Orioles road jerseys.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front and back numbers are all original, only the name on back is a replacement, properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Palmer of the 1971 Baltimore Orioles.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Document of Restoration

Baltimore Orioles 1971 BOSWELL #32 Home Jersey

Examination Date: July 3, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0703R02

This letter documents work we have performed in our shop; It is not a letter of authenticity.

Description: Baltimore Orioles Wilson button-front cream colored flannel with 1971 SET 1 tagging. Orioles Script on the front in Orange twill over black felt. Player numbers on front and back in the same fabrics. Player name on back in black felt. Orange/black/orange nylon uniform braid trim at the neck and sleeve ends.

Restoration Performed: As received, jersey bore what appear to be its original numbers front and back and NOB BOSWELL in felt in an incorrect font. I stripped the name on back, and placing the garment on the light table, while there were not clear ghosts of the same name on back, setting the name in the proper Orioles/Wilson fonts and overlaying it onto the image of the shirt provided at least six points where the removal of the old name had left holes (red circles). I cut the NOB in the proper font and re-sewed using the same zig sag stitch, then steamed the jersey fabric to help erase the most obvious old stitching holes from the earlier incorrect lettering.

As completed, it is in very good restored condition, with normal wear and a few small stains. Evidence of the older inaccurate restoration is visible with a light table examination. The new lettering is placed directly over the original ghosts, as seen in the photos included.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Tom Dukes 1971 Baltimore Orioles Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: September 12, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0912J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Spalding tagged Baltimore Orioles 1971 size 44 road gray flannel jersey, #36. Black soutache rings the placket, Baltimore script with underline stitched on the front in hybrid-style orange twill over black felt. During the late 1960s and through the end of the flannel era in 1972, some teams used a combination of felt and twill together on their jerseys. 1971 was the final year of Orioles flannels; in fact, the team switched to knits for the 1971 postseason, leaving the old era behind.

Pitcher Tom Dukes was issued #36 in 1971, his only year with the MLB Orioles. At 6" 2" and 185 lbs, this jersey is a reasonable size to have been worn by him. That year he appeared in 28 games, pitching 38.1 innings as a reliever with a 3.54 ERA, compiling a 1-5 record with four saves. He also appeared in two games of the 1971 World Series. He did not make the 1972 Orioles club, and after starting the 1972 season in AAA Rochester, was traded to the California Angels on May 29, 1972 (*Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Spalding tagging is sewn on the outside left tail. In 1971, Orioles road jersey were made by Spalding, in their next-to-last year of serving MLB. Interestingly, this jersey has the "new" style of Spalding tag introduced sometime in 1971 and most often seen on 1972 knits. There is a gray felt strip tag sewn into the back of the collar, hand chain stitched in black, "44 SET 2-71 36" noting the size (44) the set number (2) the year (71) and the player number it was issued with (36). The tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that this jersey is original without contrivance. The jersey displays at least a full season of wash and wear, and shows signs of fading especially on the tops of the sleeves and above the waist where it was most exposed to the sun. The lettering is burnished and puckered but is intact. The player name on back was removed and the outline ghosts of of the five steeply arched letters can be seen on the light table, along with two small holes that falls on the outline of the "U" and the final "S". The numbers on back and front are original to the garment. Because it retains its original "Baltimore" front script, this jersey likely lived on in spring training with the MLB club during at least 1972 when prior-season flannels were used, and after Dukes had been traded from the club. (City name MLB road jerseys sent to the minors generally had the city name removed.)

Continued, overleaf

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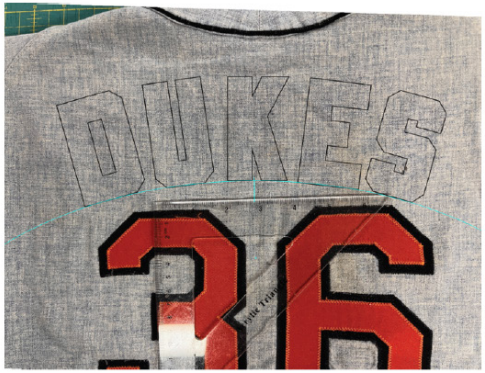
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Restoration Performed: Missing its name on back, I recreated it using the original team pattern for that year, using orange twill over black felt. To make the new orange fabric better match the old and worn lettering, I media blasted it and organically dyed it to simulate the patina of use and wear. Using the light table, I stitched it with color-matched thread directly over the ghosts of the removed letters from the back

As received, original and intact except for missing player name on back. Below, exemplar tagging from another reliably authenticated 1971 Orioles



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front and back numbers are all original, only the name on back is a replacement, properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Tom Dukes of the 1971 Baltimore Orioles.

William F. Henderson

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Don Baylor Rookie Year 1972 Baltimore Orioles Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 8, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1008J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Spalding-tagged Baltimore Orioles 1972 size 40 (measures as a 42) road gray six-button first-year double knit jersey, #25. *Baltimore* script with underline stitched on the front in orange over black tackle twill. 3 1/2" wide sewn-on knit sleeve end trim in orange/white/black. Sewn-in 3/4" knit crew neck trim in black/orange. Flat-bottom tails with side vents as is typical of early Spalding knits. Player number 25 on front and back in the same orange over black twill, roster number as issued to outfielder Don Baylor. Listed as 6' 1" and 195, multiple game worn Baylor examples are in our reference library from early in his career as both size 40 and 42. "Baylor" sewn arched on back also in orange over black, the light table shows that it is a replacement though in fairly accurate font and placement.

While he was called up very briefly by the MLB Orioles in 1970 and 1971, 1972 was Don Baylor's first full season. He appeared in 102 games batting .253 with 11 home runs. During his 19 seasons in Major League Baseball (MLB), Baylor was a respected power hitter. He played for six different American League (AL) teams, primarily the Baltimore Orioles and California Angels, but he also played for the Oakland Athletics, New York Yankees, Minnesota Twins, and Boston Red Sox. In 1979, Baylor was an All-Star and won the AL Most Valuable Player Award. He won three Silver Slugger Awards, the Roberto Clemente Award, and was a member of the 1987 World Series champion Minnesota Twins.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Spalding tagging is sewn on the inside center of the back tail. In 1972, Orioles road jersey were made exclusively by Spalding, in their final year of supplying MLB. Blue square silver-embroidered "72" tag to the left of the Spalding tag, small red on white square tag noting the size as 40 to the right. There was no player name/number/set tagging used on 1972 jerseys. This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in remarkably good condition. It is clean and unfaded with knit trim that is still bright and vibrant. A light table examination shows that the team crest on the font and the numbers both back and front are bright and original, with only minor puckering of the fabric beneath it. The stitching is still tight and un-frayed. This jersey has a replacement name on back. The black light table shows staining from another name that had been stitched here at one point, and while it is mostly covered by the BAYLOR name, it appears to have been six letters "*x*TOK*xx*". I was unable to find any roster Orioles player who had a name that matches. Further, Baylor was on the team 1970-1975, and no one else was issued #25 while he was on the team. The Baltimore scripted front crest was used only in 1972 and in 1973 spring training. Notably, road jerseys with the city name on them are generally not useful in the minors leagues without first being stripped of their city wordmark.

Continued, overleaf

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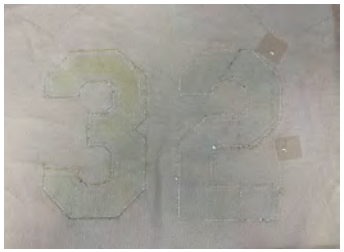
Document of Restoration

Baltimore Orioles 1982 “Storm” Davis Road Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.



As Received: Baltimore Orioles gray knit button front jersey lettered #32, STONE. A preliminary light table investigation shows a great deal of wear and prior alteration. Owner wanted it restored to be presentable for display and to reflect its original owner.

Work Performed: Stripping the nameplate and the numeral “2” which was clearly not original, allowed a better view of what had been on it in the past. We determined that the jersey had been issued previously to pitcher “Storm” Davis, who wore both #34 and #39 in 1982. The leading 3 on the jersey front and back is original. The most clear imprints in the second position were of a 4. We elected to make it Davis’ #39 to cover the numerous scars and fabric perforations that would have remained exposed had we put a “4” in the second spot.

Because the original “3s” were falling apart from thread failure, I removed them, removed all the thread remnants then stitched them back together and returned them to their exact places on the jersey. I recreated the “9s” for front and back, then media blasted them and distressed to match the old. I did the same with the “Davis” on the new nameplate, which I made from a pair of period Orioles pants. I hand-darned closed the worst of the holes that remained from the old number removal on front and back. I also carefully hand re-dyed the thread holding the Orioles wordmark on front to its original black.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Cal Ripken Sr. 1987 Baltimore Orioles Home (Manager) Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 3, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0403-J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1987 Baltimore Orioles, Rawlings home white size 40 (marked and measured) six-button full weight double knit jersey issued to #7, team manager Cal Ripken Sr. It is a reasonable size for the manager. All lettering and numbers are two-layer tackle twill, orange with a black outline. 2" black/white/orange sewn-in knit sleeve end trim, black and orange knit collar trim. Front has "Orioles" word mark scripted across both panels in the team script. The player number "7" is stitched on the left side under the team name. Name plate with "RIPKEN" in the Orioles team-specific block font variant, steeply radially arched as is the team standard for 1987 on a serged edge nameplate. Player number "7" is directly below, sewn 8" from the collar edge. He was a heavy smoker, and there are two custom hidden pockets sewn inside the jersey, one over each breast, one likely shaped for eyeglasses and the other for a pack of cigarettes.

As a manager in the minor leagues for 13 years, Ripken won 964 games, and later compiled a 68-101 record managing the Orioles. Several of his students, including Jim Palmer, Eddie Murray, and most prominently his son Cal Jr., went on to Hall of Fame careers. He was credited for helping sculpt his team's tradition of excellence known as "The Oriole Way." In 1987, Ripken became the first—and still only—father to manage two sons simultaneously in the majors, as his son Billy was called up at the All-Star break. Ripken managed Cal Jr. and Billy for the first time on July 11, in a 2–1 loss to the Minnesota Twins. *(Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: First-year of appearance of the Rawlings script is embroidered in white on the black band of the right sleeve end trim. A red Rawlings manufacturer size 40 tag, correct for 1987, is sewn in the inside front tail of the jersey. A rectangle of twill is stitched directly below with "1 87" machine embroidered on it, matching exemplars. Light table analysis shows that all tagging and lettering is original and without alternation.

Wear & Repairs: Jersey shows little or no signs of wash or wear: It is bright white and all elements are crisp and unblemished, there is no puckering or any elements and the tagging is crisp and unwrinkled. This was likely the manager's backup jersey in 1987.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered, It is consistent with known exemplars. While it shows little or no evidence of use, its unique special tailoring leaves little doubt that it was made for and issued to manager Cal Ripken, Sr.

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Document of Restoration

Baltimore Orioles "R. Jackson" Gray Road Jersey

Examination Date: January 23, 2023 **Certification Number**:23-0123J02

This letter is a documentation of a restoration performed in our shop.

Description: 1976 Orioles road Wilson gray jersey with black/white/orange neck and sleeve trim, size 42, 1976 Set 1 tagging in the tail, orange and black Orioles scripted on front, number 9 on front and back. Autograph and inscription on the front.

Restoration Performed: The clear glue shadows of "R. Jackson" were apparent on back. I recreated exact lettering to match in black and orange layered twill, then media blasted and organically dyed the letters to match the color and patina of the other, original lettering before sewing to the jersey over the exact spots, carefully matching the stitching to the original.

Conclusion: I certify that this jersey has now been properly and correctly restored to represent its original appearance.

Above: Top row, the jersey as received, left and center. At right, The lettering repaired and replaced. Bottom row- the scanned pattern of the original jersey showing the removal glue shadows, at right my cutting pattern to replicate the original.

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Document of Restoration

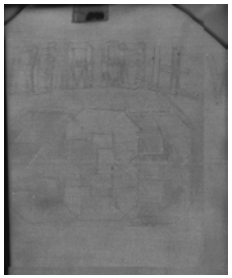
Orioles 1975 Grimsley Orange Game Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Orange 1975 year tagged Orioles jersey lettered and numbered for #3, GRITCH. Wear, puckering and fading of lettering and thread indicate that the jersey was washed many times in its "as received" condition

Work Performed: a light table exam with the current number still in place shows that Grimsley's name was previously there, direct sewn, It also had what appears to be both 48 and 38 on it. The GRITCH #3 was stripped off, the jersey received a light cleaning and steaming to close the holes from prior stitching. The light table images are shared below, they are admittedly difficult to see on the printed page.

Replacement numbers and player name lettering that match both the Orioles 1975 orange jersey template and matched the ghosts of the old lettering as seen on the light table were cut, then media blasted lightly, to simulate age and wear and to make the sheen of the new lettering more approximately match that of the old. The replacement lettering was positioned while on the light table to accurately ensure the lettering was properly positioned to cover the ghosts. Note the odd spacing of the letters in the last name, clearly more widely spaced at the end of the name than the beginning. Also, the final "Y" in the name was originally placed 1/4" too high so that it was not in line with the arc. We elected to correct this misplacement in the restoration. These sorts of artifacts in spacing and placement are common with jerseys lettered in the pre-computer graphics period, when all cutting and layout were done "by hand".



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Document of Restoration

Baltimore Orioles 1975 Grant Jackson Alternate Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Baltimore Orioles orange knit pullover jersey lettered #53, DURHAM.. A preliminary light table investigation showed a great deal of prior alteration. Owner wanted it restored to be presentable for display and to reflect its original owner. A light table investigation revealed the earlier presence of back numbers stitched several inches higher than the current ones, as well as evidence of multiple names on back.

Work Performed: Stripping the nameplate and back numbers which were clearly mis-placed, allowed a better view of what had been on it in the past. "R. May" was direct sewn underneath the nameplate, also unoriginal. The light table assisted in determining that the jersey had been issued originally to pitcher Grant Jackson who wore #23 in 1975. The "3" on the jersey front and back is the original.

Right number shows twill dyed to match the old.

Because the original "3s" were falling apart from thread failure, I removed them, stripped all the thread remnants then stitched them back together and returned them to their exact original places on the jersey. I recreated the "2s" for front and back to match, then media blasted them and dyed them to match the old. The vertically arched JACKSON name on back was hand-matched to the original ghosts. I repaired a cut in the upper back with fabric interfacing and twill.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jose Morales 1981 Baltimore Orioles Orange Alternate Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 11, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0811J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Orange, size 44 (marked and measured) Baltimore Orioles Wilson-made pullover jersey of #34, infielder and DH Jose Morales. Black/white/orange 1- 3/4" sewn-in knit sleeve end trim, black/white/black 1" V-neck trim. "Orioles" script slanted on the front in black over white, layered twill. Number 34 on the left front and on the back center, correct 4" on the front, 5 3/4" on the back. Name on back is vertically arched in the unique font and style used on Orioles orange jerseys, and sewn to an orange nameplate that is un-hemmed and zig zag stitched to the back. In 1981, Morales wore #34 for the Orioles and was the only player that year to have been assigned that number.

Morales was on the team roster all season long, appeared in 38 games for the 1981 Orioles and had 86 at bats mainly as a a designated hitter and a pinch hitter. He hit .244 with two home runs. Morales enjoyed a nine-year MLB career, mostly with the Expos and Twins, spending a single year each with the Orioles and Dodgers at the end of his career.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tag in the correct style for 1981 showing the size 44, is stitched into the inside back of the collar. A small rectangle of the same orange jersey fabric is stitched to the outside lower left tail with "81 1" (1981 set 1) hand-chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Restoration Performed, Wear & Repairs: As received the jersey had an orange nameplate with black "F. Verdi" sewn on back. Frank Verdi was a career minor league player and manager in the Baltimore Orioles organization. While he was never listed as an Orioles MLB coach, he was the manager of the Orioles' AAA Rochester Red Wings in the early 1980s, and may have attended Spring training with the MLB Orioles. Removing his nameplate, a clear prior ghost exists that is the proper length to fit Morales' name. A light table examination shows that all other sewn elements are original and unaltered. In whatever circumstance this jersey might have been used by Verdi, The jersey shows even wear throughout with some slight graying of the white elements, minor bleaching of attaching thread and slight softening/fraying of the edges of the twill lettering. As received it had a large dark brown stain on its left front side that I was able to mostly remove. Using the light table to capture the exact shape of the original plate, I recreated a Morales nameplate using another orange Orioles jersey for donor fabric, and stitched it in place without a serged edge, as was done originally.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and other than having had its nameplate restored, it appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jose Morales of the 1981 Baltimore Orioles.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Earl Weaver 1977 Baltimore Orioles Orange Alternate Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: December 17. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Orange, size 40 Baltimore Orioles Wilson-made pullover jersey of #4, manager Earl Weaver. Black/white/orange 1-3/4" sewn-in knit sleeve end trim, black/white/black 1" V-neck trim. "Orioles" script slanted on the front in black over white, layered twill. Number 4 on the left front and on the back center, correct 4" on the front, 5 4/4" on the back. Name on back WEAVER is vertically arched in the unique font and style used on Orioles orange jerseys, and sewn to an orange nameplate that is un-hemmed and zig zag stitched to the back. The jersey is autographed on the front left. (I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) A unique feature of many Weaver's jerseys is the custom-inclusion of a hand-made pocket sewn inside the jersey behind the front number for his ever-present pack of Raleigh cigarettes. There are multiple examples of authenticated size 40 Weaver jerseys in our exemplar library.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tag in the correct style for 1977 showing the size 40 is stitched into the inside back of the collar. A small rectangle of the same orange jersey fabric is stitched to the outside lower left tail with "77 1" (1977 set 1) hand-chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original and unaltered. This jersey seems to have avoided a trip to the minor leagues for a second life which was so common of Orioles jerseys of this vintage. The jersey shows even wear throughout with some graying of the white elements, bleaching of attaching thread and slight softening/fraying of the edges of the twill lettering

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Earl Weaver of the 1977 Baltimore Orioles.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Don Buford 1994 Baltimore Orioles Autographed Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: May 2, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0502J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White, six button, size 44 Russell Baltimore Orioles home jersey, #13 bench coach and member of the Orioles Hall of Fame, Don Buford. Sewn-in orange/black/orange 3/4" knit sleeve end trim. White pearl four-hole buttons, "Orioles" script with underline slanted across both front panels in orange tackle twill outlined with black. Player name and number lettering is in the same two colors. #13 on the left chest and centered on the back, name on back "BUFORD" is radially arched in the correct name font used by the team, in the proper arc on a matching white nameplate with surged edges. The 1994-only MLB 125th patch is stitched to the right sleeve. The jersey is autographed in black marker on the right side on front, with the inscription "O's Hall of Fame 1993" I offer no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Buford played in MLB as an outfielder ten seasons, from 1963 through 1972, most notably as the leadoff hitter for the Baltimore Orioles dynasty that won three consecutive American League pennants from 1969 to 1971 and, won the World Series in 1970. In 1970 Buford batted .272 with 17 home runs and a career high 109 walks. Buford, playing in four games of the 1970 Series went 4-for-15, including a home run in Game Three, which Baltimore won 9-3. In 1971 Buford batted .290 with a career-high 19 home runs. He was also selected to the All-Star team for the only time in his career. In the 1970 World Series, Buford collected six hits, two of them were home runs. *(Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection locker tag in the style used in 1994, small white "100% Polyester" tag pinched underneath, a second tag reads "-1/2" armhole opening"; these tags plus the absence of a size tag in the neck are hallmarks of team-issue specification Russell jersey as opposed to those made for retail sale. Russell logo is direct-embroidered in black thread near the end of the right sleeve. Under the Russell tail tag is a computer printed and faded rectangular mylar tag with the code "13 Buford 94-2" printed in black. This tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and untampered with. It has all the correct elements of a team issued jersey. It exhibits moderate wash use with graying and curling of the tags and puckering of the twill lettering. There is a reddish stain of unknown origin on the back below the number 1.

Conclusion: This jersey is properly stitched and in all ways matches exemplars. It has no signs of contrivance. It is properly sized for the individual and shows a season of wear when used by a coach. In my opinion this is an authentic game worn 1994 jersey of Orioles bench coach Don Buford.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Billy Ripken 1992 Orioles Game Used Orange Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: December 8, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J13

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Bright orange, six button, size 44 Russell Baltimore Orioles alternate jersey, issued to #3 Billy Ripken. Sewn-in black/orange/black 1" knit sleeve end trim. Orange two-hole buttons, "Orioles" script with underline slanted across both front panels in black outlined with white. Player lettering is also in the same two colors, #3 on the left chest and centered on the back. Name on back "RIPKEN" is radially arched on a matching orange nameplate with surged edges. Size 44 is appropriate for use by Bill Ripken and matches exemplars.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "Diamond Collection" tail locker tag in the style used 1992-1994, small 100% polyester flag tap pinched underneath, and without neck size tag as is correct for team issue. Rectangular white knit team tag sewn below the Russell tail tag with a bold 92-1 printed on it in Plastisol ink, indicating 1992, set 1.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows appropriate wear commensurate with an alternate jersey's season's worth of occasional use. There is some graying of the white twill elements from washing, ands minor puckering of the sewn elements and tagging, as well as some orange-color bleed-through onto the Orioles wordmark outlining as is commonly seen on this model game jersey. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original and without alteration. There is some yellowish brown staining on the "N" on the back name.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Billy Ripken of the Baltimore Orioles during the 1992 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Cal Ripken 1989 Baltimore Orioles Gray Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: February 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0223J06

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray, six button, size 46 (marked and measured) with special 3" extra length tailoring noted, Rawlings Baltimore Orioles road jersey, issued for #8 Cal Ripken. Sewn-on orange/black/orange 1/2" knit sleeve end trim. Grey pearl four-hole buttons, "Orioles" script with underline slanted across both front panels in black tackle twill outlined with orange. A supplemental Velcro closure is included on the placket under the middle "O" in Orioles. Player name and number lettering is in the same two colors. #8 on the left chest and centered on the back, name on back "RIPKEN" is radially arched in the correct Rawlings name font used by the team, in the proper arc on a matching gray nameplate with surged edges and proper borders. The jersey is 36" in length, reflecting the marked special tailoring.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings white rectangular locker tag in the style used in 1989, small white "3 Inch Extra Length" tag pinched underneath the bottom edge. "Set 1 1989" white flag tab is pinch-sewn under the right edge. Rawlings logo script is direct-embroidered in black thread near the end of the right sleeve. Size 46 with tapered tailoring and three inches extra length (Size 46 is a reasonable size for Ripken in 1989, he wore 44 jerseys earlier, and soon thereafter wore exclusively size 48. Ripken always specified extra length, though the general designation seen on other jerseys for him is typically 2")

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and untampered with. It has all the correct elements of a team issued jersey matching exemplars, and displays signs of use and wash-wear. The tagging is relatively crisp, the lettering is all slightly softened, mildly puckered and with a few frayed edges and loose threads.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It is clearly team-prepared to the exact player specifications of Cal Ripken, and has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue prepared for Cal Ripken of the Baltimore Orioles in the 1989 season, and shows use.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bill Ripken 1991 Orioles Road Gray Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: February 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0223J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray, six button, size 42 (marked and measured) Rawlings Baltimore Orioles road jersey, issued to #3 Billy Ripken. Sewn-in orange/black/orange 1/2" *sewn-in* (not sewn on top) knit sleeve end trim, a style unique to 1991. Grey pearl four-hole buttons, "Orioles" script with underline slanted across both front panels in black tackle twill outlined with orange. A supplemental Velcro closure is included on the placket under the middle "O" in Orioles. Player name and number lettering is in the same two colors. #3 on the left chest and centered on the back, name on back "RIPKEN" is radially arched in the correct Rawlings name font used by the team, in the proper arc on a matching gray nameplate with serged edges and proper width borders. Bill Ripken wore size 42 and 44 jerseys, so the size is deemed reasonable for his use. This jersey appears to be a clubhouse creation, and not one player-lettered at Rawlings. Several factors lead me to this conclusion. First, the numbers are sewn-through to the jersey with *both colors* of thread, and are done somewhat hurriedly and sloppily with rounded off corners that are not typical of work done at Rawlings. Secondly, the back number is sewn far lower than the team template, almost 11 inches from the collar. Finally, the nameplate is sewn crooked, clocked slightly to the right.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings white locker tag in the style used in 1991 is stitched inside the left front tail. Set 1 1991 white flag tab is pinch-sewn on its right edge. Rawlings logo script is direct-embroidered in black thread near the end of the right sleeve. Team tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey is original and untampered with. As noted, the numbers have been stitched through to the jersey with both colors of thread, somewhat less crisply than typical, and some of the thread on the front number has worn away from use It has all the correct elements of a team issued jersey, and displays strong and obvious signs of use, including burnished lettering, thread wear/bleaching, and loose strings with frayed edges on the lettering.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, and lettered. It is team-prepared for Billy Ripken, and has no alterations or contrivances of any kind, and shows strong use. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue prepared for Billy Ripken of the Baltimore Orioles in the 1991 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

B.J. Surhoff 1997 Baltimore Orioles Autographed Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: February 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0223J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White Russell Diamond Collection size 48 with 2" extra length tailoring, (both size and tailoring are measured as marked) full weight knit, 6-button Baltimore Orioles home jersey , #17 B.J. Surhoff. Orioles wordmark slanted upwards with underline on the front in layered black over orange twill, 3/16" black knit sewn on the placket and on each sleeve end 1" from the end. On the left sleeve, the proper "Ornithologically Correct bird" Oriole team patch as used in 1997, sewn higher than usual that year to allow the 1997-only *Baltimore 200* patch to be stitched below. Jackie Robinson "Breaking Barriers" patch is stitched to the right sleeve. These characteristics all match Orioles home jerseys used in 1997. Orange over black player number 17 on front left chest and again in black over orange centered on back; player name sewn arched above on a serged-edge plate on back in the same colors. All fonts match team patterns.

The jersey is autographed in black Sharpie on the front below the numbers. I have no professional opinion on the autograph. The jersey is accompanied by a 1998-dated photocopied certificate designating that the jersey was won in a 1998 FanFest silent auction, it identifies "BJ Surhoff Autographed 1997 Jersey", without reference to game use, and it is not serialized or otherwise linked to the jersey, however I would reasonably assume it is legitimate and belongs with this jersey. In the 11 season of his 19 year MLB career, in 1997 Surhoff batted .284 with 18 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond collection locker tag in the correct style for use in 1997 noting the size as 48 is stitched to the outer left front tail. There is no neck size flag-tag, and a 100% polyester flag tab its sewn pinched below the locker tag- both hallmarks of team-spec and issued jerseys. Layered under the 100% polyester tag is a tag noting 2" Extra Body Length. A rectangular white mylar-fabric tag is stitched beneath the Russell locker tag, on it is "1997" in very faded black matrix printing, again matching other examples in our library of 1997 team issue. The Russell R logo is embroidered to the end of the right sleeve and shows fading to a purplish tint, characteristic of the jersey being washed with bleach.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without signs of alteration. The jersey shows heavy use. All elements are firmly attached and show some puckering, The tagging is heavily faded, frayed and curled. There is a notable 1"fabric pull on the back between the numbers, and there is a great deal of fabric piling on the right chest that is typical of wear from repetitive batting motion.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good but well-used condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has correct team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by B.J. Surhoff of the 1997 Baltimore Orioles.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Albert Belle 1999 Baltimore Orioles Autographed Game Model Jersey

Examination Date: June 21, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0621J02

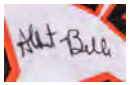
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White Russell Diamond Collection size 50 with extra length tailoring, full weight knit, 6-button Baltimore Orioles home jersey , #88 Albert Belle. Orioles wordmark slanted upwards with underline on the front in layered black over orange twill, 3/16" black knit sewn on the placket and on each sleeve end 1" from the end. "Lifelike bird" Oriole team patch sewn to left sleeve. These characteristics all match Orioles road jerseys used in 1999. Orange over black player number 88 on front left chest and in black over orange centered on back; player name on back in the same colors, arched above. Game-worn 1999 Orioles jerseys had the memorial number "7" for Cal Ripken Sr. sewn on the right sleeve all season. This jersey is missing the memorial, and there is no sign that it had ever been sewn there. The jersey is autographed between the back numbers, between the name and numbers. (I have no opinion on the autograph.) Size 50 with extra length is a reasonable size for Belle to have worn in 1999, he wore 48 and 50s both with and without extra length throughout his career. This jersey measures nearly 36" in length, which reflects the special tailoring shown on the tagging.

Belle joined the Orioles in 1999 to much fanfare after a celebrated career as a slugger with both the Indians and White Sox. He played well in 1999-2000 with the O's; in 1999 161 games with 37 home runs and a .297 average. Unfortunately, he was forced into retirement at age 34 after the 2000 season by degenerative hip osteoarthritis. (Wikipedia)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond collection locker tag in the correct style for use in 1999 noting the size as 50 is stitched to the outer left front tail. There is no neck size flag-tag, and a 100% polyester flag tab its sewn pinched below the locker tag- both hallmarks of team-spec and issued jerseys. Layered under the 100% polyester tag is a tag noting 2" Extra Body Length. A rectangular white mylar-fabric tag is stitched beneath the Russell locker tag, on it is "1999" in unfaded black matrix printing, again matching other examples in our library of 1999 team issue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without signs of alteration. The jersey shows very light use if any. All elements are still crisp including the tagging which is very slightly curled.



Conclusion: While the jersey is properly lettered and sized, including the special tailoring for Belle, the fact that it is missing the sleeve memorial patch makes it very unlikely that it was ever worn on field. The Orioles wore the #7 sleeve memorial every game of the 1999 season. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for Albert Belle of the 1999 Baltimore Orioles but that it was not game worn.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Albert Belle 2000 Baltimore Orioles Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: February 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0223J04

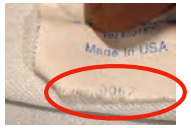
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White Majestic Authentic Collection size 50 with extra-length tailoring observed but not marked; full weight knit, 6-button Baltimore Orioles home jersey , #88 Albert Belle. Orioles wordmark slanted upwards with underline on the front in layered black over orange twill, 3/16" black knit sewn on the placket and on each sleeve end 1" from the end. Correct "Lifelike bird" Oriole team patch sewn to left sleeve. MLB Silhouetted Batter patch stitched to the center of the back of the neck, as first used in 2000. These characteristics all match Orioles home jerseys used in 2000. Orange over black player number 88 on front left chest and in black over orange centered on back; player name on back in the same colors, arched above, direct sewn and without a nameplate. Belle wore wore sizes 48 and 50, both with and without extra length throughout his career. This jersey measures 35" in length, which is 1" longer than standard. The jersey was presented without provenance.

Belle joined the Orioles in 1999 to much fanfare after a celebrated career as a slugger with both the Indians and White Sox. He played well in 1999-2000 with the O's; in 2000, appearing in 141 games with 23 home runs and a .281 batting average. Unfortunately, he was forced into retirement at age 34 after the 2000 season by degenerative hip osteoarthritis. (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag in the correct style for use in 2000 (Majestic's first year as the team uniform supplier) noting the size as 50 is stitched to the outer left front tail. There is no neck size flag-tag. 2000 Orioles jerseys were not set, year or player tagged in any way by Majestic. On the inside side seam is pinched the white fabric garment style tag that shows the jersey model as "0062" in barely legible print due to washing and fraying. This code appears on jerseys made to team specs for player use.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without signs of alteration. The jersey shows strong wash and wear use. All elements are slightly puckered, significantly softened and with frayed edges indicating many washings.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, well-used condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. While there is no team tagging as is correct for 2000, It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for use by Albert Belle of the 2000 Baltimore Orioles.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rafael Palmeiro 1998 Baltimore Orioles Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 30, 2021 **Certification Number**: 20-0630J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray Russell Diamond Collection size 46 (marked and measured) full-weight knit 6-button Baltimore Orioles road jersey , #25 Rafael Palmeiro. Orioles wordmark slanted upwards with underline on the front in layered orange, black and white twill, sewn black soutache is sewn ringing each sleeve, 1" from the end. 1998-only "Robin-style bird" Oriole team patch sewn to left sleeve. These characteristics all match Orioles road jerseys used in 1998. Player number 25 on front left chest and centered on back; player name on back arched above. All player specific lettering in orange over black. I will note that the player nameplate on back does not have a serged edge as is generally standard for Orioles jerseys that year, and is instead sewn to the shirt along its raw edge with a tight zig zag stitch. The plate is made of the proper fabric and all other aspects are consistent; I would judge this to be a simple and acceptable abnormality.

In 1998, he played in all 162 games for the Orioles and batting .296 with 43 home runs; was selected to the American League All-Star team, and won both Gold Glove and Silver Slugger awards that season. During his career, Palmeiro was named to the MLB All-Star Team four times, and won the Gold Glove three times. He is one of only seven players in MLB history to be a member of both the 500 home run club and the 3,000 hit club. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond collection locker tag in the correct style for use in 1998 noting the size as 46 is stitched to the outer left front tail. There is no neck size flag-tag, and a 100% polyester flag tab its sewn pinched below the locker tag, a rectangular white fabric tag is stitched beneath the Russell locker tag, on it is "1998" in black matrix printing, again matching other examples in our library of 1998 team issue. In 1998 the Orioles did not designate player names, numbers or set numbers on jersey tagging, only the 4-digit year. The Russell "R" trademark is embroidered in black on the right sleeve end.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without signs of alteration. It shows signs of obvious use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has correct team-issue tagging and displays appropriate use. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was issued to and used by Raphael Palmeiro of the 1998 Baltimore Orioles.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jeff Conine 1999 Baltimore Orioles Game Used Autographed Road jersey

Examination Date:December 8. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J11

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray Russell Diamond Collection size 48, full weight knit 6-button Baltimore Orioles road jersey , #18 Jeff Conine. Orioles wordmark slanted upwards with underline on the front in layered orange, black and white twill, sewn black soutache rings each sleeve end 1" from the end. "Lifelike bird" Oriole team patch sewn to left sleeve. These characteristics all match Orioles road jerseys used in 1999. Player number 18 on front left chest and centered on back; player name on back arched above. All player specific lettering in orange over black. "7" black memorial stitched to the right sleeve, 1999-only memorial for Cal Ripken Sr. The jersey is autographed "Jeff Conine 18" on the back "8". (I have no opinion on the autograph.) Size 48 is a reasonable size for Conine to have worn in 1999.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond collection locker tag in the correct style for use in 1999 noting the size as 48 is stitched to the outer left front tail. There is no neck size flag-tag, and a 100% polyester flag tab its sewn pinched below the locker tag- both hallmarks of team-spec and issued jerseys. A rectangular white mylar-fabric tag is stitched beneath the Russell locker tag, on it is "1999" in faded black matrix printing, again matching other examples in our library of 1999 team issue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without signs of alteration. The jersey shows moderately heavy wear indicating a full season of use. While it displays well, all of the lettering is puckered and faded, with softened edges and loose threads, all showing evidence of being washed many times. The thread holding the memorial 7 on the sleeve has been mostly bleached to white. The bottommost shirt button is missing.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, well-used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has correct team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by Jeff Conine of the 1999 Baltimore Orioles.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Earl Weaver 1980 Baltimore Orioles Road Gray Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 1, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0801J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray, size 40 (marked and measured) Baltimore Orioles Wilson-made seven-button jersey of #4, manager Earl Weaver. Black/white/orange 1- 3/4" sewn-in knit sleeve end trim, black/orange 1" V-neck trim. "Orioles" script slanted on the front in orange over black, layered twill. Number 4 on the left front and on the back center, correct Wilson font 4 1/4" on the front, 6 1/8" on the back. Name on back WEAVER is vertically arched in the unique font and style used on Orioles road jerseys, and sewn to an gray nameplate that is un-hemmed and was originally zig zag stitched to the back. The jersey is autographed on the front left. (I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) A unique feature of many Weaver's jerseys is the custom-inclusion of a hand-made pocket sewn inside the jersey behind the front number for his ever-present pack of Raleigh cigarettes. (See comments on pocket, below.) There are multiple examples of authenticated size 40 Weaver jerseys in our exemplar library. The jersey is autographed by Weaver on the lower left tail in black marker; I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Regarding the identifiable characteristics of this jersey- 1980 was the final year of Wilson making the team's road jerseys and 1978-1980 road jerseys had nameplates, where prior years did not. The Wilson fonts are used for the numbers and the hand-drawn vertical arched name on back appear authentic and hand cut as was the way these were made back in the day. Talking to those who were there at the time, the Orioles were notoriously frugal and elected not to invest in die cut patterns for team lettering, so the team script was created using a velum/tissue paper pattern dusted with powder then cut out with a sharp pair of scissors. Additionally, all of the black outlines for lettering were hand cut without any patterns, the orange lettering was stitched to a black background, and then someone with a pair of scissors simply cut the outlines by eye.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tag showing heavy abrasion wear in the correct style for 1980 showing the size 40, correct for Weaver, is stitched into the inside back of the collar. A small rectangle of the same gray jersey fabric is stitched to the outside lower left tail with "80 1" (1980 set 1) hand-chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher, with the embroidery thread showing fading from washing.

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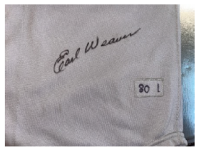
Wear & Repairs: While the jersey fabric seams are still tight, the knit sleeve end trim is still bright and the jersey fabric is not severely bleached, faded or damaged otherwise. this jersey shows heavy wear, evidenced by near total sewn-element thread-failure on both the back and front. Nearly all of the zig-zag stitching has failed, that had originally attached the layers of the twill lettering to each other, the lettering to the jersey, the name lettering to the nameplate, and the nameplate to the jersey back. However, a light table examination shows that all sewn lettering elements are original and unaltered, in that there are no ghosts of other lettering ever having been on this jersey. To mitigate the stitching loss, all of the lettering has been spot re-sewn with straight stitches of black or orange thread to keep things from falling completely off the shirt. This includes restitching the name on back, in spots, straight through the nameplate and onto the jersey. The shirt is missing its buttons 2 and 3 from the top. There is significant dirt/sweat staining to the linen placket lining inside the back of the collar, but the stitching remains intact as does the fabric of the lining.

Additional Observations: My observation on the wear to this jersey is that it is unusual to see such massive thread failure without corresponding failure to other stitched elements of the jersey including the linen lining. Some plausible explanation may be from the fact that, as the manager, Weaver was probably easy on his uniforms, probably wore this uniform all year, and they likely received far more wear in the washing machine then they did from any use on the field. Nevertheless it is uncommon to see this sort of fraying and missing thread around stitched elements on a jersey that does not itself show more fading and other wear. It is also entirely possible that the thread that was used to stitch this originally was of a substandard quality and disintegrated more rapidly than would be expected in the wash. Two common and plausible explanations for the advanced wear to a jersey could be offered, but neither play out for this one. The first is that he could have worn this jersey for more than one season. That is highly unlikely considering that in 1981 the Orioles switched to Rawlings as their road supplier and the fonts of the numbers changed notably. 1981-dated photos of Weaver on the field show him wearing an updated uniform. At best it was used again in spring training of 1981 before being retired. The second way that a uniform could gain this type of excessive wear like this is from being demoted to the minor leagues where it could've been used over and over again. But because I don't believe the WEAVER nameplate was ever removed from this jersey, which makes it highly unlikely if not strictly improbable that this jersey ever found its way to the minor leagues.

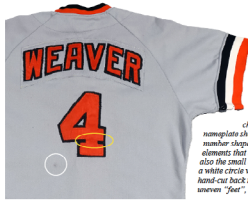


Notice the thread failure and subsequent "repairs" made with haphazard straight stitching

One item that I must call out is the cigarette packet in inside the front of the jersey behind the player number. I do not believe that this element was original to the shirt. The fabric does not exactly match the color or texture of the rest of the jersey or the nameplate, and most importantly when the pocket is pulled open inside you can see that beneath it the stitching on the numbers has been touched up just like it has on the rest of the shirt. It is impossible to stitch through the jersey without also going through the pocket: meaning to me that the pocket was not present when the jersey stitching was touched up. A light table examination does not show clear evidence of stitching from another pocket having been here before, though it is possible another one was there with its perimeter falling inside of the one stitched in place now. There is also a very small hole at the top right corner that could have come from the removal of the original pocket. The stitching that was used to hold this in place is a very tiny straight stitch, and given the amount of wash –wear that there is on this jersey it is entirely possible that an original pocket could've been here, was removed and replaced. I do not see any other stitching holes. I can only conclude that this specific pocket is not original to this garment.

***Below,** notice more examples of thread repair and the detail of the cigarette pocket. For the stitching behind the pocket to have been repaired in this manner, the pocket would have had to have been absent from the shirt. I do not see clear signs of an earlier pocket having been there unless its outline falls inside the perimeter of the current pocket sewn there. It is possible that the small hole marked with a green circle is from the removal of an earlier pocket, but this is not confirmed.*

I emphasize that I do not engage in professional photo matching however an undated photograph on Getty Images showing Weaver engaging in his favorite practice of arguing with an umpire, the back of the jersey is clearly visible and has many points of distinct commonality with the jersey in review, which I have highlighted below for your consideration.



At left, an unaltered photo from Getty Images showing Weaver in "discussion" with an umpire (Getty #718045231H3394.JPG) which shows matching characteristics of the nameplate shape, letter spacing and number shape and placement of all elements that are worth noting. Notice also the small dark stain highlighted with a white circle visible on both images. The hand-cut back number 4 has distinctly uneven "feet", matching on both.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in overall fair condition (jersey body is good, lettering is poor) showing heavy use and many examples of what I would say are team repairs. It has a team-issue style tagging. Its wear is unusual, because while the jersey body is in good condition, nearly all of the thread attaching the sewn on lettering elements has failed, old thread has been pulled out in places and all the lettering has been roughly and sloppily touched up with what I would describe as clubhouse-quality stitching. I do not believe the cigarette pocket inside the front is original to the garment. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Earl Weaver of the 1980 Baltimore Orioles.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dennis Martinez 1981 Baltimore Orioles Gray Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 1, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0401J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray, six button, size 42 (marked and measured) with special 1" extra length tailoring tagging, though at 35" in length, the jersey is actually 2-3" longer than standard, Rawlings Baltimore Orioles road jersey, issued for #30, pitcher Dennis Martinez. Sewn-in black/white/ orange 1 7/8" knit sleeve end trim and 7/8" black/orange knit neck trim, Grey pearl four-hole buttons, "Orioles" script with underline slanted across both front panels in orange tackle twill outlined with black. Player name and number lettering is in the Rawlings fonts and in the same two colors. #30 on the left chest and centered on the back, name on back "D. MARTINEZ" is radially arched in the extra-condensed Rawlings name font (the first initial added because pitcher Tippy Martinez was on the roster also during the early 1980s), in the proper arc on an exactly matching gray nameplate with a single needle surged edge and with proper width borders. Until I handled this jersey, I was unaware the Orioles used the extra condensed font for long player names on 1981 player jerseys, but a period photo of Martinez verifies that indeed they did.

Dennis Martinez enjoyed a long and productive 23 year career pitching for five teams in MLB 1976-1998. A four-time All-Star, he was the first Nicaraguan to play in the majors. In 1981 he appeared in 25 games, all but one as a starter. He compiled a 14-5 record with a 3.32 ERA and 88 strike outs, having nine complete games with two shutouts. He led the American League in wins that year. The final three years of his career he held the record as the oldest player in the majors (1996–1998).

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red rectangular "The Mark of a Pro" locker tag in the style used in 1981 is stitched on the inside of the bottom right tail, small white "1 Inch Extra Length" tag pinched underneath the bottom edge. "Set 1 1981" white flag tab is pinch-sewn under the right edge. A survey of Martinez jerseys worn throughout his long career show that his size increased dramatically, from size 40 in his early career to size 48 twenty-three years later at his career's end. This one is consistently sized with others in our survey library from this stage of his career.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey, including the nameplate, is original and untampered with. It has all the correct elements of a team issued jersey matching exemplars, and displays strong use and wash-wear. The tagging is wrinkled and worn, the lettering is all slightly softened, mildly puckered and with a few frayed edges and loose threads. There is little to no puckering of the fabric behind the lettering and alls stitching is still tight and unbleached. There is a 1" diagonal pale white streak on the back jersey tail that may be paint or glue. It appears that this jersey was pulled from service at season's end and avoided a second tour of service in the minor leagues which was the fate of most Orioles MLB issues.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It is team-prepared to the exact player specifications of Dennis Martinez, and has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and game used, prepared for Dennis Martinez of the Baltimore Orioles in the 1981 season.

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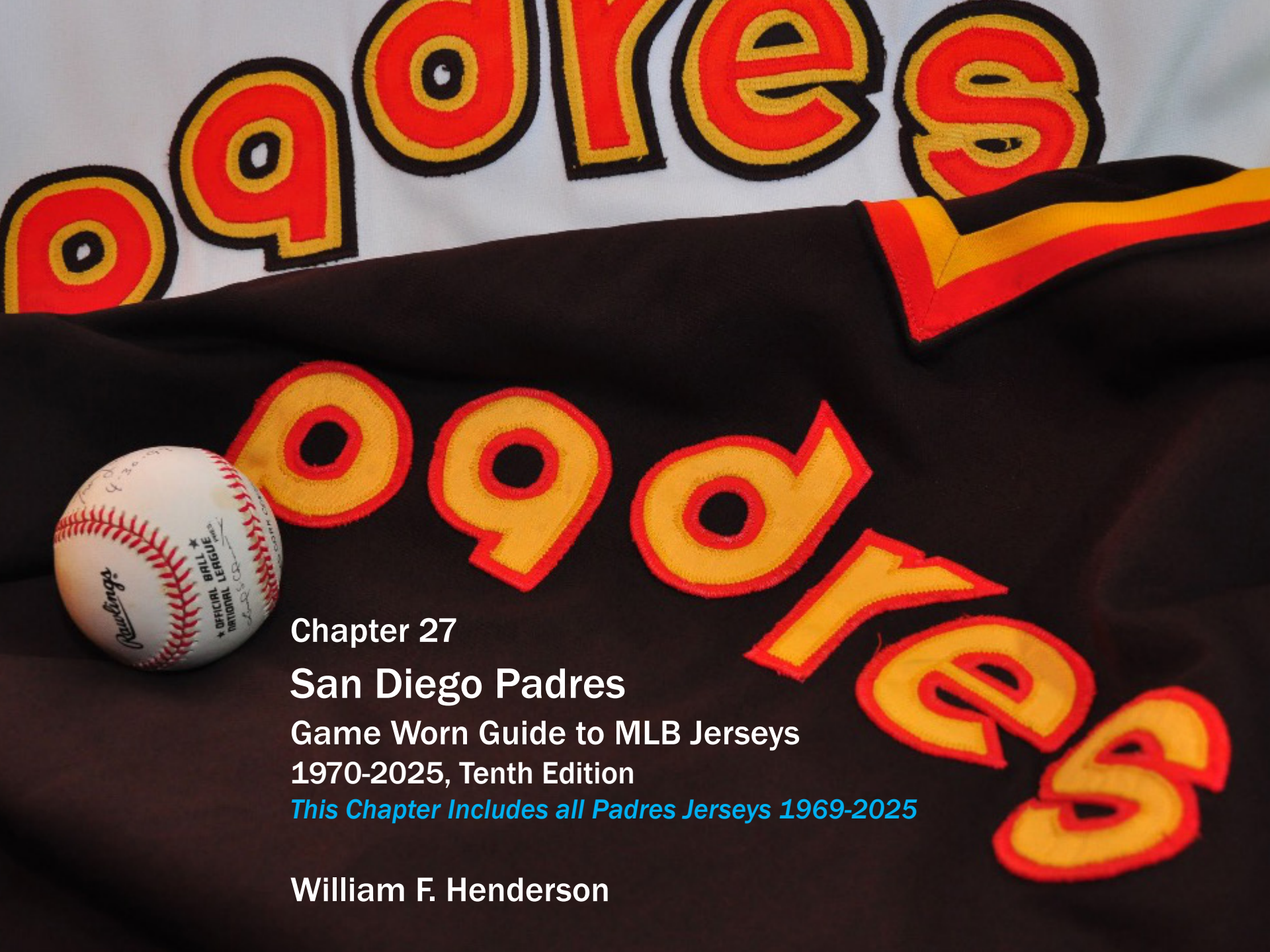

Chapter 27

San Diego Padres

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

This Chapter Includes all Padres Jerseys 1969-2025

William F. Henderson

Padres Uniform History Notes

- The Padres franchise joined Major League Baseball in 1969, taking the name of the Pacific Coast League team that had called San Diego home since 1936. The PCL Padres gave many MLB players their starts -- among them, Ted Williams.
- The team's 1969 inaugural uniforms were given subdued colors; with all lettering brown with gold outlines. The home flannel jersey was cream colored, and the road jerseys were tan flannel—unique in the major leagues, where road uniforms were usually either gray or blue-gray. The only other MLB team that wore tan on the road was the 1937 Dodgers.
- The Padres spent their first three years in flannel, and switched to knits for the 1972 season.
- Many MLB teams slipped into the double knit era almost unnoticed, by taking their flannel looks and adapting them without much change to the new miracle fabric. But the Padres were wild innovators. Leaving behind a traditional style of flannel home and road uniforms in 1971, the Padres' 1972 uniforms were the talk of baseball.
- The new uniforms featured screaming banana-yellow pants and jerseys, with bold brown lettering on the front, adorned with wide brown trim and sleeve stripes. Home and road uniforms were identical, except for the lettering on the front. No other team in baseball could be confused with these giant yellow and brown canaries when they took the field.
- But the Padres could not stick with a design to save their souls. Tampering with the uniform nearly every year, the team wore a dizzying array of styles during the next two decades. Even batting practice jerseys changed frequently within the "run" of a particular uniform style. In a chapter preface, I normally attempt to give a year-to-year narrative; but for the Padres I suggest you peruse the chapter to note all the changes.
- The team had six distinct uniform design identities during the 1970s, utilizing 14 different game jerseys. They changed their look two more times during the 1980s, then perhaps amazingly, kept the same basic team identity from 1991 through 2003.
- They went from traditional to wild and Mod during the 1970s and 1980s, then back to traditional for the 1990s and trendy for the 2000s; then back to traditional for 2012. Ironically, even with all of these changes, the Padres' lineup featured few alternate jerseys until 1997.
- Oddly, given all this variety, the team didn't host its first Turn Back the Clock game until 1998.
- 1991 was an identity pivot year, as it was the first time ever that brown was absent from team jerseys, after yellow was previously relegated in 1985. For the next 13 years, through 2003, navy blue and orange would become the dominant colors, ushering in a long period of relatively conservative (at least by Padres standards) uniforms.
- A solid blue alternate is introduced in 1997 and would remain in the team's rotation despite numerous changes until 2019.
- In 2004, sand is introduced to the palette and becomes one of the teams primary colors through 2011, including a unique sand-colored road jersey.
- The 2012-2019 brings a return to traditional (boring?) jersey designs, certainly not indicative of the eccentric Padres we had come to know.
- 2016 does bring some intrigue with a one-year home design that incorporates yellow trim, along with a new nostalgic brown alternate jersey, the first time brown is seen on a Padres uniform in 26 years.
- The 2020 season brings a full redesign that restores brown as the primary color, along with yellow trim, much to the pleasure of Padres fans. The set includes a brown primary road jersey and a pinstriped white home and tan road alternate with new lettering in custom fonts. The fonts are carried over to two new camo jerseys, one in tan and one in forest green. A new "Swingin' Friar" patch appears on all jerseys as well.
- Speaking of camo jerseys, the Padres are the unquestionable leader in this category, having worn them at least once every season since 1996. They were also the first team to ever wear them in a game. Camos have officially been in their regular jersey lineup since 2007 and since 2016 have had *two* different colored camo jerseys in rotation. Apropos, as San Diego is home to a high number of military personnel.
- 2022 brings City Connect uniforms, a radical departure from the traditional team color palette, embracing vibrant neon colors to celebrate the cultural blend of San Diego and Baja California. The design features hot pink and mint green sleeves, a "SAN DIEGO" chest wordmark in a custom font reminiscent of palm trees, and yellow accents on the collar and nameplate. Numbers are outlined in a subtle horizontal gradient, and player names appear in yellow with a soft drop shadow. While colorful and full of flair, the jerseys were also widely noted for being difficult to read on the field.
- Of all the teams researched, the Padres were arguably the most difficult. They are the all-time champs of "look" makeovers, new logos, multiple uniform varieties, and yearly uniform changes. When you consider that San Diego is a smaller market than many, with the team rarely in contention, finding older period color game photos is challenging.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngnuides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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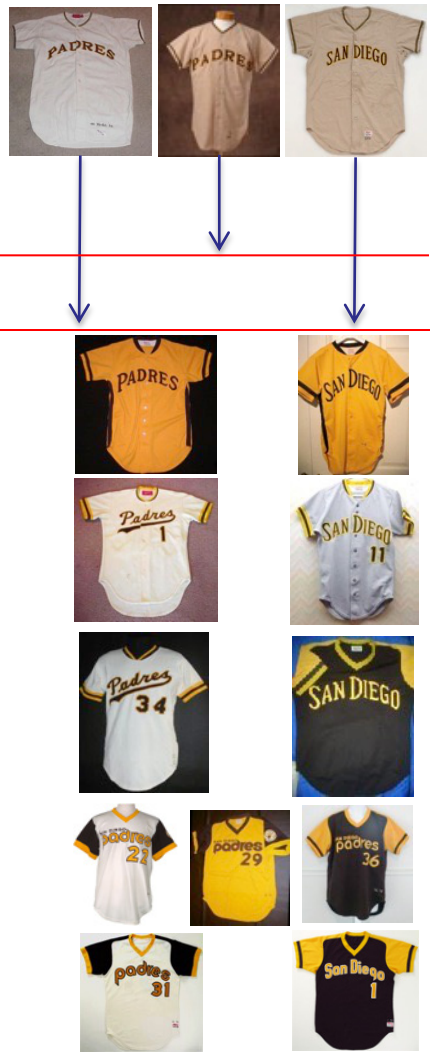
Year by Year Summary



Padres Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1969	Home White Flannel	No	Block with Serifs 2-color	No	-	MLB Centennial		Rawlings
	Road Tan "Padres"	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	San Diego 200th Anniv		Wilson
	Road Tan "San Diego"	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	San Diego 200th Anniv		Wilson
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Block with Serifs 2-color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Tan "Padres"	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Tan "San Diego"	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Block with Serifs 2-color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Tan Flannel	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1972	Home Gold	No	Modified Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings*
	Road Gold	No	Modified Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1973	Home Gold	No	Modified Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings*
	Road Gold	No	Modified Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Block 2 color	Modified Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings/Wilson
	Road Gray	Block 2 color	Modified Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	Sand Knit Varsity 2 clr	Sand Knit Modified Varsity 2 color	Vertical Arch 2 Color	Yes	-	NL Centennial	Sand-Knit
	Road Brown	No	Modified Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	NL Centennial	Wilson
1977	Home White	Sand Knit Varsity 2 color	Sand Knit Varsity 2 Color	Vertical Arch 2 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Brown	No	Modified Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home White	Padres Mod 2 color	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	All Star Game	Wilson
	Road Brown	Padres Mod 1 color	Padres Mod 1 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	All Star Game	Wilson
	Alternate Yellow	Padres Mod 1 color	Padres Mod 1 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	All Star Game	Wilson
1979	Home White	Padres Mod 2 color	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Brown	Padres Mod 2 color	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson

* I have seen several Wilson jerseys of the 1972-1973 style but without team tagging. I strongly suspect that these were salesman's samples and not game used jerseys.

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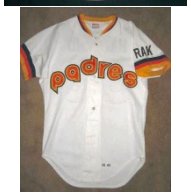

1991-2001

1991-2003

1998-2003

1997-2003

**The Gwynn patch was worn October 2-7 only.

Padres Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1980	Home White	-	Padres Mod 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Brown	-	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home White	-	Padres Mod 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Brown	-	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home White	-	Padres Mod 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Brown	-	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home White	-	Padres Mod 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road Brown	-	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home White	-	Padres Mod 3 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	RAK Memorial	-	Wilson
	Road Brown	-	Padres Mod 2 color	Vertical Arch 1 Color	Yes	RAK Memorial	-	Wilson
1985	Home White PS	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	RAK Memorial	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	RAK Memorial	-	Wilson
1986	Home White PS	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	RAK Memorial	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	RAK Memorial	-	Wilson
1987	Home White PS	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White PS	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White PS	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White PS	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Padres New Font 2 color	Padres New Font 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Goodman
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	All-Star Game	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	All-Star Game	-	Russell
1993	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres 25th Anniv	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres 25th Anniv	-	Russell
1994	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	-	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	-	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Russell
1996	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
1997	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alt Navy	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Swinging Friar	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt Navy	No	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Swinging Friar	-	Russell
1999	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres 30 years	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres 30 years	-	Russell
	Alt White	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres 30 years	-	Russell
	Alt Navy	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres 30 years	-	Russell
2000	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt White	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt Navy	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
2001	Home White	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	Gwynn Patch**	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Home White PS	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt Navy	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	Gwynn Patch**	Russell
2002	Home White	Dodgers bold 2 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	M Darr 26 Mem	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	M Darr 26 Mem	Russell
	Alt Navy	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	M Darr 26 Mem	Russell
2003	Home White	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Padres Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alt Navy	Dodgers bold 1 color	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	No	-	-	Russell

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Padres Game Jerseys

2004-2011

2004-2010

2004-2011

2007-2010

2011 ONLY

2011-2015

Style ends with 2011

Style continues onward

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2004	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Tan	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Swinging Friar	-	Majestic
2005	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Tan	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Swinging Friar	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Tan	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Swinging Friar	American Flag	Majestic
2007	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Tan	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Swinging Friar	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (x)	No	Padres Block 1 color	Block 1 color	No	"SD" Logo	American Flag	Majestic
2008	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Tan	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Swinging Friar	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Padres Block 1 color	Block 1 color	No	"SD" Logo	American Flag	Majestic
2009	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Tan	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Swinging Friar	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Padres Block 1 color	Block 1 color	No	"SD" Logo		Majestic
2010	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Tan	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Swinging Friar	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Padres Block 1 color	Block 1 color	No	"SD" Logo	American Flag	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	Padres Block 3 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray (change from tan)	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Padres Bock 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Swinging Friar	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Padres Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic

(x) The Camouflage jerseys had been worn only once per year 2006 and prior; 2007 was the first time the team listed them in the MLB Style Guide as an official alternate jersey choice.

There were no fewer than 45 varieties of Padres game jerseys 1972 through 2025, including camouflage game jerseys, but not counting special events and batting practice jerseys. How many can you identify from this peek into the closet?

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Padres Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2012	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	"48" disk*	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	"48" disk*	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	"48" disk*	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag/"48" disk	"SD" Logo	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic
2014	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	JC patch sleeve**/"19" left chest	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	JC patch sleeve**/"19" left chest	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	JC patch sleeve**/"19" left chest	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag/JC patch	"SD" Logo, "19" left chest	Majestic
2015	Home White	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Navy	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	Padres Secondary Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic
2016	Home White "SD"	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	2016 All Star Game	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	2016 All Star Game	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Brown	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue SD	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	2016 All Star Game	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Brown)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Blue)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	-	Majestic
2017	Home White "Padres"	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	"SD" Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	"SD" Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Brown	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	"SD" Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue SD	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Brown)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Blue)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic
2018	Home White "Padres"	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	"SD" Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	"SD" Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Brown	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	"SD" Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue SD	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Brown)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Blue)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	"SD" Logo	Majestic
2019	Home White "Padres"	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	"SD" Logo	50th Anniversary/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	"SD" Logo	50th Anniversary/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Home Brown	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	"SD" Logo	50th Anniversary/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue SD	No	Varsity 1 color	Padres Block 1 color	No	-	50th Anniversary/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Brown)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	50th Anniversary/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage (Blue)	No	Varsity 2 color	Padres Block 2 color	No	American Flag	50th Anniversary/MLB 150th	Majestic
2020	Home Pinstripe "Padres"	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Road Brown "San Diego"	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Road Tan Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Camouflage (Jungle Green)	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag	Swinging Friar Disc	Nike
	Alt Camouflage (Desert Tan)	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag	Swinging Friar Disc	Nike

* "48" Patch to honor Darrel Akerfelds; worn starting June 26.
** JC Star patch worn all season; "19" patch worn on left chest for Tony Gwynn, starting June 18.

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These five styles continue from previous years

Padres Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Road Brown	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Road Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Green Camo	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag	Swinging Friar Disc	Nike
	Alt Brown Camo	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag	Swinging Friar Disc	Nike
2022	Home Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Road Brown	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Road Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc	-	Nike
	Alt Green Camo	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag	Swinging Friar Disc	Nike
	Alt Brown Camo	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag	Swinging Friar Disc	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Recolored Swinging Friar	-	Nike
2023	Home Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Brown	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Road Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Green Camo	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Brown Camo	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Recolored Swinging Friar‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
2024	Home Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color (no perf)	Special Font 2 color	No	Petco Park 20th Anniversary‡	Motorola Ad patch‡/Peter Seidler Memorial (left chest)	Nike
	Road Brown	No	Special Font 2 color (perf)	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡/Peter Seidler Memorial (left chest)	Nike
	Alt Road Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color (no perf)	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡/Peter Seidler Memorial (left chest)	Nike
	Alt Green Camo^	No	Special Font 2 color (perf?)	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag‡	Motorola Ad patch‡/Peter Seidler Memorial (left chest)	Nike
	Alt Brown Camo	No	Special Font 2 color (perf?)	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag‡	Motorola Ad patch‡/Peter Seidler Memorial (left chest)	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Recolored Swinging Friar‡	Motorola Ad patch‡/Peter Seidler Memorial (left chest)	Nike
2025	Home Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Brown	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Road Pinstripe	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	Swinging Friar Disc‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Green Camo^	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Brown Camo	No	Special Font 2 color	Special Font 2 color	No	American Flag‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Recolored Swinging Friar‡	Motorola Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

^ Though in the MLB Style Guide as an option, this style was not worn on-field in 2024 or in 2025 through press time

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1969-1971 Home

The Padres' cream-colored flannel inaugural home uniforms of 1969 were made by Rawlings, and were used for the team's first three seasons, unchanged. The lettering applied to front and back was old-time felt, in brown outlined with yellow. The player number font used is "Block with Serifs," different from the other jerseys in the set. Player size, last name, and number is embroidered freehand on the front shirttail. The 1969 set of these jerseys has the MLB 100th anniversary patch sewn to the left sleeve. That patch was not used on the other two jerseys in the set.

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1969-1970 Road "Padres"

1970

In 1969 and 1970, the Padres had two sets of jerseys with "PADRES" on the front: one white and one tan. The tan ones were made by Wilson. In period news/baseball card photos, almost always in black and white, it is practically impossible to tell if this style uniform is "home" or "away." The Baseball Hall of Fame website currently lists it as a home jersey, but other sources list it as the standard road uniform jersey. Game photo evidence is slim, and I would need photo evidence to see where/when it was worn. The lettering and the player numbers on the reverse are all made from brown and yellow felt, not twill. These Wilson-made jerseys are numbered using Wilson's "house" font, Wilson Varsity—different than the Block with Serifs used for the white jerseys. In those days, for standardization was not deemed important by most teams. Whomever lettered the jerseys got to choose.

The 1969 set of these jerseys has no sleeve-end trim, and has the "San Diego 200th Anniversary" patch sewn to the left sleeve. 1970 has brown/yellow/brown sleeve end trim and no patches on the sleeves. The jersey is retired after 1970.

1969

Stephen Kraljic Collection

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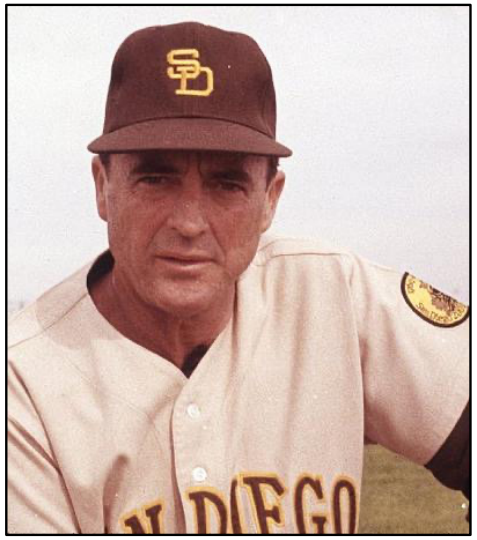
1969-1970 Road “San Diego”/1971 Road

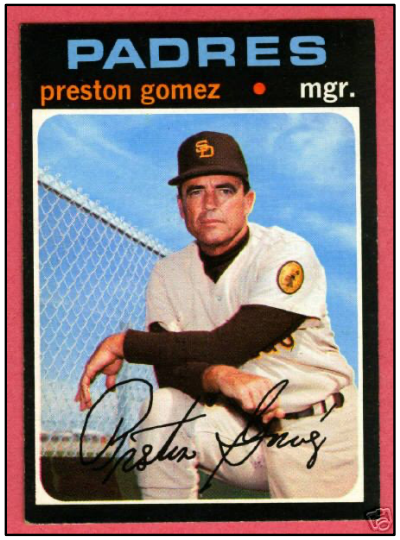
1969

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The tan flannel “SAN DIEGO” road jersey is used by the Padres from 1969–1971. Some sources list it as the standard road jersey; others call it a “road alternate.” They are made by Wilson, and therefore are numbered by Wilson using Varsity font—different from the white home jersey. All two-color felt lettering in brown/yellow. Tagged with the year on the front tail below the Wilson manufacturer’s tag. Player names are generally embroidered on small pieces of fabric, then sewn inside the neck. The jersey has plain sleeve ends and neck opening; no trim.

I have photos of this jersey being used with the “San Diego 200th Anniversary” patch. The Baseball Hall of Fame shows the MLB 100th anniversary patch on the right sleeve. I do not have any period photos showing the MLB 100th patch on this jersey.





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1969-1970 Road "San Diego"/1971 Road, continued

1969, repurposed for 1970

1970–1971: Brown/yellow/brown sewn-on knit trim is added at collar and sleeve ends. All lettering is still two-color felt, brown/yellow. No sleeve patches are used. Some of these 1970 jerseys were repurposed 1969 jerseys like the one here, at left. The sleeve patch from 1969 was removed and the neck and sleeve end trim was added. 1969 tail tagging remains.

1970

1970

1971

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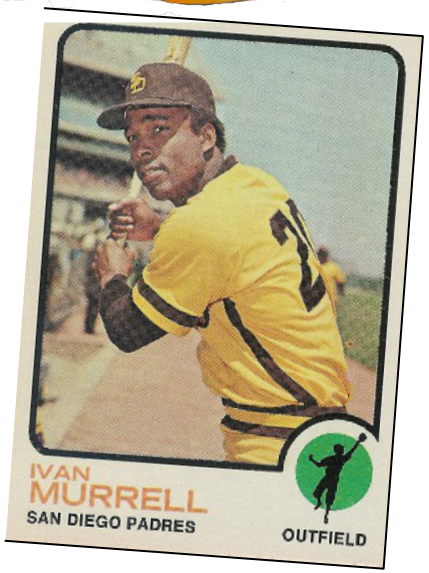
1972-1973 Home

1972

1973

The Padres began 20 years of wild double-knit experimentation with these all yellow-gold uniforms in 1972. So different were they from other teams that the home and road uniforms were identical except for the team lettering on the front. Padres players were not likely to get mixed-up with anyone else, at home or on the road! Seven-button front with flat-hemmed tails; side stripes and sleeve end trim is sewn-in, not sewn-on.

No names used on the back; numbers are one-color brown and are a team-specific Rawlings hybrid of Varsity and Block styles. Notable is the diagonal stroke on the “2” Similar to the style used on late 1980s and early 1990s Cincinnati Reds jerseys.



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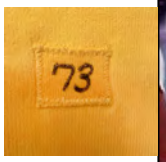
1972-1973 Road

1973



Likely restored numbers on back.

Identical to the home jersey except that “San Diego” replaces the “Padres” on the front. No names on back; numbers are one-color brown, a hybrid of Varsity and Block styles. These are not flat hemmed like home jerseys.

1972

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1974-1975 Home

Rawlings 1974-1975

1974

1975

Returning to a more traditional look, the Padres adopted this button-front jersey with a Dodger-like script with underline for 1974. All lettering is brown/yellow. No nameplates are used; Rawlings is the only supplier in 1974; notice the use of the Rawlings-standard block numbers an front and back. Names are direct-sewn in the same font as used by the Orioles and Cardinals, without nameplates.

We have seen some of these with 1975 tagging like the McNamara example ***(far left).*** This must mean that both Wilson and Rawlings supplied sets of 1975 jerseys with non-matching fonts (***see next page)***. Period photos are scarce so it is difficult to see if both styles were worn on the field at the same time.

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1974-1975 Home, continued: Wilson 1975

1975

If we are to believe the tagging seen on some jerseys in the hobby, both Wilson and Rawlings made sets of 1975 jerseys. Wilson seems to have made these in 1975 only. The trim is the same, but the Wilson neck is now shaped more like a "V" when buttoned compared to the Rawlings "U" shaped neck on the 1974 version.

The number font is unique and is somewhat inconsistent comparing jersey fronts to backs. The Wilson-specification font hand-drawn vertical arch names are used by Wilson, on nameplates. Linen lining in the placket and the back of the neck. These jerseys were used to death in the minor leagues. The gold twill used is of a substandard variety that loses its color after many washings making it look almost white on unrestored jerseys.

1975

Left: *Rawlings script top, Wilson script below. Not identical.*

Rawlings script is taller and slightly narrower, less italic and with narrower gold outline leaving openings in the centers of the letters "A", "D" and "E" that are lacking in the Wilson rendition. Clearly, player number fonts are different as well.

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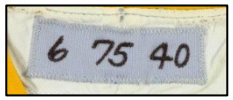
1974-1975 Road

1974

1974

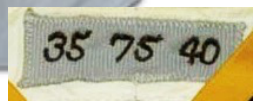
A brief return to tradition, these gray road jerseys are used only two seasons. **1974:** two-color names and numbers; brown/yellow vertical arch; no nameplates, names direct sewn. **1975:** NOB eliminated.

Player numbers are a modified Padres font with characteristics of Varsity and Block. They are not Wilson's standard Varsity pattern as used by the Padres 1969–1971. For detail on Davenport jersey ***(top right)***, see "Padres Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues" several pages ahead.



1975

1975



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1976 Home

Home jerseys switch to pull-overs, and are made by Sand-Knit. Numbers on front and back; two-color brown/yellow—a Sand-Knit hybrid of Varsity and Block ***(left*** and ***right***, note how the front numbers and back numbers differ).

Names on back of all home jerseys, two-color vertical arch, brown/gold, nameplates used. Note odd V-neck, with trim that seems to disappear into the jersey at the V's bottom.

All of these jerseys likely have had their NOBs replaced at some time because of use in the minors after their MLB service was through. I restored the name, numbers and sleeve patch on the Sisler (coach) and Davis jerseys.

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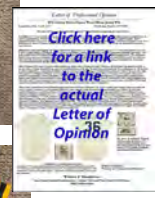
1977 Home

Stephen Kraljic Collection

For 1976, Wilson takes over the manufacturing of Padres home jerseys. The V-neck shape changes slightly to a more normal shape *(compare to preceding page)* and the brown middle stripe on the sleeve end trim is slightly wider than before; both minor but notable changes.

When Wilson makes the jerseys, they typically letter them with player names and numbers, too. Wilson's "house font" has always been Wilson Varsity. But oddly, it appears that 1977 home jerseys are lettered with the Sand-Knit variant of Varsity—an identical style of vertical arch player names as 1976, true also of the 1974–1975 Wilson road jerseys. We have enough examples of original 1977 jerseys to show that this is, in fact, the way they were originally made. Perhaps Sand-Knit provided the patterns to Wilson?



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1976-1977 Road

Brown jersey body with yellow raglan-style sleeves. Brown and gold knit trim at the ends of the sleeves, gold V-neck. ”San Diego” arched on front similar to, but not exactly like, the 1972–1973 road jersey. One-color gold Modified Padres Varsity numbers on road jersey.

Oddly, no names on back of road jerseys for 1976–1977, but NOBs *are* used on those years’ home jerseys (also the case in 1975). The reverse of what is typical.

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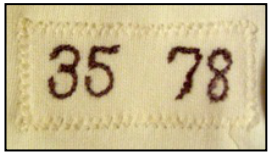
1978 Home

Manuel Barrera Collection



Vertical-arched brown names on back; nameplates used. Numbers are Padres new-for-1978 “Mod” font, two-color yellow/brown, and are on the left front and on back.

Most of these jerseys were shipped to the minors after their use by the MLB club, and the “San Diego” was stripped from the front and nameplates removed ***(see photo above)***. Most presentable originals in the hobby have been restored in some fashion.

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1978 Home, continued

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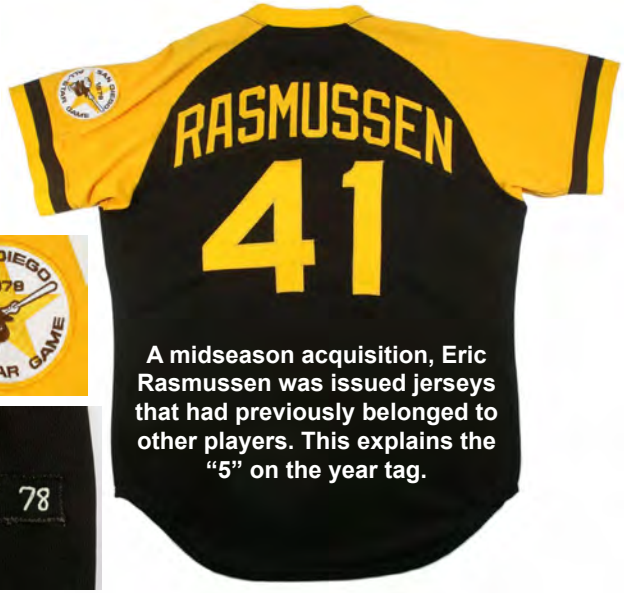
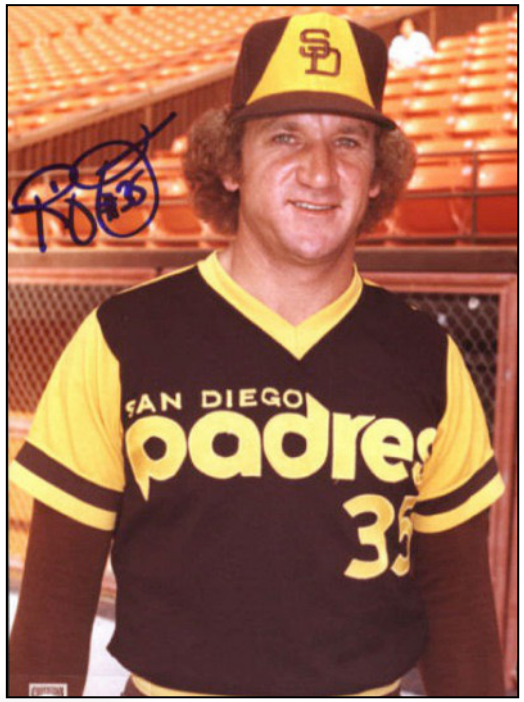
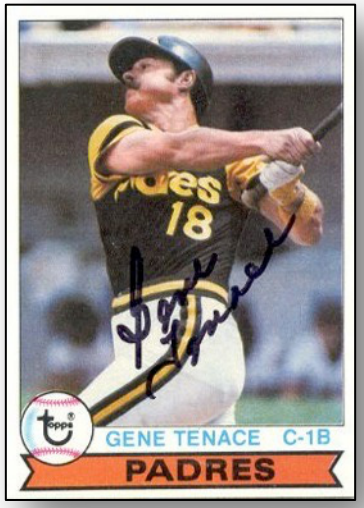
1978 Road



A midseason acquisition, Eric Rasmussen was issued jerseys that had previously belonged to other players. This explains the "5" on the year tag.





The 1978 road jersey is solid "Padre Brown" with bright yellow-gold sleeves, lettering, and trim. All 1978 jerseys feature both the city and team name on them—an unusual feature. Mixed-and-matched with white or gold pants.

One-color gold numbers on front and back; special new-for-1978 Padres "Mod" font style. Notice how bold the team wordmark is on these jerseys.

Names on back reappear on road jerseys for first time since 1974. Name is one-color, gold vertical arch. Nameplates are used for easy removal when the jerseys are sent to the minors. The tiny "San Diego" lettering on jersey fronts is almost always missing or restored on examples seen today, as few unrestored originals remain.

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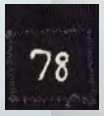
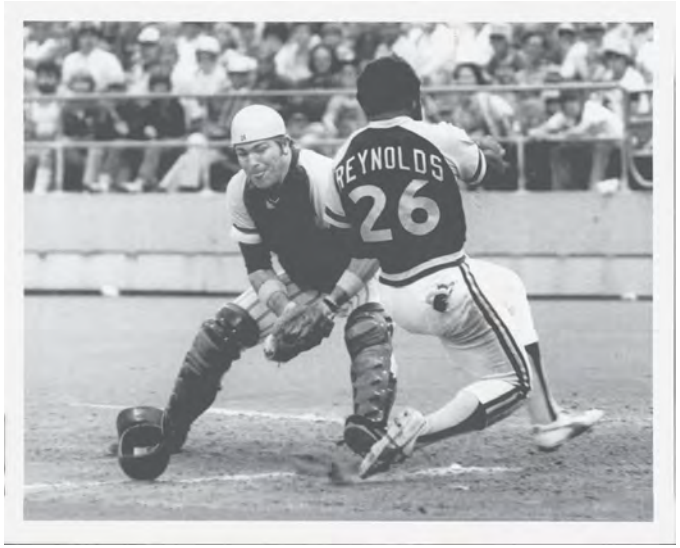
1978 Road, continued

Manuel Barrere Collection





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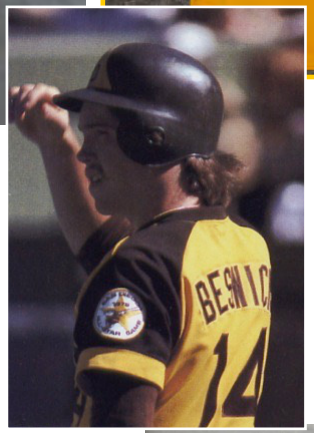
1978 Alternate Gold

Stephen Kraljic Collection



Sometimes worn with matching gold pants, these uniforms were wild—even for the anything-goes disco '70s.

One-color brown numbers on front and back; special new-for-1978 Padres "Mod" font. Notice that the sleeve end stripe is single-color gold and the V-neck trim is brown.

NOB is one-color brown, usually vertical arched (but not always! Note the non-vertically arched player name on the photo at center). Nameplates are used, so they can be easily removed when the jerseys are sent to the minors—which these were. Few originals remain, for certain. The 1978 All Star Game patch is sewn on all original jerseys of this style.

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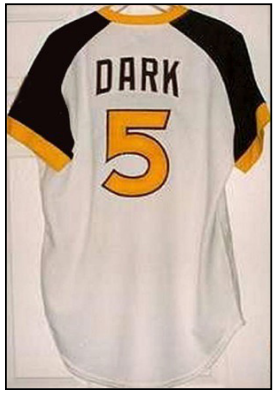
1979 Home

1979 is another one-year exercise. The unlettered 1979 jersey body is identical to the 1978 version, but the lettering is changed slightly: the team lettering is arched, and the tiny "San Diego" lettering is deleted from the front. Special Padres "Mod" numbers used again on front and back; two-color yellow-gold/brown. One-color brown vertical arch names on back, on nameplates. These jerseys also were shipped to the minor leagues, and few originals are seen today. Most have had their lettering restored in some way.

Manuel Barrere Collection



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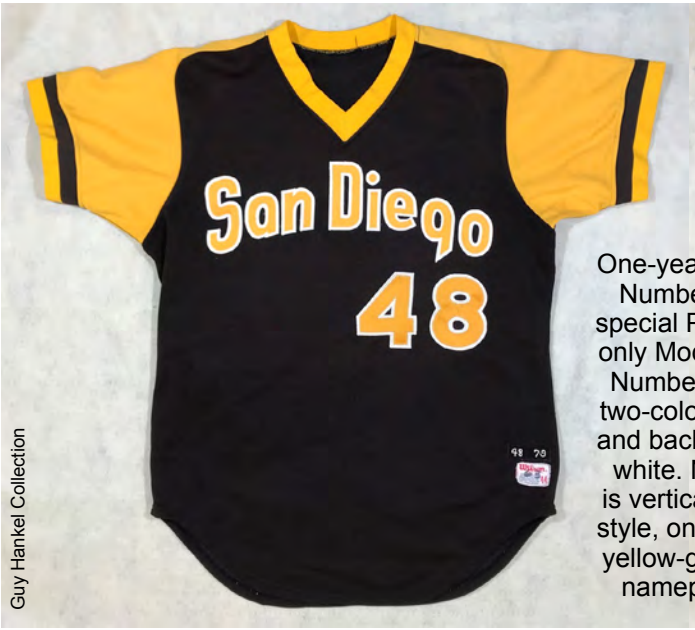
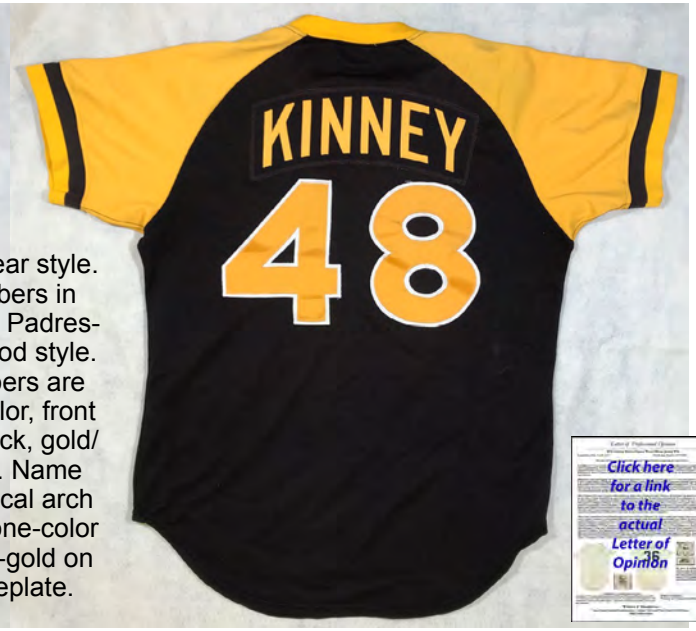
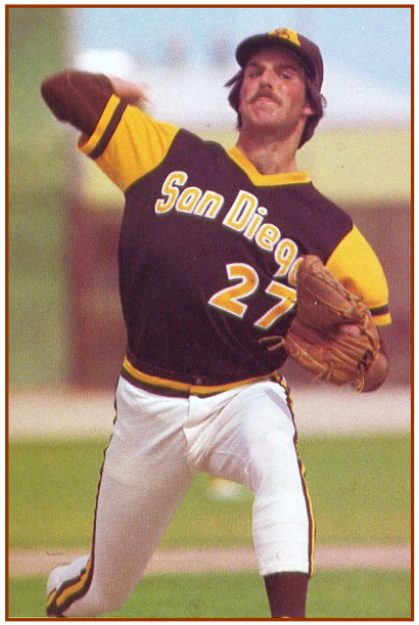
1979 Road



Guy Hankel Collection

One-year style. Numbers in special Padres-only Mod style. Numbers are two-color, front and back, gold/white. Name is vertical arch style, one-color yellow-gold on nameplate.





These uniforms were sent to the minors and stripped of their wordmarks, player names and in some cases, their numbers. I restored the one above. I have not yet come across an original example.

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Padres Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues

Top left: For the full story on this 1974 road jersey restoration follow this link to Facebook.

Top right: This brown 1976 road jersey also went to Reno, where it became an Aces road jersey from another season. The black light and Photoshop filters uncover its secret backstory.

Bottom left: This 1979 home jersey shows the (photo enhanced) outline of a cloth cover-up sewn over the Padres logo so it could be re-used without stripping all the front lettering.

Bottom right: This rare and desirable 1979 road jersey went to a Padres minor league affiliate and had a simple “Padres” crest sewn on front after the “San Diego” had been stripped. The original MLB numbers were left untouched during use in the minors.

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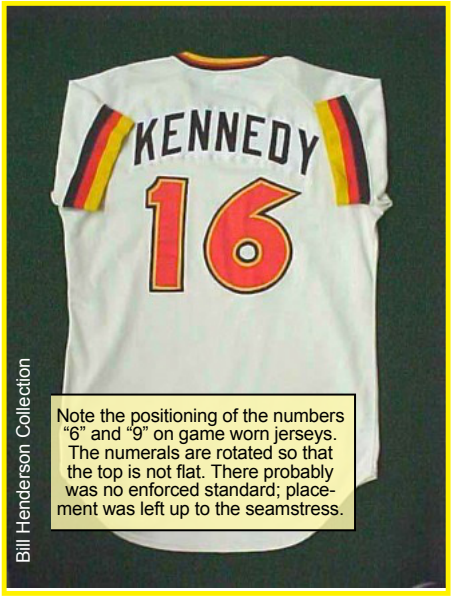
1980-1983 Home

Kyle Bonamo Collection

Original 1980, reissued 1982

1980



Bill Henderson Collection

Note the positioning of the numbers "6" and "9" on game worn jerseys. The numerals are rotated so that the top is not flat. There probably was no enforced standard; placement was left up to the seamstress.

1983

1983

1983

Tight Wilson V-neck pullovers were early-'80s disco wild and represented the 7th Padres uniform design in 10 years' time—a record that may never be surpassed.

Brown/orange/yellow neck and sleeve end trim. Three color orange/yellow/brown numbers in the custom, Padres bold Mod style font introduced in 1978.

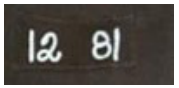
Numbers on back only, in orange/yellow/brown; Names in brown, vertical arch style; nameplates used.

© GameWornGuides.com

1980-1983 Road

Manuel Barrere Collection

Above: *Notice renumbering glue and new nameplate scar, jersey was originally #28.*



The road jersey for 1980–1983 remains a nontraditional brown, and like the home jersey, is a pullover design. Team wordmark and back player numbers are in the Padres' fancy "Mod" style introduced in 1978, and on the brown jersey are two-color yellow/orange.

Player names are vertical arch and sewn on nameplates. Wide orange/yellow knit trim is used at the sleeve ends and for the V-neck.

Bill Henderson Collection

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1984 Home

1984 home jersey is identical in lettering and appearance to the 1980–1983 styles, except is changed to a button-front design. Notice that the "d" in Padres splits in the middle.

"RAK" worn on the sleeve of both 1984 jerseys; memorial to Ray Kroc, team owner, who died in January 1984.

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1984 Postseason Home

In the 1984 World Series, I noticed way back then when watching on TV that a few players were wearing jerseys without vertical arch names on back, among them first baseman Steve Garvey, third baseman Graig Nettles, and manager Dick Williams. The NOB font used for these players is odd and not standard to Wilson, and my guess is they were lettered locally for the players, rather than by Wilson at the factory. Why is this significant? Should one of these “oddball” jerseys be presented for authentication, it would be very easy for the authenticator to immediately conclude it was a fabrication, when available media, if reviewed, could show that it was actually a recorded aberration. The further one goes back in time, the more often these oddities popped up, when things were just not as regimented and as professional as they have become today, controlled by corporate giants.

© GameWornGuides.com

1984 Road

1984 jerseys are identical to the 1980–1983 styles in lettering and overall appearance, except that 1984 (only) are button-front jerseys, oddly altered for their fifth and final year of use before the next Padres style change.

"RAK" worn on the sleeve of 1984 jerseys; memorial to Ray Kroc, team owner, who died in January 1984.

Stephen Kraljic collection

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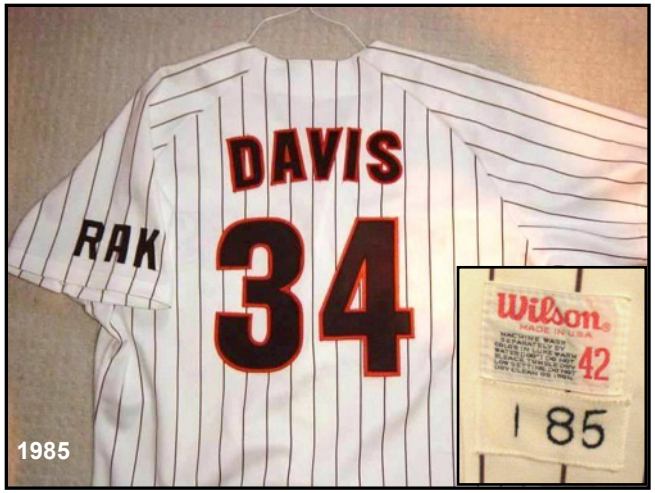
1985-1990 Home

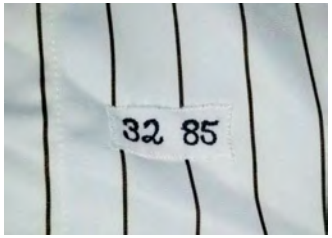


Left: *Rawlings one-year-only 1987 tagging is found on some Padres jerseys.*

Home jersey team tagging ends after 1990.

The return to traditional style begins: pants with belt loops, button-up shirts. Brown and orange remain the team colors, and the jersey has brown pinstripes. Names and numbers in a custom Padres-only font (numbers similar to 1990s Giants, but narrower). Two-color names and numbers brown/orange. No nameplates used.

RAK (Ray Kroc memorial) letters on sleeve 1985–1986.



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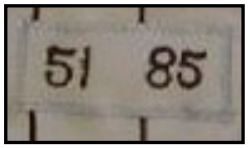
1985-1990 Road

Bill Henderson Collection



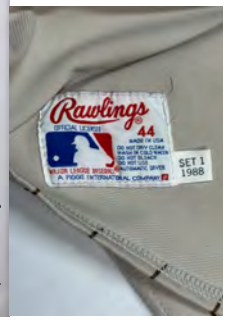
Below: *Notice that the 1988 Rawlings tag shown has a plain, and not pin-striped background, as it is sewn on the inside of the garment. The pinstripes are visible only on the outside of the jersey.*

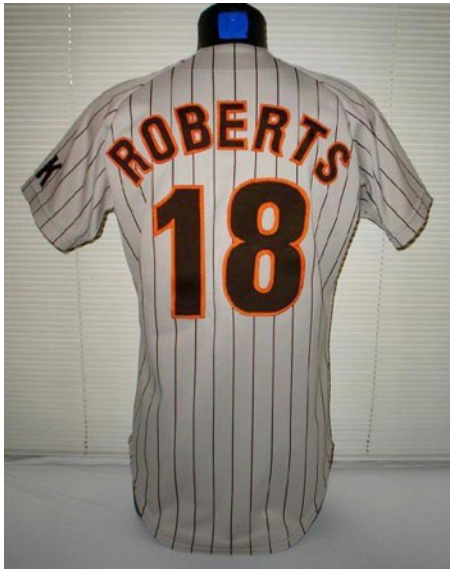
Critics note that the Padres' new road jersey bears more than a passing resemblance to the upstate San Francisco Giants' uniforms that were introduced in 1983.

Brown/orange remain the team colors, and the gray road jersey has brown pinstripes.

Names and numbers in a custom Padres-only font (numbers similar to 1990s Giants, but narrower) in brown, outlined with orange. No nameplates used.

Stephen Kraljic collection





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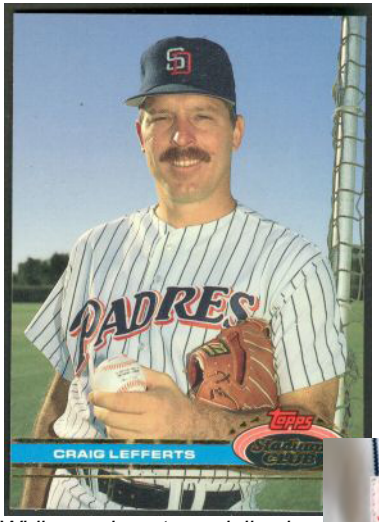
1991 Home

All traces of the wild era are gone. The team's signature brown pinstripes and lettering are replaced by navy lettering and pinstripes. No numbers on the front. Block numbers on back, three-color (navy/white/orange). Block names one-color navy. No nameplates used..

1991 home jerseys (only) were made by Goodman & Sons—the only time the Padres used this Southern California uniform maker for its home game jerseys. For 1992 the identical style continued with Russell as the manufacturer when that maker took over as official supplier to MLB.



*While we do not specialize in photo matching, the alignment of the pinstripes on the 1991 card certainly suggest that this is the same jersey **(right)**.*

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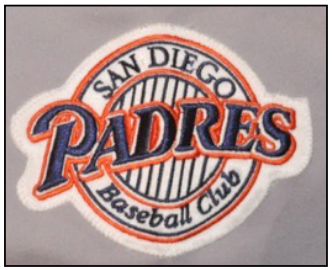
1991-2003 Road

Bill Henderson Collection



Left sleeve patch, all years except 1999

1999 only

1999

Almost as traditional as it can get: the Padres' road jersey is redesigned for 1991. No trim, gray jersey with three--color vertical arch, 3D drop shadowed "San Diego" arched across the front. Three-color block numbers on back only (navy/white/orange).Block names one-color navy. Nameplates not used.

Team logo sleeve patch 1994 through 2003, except 1999, when 30th Anniversary patch is used. There is no team tagging used on road jerseys after 1991.

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1992-2001 Home

1998

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

Russell is awarded the contract in 1992 to be the official outfitter of MLB, and while teams are not forced to comply, the Padres dutifully switch over, and starting in 1992 the Russell "R" logo is displayed embroidered on the right sleeve.

Though this style jersey is listed as the primary home jersey for 2001, we have been unable to find any photos of team wearing them in 2001. They wore either the white or navy uniforms at home.

1996

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1997-2003 Alternate Navy

1998

1997-1998

1999

1999

1997-1998: No front numbers

1999

2000 only

2000

2002

- 1997–1998: No numbers on the front. Swinging Friar patch on the sleeve.
- 1999: One-color white extra-bold “Dodgers-like” (but not exactly the same) front numbers appear, and Friar disappears. The 30th anniversary patch is worn in 1999, then is replaced with the team logo patch in 2000 only. No sleeve team patch 2001–2003.
- Every year: White block name on back; no nameplate. Two-color (orange/white) Block numbers on back. No team year/set tagging on this jersey.

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1998-2001 Alternate Home White/2002-2003 Home

1999

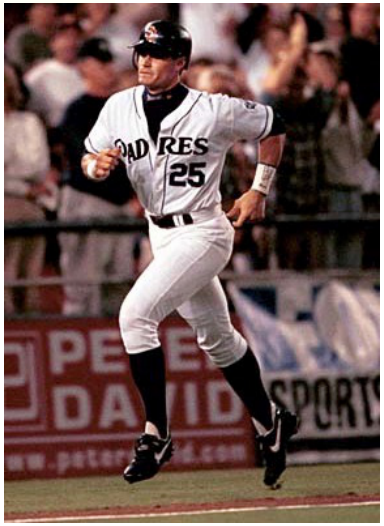
This is known as a "Stat Jersey." This embroidery was added after the jersey was game worn. Tony Gwynn changed jerseys after every hit late in his career, as he was breaking hitting records.

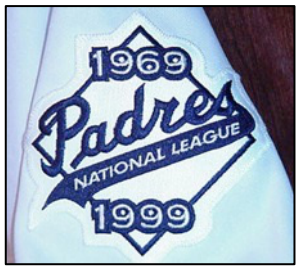
2003

This 1998–2001 alternate home white jersey officially became the team's primary home jersey in 2002, replacing the pinstripe style, though photo evidence suggests it was used as the primary home jersey in 2001 as well.

Front number is a bold font that is similar to but not exactly like the Dodgers', navy with no outline. Back numbers are always navy Block style outlined in white. One-color navy name; no nameplates.

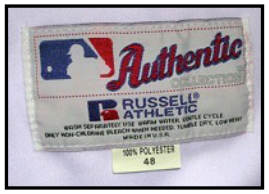
Logo sleeve patch used 1998 and 2000–2003. 30th Anniversary patch used 1999.





Above: *Sleeve patch 1998, 2000-2003.*

Above right: *Sleeve patch 1999 only.*



Right: *No team tagging used during this period, but team issued jerseys will generally have this small flag tag on the front tail in lieu of a size tag inside the collar.*

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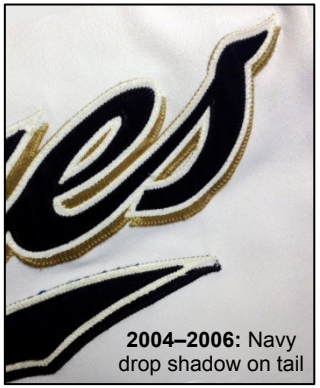
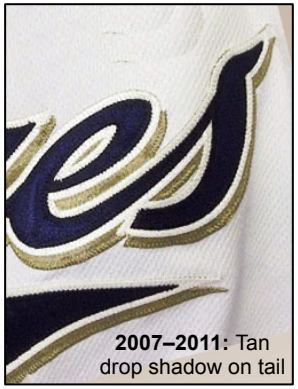
2004-2011 Home

Stephen Kraljic collection



2004–2006: Navy drop shadow on tail



2007–2011: Tan drop shadow on tail

Sleeve patch 2004–2008 has "San Diego"

Sleeve patch 2009–2011 omits city name

2005

After staying with the same image/logo/identity for a Padres-record 13 seasons (1991–2003), the whole package changes again for 2004. Numbers on back only; new Padres-only typeface, three-color (navy/white/Padres Sand [tan]).

Names on back are Block on nameplates 2004–2010. NOB changes to direct sewn in 2011. Note that the second outline, in white, on player number is thinner than the third outline, in tan.

A small detail: the drop shadow on the front underline is navy 2004–2006 but changed to tan 2007–2011.

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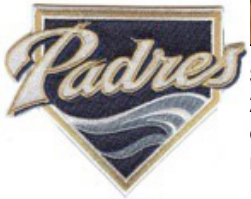
2004-2010 Road

2004

The new road uniform's color is called *Sand*, sort of a tan-gray, inspired by the team's road flannels pre-1972. Numbers on back only, Block-style name, two-color (navy/white). Names are in a block variant unique to the Padres, one-color Navy on a nameplate.

The first time these uniforms were worn, the pitchers found that they could not see catcher Ramon Hernandez' signs—the color of the pants was too close to the color of his fingers. The solution that night was for Hernandez to paint his fingers white!

Sleeve patch 2004–2008 with "San Diego"



Sleeve patch 2009–2011 omits city name

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2004-2011 Alternate Blue

2005

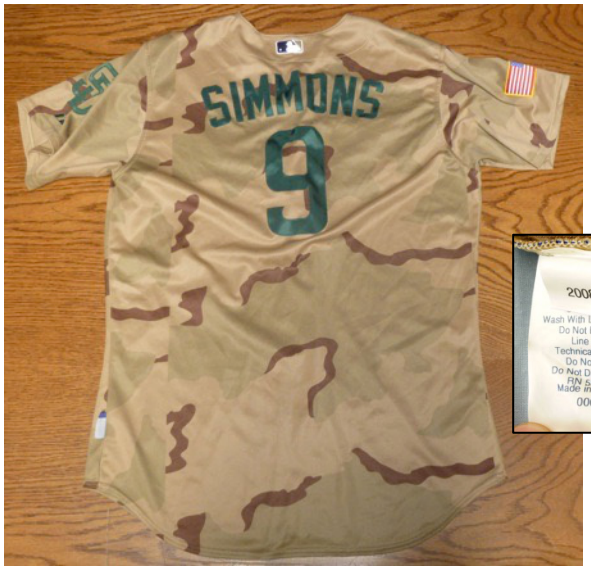
Navy jersey body with tan/blue/tan knit trim at neck and sleeve ends. Swinging Friar patch on left sleeve. Numbers on back only, custom Padres typeface, two-color ("Padres Sand"/ white). Block names, one-color (sand). NOB on a nameplate 2001–2010. For 2011 only, NOB is direct sewn.

During the run of this style, MLB converted to Cool Base fabrics. This jersey was seen in both styles. On this page, the Hernandez #55 jersey is full-weight polyester, and the Ashby #43 is Cool Base. Notice the underarm panels.

2006

© GameWornGuides.com

2006*/2007-2010 Alternate Home Camouflage



Game worn jerseys have the American flag patch on the right sleeve. The official *Style Guide* does not show the patch, and the patch is not seen often on retail sale versions of the jersey.

Interlocking green SD on left sleeve.

In 2006, the fabric color changes to lighter Desert Camouflage from the earlier darker Jungle Camouflage*.

For 2007, the Camouflage jersey is listed as an official alternate jersey choice in the MLB *Style Guide* for the first time.

Numbers on back are in Padres style; names and numbers are one-color (green).

2006–2007 jerseys are rendered in mesh; 2008–2010 are made from Cool Base fabric.

*Although this style of jersey was listed for the first time as an "official alternate jersey" in 2007, It was worn in 2006 as a one-off. I am Including it here to avoid listing it twice in this chapter. You will find the other, earlier-style camouflage jerseys in the "Special Events" section; they were worn without ever being declared as an official team alternate jersey.

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2011 Road

- After being used since 2004 in khaki/sand color, the road jersey is changed to gray for its final year of use.
- Everything else remains constant from the 2010 edition. Front lettering is navy outlined with white, as are the back numbers. Names on back are solid navy.
- Names on back are direct sewn
- Padres patch on the sleeve.

Left: *2011 Jackie Robinson Day jerseys are all numbered #42 and lack names on back.*

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2011-2013/2014-2015 Alternate Home Camouflage

A reader who is a Padres employee involved with selling their game used jerseys, contacted me to note that the team ***changed to a warmer camouflage color and lettering for the 2014 season***. He said the team had to send back the first set of 2014 jerseys, because Majestic did them in the old color. I had to laugh. I had been trying to color correct the photos to make them all look the same, and I was having a terrible time. This explains the issue! They are shown here side-by-side, to highlight the minor differences.

2011: The Padres update their camouflage jerseys to the MARPAT digital pattern used by the Marine Corps, and eliminate the green tones of the earlier styles of camouflage used. These jerseys are worn on Sundays at home.

2011: Padres-font numbers on back.

2012–2015: Varsity-font numbers on back.

Numbers are brown, outlined with white; NOB is white, outlined with brown. It may seem funny, but the wordmark and numbers (especially on the 2011 version) are difficult to see against the camouflage background.

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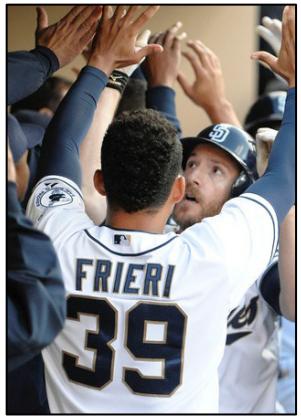
2012-2015 Home



Padres do a uniform redesign without a full image change—reminiscent, perhaps, of 1991, when they changed team colors but kept the same basic theme and logo design. Blue knit trim is added to the front and neck of the jersey, and also to the sleeve ends. Tan is now used as the outline color around the Padres wordmark and player numbers. Padres wordmark is simplified a bit, losing its drop shadow. Numbers on back are Wilson Varsity; the stylized Padres font used for the past eight years disappears.

Names on back are direct sewn two-color, blue/tan. Player names are in a special Block font used only by the Padres; bolder and more square than standard Block.

A new blue and white Swinging Friar patch is used on the left sleeve.

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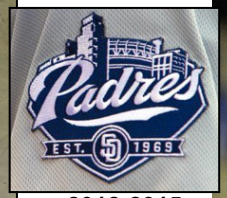
2012-2016 Road

2016



2012-2015

2015

Jersey body is solid gray, with navy knit trim on placket and collar. Double navy stripes on sleeve ends spaced about an inch apart. “San Diego” in navy outlined with white in new consistent-size lettering (compared to previous wordmark that was thinner in the center and taller at the ends). Varsity style player numbers in navy/white; Padres special Block-style name in same colors.

Through 2015, Padres players could decide the style of jersey they wanted to wear: Cool Base or full-weight knit.

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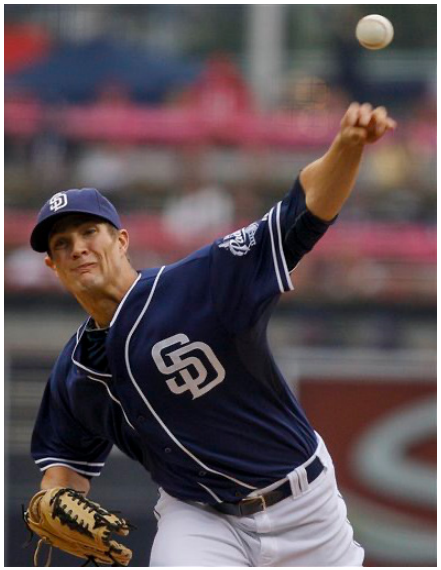
2012-2015 Alternate Blue/2016-2019 Alternate Road

2014

Bill Henderson Collection

2012–2015



2019

2012–2015: This jersey can be worn at home or on the road.

2016–2019: It becomes a road alternate only.

Interlocking “SD” featured on left chest in white; jersey body is navy. White knit trim on placket, around neck, and in double stripes at the ends of the sleeves.

New team secondary logo patch used on the left sleeve through 2015. The team patch is replaced by the 2016 All-Star Game patch that year. From 2017–2019, the left sleeve is blank.

White Wilson Varsity numbers and Padres-style Block player name on back.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

Bill Henderson Collection

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2016 Home

The Padres' 2016 Flex Base home jersey, with its restrained, retro navy and yellow theme, was oddly announced as a one-year-only design; a commemorative jersey of sorts for the All-Star Game to be played in San Diego that summer (the only time a team has ever done this). But consider the number of other alternate uniforms in the Padres' wardrobe for 2016 (three) and all the special uniform dates to be held in 2016 (Mother's Day, Father's Day, Turn back the Clock, etc.), plus 1990s "Way Back Wednesdays", Camouflage Jersey Sundays, The number of dates that this "standard" jersey might be worn was limited from the start.

Soon after the end of the 2016 season, the Padres not only announced that there would be new home and road jerseys for the 2017 season, but to the disappointment of many fans, that yellow would be banished from the team's color palette … except for the brown/gold nostalgia jersey.

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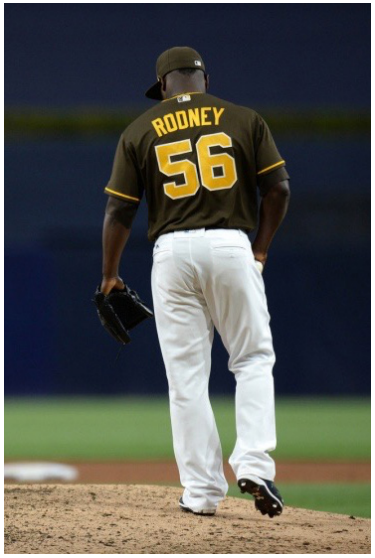
2016-2019 Alternate Home Brown

After considerable fan pressure, the Padres "Bring Back the Brown" … sort of. Instead of reintroducing brown as a team color, the team creates a brown alternate to fit in with their uniforms that premiered in 2012. Yellow also makes a comeback here as the main color for all lettering, outlined in white for the front wordmark and back numbers. (yellow was added as an official team color for 2016, then removed again in 2017, though it remained for this jersey only). Name on back is single-color yellow without a nameplate. The neck and sleeve ends are also ringed with yellow knit trim. Because the Padres love to tinker, they add an interlocking SD left-sleeve patch, in yellow outlined with white, starting in 2017. The jersey is typically worn for Friday home games.



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2016-2019 Alternate Home Brown Camouflage

2016

The Padres have worn camo jerseys in one form or another since 1996, and the team refreshes its tan camo entry for the 2016 season. The digital camouflage pattern is similar to the version they have worn since 2014; however, the front lettering is updated to mesh with their overall look since 2012. What doesn't mesh well is the new mesh sides and "Air Belt" of the Flex Base jersey, which are not printed with the camo pattern, leaving them a plain brown.

Front wordmark and back numbers are brown/white Block, whereas back names are white/brown Padres Block. An American flag adorns the left sleeve, and an interlocking SD logo in brown/white appears on the right. Though worn on the field in 2016, this jersey does not appear in the club's official style guide until 2017.

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2016-2019 Alternate Home Blue Camouflage

Daniel Jackson Collection

Apparently one camouflage jersey is not enough for the Padres. Starting in 2016, they add a blue camo jersey to represent the pattern worn by the U.S. Navy, which has a strong presence in the San Diego community. Like the new brown version, the Flex Base jersey's sides and tail remain a solid color. All lettering appears in blue/white, which essentially nearly disappears to invisible over the blue camo base. The jersey features an American flag on the left sleeve, and in 2017, an interlocking SD patch in blue/white on the right.

2016

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2017-2019 Home

For the second time in as many years, the Padres introduce a new home jersey. This one drops the “SD” front logo and all traces of yellow from the year before, in favor of the same “Padres” wordmark used on their other jerseys, here in blue/white. The Flex Base jersey has navy knit trim at both sleeve ends and around the collar and placket. Player names and numbers on back are navy/white. A navy/white interlocking SD patch adorns the left sleeve.

The reaction on social media is swift and negative. Tyler Kepner, baseball writer for *The New York Times*, wrote on Twitter: “The Padres have such a fun, colorful, unique uni history but choose to look like Penn State most games. I’ll never understand it.” Darren Rovell of ESPN Sports Business added: “If the Padres were aiming for no buzz with their new uniforms, they sure nailed it.”

2018

© GameWornGuides.com

2017-2019 Road

2019

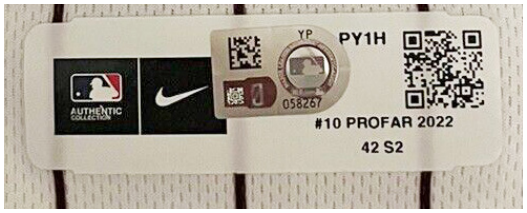
Stephen Kraljic collection

The Padres also introduce a new road jersey in 2017, essentially bringing back their entirely forgettable 2011 road gray entry. The Flex Base jersey has navy knit trim at both sleeve ends and around the neck and placket. The “bow tie” San Diego wordmark appears in blue/white. Player names and numbers on back in blue/white, and a blue/white interlocking “SD” patch adorns the left sleeve. Other than the sleeve patch, the player number font on back, the solid navy knit trim vs. the 2011 blue/white, and the Flex Base jersey construction, it appears identical to the 2011 model. As described on the prior page, fan reaction ranged from dismissive to negative. My opinion: How good it would have been to have made the 2016 one-off All-Star Game road gray jersey the team’s standard?

2011 Road Jersey for comparison

© GameWornGuides.com

2020-2023 Home



After years—YEARS—of fan feedback, the Padres finally bring back brown as the primary color for the first time since 1990. Built on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, the brown-pinstriped home white jerseys feature a new custom font in brown/yellow for the slightly arched front "PADRES" wordmark and back player names and numbers. Yellow/brown braid encircles sleeve ends and neck opening. An updated version of the iconic "Swingin' Friar" takes residence on the left sleeve.

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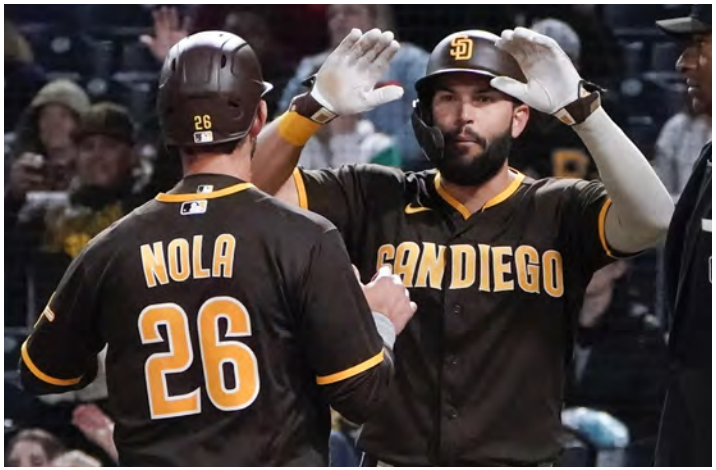
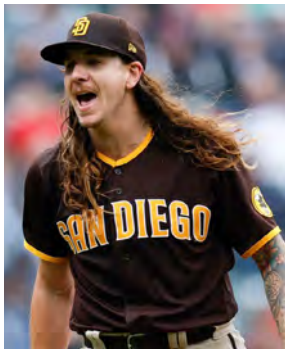
2020-2023 Road



It's all about the brown again in 2020, when the Padres introduce a completely new set of uniforms that tout a solid-brown primary road jersey. Built on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, this jersey features a new custom font in yellow/white for the slightly arched front "SAN DIEGO" wordmark and back player names and numbers. Thick yellow braid encircles sleeve ends and neck opening. An updated version of the iconic "Swingin' Friar" takes residence on the left sleeve through 2022, and varies sleeve based on player handedness in 2023.

(Middle right) The brown base jersey for this set is darker than the one used for the previous alternate jersey



Above: *The brown material for this road jersey is now darker than the shade that was used for the previous alternate jersey from 2016-2019. (Photo from sportslogos.net)*

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2020-2023 Alternate Road

This Padres' 2020 road alternate road jersey was a last-minute addition to the collection, spurned on by the problem of having only planned to use a solid-brown jersey on the road with no way to switch to a different jersey if a host team decided to go with a solid, dark color as well. Originally a finalist for the road uniform, this gray jersey with brown pinstripes is built on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template. The new, custom Padres font appears in brown/yellow on the slightly arched front "SAN DIEGO" wordmark and back player names and numbers. Yellow/brown braid encircles sleeve ends and neck opening. An updated version of the iconic "Swingin' Friar" takes residence on the left sleeve through 2022, and varied sleeves based on player handedness in 2023.

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2020-2023 Alternate Home Brown Camouflage

The Padres continue their tradition of wearing camo as an alternate, started in 1996, and carry over the brown/tan camo from previous years to the 2020 refresh. What changes on this Nike version of Majestic's Flex Base jersey is the lettering style, now updated to the Padres new font in brown/white for the slightly arched front "PADRES" wordmark and back player names and numbers. An updated version of the iconic "Swingin' Friar" takes residence on the right sleeve, while an American flag adorns the left. The Friar patch was removed prior to the 2023 season to make room for the ad patch, which varies sleeve based on player handedness. The American flag patch appears on the sleeve opposite the ad patch. U.S. Flag Code specifies that the flag should always appear moving forward, with the blue field in "front" in the direction of motion. As such, the blue field on the flag patch is on the left for players who wear it on their left sleeve, and on the right for players who wear it on the right sleeve.

2020-2022

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2020-2023 Alternate Home Green Camouflage

2020–2022

For the Padres, what's better than a camo alternate? Two camo alternates! This predominantly green camo jersey, based on Nike version of Majestic's Flex Base template, rounds out the 2020 updates. Aside from the base jersey color, the rest of the look duplicates the brown camo alternate. The Padres new font appears throughout in brown/white for the slightly arched front "PADRES" wordmark and back player names and numbers. An updated version of the iconic "Swingin' Friar" takes residence on the right sleeve, while an American flag adorns the left. The Friar patch was removed prior to the 2023 season to make room for the ad patch, which varies sleeve based on player handedness. The American flag patch appears on the sleeve opposite the ad patch. U.S. Flag Code specifies that the flag should always appear moving forward, with the blue field in "front" in the direction of motion. As such, the blue field on the flag patch is on the left for players who wear it on their left sleeve, and on the right for players with it on the right sleeve. Note that the code on the front tag also changes from "PY3N to "03W8" in 2023.

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2022-2023 City Connect

For a team hailing from vibrant, sunny San Diego, brown has always seemed an unusual color choice. But if brown has an opposite, it is these jerseys. The Padres press release about the uniforms says, “A sizable portion of the team’s fan base hails from Tijuana, Mexico, and the surrounding areas in Baja California.” These jerseys are intended to be a bridge between those communities and San Diego. The white Nike Flex Base jersey has a mint green left sleeve and bright pink right sleeve, with a yellow and pink version of the Swingin’ Friar patch on the left. Wide yellow braid encircles each sleeve end and the neck opening. Team “SAN DIEGO” lettering on front is in a brush-print style, split horizontally pink/mint green, outlined in white with a yellow drop shadow. Front and back numbers in a custom font (which seems to evoke palm trees) in pink, player names on back in yellow, which are difficult to read. The jerseys, however, are difficult to forget.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Padres home jersey introduced in 2020. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "D" in "PADRES" now splits in a different place. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The heart-shaped "PS" memorial patch for owner Peter Seidler appeared on the left chest all season. The Petco Park anniversary patch was on the sleeve of this jersey only, replacing the Friar.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Padres distinctive brown road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the lettering now splits the "D" in "DIEGO" rather than between the two words. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly narrower than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The heart-shaped "PS" memorial patch for owner Peter Seidler appeared on the left chest all season.

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2024 Alternate Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Padres pinstriped alternate brown road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the lettering now splits the "D" in "DIEGO" rather than between the two words. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The heart-shaped "PS" memorial patch for owner Peter Seidler appeared on the left chest all season.

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2024 Alternate Home Brown Camouflage

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Padres alternate brown camo jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the lettering now splits the "D" in "DIEGO" rather than between the two words. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The heart-shaped "PS" memorial patch for owner Peter Seidler appeared on the left chest all season. An American flag patch appears on one sleeve opposite a sponsor patch. Because the sleeve patches move based on player handedness, there are two different versions of the flag patch. U.S. Flag Code specifies that the flag should always appear moving forward, with the blue field in "front" in the direction of motion. As such, the blue field is on the left for players who wear it on their left sleeve, and on the right for players with it on the right sleeve. The MLB Style Guide does not show two versions of the patch, but they do appear in both orientations on-field. It is unclear if numbers are perforated on this style.

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2024-2025 Alternate Home Green Camouflage

2024

2025

Though the Padres include the green camo alternate in the 2024 and 2025 MLB Style Guides *(see images above)*, it was not worn in any games during the 2024 season, nor in any 2025 games through press time. Nike and Fanatics had a great deal of difficulty supplying certain jerseys and pants early in the 2024 season, and it may be possible that no green camo jerseys were produced at all. Further, there was no sign of any green camo jersey available for retail sale in authentic or replica versions at Fanatics or MLB Shop. The Padres are one of the few teams allowed to have five jerseys in their lineup plus a City Connect, so in a transition year, it is possible that style was put on hold, perhaps even deleted, even though it was officially listed as an option for the season. We do not know if numbers would have been perforated on this style in 2024. Note the change in back lettering size for 2025, which shows that the team and MLB consciously updated the art in line with other changes across all teams for the 2025 season.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Padres everything-but-brown City Connect jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the lettering now splits the "D" in a different place. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears that the neck trim is slightly narrower while the sleeve trim is slightly wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. A special version of the heart-shaped "PS" memorial patch for owner Peter Seidler, with the letters rendered in pink to match the jersey, appeared on the left chest all season. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The Swingin' Friar patch returns for 2025, after being replaced by the team's anniversary patch in 2024. Note that this jersey also uses Nike's new-for-2025 white jock tag, seen at far right. A handful of jerseys across the league use this new tag.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

Of note, gray jerseys received many updates across MLB in 2025, in response to sweat-staining issues and player feedback. Despite having two road jerseys, the Padres do not have a traditional gray jersey. As a result, none of their jerseys move to the updated version of the VPE template (which uses Flex Base fabric, eliminates the extra band of fabric on the neck opening, and replaces sewn-in trim for sewn-on trim) in 2025.

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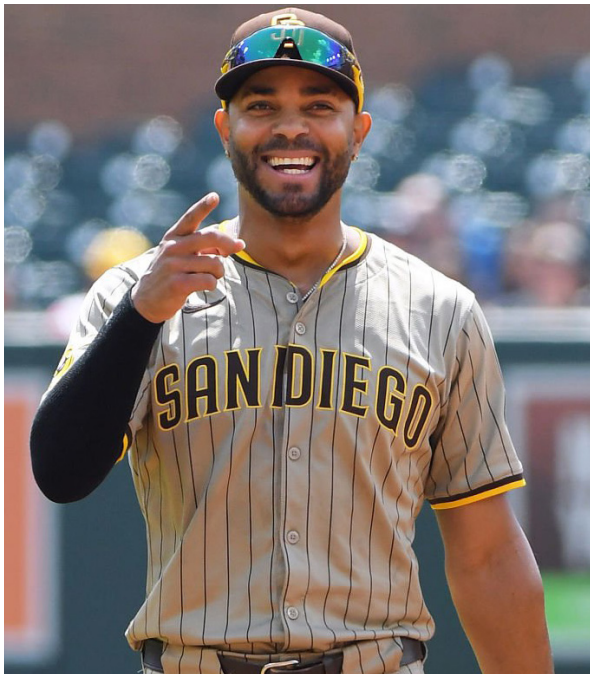
2025 Alternate Road



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

Of note, the 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB, in response to sweat-staining issues and player feedback. Despite having two road jerseys, the Padres do not have a traditional gray jersey. As a result, none of their jerseys move to the updated version of the VPE template (which uses Flex Base fabric, eliminates the extra fabric on the neck opening, and replaces sewn-in trim for sewn-on trim) in 2025.

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2025 Alternate Home Brown Camouflage

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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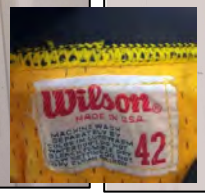
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

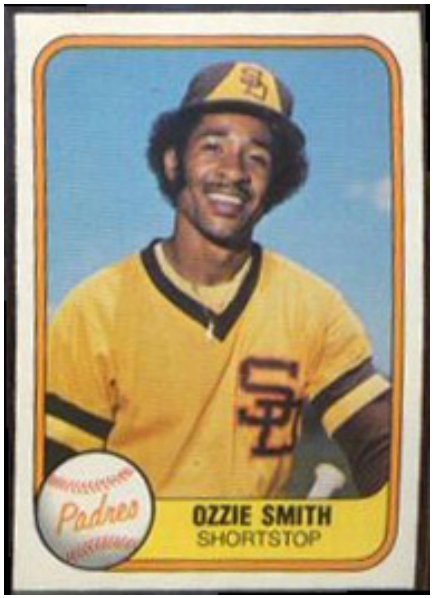
1978-1979 Batting Practice

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection



1979

1979



These are the earliest Padres batting practice jerseys, used certainly in 1979 and perhaps earlier. I am still looking for dated photos from earlier than 1979; my memory tells me that these were worn in 1978 as well. They appear for the first time on 1980 baseball cards (which, as we have established before, usually show the prior year's photos) and in a few dated news photos from 1979. Prior to 1979, baseball cards feature game uniforms only.

Varsity numbers in brown on the left sleeve. These were all most likely issued with Varsity numbers on back as well.

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1980-1985 Batting Practice

Varsity numbers on BP sleeves 1980-1982. Example at right looks like a re-lettering job.

Interlocking "SD" on front in brown tackle twill, outlined in orange.

Brown/orange/yellow trim on sleeve ends, brown V-neck trim. Brown Padre Mod-style numbers on the back, and no player names until 1984. I have seen examples of these tagged 1981 and 1983, yearbook photos show they were used as early as 1980.

Names on back appear to have been used at most times; perhaps those with no NOB are from Spring Training, though not confirmed.

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1982-1984 Alternate Batting Practice

Above: *Careful examination shows this #21 jersey clearly had Jody Lansford's (1982–1983) NOB removed, letter by letter.*

Front "SD" logo reverses colors to become orange outlined with brown. Two-color numbers in a custom, Padres-only style. Numbers on back only, in orange/brown. Names used, brown vertical arch style. Nameplates may be used. These jerseys were made by Roman Sport of California. From historical photographs, I believe these were used exclusively 1982–1984.

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1982-1984 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

All of these original examples use two-color Padres Mod numbers in to match the logo on the front, NOB in Block style, no vertical arch, and no nameplate.

Without question, this style of jersey is irritating to wear. It is short, and the elastic bottom causes it to ride up on the wearer every time he moves his arms. This period of time was known for its tight-fitting clothing. This short, zipper-neck-style jersey with the fancy trim was made by Majestic and Roman Sport. Some are tagged “1984." They have elastic knit waist trim that matches the sleeve ends. There is a 6-inch zipper at the neck.

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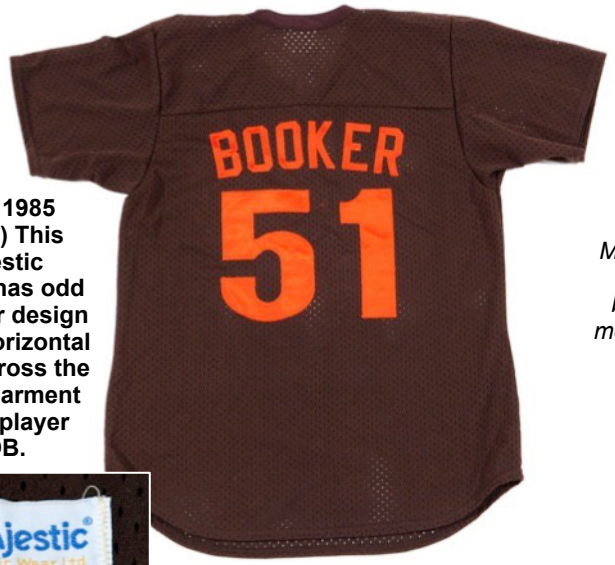
1985-1990 Batting Practice



Early 1985 only(?) This Majestic variant has odd shoulder design with a horizontal seam across the whole garment above player NOB.

More traditional V-neck design by Rawlings is more commonly found (bottom left) and was probably from 1986–1989.

Brown mesh, one-color Padres 1985–1989 style orange numbers, names in orange Block font. All lettering is orange tackle twill. Odd: numbers are in the San Francisco Giants' player number font, not the Padres' jersey font!

The only brown batting practice jersey ever used in MLB.

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1991-1998 Batting Practice

Two-color tackle twill Block numbers on back, orange/white. Russell jerseys use Block numbers (Stillwell); Majestic jerseys have Majestic Block numbers (Mulligan).

NOB one-color white. However, sets of these jerseys exist without names on the back; likely Spring Training issues. These style jerseys were also used in 1999 Spring Training.

Worn at least once in a regular season game, May 18, 1994 on the road vs. the Cubs.

Bill Henderson Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1991-1996 Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

- The Padres also had their own Majestic *Gamewarmer* zip-neck batting practice jersey. We assume they were issued only to players who wanted them; they are relatively uncommon.
- These were used lettered (like the top example) and plain-backed (like the bottom example).
- Mesh construction with elastic at sleeve ends and at waist, Majestic wordmark embroidered on right sleeve end and screened on front slash pocket-like trim.
- Exact years of use have not yet been determined.

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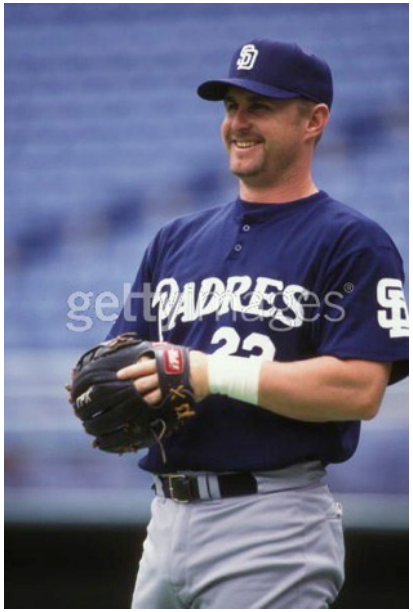
1999-2001 Batting Practice

1999

Bill Henderson Collection



- 1999 through 2001 jerseys are mesh pullovers; navy mesh with a two-button neck.
- One-color white numbers on front and back. Back numbers are Block bold on Russell jerseys, Varsity on Majestic jerseys. Front numbers are Dodgers Bold.
- Names used on back.
- Identify 2000–2001 jerseys by the addition of the Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the collar.

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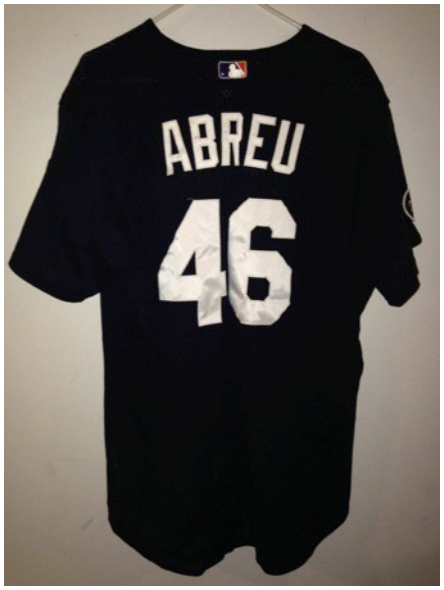
2002 Batting Practice



Nearly identical to the 2001 jersey; 2002 jersey is a mesh button-front instead of a pullover.

One-color white numbers on front and back. Back numbers are Block bold style. Front numbers are Dodgers Bold. “SD” patch on the left sleeve.

Player names used on back.

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2003 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

- 2003 was the first year that MLB changed to the new, early moisture-wicking tech fabric jersey for all teams.
- 2003 was the last year the Padres used this lettering style on their jerseys, before the redesign of 2004. Therefore, this is a seldom seen, one-year-style jersey.
- Solid, non-mesh soft fabric. Note thin orange piping sewn into the seam on the shoulders
- Block numbers on front and back. Extra Bold Block numbers on the back. Block bold names on back.

© GameWornGuides.com

2004 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

- This is the third consecutive one-year-only batting practice jersey. The Padres use a simple white rendition of their wordmark, with a light blue drop shadow under the front “wave” only.
- Numbers on back only; new custom Padres-only typeface; one-color white.
- Names are in Block font. One-color white, no nameplate.

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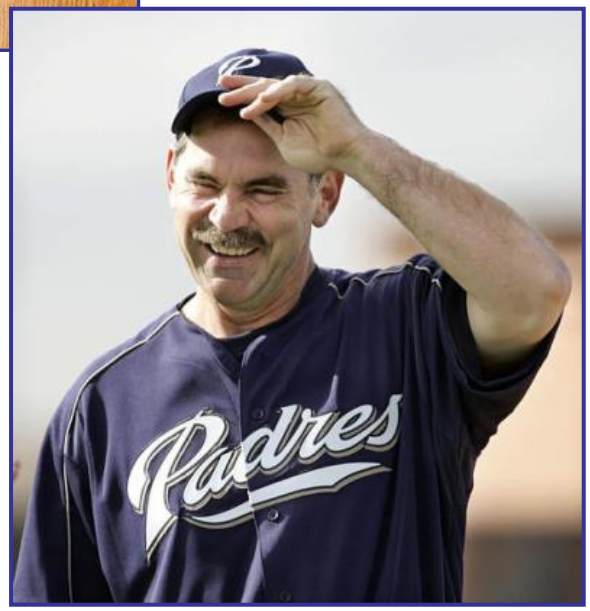
2005-2006 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

- Subtle changes for 2005. Entire front lettering gains a navy blue outline and tan drop shadow. Tan piping runs from the tops of the shoulders to the sleeve ends.
- Interlocking “SD” logo mark is added to the left sleeve.
- Back lettering remains the same as 2004; one-color white Padres custom font numbers with white Block names; no nameplates.



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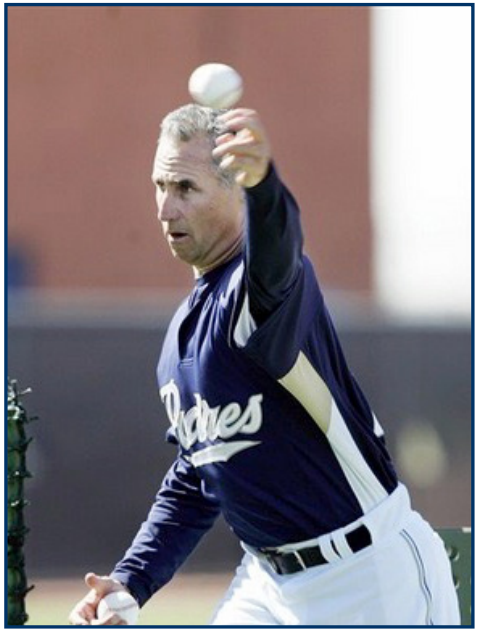
2007 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection



Padres' 2007 warmup jersey has the same basic look as the 2006 version, with some detail changes. The front lettering loses its complicated drop shadow as used in 2005–2006, and now assumes a subtle, tan outline around the white wordmark. Side panels are an attractive combination of white on bottom and tan on top. No sleeve patches and no trim. Custom Padres numbers on back are white outlined with tan; player names are solid white. All lettering and logos are heat-applied, not sewn twill.

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2008-2010 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Seemingly unable to get anything the way they really want it on the first try, the Padres change the new Cool Base batting practice jersey's design after just one year.

The new jersey's side panels are navy/tan, compared to white/tan on the 2007 model.

Team script and player numbers are two-color tan/white. NOB is one-color tan. These colors are reversed from the prior year's design, which used white as the primary lettering color, and tan as the outline. All lettering and logos are heat-applied, not sewn twill.

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2011 Batting Practice

I suppose if there were ever a competition for the team that changed its batting practice jerseys most frequently, the Padres would win.

For 2011, the previous one-button batting practice jersey—with the navy side panels and the tan panels under the arms—becomes a button-front jersey.

Side panels are now solid tan. Names on back are in tan Block; numbers are Padres-style tan outlined with white.

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2012-2013 Home Batting Practice

After a single year, the Padres change their home BP jersey again, removing the tan side panels that had been color-keyed to the front script and back lettering—and replacing it with plain blue mesh sides. This was a truly last minute change, made just before the start of Spring Training 2012—too late to make any of the 2012 press release material. They wore this solid blue jersey at home only, introducing a separate road batting practice jersey, pictured on the next page.

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2012-2013 Road Batting Practice

The Padres' batting practice jerseys change again for 2012. Still button-front in design, all that is tan on the home BP is now a gray that accompanies the Padres' other uniform changes for 2012. Numbers and names on back are ***gray*** outlined with white. Numbers are Wilson Varsity in a nod to tradition, and player names are a new font that resembles standard Block but is not. Bolder and more square, it is unique to the Padres and is used on of all their 2012 uniforms.

2012-2013 road and home BP jerseys side-by-side. Road is gray/white lettered; home is tan/white lettered.

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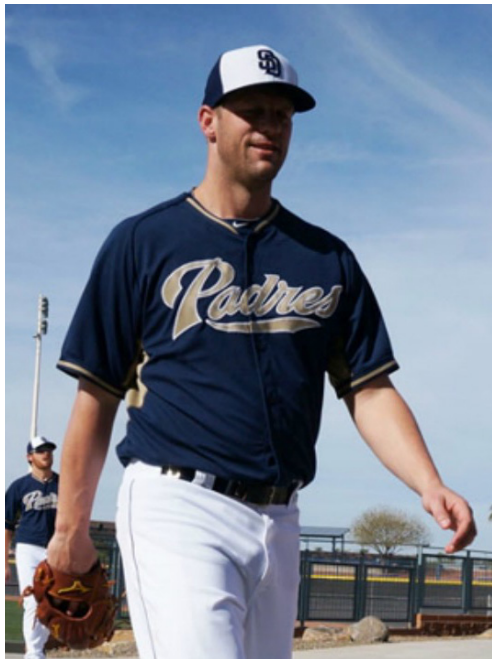
2014-2015 Home Batting Practice



The 2014 all-MLB batting practice jersey redesign by Majestic adds banded knit trim to sleeve ends and the neck opening. The Padres maintain separate home and road batting practice jerseys. The home model has gold/white lettering, adds gold underarm panels, and has navy/gold striped knit trim. Jersey is a button-front design.

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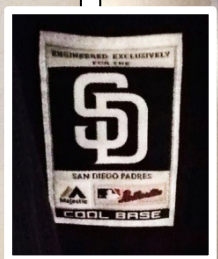
2014-2015 Road Batting Practice



The 2014 all-MLB batting practice jersey redesign by Majestic adds knit trim to sleeve ends and the neck opening. The Padres maintain separate home and road BP jerseys. The road model has gray/white lettering, adds gray underarm panels, and has navy/gray striped knit trim. Jersey is a button-front design. The team believes that the gray trim and lettering matches the road gray pants better than the gold-trimmed version.

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2016 Spring Training

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

2016: For the first time, MLB introduces a jersey specifically for Spring Training, intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template, and features a special printed twill, decorated with “2016” and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team.

The Padres use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading “2016” and “AZ” representing where the Padres spend Spring Training.

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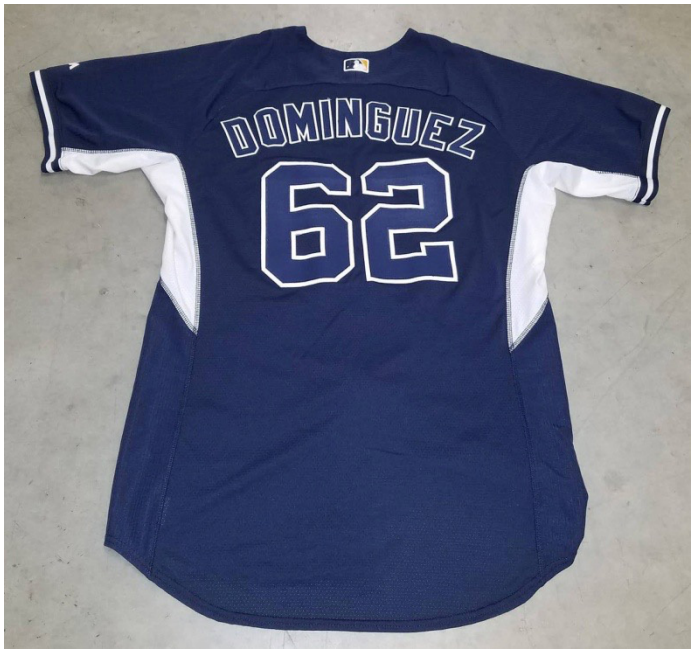
2016 Home Batting Practice

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection



As part of the 2016 club brand refresh, the Padres update their batting practice jerseys again. Based on the league-wide 2014 jersey construction template, these full-button Majestic jerseys retain the banded knit trim on sleeve ends and the neck opening. The home model has navy/white lettering for front and back, with white underarm panels and navy/white striped knit trim.

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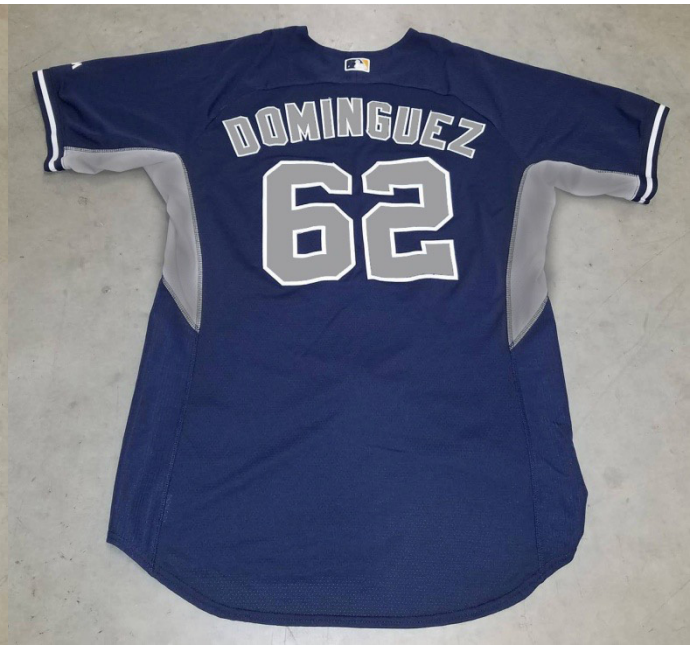
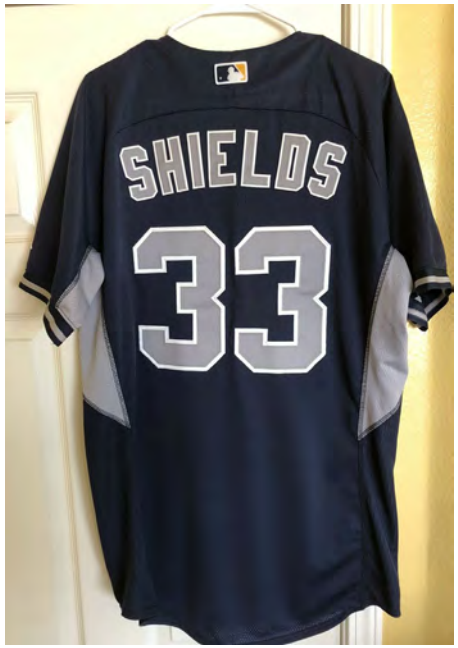
2016 Road Batting Practice

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection





In keeping with their custom, the Padres maintain having only slightly different home and road batting practice jerseys. The road version is very similar to the home version on the prior page, with the exception of the gray lettering and the gray side panels. Based on the 2014 template, these full-button Majestic jerseys retain the banded knit trim on sleeve ends and the neck opening. The road model has gray/white lettering for front and back, with gray underarm panels and navy/gray striped knit trim. And in typical Padres tradition, these are short lived, lasting only a year before they are relegated to history.

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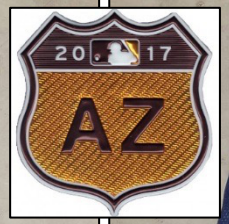
2017 Spring Training



Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017, with some minor design modifications. As in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template, and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. Since the Padres’ lettering on their blue alternates is single-color white to begin with, the 2017 change to the lettering does not have an impact on their Spring Training jerseys.

The Padres again use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their spring training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve, in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Padres spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets—which are void of player identification—instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on the field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made from Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Padres jersey is blue with white back and underarm gussets. The interlocking "SD" of their caps and regular jersey sleeve patches appears on the front left chest in white. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white Varsity on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Padres use their regular-season blue alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey template evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Padres use their regular-season blue alternate as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are white.

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2020-2022 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Padres use a design separate from their new, regular-season standard set, but similar to their brown alternate, placing the SD cap logo in yellow/white on the front left chest instead of PADRES lettering, with yellow/white name and back numbers. This style is discontinued after 2022.

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2023 Spring Training

As part of Nike's drive for simplification, several teams that had Spring Training-specific jerseys in prior years start using one of their alternates instead in 2023. For the Padres, this means their regular season brown road jersey also becomes their Spring Training top. Built on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template, this jersey features a yellow/white for the slightly arched front "SAN DIEGO" wordmark and back player names and numbers. Thick yellow braid encircles sleeve ends and neck opening. An updated version of the iconic "Swingin' Friar" takes residence on one sleeve, while the other features the white-background Motorola advertising patch (the sleeves on which these two patches appear changes based on the players' handedness).

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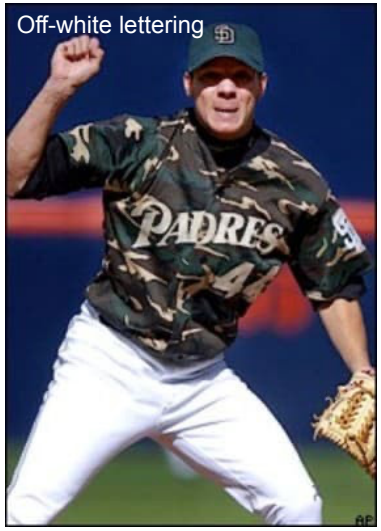
Special Events Jerseys

1996-2003 Armed Forces Day

Earlier bright white lettering

Later off-white lettering

Side by Side



Off-white lettering

Armed Forces Day jersey, worn each year in mid-May to honor members of the military – and as a promotion, since San Diego is the home to many military personnel. During these years, these “jungle” camo jerseys were never listed in the team’s guide as an alternate, because they appeared only once each year. Numbers are Block Bold; names are Block; no nameplates.

The color of the lettering and the sleeve patch changed from bright white to off-white ivory toward the end of the run, though we don’t yet have an exact year the change happened. Note the subtle shading of the white vs. ivory sleeve patches side by side at left.

Oddly, the one-game camo jerseys 1996–2003 lacked a manufacturer’s sleeve logo. Not until the team began wearing these style jerseys every Sunday in 2006 did a maker’s mark appear on the sleeve end.

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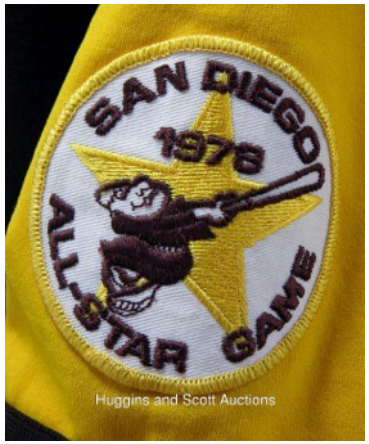
1998 Turn Back The Clock to 1978



June 26, 1998: With more than two dozen uniform styles from which to choose, the Padres played their share of Turn Back the Clock games … and could choose to dress differently every day for a month if they wished! However, this is the first Padres TBTC game, vs. the 1978-attired California Angels in San Diego.

These are Mitchell & Ness 1978 TBTC jerseys used in 1998—but in error they have used the 1985–1990 style numbers on them instead of the Padres' distinctive "Mod" numbers of this period. Names on back should also be vertical arch (and on nameplates) and they are not. An unfortunate and unnecessary strikeout in my book.

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1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

Regarded by many fans as the silliest promotion ever, many (but not all) teams participated in a Century 21 sponsored game in 1999 that mused, “what will baseball look like in the 21st Century?" Most who saw these games would conclude that all common sense would have evaporated in the Future; nearly all of the uniforms worn for this promotion were awful.

We have finally located photos of game worn Padres jerseys from this game, played July 21, 1999, in San Francisco, and we share it here. The Padres’ design is particularly uninspired and looks like perhaps the art department gave it a few moments’ thought over a sandwich before submitting the final design. Back numbers are metallic silver/navy/white; player NOB is vertically stacked and is white. The special “futuristic” font used was shared for this event by the Mets, A’s, Mariners, and Royals.

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2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

2000 Bret Boone Game Used and Signed San Diego Padres Turn Back the Clock Jersey (Boone LOA)

2000 Bret Boone Game Used and Signed San Diego Padres Turn Back the Clock Jersey (Boone LOA)

The Padres visited the Pirates, who ordered the uniforms for the game. The Pirates wore 1960 uniforms to commemorate their 1960 World Series win. The Padres did not exist as an MLB team until 1969, so their suits were the inaugural year road tan uniform made by Mitchell & Ness. It has the San Diego 200th anniversary patch that seems to have been used on this style of jersey in lieu of the MLB 100th Anniversary patch worn by all other teams. It is also made of wool flannel and not knit—an itchy nod to realism that happens less and less frequently in Turn Back the Clock games now.

The commentary in the ***San Diego Press*** the following day was classic, and is shown in the sidebar at right.

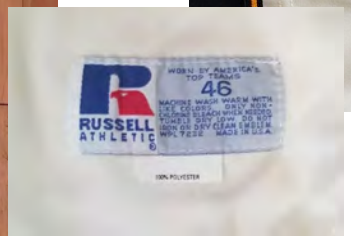
"… The Padres visited their ugly past last night and played accordingly. Wearing tan and brown uniforms similar to those of the 1969 Padres, who lost 110 games, the modern Padres flopped around and lost 10-2 to the Pittsburgh Pirates. "Those guys had to wear UPS uniforms, and it carried over into the game," cracked Pirates star Brian Giles, who drilled two doubles and three singles.

The uniforms were as thick as burlap. Just the trick in muggy Pittsburgh."

© GameWornGuides.com

2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

In August 2003, no one knew where the Expos would be playing in the future, but it was a sure bet it would no longer be in Montreal. The decision to move the team to Washington, DC for the 2005 season finally came at the end of the 2004 season, after much delay. It seemed appropriate for the Padres to host a Turn Back the Clock game for the Expos on August 22, 2003, in San Diego. The Expos and the Padres were linked in birth as the teams that joined the National League for its 1969 expansion. For the occasion, both teams wore 1969 throwback uniforms with the 100th Anniversary patch on the left sleeve. The Padres' uniforms were beautifully made by Russell, in cream-colored knit. The team wordmark on the front is perfectly rendered, in brown outlined with yellow. Block with serif numerals were used on the reverse, which is correct as on the original Rawlings uniforms of 1969. No player names are used, which is also correct. As far as Turn Back the Clock uniforms go, these are about as good as it gets.



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2004-2005 Military Appreciation Day

2005

2005

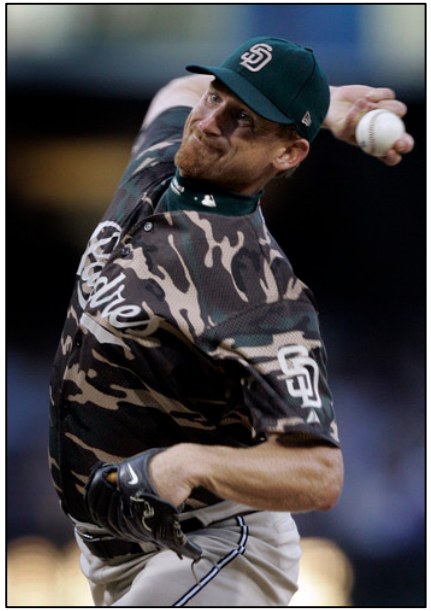
For 2004 and 2005, the Padres used their new-style lettering in white on jungle camouflage.

As in prior years, this jersey was for one game, Military Appreciation Day, and this style was not listed by the team as an official alternate jersey in the *MLB Style Guide*.

"SD" Patch on the left sleeve; right sleeve is bare. All lettering, and the sleeve patch are ivory colored, not bright white.

Oddly, the one-game camo jerseys 1996–2003 lacked a manufacturer's sleeve logo. Not until the team began wearing these style jerseys every Sunday in 2006 did a maker's mark appear on the sleeve end.

2004



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2004 Turn Back The Clock to 1984

May 14, 2004: The Padres played a game dressed in 1984 uniforms, marking their first World Series year. They played the Cubs, who were disagreeable to the idea and would not participate in the TBTC fun for this game (because the Padres beat them in the 1984 NLCS). The Cubs wore their standard 2004 road uniforms.

The replica uniforms were made by Majestic. The front wordmark looks pretty accurate, this time using the proper break of the wordmark right in the middle of the letter “D”, but the player numbers are not at all correct. Names on back should be vertical arch and are not (although nameplate use is correct); RAK on sleeve is too tall.

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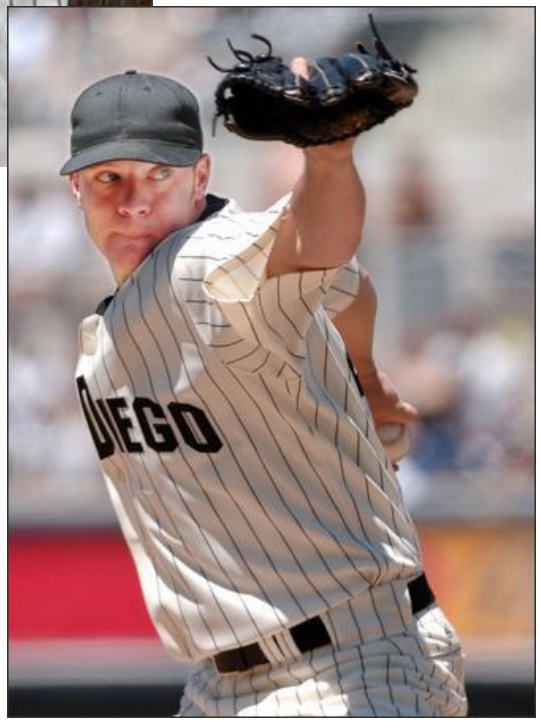
2005 Turn Back the Clock to 1936 PCL Padres

Saturday, June 25: Playing the Mariners, who were attired as the Pacific Coast League Seattle Rainiers, the Padres suited up in these knit reproductions of the old uniforms. Note the old-time ¾ length sleeves.



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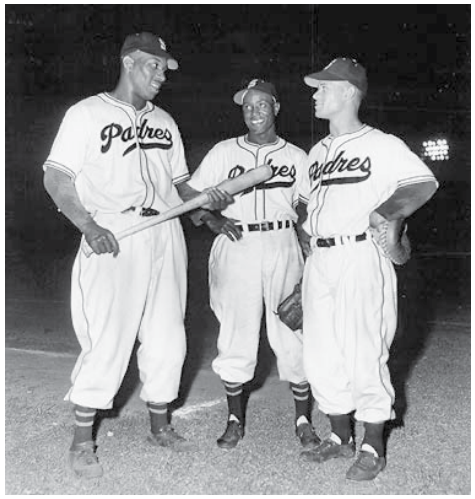
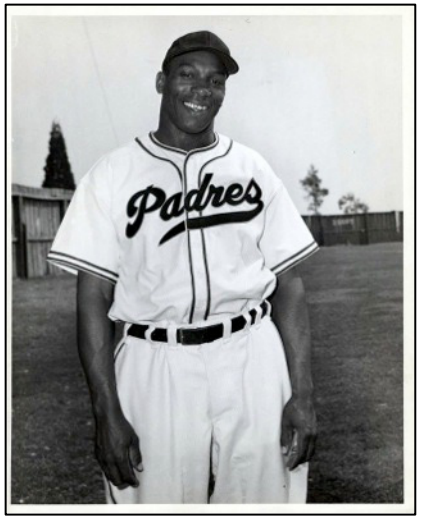
2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1948 PCL Padres

- **From the Padres' press release**: "Saturday's 7:05 p.m. PT matchup with the Cubs (May 6, 2006) marks the Padres' Third Annual Salute to the Negro Leagues. The Padres will sport 1948 Pacific Coast League uniforms in honor of San Diego native Johnny Ritchey, who broke the PCL color barrier while playing for the Padres that season."
- The manufacturer is Majestic. Looking at the few photos I have from the game, and comparing to 1948 originals, it certainly appears the copies are accurate.
- Cream-colored knit with navy knit trim on placket and sleeve ends. "Padres" script with underline in navy, outlined in red. The back numbers were two-color, just like the front script, and no player names were used.





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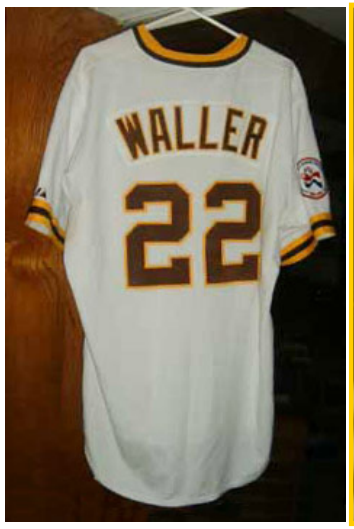
2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1976



August 3, 2006: The Padres played the Astros, with both teams recreating the look from 30 years prior.

These 1976 Padres throwbacks are beautifully recreated by Majestic. They are nearly flawless replicas of the Sand-Knit originals, including the odd V-neck and 1976-only NL Centennial patch on the right sleeve.

Wilson Varsity is used for player numbers, in substitute for the authentic Sand-Knit Varsity style. In 1976, the player numbers were styled differently on front and on the back (probably not intentionally).

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1972

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

- **May 11, 2007:** The Padres turned back the clock 35 years to 1972, when their all-yellow/gold knit uniforms shocked baseball. They played the 1972-attired St. Louis Cardinals.
- Majestic made these nearly flawless replicas, though they used Wilson Varsity for the back numbers, as opposed to the original Padres-only variant of Varsity used in 1972.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

- Their opponents, the Red Sox wore mid-1980s uniforms for the game that were not terribly accurate for the period either.
- Capping that, with uniforms worn in the 2007 baggy style, the teams didn't much resemble their 1982 counterparts all that much.

- **June 22, 2007:** The Padres played the Red Sox in a Turn Back the Clock game wearing 1980-1983 style uniforms.
- Inexplicably, after 2006's masterful TBTC recreations by Majestic and the Padres, the 2007 uniforms were woefully inaccurate—featuring a front wordmark that is mis-sized and improperly straight-across instead of arced; numbers that are hardly close to the originals; and names on back not vertical arch like the originals. It is the same incorrect font used by Majestic for the 2004 Turn Back the Clock game.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1998

The only clue that these are TBTC jerseys is the Majestic logo on the sleeve. Russell was the manufacturer of these jerseys for 12 years of their 13-year run (Goodman for one)—the longest the team ever wore a single style without a makeover.

- **September 14, 2007:** The Padres played the San Francisco Giants in a Turn Back the Clock game to 1998—the second time the Padres were in the World Series.
- Making these uniforms was no sweat for Majestic; it had only been six years since the Padres last wore these pinstripes.
- To me, this seems like pushing the nostalgia concept a bit far. I wonder how many people watching the game even realized this was a Turn Back the Clock night?

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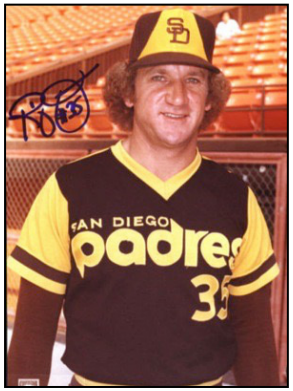
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1978 (Road)

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection



Left: *Randy Jones in 1978, wearing an original uniform. Notice the difference in the team name lettering thickness compared to the replicas.*

- **June 14, 2008** in Cleveland. Both teams wore TBTC uniforms. The Padres wore their road brown jerseys, made by Majestic. Names on nameplates. Opponent was the 1978-attired Cleveland Indians.
- Uniforms are reasonably close copies of the 1978 originals. The team name on front was fatter/bolder on the originals; NOB on originals was vertical arch, and it is not on the recreations. Player numbers are accurate; I suspect that Majestic used my patterns for these.

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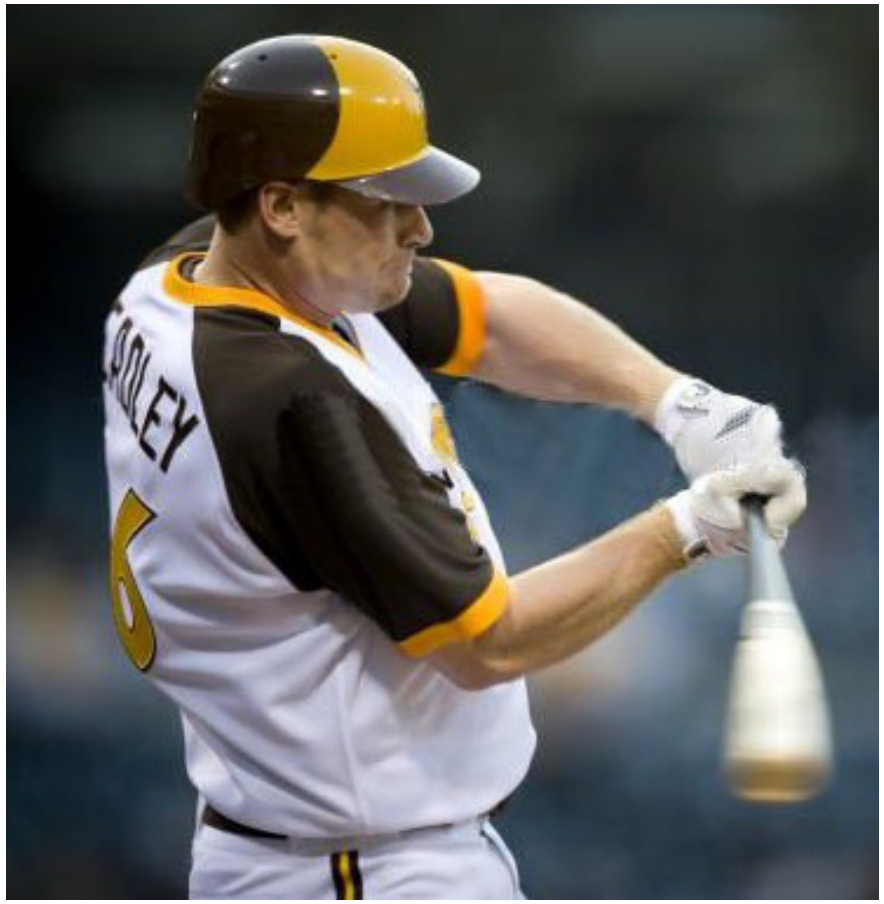
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1978 (Home)



June 27, 2008 at home vs. the Seattle Mariners. Both teams wore Majestic replicas of their 1978 uniforms. The Padres' were accurate, except that the NOB lettering was not vertical arch. This always puzzles me, as today with computers, generating vertical arch lettering is a snap—and it looks so classy—yet no teams do it anymore. In 1978, vertical arch lettering had to be laid out by hand, using many sets of patterns and a trained eye, yet several teams used it.

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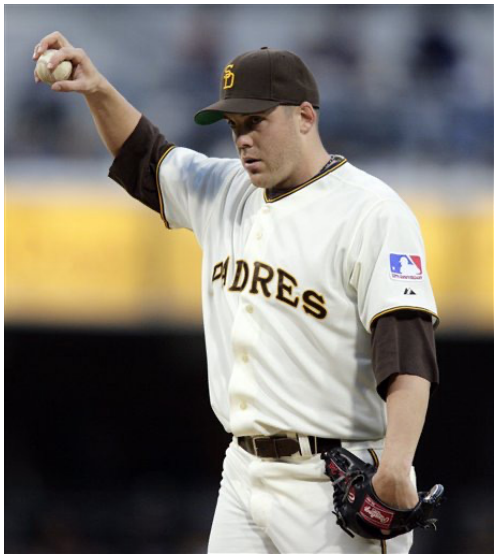
2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1969



April 25, 2009: The Padres had Turn Back the Clock Day to 1969, their inaugural year in the National League. Their opponent was the Pittsburgh Pirates. Majestic made the double knit replicas. From the front, the recreation was nothing short of perfect. Lettering in brown over yellow twill. The 1969 MLB 100th Anniversary patch correctly adorns the left sleeve. From the back, they are just plain wrong. The Padres never used the number font on these jerseys (except on the equally incorrect 1983 Turn Back the Clock uniforms made by Majestic in 2007). 1969's font was Wilson Varsity. No player names on back were used in 1969.**Soapbox time:** I don't know who submits and approves the designs, and whether they know the designs are inaccurate or just don't care, but it is confounding how sometimes the Majestic recreations are spot-on, and other times they are historically inaccurate, like this example.

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1978 “Throwback Thursdays”

The brown uniform was not worn at home by the Padres in 1978; it was their road uniform. Nevertheless, the 1978 road throwback uniform was worn at home by the Padres on four dates:

- May 27 vs. Cardinals
- July 29 vs. Dodgers
- August 12 vs. Pirates (who wore 1977 pinstripe jerseys/black pants)
- August 26 vs. Diamondbacks

This was a good replica by Majestic. Correct player number font, but front wordmark should be just a bit bolder to match original. NOB should be vertical arch.

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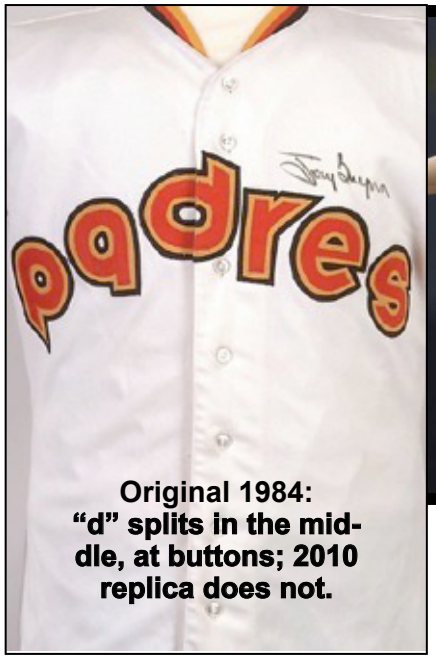
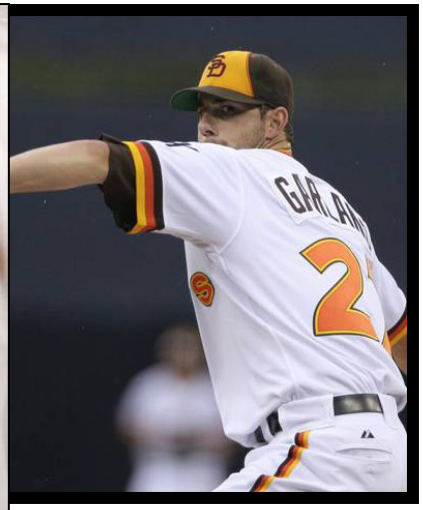
2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1984 "Throwback Thursdays"



Original 1984: "d" splits in the middle, at buttons; 2010 replica does not.



***Below**: As worn on September 30 and then auctioned.*

The Padres wore their one-year 1984-style button front jerseys on two dates in 2010. They were two different sets of jerseys:

- **April 15, 2010:** Jackie Robinson Day, against the 1984 road uniform attired Atlanta Braves. All player jerseys had the number "42" on back; no player names.
- **September 30, 2010** vs. the Cubs. These uniforms had player NOB on nameplate, and also featured a "Shirts off Their Backs" MDA charity patch on the left chest above the Padres wordmark.

These are "just OK" reproductions of the 1984 uniform, by Majestic. The front wordmark is too small; the "d" in Padres should split in the middle to match 1984's design; and the RAK sleeve memorial is too tall.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1936 PCL Padres

Playing the Nationals on June 11, the Padres hosted a Turn Back the Clock contest, with the home team wearing the uniforms of the Pacific Coast League (PCL) Padres of 1936. The Nationals wore the uniforms of the 1936 Washington Senators.

The Majestic cream-colored navy pinstriped uniforms have the word "San Diego" vertically arched across the front. Player numbers are in block font on the reverse in single-color navy. No player names are used.

Left: *18-year old Ted Williams as a 1936 PCL Padre.*

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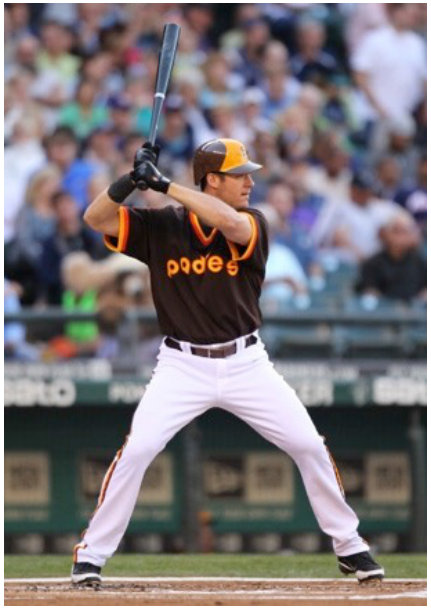
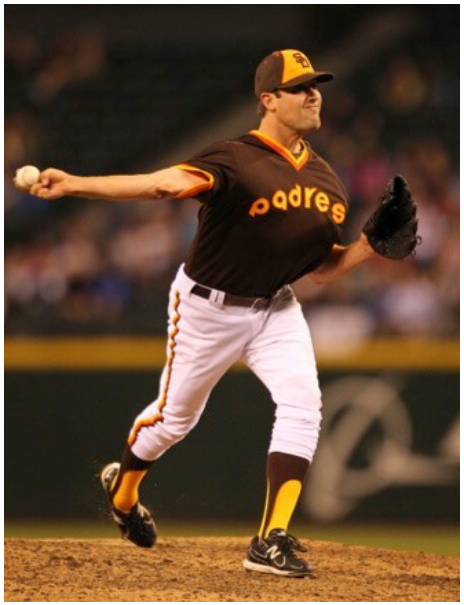
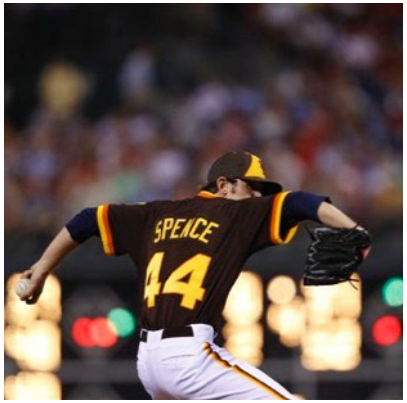
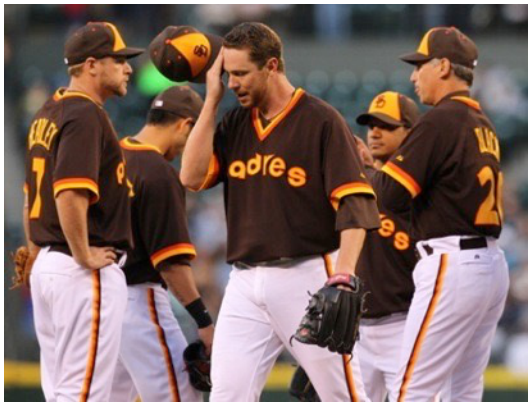
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1983





July 1, 2011: The Padres were the guests of the Seattle Mariners for a Turn Back the Clock to 1983 game. In an earlier edition, we guessed … wrongly … that these were the same set of jerseys used 13 days later at home for another, nearly identical Turn Back the Clock game. Since then, we have verified that they were indeed a separate set. The home team orders, and then has the right to sell, Turn Back the Clock uniforms for both teams in games held at their park. So while perhaps it was just a scheduling or unintentional communications issue between the teams, more likely this was a moneymaking opportunity for the Mariners that they did not want to pass up!





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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

July 14, 2011: Pullover 1983-style road jerseys were worn on Turn Back the Clock Night vs. the Giants. The Padres commemorated the passing of Dick Williams, their manager from 1982–1985, by wearing a round patch with his initials, "RHW" on it for this game only. Williams was the first manager to lead the Padres to a Division Championship in 1984 as well as their first World Series appearance.

The Padres 1983 replica jerseys were V-neck pullovers, and *are not the same ones* as the brown jerseys worn on two other dates during the 2011 season (just before and after this game). Compared to originals, the front wordmark is too small; NOB should be vertical arch and is not.

The jersey above retains the RHW sleeve patch that was worn only July 14.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1984

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

These Cool Base copies of the Padres' 1984 brown button-front jerseys were ordered for a Turn Back the Clock game in Philadelphia on July 22.

These uniforms are nice copes of the 1984 originals, with the proper player number font in yellow and orange on back. Oddly, the "D" in "Padres" splits in the middle; it did not on the 2010 version of the same year's home jersey.

The yellow player names are sewn on nameplates, as was done in 1984. However, they are not vertical-arch-style as they should be. This is a simple-to-do touch with computers generating all the graphics for letter-cutting patterns in 2011, yet it is nearly always skipped by teams when they do Turn Back the Clock games. The "RAK" Ray Kroc memorial initials of 1984 are correctly sewn on the left sleeve in yellow twill.

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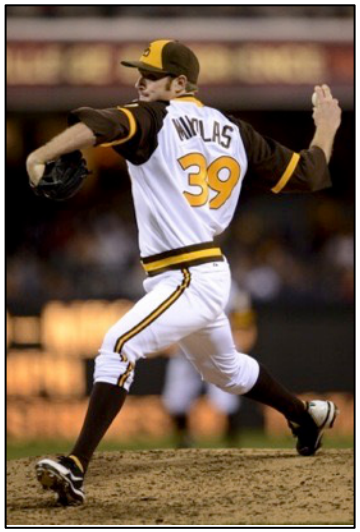
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1978

May 18, 2012: Majestic recreations of 1978 pullover home uniforms were worn for this home contest against the Angels. They seem to be identical to the jerseys Majestic made for the Padres for a 2008 contest. Accurate, except for the lack of vertical arch player names on back, and the fact that the players wore them baggy— quite unlike the way they were worn in 1978.



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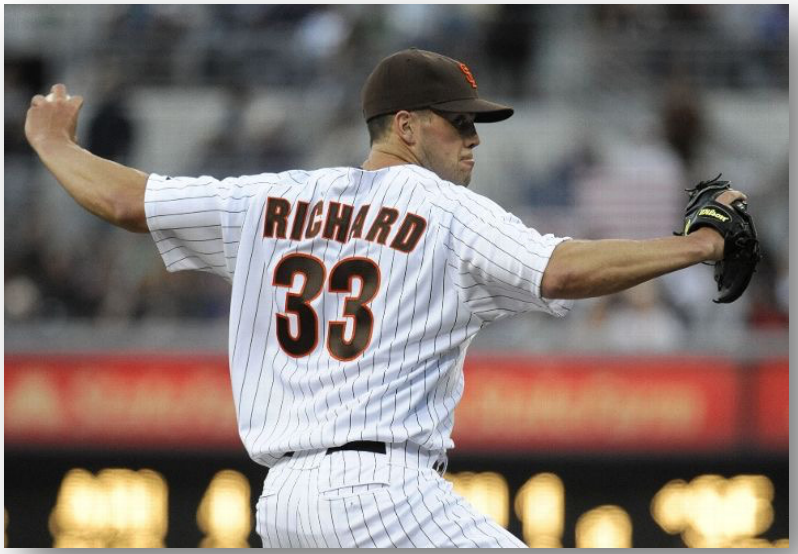
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1988



August 3, 2012, vs. NY Mets at San Diego.

For the first time, the Padres "turned back the clock" to the 1985–1990 era, the one that featured the Padres logo in brown and orange on a brown pinstriped jersey. The Majestic uniforms were faithfully reproduced, including the correct, unique player name and number lettering rendered in a special Padres-only font, in brown twill outlined with orange. An "A+" effort.

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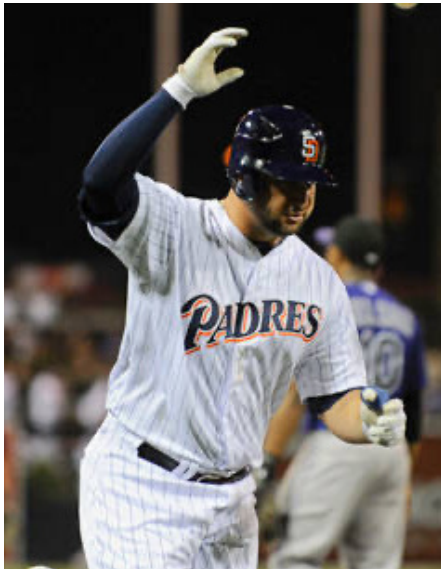
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1991

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection



This game was played September 14, 2012, at home vs. the visiting Rockies, who wore their regular uniforms. Padres' suits are visually identical to the ones worn in the September 14, 2007 Turn Back the Clock game. These Majestic uniforms are almost perfect. Navy pinstripes on full-weight knit fabric; the front wordmark and back numbers are navy/white/orange; the player NOB is navy. The only inaccuracy is that the player name font used here compared to 1991 is slightly different; the original is shorter and wider than the reproduction. The font used for these is, instead, the then-current (2012) Majestic block NOB font used for many teams.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1984

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

May 17, 2013 vs. the visiting (and non-throwback-attired) Washington Nationals. These seem to be visually identical to the set of uniforms worn by the Padres in a 2010 Turn Back the Clock contest, and are most likely made from the same patterns. However, they lack the “RAK” sleeve memorial lettering that was worn in 1984 and in 2010.

Button-front design, as worn in 1984 only. Compared to actual 1984 jerseys, the wordmark’s letter “d” is not split in the middle at the placket as it should be. Instead, the whole wordmark is shifted slightly to the right and is made slightly smaller. Wordmark is slightly too small. NOB should be vertical arch to match originals.

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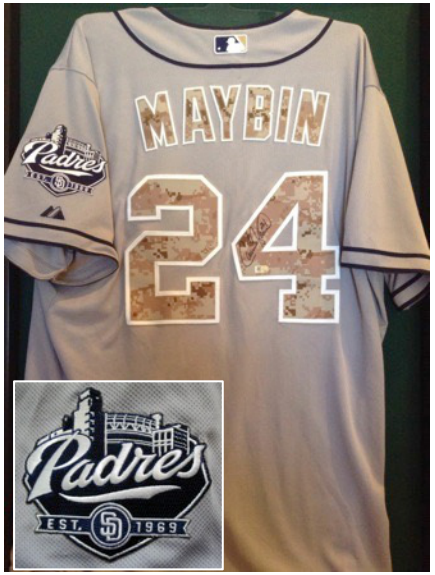
2013-2014 Memorial Day



2013: With regular team patch on left sleeve.

2014: Adds "JC" patch on right sleeve

May 27, 2013 & May 26, 2014: Major League Baseball mandated uniforms for all teams with camouflage wordmarks on these days, and some pulled it off better than others. The Padres fell victim to the terrible combination of gray jersey fabric and pale camo wordmarks with white outlining -rendering all lettering invisible and making their jerseys look blank from the seats. And because they were the road team both years, they wore the same awful uniform twice. Perhaps, like the Pirates, they could have changed for the second year to the navy alternate jersey, where the lettering would actually have been seen. The 2014 jersey is distinguished by having the "JC" star on its right sleeve.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1998

June 14, 2013 vs. the visiting Diamondbacks, who did not dress specially for the occasion. 1998 was the second time the Padres were in the World Series. And as they did for one game in that series, they wore their blue alternate jerseys. These Majestic throwbacks are nearly perfect, properly leaving off the white front numbers as is correct for 1998. The only thing that distinguishes them from the Russell originals is the addition of the Majestic logo to the left sleeve end.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1948 PCL Padres

July 12, 2013 vs. the visiting Giants, who wore their normal road uniforms. Before the San Diego Padres were named an expansion team for the 1969 season, the team name had been used to represent the town's Pacific Coast League minor league team. It seemed a natural choice for the MLB franchise.

In this game, the National League Padres turned the clock back to the 1948 PCL Padres. The uniforms are a virtual repeat of those worn in the May 6, 2006, game, made by Majestic. The cream-colored knit 2013 jerseys are also made by Majestic.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1984 (Home)

Worn May 22 against the visiting Cubs, who dressed in their normal blue alternates. These Majestic jerseys use the same patterns as used for the past few 1984 Turn Back the Clock games. I would not probably bother to list them again separately here, except for one small difference: the “RAK” memorial sleeve lettering worn in 1984 is again present on this set of uniforms (it had been overlooked and left off the last time these were worn, in 2013). Names are correctly on nameplates, but should be vertical arch and are not.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1984 (Road)

Three Turn Back the Clock games were played in these uniforms:

- May 23-24 against the visiting and non-throwback attired Cubs;
- September 20 against the Giants.

Although this basic jersey style was worn from 1980-1984, 1984's model was the only year that had a button front instead of being a pullover.

The Padres wore similar Turn Back the Clock uniforms in 2011 in a road game against the Phillies, with one notable difference to uniform collectors: The wordmark is split between the "a" and the "d," unlike the originals ***and*** the 2011 jerseys, which have the split in the middle of the "a." The improper split causes the wordmark to be slightly off-center, but is doubtless easier to align and sew. These jerseys feature a smaller front wordmark than the originals from 1984, and RAK memorial letters are properly added to the left sleeve, though they are too large. Names on back should be vertical arch, and they are not. But they are on nameplates—an accurate touch.

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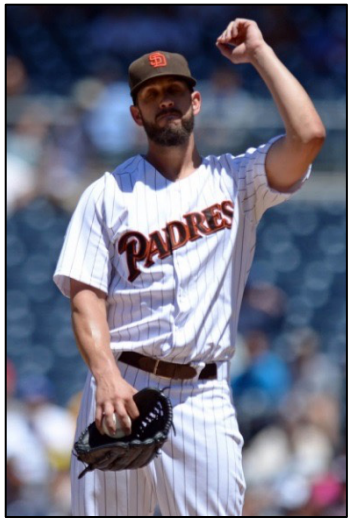
2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1985-1990
"Way Back Wednesdays"

http://www.sportingnews.com/mlb/story/2015-01-28/san-diego-padres-brown-uniforms-2015-season-throwback-alternate?eadid=SOC/fb/SNMain



Prior to the start of the 2015 season, the Padres announced that they would wear throwback brown-pinstriped 1985-1990 style uniforms for five games in 2015—all a part of a "Way Back Wednesday" promotion.

The jerseys were flawlessly reproduced for the Padres by Majestic in full-weight knit with replicas of the team wordmark in brown, outlined with orange, as well as using a perfect reproduction of the period Padres-only name and number font.

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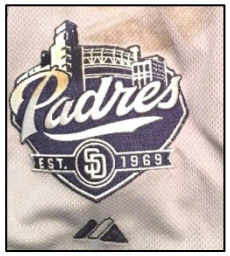
2015 Memorial Day



For three consecutive years, the Padres are on the road for Memorial Day, but the camo is now applied to their new road jersey template. The desert camo layer replaces the top layer of twill, and now has a navy outline— much more readable than the white from previous years. The look is still almost impossible to see from a distance—especially the bold front wordmark. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/ khaki/white, rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 US-based teams adopt patriotic “Stars and Stripes” uniforms for the first time. All uniforms are lettered in red, white, and blue, regardless of the team’s normal color palette.

Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the teams’ regular jerseys.

All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on back collar. The Padres wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as back numbers. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016-2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1990s
“Way Back Wednesdays”

The Padres have no shortage of past jerseys to use for throwbacks—many of which are wildly colorful and unusual. Odd, then, that this would be the third time they would bring back this comparatively simple style, 15 years since they had worn it daily. Worn on several home “Way Back Wednesdays” during 2016–2018, this Majestic Cool Base jersey is built on a knit jersey template (no side or underarm gussets) with the knit-style sewn-on front tagging as well. Like previous versions, these are excellent reproductions of the originals. The front wordmark and back numbers are navy/white/orange, and the player name on back is navy. In 2018, it is worn with the KT|RP memorial patch on the right sleeve.

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2016 Mother's Day

Sunday, May 8, 2016: For the first time, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days); the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink, and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Padres wear their alternate blue camo jerseys, with the front logo lettering in pink with white outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color white; back numbers are pink/white. Thankfully, the American flag patch on the left sleeve retains its usual coloring, and does not switch to Mother's Day colors as other team patches do. The jersey trim remains white on the blue camo jersey, unlike other teams that change to gray or pink.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in previous years. The Padres add the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their trim elements are also changed to single-color black from the usual blue. The jersey lacks the 2016 All Star Game patch, normally found on their road uniforms.

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2016 Father's Day

June 19, 2016: For the first time, all teams wear special light-blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days); the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Padres wear their alternate blue camo jerseys, with the front logo lettering in light blue with white outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray; back numbers are light blue/white. Using white for outlines, the Padres are one of the few teams to have one of their original twill colors remain the same. However, it was likely the best (and perhaps only) choice for visibility against the blue camo. In addition, the American flag patch on the left sleeve retains its usual coloring and does not switch to Father's Day colors like other teams' patches do. The jersey trim remains white on the blue camo jersey, unlike other teams that change to dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Padres are on the road, and wear their blue alternate road jerseys. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill, and the Padres select the red twill version with gray outlines for the front lettering and for their back numbers, with a gray player name on back. The Padres are one of only three teams (with the Dodgers and Royals) to have additional layers of twill added to their typical single-layer jerseys. In contrast, several other teams have their multilayer designs simplified to two colors. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim -- normally white -- becomes red.

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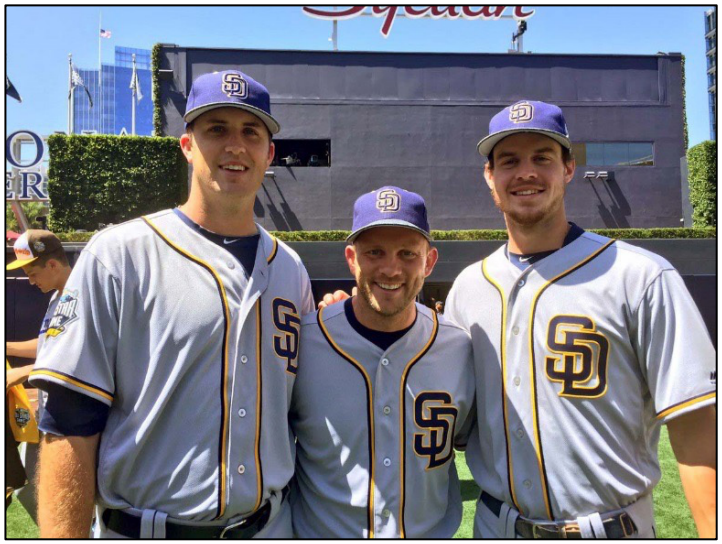
2016 All-Star Game-Only Road



The 2016 All-Star Game was held at the Padres' Petco Park. The All-Star Game home team alternates each year, and in 2016, the AL was the home team in an NL ballpark. The Padres saw an opportunity to add yet another jersey: a gray version of their home jersey, exclusively for use by the Padres all-stars, playing a "road" game in their home park. In contrast to their white home jerseys, the gray version sports the All-Star Patch on the right sleeve, where most of the other all-stars wore it. It also had stars on either side of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back of the collar, a recent addition to All-Star Game jerseys. Only two players—Wil Myers and Drew Pomeranz (and Padres manager Andy Green, who was on the coaching staff for the exhibition)—wore the one-game-only model.

Your author rarely offers opinions, but this is what the Padres road jersey should be. It is simply perfect, with understated graphic simplicity and classy colors.

The jersey pictured above is my own hand-made recreation of this style that was not made available to fans. I made it using a gray road jersey which I stripped of all lettering and trim, then transplanted onto it the trim and lettering from a white SD home jersey.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1936 PCL Padres

For the third time, the Padres pay tribute to the other San Diego Padres, their 1936 Pacific Coast League predecessors. In a September 7 game against the visiting Red Sox, who wear 1936 road jerseys, the teams honor Hall of Famer Ted Williams, a Red Sox legend who was a member of the 1936 PCL Padres. Once again, the Majestic cream-colored navy-pinstriped uniforms have “San Diego” vertically arched across the front. Player numbers are in Block font on the reverse in single-color navy. No player names are used. In contrast to previous versions, this one is made from Cool Base material, but in a knit jersey template (no mesh underarm gussets), and carries traditional knit jersey Majestic tail tagging.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13-14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Padres wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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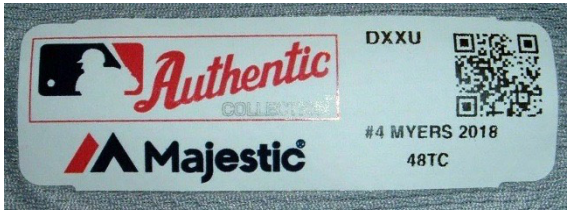
2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)



The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Padres apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27-28, 2017 and May 26-27, 2018.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Home)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Padres apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017 and May 28, 2018.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17-18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Padres wear road gray with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray. The team's SD sleeve patch is also changed to light blue/dark gray.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1-2, 2017, the Padres wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 4, 2017 and July 2-4, 2018, the Padres wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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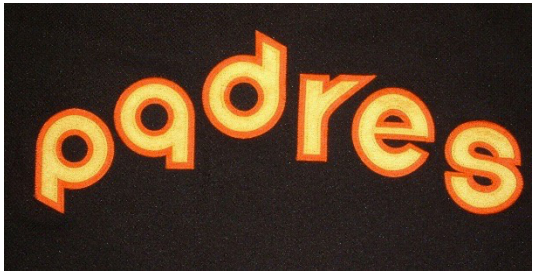
2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1983



Padres fans love the team's brown era, and this throwback, worn on July 7 and 9, 2017 in Philadelphia, celebrates the 1983 road incarnation of the team's last pullover style. The team wordmark and back player numbers are in the Padres' "Mod" font in yellow/orange. Wide yellow/orange knit trim surrounds the sleeve ands and V-neck.

Like the last version of this Majestic full-knit throwback from 2011, compared to the originals the front wordmark is too small and the yellow name on back should be vertical arch and is not.

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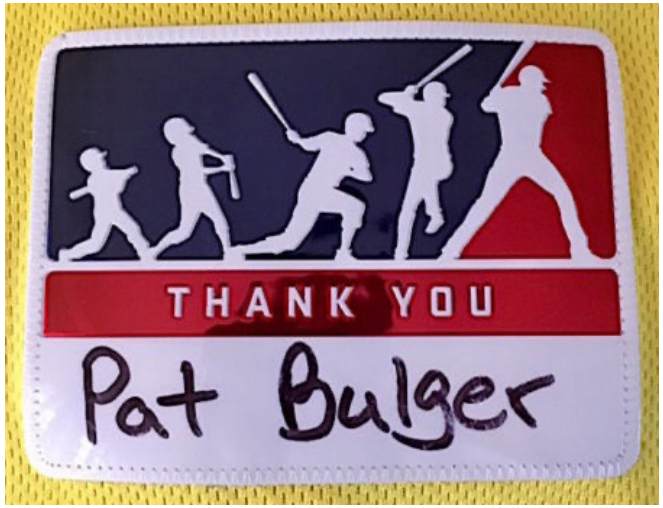
2017 Players Weekend



To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017, the Padres wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and yellow sleeves with white nicknames and yellow numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide yellow/white/yellow trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in yellow/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24-26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Padres wear jerseys with gray bodies and yellow sleeves with white nicknames and yellow numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide yellow/white/yellow trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in yellow/white kiss-cut twill.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Padres wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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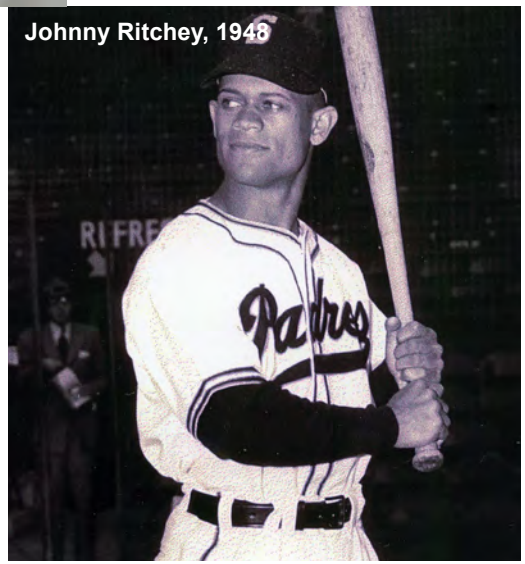
2023 Turn Back the Clock to 1948 PCL Padres

Stephen Kraljic collection

For a third time, the Padres throw back to the 1948 Pacific Coast League San Diego Padres, their namesake. This instance, on April 17, celebrates the 75th anniversary of Johnny Ritchey breaking the professional baseball color barrier on the West Coast. Ritchey, who would have also been celebrating his 100th birthday the same week as the game, was a catcher with the Padres in 1948 and 1949, becoming the first African American player in the PCL to be with his hometown team.

Made by Nike for the first time, these cream-colored knit jerseys have navy knit trim on neck opening, placket, and two rows at the sleeve ends. “Padres” script and back numbers in navy/red twill, with no player names on back. These appear to be identical to the first two times the team wore this style (2006 and 2013) and are close to what the PCL Padres themselves wore 75 years earlier, though that uniform may have had three-color braid trim rather than single-color knit trim, based on photos from the era.



Johnny Ritchey, 1948

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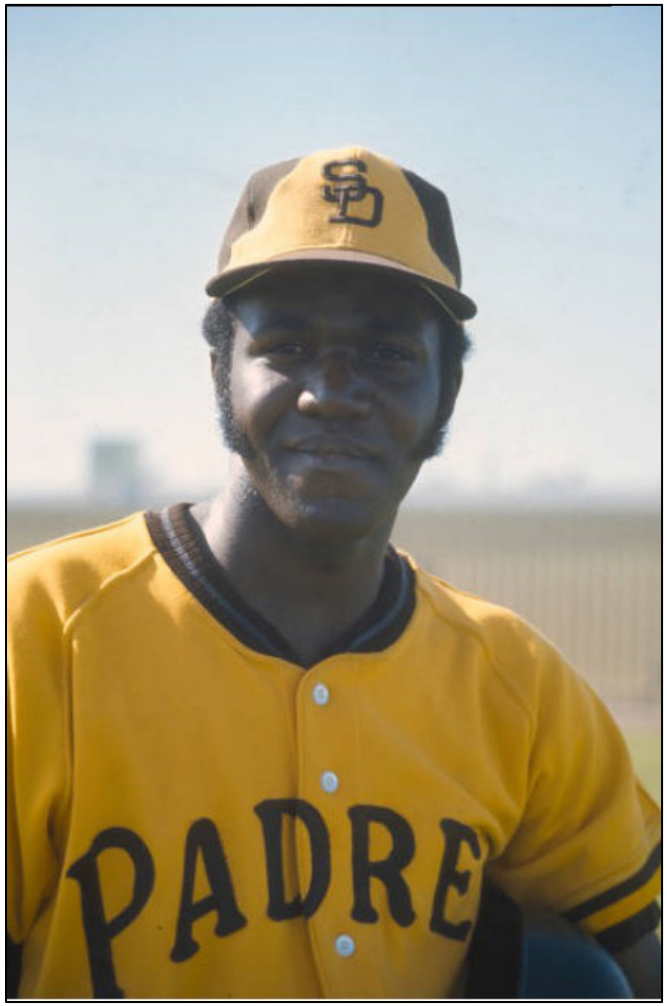
Prototypes and Oddballs

Pre-1972 Prototype Gold

In these undated photos, Nate Colbert (Padres 1969-1974) is wearing a gold Padres jersey that has detail differences from the ones the team started wearing for the 1972 season. The vertically ribbed knit collar has a gray highlight stripe running through its middle, not found on the smooth, solid-brown knit collar trim on the 1972 uniform. The sleeve end trim here is gold/brown/gold, not the approved brown/gold. And his number on back appears to be outlined with white, unlike the plain brown numbers used in 1972. From the photo backgrounds, we might imagine this was Spring Training, and that he was perhaps modeling a prototype uniform for photographers, as the blurred players in the background appear to be wearing earlier white flannels.



Colbert wore #17, yet the jersey he is wearing here has the number 5 on the back. For reasons unknown to me, manufacturers often number prototype sample jerseys with the numeral 5. Another clue, perhaps, that this was a prototype design.

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1974 Washington Stars

The Padres were widely rumored to be planning a move to Washington DC for the 1974 season. From information gathered over the years, during the 1973 season Padres ' general manager Peter "Buzzie" Bavasi told his staff privately that the team would be moving to DC for the 1974 season at the latest -- perhaps even before the end of the 1973 season -- and that owner C. Arnold Smith was broke.

Although Bavasi admonished his staff to keep their meeting quiet, the story broke in the papers the next day. Joe Danzansky, president of Giant Foods, was going to purchase the Padres. The team would remain in San Diego for the rest of the year, unless "financial concerns" forced them to move later that summer.

For the rest of the summer, baseball fans in Washington were on Cloud Nine. It was not a matter of *"if things work out"* or *"assuming all parties agree"* It was assumed to be a done deal, and everyone - *everyone* - was talking of the move as a certainty (although no one had signed anything at this point).

San Diego fans were so sure the team was leaving that they stopped going to games. In fact, they drew just 1,400 fans to one game that September. Topps was so sure the Padres were moving that they created the famous (at least to collectors) "Washington National League" cards – because schedules dictated the first card series had to be printed before the expected official announcement was to be made.

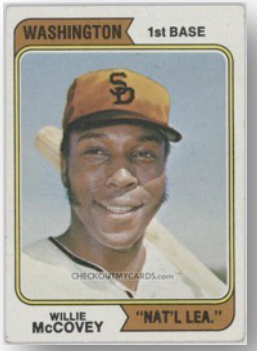
in December, Danzansky announced that he and a group of partners were ready to purchase the Padres. He was given three weeks by MLB to complete the deal. But sometime during that time, San Diego's city attorney obtained a court order to force the team to pay off the remainder of the stadium lease to the city, *even if it moved*. That lease was to run for *fifteen more years.*

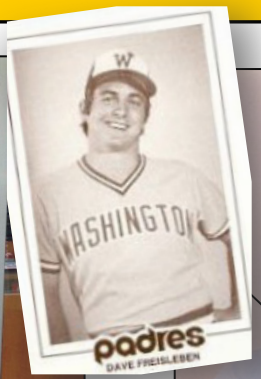
With the court order in place, the banks that were planning to finance Danzansky's deal pulled out. They were afraid the team couldn't be profitable if they were forced to pay for two stadiums. Suddenly, this previously-sure-thing deal was dead.

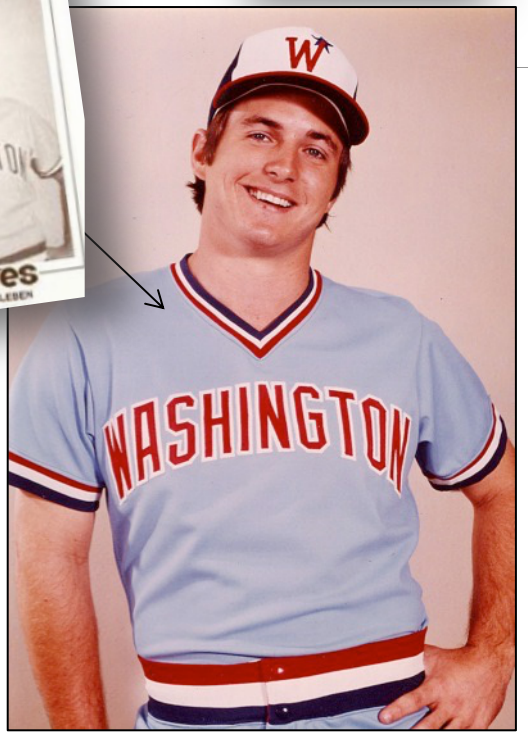
Major League Baseball said it was ready to assume ownership of the Padres if Smith was unable to keep his financial obligations. Before that could happen, McDonald's' co-founder Ray Kroc came forward and purchased the team, keeping it in San Diego.

Topps preemptively created generic "Washington Nat'l League" cards in advance of the 1974 season. Notice the airbrushed SD logo on McCovey's cap; he had just been acquired from the San Francisco Giants after the 1973 season.

All of this happened so close to the beginning of the 1974 season that it is easy to imagine that details such as team uniforms were in place. Look at the card below. This uniform on pitching prospect Dave Freisleben is real, and here are the studio color shots to prove it. Below: Perhaps the same prototype jersey on display in the club level of the Washington Nationals stadium, submitted by reader Tom Turner.







Some of the text above is paraphrased from personal remembrances posted on "The Beltway Boys" Blog on the Web.

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1978 Alternate Gold Prototype

Offered at left is a jersey said to be a Padres prototype, most likely for their one-year 1978 gold alternate. Made by Sand-Knit, which had also made the team's 1976 home jerseys, this version looks like a mashup of the 1976 home entry and the eventual 1978 alternate that was made by Wilson instead. The fact that Sand-Knit had worked with the Padres, and had done so around the time they may have been considering a uniform change for 1978, lends credence to this jersey as a possible sample. All front and back lettering is screened on, which may sometimes be a sign of a hastily created sample. There is no name on the back, but it appears that there is space for one. The use of "22" is curious, as the number belonged to pitcher Brent Strom, though he was a San Diego native, so perhaps that explains it (or it was just selected at random). We don't know for sure if this ever made it into any real consideration by the team, but if it did, it was clear the Padres wanted something bolder for their alternates that season, and this design was left behind.

Above: *A 1976 home jersey, made by Sand-Knit.*
Below: *The 1978 gold alternate by Wilson that was used on-field.*

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1985 Prototypes

Collector Kyle Bonamo shares his prototype 1985 Padres jersey made by Sand-Knit. It is an orange pinstriped pullover with dark brown and orange lettering. Sewn-on brown/orange/yellow knit trim is on the tops of the shoulders. This design proposal lost out to the brown pinstriped design with which we are all familiar. Notice the contemporary-styled Friar patch on the sleeve. ”Tagging” in tail says ”84 Garvey 44S”; interesting because Garvey was #6. Perhaps the stitcher didn’t realize, and sewed the numbers upside down? Prototype jerseys are often sewn using the number and name of a famous player.

Can’t help noticing the resemblance of the prototype to this 1984 Padres minor league Las Vegas Stars jersey, made by Wilson.

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1985 Prototypes, continued

Excerpted from "More about that Padres Prototype Jersey"

By jbox Dec 16, 2016, gaslampball.com

When the Padres signed [Steve] Garvey, the team took a significant turn and gained national prominence. As Andy [Strasberg, formerly of the Padres' marketing office] told me, "we were getting a lot of complaints from the players" about the uniforms at the time. The players didn't feel professional wearing a uniform whose major color was brown. You may remember Steve Garvey saying of the uniforms "The Padre uniform me look like a taco."

After some information gathering, Andy took the lead and was the one who contacted the design firm of Sidjakov, Berman and Gomez in San Francisco to create the uniforms. They had designed the Giants uniforms, so it was no coincidence that the uniforms so closely resembled each other.

Of the prototype [Andy] said, "It wasn't the only one. I would say, there had to be at least a half a dozen uniforms and designs. Out of those designs there were variations of colors." When I pressed him further, he unfortunately didn't remember the other colors or variations. It was after all 30 years ago.

Thanks to collectors Alejandro and Diego Pineda, here are a look at a number of these 1985 prototypes from their amazing collection.

© GameWornGuides.com

1985 Prototypes, continued

While these all retain some brown as part of their designs, it is considerably toned down and the uniforms are much more conservative. On this page, bottom left is a gray pinstriped road uniform that is just like the home uniform adopted for 1985, save for the base color of the fabric.

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1985 Prototypes, continued

© GameWornGuides.com

1989 Prototype Home

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

W.A. Goodman and Sons was a small, privately held local Southern California company who outfitted the Los Angeles Dodgers and California Angels for many years. They also occasionally made uniforms and team jackets for the New York Mets, Houston Astros and Cincinnati Reds. They submitted this design proposal for what one must assume was another Padres uniform reshuffling. At the time this blue-pinstripe prototype was made, the team was using brown-pinstriped jerseys with a brown/orange wordmark. This Goodman proposal has blue pinstripes and a blue/orange wordmark with two-color Block numbers on the back. The Padres did switch to a blue-pinstriped theme for 1991, with similar, but not identical graphics to this Goodman proposal, and for the first year alone, they used Goodman as the maker of their home jerseys before switching to Russell in 1992.

Design as adopted in 1991 features three-color wordmark with a drop shadow and three-color numbers on back.

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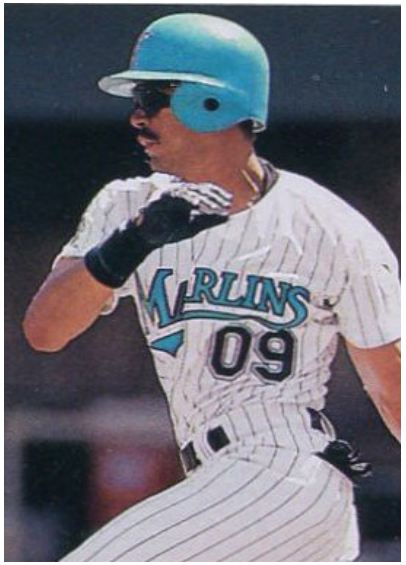
1991-1992 Benito Santiago #09

1992

1992



Benito Santiago before (left) and after (center) his switch to "09" with the Padres, and also wearing the number with the Marlins (right).

Twenty-season veteran catcher Benito Santiago started wearing number 9 in his second Major League season, during which he won the Rookie of the Year Award. Given that he was also born on March 9, why did he switch to the unusual choice of "09" in 1991? Simple. The vertical strap of his chest protector covered the number, and he wanted to make sure it was visible. Santiago's decision carried from the end of his tenure with the Padres in 1992 through his two following seasons with the Marlins in 1993 and 1994. The rest of his long career, he wore various other numbers for eight other teams (including "9" without the leading zero). And even though he wore the number for only a fraction of his playing days, it is frequently associated with him. Aside from a handful of players who wore "00" he is the only player we know of who has worn a leading zero in a jersey number.

Of note, outfielder Glenallen Hill once asked to wear "01" after being traded to Cleveland on June 27, 1991, but his request was denied, perhaps because manager John McNamara was then wearing "1". McNamara was fired two weeks later, and Hill took over "1" - without a zero - the next season.

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1994 *Madres* Oddball

The Madres were formed in 1972 as a civic volunteer organization. Their initial focus was supporting youth baseball and softball teams in the San Diego area. By 2006 they were supporting more than 30,000 children in youth leagues. They participate in many other activities in the community and at the ballpark, including assisting with the annual Friar Fest; doing corporate mailings; running silent auctions; and managing the Padres' "Shirts Off Their Backs" promotion.

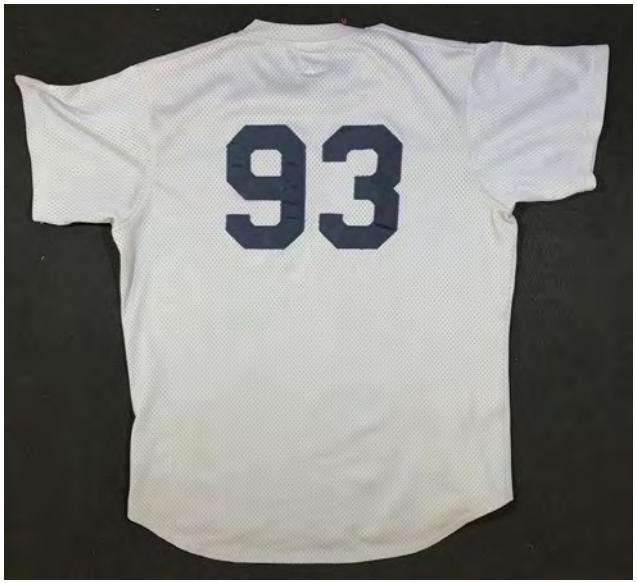
This jersey is certainly professionally crafted. Someone took the time and trouble to draw the logo, create patterns, and sew the complicated design. Creating the sleeve patch took an investment of time, talent, and money.

I wrote to the Madres organization to ask if they had any knowledge of the history of this jersey, and after discussing it among their board members, no one had any recollection of this jersey or where it may have come from. Tom Werner owned the Padres in 1994, and it is likely that is his name represented on the back.

© GameWornGuides.com

White and Gray Spring Training Jerseys

These white and gray mesh batting practice jerseys show up frequently in the hobby. They are Spring Training jerseys. The white one at far left is made by Majestic. I have gray ones in my collection, made by Majestic and Rawlings. It was not uncommon for teams to have BP jerseys from multiple vendors.



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1999 Prototype Alternate

This prototype jersey is said by its owner to be from 1999. The Padres were again considering a style change. What they came up with eventually became the front lettering style for the 2004 gray road jersey. Note the experimentation with a new “P” logo with a palm tree superimposed inside. This logo was not adopted by the team.

On the back, one-color white names are in Block, and numbers are in a display font that was not adopted. It looks somewhat like the Padres’ late-1980s font mixed with the early-1990s Astros number font, two-color gold/white. Notice that they picked the name and number of 1970s Padres pitcher Randy Jones.

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2001 Tony Gwynn Retirement Ceremony

In previous editions of this book, we have reported this jersey as evidence of the Padres' first Turn Back the Clock game, where they wore this style of jersey. Now it appears that these were not worn in a game at all, but were part of a pregame retirement ceremony for Tony Gwynn.

The date on the jersey of September 21, 2001, is inaccurate; any special event planned for that date was canceled following the tragic events of 9/11/2001. Instead, the pregame retirement ceremony was held October 7, 2001 -- the last day of the 2001 season (a season that had been extended for a week by these events).

A video once posted on YouTube (but now gone) of the ceremony. Lezcano appears likely wearing this jersey, comes in from right field and hugs Gwynn.

The uniforms for this ceremony were made by Mitchell & Ness, and were well done and generally accurate, except for the lack of vertical arch player names as would have been correct.

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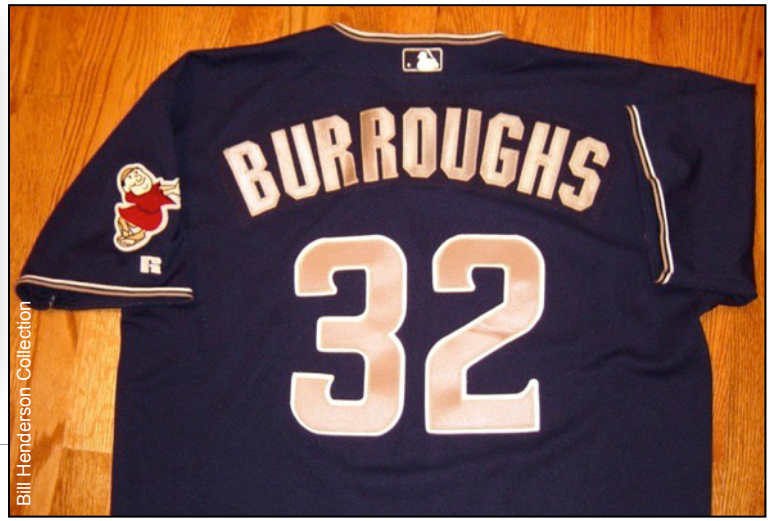
Oddballs: 2004 Russell Preproduction, Retail Sale "Prototype" Jerseys

Bill Henderson Collection

(Above) Player name font as used on the field was different than the specification in the MLB Style Guide.



Bill Henderson Collection

Bill Henderson Collection

For 2004, Majestic was named the official uniform supplier to MLB, and the only company authorized to place its logo on jerseys sold at retail. Russell was expecting to be the Padres' supplier for 2004, as they had been in previous years. These 2004 Russell jerseys were lettered on the back using a custom NOB typeface that the Padres had selected. But Majestic won the contract, and the Padres used the old standard, block NOB font they had used for years. Hundreds (thousands?) of these Russell jerseys were dumped to the discounters in early 2004, and many of them showed up for sale on eBay.

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2005 Prototype Home Vest

Stephen Kraljic Collection

The Padres refreshed their uniforms in 2004, bringing in script and the color “sand” - really tan - after a relatively quiet period of consistency. This sample suggests they weren’t don tinkering, even just a year after their rebrand. Here we have a vest version of their home jersey, complete with blue undershirt that includes the “SD” ligature sewn on the left sleeve. The tagging sewn inside the lower placket reads “PAD-Home-Vest-05-1” with “05” being the year and “1” representing the version number. It is possible there were other iterations as well, because the Padres really like to try new things. On back, “PLAYER” and “5” are typical for samples, though the “5” here could just as easily stand for the year as much as it is a nod to the tradition of using that player number for samples. Note that the drop shadow on the front team script is tan, an element that the team’s sleeved home jerseys did not adopt until 2007. Perhaps this sample influenced that decision.

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2006 Prototype Camouflage

Found on eBay, this jersey is surely a Majestic pre-production prototype that did not make the cut. The tagging visible in the close-up photo has a code that translates most probably to “Padres Camouflage 2006 sample #1.”

2006 was the first year that the Padres listed this uniform as a true alternate, and was the year they switched to mesh desert-style camo, replacing the earlier jungle camouflage fabric used since the late 1990s. On this version, all of the lettering, and even the Majestic sleeve logo, is brown. The final version that was accepted by the team had all of these details sewn in dark green, adding some contrast to the intentionally drab design, and making the lettering easier to see.

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2000s Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1978

This entry appears to be a Majestic sample for a throwback game that would have featured the Padres' colorful 1978 alternate jersey. The "Player" for name on back, use of the year "78" for the number, and the non-retail size 46 are all hallmarks of such samples. Tagging puts this one somewhere between 2000-2011, and the Padres did throwback to their 1978 uniforms a few times over that period, but only their home whites or road browns (a sample of which is shown on a following page); never this gold alternate. Perhaps it is for the best, as this isn't particularly faithful to the original. The throwback's front logo lettering is not bold enough, and the "SAN DIEGO" lettering is not quite in the right position. Name on back should be vertically arched and on a nameplate, but is not. The yellow trim on the sleeve ends is on the wrong place, and the V-neck should be brown instead of gold. Finally, the sleeve construction differs from the Wilson originals, shown at left.

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2008 or 2010 Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1978

A companion to the 1978 alternate sample on the previous page, this entry appears to be a Majestic sample for a throwback game that used the Padres' brown 1978 road jersey. The "Player" for name on back, use of the year "78" for the number, and the non-retail size 46 are all hallmarks of such samples. Tagging puts this one somewhere between 2000-2011, and the Padres did throwback to their 1978 road uniforms in 2008 and 2011, making one of these games the likely source of this sample. However, in contrast to its sibling sample on the previous page, this one is reasonably close to the original, seen at right (maybe that is why it was chosen and the gold version was scrapped?). But if we're getting picky (and that's what we do), the throwback sample's front logo lettering is not bold enough, and the name on back should be vertically arched, but is not.

1978

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Prototype Alternate

Stephen Kraljic Collection

During the first phase of the Padres' "sand" era (2004-2011), the team continued to tinker with its uniform lineup. Here's another example in the form of a 2008 prototype alternate jersey. The team had just introduced a blue alternate in 2004, but restless as they are, they gave a look at this one too. Here, the Padres' "SD" ligature appears on the left chest in white/tan, with a white/tan player number parallel to it on right chest. On the back, player name appears in white, with number matching the white/tan combo of the front. Neck and placket have white knit trim while the sleeves are trimmed in white/navy/tan braid. The Swingin' Friar takes residence on the left sleeve. This one has a team-issue "0062" code on the wash tag, and a sample tag with "PAD-ALT-J-08" attesting to its pedigree as a prototype. As always, "PLAYER" and the year on back and size 46 are also the norm for this sort of preview of a new design. All things considered, this is a nice looking jersey, a little more traditional than their actual alternate navy jersey of the time. Though it was not brought into the fold, it may have been inspiration for the team's even simpler 2012-2019 alternate, which was introduced after the sand phase had ended.

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2009 Prototype Alternates

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Left: The team's sleeve patch, introduced in 2004, with a tiny hint of light blue that may have influenced the color of the bottom two samples.

Still in the midst of their 2004-2011 uniform set, the Padres continue to tinker, once again to no avail. Here we have three unadopted prototypes for the 2009 season, in Cool Base for the first time, one navy and two in light blue.

The top jersey, with sample tag reading "PAD-ALT-09-J-2" (suggesting this is a second version of the sample) is closely based on the 2008 navy sample earlier in this chapter. Here, the SD ligature is now tan/white, and the knit trim around the neck is now tan. The front number on the right chest is lower than the 2008 version as well. All else remains the same.

The middle jersey looks like an interpretation of team's then-current navy alternate recolored on a light blue jersey. Neck and sleeve trim is navy/white/navy, with front lettering and back numbers in navy/white, with a white player name on a nameplate. The sample tag for this one reads "PADB-ALT-09-J-2" suggesting this is version "B" and a second iteration of it.

The bottom jersey, also in light blue, more resembles the team's then-current home jersey, with navy/white/tan drop shadow front script, navy/white/tan player numbers and a navy player name on a nameplate. Neck and sleeve trim are navy/white/tan as well. The sample tag has been removed from this one.

Light blue/powder blue has no historical precedent with the Padres, so it is interesting to see the color used here. There was a touch of the color in the team's sleeve patch logo as early as 2004, so it was not completely foreign. The Royals brought back powder blue in 2008 to great fan acclaim, so that may have also been an inspiration for these samples.

The use of Jake Peavy's name and number here is atypical of the era, when "PLAYER" and a year were more often used. However, Peavy had won the Cy Young Award in 2007, not long before these samples were made up in advance of possible use in 2009.

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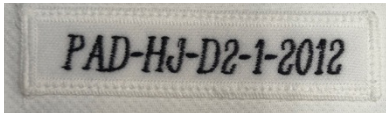
2012 Prototype Homes

Stephen Kraljic Collection

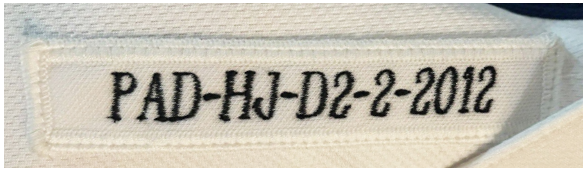


Here are two samples for the Padres 2012 home jersey update. As is typical of Cool Base prototypes, the jerseys are size 46, have a team issued 0063 code on the wash tag, and use “Player” for player name and “12” - the year of issue for the jersey.

Both include sample tagging with different numbers showing which designs and iterations the are. These two are PAD-HJ-D2-1-2012 on top and PAD-HJ-D2-2-2012 on bottom. These can be understood as Padres Home Jersey, design two, versions 1 and 2, for 2012

The base jerseys and trim are identical on both. The top version, D2-1, has navy/gray lettering throughout while the bottom, D2-2, uses navy/tan. The player number font differs as well, with the top jersey appearing to use a bolder version of the Padres’ early 1970s Varsity numbers, while the bottom jersey uses Wilson Varsity.

Ultimately, the Padres chose the bottom sample, D2-2, to use on-field in 2012. However, neither jersey appears to have the team’s left-sleeve patch, which was a feature of this jersey for that season. Conspicuously, the MLB logo patch is not present on the back of the neck of the bottom sample, but it is possible that time constraints, or not having any of those patches to match this color scheme, led to it being left off.



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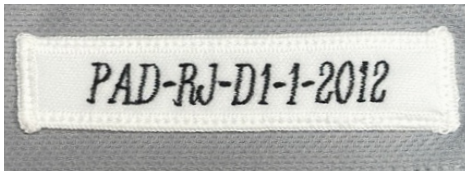
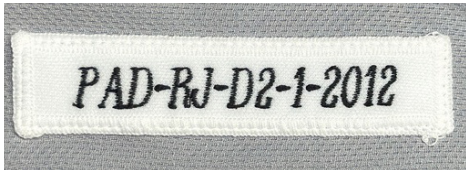
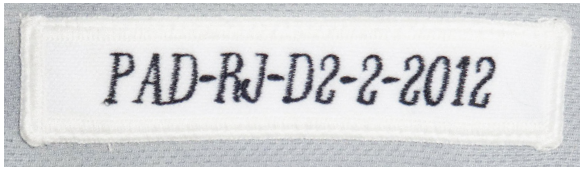
2012 Prototype Roads

Stephen Kraljic Collection



Stephen Kraljic Collection





Companions to those on an earlier page, here are three samples for the Padres 2012 road jersey update. As is typical of Cool Base prototypes, the jerseys are size 46, have a team issued 0063 code on the wash tag, and use “Player” for player name and “12” - the year of issue for the jersey.

All three include sample tagging with different numbers showing which designs and iterations the are. From top to bottom, they are PAD-RJ-D1-1-2012; PAD-RJ-D2-1-2012; and PAD-RJ-D2-2-2012 on bottom. PAD-RJ is Padres Road Jersey, and 2012 is the year. D1-1 (top) is design one, version one; while D2-1 (middle) and D2-2 are design two, versions one and two respectively.

The base jerseys and trim are identical on all. The top version, D1-1, has navy/red lettering throughout while the middle and bottom, D2-1 and D2-2, use navy/white, except for the bottom having a navy name. Despite the top and middle being considered different designs, the lettering colors are the only differences between them. Both have surprisingly small and squat “SAN DIEGO” vertically arched lettering, while player numbers on back appearing to be a bolder version of the Padres’ early 1970s Varsity numbers. The front wordmark on the bottom version matches what the team chose to use, as do the player numbers in Wilson Varsity.

Ultimately, the bottom sample, D2-2, was the closest to the one used on-field in 2012, lacking only the white outline on the player name. However, none of these samples appear to have the team’s left-sleeve patch, which was a feature of this jersey for that season. Conspicuously, the MLB logo patch is not present on the back of the neck of the bottom sample, but it is possible that time constraints led to it being left off.

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2013 Prototype Mexican Heritage

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

This prototype jersey tagged "**PAD-Heritage D1-1-2013"** (likely code for design exercise #1) and dated 2013, has all of the lettering, patches, and trim sewn in red and green. It certainly appears that the Padres were planning a Mexican Heritage game that never happened. The jersey is Cool Base, and as is traditional with prototype jerseys, it is lettered with the player NOB "Player" and the player number as the calendar year. Note that the team sleeve patch is embroidered in red and white. The trend toward recoloring team patches to match the uniform event theme was ahead of its time for 2013. It was not until 2016 that MLB applied this technique for all teams when making Independence Day, Memorial Day, Mother's Day, and Father's Day jerseys.

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2014 Prototype Batting Practice

For a while there, the Padres made a LOT of changes to their uniforms, which in turn created a LOT of prototypes for us to discuss. Many of the samples we have seen have closely mirrored what the team adopted for on-field use, but this one is an exception. This is a prototype for the teams 2014 BP jersey. As with many other samples, the jersey is size 46 and includes sample tagging reading PAD-BP-D1-1-2014 for Padres batting practice jersey, design 1, 2014. The use of “Player” for player name and “14” - the intended year of issue for the jersey - as player number are typical as well. This version of the jersey was not chosen, and though it has some similarities to what was used on field, the images at right of the actual jerseys shows that this sample was little more than a starting point.

2014 Home BP

2014 Road BP

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2015 Prototype Camo-on-Camo??

David Haimes Collection

Whether this is a prototype or simply a sewing mistake, this 2015 “camo on camo” jersey carries a team issue inventory tag. Even the most liberal among us might have to concede that this exercise takes the theme a little bit too far.

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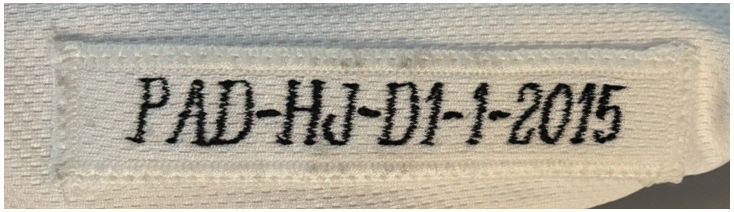
2015 Prototype Home



WHY, PADRES, WHY? You may have noticed there's a page very similar to this one earlier in this chapter showing a 2012 home prototype. And another one later showing almost this exact, same jersey tagged as a 2016 prototype too. And you're correct to think how odd it is that the same jersey seems to be prototyped almost every year. But....the Padres.

The Padres had the same home jersey from 2012-2015, and it was basically this very jersey. So why have a look at it as a prototype again in 2015 when it has been on the field for the last few years? The only this we can guess was that this sample has the navy "SD" mark on the sleeve, where the 2012-2015 jersey had a Swingin' Friar patch there instead. So, yes, the Padres had a complete prototype jersey made just to test a patch. And they chose not to make the change.

As is typical of Cool Base prototypes, the jersey is size 46, has a team issued 0630 code on the wash tag, and includes sample tagging reading PAD-HJ-D1-1-2015 for Padres home jersey, design 1, 2015. The use of "Player" for player name and "15" - the year of issue for the jersey - as player number are typical as well.

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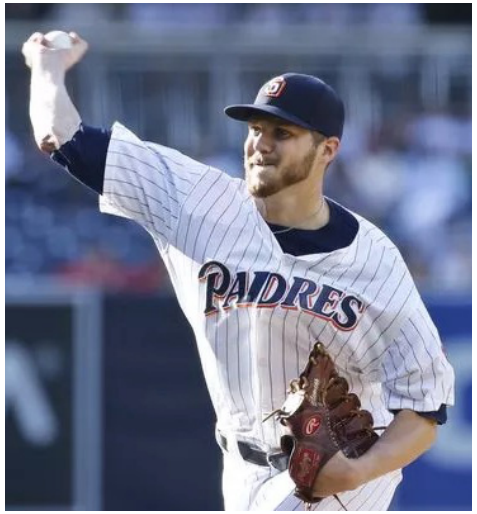
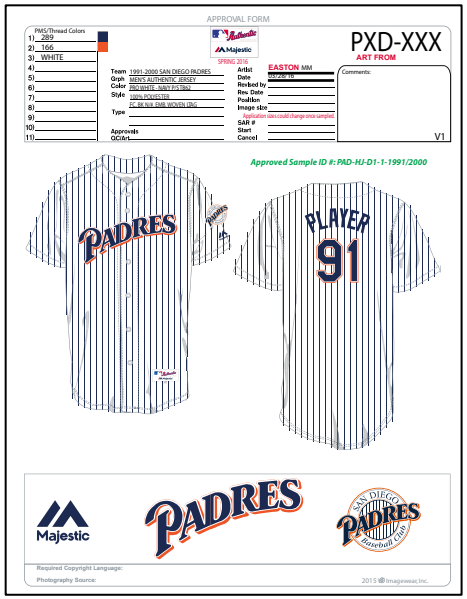
Aug. 6, 2016 *"Player 91"* Prototype Jersey in a Game





August 6, 2016: Pitcher Paul Clemens started the game against the Phillies wearing his usual #47. But midway into the game, he appeared on the mound wearing a jersey lettered with "Player 91." Readers of this book know that a jersey so lettered is the prototype jersey made for team approval before the whole set of team jerseys is sewn (see top right). I happened to be watching this game, and as the announcers wondered aloud what had happened, I assumed what later was confirmed: his game jersey was discovered to have a foreign substance on it that caused a complaint, forcing the mid-game change. Fellow pitcher Jon Edwards had fun at Clemens' expense in the dugout, taping over his own name and renaming himself "Player #2."

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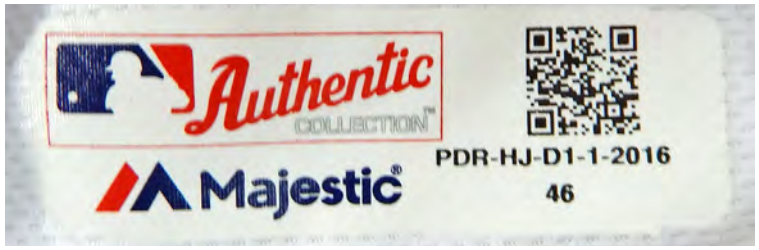
2016 Sample Home



Here is a sample of a 2016 Padres jersey that was never used. Clearly, the team was considering carrying over its 2012-2015 home jersey set into 2016 when Majestic launched the Flex Base template. Ultimately, they went with a (very nice) one-year style instead to celebrate hosting the All-Star Game in 2016. This sample bears all the usual hallmarks of such jerseys: “Player” as the player name and the year as the jersey number, the jersey being size 46, and the long code on the set tag, here reading ”PDR-HJ-D1-1-2016.” Of note, the Flex Base tag on the front hem has large “MADE IN THE U.S.A.” type below the Authentic Collection logo, which did not appear on Flex Base jerseys in production. It seems Majestic had sample tags as well at this point in Flex Base prototypes.

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2016 Prototype Home/Road

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

The parade of Padres prototypes continues with this suite of jerseys made up for 2016. These home and road versions not only show the team what the then-new Flex Base template would look like, but they show that the team was considering a complete refresh of its look. The options shown here combine the lettering style of their 2004-2011 road jerseys (applied to both home and road) with the navy blue and gold colors they eventually adopted only for their one-year-style 2016 home jersey.

We only have a view of tagging for the road version of the jersey, which reads PAD-RJ-D1-2-2016 (ND), meaning Padres road jersey, design 1 (the “2” likely means the second iteration of this design), 2016. The “ND” here is mysterious, and it not something normally seen on samples. As usual, the use of “Player” for the player name and “16 - representing the intended year of issue - is common for prototypes, as is the jersey’s size of 46. Of note, the Flex Base tags heat pressed to the hem of both jerseys has “Made in the U.S.A.” text that was not present on the final jerseys. We have seen this on other such Flex Base prototypes as well.

Aside from the photos at left, we have also come across the image below, which shows a different home prototype we assume was issued with these jerseys (it included some of the other jerseys on this and following pages). Here, the colors of the “Padres” lettering is reversed from the sample at top left, but the jersey does have gold/navy braid on it that mirrors what the team’s actual 2016 home jersey used. That jersey, however, had a navy/gold “SD” logo on front left chest rather than the full “Padres” lettering.

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2016-2017 Prototype Alternates

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

Alejandro & Diego Pineda Collection

Here are two more Padres prototypes from 2016-2017, showing proposed designs for alternate jerseys the team did not adopt.

The gold alternate at top combines the lettering style of their 2004-2011 road jerseys with the navy blue and gold colors they eventually adopted only their one-year-style 2016 home jersey. Yellow jerseys have been a part of the Padres' look, but this gold base color would have been quite a departure for the team. As usual, the use of "Player" for the player name and "16 - representing the intended year of issue - is common for prototypes, as is the jersey's size of 46.

The blue jersey on bottom is also size 46, but has "17" on back, suggesting it was proposed for use a year after the gold jersey at top. It mimics the 2016 one-year-only home jersey and 2012-2019 blue alternate by using the "SD" ligature on front left chest. Neither of those jerseys have the S and D in different colors as seen here, however, a treatment last seen on early-90s BP jerseys

Of note, the Flex Base tags heat pressed to the hem of both jerseys has "Made in the U.S.A." text that was not present on the final jerseys. We have seen this on other such Flex Base prototypes as well.

Ultimately, the Padres chose to add a brown alternate jersey with yellow/white lettering in 2016, hinting toward their eventual full return to brown as a primary color in 2020. These fanciful examples, as colorful as they are, were eclipsed by the team's, and their fans', love of the Padres' original color scheme of decades earlier.

As a side note, the 2016 jersey has a Flex Base jock tag with "Made in the U.S.A." on it, where the 2017 jersey's tag lacks that line. That text was used on earlier samples (see other pages in this chapter) but we presume that by the time samples for the 2017 season were made, after the official introduction of Flex Base, typical Flex Base tags were used, and those did not have "Made in the U.S.A." when released.

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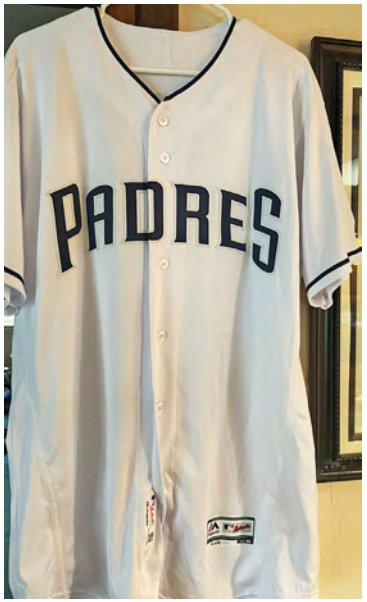
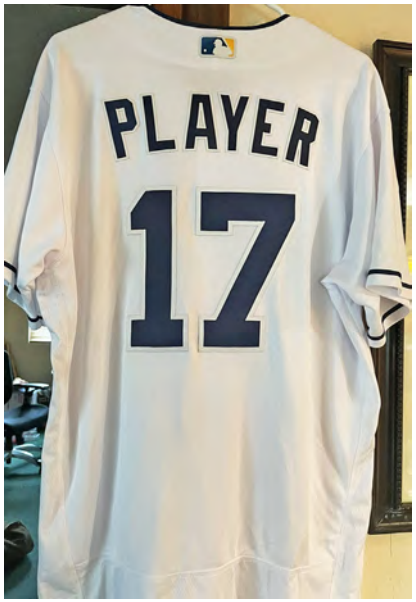
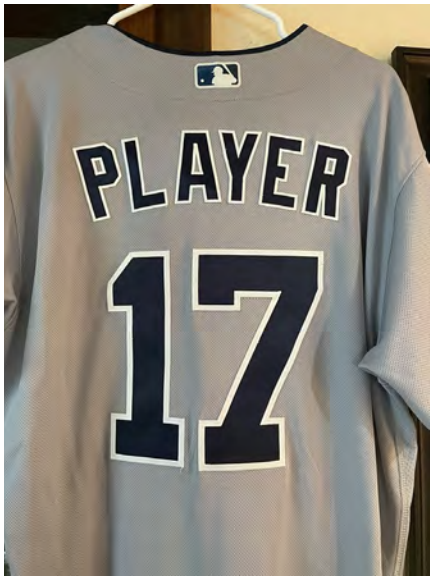
2017 Prototype Home/Road







The Padres just couldn't help themselves in the mid-2010s, changing uniform styles, colors, lettering, over and over again. The 2017 season brought new home and road uniforms for the team, which meant more prototypes to consider.

At top left, a sample home jersey with all the usual sample hallmarks: size 46, 0730 team issue code on the wash tag, and Player 17 for player name and number, where "17" indicates the year of issue. A sample tag reading PAD-HJ-D1-5-2017 for Padres home jersey, design 1 (sample 5) 2017 is inside the lower placket. The sample basically mimics the design ultimately chosen for the season, with different colors for the MLB logo on the back of the collar, and minus navy blue knit trim around the collar and placket. The navy trim close to the sleeve ends and around the neck opening were retained from the sample. An example of the final product is at top right.

Bottom left is a sample road jersey, and the sample indicators are all here again: size 46, 0730 team issue code on the wash tag, and Player 17 for player name and number, where "17" indicates the year of issue. A sample tag reading PAD-RJ-D1-3-2017 for Padres road jersey, design 1 (sample 3) 2017 is inside the lower placket. The third time must have been the charm for this one, as it is identical to the chosen on-field jersey for that year, shown bottom right.

Of note, both of these jerseys has Flex Base jock tags without "Made in the U.S.A." on them. That line was used on earlier samples (see other pages in this chapter) but we presume that these jerseys, made after the official introduction of Flex Base, used the final Flex Base tagging.

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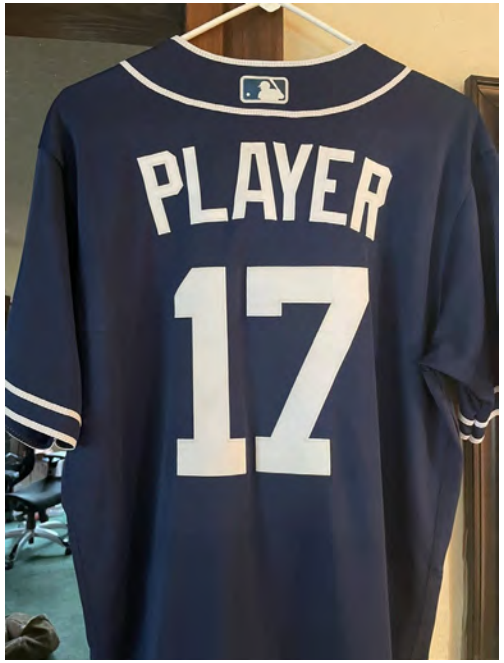
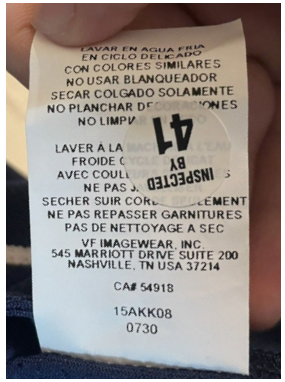
2017 Prototype Alternate





Three things in life are certain: death, taxes, and Padres prototypes. The Padres wore this style of jersey from 2012-2019. It had a short-lived team patch on the left sleeve from 2012-2015, then the All-Star Game patch took its place in 2016. From 2017 to 2019, the sleeve was blank.

And, so far as we can tell, the deletion of the sleeve patch was the sole reason for creating this sample jersey. As is expected of Flex Base prototypes, the jersey has a team issued 0730 code on the wash tag, and includes sample tagging reading PAD-AJNAVY-D1-1-2017 for Padres alternate jersey navy, design 1, 2017. The use of “Player” for player name and “17” - the year of issue for the jersey - as player number are typical as well.

What is not typical about this one is that the jersey is a size 42! Not totally unheard of, but certainly not the norm, which is size 46. The Padres always keep us guessing.

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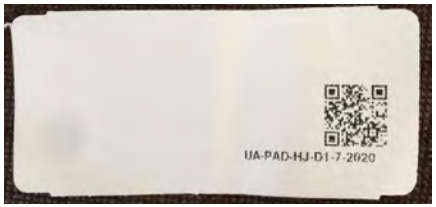
2020 Prototype Home



Above, another home example, this one white with blue pinstripes, and all lettering navy/white, including the "SD" logo on the left sleeve. This one is lettered "Gwynn 19" for Padres legend Tony Gwynn, as are the rest of the examples here and on the next page, save for the one at top, described at right.

In December 2016, MLB announced that long-time uniform supplier Majestic would be replaced by Under Armour as the official manufacturer of MLB on-field jerseys for the 2020 season. Only two years later, after a significant drop in company revenue, Under Armour backed out of the deal without producing any on-field MLB jerseys. But prior to that point, they did produce prototypes for the Padres.

These sample jerseys give us insight not only into possible changes that the Padres may have made to their uniforms for 2020, but also changes in jersey templates and construction that Under Armour was suggesting as part of their MLB contract. Ultimately, none of them came to pass, leaving Under Armour, and these designs, a mere footnote in MLB uniform history.

At top, a white jersey with gold/blue braid around next and sleeves (like the 2016 home jersey) with the same blue/white SD logo on front chest and left sleeve. The UA logo is on the front, right chest, where the Nike logo eventually ended up. This is the only one of these jerseys for which we have images of tags. The patent number on the wash tag of D733,998 is the same as Majestic Flex Base jerseys, but the back of the wash tag clearly reads "UA-1040, Option 7" referring to this being one of (at least) seven samples provided. This is reinforced by the heat-pressed team tagging (in rare, tall style that was also seen in 2020 Nike prototypes) reading UA-PAD-HJ-D1-7-2020, meaning Under Armour Padres home jersey, design 1 (option 7) 2020. Very obvious in the top, right photo was UA's intent to feature a diamond-pattern mesh pattern on the back of the jersey. Thought it is hard to see, it exists on all of the sample 2020 jerseys on these pages. This is the only sample of the lot without a name/number on back.

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2020 Prototype Road

Here are two road prototypes provided by Under Armour.

The top is a plain gray base jersey with no trim. All lettering is blue/white, including the then-familiar “San Diego” type on front. Like several other prototypes, this one also has “Gwynn 19” on back in honor of Padres legend Tony Gwynn. It has the UA logo on front right chest, and the back of the jersey is the same diamond-pattern mesh as the jerseys on the previous page.

At bottom, another gray road jersey that leans into the Padres’ early 1980s brown and orange color scheme. Neck and sleeve opening are ringed with orange/brown braid, while front and back lettering appear in brown/orange.

Both of these jerseys show tantalizing peeks at the sample tagging inside the lower placket, but we have not (yet?) seen closeups of these tags, nor the wash tags, to glean any more information.

This photo shows three of the jerseys with some proposed pant options. We assume the white pants with the orange/brown trim (far right) were not intended to be paired with the gray road jersey. It is possible there are even more variations of these jerseys and pants out there. Thus far, however, we have not seen any UA prototypes for any team but the Padres. As this chapter will attest, the Padres like to change things, and they like to see lots of prototypes when they do.

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2024: An Incredibly Small Mistake (In a Year of Big Ones)

Above: The tag from the jersey at left, showing PYRD, the code for a road jersey.

Below: A tag with the proper tag code for a 2024 Padres home jersey, "PRHO".

It goes without saying that 2024 was a tough year for Nike and Fanatics with the challenging rollout and fierce aftermath of the switch to the Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) uniform template. From the tiny player name lettering, the transparency of jerseys and pants, mismatched shades of gray, extensive sweat staining, and issues getting teams all of their uniforms in time for the start of the season (to name a few), 2024 was a trial. So, it seems very picky to point out another error, one so small that it probably deserves to go unnoticed. But calling out the small and obscure is what we do, so at the risk of piling on, here we go...

Padres bullpen coach Ben Fritz has been a coach in the organization for several years, after a career in the minors as a pitcher. Like any other member of the uniformed staff, Fritz was issued a set of jerseys in advance of the 2024 season. The one shown here likely never saw the field, as it lacks the team's anniversary and memorial patches, as shown in his head shot at right. It looks just like any other Padres VPE home jersey, except for one small detail, the style code on the tag. This one reads "PYRD" the code for a Padres road jersey, where it should have "PYHO" instead. It is unclear if this happened with any other Padres jerseys in 2024 (though we have seen at least one other team with other early-season 2024 tagging errors), but is a curious, and admittedly very picky, footnote nonetheless.

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Oops.

2011 road jersey with upside-down- sewn “O” in “San Diego"

May 18, 1994 Padres wear their batting practice jerseys in a game.

Singular Celebration

While the rest of the team celebrated St. Patrick’s day 2015 with green caps, pitcher *Dennis Patrick O’Grady* took it a step farther, providing his own green Padres jersey.

In 2001, Dave Winfield was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame, and the Padres were elated that he was inducted as a Padre, even though he played for several other teams. To celebrate, the club asked players to wear the 1970s-style brown and gold caps with their white and blue uniforms on the day of the HOF induction. The players refused, saying that the hats were unspeakably ugly.

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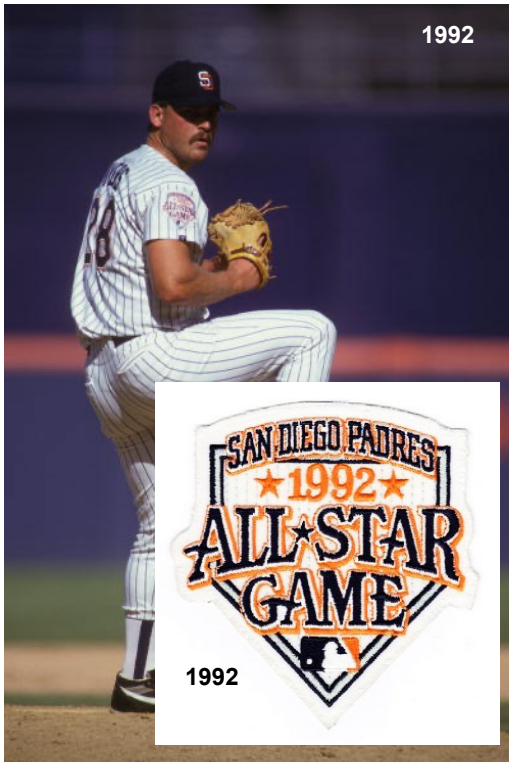
Commemorative Patches

Padres Patches

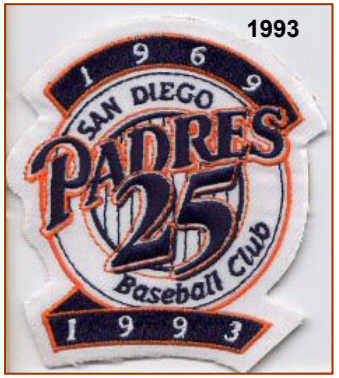
1969

1978

1984-1986



1992



1993

August 16-18, 1996

1999

October 2-7, 2001

- 1969: San Diego 200th Anniversary patch on both tan jerseys, “Padres” and “San Diego,” but not home white.
- 1978: All-Star Game. This was the first year in MLB that all the players of a hosting team wore a patch on their jerseys promoting the mid-season game that was to be held at their park.
- 1984,1985, 1986: “RAK” on sleeve in memory of Ray Kroc.
- 1992: All Star Game
- 1993: 25th Anniversary
- 1996, August 16-18: *La Primera Serie* patch worn by Padres and Mets during games played in Monterrey, Mexico. This was the first time an MLB regular season game was played outside of the US or Canada.
- 1999: Anniversary Patch, in place of team disc.
- 2001, October 2-7: Tony Gwynn Retirement (worn for final home-stand of the season only).

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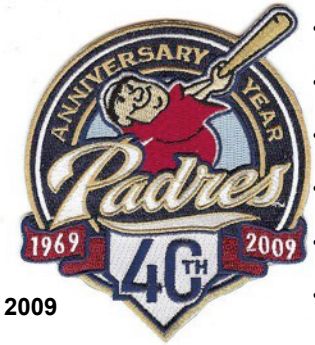
San Diego Padres

2011: July 14

September 22-28, 2003

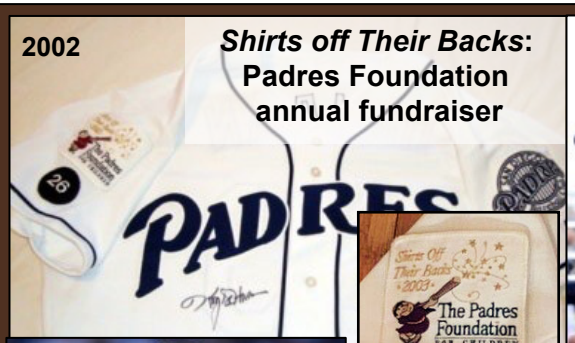
March 15-16, 2008

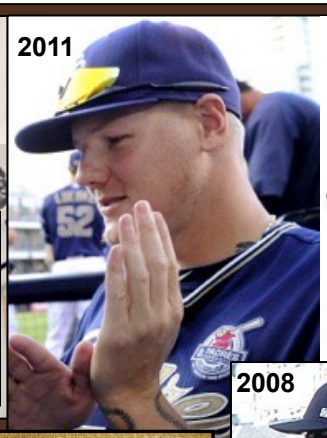


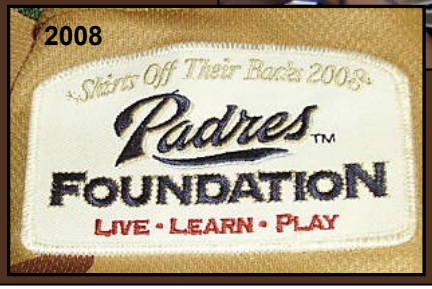
2009

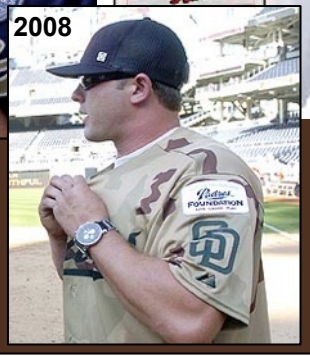
- 2002: #26 Memorial patch for player Mike Darr on right sleeve.
- 2003, September 22-28: "Goodbye to the Q" old Stadium, last homestand of season
- 2006, July 23: AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure Day" in SF
- 2008, March 15-16: China Series two games vs. Dodgers in China.
- 2008, May 28: AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure Day" in SF
- 2009: 40th Anniversary on home, away and alternate blue.
- 2010, September 9: "Stand up to Cancer."
- 2011, July 14: RHW patch worn for Dick Williams.

Shirts off Their Backs: Padres Foundation annual fundraiser









Starting in 2002, the Padres have held an annual "Shirts off Their Backs" promotion, where winning-bidder fans get a player's game worn uniform at the end of the game. These uniforms have a special patch, every year except for 2013-2014. A selection is shown here.

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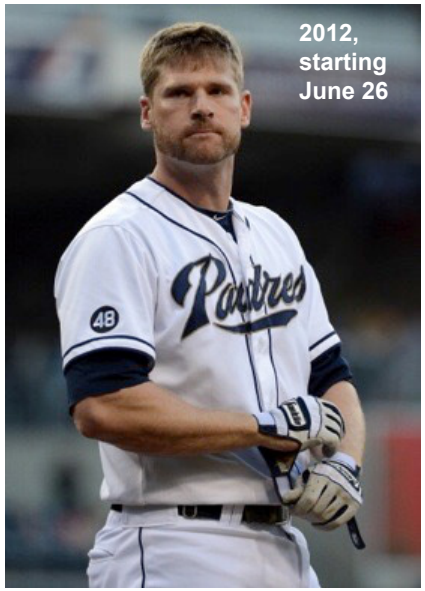
Padres press release, March 30, 2014 SAN DIEGO

….As was previously announced, all season long, Padres players and coaches will wear a jersey patch featuring Coleman's initials inside of his trademark star.
For years, when the Padres made a great defensive play, all fans in the ballpark would look to the press box to see if Coleman's gold star would be hung from the radio booth. Now, once again, fans will be able to look to the press box following a great play, to see if a star will hang. If it is, fans at Petco Park will also hear the playing of Coleman's signature call: "Oh, Doctor! You can hang a star on that, baby!"
Having spent 42 seasons in the radio booth for the Padres, with the exception of one year when he left to manage the team, Coleman is a monumental figure in the history of the Padres franchise.



- 2012, starting June 26: “48” memorial patch for coach Darryl Akerfelds, who had just died from pancreatic cancer.
- 2014, April 30: AIDS ribbon for “Until There’s a Cure Day” in SF
- 2014: “JC” star patch for Jerry Coleman, all season on right sleeve, in navy/white for home, road, alternate jerseys; in brown/white for alternate camouflage jersey.
- 2014, June 16-17: Temporary Tony Gwynn armband right sleeve, road gray jersey only.
- 2014, starting June 18: Tony Gwynn patch, on left chest on all jerseys.

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2018: May 18, June 6 & 20, July 11, August 15 & 29

August 16-19, 2018

- 2016, May 30: AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure Day" in SF
- 2016: All Star Game patch, left sleeve on home, road, and blue alternate road.
- 2018: May 18, June 6 & 20, July 11, August 15 &
- 29: KT|RP patch for longtime General Manager Kevin Towers and coach Rob Picciolo, both of whom passed away January 2018. Worn on throwback jersey only.
- 2018, August 16-19: Trevor Hoffman Hall of Fame celebration patch
- 2023, April 29-30: For games in Mexico vs. Giants, Banorte sponsor patch left sleeve and MLB World Tour Mexico City Series patch right sleeve. Worn on City Connect jersey April 29 and home jersey on April 30, both with regular team patches omitted.
- 2024, March 17-21: MLB World Tour Seoul Series patch and Coupang Play ad patch for games in South Korea

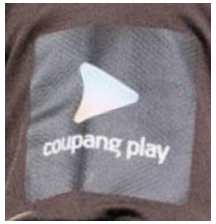
2019 – Padres 50th anniversary patch, three versions

- Blue/white on right sleeve of home, road, blue alternate, and blue camo

- Brown/gold on right sleeve of brown alternate

- Brown/tan on right sleeve of brown camo

April 29-30, 2023



March 17-21, 2024

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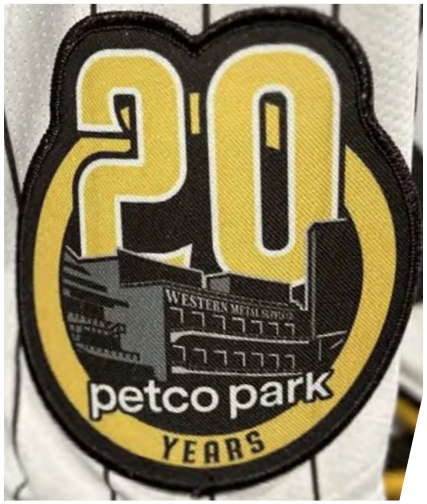

2024 home jersey only

2024, all jerseys except City Connect

2024 City Connect

- 2024: Memorial for owner Peter Seidler, who passed away before the season, left chest all jerseys, brown “PS” on all jerseys except City Connect, which has pink “PS” letters
- 2024: Petco Park 20th Anniversary patch, home white jerseys only

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2023-2025 Padres Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Padres struck a sponsor patch deal with Motorola, a telecommunications company. The patches first appeared in Spring Training 2023. There are two versions of the patch. One is a brown circle with a white Motorola logo, used on the home and road alternate pinstripe jerseys. The other is a white circle with a brown Motorola logo used on the road brown, tan camo, green camo, and City Connect jerseys. The brown version was used on the PCL throwbacks in 2023.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch. On the two camouflage jerseys, the Swinging Friar patch was removed prior to the 2023 season to make room for the ad patch, and an American flag patch appears on one sleeve opposite the ad patch. U.S. Flag Code specifies that the flag should always appear moving forward, with the blue field in "front" in the direction of motion. As such, the blue field on the flag patch is on the left for players who wear it on their left sleeve, and on the right for players with it on the right sleeve.

When the partnership was announced in April 2022 (a year before the patches arrived on-field) the example patch shown was a brown circle with a white border and a white Motorola logo. The white border was deleted before the patch was used in 2023.

Home, road alternate (pinstripes)

Road (brown), tan camo, green camo, City Connect

"Press release" version, not used on field

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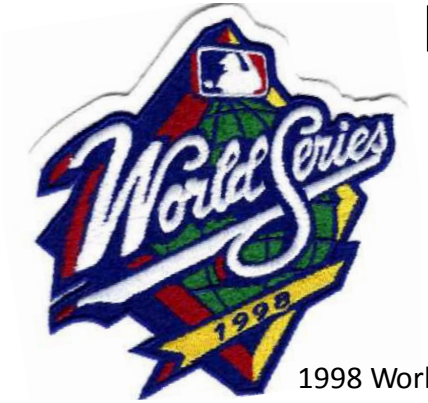
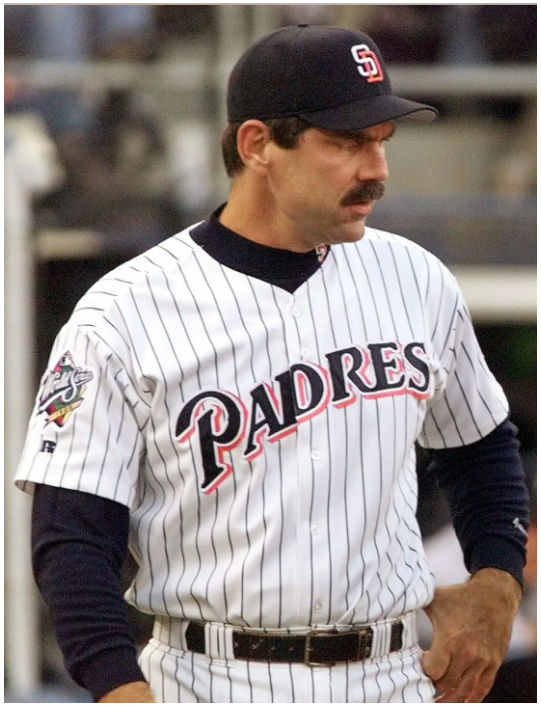
Padres Postseason Patches



1998 World Series
(right sleeve)



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Letter of Professional Opinion

1969 San Diego Padres First Season Primary Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: March 13, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0313J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson made, seven button, year tagged 1969 San Diego Padres first season primary-style road tan flannel jersey . (The Padres had an alternate "San Diego" lettered road jersey in that season as well) Tagged as a size 44, its chest measures as a 46, typical of a jersey that has not been washed much or at all. "Padres" across both front panels in brown felt over gold twill, all zig-zag stitched. There are six gusseted vent holes in each diamond shaped underarm panel. Player number "1" is sewn to the back, in the same fabrics and colors as the front wordmark. There was very slight impression evidence of the outline of the disk patch on the left sleeve, which would have been the the one-year San Diego Centennial commemorative patch.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tag correct for 1969 showing the size as 44, stitched to the outer left front tail. The year, "1969" is hand chain stitched below in brown thread, precisely matching exemplars. 1969 Padres jerseys generally had the player's last name hand chain stitched onto a flannel tag sewn into the back of the neck, and this jersey does not have that tag. In 1969, #1 was issued to Hall of Famer and Padres third base coach Sparky Anderson, in his first season coaching at the MLB level. Anderson typically wore a jersey smaller than this one, a survey of jerseys attributed to him during this period showed he was more likely to wear a size 40, or sometimes a 42.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination reveals that this jersey is all original. It is likely this jersey was unused. In fact, a careful examination of the "1969" chain stitching shows that that the tear-away interfacing paper backing that is put there during embroidery to prevent the fabric from puckering is still mostly intact. In my experience, this paper would have been

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destroyed in the very first washing of the jersey, and would have simply disappeared. Numbered as "1" it might have been a sample, or if issued to Anderson, it may have been too big and he was given a different jersey to wear. Our research shows that, in fact, he was issued #10 in 1969 Spring Training and the jersey he wore was a size 42. (That particular jersey was authenticated reliably by MEARS/Dave Grob). He was almost certainly issued a different jersey with #1 on the back to wear during the regular season. Very likely the unique San Diego patch was harvested from the jersey in review and used elsewhere. Our research shows that most of the 1969 Padres jerseys were reissued for use in 1970. Gold and brown sleeve end and neck trim was added to them for 1970, and yet this jersey is without this 1970 trim and no sign exists that it was ever present here. How this jersey avoided being reissued is unknown, the Padres were a frugal organization that let nothing go to waste. In short, however it managed to have survived, this is probably the finest condition, most pristine first-year Padres jersey remaining in existence. Its owner commissioned the reproduction of the 1969 San Diego 200 Years sleeve patch, and I recreated it exactly using period photographs of the few surviving examples, then sewed it to the left sleeve over the faint ghost.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is an authentic team prepared 1969 San Diego Padres inaugural season primary road jersey. Aside from the reproduction commemorative patch that has been replaced on its sleeve, it is all original without contrivance. While Sparky Anderson wore #1 during the 1969 season, I would judge that this jersey would have been a too large for the coach. Its lack of wear including evidence that it was likely never washed indicates to me that it was spared reissue and I would judge it to likely be the finest condition example of its kind existent.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Restoration

Al Santorini 1969 San Diego Padres First Season Road Alternate Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 22, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0422J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson made, seven button, year tagged 1969 San Diego Padres first season third alternate style road tan flannel jersey. (The Padres had a road tan "Padres" lettered road jersey in that season as well that was their primary road jersey.) Tagged and measured as a size 42. "San Diego" across both front panels in brown felt over gold twill, all zig-zag stitched. There are six gusseted vent holes in each diamond shaped underarm panel. Player number "23" is sewn to the back, in the same fabrics and colors as the front wordmark. Pitcher Al Santorini was issued that number. At 190 lbs and 6' 0" tall, Santorini would have reasonably fit into this jersey, which has doubtlessly shrunk a bit from washing.

As Received: The jersey showed evidence of having been reissued after 1969. The brown/gold/brown uniform braid had been added to both the sleeve ends and the neck opening as this style of jersey was worn in 1970-71. It had the number 55 on the back, yet the light table clearly showed ghosts confirming that these were replacement numbers. There was no #55 on the roster (or coaching staff) of the Padres in any of the three years that this style of jersey had been worn (1969-1971). A vintage (not reproduction) MLB 100th Anniversary patch had been sewn to the right sleeve, almost surely at some point later, as this patch was never worn on this style jersey by the team in 1969. There was very slight impression evidence of the outline of a disk patch on the left sleeve, which would have been the the one-year San Diego Centennial commemorative patch worn on both of the team's road jerseys in 1969.

Restoration Performed: Removing the back numbers 55, the light table revealed the original back number to be #23, pitcher Al Santorini, who was on the 1969 and 1970 Padres as #23. (In 1971, #23 was outfielder Ollie Brown). Using the original team patterns and matching the ghosts, a replacement number set was cut from medium brown wool felt over gold twill and zig-zag stitched in place once the fabric had been steamed to remove the puckering and wrinkles. I had been commissioned to make the reproduction of the 1969 San Diego 200 Years sleeve patch; I recreated it exactly using period photographs using the few surviving examples, then sewed it to the left sleeve over the faint ghost. The 1970-1971 style trim was carefully removed and the incorrect 1969 MLB Centennial patch was removed from the sleeve.

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Left, as received with replacement back numbers, 1970-71 trim added and incorrect 1969 sleeve patch. Above, photo- enhanced image of the left sleeve patch ghost shadow. Below, the back numbers removed and showing the ghost outlines of the original number 23.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tag correct for 1969 showing the size as 42, stitched to the outer left front tail. The year, "1969" is hand chain stitched below in brown thread, precisely matching exemplars. 1969 Padres jerseys had the player's last name hand chain stitched onto a jersey-flannel tag sewn into the back of the neck, and this jersey is missing that tag, but the stitching outline remains. The tag is the proper length for "Santorini" (i.e: longer than usual) Instead, written in black marker across the inside of the back collar is the name (Gilbert)Scharringhausen, a draftee who pitched with Padres' minor league affiliates in 1969-70, making it as high as AAA in 1970 with the Salt Lake City Bees. It is an educated guess, but it is very likely Santorini wore this jersey for the 1969 season and then Scharringhausen was issued it in camp as a non roster player in 1970, with number changed from 23 to 55.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition, without damage, showing moderate use/fabric thinning, with evidence that it was worn for a season and then was likely reissued at least for spring training in 1970. A light table examination shows that this jersey is without contrivance. The front of the jersey is all original, the back numbers have been restored to look as original. The player name tag in the collar is missing as previously mentioned, the trim has been reverted to 1969 style and the 1969 sleeve patch in reproduction has been re-sewn.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is a game worn 1969 San Diego Padres inaugural season alternate road jersey. While the front is all original, it is missing its original player name tag inside the neck, and aspects have been restored, including the back numbers, sleeve and neck trim and the sleeve patch. Its wear is reasonable for a jersey issued to a pitcher and then to a player in spring training. I would judge this jersey to be a surviving example of a game worn inaugural year San Diego Padres jersey, of which there are few examples remaining.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dave Winfield 1975 San Diego Padres Home Game Jersey with Matching Pants

Examination Date: December 13, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1213J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Jersey: Wilson size 44 (marked and measured) six-button-front white jersey with brown/gold knit trim at the neck and 2" gold/brown/gold knit trim sewn in at the sleeve ends. "Padres" script across both front panels with underline in brown over gold. Player number 31 on the left front and on the back, "WINFIELD" name above on back in the same colors, sewn to a matching non-serged nameplate which is then zig-zag stitched to the jersey back. The inside of the placket of the jersey is lined with white linen for player comfort , a characteristic of Wilson professional jerseys of the1970s and 1980s. A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are original, a rarity with this era's Padres jerseys, as these were heavily recycled into the minor leagues and almost universally show removed nameplates and even changed numbers.

Pants: The pants are made of the same white knit fabric with 2 3/4" elastic waistband with drawstring and two snaps. 2" brown/gold/brown knit trim is stitched down the outside of each leg, there are two slash pockets with buttons intact on the seat. True to form, the Wilson pro pants are lined with satin panels on both sides between the waistband and the knee. The original Talon zipper at the fly is intact and working.

This jersey/pants are presented without provenance, but the sizes are reasonable for Winfield early in his career..

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey: The Wilson manufacturer tag is stitched into the back of the neck with the thread that attaches it sewn through only the inside layer of the fabric, meaning that it was properly stitched there before the placket was sewn closed and is original. The tag is still tightly attached by its original thread, though the tag itself shows abrasion from wear. On the outside of the lower left tail is a 3" knit strip tag with the numbers "31 75 44" hand chain-stitched on it ins the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher. (Player number 31, 1975, size 44). This is all consistent with other examples in my library.

Pants: The Wilson pants are a custom size 35" waist and that designation is hand-chain-stitched onto the Wilson tag inside the waistband. A 3 3/4"white knit strip tag inside the waistband reads 31 75 34 28 (Player 31, 1975, waist 34, 28" inseam) and is appropriate for the tall player. The tagging is sewn through only one layer of the knit waistband, again showing that it was attached there prior to the pants being completed and sewn shut, as is appropriate. I will note that it is uncommon to find and evaluate a matched set of jersey and pants like this— usually the pants offered are the same style but from another player.

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Wear & Repairs: Jersey: This jersey shows heavy wear consistent with a full season's use (and probably at least spring training of the following year as well). The once-white fabric has dulled to a grayish off white. The gold twill that outlines the team wordmark and the player name on back has lost almost all of its gold color, consistent with all others I have evaluated. This fabric was of a consistent substandard quality and shed its color through washing. Conversely, the payer numbers use a different twill that still retains its gold color. This is also a common characteristic of these 1975 Padres jerseys. The brown top layer of all of the lettering is burnished and puckered, and shows heavy wear. Much of the twill is abraded to the point of fabric failure, with the edges frayed and in some cases split. In places, the gold edge-attaching thread has begun to fail and is missing or loose when the jersey is turned inside out. The thread failure is consistent for all elements, and the jersey is puckered beneath the sewn elements showing that the lettering is original to the garment. In only a very few places, the thread has been touched up previously where it had likely become most disconnected.

Pants: The pants are only slightly whiter than the jersey. There is a major team repair the the back of the left seat, clearly repairing damage from sliding. The pants bottom elastics are still stretchy, and the colorful trim is still especially bright.

Conclusion: The jersey and pants set in review matches exemplars for a game worn 1975 home Padres uniform, shows evidence of heavy use and is a reasonable size for the player. There are no apparent alterations or contrivances. The nameplate is in place and appears to be original. It is my considered opinion that this is genuine matched set game jersey and pants prepared for and used by Dave Winfield of the San Diego Padres during the 1975 season.

William F. Henderson

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Document of Restoration

San Diego Padres 1974 Road Jersey- Freisleben

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Diego Padres uncommon two year style Wilson-made 1974 road jersey. As received it was #49 and without a name on back. Jersey is tail tagged 74-42, but there is no real sign of it having been #42. The "4" appears original, and the replacement 9's on both front and back are noticeably larger than the 4's. Most likely was stripped of NOB and number change was made for spring training use.

Work Performed: Removed the 9's from front and back, replaced with new "3's" using team font and matching to the shadow of the original numbers "3". Replaced name on back exactly matching the vertical arch shadows clearly visible on the jersey fabric. Twill lettering was media blasted prior to stitching to jersey to reduce the sheen for a better match to the original lettering, and all was sewn with bleached thread for a better match.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Doug Rader San Diego Padres 1977 Game Used Home Jersey

Examination Date: December 10, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1210J01

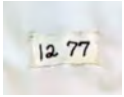
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made size 46 white pullover 1977 San Diego Padres jersey of third baseman Doug Rader. Gold/brown/gold knit trim sewn-in at the sleeve ends and gold/brown trim on the V-Neck. "Padres" with underline scripted and stitched at an upward angle on the chest, number 12 on the left front chest and again on the back. Notably, the 1977 Padres used a different font for front and back on their team jerseys, and this one shows it well with two different variations on the numeral "2". As received, this jersey was missing its nameplate on back, though a visible ghost of where it had been stitched, remained. These jerseys were sent to the minor leagues where they were reissued and used again, without player names on back. The jersey size is reasonable for the 6' 3" 215 lb. player and matches other examples he wore during his career.

In his 11 year MLB career Rader hit .251 in 1465 games with 155 home runs. He was a standout fielder, winning five Gold Glove awards 1970-1974. 1977 was Doug Rader's final season as a player. He played 52 games for the 1977 Padres batting .271 with 5 home runs. His contract was purchased by the expansion Toronto Blue Jays June 8, 1977, and finished out the season there.. He went on to manage the Rangers, White Sox and Rangers between 1983-1991. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Restoration Performed: It is uncommon to find Padres jerseys of this vintage in any useable condition at all, let alone as nicely preserved as this one is. The jersey body is intact and free of damage, and remains an even, clean cream-colored white. The original team crest and numbers are present as well, remaining intact, and tightly stitched: also not typical. These Padres jerseys seem to have been sewn with twill lettering that was not as durable as most other teams, susceptible to fading. Both the brown and gold tend to be somewhat chalky on all examples I have seen, though this one is in better condition than most. The thread used to stitch them was also odd— it tended to bleach to nearly white, again a consistent characteristic of this year Padres jerseys. Given the original condition of the team crest and numbers, its owner asked me to restore the nameplate on back "to match". To do this, I media-blasted the lettering aggressively, and sewed it in place with thread that matched the bleached color of the rest of the jersey. The nameplate was made from a pair of matching, similar aged team pants and was sewn carefully over the visible ghost of the original.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag noting the size as 46 (marked and measured), appropriate style for use in 1977 is stitched inside the back of the neck. On the outside left front tail is a rectangle of jersey fabric, zig zag stitched to the shirt with the numbers "12 77" (Player #12, 1977) hand chain stitched in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. The tagging is consistent with exemplars in our library.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: aside from the nameplate, it is all original, and the player name is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Doug Rader of the 1977 San Diego Padres.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Document of Restoration

San Diego Padres 1977 Home Jersey #37

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Diego Padres Wilson-made 1977 home jersey. As received it was #53 and without a name on back. Jersey is tail tagged 37-77. Clear glue/shadow evidence exists of the original #37 on back and front, as well as the removal of a nameplate, likely for use in spring training of the minor leagues. All thread holding on the front word mark is bleached nearly white.

Work Performed: Removed the numbers from front and back, replaced with new ones using team font and matching to the shadow of the original numbers. Replaced name on back per 1977 roster on nameplate exactly matching the team alphabet font and vertical arch lettering style. Nameplate was made from a pair of used game pants. Twill lettering was media blasted prior to stitching to jersey to reduce the sheen for a better match to the original lettering, and all was sewn with bleached-color thread for a better match. Spot hand re-dyed the existing bleached brown thread.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Alan Foster #21 San Diego Padres 1976 Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 18, 2023 **Certification Number:** 23-0518J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson pullover jersey, size 42 brown double-knit body with gold raglan-style sleeves and gold knit style V-Neck, 2" gold/brown knit trim sewn into the end of each sleeve. "San Diego" arched across the front in gold, in the team's wordmark font. On back, the restored number 21 in gold, using the team's unique font. On the right sleeve is sewn the 1976 National League 100th Anniversary patch, worn by all NL clubs that year. The patch appears to be an original. The jersey is signed on the front of the V-neck "Randy Jones #35" I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Pitcher Alan Foster wore #21 in 1976. The size of the jersey was reasonable to have been worn by (6' 0", 180 lb.) pitcher. He played for five teams over ten years, 1967-1976. In 1976, Foster's final season, he appeared in 26 games for the Padres both as a starter and a reliever, compiling a 3-6 record with a respectable 3.22 ERA. But, this jersey is perhaps more notable for what its post-MLB history is, rather than the fact that it was Foster's jersey in 1976.

Padres jerseys of the 1970s are among the most difficult to find in original condition in the hobby. The reason is simple: a frugal organization, the team sent its equipment, including it used uniforms, to its minor league clubs to be repurposed and used again. While this practice was common in baseball at the time, the Padres' situation was unique: of their minor league clubs, most had names other than "Padres". This meant that the old team uniforms were usually stripped bare so they could be re-lettered with the team name of the minor league club. Road uniforms were the most likely to be universally violated, since they wore the city name of the big league club, and were useless for re-use unless stripped. As a result, the vast majority of Padres jerseys of the 1970s have disappeared into dust: first re-lettered for a minor league club, used beyond the point of utility, then discarded without any thought or realization that they had once been game-worn MLB jerseys.

Continued, overleaf

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This jersey first came to my attention, presented as an autographed and game worn Randy Jones jersey, represented as having been included in the massive and heralded Barry Halper Auction, held by Sotheby's Auctions in 1998. From *Wikipedia: "Halper's baseball memorabilia collection was thought of as the finest, being both extensive and unusual… Sotheby's released a three-volume book, The Barry Halper Collection of Baseball Memorabilia, that included over 1,500 color photographs of the collection, giving history for many of the items, details about Halper's collection through the years, and a history of baseball. In 1998, Halper sold the collection, with Major League Baseball purchasing many items, donating them to the Baseball Hall of Fame. The rest were auctioned off by Sotheby's for a record 21.8 million USD."* (The sum also has been reported to be over $40 million)

I used photos of this jersey, borrowed from the auction listing in early editions of my own *Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys*, recognized as the industry reference book for collectors of MLB jerseys. At that time, prior to 2000, the Internet was in its infancy and researching authenticity of game-worn memorabilia was much different (and more difficult) than today. So, when a major auction house listed such an item as original and authentic, I did not question its provenance.

Apparently, neither did its 1998 purchaser. This jersey was bought for an unrecorded sum by a collector, and resided in his collection for many years. Meanwhile, as the years passed and my research continued, I surmised from game photos that the 1976 Padres did not wear names on the back of their road jerseys, and this one had JONES arched above the numbers. The player numbers also looked incorrect to me, too tall and narrow. I removed the photos of the Jones jersey from my authentication guide.

Within a few years, the stories started coming out that many items from the Halper collection were counterfeit and fraudulent. I won't recount the stories here, but in very messy legal proceedings, many damaging details were revealed about some of the most expensive items in the sale, and while surely many of the items in the collection were valid, the entire collection was tarnished by the case.

Fast forward ahead 20 years, and this jersey was sent to me by its buyer, asking me to authenticate it. By putting it on the light table, I was able to immediately tell that it had once worn number 21 on the back, and the jersey had been stripped and re-lettered by

Top left: This jersey in photographs as it appeared in the Southey auction listing of 1998, and top right, as it was received here. Below, with back lettering removed, the light table coupled with photo enhancement reveals the original back numbers.

someone at some point prior to the 1998 Halper sale. My examination show that the front crest and the sleeve patch appeared original, a rarity for 1976 Padres road jerseys. Disappointed with my evaluation, the owner sold the jersey to another collector, who subsequently asked me to restore it to original.

Restoration Performed: I removed the back lettering and found that the replacement lettering had been applied with excessive heat, fusing the adhesive from the tackle twill lettering thickly into the brown fabric. Carefully, I worked with solvent to remove the glue, finally steaming the jersey to make it presentable as possible. Once cleanly stripped, the light table clearly revealed the exact shape and position of the original back number, #21. I used matching gold twill to make the back lettering, the ghosts of which matched my records of team font and size exactly. Before sewing, I media blasted and age-dyed the lettering to better match the front wordmark.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer's tag in the correct style for 1976, noting the size as 42, is stitched in the proper place into the back of the neck just below the gold knit collar. Below the Wilson tag is a small square of brown knit jersey material with the number "76" hand chain stitched onto it. No other verifiable 1976 Padres jerseys that I have viewed have this year tag, and my assumption is that this tag *might* have been added as a contrivance, but I am quick to add that there are very few such jerseys in my collection of exemplars, so I cannot be sure. In detail, it does not exactly match other tags of this style created by the Wilson factory stitcher for other teams. We elected to leave it in place, along with the Randy Jones collar autograph, when we restored the shirt.

Wear & Repairs: As mentioned before, this jersey has its original front SAN DIEGO crest intact, an extreme rarity in the hobby. The jersey is in good condition, though the back is somewhat shiny from excessive heat used to apply the incorrect and now removed back lettering. There are some ghost marks remaining visible from the removal of the JONES 35 from the back.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front appears all original, with an original sleeve patch and the back now properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. There remain some light glue marks on the back which is lightly damaged from heat. The sewn-in year tag has been left in the neck, though its origin is unconfirmed. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Alan Foster of the 1976 San Diego Padres.

William F. Henderson

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Roger Craig San Diego Padres 1978 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 22, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0122J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is team manager Roger Craig's 1978 San Diego Padres home jersey. Size 46 Wilson white jersey body with brown raglan sleeves, sleeve ends with with 1.5" gold knit sewn-in trim, 1" gold V-Neck trim. One-year style lettering design, gold outlined with brown "Padres" on front with 3 7/8" tall #38 in Padres font on front. Small SAN DIEGO lettering stitched above the Padres wordmark in one color, brown. On back, 7.5" tall gold with brown outlined number 38 in the Padres special font, and above that, "CRAIG" sewn to a plate in brown, block vertical arched font.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey retained its original PADRES crest on front as well as its original back and front numbers. The small front "SAN DIEGO" had been removed as had the original nameplate for its re-issue in the team's minor league system. Using team templates and confirmed with shadow images from the light table, I recreated the missing front lettering and nameplate using closely-matching knit fabric of the same aged, off-white color. I media blasted the new lettering to eliminate the sheen, then stitched it in place using bleached thread to better match with the original lettering. The nameplate is unbacked and the edges are left un-serged like the original would have been, and the nameplate was sewed with a zig zag stitch to the jersey over the ghost of the removed plate as was still visible on the light table. A modern reproduction 1978 All Star Game patch was sewn to the left sleeve over the ghost of the original that had been removed. Stitching holding on the back numbers was lightly touched up—adding some stitches where the numbers were very loose, again using bleached thread for a better match.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1978 Padres jerseys were made by Wilson. The Wilson tag appropriate for 1978 noting the size as 46 (reasonable for Craig to have worn) is stitched in the back of the neck. On the lower left outside front tail is a 1" x 2.25" piece of jersey-matching white knit fabric with the numbers "*38 78*" hand chain-stitched on it using brown thread in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. All tagging matches exemplars and is free of contrivance.

Continued, overleaf

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Above and at right, as received.

At left, restoration detail.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in good original condition, showing wash and wear representative of a full season's use in the majors with subsequent reuse in the minor leagues for another season or probably more, yet it remains intact without damage and with its original wordmark and numbers in place. The white jersey body has weathered to an off-white cream color, and all of the lettering is faded and burnished from washing in detergents, with all the brown thread bleached to a color close to lavender purple. I have already noted my replacement of the missing elements, above.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: intact and mostly all original, with missing elements properly restored with lettering and patch, matching original configuration. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has correct team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Roger Craig, manager of the 1978 San Diego Padres.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

George Hendrick San Diego Padres 1978 Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: April 19, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0419J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description/As Received: Wilson size 42 (both tagged and measured) brown pullover jersey with gold raglan sleeves, 2" brown and gold knit at the ends. Gold V-Neck. PADRES straight across the front in bold gold lettering. The number 8 is on the left front and centered on the back. No name is on back but the less-faded plate shadow for a rather short name is visible on back. As is typical on most 1978 Padres jerseys, the small "San Diego" lettering that had been on the right side above the team wordmark is missing; the light table clearly reveals the stitching holes of its ghost. It is also missing its left sleeve 1978 All Star Game sleeve patch, a seemingly universal occurrence on unrestored 1978 Padres jerseys.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson team tag in the center of the back of the neck appropriate for 1978 marks the jersey as a size 42. Someone has written the number "119" in black marker across this tag, likely from its second life in the minor leagues. On the front outer left tail is sewn a knit rectangular piece for brown jersey fabric, approximately 1x 3 with the numbers 25 78 on it, chain stitched in gold thread in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher from that time. That designation means that the jersey was originally issued as #25 in 1978.

Restoration Performed: A light table evaluation shows the faintest ghosts of 25 having been on both front and back. The outlines are so faint as to be practically invisible, which tells me that the jersey wore that number only very briefly and for very few washings at best before it was removed. Also barely visible are the stitching outlines of a long nameplate. An examination of the Padres 1984 roster indeed shows that George Hendrick, a tall and very slim outfielder started the season as #25 with the Padres. He then was traded away 36 games into the season. #8 was Barry Evans, a rookie September call-up to the team. In my opinion, Hendrick wore this jersey a few times, when he was traded it was stripped of his number and was renumbered "8" with a nameplate that would match the size of the more prominent nameplate ghost on the jersey back.

Removal of the 8's from front and back reveals clear less-faded darker brown shadows beneath, and that coupled with the evidence of the removed SAN DIEGO lettering on the front leads me to assume that this jersey was used again in the minor leagues by the Padres with Evans' numbers 8 still in place.

Continued, overleaf

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The numbers 8 were removed from the front and back, the glue cleaned, and using team templates and an asset from the light table new numbers 25 were reapplied to the front and the back exactly covering the original faint ghosts. A replacement nameplate was crafted, using the team fonts and templating it in brown double knit to the shape of the original nameplate ghost from the jersey. True to the original, the plate was left unbacked and without a finished edge, and was sewed with a customary large zig zag stitch directly to the jersey over the original ghost. Replacement SAN DIEGO lettering was cut and sewn to the front, using the original team pattern and exactly covering the ghosts from its earlier removal.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in remarkably good condition for a Padres 1978 game jersey. While it exhibits some minor sun fading, it is very clean and intact with no repairs. Many of these jerseys were used past the point of reason, and relatively few are accounted for ing the hobby. As restored, this is a fine and uncommon example of a period 1970s Padres pullover.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good restored condition: the main word of the team crest is all original, the SAN DIEGO lettering has been restored, as has the original 1978 player-specific lettering that is near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by both George Hendrick and Barry Evans of the 1978 San Diego Padres

Light table photos assisted in the restoration. The removed San Diego (upper left) is relatively easy to see. As is the outline of the removed sleeve patch above center. The removed original numbers 25 are much harder to see except in very high resolution photographs, here the front numbers (above) and the back numbers (below) have their original outlines highlighted.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Randy Jones San Diego Padres 1978 Game Worn Gold Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: December 13, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1213J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is pitcher Randy Jones's 1978 San Diego Padres alternate gold jersey. Wilson-made Size 40 (marked and measured) bright gold jersey body with brown raglan sleeves, sleeve ends with with 1.5" gold knit sewn-in trim, 1" brown V-Neck trim. One-year style lettering design, bold brown "Padres" on front with 3.5" tall #35 in Padres font on front. Small brown SAN DIEGO lettering stitched above the Padres wordmark. On back, 7" tall brown number 35 in the Padres special font, and above that, "Jones" sewn to a plate in brown, Block/vertical arched font. Randy Jones wore size 40 jerseys early in his career and switched to size 42 towards the end of his playing days. A light table evaluation shows that the front team crest and the player numbers are original and untampered with. This includes the small "SAN DIEGO" lettering which is often removed from these when they were sent to the minor leagues for reuse after their MLB service was through. These jerseys were a one year style, used by the Padres in 1978 only. Jersey is autographed on the right front below the team name in black Sharpie "Randy Jones #35 1976 N.L. Cy Young" and again on the back #5, with the same basic inscription in silver Sharpie. I have no professional opinion on autographs. The 1978 All-Star game patch is stitched to the left sleeve. This jersey was presented without provenance.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1978 Padres jerseys were made by Wilson. The Wilson tag appropriate for 1978 noting the size as 40 is stitched in the back of the neck. On the lower left outside front tail is a 1" x 2.5" piece of jersey-matching white knit fabric with the numbers "*35 78*" hand chain-stitched on it using brown thread in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher ("loopy style"as there were two different styles of handwriting then, likely from two different people). All tagging is original, is untampered with and matches exemplars and is free of contrivance.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in good original condition, showing wash and wear representative of a limited full season's use in the majors. The gold jerseys were infrequently worn by the team during their only season of use, and there were two sets of them. While the team crest and the player numbers are original, there is evidence that the player nameplate was removed and was then re-sewn, as there is some evidence of mismatch of the sewing lines. Careful examination suggests that the original nameplate may have been removed and then re-sewn over the spot, as the wear and stitching details of the plate match too closely for a typical restoration. In my estimation— this jersey was likely batch-stripped of its player nameplate along with all of the others from the team at the end of the season, but it was rescued by someone, likely given Jones' stardom, and re-united with its original nameplate; this happening before the "SAN DIEGO" lettering was stripped from the front as typically was the case before these shirts were reissued in the minors.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: intact and original, with perhaps its original nameplate re-sewn over the original spot. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has correct team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Randy Jones of the 1978 San Diego Padres.

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Document of Restoration

San Diego Padres 1978 Alternate Gold Jersey- D'Acquisto

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Diego Padres uncommon one-year style Wilson-made 1978 alternate gold jersey. As received it was #16 and with the name "D'Acquisto" improperly restored on back, direct sewn instead of on a plate. Jersey is tail tagged 49-78, but there is no remaining sign of it having ever been #49.

Work Performed: Removed the incorrect NOB, replaced with name properly sewn using Padres 1978-spec vertical arch style font in brown on a matching gold and serged edge nameplate made from a pair of game pants. The plate was made to match the size and shape of the original plate's shadow. Twill lettering was media blasted prior to stitching to jersey to reduce the sheen for a better match to the original lettering. The front of the jersey was left unchanged.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

San Diego Padres 1979 John D'Acquisto Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: April 6, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0406J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White pullover with brown raglan sleeves, size 44 by Wilson. Bright gold knit trim bands the V-Neck and the sleeve ends. "Padres" is arched across the front in the team's stylized font in gold outlined with brown. Player number 16 is stitched below and also centered on back. The jersey shows wear from at least a season's use, but is in remarkably good condition considering that most Padres jerseys of this vintage were reissued, reused and abused to the point of destruction . There are very few surviving examples in the hobby, let alone in this kind of original condition.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson year-correct manufacturer tag noting the size as 42 (reasonable for D'Acquisto) is stitched to the proper place on the outer left tail. Directly above it is a strip tag with the code "16 79" hand-chain stitched in brown thread, and in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher, indicating the original player number and the year.

Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey was in good condition missing only the nameplate on back. The Padres sent their MLB jerseys to the minor leagues after their big-league service was through. This style was used only in 1979 by the Padres, who during the 1970s and 1980 changed uniform styles frequently. A light table examination shows that all other elements of the jersey are original, the front crest had been undisturbed and the numbers were the original ones.

A light table examination shows a unique characteristic: the removed nameplate has two pronounced "bumps" on its perimeter, as the original plate had been closely trimmed to the name sewn on it. The bumps are in the places where the apostrophe ascends and the tail of the Q descends from the word. Using a pair of well-used team pants with similar color characteristics, I cut a replacement plate exactly the same shape as the old, and recreated the name on back in the Padres vertical arch style, using available period photos of the player in uniform. The twill was media blasted to age it to match, and stitched down with tone-matching faded brown thread. The plate was sewn to the jersey in the original style, without a serged edging.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good restored condition: the crest and numbers are all original, and the nameplate on back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher John D'Acquisto of the 1979 Padres.

Continued, overleaf

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Back

Document of Restoration

San Diego Padres 1979 Road Jersey- Kinney

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Diego Padres uncommon one year style Wilson-made 1979 road jersey. As received it was #48 and without a name on back. Jersey is tail tagged 48-79, and the numbers front and back appear original. NOB on a plate was stripped and front "San Diego" was stripped and replaced with "Padres" for minor league use.

Work Performed: Replaced the San Diego lettering on front matching to shadows, NOB in correct style on a plate matched to the shadow of the removed plate. Twill was media blasted and organically dyed to make it match the aged originals.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and
Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Restoration/Professional Opinion of Authenticity

1982 Tony Gwynn Spring Training "Pre-Rookie" Jersey

Examination Date: September 1, 2020 **Certification Number**: 200901J1

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, 1980 Padres home Wilson year-tagged jersey that clearly had been used and issued multiple times by the team. On the back, there is light table evidence of at least two nameplates having been sewn, (one approximately 12" long; one about 18") there was none now. The numbers: what appears to be an original leading "5" and then in the second spot a well worn but oddly-shaped and non-spec "8" of unknown origin that had been sewn haphazardly over the glue-ghost of an earlier number. Removal of the non-original "8" clearly showed that other number(s) had been sewn in that spot before. Most prominent due to heavy, dark outline glue stains was a properly-sized number "8", but there could also have been another similarly shaped round number (3, 6, 9) that had been sewn there before as well. Clear and obvious evidence of any other specific number from ghosts was lacking in my examination.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Proper style 1980-vintage Wilson tag is sewn in the neck showing the size 42. On the outside left tail is a rectangle of knit fabric with "53 80" hand chain-stitched onto it in the familiar "handwriting" of the Wilson factory stitcher. The tag decodes to player number 53, 1980. The tag is zig zag stitched to the tail, and a careful examination of the tag and its stitching on the light table allow me to conclude that it is original and unaltered.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in good condition for one that was clearly used and reissued one or more times. The thread holding on the team wordmark on the front and the original #5 on the back is intact and only mildly bleach/wash-faded.

Background Research: This style of jersey was new for the MLB Padres in 1980. There was neither a roster player nor coach issued #53 during 1980-1982. This style jersey was assumedly worn in spring training for the first time in 1981; In 1980 spring training the club wore its recycled 1979 jerseys. The Walla Walla (Washington) Padres (single A) team began to wear this style in 1982 using hand-me-downs from the MLB club.

Besides baseball, Tony Gwynn was a standout basketball star in college and while being drafted by the Padres was also drafted by the San Diego Clippers (NBA). The jersey is a size 42. In our exemplar library we have evidence of Gwynn wearing a size 44 jersey in 1984. It is not unreasonable that he was wearing size 42 pullover as a 21-year-old in the Spring of 1982, two years prior.

Gwynn is pictured on his Topps 1983 Rookie Card clearly wearing a #53 jersey, a photo almost certainly taken during 1982 Spring Training when he was issued #53. (see attached photos of 1982 Spring Training roster) He never wore that number in the majors; he was issued #19 when he was called up on July 19, 1982.

Above: Jersey after the completion of restoration

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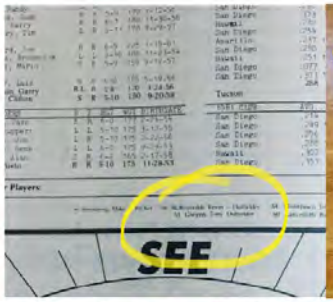
Restoration Performed: I removed the current replacement non-spec "8" from the back revealing the dark glue outline of a correctly shaped numeral 8 that had once been there. I cleaned the glue only from the areas that would not be covered by the originally assigned "3" that belonged there indicated from the front team tag. The jersey was pre-treated for stains and laundered, which evened its color and brightened it considerably. For the most authentically-harmonious appearance, the "3" was harvested from another period Padres jersey of a common player, and was stitched in place exactly over the shadows of the previously removed "8". The "3" was stitched on using off-color brown thread chosen to more closely match the faded thread that attached other original elements to the jersey.

The nameplate was recreated using fabric harvested from another perfectly matching period warp knit jersey. The letter spacing was replicated using three data points as its model: 1) Visual evidence of where the name GWYNN aligned with the leading edge of the number 5 from the rookie card; 2) Light table evidence of the size and shape of the smaller of the two original nameplates that had been sewn there. 3) photo evidence of the arch and spacing of Gwynn's nameplate on another jersey from 1983 or 1984, as seen in a press photo (attached). The nameplate was made as original, using dark brown tackle twill vertically arched at a shallow (19 degree) arc with wide letter-spacing. The lettering was sewn with the same faded-shade thread, and duplicating the style of original Padres nameplates of 1980-1983 it was unbacked with interfacing, the edge was left raw and un-surged, and the plate was held to the jersey with a wide zig zag stitch that caused signature and characteristic minor puckering of the edges of the plate.

Conclusion: It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was very likely worn by Tony Gwynn of the San Diego Padres during Spring Training of the 1982 season.



Clockwise from lower left: Gwynn's 1983 Topps Rookie card showing him wearing #53 in Spring Training of 1982/ A copy of a Spring Training 1982 program, showing Gwynn as #53. / The jersey as received with the odd replacement #8 on back/ The jersey with the odd 8 removed showing the shadow of an earlier glued-on 8. / A game-action photo of Gwynn in 1983 or 1984 showing the wide spacing of his vertically-arched name letters and the shallow arc used.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Document of Restoration

San Diego Padres 1980 Road Jersey- #18

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Diego Padres 1980 year tagged Wilson-made road jersey. As received it was #28 and without a name on back. Jersey is tail tagged 80-18 indicating its original issue number was 18. Gene Tenace was #18 on the 1980-81 Padres. Front wordmark had been heavily reinforced with a second corse of orange thread.

Work Performed: Stripped both back numbers from the jersey. A light table examination shows that this jersey was likely issued three times in the Majors, as it shows clear outlines of 18, 28 and #5, plus three nameplates having been removed. Nameplates were used by the MLB Padres but not to our knowledge by their minor league clubs. The jersey was properly restored to #18 with TENACE, name on back applied to a non-backed, non-surged edge brown knit nameplate which was then zig zag stitched to the jersey as per the original method.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tony Gwynn 1985 San Diego Padres Game Model Home Jersey

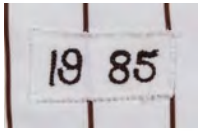
Examination Date: April 25, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0424J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: San Diego Padres Wilson-made size 42 game model home jersey (both marked and measured) six buttons with brown pinstripes. PADRES three-layered on the front in brown outlined with orange, then with a brown 3D drop shadow. On back, #19 with player name above in the team's special font, new for 1985. No trim or patches on this jersey. In 1985 the Padres wore a black RAK memorial on their left sleeves all season. This jersey lacks that memorial and is without any signs that it was ever there. While Gwynn wore much larger size jerseys throughout much of his career, for the first few years he wore size 42 and 44 jerseys. I would deem this size to be acceptable for Gwynn in 1985.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tag correct for 1985 is in the back of the collar, noting the size as 42. Linen lining is sewn inside of the placket, and the Wilson tag in the neck is correctly sewn to the first layer of the placket only, so that when it was sewn closed at the factory, the stitching holding the tag in place is invisible from the outside back of the collar. On the outer lower front left tail there is a rectangle of jersey-knit fabric with "**19 85**" (player 19; 1985) hand-chain-stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher. This matches exemplars for other 1985 Wilson Padres jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows light wear, with a few loose threads on the front wordmark, some very minor overall age-yellowing of the fabric and minimal yellowing of the placket lining. There are no stains. All of the twill is crisp and tightly sewn, without puckering to the lettering or the fabric beneath it.



Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It is reasonably sized, and has the correct team tagging, but it lacks the sleeve memorial that the team wore all year on the field. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications as an extra jersey for Tony Gwynn of the 1985 San Diego Padres.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tony Gwynn 1998 San Diego Padres Autographed and Inscribed Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 29, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J02R

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: San Diego Padres home white with Navy pinstripes jersey of "Mr. Padre", Tony Gwynn, #19. Russell, size 50 full-weight knit six-button jersey. The jersey is the proper size that Gwynn wore at this point in his career. PADRES diagonally slanted wordmark on front in navy outlined with white and an orange drop shadow; Padres team disk patch on the left sleeve. The player number "19" is sewn on the back in Navy outlined with white and orange, and Gwynn's name is arched above it in Navy-Blue, direct sewn twill. All fonts and styles are correct for team issue. It is autographed boldly "Tony Gwynn" in blue Sharpie below the back numbers. It is accompanied by a Beckett Letter of Authenticity related to the autograph on back; I have no further opinion on the signature.

During 1998, Gwynn was in hot pursuit of his 3000th hit. Period news articles referenced how he would be marking and saving items of his equipment referencing each hit in pursuit of the milestone. At this time, there was no MLB certification of game-used items, and Gywnn and his wife set up a business to catalog and sell his game-used items. He was said to have changed jerseys after each hit, tagging each with the hit number that was registered while wearing it. This one is inscribed in black Sharpie on the front tail tag: "L.A. Dodgers Home 6-16 #2857". The Padres played the Dodgers at home on 6/16/98, and Gwynn had two hits in that game. Since this one is marked for only one of those hits, one can logically assume he wore a different jersey for the other hit. Gwynn got his 3000th hit on August 6. According to Wikipedia, *"He reached 3,000 in 2,284 games, the third-fewest games among the 22 players to reach the mark behind Cobb (2,135) and Nap Lajoie (2,224). No player born after 1900 got there in fewer games or at-bats (8,874) than Gwynn.."*

Continued, overleaf

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Provenance: This jersey is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity signed by Gywnn's manager and by his wife, attesting to its originality. Also reviewed was a 1998-dated bill of sale for said item, accurately describing it and its inscription.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell "R" Logo is embroidered at the end of the right sleeve. A Russell "Diamond Collection" locker tag is sewn to the outer left tail showing that the jersey is a size 50. It lacks a neck size tag as would be found on retail jerseys. These two characteristics are key identifiers of Russell-team specification jerseys, compared to store-bought Authentics. The Padres did not team-tag jerseys in this period. We can narrow the issue of this jersey to 1998 because of the hand-written inscription on the front tag noting the game opponent and date.While I am not an expert in handwriting, the writing on the front tag inscription is much like those found on other authenticated Gywnn game-worn items.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering appears original and untampered with. Appropriate if Gwynn was changing jerseys after every hit, the jersey shows a lack of wash and wear; this jersey saw very limited use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and worn by Tony Gwynn in the 1998 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tony Gwynn 1999 San Diego Padres Autographed and Inscribed Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 3, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1103J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: San Diego Padres road gray jersey of "Mr. Padre", Tony Gwynn, #19. Russell, size 50 full-weight knit six-button jersey. The jersey is the proper size that Gwynn wore at this point in his career. SAN DIEGO arched wordmark on front in Midnight Blue outlined with white and an orange drop shadow; Padres 1969-1999 anniversary team patch on the left sleeve. The player number "19" is sewn on the back in Navy outlined with white and orange, and Gwynn's name is arched above it in Midnight Blue, direct sewn twill. All fonts and styles are correct for team issue. It is autographed boldly "Tony Gwynn" in silver Sharpie on the back number "1". There is no authentication provided for the autograph; I have no professional opinion on the signature.

On the center of the back is 4 lines of 5/8" tall machine-embroidery in navy Blue; "#2973 5-16-99 vs. CIN". During 1999 Gwynn had his numbered-hit game jerseys embroidered in this way, and we have many matching exemplars in our database. These jerseys were also generally accompanied by a letter or authentication signed by Gwynn's memorabilia marketing company. This jersey is presented without such a certificate. During 1998-1999, Gwynn was in hot pursuit of his 3000th hit. Period news articles referenced how he would be marking and saving items of his equipment referencing each hit in pursuit of the milestone. At this time, there was no MLB certification of game-used items, and Gwynn and his wife set up a business to catalog and sell them. He reportedly changed jerseys after each hit, tagging each with the hit number that was registered while wearing it. This one is inscribed in blue ballpoint pen on the front tail tag: "**5/16/99 vs Cin #2973**". The Padres played the the Reds on the road on that date, and Gwynn had one hit in that game. Gwynn got his 3000th hit on August 6, 1999. According to Wikipedia, *"He reached 3,000 in 2,284 games, the third-fewest games among the 22 players to reach the mark behind Cobb (2,135) and Nap Lajoie (2,224). No player born after 1900 got there in fewer games or at-bats (8,874) than Gwynn.."*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell "R" Logo is embroidered at the end of the right sleeve. A Russell "Diamond Collection" locker tag is sewn to the outer left tail showing that the jersey is a size 50. It lacks a neck size tag as would be found on retail jerseys. These two characteristics are key identifiers of Russell-team specification jerseys, compared to store-bought Authentics. The Padres did not team-tag jerseys in 1999. On the front tag is a handwriting in blue ballpoint pen "5/16/99 vs CIN #2973". This note on the front tag is much like those found on other authenticated Gywnn game-worn items.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering appears original and untampered with. Appropriate if Gwynn was changing jerseys after every hit, the jersey shows a general lack of wash and wear; this jersey saw very limited use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate wear, and appears to have no contrivances of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to and worn by Tony Gwynn during the 1999 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

David Wells 2004 San Diego Padres Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 25, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0425J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: San Diego Padres six button road tan jersey, David Wells #33. Size 56 with two inches extra length. Jersey actually measures as a size 60 around the chest, with 38" length that is at least two inches longer than observed on a standard size 56. SAN DIEGO across both panels of the front in Navy Blue outlined with white. On back, the player's number 33 in the same colors and in the Padres team font. Player name WELLS is arched above, again in the team's font, on a double-needle serged edge plate matching the jersey fabric. Navy/white/Navy trim rings the neck and the sleeve ends. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo in Navy/white/tan is sewn to the center of the back of the neck. The Padres team patch is stitched to the left sleeve. The left back number "3" is autographed in white or silver marker, I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic logo in navy is direct-embroidered at the end of the left sleeve. The Majestic locker tag in the proper style for 2004 is stitched to the outside lower left tail. Pinch-sewn beneath the tag at the center is the small white size tab, "56". To its right are a set of layered white tags, the first says 2004, the second says +2" Body. Inside the side seam is the Majestic style tag, displaying the jersey as model number 0062, which designates a jersey made to team on-field specifications vs. one made for retail sale. The fact that this jersey is a non-standard size and exhibits special tailoring is further evidence that that it is not a retail issue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all lettering and stitching are original and without contrivance. The jersey is clean and crisp, and does not show signs of use or washing; all of the tagging is crisp and unwrinkled.

Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent team-prepared condition made to the specifications of pitcher David Wells. It is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has the correct team tagging It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for David Wells of the 2004 San Diego Padres.

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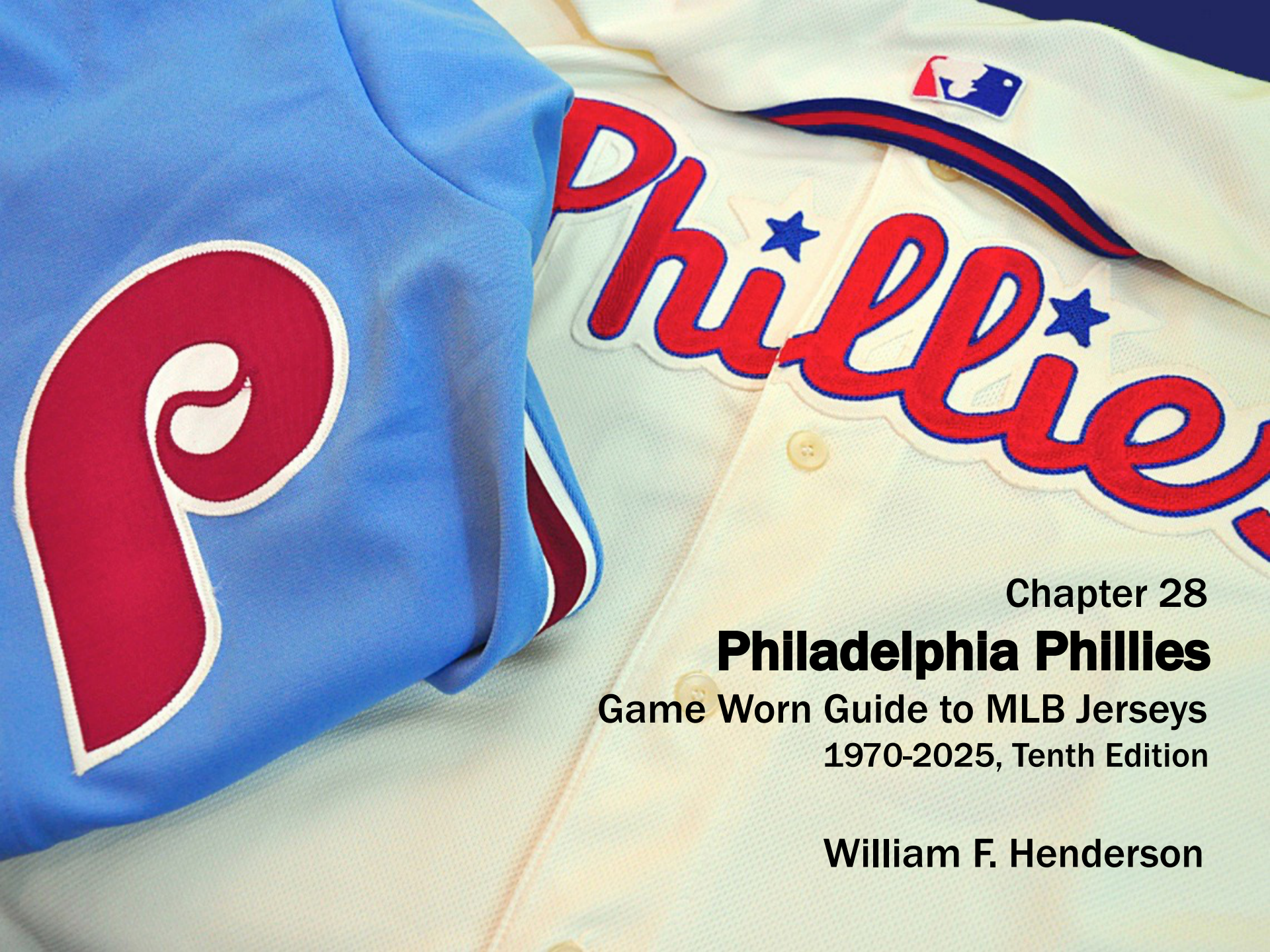

Chapter 28

Philadelphia Phillies

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Phillies Uniform History Notes

- The Phillies' 1970 flannel uniforms were identical to uniforms worn since the 1950 season: The crimson Phillies script in a friendly, casual, straight line, with tiny stars dotting the "i"s.
- 1969 had been intended as the final year for the old suits, but the complete change-over to the new-design 1970 uniforms was delayed because the team's new stadium was not ready to open for the 1970 season as had been planned. The team had intended to do it all together—new stadium, new uniforms.
- The changeover was unintentionally gradual with the new uniforms being used part-time in 1970. The full switch over to the new style came for 1971.
- The Phillies make extensive use of chainstitch embroidery on their uniform tops pre-1970, and from 1970 to 1974. Chainstitching returns for 1992 and carries through to 2023. More details on this are found in the pages ahead.
- In 1973, the Phillies become one of a small handful of teams to have full zipper fronts replace buttoned jerseys, adopted for 1973 on the road and 1976 for the home. But the team by far remains the longest holdover, sticking with this style through 1986 (both the Astros and White Sox ditched them by 1976).
- Chainstitching is also used for player numbers through 1974. The Phillies are the only MLB team to have used this detail.
- The bold "P" on the left chest stays the team's primary identity through the end of the 1991 season. There are small changes along the way. The center of the "P" features a wavy line that is supposed to resemble the seam on a baseball. The line disappears from the uniforms for the 1975 season. I have heard the tale that it was altered because of MLB's enforcement of the rule that no player uniform can include an image of a baseball on it. I have no proof at all that this is why the change was made, and I suspect it was simply a design detail that was neglected and "lost" as all 1975 uniforms abandoned the chainstitched "P" and changed to a simpler, two-layer tackle twill one. The wavy line returned for 1987.
- The team experienced its greatest on-field success in the "new look" uniforms, but was again ready for a change after the 1991 season, the 22nd year of the design's use.
- The new design released for 1992 was based on the 1950–1970 style, with minor modifications. The stars that dot the two "i"s in Phillies were made blue. Chainstitching of the team wordmark resumed in 1992.
- Phillies jerseys are year tagged only through the 1992 season. From 1993–2007 there is no team tagging that designates the uniform as team issued. Year tagging only resumes in 2008.
- The Phillies had used a color they called **scarlet red** for their lettering and trim since 1950. This same red was carried over to the new uniform design in 1970, but the new sleeve-top and side trim was maroon. The red lettering changed to maroon by 1975 and the pinstripes changed from red to **maroon** in 1988. Matching the shades of twill, knit trim, red shoes, laces, stirrups, jackets and wool caps proved to be a constant challenge for the team, as they would often come from the various manufacturers mismatched. The equipment manager was probably very happy to see the team switch universally back to **crimson red** for the 1992 season.
- 2008 brings the team's first alternate since the ill-fated, one-game "Saturday Night Special" maroon debacle in 1979, a cream jersey typically worn for Sunday home games.
- The team adds a red alternate jersey in 2016, and tweaks the script slightly on all jerseys in that year as well.
- A retro/nostalgia power blue alternate is added in 2019, based on the popular 1972–1988 road design, but now intented to be worn only at home. The 2019 season also brings more updates to the "Phillies" wordmark style and sewing pattern, as well as a narrower sleeve trim for the road jerseys that is "sewn on" the sleeve vs. "sewn in."
- The distinctive sleeve numbers worn on the team's home pinstripe and road gray jerseys since 1992, are eliminated after the 2022 season in preparation for ad sleeve patches, allowed by MLB beginning in 2023.
- Sadly, 2023 becomes the final season for chain stitching of the team wordmark after a 32-year run, a victim of the new Nike VPE template designed to make uniforms more breathable and lightweight.
- The alternate red jersey, worn only on the road 2021–2023 (after only being worn in Spring Training 2018–2020) is dropped after 2023.
- The City Connect uniform debuts in 2024, showcasing a dramatic departure from tradition with a bright blue-to-dark navy gradient jersey with yellow trim (city flag colors), custom "PHILLY" wordmark mimicking text font from Revolutionary War historical literature and "City of Brotherly LOVE" sleeve patch. The bright blue reflects Philadelphia's blue collar roots. The jersey is paired with dark navy pants and a Liberty Bell cap.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngeuides@gmail.com . Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1970

1970-1971

1972-1974

1972

1979

1975-1986

1973-1986

Phillies Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home “Old” Flannel	No	10” Old Style Phillies	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Home “New” Flannel	2 color Phillies font	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road “Old” Flannel	No	10” Old Style Phillies	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road “New”Flannel	2 color Phillies font	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1971	Home “New” Flannel	2 color Phillies font	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road “New”Flannel	2 color Phillies font	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1972	Home	2 color Phillies font*	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font*	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1973	Home	2 color Phillies font*	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font*	7” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home	2 color Phillies font*	10” 2 color Phillies*	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font*	7” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home	1 color Phillies font	7” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	7” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home	1 color Phillies font	7” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Philadelphia 76***	NL Centennial***	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	7” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Philadelphia 76***	NL Centennial***	Wilson
1977	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1979	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Alt Red**	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 Color Phillies	1 color 4” Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1980	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	100 Years	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	100 Years	-	Wilson
1984	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1985	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1986	Home	1 color Phillies font	8” 1 color Phillies	1 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Disc	-	Wilson

* Numbers and logos on these jerseys are maroon chain stitched on a white twill backing. The edge of the backing shows as a white outline.

** This jersey was worn only once and was retired forever.
*** These patches were not worn in the postseason.

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Phillies Game Jerseys

1987-1989

1987-1988

1990-1991

1989-1991

1992-2015

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1987	Home	1 color Phillies bold font	8” 1 color Phillies Bold	1 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1988	Home	1 color Phillies bold font	8” 1 color Phillies Bold	1 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1989	Home	1 color Phillies bold font	8” 1 color Phillies Bold	1 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1990	Home	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1991	Home	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road	2 color Phillies font	8” 2 color Phillies	2 color 3.5” block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1992	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
1993	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
1994	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
1995	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Vet Stadium Silver Season	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Vet Stadium Silver Season	Russell
1996	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	All Star Game	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	All Star Game	Russell
1997	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player #/Ashburn Band	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player #/Ashburn Band	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	-	Russell
1999	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Russell
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	-	Russell
2000	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	-	Majestic
2001	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	-	Majestic
2002	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	-	Majestic
2003	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Vet Stadium Final Year	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	-	Majestic
2004	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Inaugural, Tug/Pope Mem	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	Tug/Pope Memorial Only	Majestic
2005	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	Yes	Player Number	-	Majestic
2006	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
2007	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	VUK Patch	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	VUK Patch	Majestic

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Phillies Game Jerseys

1992-2015

2008-2015

Change to Flex Base

2016-2018

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2008	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Majestic
2009	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	World Series Champs; HK mem left chest	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	HK mem left chest	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	World Series Champs; HK mem left chest	Majestic
2010	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"36" memorial, Robin Roberts	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"36" memorial, Robin Roberts	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	"36" memorial, Robin Roberts	Majestic
2011	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"B" Memorial left chest	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"B" Memorial left chest	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	"B" Memorial left chest	Majestic
2012	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Majestic
2014	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"CB" Memorial left chest	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"CB" Memorial left chest	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	"CB" Memorial left chest	Majestic
2015	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"SLB" Memorial left chest	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	"SLB" Memorial left chest	Majestic
	Home Alt	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	"SLB" Memorial left chest	Majestic
2016	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Majestic
	Home Alt (Red)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Majestic
2017	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Dallas Green Memorial*	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Dallas Green Memorial*	Majestic
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	Dallas Green Memorial*	Majestic
	Home Alt (Red)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	Dallas Green Memorial*	Majestic
2018	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Majestic
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Majestic
	Home Alt (Red)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Majestic
2019	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	MLB 150th/DPM Memorial**	Majestic
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	MLB 150th/DPM Memorial**	Majestic
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	MLB 150th/DPM Memorial**	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia Powder Blue	2 color special font	2 color special font	2 color block	No	Phillies nostalgia disk	MLB 150th/DPM Memorial**	Majestic
2020	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Nike
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Nike
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Powder Blue	2 color special font	2 color special font	2 color block	No	Phillies nostalgia disk	-	Nike

* Starting April 7

** Starting May 13

2019-2025

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Phillies Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Dick Allen memorial	Nike
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	Dick Allen memorial	Nike
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	Dick Allen memorial	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Powder Blue	2 color special font	2 color special font	2 color block	No	Phillies nostalgia disk	Dick Allen memorial	Nike
2022	Home	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Nike
	Road	2-color special font (sleeve)	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	Player Number	-	Nike
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Powder Blue	2 color special font	2 color special font	2 color block	No	Phillies nostalgia disk	-	Nike
2023	Home	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Nike
	Road	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Nike
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	-	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Powder Blue	2 color special font	2 color special font	2 color block	No	-	-	Nike
2024	Home	-	2 color special font	2” 2 color special font	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Road	-	2 color special font	2” 2 color special font	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2” 2 color special font	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Powder Blue	2 color special font	2 color special font	Nike Block 2 color	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡*	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 1 color perf	Nike Block 1 color	No	Love disc‡	IBX Ad patch‡*	Nike
2025	Home	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡	Nike
	Home Alt (Cream)	-	2 color special font	2 color special font	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Powder Blue	2 color special font	2 color special font	2 color block	No	-	IBX Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 1 color perf	Nike Block 1 color	No	Love disc‡	IBX Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

* Starting July 31

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Phillies Chain Stitching

Chain stitching is an old type of embroidery that as of 2024 is used only by the Phillies and Cardinals on their team uniform fronts. It is a looped embroidery stitch, made by special machines. This is a more expensive way of creating lettering than the common way of using tackle twill. The result looks very luxurious and rich, almost carpet like, with depth and layers of color.

The Phillies had used chain stitching to create their team lettering and player numbers since 1950. The photos shown here are of authentic Phillies jerseys. They used the technique into the double knit era, on home jerseys up through 1974. Road jerseys switched to twill lettering in 1973.

When the Phillies added player names to home jerseys in 1975, they stopped using chain stitching and switched to standard-variety tackle twill to sew their lettering, numbers, and names.

Chain stitching returned on game worn uniforms for 1992, this time used on the front team lettering script only. Player names and numbers are tackle twill.

The Phillies always chain stitch onto a white fabric backing and then sew the patch onto the jersey. They do not embroider directly to the jersey fabric.

Top center: Close-up of original and well-preserved numeral from a game worn 1971 Phillies jersey. Mitchell & Ness does a wonderful job reproducing this craft on some of their old time jerseys. ***Bottom:*** Close-up of 2004 Phillies front jersey logo chain stitching. Notice the extra flap-hidden "L" that is on every button-front game jersey prior to 2016, when that practice ends.

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970 Spring Training “Holdover” Home

Construction delays caused the opening of the new multi-purpose stadium to be delayed; first projected to be mid-season 1970, and then ultimately to the start of the 1971 season. The old-style uniforms made their final appearance in spring training 1970, stripped of their 1969 sleeve patches, and the team opened the 1970 season at Connie Mack wearing their new-look uniforms detailed on the pages that follow.

Pictured on this page is the “classic” look that the 1970 Phillies had worn without significant change since 1950. Red pinstriped cream fabric at home, plain gray on the road. The design was once well loved in Philadelphia because the first year the team switched to this style in 1950, the team won the National League pennant for the first time since 1915.

Years thereafter spent in the National League cellar had changed this uniform’s image to represent a tradition of losing by its 20th season of use in 1969. The Phillies were building a new ballpark, Veterans Stadium, to match the fabulous modern stadiums that had been erected in Atlanta, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, and it was set to open for the 1970 season. The team had a new stadium and a new look all ready to go for the new decade in 1970.

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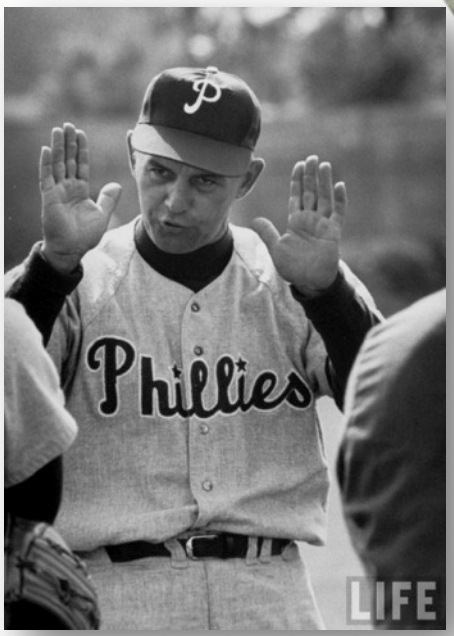
1970 Spring Training “Holdover” Road



There are no year-tagged 1970 jerseys in this style; all the spring training issues were recycled from prior years’ used stock. The Phillies’ old pre-1970 look remains an understated work of art: chain stitched scarlet thread was used to embroider the front team script onto a cream-colored white felt patch, where red stars dotted both *“I”s*. The very same embroidery was used to make the extra-large, nearly 10-inch tall special font player numbers on back. Both script and numbers were woven with the swirling texture of a carpet onto cream felt that was then sewn to the jerseys. While the Cardinals and the Astros both used chain stitching to create their front logos, only the Phillies extended the use to the back numbers as well.

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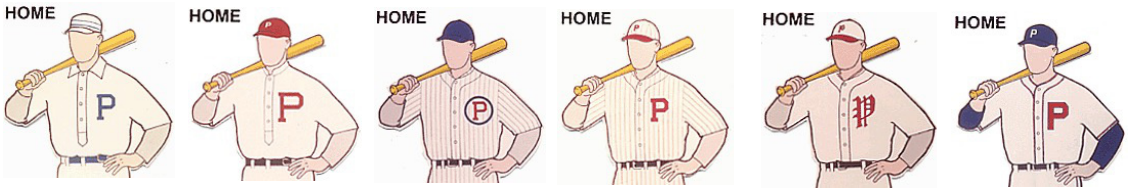
1970-1971 Home

The Phillies were all set to launch a new image: new team look, new stadium, new optimism. Had the new stadium been ready as planned for the start of the 1970 season, these new suits were ready to go. But with the stadium opening delayed until 1971, the team went ahead and wore their new suits at the old stadium anyway. Made of a flannel blend exclusively by Wilson, they were woven with a crimson chalk pinstripe with a seven-button front. Bold and modern (Arial font) numbers adorned the back and right chest, chain stitched embroidered in crimson thread onto white felt backing, and then zig-zag stitched in place around the edges. The embroidered left chest "P" had the facsimile of a baseball's stitching in the open center of the letter. 1" darker maroon trim was sewn on the sides and sleeve tops.

(Continued next page)

Having a "P" on the left chest is not new for the Phillies, though few would remember the prior time it was done. Various versions of this style were used by the team from 1900 through 1942.

The new-design Phillies jersey was very well received by fans. A detail carried over from the past old-style Phillies script uniforms of the 1960s, fancy chain stitching is still used by the team to embroider all the crimson red logos and player numbers sewn on the uniforms. Side and sleeve trim is now maroon as well. Below: 1900, 1914, 1922, 1923, 1925 and 1941.



Men on the move in Phillies' starting outfield for season opener against Chicago Cubs Tuesday at Connie Mack Stadium are (left to right) Tony Taylor, lf; Larry Hisle, cf, and John Briggs, rf.

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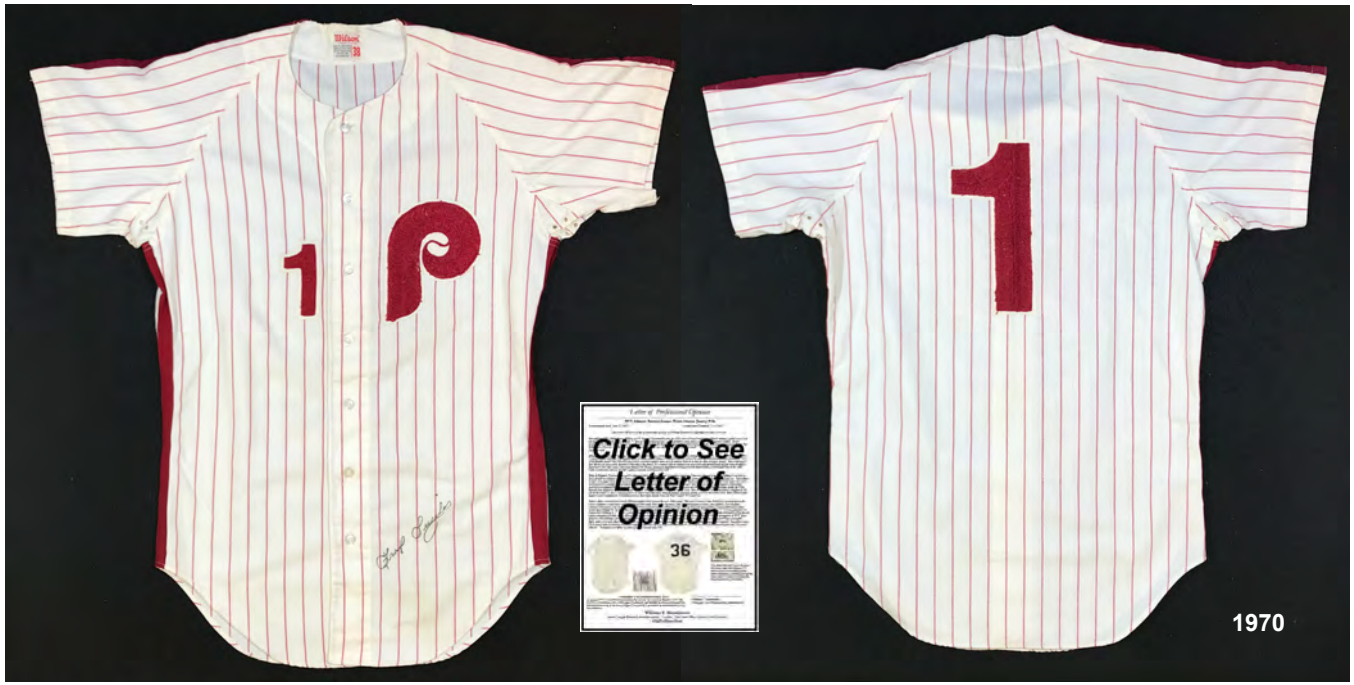
1970-1971 Home, continued



More examples of the breed. These seven-button chalk pinstripe jerseys are very hard to find; they were sent to the minors and used to excess. The chain stitched numbers and team crest are easily damaged and very difficult to replace.

Hand chain-stitching used to create both the numbers and the team crest is a lost skill today; besides the fact that the antique machines that were built to do this work have disappeared from our modern world.

The example at top was a pre-production sample, and is in unused condition. The one below was issued to "The Bull", Greg Luzinski for the 1971 season where he was a September rookie call-up and played at first base in 28 games.

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1970-1971 Road

1970

1970

The road uniforms for the new set were just like the home ones, except for the color of the fabric. The cloth chosen for the new set was a blue-gray flannel. The buttons were dark bluish-gray.

The player numbers on both home and away uniforms deserve special note. Breaking tradition, they are a special display font, and not the typical boxy Block or Varsity that are used by almost all other teams. The Phils follow the lead of the Expos, who for 1969 introduced their own smooth and modern team-specific number font.

The numbers (and the front “P” logo) are rendered in elegant chain stitching, embroidered in a thick, deep swirling pattern with plenty of texture. Up close, they are beautiful to behold. All embroidery is done onto white felt, which then is sewn to the jersey.

Finally, the back numbers are rather large compared to other teams, almost 10” tall. No player names are used on either home or road uniforms.

Wilson is the sole supplier of the Phillies 1970–1971 new look uniforms. Team-set information is embroidered in the front shirt tail, player names are embroidered onto a uniform-color piece of fabric and sewn into the back of the neck.

1970

1970

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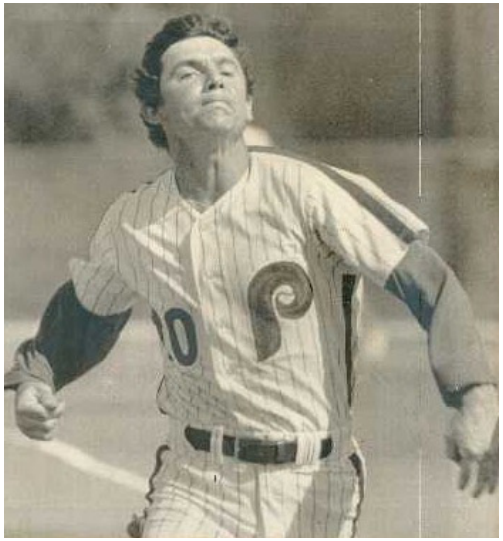
1972-1974 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

For 1972 the Phillies joined most of the teams in MLB and switched their uniforms from flannel to new double knits. The man-made fabric promised to be easier to clean for and look crisper, more colorful and brighter on the color televisions that were now common in more homes.

Having just revised their look two years prior, the Phillies simply took the “new look” and applied it to the knit uniforms. Bright crimson red pinstripes were of an engineered design, woven into the fabric with a slightly zig-zag appearance if you looked very closely. The lettering was chain stitched in crimson embroidery thread as before onto off-white fabric patches then sewn to the jersey, and the side and sleeve top trim was a third shade of red— a deep maroon. This mix of red tones proved to be a problem for the team’s outfitters, as it was difficult to match, and over time the maroon trim tended to fade in the sun. Accessories like stirrups, shoes, caps and batting helmets never seemed to match each other during this period.



Phillies home jerseys remained the same 1972–1974. No names on back were used. The front “P” logo was an elegantly embroidered work of art with a flourish resembling the stitching of a baseball running through the opening in the letter’s center. Side and sleeve top trim was applied as “sewn-on”, just as its had been with the 1970–1971 flannels. Seven buttons were used as front closures.

Wilson was the team’s sole supplier, and the Wilson manufacturer’s tag with its integral size data was sewn to the outer left front tail. Team tagging noting the year and set was chain stitched onto a strip of jersey-color fabric and then zig-zagged below.

(Continued next page)

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1972-1974 Home, continued

1973

The player's name was hand chain stitched onto another rectangle of jersey fabric and stitched into the back of the neck. Double knit Wilson jerseys were always lined inside the placket with linen or satin for player comfort, and the player name tagging was stitched in place before the placket was sewn closed meaning its perimeter stitching was invisible from the outside back of the jersey.

Just as they had been on the 1970–1971 flannels, the player numbers were chain stitched to match the team crest. This work was done by hand by a skilled stitcher, and was time consuming for sure. Front numbers were sewn on the right side, their bottoms aligned with the bottom of the team crest on the other side of the chest. Back numbers were unusually large, as had long been the Phillies tradition. There were no names used on back.

1973

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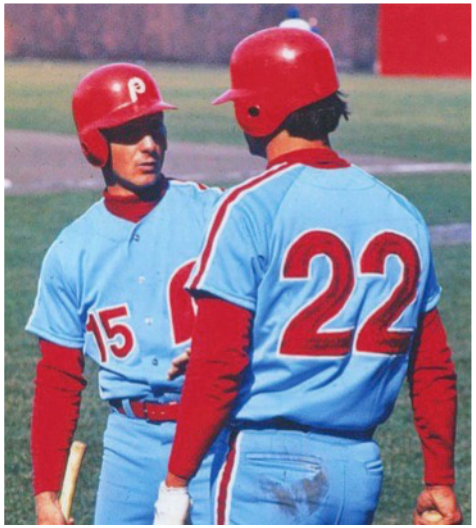
1972 Road

The 1972 Phillies road jersey was the same design as the home version except was now rendered in bright Columbia Blue double knit fabric, perfect for color television. Also with a seven-button closure and large, chain stitched numbers, and team crest, it had side and sleeve-top trim bordered on both sides of the center maroon stripe by white. No player names were used in 1972.

The 1972 Phillies knit road jersey is an uncommon find in the collectors world. It was a single-year design and after their MLB service was through, the 1972 jerseys (both home and road) were dispatched to the minor leagues (Reading PA, as I recall) to be used by the Double A farm team.

Above: *Photo of Oscar Gamble above shows the typical color mismatch between player lettering, side stripes and cap.*



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1973-1975 Road

1974

Walter Schultz Collection

1974

There were several changes made to the team's road jerseys in 1973. First, a front zipper replaced the button closure. Not a "new" idea; zippers had been used by several teams in the 1950s and 1960s including the Indians, White Sox and the Cubs, but not by the Phillies. The use of a hidden zipper made the front of the jersey lie flat and look sleek and smooth. Next, player names were added to the back. The team used a tall and narrow vertical arched name font, each name hand-drawn and cut by an artist at the Wilson factory. Especially noticeable with longer names, the letters are taller at the ends and shorter in the middle. The Phillies did an admirable job having these custom nameplates ready for players called up from the minors mid-season, or for players acquired in trades. I must assume that these were ordered in as much in advance as possible from Wilson and then the nameplates were locally stitched on spare jerseys kept in the clubhouse. Finally, shades of things to come, the lettering changed from the artistic chain stitch embroidery to common two-layered tackle twill. The team "P" crest was simplified to eliminate the ersatz-baseball stitching design element on the inside opening of the P, and the logo now had an open inside with white fabric showing through.

(Continued next page)

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1973-1975 Road, continued

1974

Front numbers remained the same style as before, but were also changed to twill. And the back numbers went from being uncommonly large to now being smaller than typical. The new smaller numbers were not simply the old ones "shrunk down", they are proportioned differently, shorter yet wider.

And finally, the color of the red twill lettering was somewhere in between the crimson of the old chain stitched lettering and the maroon of the side stripes. The color of red used on the lettering 1973–1975 matches the current fabric color called "49ers Red" in my restoration swatch kit. After 1975 it changes to a darker red called "Cardinal". As with other Phillies jerseys of the period, surviving examples almost all have their names on back and/or numbers restored after hard service in the minor leagues.

These photos illustrate the change in the size of the back numbers; 1975 at left, 1976 at right

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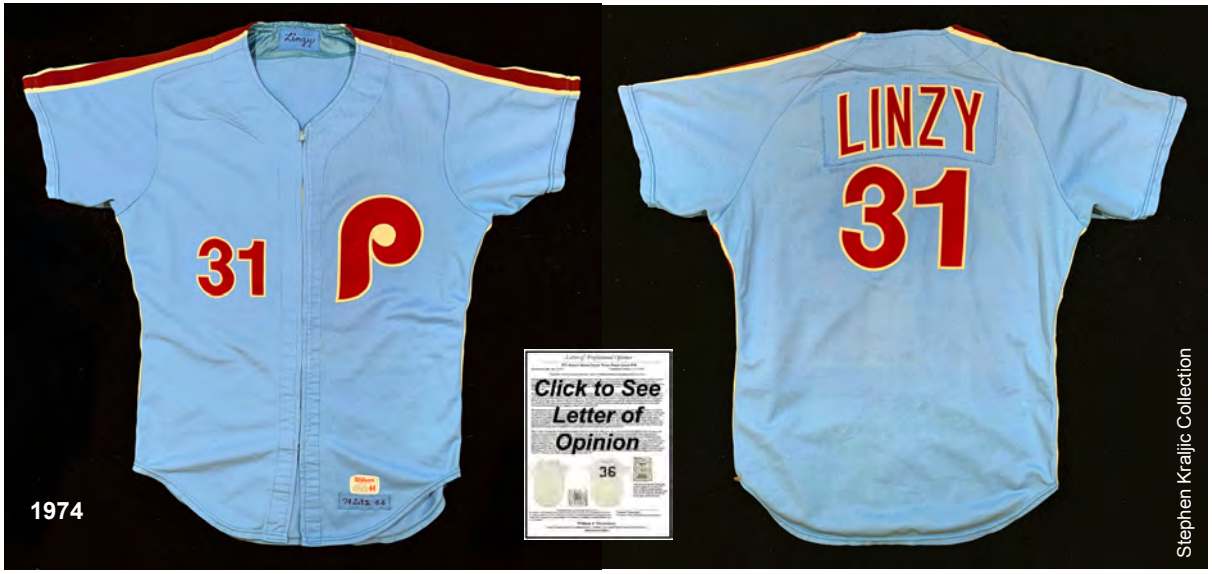
1973-1975 Road, continued



More examples of 1973–1975 road jerseys, some showing the fading and extreme wear they were subjected to in the minor leagues. All have replacement nameplates. ***Top Left:*** I restored the #31 Linzy at left after minor league use/abuse; ***Bottom Left***: the Hutton nameplate is also surely a replacement. ***Bottom Right***: #4 Coach Ray Rippelmeyer example below probably has all new lettering on it. I recall seeing a dozen or more of these vintage jerseys at a Philadelphia area dealer in the mid-80s, piled on a table, stripped and awaiting attention.

© GameWornGuides.com

1975 Home

Left: *outfielder Jay Johnstone in 1975, note the use of a nameplate and the small back numbers used in 1975 only.*

Below: *Dick Allen's #15 jersey shows how closely the player numbers on back were spaced on many of these jerseys, surely at the whim of the stitcher and not because of a team template.*

Far left: *the black marker writing in the McGraw collar gives a clue to its post-MLB life.*

Above: *Catcher Bob Boone's 1975 home jersey, existing as most of these do in the hobby: with its original nameplate removed and separated from it. This one wears a "Set 3" tag and has a nonstandard patch on its sleeve.* ***Right:*** *Tag is from Tony Taylor's #12 jersey of 1975.*

Wilson continues as the sole provider of Phillies uniforms. Starting in 1975 home jerseys follow the path taken by road jerseys two years prior: all lettering changes to one-color dark red tackle twill, and vertical arched names on white nameplates are added. While several teams have used white nameplates on pinstriped jerseys. The look is not universally loved, but nameplates make it easier for the team to prepare jerseys for use, and to strip them for re-use by in future years when they are reissued or sent to the minors.

The "P" on front loses its curly-center design element, and newly simplified to one color, the pinstripes of the jersey now show through its open center since it is no longer stitched on a white backing. For 1975 only the home jersey gets the same small back numbers as used on road jerseys but in one color; there are no white outlines. The color is "49ers Red", not the later Cardinal-maroon.

Finding an undisturbed 1975 Phillies jersey with its original player nameplate on back seems to be impossible, as these jerseys were stripped at season end and sent to the minor leagues where they were used without name on back.

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1976-1986 Home

1976

Howard Wolf Collection

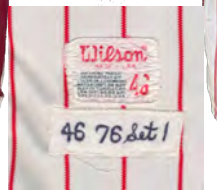
Both of these jerseys are likely all original, seemingly spared being stripped and recycled to the minors. Note the very tight spacing of the numbers in 1976 that was very likely simply the decision of the stitcher.

Home jerseys stay essentially the same for 11 straight seasons. They are identical to the 1975 design except full zippers replace button fronts (as had been done with the road jerseys in 1973) and the back numbers grow an inch or so to about 7 ½ inches. Vertical arch nameplates are used on back. Team tagging stays on the outside front left tail, and player names are still embroidered hidden inside the collar. An unintended artifact of the number font growing larger, somehow the back number "5" pattern is clumsily redrawn making it less than perfect with odd curves; yet this detail is left unaddressed on all team jerseys through 1991. Such was the quaint nature of the 1970s and 1980s, before the age of computer graphics.

In 1976 only, two sleeve patches are worn: the National League centennial patch worn by all NL teams is added to the right sleeve, and the Philadelphia Bicentennial logo patch is added to the left sleeve.

(Continued next page)

1976



1977

© GameWornGuides.com

1976-1986 Home, continued

1981

1983

1981

Notice that the Sandberg example (and the Mike Maddux example on the next page) mid-season player call-ups, have a different player's name in the collar because the jerseys were hastily reissued in the clubhouse, the players' spring training nameplates sewed on for fast re-issue (click on the link to the Sandberg LOA for much more detail). The 1981 example top left is properly without a sleeve patch.

1983

In 1983 the team commemorates its 100th anniversary with a special patch worn on the left sleeve. Also in 1983, Lettering changes to a darker shade of red, "Cardinal Red" on the color chart, a shade that better matches the maroon trim on the jersey. Most surviving examples were sent to the minor leagues, so many in the hobby today have replacement nameplates.

In 1984, a circular team secondary logo patch is added to the left sleeve, featuring the full-word Phillies wordmark, the city name and a cartoon of Independence Hall imposed over a stitched baseball. The use of this patch continues through 1991.

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1976-1986 Home, continued

1985

1984

1984

1986

These examples have the disk patch used 1984 and after. Note the use of the new style Wilson "Prestige Teams" locker tag that began in 1986.

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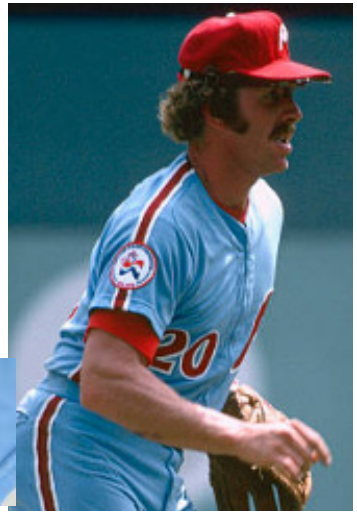
1976-1986 Road



Barry Halper Collection

Everything shared on the prior pages about the 1976–1986 home uniforms is also true of the 1976–1986 Columbia Blue road jerseys, so we will avoid repetition. The numbers grow larger, just as on the home jerseys and all lettering is two color, names on nameplates. Most surviving examples were sent to the minor leagues, so many in the hobby today have replacement nameplates. Notice the shape of the back's "5" that somehow had its pattern become quirky and distorted starting in 1976, and quaintly stayed that way through the end of this style's run.

© GameWornGuides.com

1976-1986 Road, continued

1981

1983

1984

Lettering is lighter red 1976–1982, changes to darker maroon shade for 1983–1986. However, after viewing many examples of original jerseys, I suspect Wilson was inconsistent in which color of dark red they used.

1983 jersey gets the 100th anniversary patch on its left sleeve, new team disk patch is on the left sleeve 1984–1986. Wilson tagging style changes for the 1986 season.

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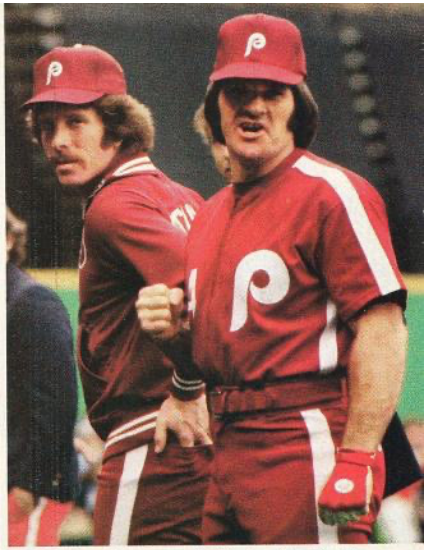
1979 Alternate Home “Saturday Night Special”



New Saturday-only duds are no flashier than Schmidt or Rose.

In 1979 the Phillies introduced an all-maroon home “Saturday Night” alternate uniform. Public reaction was swift and negative, and it was only worn once, Saturday, May 19, 1979, then retired forever.

I recall that the originals were auctioned off at that winter’s Phillies fund raising carnival. As far as I know, these were never offered for retail sale. Finding a real one is a rarity.

These jerseys are made by Rawlings. One color (white) name and number: Name on back is a very tall block white on a name-plate, it is not vertically arched like other 1979 Phillies jerseys are. The team wore replicas of these in a Turn Back the Clock game in 2019.

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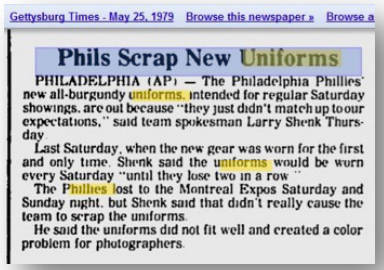
1979 Alternate Home "Saturday Night Special", continued



Gettysburg Times - May 25, 1979 Browse this newspaper » Browse a

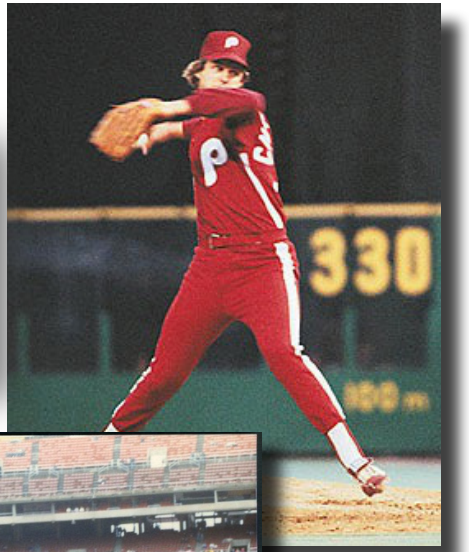
Phils Scrap New Uniforms

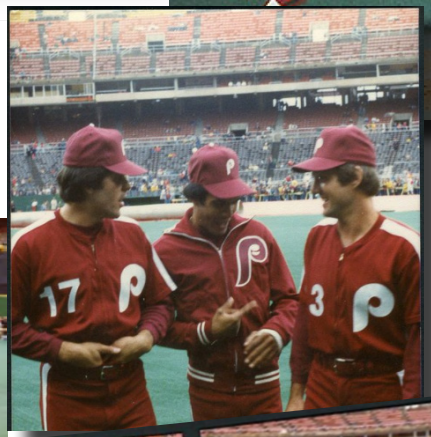
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Phillies' new all-burgundy uniforms, intended for regular Saturday showings, are out because "they just didn't match up to our expectations," said team spokesman Larry Shenk Thursday.

Last Saturday, when the new gear was worn for the first and only time, Shenk said the uniforms would be worn every Saturday "until they lose two in a row."

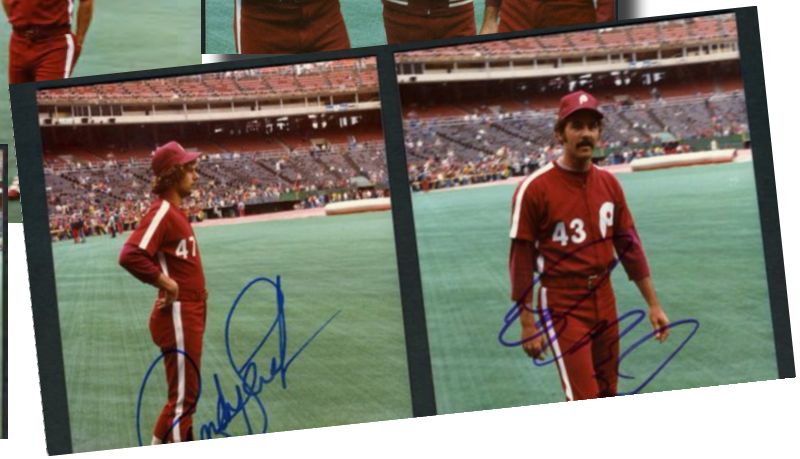
The Phillies lost to the Montreal Expos Saturday and Sunday night, but Shenk said that didn't really cause the team to scrap the uniforms.

He said the uniforms did not fit well and created a color problem for photographers.





Funny thing... May 19, 1979 was coincidentally "Camera Night" at The Vet, where fans were invited on the field before the game to take photos of their favorite players. So quite a few fan photos of these one-and-done uniforms have surfaced over the years! Thanks to sharing on Internet forums, I share some of these here.



1987-1989 Home

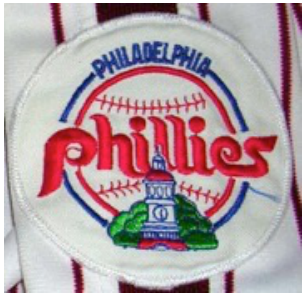
1988

1987

Bill Henderson Collection

Note that for these three years numbers are bolder—they are now the same dimensions as the second (outline) color in the road two-color lettering. The pinstripes change from crimson red to maroon in 1988.The “P” logo now has a closed loop inside as it was on home jerseys 1970–1974.

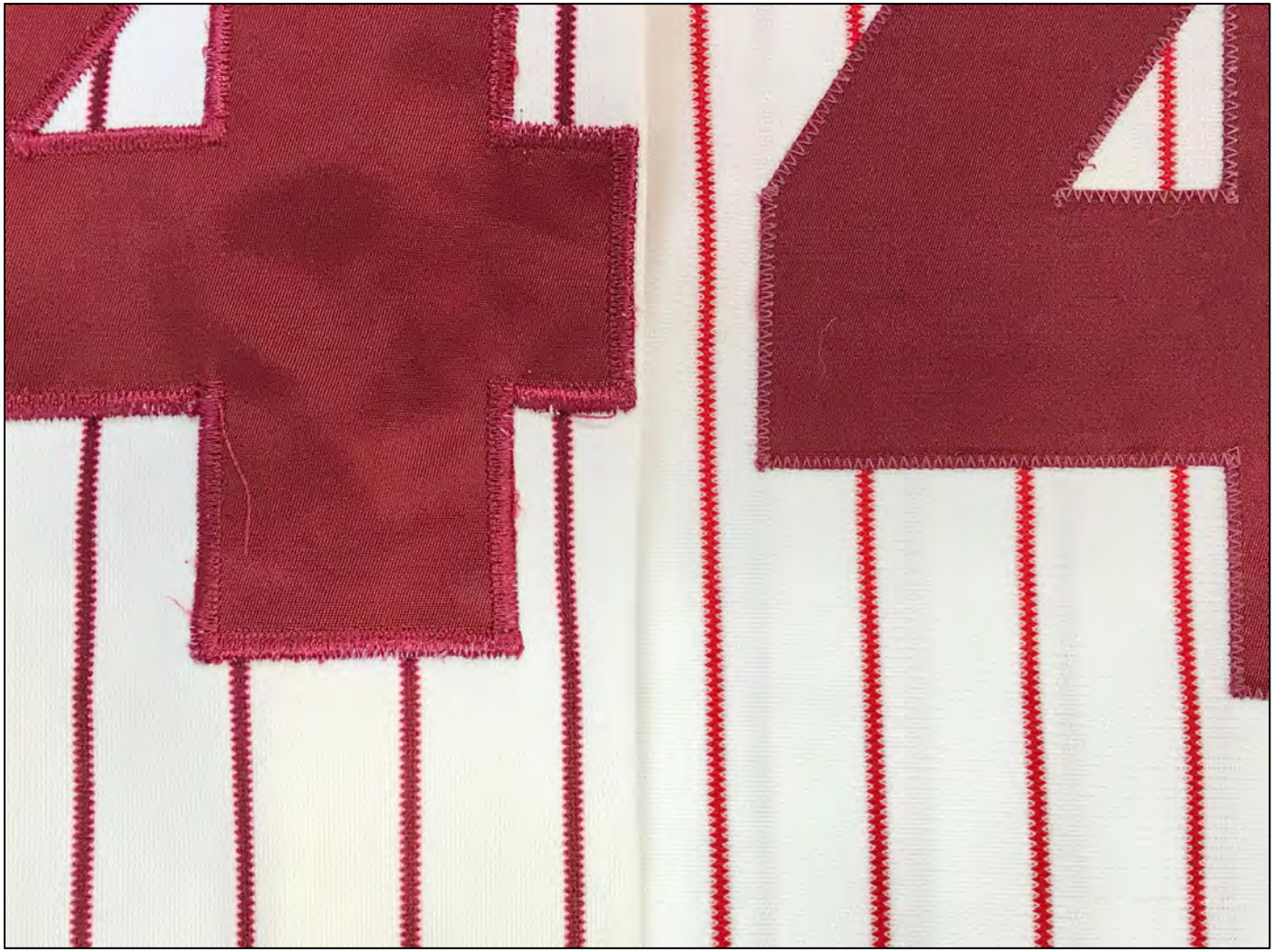
Switch to button-front jerseys, manufactured by Rawlings.“Phillies” sleeve logo patch continues Numbers are one-color, names are one-color and are no longer vertical arch – switch to Block Standard, or Block. Bottom center: Condensed Block for extra long names ***(bottom center).*** Names sewn to a plain white nameplate.



1987

© GameWornGuides.com

Mid-1988: Change from Maroon to Red Pinstripes



Matching the maroons on Phillies uniforms was always a difficult task for suppliers. Finally, the Phillies changed from red pinstripes to maroon pinstripes in the late 1980s. But when? You'd expect it started with a new season, but I've always wondered...

It looks like the change actually happened mid season! Over the years I have come across some 1988-tagged jerseys with red pinstripes (as used 1987 and prior) and some with maroon pinstripes, but I've never held both in my hands at the same time...until now. Here are the two 1988 variants laid perfectly side by side, both made by Rawlings. I am sure the team wore both kinds on the field at the same time, and I wonder if anybody noticed then. By 1989 (and later) it seems all jerseys were made with maroon pinstripes.

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Phillies Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues

Phillies MLB jerseys were a bonus for the team's minor league affiliates; the home and road jerseys both were of the same design and the road jerseys did not have a city name on them that would have to be removed for minor league use. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the team had between five and seven farm clubs each year, with usually all but one or at most two named "Phillies". All of these cities provided happy homes for tired MLB uniforms. The abuse was legendary. At top left, the stitching had been bleached totally white and the nameplate was replaced with one that said "Phillies". I restored Kent Tekulve's late 80s home jersey, it was missing its nameplate. Interestingly, Bob Dernier's mid-80s road jersey (above) had THREE stacked plates on back when I got it—a plain blue plate covered two other varieties. I restored it to original, above right. Hard to find used team pants are used to make replacement nameplates. The pants used for the plates must have similar wear and fading characteristics to the shirt fabric to be a good match. The rote practice of sending MLB jerseys to the minors for a second life did not stop until the early 2000s.

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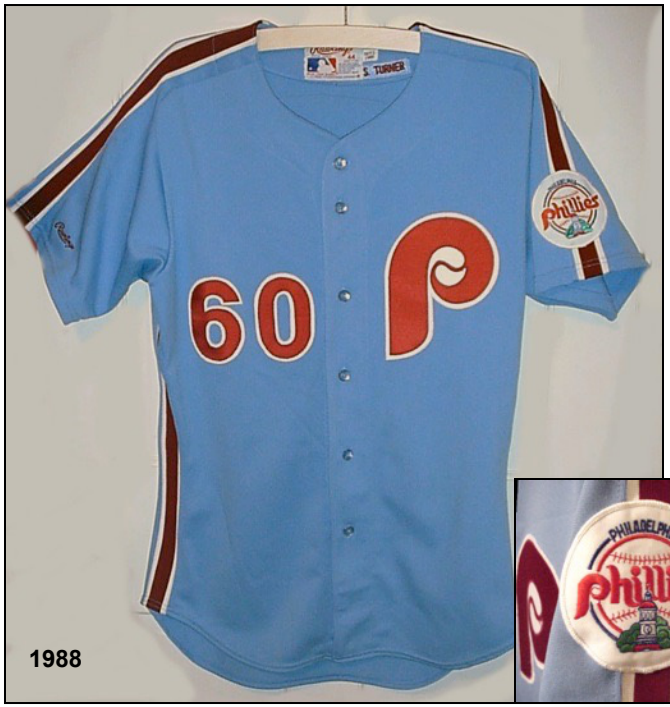
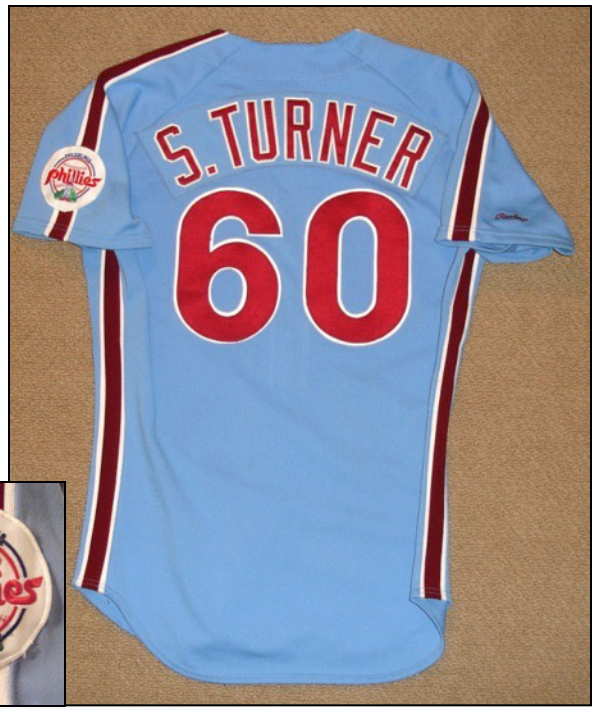
1987-1988 Road



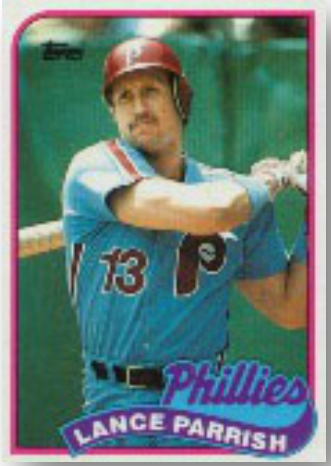
Bill Henderson Collection



Steve Kraljic Collection

Identify by the closed loop inside the front "P" logo. Numbers are custom Phillies type style used from 1970 through 1991. Button-front design. Rawlings is the official team supplier during this period

Identical to earlier road lettering, except name type style is Block and no longer vertical arch. Nameplates used. Team sleeve patch used both years. These are incredibly thick, heavy well-made jerseys.



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1990-1991 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

1990

Button front. Identify by the closed loop in "P" logo on the front – but notice that the "P" logo is again outlined by white (as it was in 1972–1974). Name and numbers are also two-color—maroon on white. Pinstripes are maroon, as is trim. Numbers are "un-bolded" as they were prior to 1987. Front numbers spaced slightly wider than before. Numbers are custom Phillies type style used from 1970 through 1991. Names on a plain white plate on home jersey, names are block light condensed.

1991

Mike Branham Collection

Detail shows hard to see 2-layer lettering, maroon outlined with white on the back numbers and nameplate of this 1990 home jersey

© GameWornGuides.com

1989-1991 Road

Identical to 1987–1988 jersey in every way, except uniform fabric color changes to gray. Button front, name on a plate, two-color Block Condensed name and Phillies numbers, maroon/white, trim is maroon/white.

Numbers are custom Phillies type style used 1970–1991. Everything else is the same as 1987–1988 road style it replaces.

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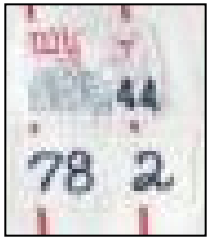
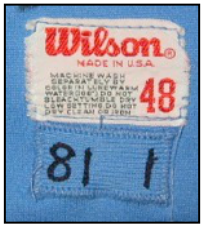
1972-1981 Phillies Team Tagging





From 1972 through 1986 the Phillies sewed a tag with year, size and set numbers on the outside of the front shirt tail beneath the Wilson manufacturer's tag, and also embroidered the player name in cursive script on a tag sewn on the inside of the back collar.

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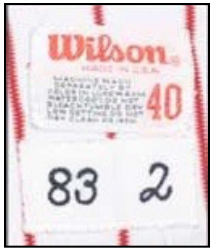
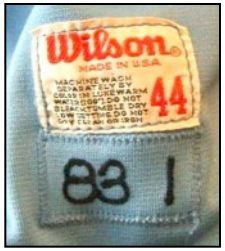
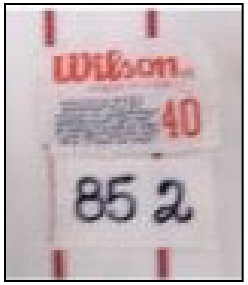
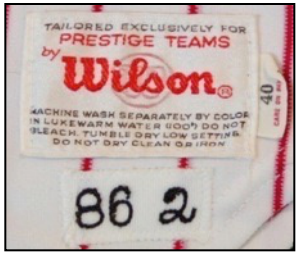
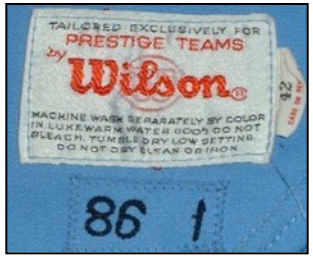
1982-1986 Phillies Team Tagging











In 1986 Rawlings became the contracted official supplier of game jerseys to MLB, and most teams switched to Rawlings uniforms, and now have the tiny Rawlings script embroidered on the end of the right sleeve. The Phillies and a few other teams stayed with their long time supplier Wilson instead, and the style of Wilson tag sewn in the tail changes for 1986. it now proclaims, “Tailored Exclusively for Prestige Teams” , implying “*they had a choice, but they stayed with us*”

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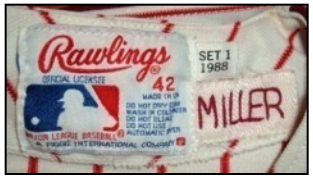
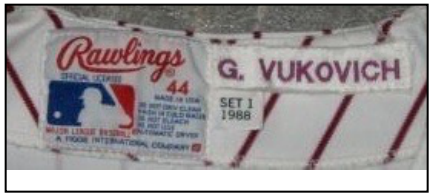
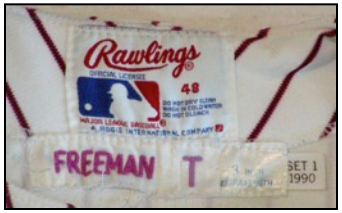
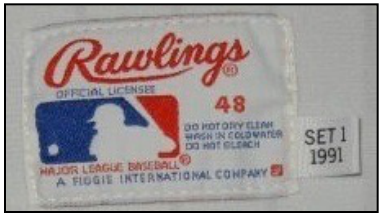
1987-1992 Phillies Team Tagging





The Phillies switch to Rawlings for 1987. All tagging moves inside the back of the collar 1987–1991. In 1992 Russell jersey tag is on front outside of tail, and player names are not embroidered inside the jersey any longer. After 1992 Phillies team tagging ceases for a number of years..





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1992-2015 Home

1992

Kruk's All-Star Game used jersey with that patch on the sleeve.

The new-for- 992 jersey is an updated version of the uniforms used from 1950–1969, except now with blue stars over the two letters *"i"* replacing the red ones used in the past. Pinstripes are bright red. Phillies script is chain stitch embroidered onto a fabric backing, then the entire patch is sewn onto the jersey.

1994

1997 (armband post-8/1)

Name and numbers are a different and new-for-1992 custom Phillies-only font, and are always two-color–bright-red outlined with white. On home jersey, names are always sewn on without a nameplate. 8" numbers on the back, 3-1/2" numbers on the left sleeve.

Russell is manufacturer 1992–1999, Majestic starts as contracted maker in 2000.

Year tags used on this style only in 1992, no team tagging at all after that until 2008 when they year tagging returns as tiny two-digit squares sewn beneath the last button hole. This style enjoys a long unchanged run, about the only thing that differentiates one year from another is the presence of year-specific commemorative patches, some of which are shown here.

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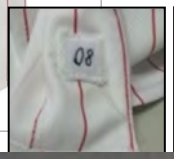
1992-2015 Home, continued

Majestic takes over as official on-field provider starting in 2000. MLB logo sewn to the back of the neck starting in 2000. Cool Base tech fabric jerseys appear in 2006 for some players, all home jerseys are Cool Base starting 2007. Majestic logo embroidered on the left sleeve end. Year-tagging resumes in 2008, inside button flap.

2001 (post-9/11)

2003



2004

2008

Bill Henderson Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-2015 Road

1992

1993

Road jersey is a gray version of the white pinstriped home, with chain-stitched front wordmark and sleeve numbers but with the addition of stretchy sewn-in knit white/red/white knit sleeve end trim. Russell is the maker 1992–1999 and year tagging is used in 1992 only, resumes in 2008. Nameplates used 1998–2005, not in other years.

1997

1999

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1992-2015 Road, continued

2000

2005

Majestic is the maker starting 2000, their logo appears in the left sleeve. Cool Base road jerseys appears for 2008 and are the only option for players thereafter.

2008

2009

2012

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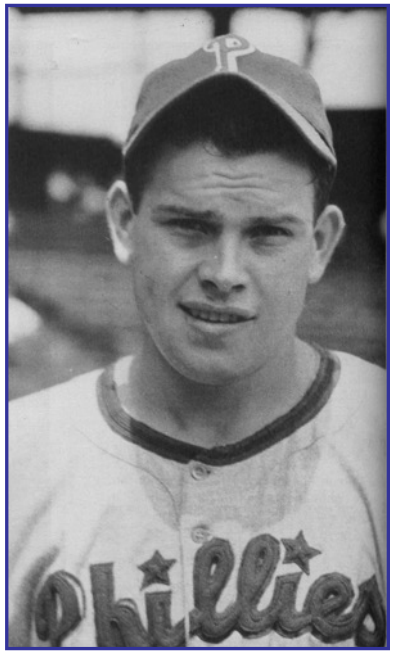
2008-2015 Alternate Home

2009

The Phillies begin year-tagging team jerseys again in 2008, sewing a tiny square with a two-digit year on the inside of the placket below the last buttonhole.



Above: The Phils home alternate is modeled after the 1948 home uniform. Here is Robin Roberts in his rookie year of 1948. Notice the depth of the embroidery of the team script, and also how it is clearly coming detached from the jersey on the left side. 1948 jerseys did not have blue stars like the 2008 version does; they were red.

This is the Phillies first use of an alternate uniform (excluding the one game attempt in 1979). It is designed to resemble closely their 1948 home uniform, but uses current stylized name and number fonts. It is a cream colored, off-white fabric. Incidentally, it closely resembles the Turn Back the Clock uniform worn for one game in 1992. Front wordmark is chain stitched. This uniform is designated for use only during day games played at home. All jerseys of this style are Cool Base, no regular fabric versions are issued. The special Phillies font is used for player names and numbers, just like the team's other jerseys, however here it is red outlined with blue. Numbers are on the back only, no sleeve numbers are used as are on home and road jerseys.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding; Phillies Minor Script Change

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

OLD and NEW, side by side

Without any announcement, the Phillies tweaked their uniform script for 2016. Still chain-stitched on a white backing that is sewn to the shirt, the script is now fatter and shorter (top to bottom), the blue stars are larger, and it matches more closely the script that has been on the team jackets for years, the sign on the scoreboard, and team BP jerseys since 2007.

Notable only to the truly obsessed, the hidden "third L" under the button flap that has been on Phillies game jerseys since 1992 has been eliminated as well (see small photo below).

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations , names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys from prior years.

The mysterious hidden "Third L" found only on authentic team jerseys since the 1950s, is suddenly gone for 2016. At far left, the Phillies print logo was the model for the 2016 jersey script in an attempt to standardize the team branding across print and fabrics. It was ultimately not well received and lasted only three seasons.

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2016-2018 Home

The 2016 update consists of the change to the front lettering and the switch to Majestic's Flex Base template, both noted above. Otherwise, aside from the interruption of pinstripes caused by the Flex Base side panels, to the casual observer anyway (which is no one among us here...), these seem mostly the same as before.

Below: *This 2016 jersey is from Jackie Robinson Day.*

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2016-2018 Road

The changes to the road jersey are even less obvious to those not as interested in the minutia of baseball jerseys than they are on the home. This is mostly because the new Flex Base mesh panels blend much better into the gray jersey that lacks pinstripes. Otherwise, the updates in front lettering and jersey template are the same as noted in a previous page.

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2016-2018 Alternate Home Cream

As noted a few pages prior, the team changes the front wordmark for 2016, and updates to the Majestic Flex Base template along with all other teams for that season. Otherwise, this jersey carries on as before.

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2016-2018* Alternate Home Red

2016

The Phillies introduce a red alternate jersey for the first time since the 1979 "Saturday Night Special" jerseys that were worn only once. This version, not to be worn with matching pants, features a three-color, chain stitched wordmark on front with white/blue names and numbers on back in the Phillies' special font. No numbers of sleeves. A thin white/blue braid encircles both sleeve ends. This jersey also provides the basis for the team's 2016-2023 Spring Training jersey. It does not appear to have been worn in the 2018 regular season, and it is removed from the team's roster of jerseys in the MLB Style Guide after 2018.

2017

Although listed as a jersey option for 2018 in the MLB Style Guide, it was not worn during the season.

2017

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2019 Refresh

For the 2019 season, the Phillies performed some minor freshening and tuning of their traditional jersey design. Besides eliminating the seldom-used red alternate jersey from the team set (though it still appeared in Spring Training, and occasionally in the regular season), the following changes were made:

The wordmark is again revised to make the lettering less "fat." Its last revision in 2016 tried to match the print version of the logo but ended up making it look cartoonish and bloated on the jerseys. The 2019 revision reduces the weight of the red script slightly, taking it somewhere in-between the 2016 version and the 1992 original.

The wordmark is stitched on a patch that is sewn to the jersey, and while still using an embroidery meant to evoke classic chain stitching, the new weave is more rigid and mechanical and has less depth in its appearance. The wordmark patch is now unique for each of the colors of the jerseys it is used on, adding an additional narrow jersey-fabric-colored outline on the gray, cream, and red Spring Training versions. The white outline around the "Phillies" wordmark and the player numbers on the back are now 1/8" instead of the earlier, more traditional ¼"

The blue stars that dot the "i's" are smaller and darker blue.

The sleeve end trim on road jerseys is now a narrower knit braid sewn on top of the sleeve end, no longer a sewn-in knit cuff as had been used since the style was adopted in 1992.

For 2019, the back numbers' outlines are changed to 1/8", half the width of what they had been for many years prior.

On the gray jersey above, besides the new, sewn-on narrower sleeve end trim, notice the narrow gray outline on the front wordmark patch. Note the matching red outline on the Spring Training jersey above, and the difference in the lettering embroidery texture.

Credit: Sports Illustrated

Courtesy: Sportslogos.net

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2019 Refresh, continued

Close up of the difference in wordmark embroidery, pre- and post-2019; back number outlining modification on home, road and cream alternate.

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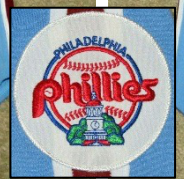
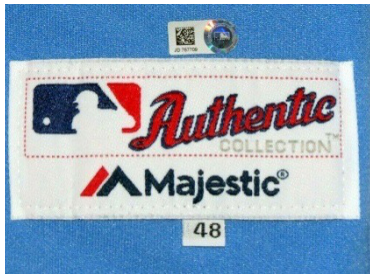
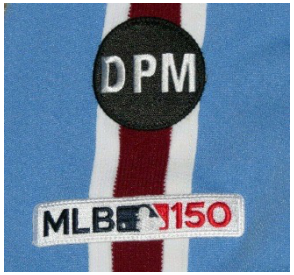
2019 Alternate Home Powder Blue







With a handful of teams bringing powder blue back at the end of the 2010s, and the Phillies "throwing back" to in often in the past, it was a natural fit for the Phils to recall their 1984-1986 road jerseys (based on the presence of the sleeve patch and design of the open "P" on front) as a full-time alternate starting in 2019. One notable change over this style when worn in 2018 for "Throwback Thursdays", the 2019 alternate is a full weight knit jersey and is not made of Cool Base fabric. These are Intended to be worn at home, while the fondly remembered originals of 1972-1988 were worn exclusively on the road. These beauties by Majestic come complete with matching blue pants. Like the originals, they feature a maroon/white "P" logo with an open center, white/maroon/white sleeve and side "racing stripe" trim, which represents the mid-80s set better than recent throwbacks, though there's still a little too much white. Maroon/white front and back numbers in the Phillies custom font (which look slightly smaller than the originals), and maroon/white names on back applied to plates. The original NOBs were a tall, vertical arch style, but are represented here in standard block. Another difference since their original appearance is the lack of a zipper-front, as this set has a standard button-front, likely for safety and player comfort. Aside from the team disc patch on the left sleeve, the 2019 version also has the league-wide MLB150 patch, and the team's "DPM" memorial for former minority owner David Montgomery, on the right sleeve.

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2019-2023 Home

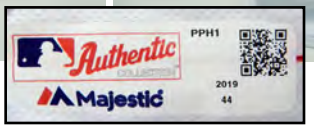
2021

2022

Just a few short years after the front wordmark is changed for 2016, it is updated again for 2019. As noted on the page about the 2019 refresh, aside from the front wordmark, the outline around the back numbers is reduced in size. Player number on sleeve discontinued after 2022 in anticipation of future ad patch.

Majestic makes these in 2019, Nike takes over 2020-2023. Note the change in style code from PPH1 for Majestic to PP1H for Nike.

2019



2022

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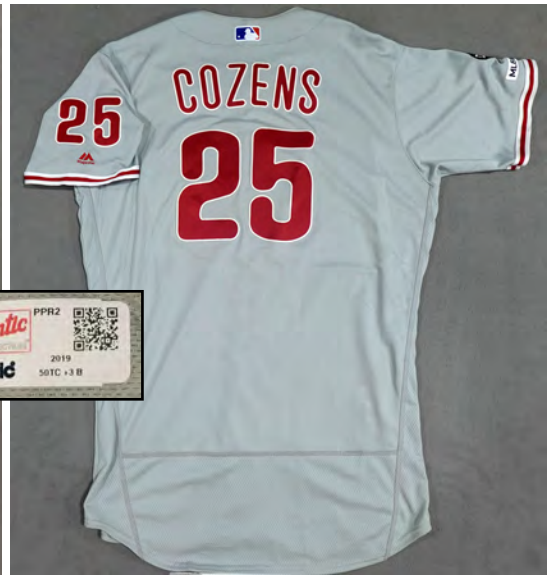
2019-2023 Road



Notice the special tailoring on these two jerseys. The one above is 3" longer than usual; the one below has flat tails. The bottom alteration is noted in readable form on the tagging, the way it would have been done in the 1970s-2000s. It is likely simply part of the computer record for the player and is replicated each time when jerseys are made for him.

Gray jersey body continues the use of the Majestic Flex-Base template for 2019, with the team wordmark changes shown a few pages prior. Also changed are the width of the number outlines on both the jersey back and sleeve. Lettering is now kiss-cut lightweight style. Sleeve end trim is now narrower and sewn on top of the sleeve ends instead of as a wide stretchy cuff sewn into the sleeve end. ***Above:*** Old (left) compared to new (right) shown above. Player number on sleeve discontinued after 2022 in anticipation of future ad patch.

Nike takes over in 2022 and the jersey is identical except for the change in logos. Majestic makes these in 2019, Nike takes over from 2020-2023.Note the change in style code from PPR2 for Majestic to PP2R for Nike.

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2019-2023 Alternate Home Cream

2019

The front logo change is the main modification to this jersey style for 2019. Lettering is now “kiss cut” lightweight style and the back number outline is half as bold as in prior years.

Majestic branding gives way to Nike for 2020-2023.Note the change in style code from PPA3 for Majestic to PP3A for Nike.

2021

2022

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2020-2023 Alternate Road

Majestic's code for this style was PPAS. Nike's is PP3S.

Game photos above from September 2023.

The red jersey is an oddball of sorts --- it is not listed in the official MLB Style Guide as a regular season alternate jersey for the Phillies, it is only shown as their spring training jersey. 2019 versions were made with the spring training patch on the sleeve, and a search through photo archives of regular season games, I cannot find any photos of it used during the regular season. A set was made for 2020, but was used in Spring Training action only, not in the regular season. However, it was dusted off and worn somewhat frequently during the 2021 through 2023 seasons, but only on the road. It is discontinued after the 2023 season so the team can conform to Nike's 4+1 rule (4 regular and 1 City Connect).

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2020-2023 Alternate Home Powder Blue

The Nike version of this alternate jersey changes to tech-fabric construction from the full-weight knit from 2019. Keeping with the old-school look, these jerseys have separate sewn-on nameplates for player names, the only jerseys in MLB to retain this feature. The lettering is also layer cut as was used by all teams prior to 2016: the red layer is sewn on top of the white for all elements (current style kiss-cut lightweight twill lettering would have the white outlines sewn on top of the red). The disc patch on the left sleeve is removed for the 2023 season, in anticipation of a future advertising patch. Majestic's style code for this jersey was PLT2. Nike's is PPM9.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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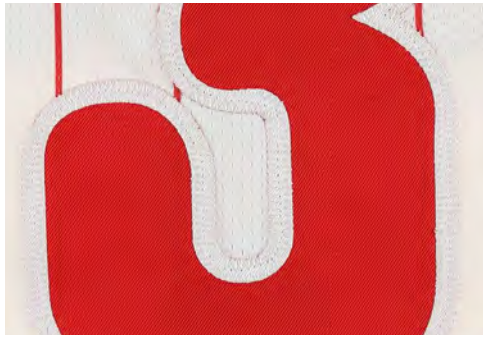
2024 Home



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Phillies now-classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "Phillies" lettering splits across the placket in about the same place as before. However, the front lettering is, unfortunately, no longer chain-stitched to twill and sewn on, it is now flatter, standard embroidery instead. The team's ad patch is added on July 31. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Phillies longstanding road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "Phillies" lettering splits across the placket in about the same place as before. However, the front lettering is, unfortunately, no longer chain-stitched to twill and sewn on, it is now flatter, standard embroidery instead. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the ends of the sleeves instead of on to them. The team's ad patch is added on July 31.It is unclear if the team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024, more research required.

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2024 Alternate Home Cream

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Phillies cream-colored home alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "Phillies" lettering splits across the placket in about the same place as before. However, the front lettering is, unfortunately, no longer chain-stitched to twill and sewn on, it is now flatter, standard embroidery instead. Neck and sleeve-end trim are now sewn in to the jersey instead of on to it. The team's ad patch is added on July 31. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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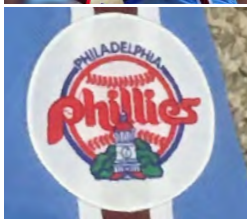
2024 Alternate Home Powder Blue

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Phillies popular, nostalgia-inspired powder blue alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Nameplates are no longer used. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024, and they are now kiss-cut for the first time. As noted elsewhere in the chapter, it was worn with the team's Independence Hall patch, which was removed before the 2023 season, for one game on July 11. The patch was adhesive, and fell off of some players' sleeves. The team's ad patch is added on July 31.



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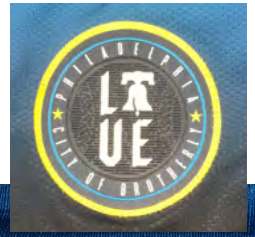
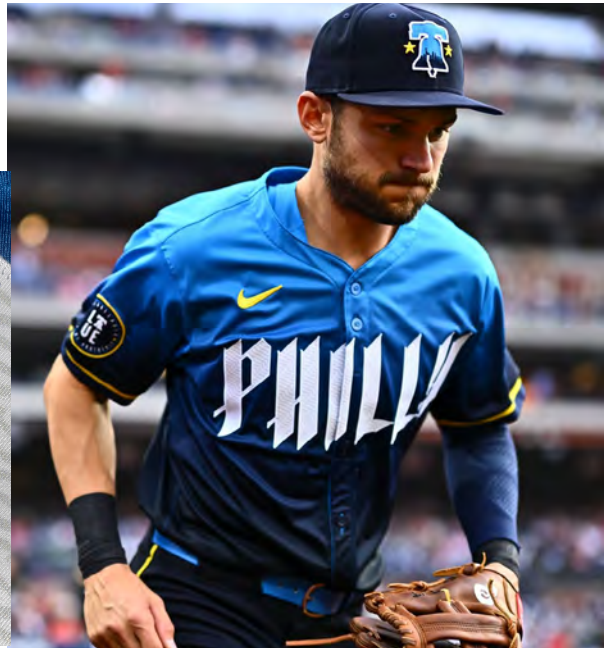
2024-2025 City Connect

Bill Henderson Collection





The Phillies debut their City Connect in 2024, and it stands out as completely unlike anything they've every worn on-field. Taking its cues from the team's host city, this entry is packed with symbolic detail, described below in these excerpts from MLB's press release.

- *Blue and yellow are based on our city's flag, unchanged since its inception.*
- *The skyline of Philadelphia is proudly depicted on the inside of the jersey's collar. Most notably, however, is the bright blue shade of the collar to represent what Philadelphia is at its core: a blue-collar big city with a small-town feel.*
- *The lettering is reminiscent of text found on important historical documents in the city and features a subtle pattern inspired by the crack of the Liberty Bell.*
- *The sleeve patch features "City of Brotherly Love" with the Liberty Bell within the word "Love", a nod to both a symbol and word that is strongly held at the heart of Philly. On the interior, an etching pattern references the illustration style featured in literature common around the time of the revolution. Baseball laces woven into this detail are intended to represent how deeply the Phillies are stitched into Philly's DNA.*

The pattern from the front letters also carries over to the back player numbers, which are perforated. Built on the Nike VPE template, this jersey's sleeve trim is sewn into the sleeves, though it lacks the neck trim typical of VPE, perhaps from the challenge of matching the gradient pattern. The team's ad patch, Independence Blue Cross, is added on July 31, 2024. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Phillies” script breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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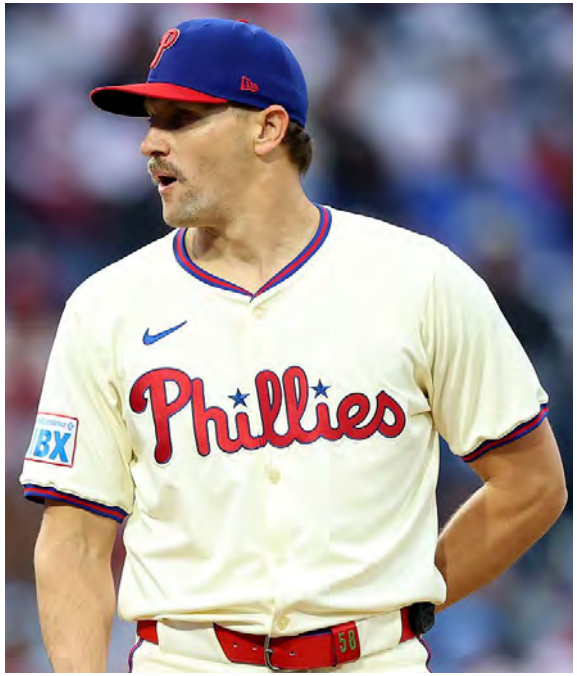
2025 Alternate Home Cream



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home Powder Blue

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. However, the nameplates that were used prior to 2024 on these, do not return. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. This jersey style still uses layer cut- where the red layer is sewn on top of the white layer to create the outline, different from the kiss cut method used nearly universally in MLB now.

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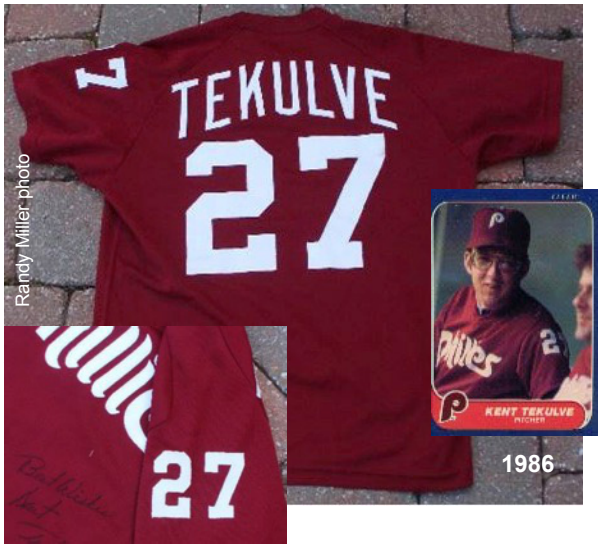
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1978 to Mid-1986 Batting Practice



Randy Miller photo

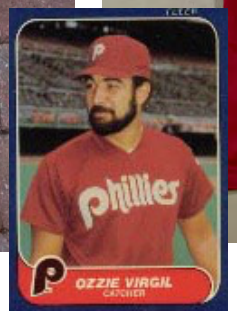
The Phillies used batting practice jerseys starting in 1978. Note the "open loop" in the "P" (some Phillies players wore this jersey instead of their game jerseys in the All-Star Game in Seattle in 1979). The front lettering script did not match the team standard logo design that appeared on printed material ***(see inset below).*** While attractive, it is proportioned differently with a hand--drawn look about it. I doubt such a deviation from the official design would be allowed to slip through today.

Wilson and Majestic are the manufacturers. Fabric is *not* mesh -- it is a lightweight solid double knit weave.

These jerseys seem to be tailored consistently shorter than normal, regardless of the maker. These shirt tails could have used an inch or two of length. Names on back are always used, in vertical arch, sewn to the jersey with no nameplate. Numbers are Varsity style on the BP jersey, and are found on the back and on the left sleeve.

Randy Miller photo

Walter Schultz Collection



The script on the early batting practice jersey differs from the artist's version of the official Phillies wordmark

© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Alternate Batting Practice

These short waisted pullovers were offered to the team by Rawlings for the 1986 season. The manufacturer is Rawlings. A V-neck, It lacks the zip-neck seen on Majestic *Gamewarmers* (as this style was called by Majestic) common with other teams We can date it from 1986 as this was the only year that Gary Redus was on the team.

The jersey is solid fabric with wide elastic striped bands around the arms and waist. Notice the inconsistent type style used for the numbers on the back compared to the numbers on the sleeves. This short-and-tight style of warm-up jersey was used in MLB for only a brief time by most teams.

Phillies collector Howard Wolf informs us that the entire unused team-lettered set of these jerseys were auctioned off by the Phillies at their very first ALS auction. When sold off they were new and never worn. It is doubtful that they were made for the auction, more likely the team decided not to use them. Perhaps the tight looking sleeve end elastic was as uncomfortable to wear as it appears to me?

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Mid-1986-Early 1987 Batting Practice

Late 1986 or early 1987: uses 1986 style script

Randy Miller photo

Made by Rawlings of solid (non-mesh) fabric, knit four-striped sewn in sleeve trim. The use of the early, non-team standard front wordmark continues.

Mismatching styles of numbers are used on the back and on the sleeve. Varsity is used on the sleeves, but the back numbers are akin to the font used on the uniforms of the same-year Cincinnati Reds. Notice the diagonal stroke on the number "2".

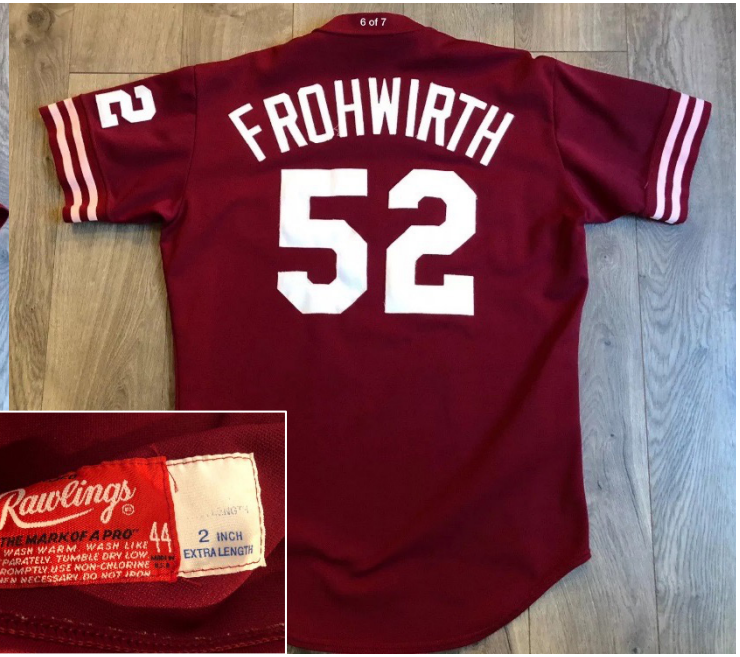
Names on back always used, on nameplates and are standard block type style, not vertical arch.

Jerseys made in 1986 have no Rawlings sleeve logo, ones made for the 1987 season have the Rawlings logo embroidered on the right sleeve above the knit trim.

1987 with Rawlings sleeve script

© GameWornGuides.com

1987 Batting Practice



The jersey body itself is identical to the one shown on the prior page, but sometime after the start of the 1987 season, the set design was changed to incorporate the standard Phillies front wordmark logo instead of the earlier non-standard one. The fonts are changed to Varsity Bold in a consistent style on the sleeves and back, player names are sometimes bolder. Names observed both direct sewn and with nameplates.

The Rawlings sleeve logo is always used on this style. One oddity is that the Phillies lettering on front is apparently spaced by hand by the stitcher, as sometimes significant variances in letter spacing exist between jerseys.

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1988-1991 Batting Practice

Randy Miller photo

V-neck jersey changes to mesh fabric for 1988, sleeve stripes simplified to two instead of the earlier four. Mesh construction, red/maroon knit sleeve end trim. As before, the front wordmarks are oddly inconsistently hand-spaced on these leading to differences in appearance from one another

Inconsistent style Varsity numbers on back and on sleeves, note the different style “2’s” on the examples at left. names are on nameplates and these are often removed and missing.

Top, center: *Nameplates on this style are often missing. As this style was used for four years, these jerseys were reissued and recycled through Spring Training*

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1988-1991 Batting Practice, continued

Heritage and Scott Auctions

Above: *Note the red Rawlings tail tag in the style introduced in 1991 style on the example.*

Randy Miller photo

Randy Miller photo

Steve Kraljic Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-2002 Batting Practice

1992

Steve Kraljic Collection

2000

Player names on back appear by 1998.

Team issued versions have chain stitched wordmark. Retail versions often have layered twill.

Above: *Only 1992 jerseys were year tagged.* ***Right:*** *Dale Murphy wearing a Russell jersey in 1992.* ***Far right:*** *The Phillies wore these in a regular season game, July 9, 1992.*

Red mesh jersey that matches the team's 1992 uniform redesign.

1992 regular season issues have numbers in one-color bold white, 1992 BP jerseys (only) are year tagged by the team.

Most jerseys (1992-1997) exist with no names on back, Around 1998 names are added, single-color white, but matching the bolder dimensions of the outline color of the home lettering as it appears on the game jerseys. When used, names are sometimes sewn to a nameplate. Numbers on the back only.

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Early 1990s Alternate Zip-Neck Batting Practice

This zip-neck jersey was referred to in the Majestic catalog as *"The Gamewarmer,"* and it appears it was offered to every team as an alternate batting practice jersey. The Phillies script on the front is layered twill instead of chain stitching. Some teams used them, some even preferred them to the normal BP jersey. Several pages earlier, we showed the 1986 version of this jersey, and we know that the Phillies did not use those. This one may well be from 1992, the first year of this new uniform style. I have never come across one lettered for team use, or any photos of players wearing them. Some teams passed them out to players who wanted them, but did not customize them with player names or numbers. I suspect the Phillies were in this group. Regardless, they were certainly not popular.

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2003-2006 Home Batting Practice

- For the first time in their history, the Phillies adopt different home and road batting practice jerseys. Home version is red, road is blue.
- Store bought versions have the Phillies lettering in layered tackle twill.
- Team used jerseys have the lettering in chain stitching (shown here), which looks much nicer.
- Bold numbers and names used; regular uniform's outline dimensioned layer is used, names sewn to a plate
- The Comfort-weave fabric used to make these jerseys is highly susceptible to pulls and, especially on red jerseys, fading from exposure to the sun.

Below right: All Authentic, on-field *button-front* Phillies BP jerseys from 1992-2015 have an extra "L" as a part of the logo. This can not be seen when the jersey is buttoned. Replica-style jerseys usually do not have this feature. Store-bought pre-2007 replica jerseys, even those labeled "Authentic Collection" often do not have chain stitched team scripts, substituting multilayer twill instead.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Road Batting Practice

Road version of the 2003-2006 Batting Practice Jersey is blue. Store bought versions have the Phillies lettering in layered tackle twill. Team used jerseys have the lettering in chain stitching ***(right)***

Bold numbers and names used (regular uniform's outline dimensioned layer is used). Names sewn to a plate. The Comfort-weave fabric used to make these jerseys is Majestic's first attempt at a moisture wicking fabric and is highly susceptible to pulls and fading. It does not take much use to make these jerseys look really ratty.

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2007-2010 Home Batting Practice

2007 with "VUK" memorial patch.

Bill Henderson Collection

When the league switches to one-button, pullover Cool Base batting practice jerseys for 2007, the Phillies stay with home and road versions. All graphics, front and back, are heat applied.

Home red jersey has blue side panels.

The red jersey fabric faded badly in 2007-2008, mostly as a result of exposure to the sun. For 2009 Majestic worked on the fabric to make it more resistant to fading.

Team wordmark is fatter and squatter than game jersey version, like the one used on team jackets.

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2007-2010 Road Batting Practice

The Phillies carry two styles of batting practice jerseys into the 2007 all-MLB revamp of warmup jerseys. The blue jersey features a full-length red side insert panel.

All lettering is changed to heat pressed appliqués, not tackle twill numbers and names with lettering with chain stitched Phillies script lettering as they had been in the past. Team wordmark is fatter and squatter than game jersey version, like the one used on team jackets.

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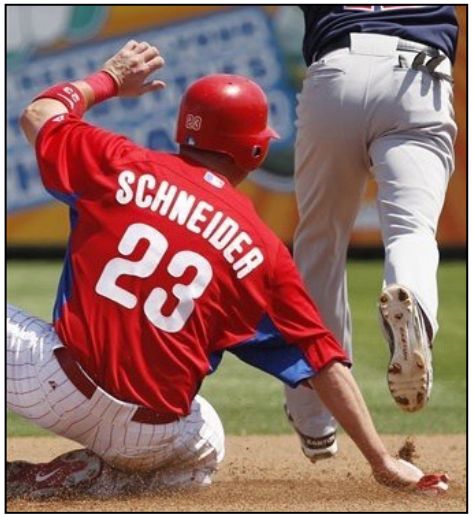
2011-2013 Batting Practice

Kurt Wadsworth Collection

The 2011 all-MLB redesign of BP jerseys changed them from pullovers back to button front. Side panel trim is blue, and the road blue BP jersey was eliminated by the Phillies` for 2011. Back player lettering returns to all sewn, front wordmark is layered twill and not chain stitched.



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2014-2015 Batting Practice

Majestic and MLB redesign all teams' batting practice jerseys for 2014, though the Phillies' changes are very minor, almost unnoticeable to anyone who does not have an eagle eye. Blue side panels are slightly shorter, now stopping before the bottom hem of the garment. Red/blue/red knit trim is sewn at the collar and sleeve ends. Front lettering is an applique, back player name and numbers are white twill.

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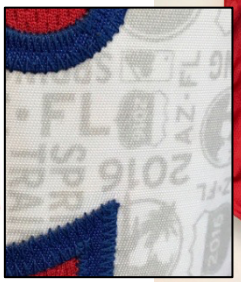
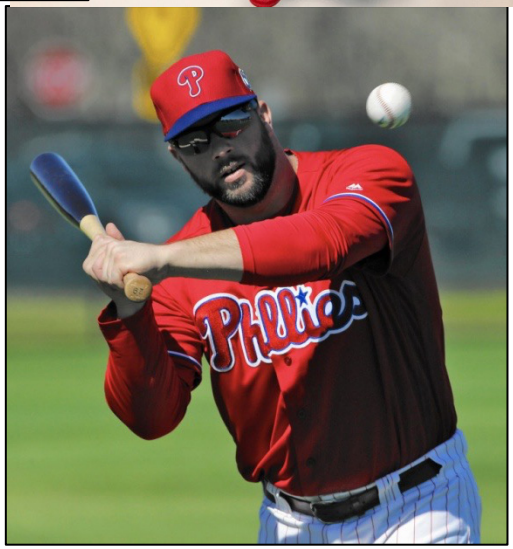
2016 Spring Training

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.



Bill Henderson Collection

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Phillies use their regular season red alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill/ blue. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Inter-state highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" repre-senting where the Phillies spend Spring Training.



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2017 Spring Training Jersey

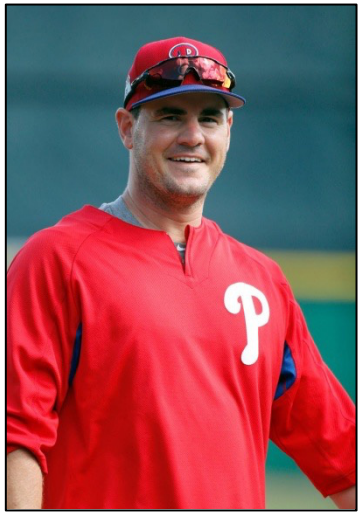
Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Phillies again use their regular season new red alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Phillies spend Spring Training.

Not unusual to see high-number, non-roster invitees in spring training without player NOB.

© GameWornGuides.com

2017-2019 Batting Practice Jersey



With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Phillies jersey is red with red back with blue underarm gussets. The “P” from their cap logo appears on the front left chest in white. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white in special Phillies font on the left sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Phillies use their regular-season new red alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

© GameWornGuides.com

2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The team tweaks its script wordmark again for 2019 making the lettering less bold than it had been 2016-2018, but more bold than it had been 2015 and prior. Back numbers now have a very narrow 1/8" outline.

The Phillies use their discontinued regular-season red alternate as the base for this design, now carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are white/blue lightweight twill.

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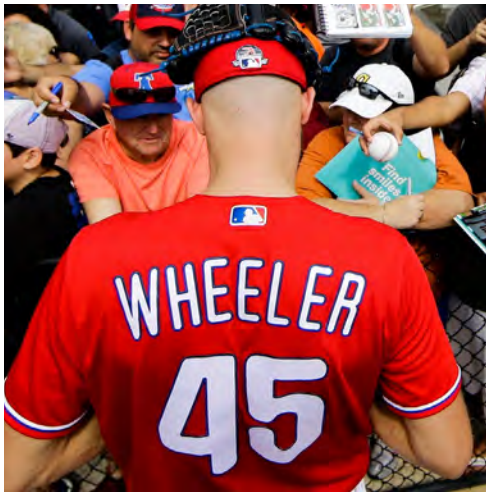
2020-2023 Spring Training



Spring Training's jerseys are simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Phillies use their seldom-worn and previously discontinued regular-season red alternate, with white/blue name and back numbers.

Though officially discontinued as an alternate, this style returns to the field during the 2021 through 2023 seasons, being worn in regular season games multiple times by the team. It was not listed in the team's style guide as an official option, however.

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Special Events Jerseys

1986 St. Patrick's Day

Following the lead of the Cincinnati Reds who started this as a joke in 1978, the Phillies create a 1986 St. Pat's jersey in home white with green pinstripes. These follow all the lettering style "rules" of the normal jerseys. Vertical arch names on a plate. Uniforms were all auctioned off, including pants, hats, and stirrups at the 1986 Phillies ALS Charity Auction.

In 1977, Tug McGraw dyed his socks and jersey green and wore those on March 17 with the Phils, though the umpire wouldn't allow him to pitch until he had changed. In this sense, McGraw gets credit for ushering in the Phils' St. Pat's day consciousness. Mitchell & Ness "invented" the Phillies wearing St. Pat's in 1981 so they could market #45 McGraw and #14 Rose jerseys, which they could not do with the 1986 St. Pats jerseys, the first year the Phils wore one, when neither of these players were on the team. The Phils website copied the M&N story and posts it as historic fact. We have not seen any evidence anywhere ever that the Phils wore green unis prior to 1986. You read it here.

© GameWornGuides.com

1988 St Patrick's Day

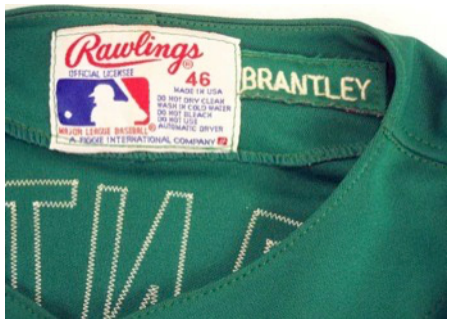
Nick DiSalvo Photo

The 1988 version of the St. Pat's jersey was a solid green. Sleeves had white and green knit trim at the ends. There are no player names on back, nor are there player names sewn in the collars. "SET 1 1988" tags are used.

Numbers are Phillies Bold variety used on home jerseys of 1987-1989 vintage only. These uniforms were auctioned off, including pants, hats, and stirrups at the 1988 Phillies ALS Charity Auction.

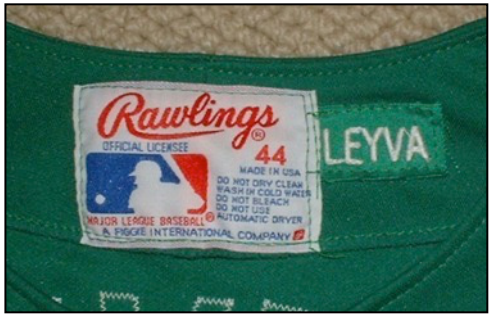
© GameWornGuides.com

1989 St. Patrick's Day



The 1989 version of the St. Pat's jersey was nearly identical to the prior year's version: solid green, Sleeves had white and green knit trim at the ends.

New for 1989 are player names on the back and player names sewn in the collars. No year or set tags are used.



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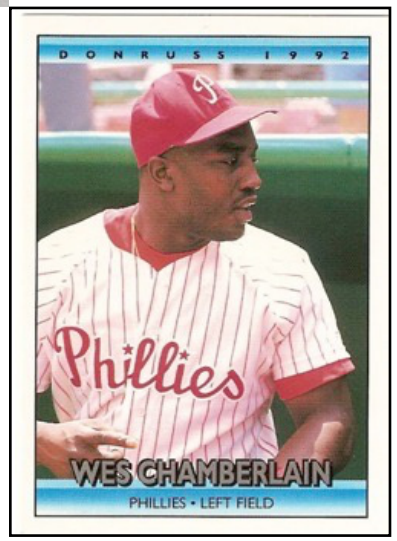
1991 Turn Back the Clock to 1957

Mike Branham Collection

Throwback games were a brand new idea back in 1991, These uniforms were tagged "1991 Nostalgia Game Special." The game was played on June 16, 1991 against the Cincinnati Reds who wore 1957 gray vests. Copies of the Phillies home uniforms, circa 1950-1970, are made of polyester double knit, not the old-style wool. The lettering and numbers on back were all old-fashioned chain stitched like the originals are. They look very much like the retro uniform redesign that the Phillies adopted the very next year in 1992.

(Right): Name in neck misspelled!



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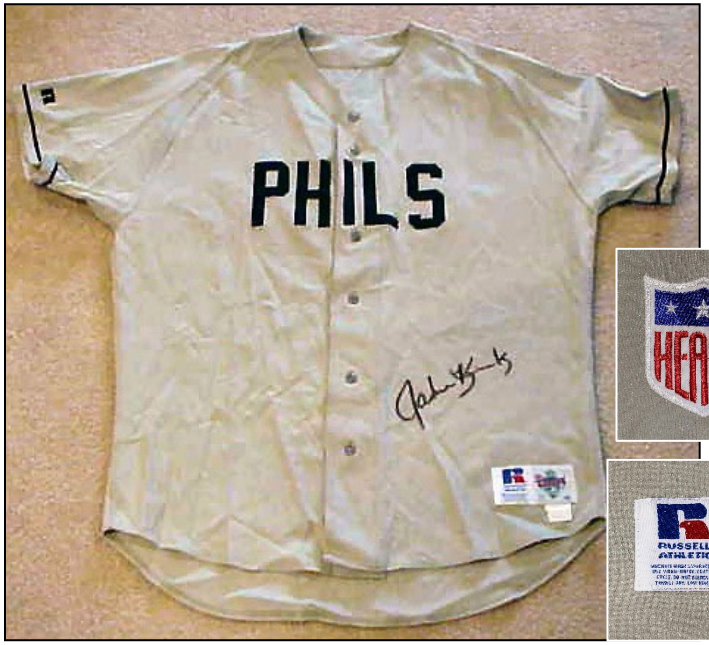
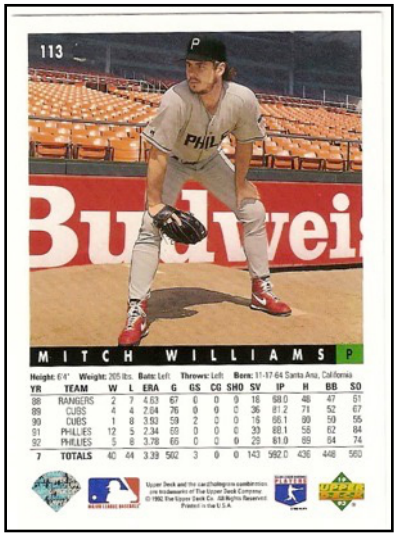
1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1942

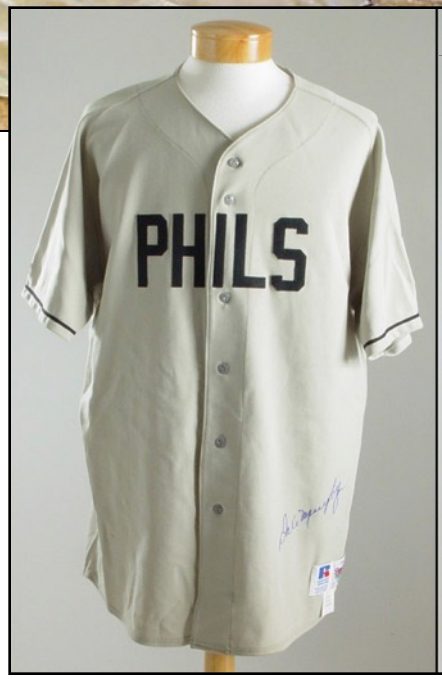


1942

May 3, 1992 the Phillies played on the road in San Francisco as the 1942 Phillies, wearing the wartime “HEALTH” Patch on their sleeves. These uniforms were made by Russell in double knit.

Compared to original 1942 Phillies’ jerseys, the PHILS on the front is a bit too bold, and should have an arch instead of being ruler-straight across.





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1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1948

On June 21, 1992 the Phils played at home against the Cubs wearing 1948-replica red, white, and blue uniforms, recreated by Russell in bright white double knit, *with felt lettering*. The Cubs wore road replicas of their 1948 uniforms, also made by Russell. Front wordmark is very accurate, back numbers are close to originals (original 1949 jersey shown at bottom right for comparison, inset).

In 2008, 16 years later and the 60th anniversary of 1948, the Phillies unveiled an alternate home jersey that was meant to look very much like this one, which was only worn for two years when it was new, 1948-1949.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1933

Mike Santangelo Collection

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

1925

August 1, 1993, the Phillies dressed in Mitchell & Ness poly knit replicas of the team's jersey style worn at home from 1925 through 1933. These cream-colored jerseys had red felt lettering. The game was set to commemorate the 1933 Phillies from exactly 60 years prior.

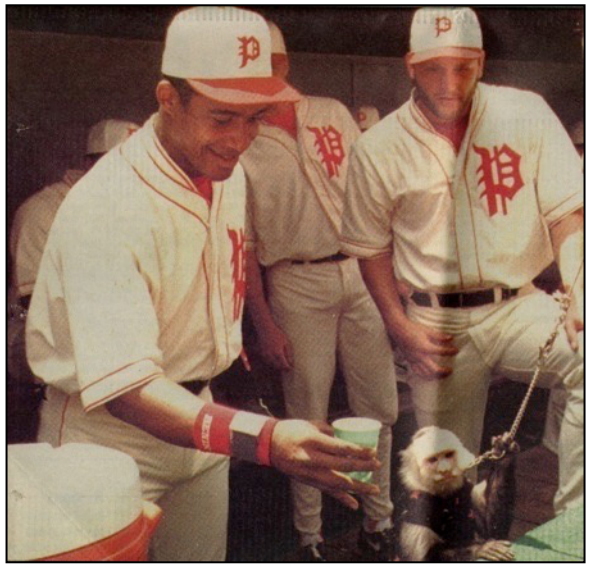


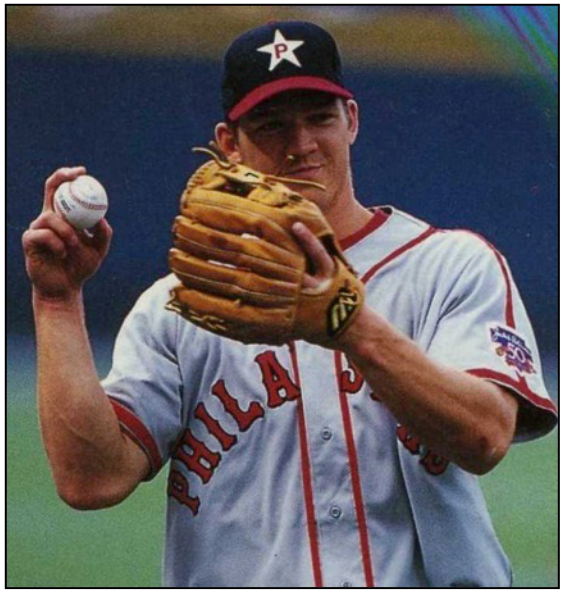
Photo: Philadelphia Daily News

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Philadelphia Stars)

June 28, 1997: The Phils played in Atlanta as the 1938 Negro League Philadelphia Stars. The photo is Scott Rolen warming up ***(bottom right).***

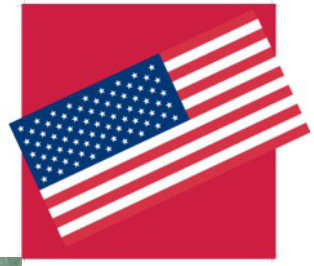
Knit replicas of the Philadelphia Stars uniforms were made by Mitchell & Ness with an assist from Ebbets Field Flannels. Back numbers are in Block with Serifs, two-color red/navy. Wordmark and numbers are felt. Note the use of 1997 Jackie Robinson patch on left sleeve.



© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

Bill Henderson Collection



These ersatz-futuristic jerseys were worn only once, against the Diamondbacks in Arizona on September 11, 1999. Many teams were reluctant participants in this promotion, which encouraged them to imagine how the team would look 25 years in the future, in the 21st century. The Phillies' entry wasn't terribly imaginative, envisioning the current team logo in italics and flying through space with vapor trails behind.

Note the American flag on the sleeve of the blue undershirt, with the futuristic imaginary 60-star blue field, while the official MLB artwork depicts a flag with 77 stars. Only a small number of these were made for sale to the public, to the very, very few people who were interested. They are very rare today and when they are offered for sale always bring crazy prices. Game worn examples had the white Russell R embroidered on the sleeve end; retail versions usually lacked this detail. Highly sought after today, when new these could not be given away.

Flag seen on one replica jersey's undershirt has 60 stars, original art from the TATC concept packet by MLB has 77 stars.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s (Home)

A 2002 Turn Back the Clock three-game series was played at home, again against the Braves, July 19, 20, 21.

The series was billed as a turn back the clock to the 1970s and the Braves wore 1974-1975 style road uniforms. But the Phils recreations were closer to their 1990-1991 home uniforms, nicely done by Majestic with the 1990 white outlined version of the front "P" white-outlined numbers and the post-1983 left sleeve patch. This is a full-weight, polyester uniform, not Cool Base.

"0062" inside seam tag indicates a garment made to team specs. If this had been made specifically for retail sale it would have had a 6200 code.

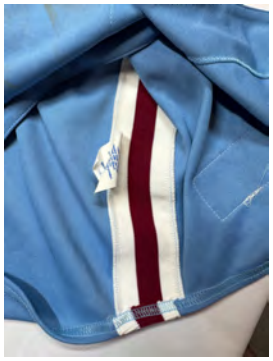
© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s (Road)

Steve Kraljic Collection

There certainly was a lot of nostalgia in Philadelphia in 2002. The Phillies played a three-game series in Atlanta where they were supposed to be reprising the 1970s against the Braves, July 26, 27, and 28. The Braves dressed in 1974-1975 style.

Majestic's copy of the road blue Phillies jersey was a better copy of the 1987-1988 road jersey, not the 1970s version. While the shade of blue is just right and the correct font is used for the numbers, unlike the 1970s version this jersey used buttons and not a zipper on front as was used in this era, had the circular team patch on the sleeve as was used 1984-1991 and player names on back were not vertical arched, as they would have been in the 1970s, but nameplates are properly used. The side and sleeve-top trim is incorrectly proportioned; the maroon should be wider and the white narrower.



© GameWornGuides.com

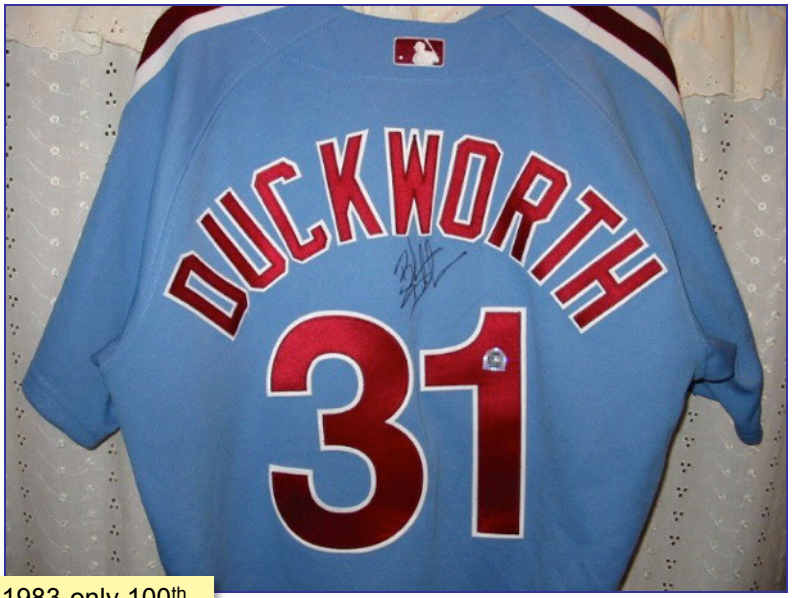
2003 Turn Back The Clock to 1971

April 4, 2003 was the final Opening Day at Philadelphia Veterans Stadium. The Phillies played the Pirates, and the Phils wore reasonable good facsimiles of their uniforms during the opening homestand (April 4-6) as they would have looked on the Vet's very first opening day in 1971. Notice the large, 9" back numbers with white outlines and no player names. Actual 1971 home jerseys were cream colored wool pinstripes and featured chain stitched crimson red front logo and both front and back numbers. The replicas here are double knit and use standard maroon tackle twill for both logos and numbers. Numbers are outlined with white, faithful to the 1971 style. However, in 1971 numbers were chain stitched onto white felt, these are two-color twill. The Pirates dressed in Turn Back the Clock yellow uniforms that they did not adopt until 1977, but nobody seemed to mind.

Inside seam tag bears code "0062"; full weight knit team issued.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1983



Correct 1983-only 100th Anniversary patch is used on the left sleeve. The jersey color and the number font are perfect. Several other details are not correct for 1983.

Playing the Baltimore Orioles in an Interleague game, June 28 and 29, 2003, the teams dressed in 1983 style to recreate that year's World Series matchup. These correctly have the Phillies 1983 anniversary patch on the sleeve.

These are the same style jerseys as Majestic made for the Phillies the prior year, It is a good copy of the 1987-1988 road jersey, but not the 1983 version. The 1983 jersey used a zipper front, not buttons. The shoulder and side trim white stripes are too wide. Button front blue jerseys with "closed" Ps on the front were used in 1987-1988 only. Names should be on nameplates and they ought to be vertical arched, not block style.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2007 St. Patrick's Day

Bill Henderson Collection

Identical heavy green button-front mesh jerseys are used in these three years.

White twill lettering on back and chain stitched wordmark on front.

Player names are sewn on nameplates.

2005

© GameWornGuides.com

2008-2010 St. Patrick's Day

The 2008 St. Patrick's Day jersey is a new-style Cool Base model for the first time, pullover with two button neck; green fabric jersey with solid white side panels. The jerseys are identical 2008-2010.

Player name, numbering, and team wordmark are heat-applied decoration, as with the team's batting practice jerseys in 2008 and 2009, return to twill back lettering in 2010. No team year or set tagging is used.

David Maialetti / Staff Photographer

Ryan Howard, left, celebrates with Eric Bruntlett, center, and Raul Ibanez, right, after they all scored on a Matt Stairs double in the 2nd inning as Phillies play the Cincinnati Reds at Bright House Field in Clearwater, Florida on March 17, 2009.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Opening Night Special Gold Trimmed

Cool Base home jerseys with special metallic gold bordering all lettering and numbers, even around the 2008 WS Champions sleeve patch (it is actually an additional layer of gold twill behind the patch and standard lettering).

Worn for opening night game only, Sunday April 5, 2009.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1965

Bill Henderson Collection

Shown here, correct Phillies-style numbers from 1965

Worn April 10, 2010 at Houston to recreate the opening of the Astrodome in 1965. The visiting Phillies wore Cool Base uniforms by Majestic that were made to resemble their 1965 road flannels.

A casual observer probably would have not noticed any difference between these suits and the Phillies current road uniforms. Looking closely, one would notice the lack of red/white sleeve end trim as found on the current uniforms. Also, the pants are devoid of side stripes. The team script is slightly different, to resemble the version used in 1965. Outlined in white, it is sewn tackle twill instead of the originals' elegant chain stitching.

The back numbers are not correct, They are simply a generic bold Varsity font, while the original numbers were a special 10" tall Phillies font.

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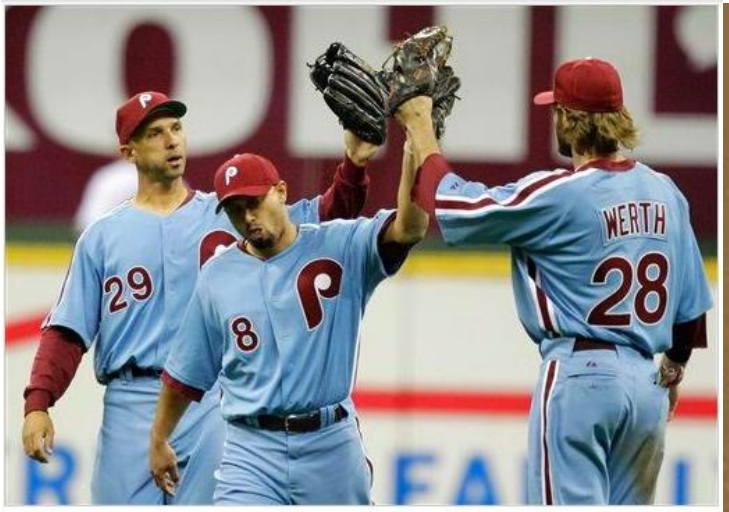
2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1972



The Milwaukee Brewers hosted a Turn Back the Clock to 1972 night game on May 14, 2010. The Brewers wore copies of their pull-over knits from 1972.

Majestic made a set of 1972 uniforms for the Phillies that had many incorrect details. Among them, the front “P” was too large and lacked its “squiggly”, or wavy line, in the center of the P. The side trim was much too wide, and the numbers were too skinny (they should have been bolder). 1972 road uniforms had no names on back, and these did

Of course, the fact that most players wore the reproductions in a non-period correct baggy style did not help. Maroon stirrups were supplied with the uniform set, but almost none of the players wore them (or wore them properly).

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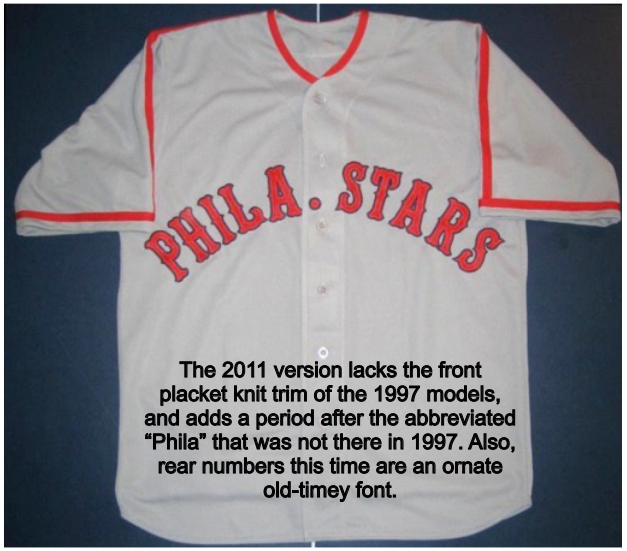
2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Philadelphia Stars)



The 2011 version lacks the front placket knit trim of the 1997 models, and adds a period after the abbreviated "Phila" that was not there in 1997. Also, rear numbers this time are an ornate old-timey font.

Visiting the Atlanta Braves on May 14, 2011, the Phillies again wear Negro League uniforms for a throwback contest. The Braves dressed as the Atlanta Black Crackers, the Phillies wore uniforms very similar to those they had worn in 1997 of the 1938 Philadelphia Stars. The jersey manufacturer is AIS.

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2011 Civil Rights Game (1974 Road)

Majestic provided 1974 road uniforms for the Phillies, and did a better job than they had a year prior. The “P” on the front was the correct size, and while the side and shoulder trim was still a bit too wide, the numbers front and back were the correct size and thickness. Original 1974 road jerseys had vertical ached player names on back, these names were not arched.

This regular season contest was played on May 15, 2011 vs. the Braves in Atlanta. Both teams turned the clock back to 1974, the year that Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth’s career home run record. Jerseys were Cool Base, but lacked the underarm mesh panel that are found on present-year jerseys. A Civil Rights Game patch was sewn to the back of the collar.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1984

This game was played in Philadelphia on July 22, 2011 vs. Padres. Both teams dressed in 1984 style uniforms.

These Majestic Cool Base replicas are inaccurate for 1984, featuring bold numbers that were not in use until 1987, and radially arched payer names instead of the proper vertical arch style. The “P” both on the jersey front and on the cap were too large compared to original. The proper sleeve patch for 1984 is used.

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2011-2013 St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's day jerseys are the same for 2011, 2012 and 2013. Made like the new-for-2011 batting practice jerseys, these feature green Cool Base construction, button-front bodies with white panels on the shoulders and on both sides. Back names and numbers are in white twill. The Phillies are among the longest participants in this tradition, wearing green annually since 1986.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012-2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1991

These are as close as we have seen to replicas of the Phillies 1991 uniforms, correct to the last detail, including the correct-width maroon trim, the specific closed-loop style of the front logo, the size and style of the player numbers and the use of a nameplate and correct font for the name on back.

Steve Kraljic Collection

The same style jerseys were worn for two games in two years, and while they are different sets of uniforms, I do not know if either is team year-tagged to differentiate them, though game worn ones are MLB hologrammed and therefore registered in the MLB database. The games were held August 22, 2012, Cincinnati at Philadelphia (both teams 1991 throwbacks), and August 23, 2013 Arizona at Philadelphia (Arizona 1999 throwbacks, Philadelphia 1991).

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2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

Small year tag is sewn inside the buttonhole flap of the front shirt tail near the bottom.

May 27 Memorial Day Camouflage twill wordmark and player name and number lettering outlined with white is used on road jerseys in game at Boston. Action photos show how effective camouflage is in being impossible to see, and why it is a foolish choice for lettering on a gray jersey. Racks of steeply-discounted replicas were available seemingly everywhere in the Philadelphia area after the game, as they seemed to offer little appeal for fans.

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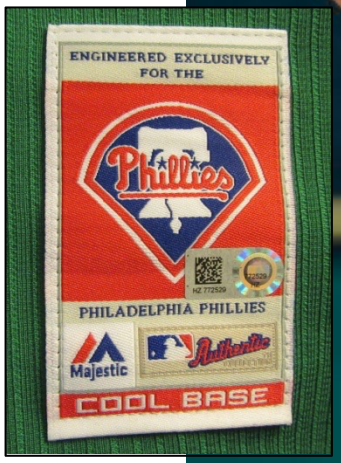
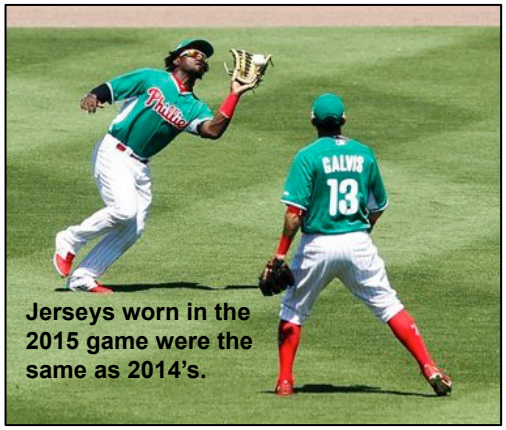
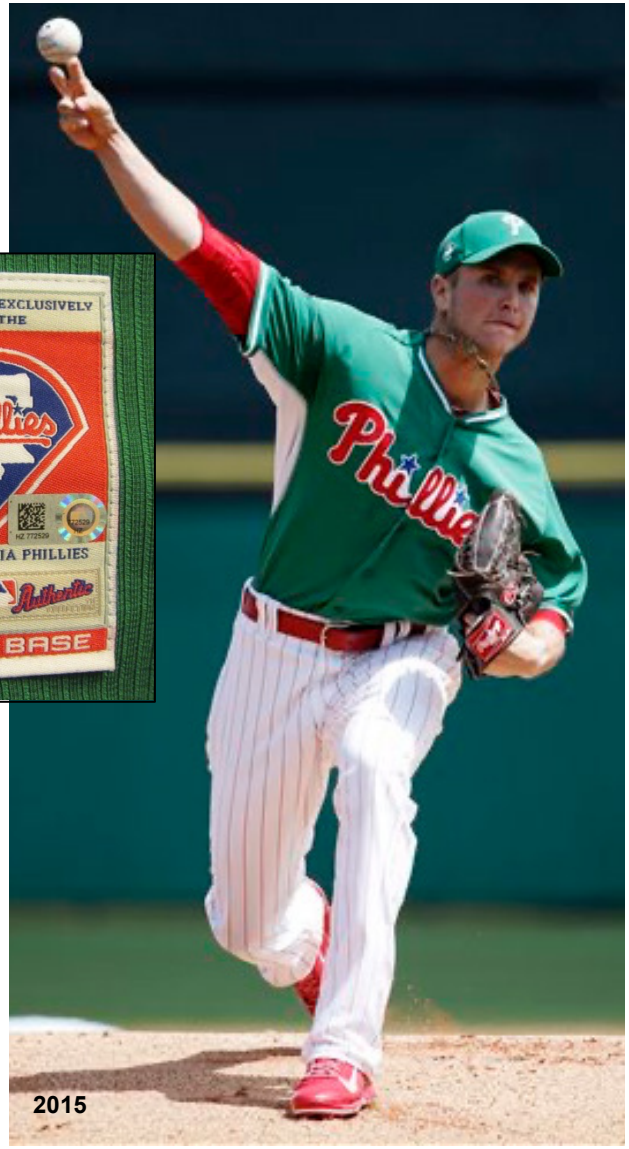
2014-2015 St. Patrick's Day





Jerseys worn in the 2015 game were the same as 2014's.

Rain forced several days' postponement of the Phillies usual St Patrick's game of 2014, and perhaps as a result there are few pictures to be found of the contest which is usually well-covered by the press. The Phillies new-for-2014 batting practice jerseys are converted to green Cool Base for the game, and feature white side panels and green and white knit neck trim and sleeve end trim. Player name and number lettering on the back is white twill, just like found on the team's regular red batting practice jerseys. The white panel over the shoulders and above the player name on back that had been there in the 2011-2013 model is now gone.



2015

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Memorial Day

May 26, 2014, the Phillies play host to the Colorado Rockies and both teams wear camouflage-lettered jerseys for the contest, as did all teams in MLB on that day.

The Phillies' red-pinstriped home jerseys received desert camo wordmark, with camouflage player names and back and left-sleeve numbers, outlined with white. As the game photos below show, the lettering was practically invisible. Far fewer of these showed up in local stores' discount bins following the season; I suspect fewer were made after the dismal sales of the 2013 model.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1964

The Phillies wore these retro-1964 uniforms twice during a weekend series with the Cubs in 2014. **Friday, June 13** was Retro-Night, and the Cubs also wore 1964 replica uniforms**. Sunday, June 15, Father's Day**, the Phillies again wore the retro uniforms, this time with the usual Father's Day Ribbon on the left chest, while the Cubs wore their regular alternate blues. The reason was to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Jim Bunning's perfect game on Father's Day in 1964. These were reasonably good copies of the Phillies front wordmark, though not chain stitched as the originals were, but were disappointingly inaccurate renditions of the back numbers as actually used in 1964.

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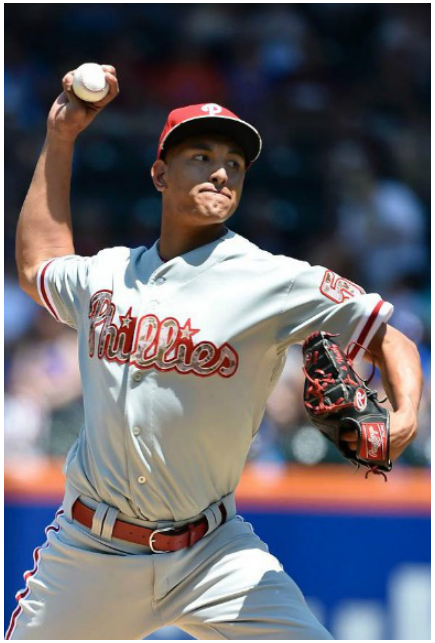
2015 Memorial Day



The Phillies are on the road for 2015 Memorial Day, May 25, and apply the desert-camo pattern to their road gray jerseys. The effect is decidedly more legible than the previous year's home version, but is still challenging to read on the gray jersey, even with the red outlines on all lettering. The smaller sleeve numbers and the thick-outlined front logo are very muddled. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck is also changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

Bill Henderson collection

Worn for two games, June 19 and 21 (when the blue ribbons were added for Father's Day) these Majestic cream-colored pinstriped Cool Base jerseys were faithful copies of the Phillies 1969 home jersey. The red/white back numbers are an unfortunate generic substitute for the proper back numbers, a missive that really is a shame because your author recreated the proper number font for Majestic some years ago and it was never used. 1969 MLB 100th Anniversary patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Notice that the wordmark is direct chain stitched, a fantastic touch.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

Bill Henderson Collection

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Phillies wear their road gray jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as sleeve and back numbers. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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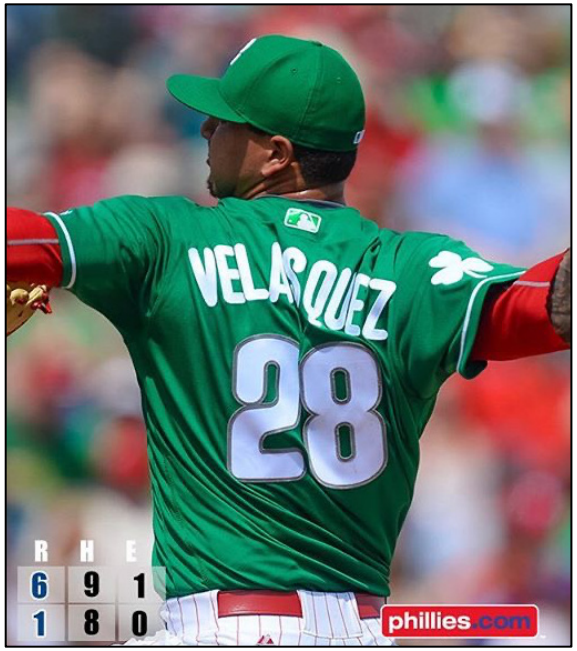
2016-2019 St. Patrick's Day

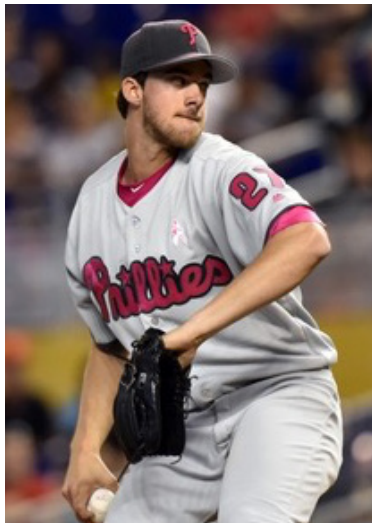


The Phillies go green for St. Patrick's Day in 2016-2019. This Flex Base jersey is in solid green, with front logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white, all in the Phillies' special font. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the St. Patrick's Day promotion. White knit trim encircles both sleeves. A set was made by Nike in 2020, but was not worn with cancellation of games due to COVID-19.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, May 8, 2016 and May 13-14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Phillies wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while sleeve and back numbers are pink/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally white/red/white, becomes dark gray.

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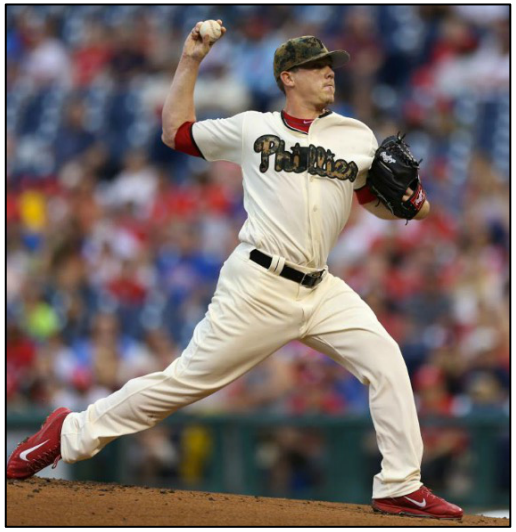
2016 Memorial Day



The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Phillies apply the camouflage trimmings to their home alternate cream jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. As a result of these modifications, the front logo is rendered in twill, and displays none of the chain stitch embroidery of the team's typical uniforms.

The bold cursive of the "Phillies" front lettering is muddled by the camo/black treatment, especially with the wide outline around the lettering. Trim elements are simplified to single-color black.

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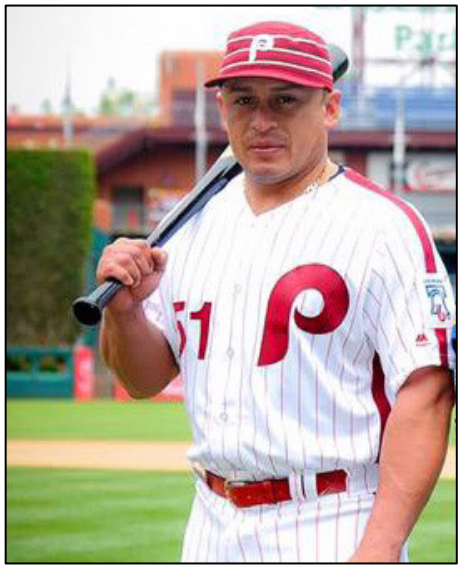
2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1976

Derek Damian collection



Worn for two games, June 3 and June 5, vs. the Brewers who also wore 1976 throwback uniforms. These likely use the same pattern as the 2011 TBTC to 1984 game uniforms. The jerseys are Cool Base but have the standard non-Cool Base Majestic jock tag sewn on. The the front “P” is slightly too large.

They are generally quite good, using the proper width and color trim and the correct player number font, although a hair too light in stroke. The sleeve patches are perfectly reproduced; a nice touch. Names on back are on nameplates as was done in 1976, but they are not vertical arch as they should be, which disappointed me. The Phillies also wore the 1976 pill-box-style Bicentennial caps for these games.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016-2017 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, June 19, 2016 and June 17-18, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Phillies wear their alternate home jerseys (here in white rather than the usual cream) with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are sewn in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue/red/blue, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Phillies are at home and wear their cream alternate jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Phillies select the blue twill version with gray outlines for their front lettering and for their back numbers, with a gray player name on back, which is very hard to read against the cream color of the jersey. The two stars on the front of the jersey turn red rather than their normal blue. As a result of these modifications, the front logo is rendered in twill, and displays none of the chain stitch embroidery of the team's typical uniforms. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim, normally blue/red/blue, becomes single-color blue.

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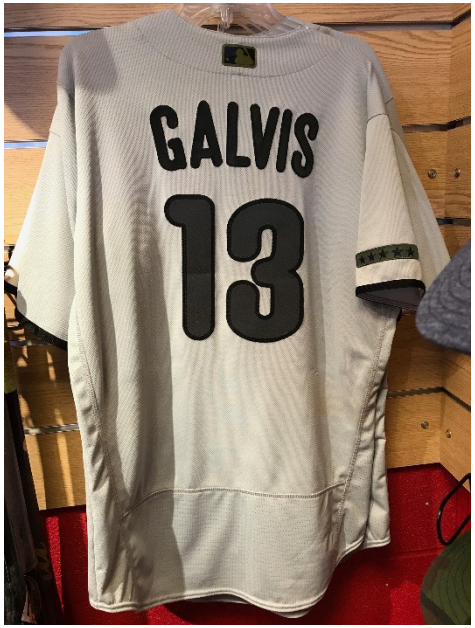
2017-2018 Memorial Day (Home)



The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Phillies apply this style to their alternate home jerseys as worn on May 27-28, 2017.

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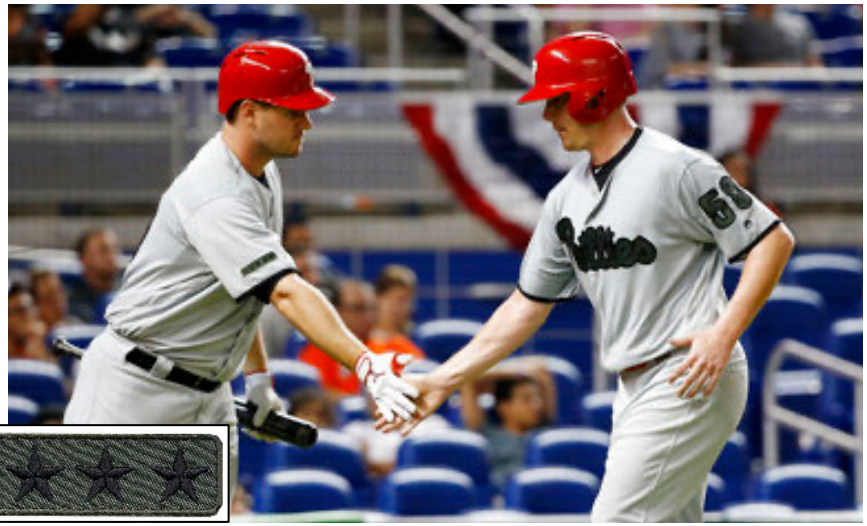
2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

Bill Henderson Collection



The 2017 and 2018 version of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Phillies apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017 and May 28, 2018.

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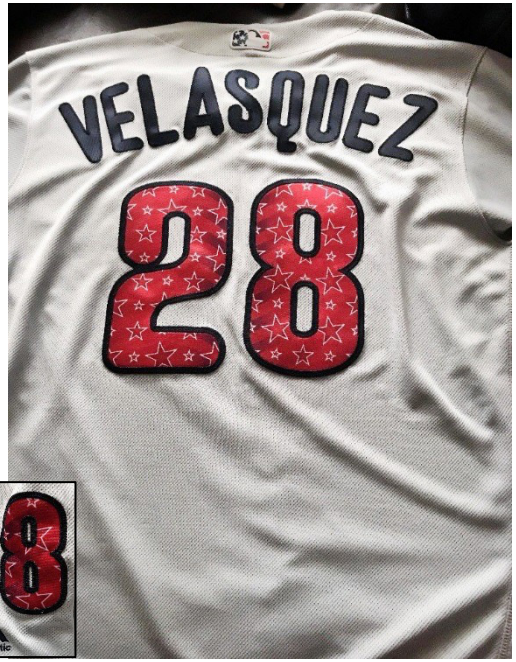
2017 Independence Day (Road)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill–appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1-2, 2017, the Phillies wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back and sleeve numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

Bill Henderson Collection

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3-4, 2017, the Phillies wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and sleeve and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

The Phillies continue to throw back to the 1980s, this time, with their 1983 home entry for July 7 and 9, 2017. While the overall look is reminiscent of the 1983 set, lots of the finer details are lost. Majestic Cool Base jerseys are white with maroon pinstripes and a tackle twill “P” logo with an open center. The 1983 version originally closed with a zipper, which is replaced with buttons here. Sleeve and side trim is a wide band of maroon, while front and back numbers are maroon in the custom Phillies type style that looks shorter here than the originals. Names on back on white plates were originally tall vertical arch, but here are standard Block. The Phillies’ 100th season patch adorns the left sleeve as it did in 1983.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

The Phillies like to relive their powder blue phase, and do so again July 14-16, 2017 against the 1982-clad Brewers. These Majestic throwback Cool Base knits feature a maroon/white “P” logo with an open center, maroon/white sleeve and side “racing stripe” trim (with a little more white than in 1982), maroon/white front and back numbers in the Phillies custom font, and maroon/white names on back applied to plates. The original NOBs were a tall, vertical arch style, but is represented here in standard Block. Another difference since their original appearance is the lack of a zipper-front, as this set has a standard button-front, likely for safety and player comfort. Credit to the home Brewers, who supplied the sets, for matching the proper color socks and helmets, completing the look.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017, the Phillies wear jerseys with white bodies and red sleeves with red nicknames and numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their "P" cap logo, here rendered in red/royal blue kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1984-1986

Steve Kraljic Collection

After wearing their 1982 powder blue throwbacks on the road for three games the year prior, the Phillies bring a similar style back for a eight games at home in 2018: April 19 and 26, May 10, June 14 and 28, and August 1 and 16 (both ends of a day/night doubleheader). The presence of the team disc patch on the left sleeve places this style from 1984-1986, and like the previous year's throwbacks, and the official set of powder blues added to the rotation the following season, these are close but not quite. These Majestic jerseys are Cool Base material and feature a maroon/white "P" logo with an open center, maroon/white sleeve and side "racing stripe" trim with a little too much white compared to the originals. Maroon/white front and back numbers in the Phillies custom font (which look slightly smaller than the originals), and maroon/white names on back applied to plates. The original NOBs were a tall, vertical arch style, but is represented here in standard Block. Another difference since their original appearance is the lack of a zipper-front, as this set has a standard button-front, likely for safety and player comfort.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the lettering - red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2-4, 2018, the Phillies wear their alternate home jerseys with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24-26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Phillies wear jerseys with red bodies and powder blue sleeves with white nicknames and powder blue numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide powder blue/white/powder blue trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in red/white with powder blue stars.

This jersey was also worn on August 19, 2018 for the Little League Classic with this patch on the left sleeve.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Original 1979

Some uniforms are so good that they stand the test of time. And some are so bad, they're retired after one use. The latter is the case for the Phillies' famous "Saturday Night Special" uniforms. Originally worn on May 17, 1979 only, the all-maroon set was so maligned in both appearance and player fit they never saw the field again until reprised on July 27, 2019, to mark their 40th anniversary. Rendered by Majestic in Cool Base fabric, they are similar in spirit and close in execution. The jersey and twill colors are right, as are the wide "racing stripe" on sleeves and sides and the zipper fronts, as is the use of a nameplate. On the originals, the front "P" logo is more vertical, the front numbers are oddly higher, the NOBs are taller, bolder and much more arched. The 2019 version also has the team's "DPM" memorial patch on the right sleeve for former minority owner David Montgomery.

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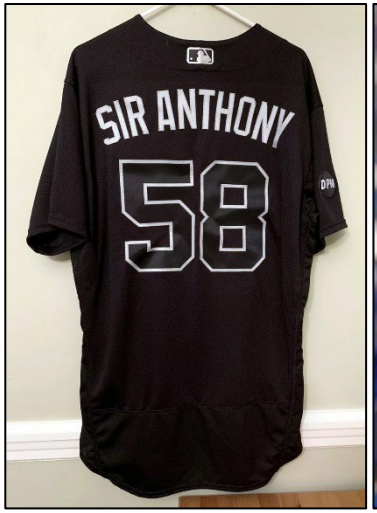
2019 Players Weekend



The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Phillies also wear the “DPM” memorial patch on the right sleeve for former minority owner David Montgomery on a black version of their alternate home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

© GameWornGuides.com

2021 St. Patrick's Day

Steve Kraljic Collection

In a rare occurrence, the style code for this jersey remains PPC9 for Nike as it was for Majestic. Nike usually changed these codes starting in 2020 when they took over from Majestic.

The Phillies go green for St. Patrick's Day in once again in 2021. The style of the jersey remains identical to their 2016-2019 version, but it is now made on the Nike Flex Base template rather than Majestic. Front logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white, all in the Phillies' special font. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the St. Patrick's Day promotion. White knit trim encircles both sleeves. Both the Tigers and Phillies wore green jerseys and caps for March 17, 2021, which made the game a confusing sight. A set was made by Nike in 2020, but was not worn with cancellation of games due to COVID-19. It is included in the "Oddball" section for reference.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1970 Prototype Road

THE NEW LOOK of the Phillies

In preparing for the new stadium, the Phillies have changed their image by coming up with a new logo and uniforms. Replacing the old cap with a baseball orbiting around it, the new symbol is a "P" that grows out of the red stitches of a baseball and swirls into the letter with the ball in the middle. The new logotype spells out "Phillies" in a unique lettering style and uses the "P" symbol as an initial letter.

PLAYER UNIFORMS

The player uniforms retain the traditional tailoring features and the familiar home red pinstrips that were introduced by the Phillies of 1950—the club that went on to win the National League pennant.

New to the uniform is a full-length bold red stripe, a 7/8-inch braid down each side of the blouse and trousers. The new "P" symbol, 6-1/2 inches tall, adorns the upper left side of the shirt.

Identifying numbers, 4 inches in height, have been added to the front of the shirt. The numbers on the back are 9-1/2 inches tall. A 2-inch white "P" emblem centers on the front of the red cap.

On the road uniforms of a new blue-gray fabric, the red emblems are embroidered on white.

Warm-up jackets are to be red with a white "P" emblem, 6 inches tall, on the upper left side.

IN-PARK PERSONNEL

Usherettes, to be called Fillies, will wear a white mini-skirt and orlon turtleneck pullover; ushers, white trousers and white orlon pullover; ticket takers, red blazers and white trousers and ground crew in white coveralls—all sporting the bold red stripe.

Infielder Don Money (left), models the new home uniforms to be worn by the "New Phillies" of 1970. Pitcher Billy Wilson is wearing the new blue-grey road uniform.

These new in-park personnel uniforms will be unveiled when the Phillies move into the new stadium. Left to right, the uniform for the usherettes who will be called Fillies, usher, ticket takers and ground crews.

1970 Phillies Yearbook

PLAYER UNIFORMS

The player uniforms retain the traditional tailoring features and the familiar home red pinstrips that were introduced by the Phillies of 1950—the club that went on to win the National League pennant.

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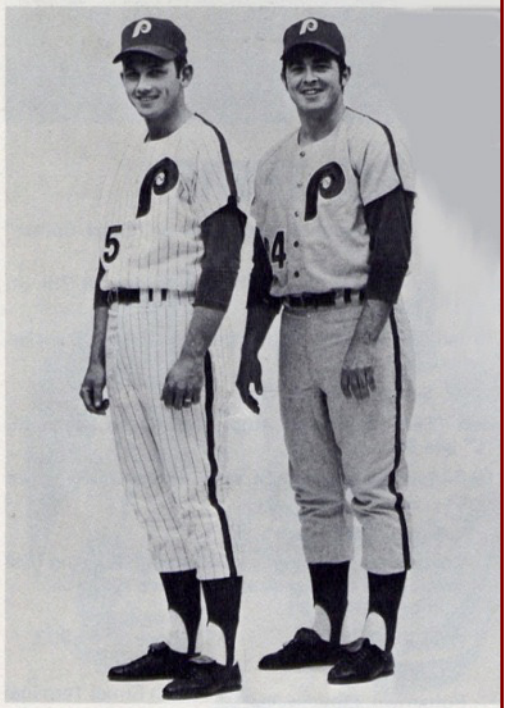


Infielder Don Money (left), models the new home uniforms to be worn by the "New Phillies" of 1970. Pitcher Billy Wilson is wearing the new blue-grey road uniform.

In prior editions of this book, we have shared the snippet to the right, borrowed from the Phillies 1970 yearbook. That was the year the team was supposed to have switched over to this new style AND switched to its new stadium, but construction delays meant that the stadium wasn't ready until part-way into the next season.

We've commented that these prototype jerseys being modeled by players in the photo had the front numbers oddly placed compared to where we are used to seeing them. But until we came across this photo above at left, we had never seen a prototype jersey like this "in the cloth."

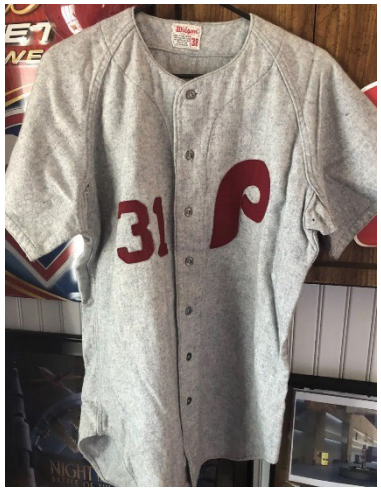
© GameWornGuides.com

1960s/1971-1972 Spring Training Jerseys?

Offered for sale at auction, the seller of this Wilson flannel jersey claims that it is a Spring Training issue from 1971-1972. It may have been minor league issue.

And at the lower left, a player wearing a similar uniform with the earlier Phillies “P”, wearing the even loftier number 151.

I don’t know if these are from Spring Training or not but the ones appearing as they do with thee three-digit numbers, the poor fellows who might have worn these uniforms probably didn’t stand much of a chance of making the team.



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1972 Prototype Road Grays

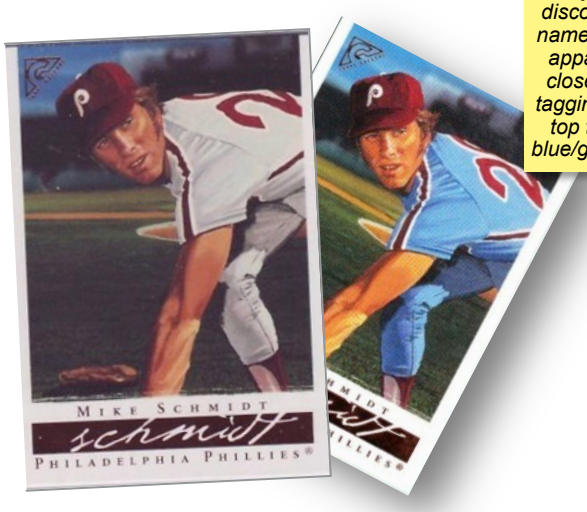
Over the years, we have come across a few Phillies mysterious knit gray road jerseys tagged for 1972. Collector and dealer Howard Wolf reports purchasing two of these recently, and we share some photos here.

Here's what we know: The Phils switched to knits for the 1972 regular season, and were also ready to start their first full season in the ultra modern Veterans Stadium. Everyone knows that the Phillies' road uniforms for 1972 were a surprising and non-traditional baby blue. But were they, at first? These uniforms are tagged as 1972, set #2 even, and are clearly pale gray. Local experts know that the Phils were a frugal team who wasted nothing. Is it possible that the team ordered two full sets of gray road uniforms, then actually changed their mind and switched to blue?

It appears that this is exactly what happened. The team had invested heavily in their new image and new stadium, and the belief is that the gray uniforms looked almost white on the suddenly widely popular color television, making the home team and the road team look too much the same.

In looking for proof of the guessed switchover, we found great difficulty. Color photos from the preseason in 1972 seem non-existent. In newspaper and yearbook black and white, it is impossible to tell the true color of the road uniforms in these pictures. We thought we had found some proof in the Topps 1972 photo of Mike Schmidt in the card below, wearing his first-appearance-in-the-bigs number 22. But we learned that these photos were retouched and re-colored, and in fact also found versions of this same photograph showing the uniform as blue.

Top right: *one of the two jerseys discovered by Wolf, notice no player name in the collar and very little wear apparent. Back numbers are huge, close to 11 inches.* ***Right:*** *the team tagging from both discovered jerseys, top tag interestingly is made of the blue/gray flannel of the 1971 uniforms!*



The letter of authenticity that accompanied one of these jerseys from seller/dealer Ed Dolan indicates that the gray jerseys were worn for the first half of the 1972 season. However, your author who grew up following the Phillies remembers this time, and does not recall any mid-season changes. We didn't own a color TV in 1972, but I clearly remember the discussion around the Phillies' surprising bright blue uniforms that season.

Were they left unused and disposed of? It hardly seams reasonable. The most logical guess would be that they were used by the Phillies' minor league teams. However, Howard reports having never seen any of these turn up with minor league usage. This isn't unprecedented. For example, note the ultra-rare 1972 Cleveland Indians uniforms which are almost never seen in the collectors' hobby today, presumably because they were used and re-used in the minor leagues until they were probably disposed of in the trash, thoroughly spent. Hopefully this publishing will bring more information forward on these mystery uniforms.

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1973 Oddball Road Button-Front

I acquired this jersey from another collector, its history suspect. Studying the details of team-issue jerseys for 1973, that year the players were issued zipper-front road jerseys with two-layer twill lettering, and with player names on back. This one is identical in every way to the one-year style 1972 jersey, yet with a Wilson factory 1973 tag on the tail. It has chain stitched elements, a button front and a tall number on back.

In 1973, #7 was coach Bobby Wine. I was able to ask him about this jersey, and he recalled that he had indeed been issued a jersey different from the others on the team. He recalled at the time he noticed that his jersey was without the new zipper front when everyone else had one with a zipper closure. He did not remember whether or not he wore it all season long.

I have been unable to find any period photos of Wine wearing this jersey, and I wonder if he was eventually issued a matching one. This jersey shows excessive wear, with major puckering of the fabric beneath the semi-detached numbers, and the linen placket lining is mostly gone.

© GameWornGuides.com

1970s Phillies “Hot Pants Patrol” Usherette Uniforms

The GAZETTE, Montreal, Fri., Apr. 2, 1971 19

City of Brotherly Love gets Hot Pants Patrol

PHILADELPHIA — (AP) — It's not just the pitchers who will be throwing curves opening day. The Philadelphia Fillies will also be throwing a few curves at the fans.

The Fillies, the female ushers of the Phillies' baseball team, will unveil their elite corps, the Hot Pants Patrol, on opening day.

The National League team's female ushers this season will be frocked in micro skirts or hot pants — short shorts.

The girls are looking forward to it.

So are the fans. Especially the men.

into the new stadium, " we wanted something new, different," said Rosemary Sudders, 27, the chief Fillie, and the only one of the new Hot Pants Patrol who wears a white jacket.

There will be 145 usherettes, 36 of them in the maroon hot pants suits and calf-high white vinyl boots.

The others will wear the white micro skirts.

Either way it's fun.

. . . PLUS TIPS

Daring at the time, and probably highly politically incorrect today, the Phillies “Usherettes” were introduced as “The Hot Pants Patrol” at the opening of sparkling new Veterans Stadium in 1971. These actual examples were found offered at auction. For historians, the Hot Pants Patrol patrolled the Vet from 1971-1982.

© GameWornGuides.com

1970s/1980s Trainers' Dugout Shirts

These are not game worn jerseys in the true sense, but I thought you might like to see them.

These are the pullover shirts that the Phillies' team trainers, equipment manager and other club personnel wore in the dugout during games.

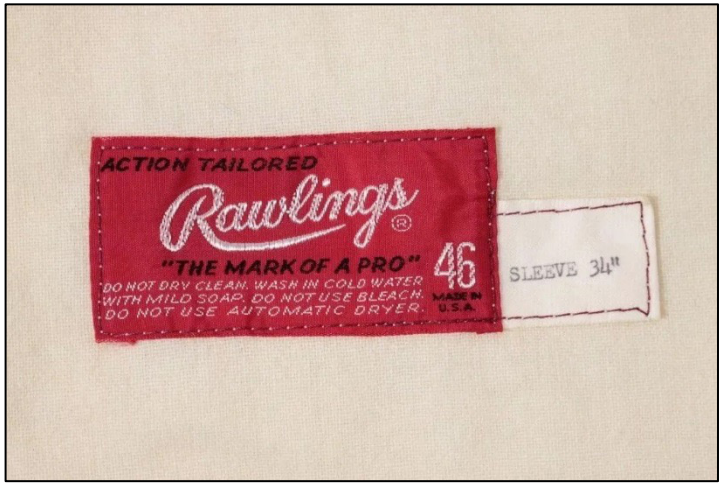
All three are made of knit jersey-weight fabric by Rawlings and have the standard 1972-1984 style Rawlings uniform tag in the collar. Only the blue one has a year flag tag (1976), but the white one next to it has identical trim and logo embroidery and is likely almost the same age.

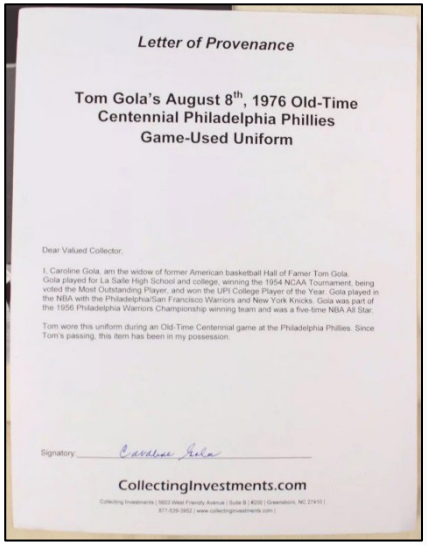
The jersey shown at left has darker maroon trim and the open-centered P logo instead. It sports two custom pockets on the chest, one on either breast. I suspect but am not sure that this one is from the early 1980s.

© GameWornGuides.com

1976 Phillies 1876 Exhibition Game

As part of the year-long celebration of the nation's Bicentennial in 1976, The Phillies hosted an exhibition game at Veterans Stadium on August 8 wearing baseball uniforms as they would have looked in 1876. Many Philadelphia celebrities and sports stars participated, including former NBA star Tom Gola (whose uniform is pictured here) and Phillies popular broadcaster and former player Rich Ashburn.





Letter of Provenance

Tom Gola's August 8th, 1976 Old-Time Centennial Philadelphia Phillies Game-Used Uniform

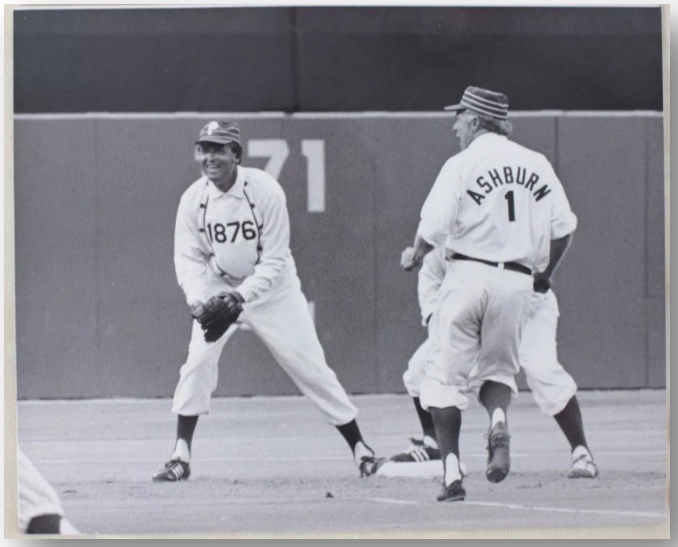
Dear Valued Collector,

I, Caroline Gola, am the widow of former American basketball Hall of Famer Tom Gola. Gola played for La Salle High School and college, winning the 1954 NCAA Tournament, being voted the Most Outstanding Player, and won the UPI College Player of the Year. Gola played in the NBA with the Philadelphia/San Francisco Warriors and New York Knicks. Gola was part of the 1956 Philadelphia Warriors Championship winning team and was a five-time NBA All Star.

Tom wore this uniform during an Old-Time Centennial game at the Philadelphia Phillies. Since Tom's passing, this item has been in my possession.

Signatory Caroline Gola

CollectingInvestments.com



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1977-1981 Phillies “Frankenstein” Logos

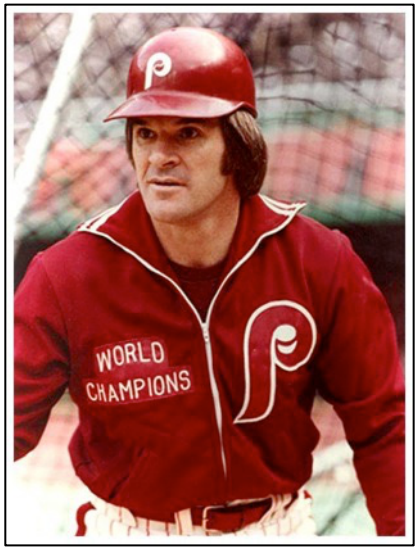
Enough people have asked me about these that I am including a page on them.

In the computer-graphics world of the 2000s, 100% accuracy is only a mouse click away, but as we have discussed, it wasn’t always like that. While the Phillies “mod” logo, adopted in 1970 was a beautifully balanced piece of graphic art, it sometimes made an awkward transition onto player uniforms. Here are a few examples of what have become known as “Frankenstein” logos and scripts, all charmingly unique, and a quaint reminder of the way things used to be in baseball.

The “original”- beautiful and balanced.

The rest...not so much.

Top center: the wordmark the way it was designed. Notice how compact it is, with the curves of the letter serifs all blending together to fit like a precision puzzle. Immediately below and on the card, sewn with far too much spacing between the letters (that’s “kerning” for you typesetting nerds). ***Bottom row***: three Frankenstein wordmarks and logos from BP jerseys of the late 1970s up through 1981.



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1977 Sample Lightweight Mesh Full Uniforms

Photos: Hunt Auctions

Seen at auction these full uniforms lettered for catcher Bob Boone and tagged for 1977. Both shirt and pants sets are made of nylon mesh. The placket of the jersey is lined inside with linen and the collar tag is in the same Wilson-factory style as game jerseys of the time. The vertical arched name is on a mesh nameplate. On the road blue model, the only difference I note between this and actual game jersey lettering is that the front 8 does not have the proper outline cutouts. The white uniform lacks the red pinstripes that had been part of every Phillies home uniform since 1949.

These were probably samples offered for team consideration. They predated Cool-Base jerseys by almost thirty years. Notably, Japanese League teams have used mesh uniforms like this for many years, and the Pirates used mesh black jerseys in 1977 made by Descente, a Japanese outfitter.

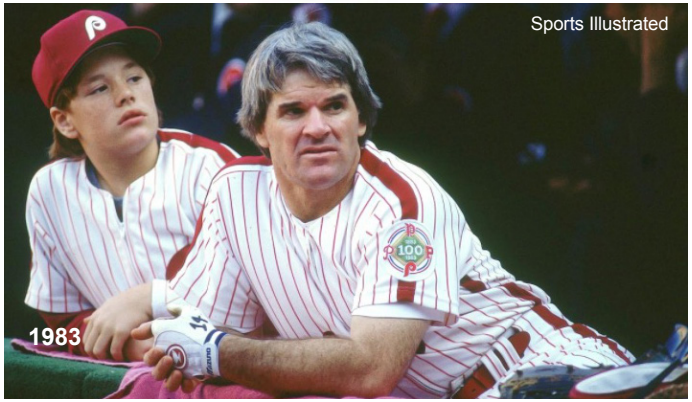
© GameWornGuides.com

1979 All-Star Game–Phillies' Use of Two Different Jerseys in One Game

Batting practice jerseys were a relatively new thing in 1979. The Phillies were among the early adopters in 1978. Pete Rose was a big fan of them and wore his during the 1979 All-Star Game in Seattle, apparently without protest from the league. Notice in this game action photo Larry Bowa is wearing his usual road uniform, while Rose is wearing his BP top.

© GameWornGuides.com

1984 Tagged Jerseys Used in 1983?



It was once not terribly uncommon for teams to recycle jerseys into the next year. In the cost-conscious days of the 1980s, when teams had not discovered the collect-ability of their game worn jerseys, it frequently happened. But before this, I had never seen a jersey recycled into the prior year… Al least two examples of jerseys bearing 1983-only sleeve patches have appeared at auction in past years, accompanied by a story that the Phillies has issued a new set of jerseys to players for the 1983 postseason. Then because these jerseys were still very new, they were used again in 1984 (photo at left shows Pete Rose wearing his 1983 jersey with patch in the 1983 World Series). The auction listings suggest that these jerseys must have been pulled from the team's inventory prior to the start of the 1984 season, since they retain the 1983-only sleeve patches.

This is all entirely possible, and I wonder if the jerseys were given 1984 year tags when they were made in anticipation that they would be issued again. It seems unlikely that there had been a 1983 year tag that was then replaced with a 1984 year tag…while the tailor left the 1983-only patch in place.

The fact that we have found more than one such jersey offered for sale means that it was likely not a one-off thing. So until we gain some further proof, we'll let the story stand.

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Pre-1987 Prototype Road Pinstripe

It is common for the uniform makers to offer teams suggestions on uniform designs. This is very likely one such example, and by all indications it dates from 1987. That was the first year of Rawlings script on the sleeve ends, the use of this bold font on the team's home jerseys, the final year of the use of the red collar tag in this style, and the style of player name tagging inside the collar matches. The team switched to button front jerseys for the 1987 season replacing the zippers used since 1972. This proposed seven-button design replicated the team's home pinstripe uniforms in gray, using the same newly one-color bold numbers as used on the 1987 home set. Instead, the team opted to stay with the powder blues for the next two years, keeping the less bold two-color numbers but changing to a button front design like this example.

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1988 Gray Jerseys Used in Fitting Room

Presented for your inspection… I now have seen three of these and I suspect that they were used in the clubhouse to fit players with new uniforms

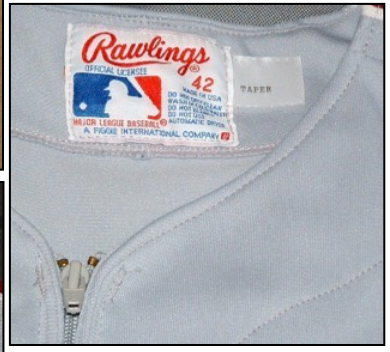
At first glance (or even second or third) these simply appear to be unlettered Phillies gray road jerseys from the 1989-1991 seasons. But there is something different about them.

This style of Phillies gray jersey was used only in 1989-1991, and they had button fronts. These two have zipper fronts.

They also have odd markings on them – small square size tags sewn to the front outsides of the left sleeves.

I received a note from another collector who excitedly told me he found this size 42 jersey ***(bottom)*** in a Pennsylvania thrift shop and paid $10 for it. He pointed out the zipper front and asked if I had ever seen one like it.

I noticed the odd size tag on the sleeve and suddenly realized that it was the sister to the jersey lying forgotten in my closet



I had found the size 38 T one locally here in Philadelphia many years ago and bought it for under $15 and never even noticed its zip-front oddity.

Very likely these were used specifically for the purpose of fitting players, their sizes displayed on a sleeve tag and zippers for easier on-and-off, then they were discarded when their usefulness had ended.

© GameWornGuides.com

1992 Prototype Road

Bill Henderson Collection

In 1991, the Phillies were contemplating their first uniform make-over in over twenty years. Russell was to be their new manufacturer, and as always, various designs were considered before the final uniforms were chosen.

This design made it to the prototype stage. Instead of the common “Phillies” script on the front, it has the city name on front, sewn in chain stitching, with the trademark blue stars dotting the two “i’s” in Philadelphia.

Note the red on royal blue number treatment on the sleeve, another consideration that did not make the cut, but that was used on the alternate jersey starting in 2008.

As with many prototypes, this one is adorned with the #5 and the name “PLAYER.” It has a cut collar tag, denoting that it was intended as a sample for discard. This one showed up on eBay, listed under the obscure heading “Philadelphia Jersey.”

© GameWornGuides.com

1992 Prototype Road

Below, the road jersey sleeve trim, "as used" by the Phillies

Though I don't know for sure, I suspect this might have been a prototype design for the new for 1992 Phillies road jerseys. The front jock tag is the previous-version Russell pro tag that predated the Diamond Collection one that appeared for the 1992 season. The double white stripes on the knit sleeve ends were not adopted, though Phillies minor league clubs sometimes had gray jerseys with different on no sleeve-end trim. Terry Mulholland was a popular Phillies pitcher at the height of his career in 1991.

© GameWornGuides.com

Late 1990s Prototype Home Vest with Blue Undershirt

This submission from Russell got as far as the prototype stage, rendered in cloth for evaluation. Starting in the mid-90s the Phillies continually tried to work more blue into the team uniform color palate. This submission was a solid white jersey with red headspoon placket trim. I would assume it would have been paired with similar white pants. The Royal Blue undershirt featured a player number in red outlined with white on the left sleeve. The Russell logo is affixed to the center of the back of the neck. The front team crest is identical to the one used on team jerseys of the late 1990s, as is the Russell locker tag on the tail.

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2000-2012 Fitting Room “Sizers”

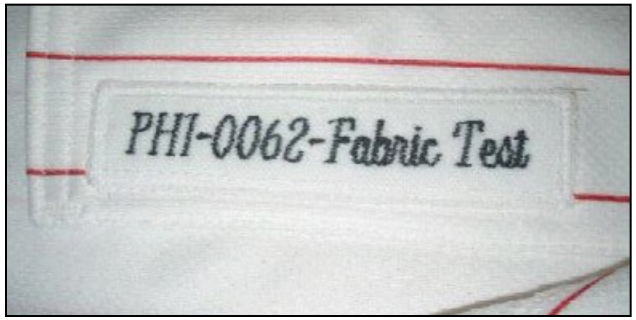
Earlier in this chapter, we showed some 1988 Phillies road jerseys with curious tagging that were meant for players to try on for jersey fittings. Here, we have three more such examples from about two decades later. Based on tagging, these jerseys range from about 2000-2012. Each is a pinstriped, full-knit home jersey, but rather than the usual decoration, these have the team’s “P” logo screened on the left chest with the jersey’s size sewn on in black twill below. Clearly, the twill numbers are much easier to read than the small size tag sewn in under Majestic’s jock tag, so clubhouse staff would be able to manage fittings quickly. It is certain that the team was provided a full set of these in all sizes, possibly ranging from sizes 40 to 56 (all in even-numbered sizes). Once a player found the size he liked, he could then relay any customizations for tapering, sleeve and body length and the like, which would be noted for the team’s next uniform order.

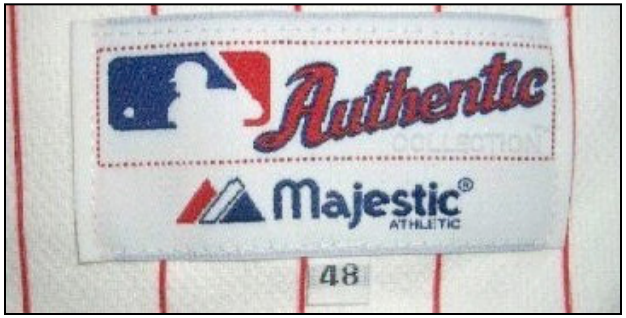
Though much less visually appealing than a game used jersey, one may argue that over the years perhaps hundreds or maybe thousands of players used these jerseys behind-the-scenes, which makes them a fun footnote, and a view into what goes into outfitting a Major League Baseball team.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005 Prototype Home Cool Base

Prior to Cool Base jerseys being used on the field for the first time in the 2006 season, sample jerseys were made for evaluation of the fabric. Here is the Majestic prototype for the Phillies 2006 home Cool Base jersey, prepare the prior year for review, hence the “05” as the number.





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2020 Unworn St. Patrick's Day

The Phillies made up a set of 2020 St. Patrick's Day green jerseys that were never worn because of the COVID shutdown. Made by Nike, they were identical in style to the 2019 Majestic versions that came before. Even though the jerseys were not used on the field, they were sold by the team online with MLB authentications noting that they were team issued.

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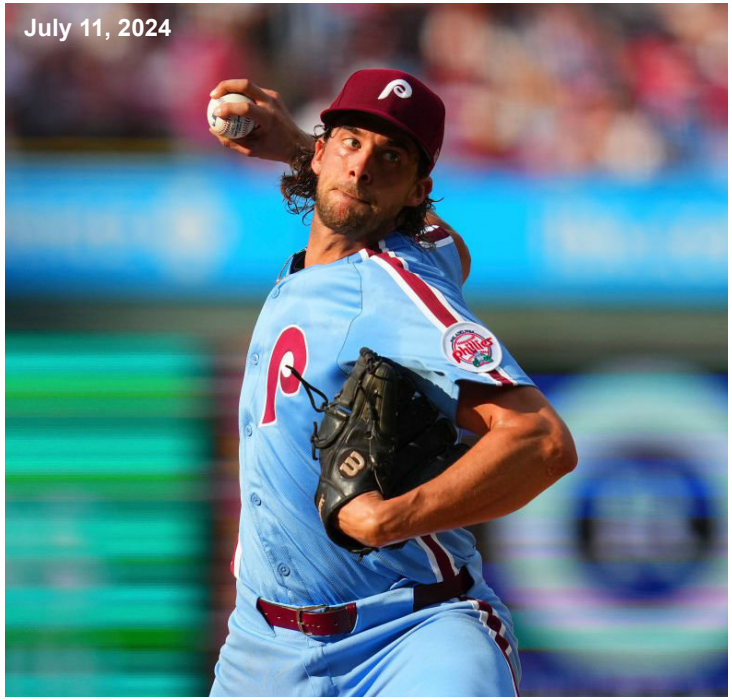
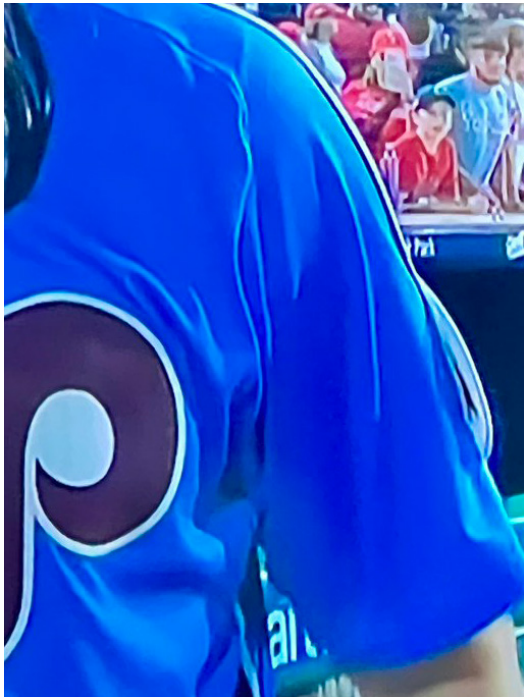
2024 Independence Hall Patch - One Day Return





The Phillies introduced their Independence Hall sleeve patch in 1984. Aside from a few occasions when it was replaced with anniversary patches, it remained on at least one of their jerseys through 1991. It made occasional cameos on special throwback jerseys over the years as well. But it returned in force when the team adopted a full-time powder blue throwback alternate in 2019. However, the Independence Hall patch was unceremoniously dropped from the alternate at the end of the 2022 season, likely in preparation for an ad patch. But, for one, brief, shining moment, it made a (mostly) triumphant return. On July 11, 2024, the Phillies wore their now-familiar powder blues for a home game against the Dodgers, and the patch returned to each player's left sleeve. Unfortunately, it appears to have been an adhesive version, as it peeled away from a couple of jersey's sleeves. As far as our research has turned up, the team made no public mention why the patch returned. But about three weeks later, the Phillies announced their first ad patch sponsor, and the next time they wore the blue jerseys, Independence Hall was gone once again, and at least as of this writing, it was gone for good. Maybe the final appearance was intended as a fitting farewell for a familiar friend of more than 40 years.

Above: *The patch appeared to be adhesive, and had trouble staying stuck on to players' sleeves.*

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Special Tailoring

2009

2010

Special player uniform tailoring is not uncommon, and in this guide I generally do not even call attention to it. But the special tailoring requested by Jayson Werth bears special mention. I don't think players have worn sleeves this long since the early 1930s. That's got to be six inches of extra sleeve length added, wouldn't you say?

And speaking of special accommodations, pitcher Jim Kern played in only eight games for the 1994 Phillies. I appreciate the irony that the spacing of the letters on his jersey are totally inconsistent… we'll let Google explain the joke.

kern[1]
/kərn/

PRINTING

verb

1. adjust the spacing between (letters or characters) in a piece of text to be printed.
2. design (metal type) with a projecting part beyond the body or shank.

Pitcher Larry Christenson's extra-long name required a hand-drawn font for his vertically arched name on back (late 70s)

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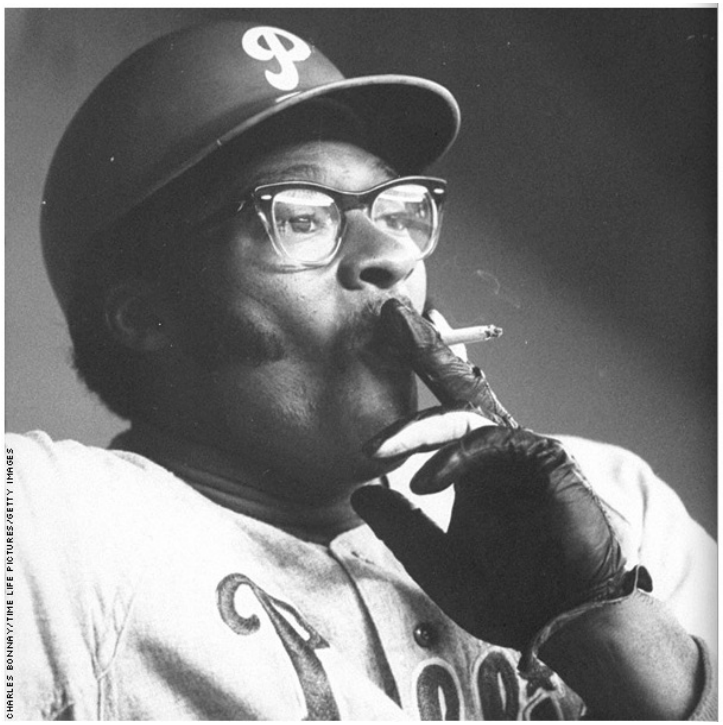
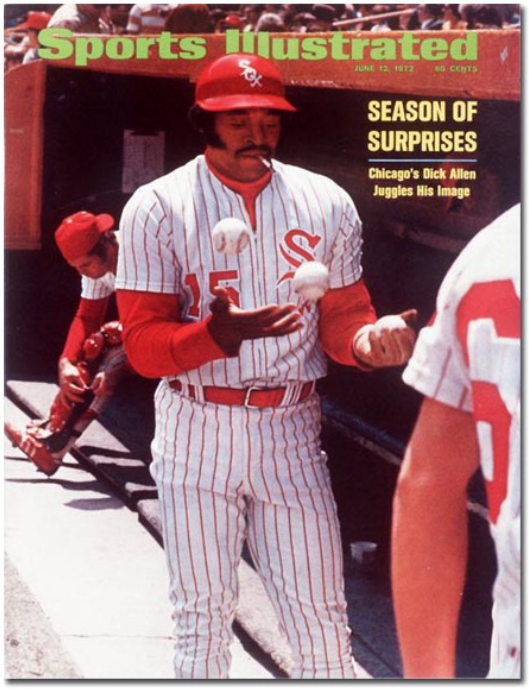
Sign of the Times





Jarring to see Dick Allen smoking cigarettes while in uniform. It was a different time, I suppose.

Not jersey related, but nevertheless a question people ask me frequently. Yes, the Phillies official socks have Liberty Bells on them. Few players wear them, or at least few wear their pants so they can be seen. Jamie Moyer was a player who showed off the Liberty Bells.

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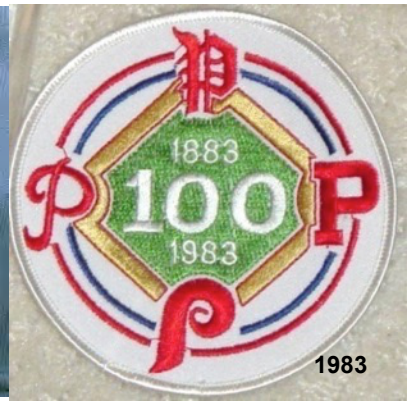
Commemorative Patches

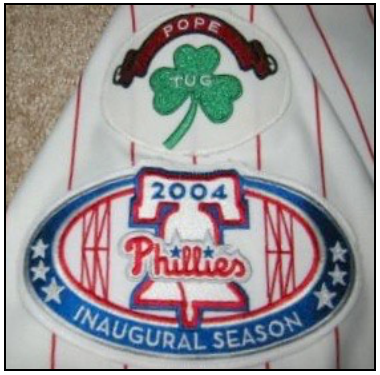
Phillies Patches



- 1976 Philadelphia Bicentennial Patch, but not worn in postseason
- 1983 100th Anniversary Patch
- 1995 Veterans Stadium 25 Years
- 1996 All Star Game

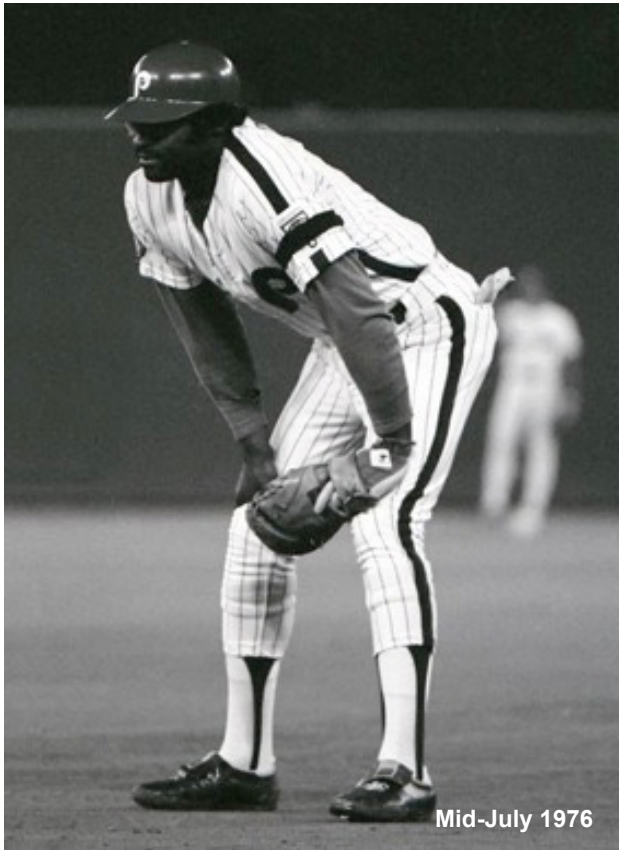
- 1997 “1” Rich Ashburn Armband, *September 10 until the end of the season.*
- 2003 Veterans Stadium Final Year

- 2004 New Stadium Inaugural Year, on *home jersey only*
- 2004 Dual memorial for former GM Paul Owens & pitcher Tug McGraw *on both home and road jerseys.* The shamrock was for McGraw who was especially proud of his Irish heritage. Pope was Paul Owens’ nickname.



2004: Home jersey gets both patches, road jersey gets memorial patch only.

© GameWornGuides.com



Mid-July 1976

Always an enigma in Philadelphia, Dick Allen had been traded by the Phillies after the 1969 season, then returned in 1975 at the tail end of his career.

(Left) 1976 Dick Allen began wearing a black armband in mid-August, reason unknown. Multiple readers have sent me this picture and asked me "why?" An obsessive newspaper search produced the following from the Lebanon (PA) Daily News of 8/11/76: "*..the Phillies publicity office stated that Allen would not give them any reason for the armband. He said it was for personal reasons.*"

Allen had a tumultuous 1976 season, and it seemed to get especially bad mid-season when he went AWOL, which seems to be around the time the armband appeared. More info on that here (http://sabr.org/research/dick-allen-ssecond-act). It is possible the two are related.

There were theories that Allen wore this to honor Bob Moose, who died at 29 on October 9, 1976. Both men were from Pennsylvania. This does not pan out, as Allen wore it much earlier than Moose's death (our research shows he had been wearing it as of July 25, his last game appearance that season until September 4, due to a prolonged DL stint and a feud with the team. He did, however, wear the armband into the postseason. This may have been a home-uniform thing only, as the bottom left photo on this page shows Allen in Los Angeles, on what is likely to have been the July 19 game, about a week before his DL stint began, and there is no armband in sight there

The photos at right show the armband later in the season, and then in the NLCS in September, on a different jersey – or at least a jersey without the Philadelphia 1976 patch.

September 15

July 19, 1976

Update: When we asked him on Twitter in 2019, Allen responded immediately. Mystery solved!

Dick Allen @DickAllen_15 · 3d

Replying to @sabr @MLBDreamShop and 9 others

I wore that black arm-band to honor my dear friend & business partner Clem Capozzoli. He passed away in 1976. One of the best men to ever walk the face of this earth.

4 5 67

NLCS-October 10

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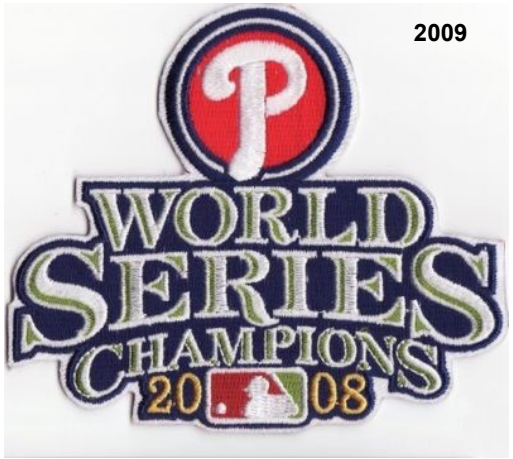
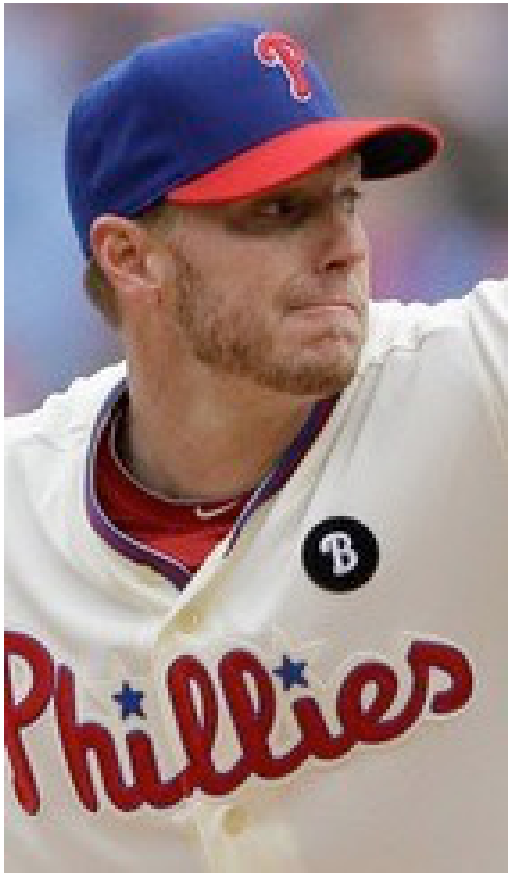
2007

2010



2009



2009

2009

- 2007: VUK patch worn on the right sleeve of all jerseys including BP jerseys, commemorating the death of Phillies player and coach John Vukovich
- 2009: The Phillies opened the season wearing the World Series Champions patch on the right sleeve of their home and home alternate uniforms only. The patch was worn only through the end of July, 2009.

- 2009: HK patch after April 16 memorializing the early-season death of longtime Phillies announcer Harry Kalas
- 2010: “36” Patch on right sleeve for Hall of Fame pitcher Robin Roberts, after May 6, 2010 • 2011: The Phillies honored the Buck Brothers, Alexander and John, partnership owners, who both died in the winter, by wearing a black patch with a white Phillies script "B" on their left chest.

2011

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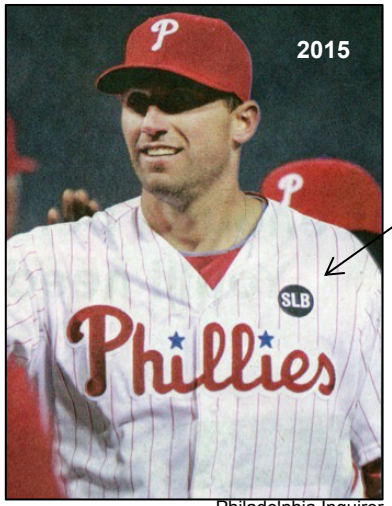
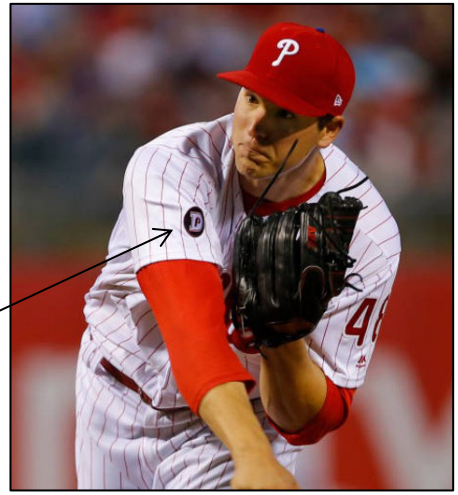
2014: Jim Fregosi #11 patch, worn only August 12 at game in Los Angeles against the Angels. Fregosi had a history with both teams, and that single night both the Phillies and the Angels wore this patch.

2015 Spring Training

Left, Phillies and Rays wore this Clearwater Centennial patch in Spring Training. The spring's opening game was played in regular home jerseys and this patch was present on those jerseys as well.



Philadelphia Inquirer



2014 All season- "CB" patch on left chest for Claire Betz, part owner of the team. Allow me to quote from Wikipedia:

> Claire Smith Betz (January 11, 1921–February 6, 2014) was a part-owner of the Philadelphia Phillies baseball team. She inherited her part-ownership from her husband, John Betz - who bought his share of the team in 1981 - when he died in 1990…According to (sources), she had a 33% stake in the team in 2007, making her the largest stakeholder of the ownership group. She was part of the cabal of Phillies owners known as the "Phantom Five", so-called because of their reclusiveness and lack of involvement in Phillies affairs."

2015 All season: Announced on opening day, team will wear a "SLB" patch over their heart for wife of investor Sally Buck who died August 2014. While I am sure Claire Betz and Sally Buck were lovely people, some have found it odd that the Phillies have been wearing these memorial patches over their hearts for people fans have never heard of, and likely with whom players had no interaction. The "patch over the heart" idea was something that started (very appropriately) with the 2009 patch for Harry Kalas, the team's beloved broadcast voice. But some fans have questioned the all-season over-the-heart memorials to team investors in 2011, 14 and 15.

2017: All season: Maroon trimmed "D" patch with Phillies' 1980-style "P" for Dallas Green, former Phillies pitcher and manager who had just passed before the start of the season. Right sleeve of all jerseys. Beginning April 7, 2017

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June 3, 2018

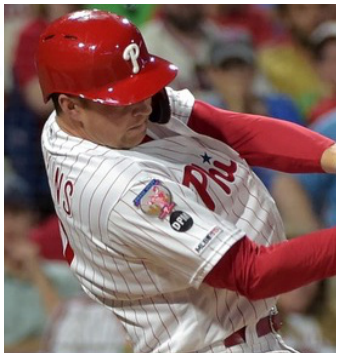
- 2018, June 3: Red AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure" Day in San Francisco.
- 2019, starting May 13: DPM memorial patch for team president and minority owner David Montgomery. Former Phillies player Cole Hamels also wore the patch on his Cubs uniform against the Phillies in Philadelphia on August 14.
- 2021: Dick Allen memorial patch, all season
- 2021, August 8: Roy Halladay Number Retirement patch

May 4, 2019

In 2019, the Phillies held "Retirement Ceremonies" to honor three fan favorites, Jimmy Rollins, Chase Utley, and Ryan Howard. The Phillies only retire jersey numbers when a player is enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame, so these ceremonies honored each player's Phillies career rather than retiring their numbers. Patches player-worn these dates:

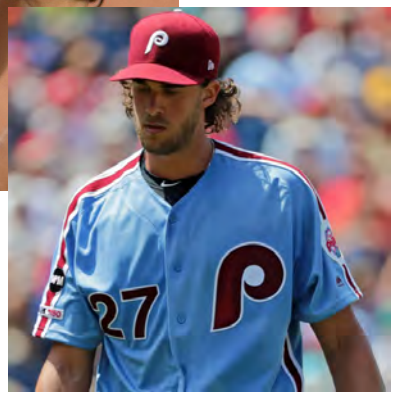
- 2019, May 4: Jimmy Rollins
- 2019, June 21: Chase Utley
- 2019, July 14: Ryan Howard

June 21, 2019



2019, Starting May 13

Cubs' Cole Hamels August 14, 2019



July 14, 2019

2021

August 8, 2021

- 2024, June 8-9: MLB World Tour London Series patch and Build Submarines sponsor patch for two games against the Mets in London. These patches replace the team disc and normal sponsor patches. Worn on road jersey June 8 and home jersey June 9. Patches appear on opposite sleeves, sleeves vary based on player handedness.
- 2024, June 21: Cole Hamels retirement ceremony patch
- 2024, July 11: Philadelphia Independence Hall patch. This patch was removed from the alternate blue jerseys at the end of the 2022 season. It made one final appearance for this game in July, though the patch was adhesive and peeled off from a few players' sleeves.

June 8-9, 2024

June 21, 2024

July 11, 2024

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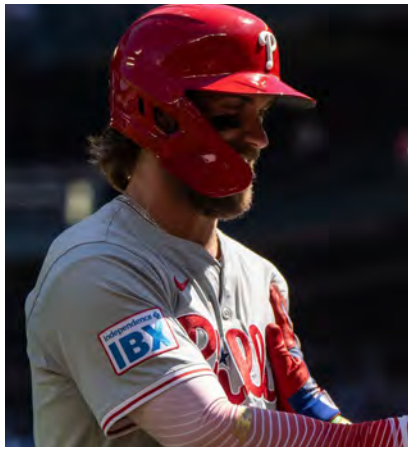
2023-2025 Phillies Advertising Patches



Home, Road, Cream Alternate

Retro Alternate

City Connect

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Phillies struck a patch deal with Independence Blue Cross (IBX), a health insurance company. The patches first appeared on July 31, 2024. The patch is a rectangle that includes two of the company's logos, the word "Independence" with a Blue Cross logo above a larder text reading "IBX." Both logos are in blue on a white background. The patch for the home pinstripe, road gray, and cream home alternate jerseys have a red border. The patch for the powder blue alternate has a maroon border, while the patch for the team's City Connect jerseys has a dark blue border. The patch varies sleeves based on player handedness.

Starting in 2023, the team removed its long-standing sleeve numbers, while the retro powder blue jerseys lost their sleeve patch for the 2024 season, both likely in preparation for a sponsor patch that did not materialize until halfway through 2024.

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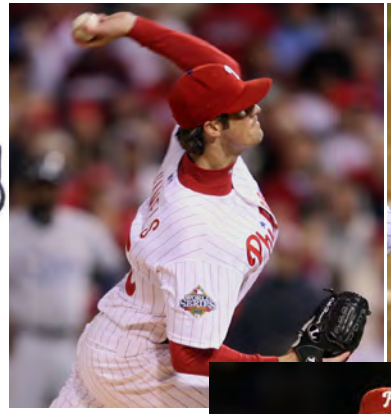
Phillies Postseason Patches

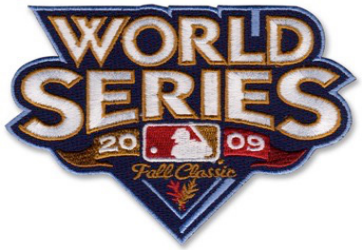
1993 World Series (right sleeve)

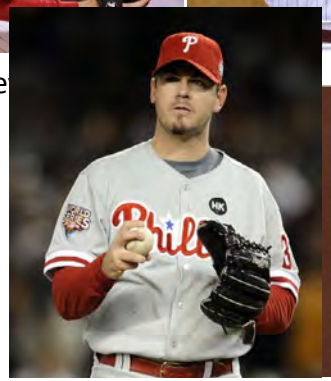
2022 World Series (right sleeve)

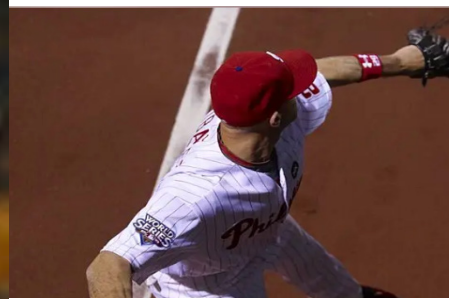
2008 World Series (right sleeve)



2009 World Series (right slee







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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Frank Linzy 1974 Philadelphia Phillies Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1013J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia blue zipper front size 44 Wilson-made Phillies road jersey of pitcher Frank Linzy, #31. Maroon and white striped knit trim on the tops of both sleeves at the shoulders and up the side seams. Placket is lined with light blue satin typical of Wilson-made Phillies jerseys of the time. At 6' 1" and 190 lbs, the jersey is sized appropriately for the player.

Frank Linzy enjoyed an 11-year MLB career, pitching for four teams; Giants, Cardinals, Brewers and Phillies. He finished his career in 1974 playing a single season with the Phillies, in which he appeared in 22 games, all as a reliever, finishing with a 3-2 record and a 3.28 ERA. For his career he appeared in 516 games compiling a .516 winning percentage and a respectable 2.85 career ERA.

Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey wore #44 and was missing its nameplate. Notably, #44 in 1975 was (similarly sized) pitcher Wayne Simpson, 6' 3" 220 lbs. Simpson was a September acquisition for the Phillies in 1975 who appeared in only seven games and it is very likely that he was reissued Linzy's 1974 jersey from the trainer's bin in clubhouse. This jersey had experienced very heavy use, probably being used again after 1974 in Spring training or perhaps later sent to the minor leagues. It exhibits a high degree of fading from wash as well as characteristic sun-fading to the tops of the shoulders. Player numbers and the team crest on the left chest were in poor condition, bleached and puckered from over-use. Very likely they were "take off" numbers: ones that had been scavenged from another used jersey and kept handy for just such a need. The numbers were removed to reveal the clear ghosts of the original #31 below, notably brighter from being covered during a season of use. Oddly, the original maroon trim which usually fades markedly remains bright on this example.

The numbers and team crest were recreated from team patterns and suitably aged to harmonize them with the rest of the well-worn garment. All take-off lettering remains with the completed jersey to document its history. A new LINZY nameplate was created using the team's tall, narrow, vertical-arch NOB font of 1974, using a pair of similar aged Phillies game pants. The lettering is the correct size for 1974; notably in 1973-1976 the Phillies used noticeably smaller 7" back numbers than in later years on their road jerseys.

Continued, overleaf

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Matching exemplars, the 1974-appropriate Wilson tag is sewn onto the outer left tail. Below it, chain-stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher is a rectangular piece of jersey fabric with the inscription 74 Set 2 44, indicating the year, set and size. "Linzy" is correctly hand chain stitched onto a similar rectangle of fabric and sewn into the back of the neck, stitching invisible from the outside back of the jersey indication that it was sewn in place before the jersey was finally-assembled at the factory.

As received- the jersey wore 1970s period-replacement numbers and was very dirty from storage. It was missing its nameplate. All twill elements were shrunken and distorted from hot water washing. Look at the front team crest, and the back-side of the fabric that shows the uneven shrinkage that had occurred through too-many hot water washings. The front "P" no longer matched the team template, it was nearly 3/8" shorter than exemplars. Glue marks showed the outlines of the old, original numbers.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good restored condition: the zipper and trim are original, and the sewn lettering (crest, numbers, plater nameplate) are properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Frank Linzy of the 1974 Philadelphia Phillies during his final MLB season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Ryne Sandberg 1981 Philadelphia Phillies Home/First MLB Jersey

Examination Date: May 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0527J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is Hall of Fame player Ryne Sandberg's first game-worn major league jersey, worn during his initial September call-up with the Philadelphia Phillies in September-October,1981. White with red pinstripes Wilson size 42, Phillies "P" and player number 37 on the front, Player number and Sandberg nameplate on back. The jersey has its original working Talon brass zipper. A white linen lining is affixed to the inside of the placket and around the back of the collar for player comfort. Tail tagging 81-1. Sandberg's pro tenure with the Phillies was brief; a mere 13 games with just six at bats in September-October of 1981. In the 1981-82 off-season Sandberg and shortstop Larry Bowa were traded to the Chicago Cubs in an event that is today universally called the "worst trade ever" by the Phillies.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey had a nameplate on back of "Rasmussen". Jim Rasmussen was a perennial Phillies pitching prospect 1979-1982 and was a regular spring training invitee. Unfortunately, he never made the pro club, and spent his entire baseball career in the minor leagues. His name is hand-chain stitched on a strip tag sewn into the collar of the jersey, in the unmistakable "handwriting" of the Wilson factory stitcher.

As received, this jersey bore a rather crudely rendered "Rasmussen" nameplate on back. Phillies vertical arch nameplates were all drawn and cut by hand in those days before computer graphics, and every one is unique, with different size and shape letters. This one is especially inexact, with several letters in different sizes and stroke widths from the others. The Phillies used nameplates rather than direct-sewing names for a single reason: thrift. When players were cut or traded, their nameplates were unceremoniously stripped off and the jerseys were remanded to the clubhouse to be reissued to the next player they might fit. The nameplates were all saved too, in case a player was called up during the season, and a jersey needed to be hurriedly prepared for him. Lead-times to get new uniforms from Wilson were long, and we have many examples of Phillies jerseys from the 1970s and 1980s bearing collar strip tags of players who attended spring training but who never made the club. Team jerseys were ordered before spring training, and if there was a chance that a prospect might make the squad, two sets of home and two sets of road uniforms were ordered for him, properly sized and in some cases specially tailored, with player name inside the collar, player numbers affixed and name on back on a nameplate. Properly, the inside-collar tag was stitched in place before the placket was stitched closed, meaning that the stitching that secured it to the jersey was invisible from the outside after the jersey was completed.

Continued, overleaf

William F. Henderson
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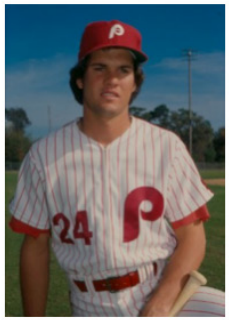

Sandberg was also a Spring Training 1981 attendee, where he was assigned #24. A hot prospect for the team, multiple photos of him exist from Spring Training wearing number 24. Today at least one each of his spring training jerseys, home and road, have surfaced in the hobby, both bearing his name embroidered in the back of the collar, and both have been auctioned including credible letters of authentication. So, when Sandberg was called up to the pro club at the start of September, it would have been simple and logical for him to have been re-issued his #24 spring training uniforms . Except there was one problem… the Phillies had recently signed infielder Len Matuszek, a player nearly identically sized to Sandberg, and issued him Sandberg's #24 Spring Training uniforms. We have multiple photos of Matuszek in September 1981 wearing a jersey that can be conclusively photo-matched to one Sandberg wore in his spring training photos, and are shown here.

Sandberg was issued #24 in 1981 Spring Training. The alignment of the pinstripes and the many points of intersection allow me to conclude that the jersey shown in the publicity photo at top, the authenticated (and restored) jersey sold at auction at the left and the jersey worn by Len Matuszek in September 1981 are all the same shirt. Because Matuszek was wearing Sandberg's spring training uniforms, when Sandberg was called up he was hastily reissued the #37 uniform(s) that had been issued to Jim Rasmussen in 1981 Spring Training.

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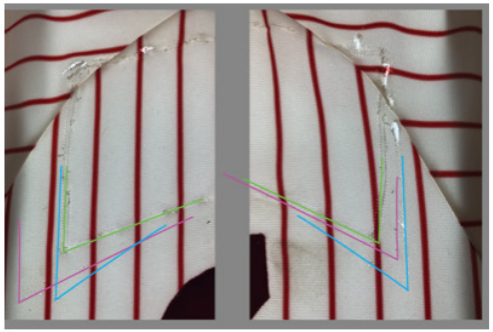
For clubhouse expediency, Sandberg was simply and quickly reissued the sets of uniforms worn by Rasmussen in 1981 spring training, also size 42. Few photos exist of Sandberg as a September 1981 call-up, but he was the only Phillies player to have worn #37 in 1981. Removing the crude Rasmussen nameplate, there is clear stitching outline evidence that three nameplates had been sewn there over time. Logically, these were Rasmussen's original one from spring training 1981, Sandberg's nameplate from September 1981, and then the return of a Rasmussen nameplate possibly for Spring Training 1982 when the jersey might have been used yet again by the prospect. The two player names are nearly identical in length, reaching from shoulder to shoulder and onto the edge of the sleeves. Crude removal (likely with a razor blade) has left holes and scars at the ends of the former locations of two of these plates. (See photos)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The jersey has the Wilson manufacturer's tag showing the size as 42, and in the correct style for 1981, stitched to the outside of the left front tail. Below that tag is a white square of knit fabric with the numbers "81 1" properly hand chain stitched on it, then tightly zig zag stitched to the tail. These tags are original and unaltered. As noted before "Rasmussen" is hand embroidered on a strip tag sewn into the back of the neck. These characteristics match other teams issued and game worn jerseys for the 1981 Phillies from our archives.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows a great deal of use, indicating that it was worn in multiple seasons and was perhaps even used in the minor leagues, where it would have been most likely used without name on back. A light table evaluation shows that the player numbers



Here is the jersey as I received it for authentication and restoration. The Rasmussen nameplate letters are crudely arched and created with letters of inconsistent size and stroke. It may be an original nameplate re-used, or was created in an earlier attempt at restoration to have a name on back to match the player name stitched in the collar.

Before removing the nameplate, we can see evidence of the scars left from earlier nameplate removal(s). At the bottom, with the nameplate removed and the jersey placed on the light table, clear evidence of two earlier nameplates are clearly visible, marked here with red, blue and green lines. It was not at all uncommon for the Phillies to re-use jerseys multiple times, and in fact this was the reason for using nameplates. It is far easier to remove and replace a single nameplate than to cut and sew, or to remove the many individual letters in a player's name, especially when using the custom vertical arched style employed by the Phillies, which means each letter of the name had to be hand drawn and cut.

During this period, the Phillies used nameplates cut from solid white polyester fabric, without any backing applied as a stiffener, and without a finished, serged edge/ The raw edges of the plate were zig-zag stitched to the jersey, causing characteristic puckering around the perimeter.

The artwork for the player name on back was recreated using period photos of Sandberg and my original templates of the Phillies 1970s alphabet. Characteristically The letters at the far ends of the name are significant taller than the ones in the middle. The letters were placed using a template for precision. The nameplate fabric was cut exactly to size to match what I determined was the location of the original plate, and made from a well-used pair of MLB pants that most closely matched the jersey's fabric color in terms of wear and color. I media-blasted the cut letters to age them and to remove the shine from the fabric so as to make them match the numbers on back more harmoniously. Finally, I zig-zag stitched the plate in place just as had been done originally, restoring it to its original location from some forty years prior.

and front team logo are original. There are no repairs, but crude removal of multiple nameplates is evidenced by a series of perforation holes around the outer edges at the ends of the plates. The jersey fabric is no longer with white; it has been weathered and washed so that it is off white now. Multiple small pulls are visible in the fabric from use, minor fraying of the team lettering are apparent, and the linen placket lining is stained and puckered, though intact.

Restoration performed: The Rasmussen nameplate was carefully removed and the jersey placed on the light table. Visible evidence of at least two other nameplates were noted and are highlighted on the attached photos. The shape of what was most likely the original Sandberg nameplate was recorded. The jersey was washed, and fabric from a pair of used MLB pants that most closely matched the shade of white that the jersey had become were chosen to remake the nameplate. The new nameplate lettering was re-drawn using multiple examples of Sandberg's other Phillies jerseys for reference. The lettering was cut and media blasted to remove the fabric sheen to help it better resemble the age and wear of the original numbers to which it would be adjacent. Replicating the original style of construction, the nameplate was left unbacked and the edge was not serged, but instead was zig zagged along its raw edge to the jersey. Placement was made as close as possible to the shadow of the original nameplate.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good and heavily used condition: the front and back numbers are original, and the player nameplate on back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Ryne Sandberg of the 1981 Philadelphia Phillies in his first Major League season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dale Murphy Philadelphia Phillies 1991 Home Game Worn Jersey/Pants

Examination Date: November 15, 2022 **Certification Number**:22-1115JP01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1991 Philadelphia Phillies Rawlings size 48 with 2 inches extra length home jersey of outfielder Dale Murphy. Rawlings six-button-front full weight warp-knit white w/maroon pinstripe jersey in the specific style that the Phillies wore 1989-1991. The jersey is autographed on the left chest above the team crest. (I have no professional opinion on the autograph.) All lettering is two-layer, Cardinal Red twill outlined in white. The player name "MURPHY" is radially arched and sewn on a serged edge knit nameplate. Player numbers "3" on front right and on back in the correct font and size for the 1991 Phillies. Phillies team disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Sewn-in maroon knit trim on the shoulder tops and down the sides. Murphy wore both size 46 and 48 jerseys late in his career, and the size and tailoring are reasonable for his use. Rawlings team and player tagged 5-belt tunnel, zipper and snap front pants are size 37; same maroon pinstripes and with maroon side trim sewn in.

Dale Murphy enjoyed an 18 year career and was one of the biggest stars of the game and a fan favorite, especially during his 15 years with the Atlanta Braves, 1976-1990. He earned consecutive NL MVP honors in 1982-1983, was a 7-time All Star , and won 5 Gold Gloves and 4 Silver Slugger awards. He was traded to the Phillies late in the 1990 season, and played his last full-season of games in 1991, appearing in 153 contests (544 at bats, .252 average, 18 HR). While he played the next season in 1992, he was limited to only 18 games due to injury, and was then traded to the expansion Colorado Rockies for the 1993 season where he retired early in the season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey is properly team-tagged matching exemplars for the 1991 Phillies, Rawlings white tag inside the front left tail with the size of the jersey embroidered integral to it, flag tab to the left noting "Set 1 1991", tailoring tag pinch-sewn below noting 2 inch extra length. There is no player (name/number) specific tagging on the jersey. The pants are also flag tagged as SET 1 1991, and include a strip tag machine embroidered with "MURPHY 37/38 27 91" noting the waist size, inseam measurement and the 2 digit year. Rawlings script is embroidered onto the right sleeve end and the Rawlings circled "R" logo is embroidered just above the left back pocket.

Continued, next page

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Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements of the jersey are original and untampered with. Jersey shows wear consistent with a full season of use (players were typically issued two sets of jerseys in each style) with some puckering of the tagging and sleeve patch, mild burnishing of the twill elements and some bleaching of the maroon thread that holds the sewn lettering elements in place. The pants show similar wash wear but with more bleaching, evident in the pinker shade of the rear-pocket embroidered Rawlings logo. The jersey is free of damage; the pants have a 1.5" square team repair to front of the right knee and shows some ground in dirt on the seat especially the left side.

Conclusion: This jersey and pants are, in my opinion original and unaltered game worn team by Dale Murphy of the Philadelphia Phillies from the 1991 season. This is a beautiful original example of a professional MLB home uniform in a desirable style from a memorable star player of his era.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Phillies 1992 Mitch Williams Game Worn Nostalgia Game Jersey/Pants/Stirrups

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104JP22

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White double-knit six-button size 48 Russell button front jersey accompanied by size 34 pants and a pair of red/white/blue stirrup socks. This is from the June 21, 1992 Nostalgia Game played between the Phillies and the Chicago Cubs. Williams did not appear in that game. All lettering is two-layer, straight stitched felt in red over Royal Blue, meant to resemble the Phillies 1948 uniforms. "Phillies" across both front panels with stars over the I's. Very tall 9 1/2" back number 28, correct for Williams. Royal/red/Royal knit trim braid is stitched around the neck opening and 1/2" from the end of each sleeve. Front of jerseys is autographed by the player in black Sharpie. (I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.)

The white pants have a zipper and snap closure, and have the same trim as the jersey running down each side. The bottom of each leg encloses elastic bands. There are two pockets on the seat with closure buttons intact. There are a few dirt stains on the pants.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell locker tag on the front, left outside tail in the proper style identifiable to 1992. Small 100% Nylon tag pinched under the bottom of it, typical of team issue. Russell R logo is direct embroidered in red at the end of the right sleeve. While the jerseys in this set are not team player-tagged, the pants are. Inside the waistband is a Russell 1992-style tag with 100% Nylon flag tag, and a rectangular knit tag with blue Plastisol ink printing that reads "WILLIAMS 34-34-92 Nostalgia Game" (34' waist and length, 1992)

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of minor wash/wear, as would be appropriate for a special event jersey worn only once. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and game worn by Mitch Williams of the 1992 Philadelphia Phillies.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Philadelphia Phillies Home Game Model Jersey, #1, Prototype, Vintage 1970

Examination Date: July 14, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0714J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson seven-button cream colored with chalk-red pinstripes, flannel Phillies home jersey, size 38, in the style introduced by the team to the public and worn part-time during the 1970 season. Maroon 3/4" trip on the shoulder tops and down each side. Four-hole gusseted vent panels under each arm. Beautifully hand-chain stitched embroidered team logo P on the left chest, and the numeral "1" on both the right chest and the center of the back. The swirly embroidery is done on cream colored linen backing which serves as a white outline for each patch element, stitching done in a shiny Cardinal-red embroidery thread, then each element is tightly zig-zag stitched to the jersey fabric. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. All is accurate compared to exemplars.

Taking into account the information below in the sections on tagging and wear, this is most likely a sample jersey, made by Wilson for the team's consideration, prior to the start of the 1970 season. The team was anxious to have new uniforms to be ready for the opening of then ultra-modern Veterans Stadium, scheduled for the start of the 1970s season. But construction delays kept the team at old Connie Mack stadium until the next year.

From The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys by William F. Henderson, *"...Had the new stadium been ready as planned for the start of the 1970 season, these new suits were ready to go. The Phillies were all set to launch a new image: new team look, new stadium, new optimism. But with the stadium opening delayed until 1971, The team started the year wearing the old-style uniforms at home, but wore their new ones on the road. At some point in the season, that decision was reversed, and the team switched to their new uniforms at home part time, and went back to the old style on the road. Photos from 1970 show the team wearing both old and new styles at Connie Mack Stadium during 1970. They wore the new uniform in the midseason All-Star Game. Full switchover to the new uniforms was complete for 1971."*

The jersey is autographed in black Sharpie on lower front left by Frank Lucchesi who was the team's manager 1970-1972, and who also wore #1. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph. Listed at 5' 8" and 180 lbs as a coach, in photos. clearly he was a larger man who would have been too big to fit into this size 38 jersey. An authenticated Luchessi jersey recorded in our exemplar library which sold at auction was a size 42 which is a more reasonable size for the man. The number 1 on front is stitched very close to the placket and not centered on the right chest as might be expected, but photos of the 1970 Phillies show this unusual number placement on early uniforms with single digits, so it is correct. It was common practice for manufacturers to make sample jerseys for team consideration using the number of the current manager, and this one fits that model.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Larry Christenson 1974 Philadelphia Phillies Road Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: August 18, 2023 **Certification Number:** 23-0818J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson Columbia Blue, zipper-front size 46 (marked and measured) Phillies road jersey of pitcher Larry Christenson. Phillies "P" and player number 38 on the front, player number and vertical-arched font nameplate on back. All lettering sewn in Cardinal Red outlined with white tackle twill. The jersey has its original working Talon brass zipper. Typical of Wilson Phillies road game-issues, a blue satin linen lining is affixed to the inside of the placket and around the back of the collar for player comfort. Sewn-on maroon bordered with white 1 3/8" trim on top of the shoulder and down the sides. All the lettering is clearly hand cut as is typical of Phillies jerseys of this vintage. The back numbers are the smaller 6 1/2" tall style used on road jerseys by the Phils only in 1973-1976. Moderate fading evident throughout, especially on the tops of the shoulders.

Larry Christenson played his entire 11-year MLB career with the Phillies. He was the 3rd overall draft pick in 1972, and made his Major League debut as a 19-year-old, pitching a complete game victory against the eventual pennant-winning Mets. At the time, he was the youngest player in MLB. Both his first MiLB and MLB hits were home runs and he is tied with Rick Wise for most home runs (11) by a pitcher in Phillies history. In 1974, he was a late-season call-up from the minors and went 1-1 in the 10 games in which he appeared, posting an ERA of 4.3.

Restoration Performed: The Phillies sent their jerseys to the minor leagues for a second-life after their MLB service was complete. Likely in 1975, this jersey was sent to nearby Reading (PA) Double A, or one of the other three Phillies minor league affiliates that had the same name as the parent club. When demoted, typically the jerseys' player nameplates were first stripped. When I received it, this jersey was without a nameplate, but here was clear evidence of the placement of the original nameplate visible. In 1974, only the second year in the team's history that player names were used on jerseys, team nameplates were single-layer jersey warp-knit fabric left unbacked, closely trimmed to the

Continued, overleaf

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Top: As received, the jersey without nameplate. Below left, my reproduction graphic art to create the vertical arched nameplate, circumscribed by the plate shape as was visible on the jersey when placed on the light table. Bottom right, the player in a later year showing his nameplate. The Phillies were a frugal organization that sometimes recycled expensive items like player nameplates into the next season, especially if the player was a midseason call-up who saw limited action.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: it is all original, save for my recreation of the nameplate to replace the one removed by the club. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Larry Christenson of the 1974 Philadelphia Phillies.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Mike Schmidt 1974 Philadelphia Phillies Road Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: May 8, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0508J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson Columbia Blue, zipper-front size 42 (marked and measured) Phillies road jersey of hall of fame third baseman Mike Schmidt. Other examples show that Schmidt wore size 42 at this point in his career. Phillies "P" and player number 20 on the front, player number and vertical-arched font Schmidt nameplate on back. All lettering sewn in Cardinal Red outlined with white tackle twill. The jersey has its original working Talon brass zipper. Typical of Wilson Phillies road game-issues, a blue satin linen lining is affixed to the inside of the placket and around the back of the collar for player comfort. Sewn-on maroon bordered with white 1 3/8" trim on top of the shoulder and down the sides. All the lettering is clearly hand cut as is typical of Phillies jerseys of this vintage. The back numbers are the smaller 6 1/2" tall style used on road jerseys by the Phils only in 1973-1976. The jersey is autographed on the front under the team crest "Mike Schmidt HOF 95". I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Mike Schmidt enjoyed an 18 year Hall of Fame career, played entirely with the Philadelphia Phillies. In 1976 he appeared in 160 games, batting .262 with a league-leading 36 home runs. He was selected to the 1974 All Star team (first appearance), and in his career was a twelve-time All-Star. (Baseball Almanac) Schmidt was a 12-time All-Star and a three-time winner of the National League (NL) Most Valuable Player award (MVP), and he was known for his combination of power hitting and strong defense. As a hitter, he compiled 548 home runs and 1,595 runs batted in (RBIs), and led the NL in home runs eight times and in RBIs four times. As a fielder, Schmidt won the National League Gold Glove Award for third basemen ten times. Schmidt was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1995 and is widely considered to be the greatest third baseman in baseball history. (Wikipedia)

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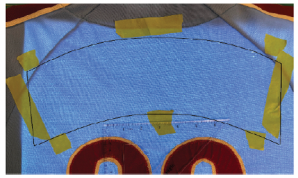
Restoration Performed: The Phillies sent their jerseys to the minor leagues for a second-life after their MLB service was complete. Likely in 1975, this jersey was sent to nearby Reading (PA) Double A, or one of the other three Phillies minor league affiliates that had the same name as the parent club. When demoted, typically the jerseys' player nameplates were stripped first. When I received it, this jersey was without a nameplate, but here was clear evidence of the placement of the original nameplate visible. In 1974, only the second year in the team's history that player names were used on jerseys, team nameplates were single-layer jersey warp-knit fabric left unbacked, closely trimmed to the name lettering, and the edges were left unfinished, without serging. The plates were then zig-zag stitched directly to the jersey, causing some characteristic puckering around their edges. Using period photos, reliably authenticated original examples and my own historic font collection, I recreated the SCHMIDT nameplate as closely as possible to original. The lettering was media-blasted and dyed to age it for a better match to the other, original adornment on the jersey. I used a pair of well worn Phillies pants from the period to make the nameplate, which I matched as close as I could to the jersey fabric with its years of fading from the sun and detergents.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer's tag in the correct style for 1974 noting the size as 42 is stitched properly to the outside of the left front tail. The tag shows significant puckering and abrasion from use, though it remains securely attached with what appears to be its original stitching. Directly beneath it is a 3 1/4" long strip tag made of blue jersey fabric warp-knit, with "74 Set 2 42" hand-embroidered on it, indicating the year, set and size. In the same hand-chain stitched style is a 3" long warp-knit name tag, "Schmidt " sewn inside the collar. The tag was sewn there before the jersey was stitched closed at the factory, making the stitching holding the tag in place invisible from the outside of the jersey. The hand-chain stitched embroidery on both tags matches the handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher and the tagging matches others in our exemplar library.

Tagging from jersey in review at top, compared to reliable exemplars from 1974, all shown below.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination reveals that the player numbers and the front team crest are original. The satin lining inside the back of the neck shows wear and puckering but is intact and in very good condition. The maroon trim shows some sun-fading as is typical of these jerseys. The jersey body is evenly faded from the sun and detergents, the letting is significantly puckered as is the fabric beneath it, and the stitching is coming loose; especially on back. At the request of the owner, I restitched some of the missing areas on the sewn lettering as they were detached in many spots and falling off.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: it is all original, save for my recreation of the nameplate to replace the one removed by the club. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Mike Schmidt of the 1974 Philadelphia Phillies.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Frank Linzy 1974 Philadelphia Phillies Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1013J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia blue zipper front size 44 Wilson-made Phillies road jersey of pitcher Frank Linzy, #31. Maroon and white striped knit trim on the tops of both sleeves at the shoulders and up the side seams. Placket is lined with light blue satin typical of Wilson-made Phillies jerseys of the time. At 6' 1" and 190 lbs, the jersey is sized appropriately for the player.

Frank Linzy enjoyed an 11-year MLB career, pitching for four teams; Giants, Cardinals, Brewers and Phillies. He finished his career in 1974 playing a single season with the Phillies, in which he appeared in 22 games, all as a reliever, finishing with a 3-2 record and a 3.28 ERA. For his career he appeared in 516 games compiling a .516 winning percentage and a respectable 2.85 career ERA.

Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey wore #44 and was missing its nameplate. Notably, #44 in 1975 was (similarly sized) pitcher Wayne Simpson, 6' 3" 220 lbs. Simpson was a September acquisition for the Phillies in 1975 who appeared in only seven games and it is very likely that he was reissued Linzy's 1974 jersey from the trainer's bin in clubhouse. This jersey had experienced very heavy use, probably being used again after 1974 in Spring training or perhaps later sent to the minor leagues. It exhibits a high degree of fading from wash as well as characteristic sun-fading to the tops of the shoulders. Player numbers and the team crest on the left chest were in poor condition, bleached and puckered from over-use. Very likely they were "take off" numbers: ones that had been scavenged from another used jersey and kept handy for just such a need. The numbers were removed to reveal the clear ghosts of the original #31 below, notably brighter from being covered during a season of use. Oddly, the original maroon trim which usually fades markedly remains bright on this example.

The numbers and team crest were recreated from team patterns and suitably aged to harmonize them with the rest of the well-worn garment. All take-off lettering remains with the completed jersey to document its history. A new LINZY nameplate was created using the team's tall, narrow, vertical-arch NOB font of 1974, using a pair of similar aged Phillies game pants. The lettering is the correct size for 1974; notably in 1973-1976 the Phillies used noticeably smaller 7" back numbers than in later years on their road jerseys.

Continued, overleaf

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Matching exemplars, the 1974-appropriate Wilson tag is sewn onto the outer left tail. Below it, chain-stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher is a rectangular piece of jersey fabric with the inscription 74 Set 2 44, indicating the year, set and size. "Linzy" is correctly hand chain stitched onto a similar rectangle of fabric and sewn into the back of the neck, stitching invisible from the outside back of the jersey indication that it was sewn in place before the jersey was finally-assembled at the factory.

As received- the jersey wore 1970s period-replacement numbers and was very dirty from storage. It was missing its nameplate. All twill elements were shrunken and distorted from hot water washing. Look at the front team crest, and the back-side of the fabric that shows the uneven shrinkage that had occurred through too-many hot water washings. The front "P" no longer matched the team template, it was nearly 3/8" shorter than exemplars. Glue marks showed the outlines of the old, original numbers.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good restored condition: the zipper and trim are original, and the sewn lettering (crest, numbers, plater nameplate) are properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Frank Linzy of the 1974 Philadelphia Phillies during his final MLB season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Steve Carlton 1976 Philadelphia Phillies Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: May 8, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0508J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson white with red pinstripes, zipper-front size 46 (measured as a 44, reasonable shrinkage) Phillies home jersey of hall of fame pitcher Steve Carlton. Other examples show that Carlton wore size 46 at this point in his career. Phillies "P" and player number 32 on the front, Player number and Carlton nameplate on back. All lettering sewn in Cardinal Red twill. The jersey has its original working brass zipper, missing its pull tab. Typical of Wilson game-issues, a white linen lining is affixed to the inside of the placket and around the back of the collar for player comfort. Sewn-on maroon 1 1/4" trim on top of the shoulder and down the sides. All the lettering is clearly hand cut as is typical of Phillies jerseys of this vintage. The jersey is autographed on the front under the team crest "Steve Carlton HOF 94". I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

In 1976, Carlton went 20-7 for the Phillies compiling a 3.13 ERA. He won the Cy Young Award four times in his career, a record achievement up until that time. (Baseball Almanac) A ten-time All-Star, Carlton led the league in many pitching categories. He struck out 4,136 batters in his career, setting a record for a left-handed pitcher (since surpassed by Randy Johnson), and holds many other records for both left-handed and Phillies pitchers. His 329 career wins are the eleventh most in baseball history, behind Greg Maddux, Roger Clemens, and Warren Spahn among pitchers of the live-ball era (post–1920). He is also second (behind Bob Gibson) in major league history for the most consecutive starts with at least six innings pitched (69), which was snapped in April 1982. (Wikipedia). He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1994.

Restoration Performed: The Phillies sent their jerseys to the minor leagues for a second-life after their MLB service was complete. Likely in 1977, this jersey was sent to nearby Reading (PA) Double A, or one of the other three Phillies minor league affiliates that had the same name as the parent club. When demoted, typically the jerseys' sleeve patches and the player nameplates were stripped first. When I received it, this jersey was wearing a well-crafted replacement nameplate. However, Its owner had since secured a vintage CARLTON nameplate, showing the vertical arch font style worn by the club (and Carlton) 1975-1986. After removing the replacement nameplate, there was no clear evidence of the placement of the original nameplate visible. My evaluation is that the replacement nameplate, albeit slightly smaller than the reproduced one it replaced, is indeed a vintage original. In 1976, Phillies nameplates were single-layer white warp-knit fabric and unbacked, closely trimmed to the name lettering, and the edges were left unfinished, without serging. The plates were then zig-zag stitched directly to the jersey, causing some characteristic puckering around their edges.

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer's tag in the correct style for 1976 noting the size as 46 is stitched properly to the outside of the left front tail. The tag shows significant abrasion from use, erasing some of the red embroidery stitching, though it remains securely attached with what appears to be its original stitching. Directly beneath it is a 2 3/4" long strip tag made of white warp-knit, with "46 76 Set 1" hand-embroidered on it, indicating the size and the year. In the same hand-chain stitched style is a 2 1/2" long warp-knit name tag, "Carlton". The tag was sewn into the collar before the jersey was sewn closed at the factory, making the stitching holding the collar name tag in place invisible from the outside of the jersey. The hand-chain stitched embroidery on both tags matches the handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher and the tagging matches others in our exemplar library.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination reveals that the player numbers and the front team crest are original. The linen lining inside the back of the neck shows significant wear and has has a couple of holes and has begun to become separated from the shirt, Below and to the right of the CARLTON neck tag are faded and sloppily written black marker inscriptions, now intelligible, that likely were the name(s) of the minor league player(s) to whom this jersey was reissued. No repair was attempted to these areas. The 1976 NL 100th sleeve patch appears original, but

Above, jersey as received with a nameplate on it from a prior restoration. At left, top— the tags from the jersey in our review; below are reliable exemplars from our library of other 1976 Phillies jerseys.

I suspect it to be a vintage replacement sewn exactly on the original spot. No other stitch marks for this patch are visible on the sleeve, These sleeve patches were typically removed at the end of the season as the uniforms were sent to the minor leagues as this one clearly was. The Philadelphia 1976 patch on the left sleeve is clearly a more recent (but accurate) reproduction. The maroon trim shows some sun-fading as is typical of these jerseys. There is some staining on the back of the jersey, some brownish ones at the top left near the point where the sleeve attaches to the jersey body, and three marks that look like black marker lower of the back, same side.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: it is all original, save for the reproduction Philadelphia 1976 sleeve patch and the reintroduction of a vintage nameplate to replace the one removed by the club. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Steve Carlton of the 1976 Philadelphia Phillies.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Pete Rose Philadelphia Phillies Game Worn 1979 "Saturday Night Special" Jersey

Examination Date: January 28, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0128J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Dark red zipper-front Rawlings jersey with zipper front, sewn-in 1 ½" white trim stripe up each side and on the tops of the sleeves. Phillies "P" crest on the left chest with the player number 14 on the right chest, and center one on the back. Player name ROSE arched above on a matching serged edge nameplate. The fonts are correct for this style jersey, including the placement of the front numbers aligned with the middle of the "P" on the tear chest instead of being aligned with the bottom as was traditional with the team's regular Wilson game jerseys. The player name on back is a bold 3 ⅞" tall font, steeply arched matching exemplars and period photos. Notably, while the lettering is the same general font as the Wilson jerseys that the team wore every day, the size and shape of the numbers is not perfectly identical to the Wilson patterns.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The red "The Mark of a Pro" Rawlings tag is sewn on the outside bottom of the right tail showing the size as 42. A flag tab is stitched under the bottom right edge of the Rawlings tag, and reads SET 1 1979. Sewn to the right of these tags is a Cardinal Red rectangle, 1" x 1.5" of tackle twill (the same color as would be used to make the lettering for normal Phillies home/road jerseys) on which is hand chain stitched 42 79 1 (size 42 1979 set 1) in the familiar hand of the Rawlings factory stitcher. This tagging matches the other exemplars of this set that we have been able to examine over the years. While the jersey is tagged as a size 42, Rose typically wore a size 44, and this measures closer to a size 48. I can attest that these jerseys were oddly tailored, I recall the comments about the players complaining about how they fit from back when these were worn, and photos of Rose wearing this jersey for the single game they were used, it looked baggy on him.

Wear & Repairs: These jerseys were worn only once, on Saturday night May 19, 1979 in a game against the Montreal Expos. They were supposed to be worn at every Saturday home game after that, but the players were so unhappy about how the uniforms looked and fit that after this game they were abandoned and then sold to benefit the Phillies charities. This jersey appears that it was worn and washed, characteristic of others of these that I have seen over the years, the thread holding on the lettering is stained with the reddish infield dirt. On this jersey, the front lettering is stained and scuffed, quite possibly due to Rose's aggressive style of play. In that game he went 3-5 with one RBI and a stolen base. A light table evaluation shows that the lettering is all original without contrivance.

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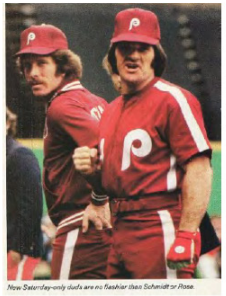
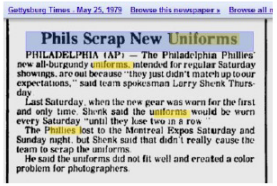


Now Saturday-only duds are no flashier than Schmidt or Rose.

Provenance: This jersey was accompanied by a non-notarized statement from original owner, Thomas J. Whiman, who is not the same person presenting it for authentication now. It says: *"I originally worked as an extra for the Philadelphia Phillies as a helper when I was in 7th grade. I met Jack Donnelly, who was there for 40 plus years as the Left Field ball guy who would have a catch with the Phillies left fielder, Greg Luzinski when I was there! I cut his lawn and he asked me if I would be interested in helping out? It was an awesome experience for a 14 year old boy. They would bring us in on Promotional Days. When the Phillies wore the Burgundy Uniforms for weekend games they turned out to be not so popular with fans, so the team decided to sell them for $200 each and give the money to charity. I put in $200, my life savings at the time, and requested Greg Luzinski's uniform. When the box came in the mail from the Phillies organization, I was at first disappointed, when I opened it up and it was Pete Rose's! I was a big fan of the 'Bull.' Then everyone told me I was the luckiest guy around to get Pete's uniform!! Mr. Donnelly was nice enough to take the uniform to Pete Rose and have him sign it for me*. I was really fortunate! I had the uniform framed and it hung in my home or business wherever I lived or worked for the past 42 plus years. It has been an honor to own such a great piece of history."* (*Authenticator's notes: Whiman originally received the jersey, pants and cap. The pants were the item signed. The pants were not presented to me for authentication)

Top left: Exemplars from our library showing two other jerseys from this set. News photos of Rose taken at the only game where these uniforms were worn. Below and left: the excerpted page from my book, "The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys" shows the entry describing these uniforms.



Gettysburg Times - May 25, 1979 Browse this newspaper » Browse all n

Phils Scrap New Uniforms

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Phillies' new all-burgundy uniforms, intended for regular Saturday showings, are out because "they just didn't match up to our expectations," said team spokesman Larry Shenk Thursday.

Last Saturday, when the new gear was worn for the first and only time, Shenk said the uniforms would be worn every Saturday "until they lose two in a row."

The Phillies lost to the Montreal Expos Saturday and Sunday night, but Shenk said that didn't really cause the team to scrap the uniforms.

He said the uniforms did not fit well and created a color problem for photographers.

Conclusion: I have had the opportunity to examine several of the jerseys of this unique set over the years, and comparing this specimen to exemplars and to game photos I am confident that this is the jersey worn by Pete Rose of the Philadelphia Phillies in that single occasion, the game on May 19, 1979.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mike Schmidt Philadelphia Phillies 1988 Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: March 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J21R

This letter will serve as the opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1988 tagged Philadelphia Phillies size 46 home jersey of third baseman Mike Schmidt. Rawlings six-button-front full weight warp-knit white w/maroon pinstripe jersey in the specific style that the Phillies wore 1987-1988. All lettering is one-color Cardinal Red twill. The Phillies crest on the left chest is Cardinal Red over white with no outline. The player name "SCHMIDT" is radially arched and sewn on a single-needle serged edge knit nameplate. Player numbers "20" on front right and on back in the correct bold font and size for the 1988 Phillies. Phillies team disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Sewn-in maroon knit trim on the shoulder tops and down the sides. 1988 was Schmidt's next-to-last season in his first-ballot Hall of Fame career; he retired from baseball shortly after the start of the 1989 season.

Team and Manufacturer Tagging: Rawlings manufacturer tagging in correct team issue 1988-style with the five-line wash instructions, sewn on the inside of the back of the neck. SET 1 1988 flag tag pinched underneath and to its right. Directly above and sewn on all four sides is a rectangle of satin fabric that says "T" in maroon embroidery, indicating that the jersey has been pro-tapered by Rawlings. Notably, these neck tags have properly been sewn in place before the placket was stitched closed at the factory, as there is no visible stitching on the outside of the back of the neck that would appear there had it been sewn after the jersey was completed. The Rawlings script logo is embroidered on the end of the right sleeve in maroon thread. This sizing is correct for use by Schmidt at this late stage of his career. While this jersey is absent the machine white fabric embroidered strip tag that would say "SCHMIDT " in maroon capital letters that is present on nearly all beginning of the season team-issued/ game worn jerseys in our exemplar library, its absence is not entirely unique. It is possible that this is a mid-season jersey ordered with special tailoring at Schmidt's request. Set tagging on Phillies jerseys is rather random, mid season issues typically get "Set 1" tags in my experience.

Wear and Repairs: Jersey body, stitching and tags show signs of light use and wash wear, evidenced by some characteristic puckering of the Rawlings tag. A light table evaluation shows that all stitching is original and unaltered.

Conclusion: In my opinion is an original and unaltered team-specification 1988 jersey of Mike Schmidt of the Philadelphia Phillies, displaying light use. This is a beautiful original example of a professional MLB home jersey in a desirable style from a star player.

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Letter of Professional Opinion and Document of Restoration

Kent Tekulve 1988 Philadelphia Phillies Game Worn Home jersey

Examination Date: December 13. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1213J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings Size 44 white with maroon pinstripes six-button Philadelphia Phillies home jersey of pitcher Kent Tekulve. Sewn on maroon trim down each side seam and on top of the shoulders. Phillies disk patch stitched to the left sleeve. Player #27 on front left and on back in the proper bold Phillies font used in 1988. Tekulve stitched to a white nameplate in the proper font and size, radially arched above. Size 44 is a reasonable one for Tekulve to have worn in 1988.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings tag properly sewn inside the back of the neck noting the size as 44. TEKULVE machine embroidered onto a rectangular strip of knit fabric and stitched to its left. White flag tab pinched below says SET 1 1988. All these details as explained match exemplars in our collection and photo library.

Wear & Repairs/Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey was missing its nameplate. It showed evidence of moderately heavy wear, with ground in reddish dirt throughout, as it likely had been passed to the minor leagues and used there for at least a season or two. All stitched elements (player numbers and "P" crest on front) had come loose, and had been restitched on the edge with a very wide and incorrect thick dark red embroidery stitch. I was asked to restore the nameplate and evaluate and repair the letter stitching. Upon removing the embroidery stitch, the edges of the lettering were so badly perforated and frayed that we elected to replace them with lettering made again from the original patterns and fabric, then stitched it on properly. The jersey was thoroughly cleaned, and the replacement nameplate was made from a color-matching pair of well-worn MLB pants; the edges of the plate surged in the same style as Phillies game jerseys of the period.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and has been properly restored. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Kent Tekulve of the 1988 Philadelphia Phillies.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dale Murphy Philadelphia Phillies 1991 Home Game Worn Jersey/Pants

Examination Date: November 15, 2022 **Certification Number**:22-1115JP01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1991 Philadelphia Phillies Rawlings size 48 with 2 inches extra length home jersey of outfielder Dale Murphy. Rawlings six-button-front full weight warp-knit white w/maroon pinstripe jersey in the specific style that the Phillies wore 1989-1991. The jersey is autographed on the left chest above the team crest. (I have no professional opinion on the autograph.) All lettering is two-layer, Cardinal Red twill outlined in white. The player name "MURPHY" is radially arched and sewn on a serged edge knit nameplate. Player numbers "3" on front right and on back in the correct font and size for the 1991 Phillies. Phillies team disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Sewn-in maroon knit trim on the shoulder tops and down the sides. Murphy wore both size 46 and 48 jerseys late in his career, and the size and tailoring are reasonable for his use. Rawlings team and player tagged 5-belt tunnel, zipper and snap front pants are size 37; same maroon pinstripes and with maroon side trim sewn in.

Dale Murphy enjoyed an 18 year career and was one of the biggest stars of the game and a fan favorite, especially during his 15 years with the Atlanta Braves, 1976-1990. He earned consecutive NL MVP honors in 1982-1983, was a 7-time All Star , and won 5 Gold Gloves and 4 Silver Slugger awards. He was traded to the Phillies late in the 1990 season, and played his last full-season of games in 1991, appearing in 153 contests (544 at bats, .252 average, 18 HR). While he played the next season in 1992, he was limited to only 18 games due to injury, and was then traded to the expansion Colorado Rockies for the 1993 season where he retired early in the season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey is properly team-tagged matching exemplars for the 1991 Phillies, Rawlings white tag inside the front left tail with the size of the jersey embroidered integral to it, flag tab to the left noting "Set 1 1991", tailoring tag pinch-sewn below noting 2 inch extra length. There is no player (name/number) specific tagging on the jersey. The pants are also flag tagged as SET 1 1991, and include a strip tag machine embroidered with "MURPHY 37/38 27 91" noting the waist size, inseam measurement and the 2 digit year. Rawlings script is embroidered onto the right sleeve end and the Rawlings circled "R" logo is embroidered just above the left back pocket.

Continued, next page

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Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements of the jersey are original and untampered with. Jersey shows wear consistent with a full season of use (players were typically issued two sets of jerseys in each style) with some puckering of the tagging and sleeve patch, mild burnishing of the twill elements and some bleaching of the maroon thread that holds the sewn lettering elements in place. The pants show similar wash wear but with more bleaching, evident in the pinker shade of the rear-pocket embroidered Rawlings logo. The jersey is free of damage, the pants have a 1.5" square team repair to front of the right knee and shows some ground in dirt on the seat especially the left side.

Conclusion: This jersey and pants are, in my opinion original and unaltered game worn team by Dale Murphy of the Philadelphia Phillies from the 1991 season. This is a beautiful original example of a professional MLB home uniform in a desirable style from a memorable star player of his era.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Pete Rose 1979-1983 Batting Practice Jersey + Pete Rose Jr. Batboy BP Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J23

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: There are two jerseys included by this letter of opinion, Nearly identical except for the size. Pete Rose #14 Phillies maroon pullover V-Neck Wilson batting practice jersey in the style worn by the team during Rose's tenure with the team, 1979-1983. These jerseys featured an almost cartoonish facsimile of the Phillies wordmark in sewn white tackle twill on the chest, strangely distorted when compared to the print version team logo, but endearing in a late 1970s pre-computer graphics way. White #14 on back and on the left sleeve in the correct Wilson varsity versions. While the Phillies had their own signature player-number font, they elected not to use it on warmups until 1992. The Pete Rose is a size 44 and has "ROSE" vertical arched in white on the back in the Phillies game-jersey style. Pete Rose Jr. who served as a batboy for parts of several seasons (and later had a brief MLB career) has a size 38 jersey with name on back of "Rose Jr". This style of jersey as made by Wilson was notably short-waisted, and both of these examples share that characteristic. Pete Rose had a strong preference for this style jersey, wearing it on-field right up to game time, and even to the extent that he insisted on wearing his during the 1979 All Star Game in Seattle instead of his Phillies road uniform, as the other Phillies on the squad wore.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: On Rose's jersey, the standard Wilson rectangular tag is stitched in the collar noting the size as 44. On Rose Jr's there is a smaller Wilson maker's flag tab in the back the neck noting the size as 38. These jerseys were not tagged in any other way by the team.

Wear & Repairs: The Rose jersey shows signs of moderate wash/wear, with some reddish ground in dirt stains on the lettering front and back, and loose threads especially on the front logo. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. The Rose Jr. jersey shows lighter wear with less dirt stains and brighter white lettering.

Conclusion: While these are offered without provenance, they are presented as a compelling matched set. This style of jersey was the very first Authentic to be offered for sale to the public, by Philadelphia's Sixsmith's Sporting Goods in the late 1970s. While they were sold with player numbers sewn on (your choice from four players' numbers, #14 included), they were not then offered to the public with player names on them. In contrast, the lettering sewn on these is fully team spec, and the reddish infield dirt that stains the Pete Rose jersey's numbers and front wordmark is familiar to collectors of game-worn Phillies jerseys. They display accuracy and wear that leads me to conclude that they are authentic team issue/game worn.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Roy Halladay 2011-2013 Philadelphia Phillies Game Worn BP/Spring Training Jersey

Examination Date: July 17, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0717J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Philadelphia Phillies size 50 (marked and measured) six-button Majestic red and blue BP/spring training jersey, lettered for #34, Pitcher Roy Halliday. The size is consistent with exemplars and reasonable for the player. Red Cool Base style jersey body with bright blue vented side panels and 1/8" blue trim banding the sleeve ends. Layered tackle twill red Phillies script sewn on a white twill patch covers both chest panels, the I's are dotted with blue stars. Stitched white twill is used for the player's name and number on back, and is in the team's distinctive special bold fonts. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo in red white and blue is stitched to the outside center of the back of the neck, all matching team specification. This style jersey was worn during spring training as a regular game jersey 2011-2013, and also during the regular season for pregame activities and batting practice. The jersey is autographed on the back left side: "Hector, All the best on a long and healthy career! (signed) Roy Halladay". I have no professional opinion on the autograph. Notably, young pitcher Hector Neris who played for the Phillies MLB club starting in 2014 was signed by the Phillies in 2010 and spent the 2010—2013 seasons pitching in the Phillies minor league system. Doubtlessly he was a spring training invitee at the MLB level in many or most of these years.

Halladay pitched for the Phillies 2010-2013. In 2010, he pitched both the 20th perfect game and the second postseason no-hitter in major league history, led the majors in shutouts for the second consecutive year, and won the National League (NL) Cy Young Award. In 2011, Halladay had another dominant season, leading the NL in complete games, but he was plagued by injuries the next two years. After the 2013 season, he announced his retirement as the active major league leader in complete games, with 67. He died is an airplane accident in 2017. Halladay was announced posthumously as an inductee to the National Baseball Hall of Fame on January 22, 2019. (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic's Authentic Collection locker tag is stitched onto the outside lower left tail. It has a tiny generic Majestic hologram disk affixed, which is simply to show that the garment is authentically made by Majestic. Stitched into the side seam immediately adjoining is the rectangular cool base brand tag and a small tab designating the size as 50. The Majestic twin peaks logo is heat pressed onto the end of the left sleeve in white. The inside seam tag designates this as a jersey style 0780, which is cataloged as team-issued specification, Cool Base fabric. Phillies batting practice jerseys from this period of time are not player or team tagged in any other way. Notably, this jersey is not hologrammed, and my suspicion is given its inscription, the player likely simply removed it from his back and gifted it to the young pitcher, bypassing the clubhouse authentication process.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination reveals that the lettering on the jersey is original and unchanged without contrivance. The jersey displays signs of use, with minor pulls in the fabric, scuffs and small stains. All stitching is tight. The inner seam tag is curled indicating the jersey was washed multiple times. The perimeter of this jersey, especially the top yoke, is scattered with very tiny holes indicating that this jersey was mounted with pins or staples into a frame at some point. They are visible only under very close inspection. The jersey is in very good original condition.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged, and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Roy Halladay of the Philadelphia Phillies during (any of) the 2011-2013 seasons.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dale Murphy 1991 Philadelphia Phillies Nostalgia Game Home Uniform

Examination Date: December 13, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1213J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Turn Back the Clock games are commonplace today, but in 1991 games where players wear throwback uniforms were a new idea. The first such game in MLB was in 1990, by the Chicago White Sox. In 1991, a handful of teams had a "Nostalgia Game" of their own. The Phillies hosted the Cincinnati Reds in this contest on June 16, 1991. In re-creation, this is the style of jersey the Phillies wore 1950-1970; for the game the Reds wore 1957 style road uniforms. While this uniform is made from modern full-weight double knit, its design was painstakingly executed by Rawlings. The Phillies jersey is white double knit with bright red pinstripes. The team script is beautifully chain stitched with dark crimson thread onto a white twill backing that is then zig-zag stitched to the front of the jersey. It is relatively faithful to the original art; though originals had the chain stitching applied to a white felt backing. The numbers on back, while not precisely identical to the 1960s font, capture the spirit. They are also chain stitched in crimson embroidery thread onto a twill backing and are a very large 10" tall and sewn 6" from the collar, similar to the historic originals. The jersey is autographed below the tail tagging in blue Sharpie, a PSA/DNA sticker is affixed to the locker tag. I have no professional opinion on the autograph. It is worth noting that the very next year, in the 1992 season the Phillies revised their team uniform to one that closely resembles the throwback they wore on this day, a classic look they have stayed with for 31 years at this writing.

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The jersey is accompanied by a pair of pinstriped game pants, waist size 36 and with the same strip tagging in the waistband that includes the player's name. While not marked, the pants have a 26" inseam. The pants show no evidence of hard use (sliding, etc). Murphy did not start this game, but pinch hit late in the game contributing a single. (*Baseball Almanac*)

During an 18-year career in Major League Baseball (MLB) from 1976 to 1993, Dale Murphy played as an outfielder, catcher, and first baseman for the Atlanta Braves, Philadelphia Phillies, and Colorado Rockies; Murphy is best noted for his many years with the Braves. His entire MLB career was spent in the National League (NL), during which time he won consecutive Most Valuable Player (MVP) awards (1982–1983), the Silver Slugger Award for four straight years (1982–1985), and the Gold Glove Award for five straight years (1982–1986). (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings was the official uniform provider to the Phillies in 1991, and therefore was offered the first right of refusal to create these nostalgia uniforms. The Rawlings script logo is embroidered onto a tiny appliqué patch and is glued tightly to the left sleeve end; it is not direct embroidered the way it was on regular season jerseys. A Rawlings size tab is sewn into the back of the neck, it shows the size as 48. The large red rectangular Rawlings "Mark of a Pro" locker tag correct for 1991 showing the size as 48 (both marked and measured) is sewn to the outside left tail. Directly beneath the locker tag is a 6 1/2" strip of white twill with the maroon machine- embroidered inscription: "1991 NOSTALGIA GAME SPECIAL". A similar but shorter white twill tag is sewn into the back of the neck with "MURPHY" embroidered on it in maroon in the same machine-font. The tag is correctly sewn in place without its edge-stitching being visible from the back of the collar, meaning it was sewn in place before the jersey was completed at the factory. The size 48 jersey (correct for Murphy at this point in his career) is a long 34" from the back of the neck to the end of the tail, and while there is no designation that denotes this special tailoring, Murphy normally received extra length jerseys and so this one was clearly made to his Rawlings' on-file specification.

Wear & Repairs: Jersey: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered. As would be expected of a uniform that was worn for a single game, it shows very light wash wear, There are no signs of any repairs.

Conclusion: The uniform in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was game-worn by Dale Murphy of the Philadelphia Phillies on June 16, 1991.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Curt Schilling Philadelphia Phillies 1997 Negro Leagues Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J14

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray double-knit Mitchell & Ness six-button size XXL five- button front jersey This is from the June 28, 1997 Nostalgia Game played between the Phillies and the Atlanta Braves in Atlanta. Schilling was the starting and losing pitcher in that game, pitching 5 2/3 innings. All lettering is two-layer, straight stitched felt in red over Navy Blue, in a design meant to replicate the jerseys of the 1938 Negro League Philadelphia Stars. 7 1/2" back number 38, correct for Schilling. Red knit trim braid is stitched completely around the placket at the end of each sleeve. Front of jerseys is autographed by the player in black Sharpie. (I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) The 1997 Jackie Robinson "Breaking Barriers" patch is correctly stitched to the end of the left sleeve.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Mitchell & Ness Cooperstown Collection tagging correct for 1997 is stitched to the outside front left tail. Beneath it is a felt rectangular tag on which is embroidered T.B.C. 6-28-97 (Turn Back the Clock). The company's rectangular label is stitched inside the back of the neck, with an XXL flag tag pinched under the right edge.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. All elements including the felt lettering are still crisp as would be expected with a one-game used jersey. Schilling both pitched and batted in the game.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in my opinion game issued and reasonably shows one-game wear. It is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by Curt Schilling of the 1997 Philadelphia Phillies.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jim Thome 2005 Phillies St. Patrick's Day Green Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J24

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Green heavyweight mesh six-button-front Majestic pullover size 52 Phillies jersey, #25 Jim Thome. The Phillies wore this style St. Pat's jersey in Spring Training in 2005-2007; Thome was on the team only in 2005. "Thome" name on back in white in the proper Phillies font and stitched on a mesh nameplate, Centered on back is his number, 25. The size of the jersey matches others worn by Thome in our exemplar library. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo patch in red, white and blue is stitched on the back center of the neck. The Phillies team wordmark is properly chain-stitch-embroidered in crimson and blue on a white twill patch that is sewn to both panels of the jersey front. It has the pro-model "three Ls" that allow one of the Ls in Phillies to be hidden beneath the button flap. Retail versions of this jersey have a layered sewn twill wordmark.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: This jersey has several characteristics that make it identifiable as team issue. The Majestic sleeve-end logo is embroidered and not a decal. The inside side seam tag is coded "0006" which is the designation given to team-spec jerseys. Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is stitched on the bottom outside left tail, the small size flag tag is pointed under the bottom center.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of minor wash/wear, as would be appropriate for a special event jersey worn only once. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging, and appropriate wear. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Jim Thome of the 2005 Philadelphia Phillies.

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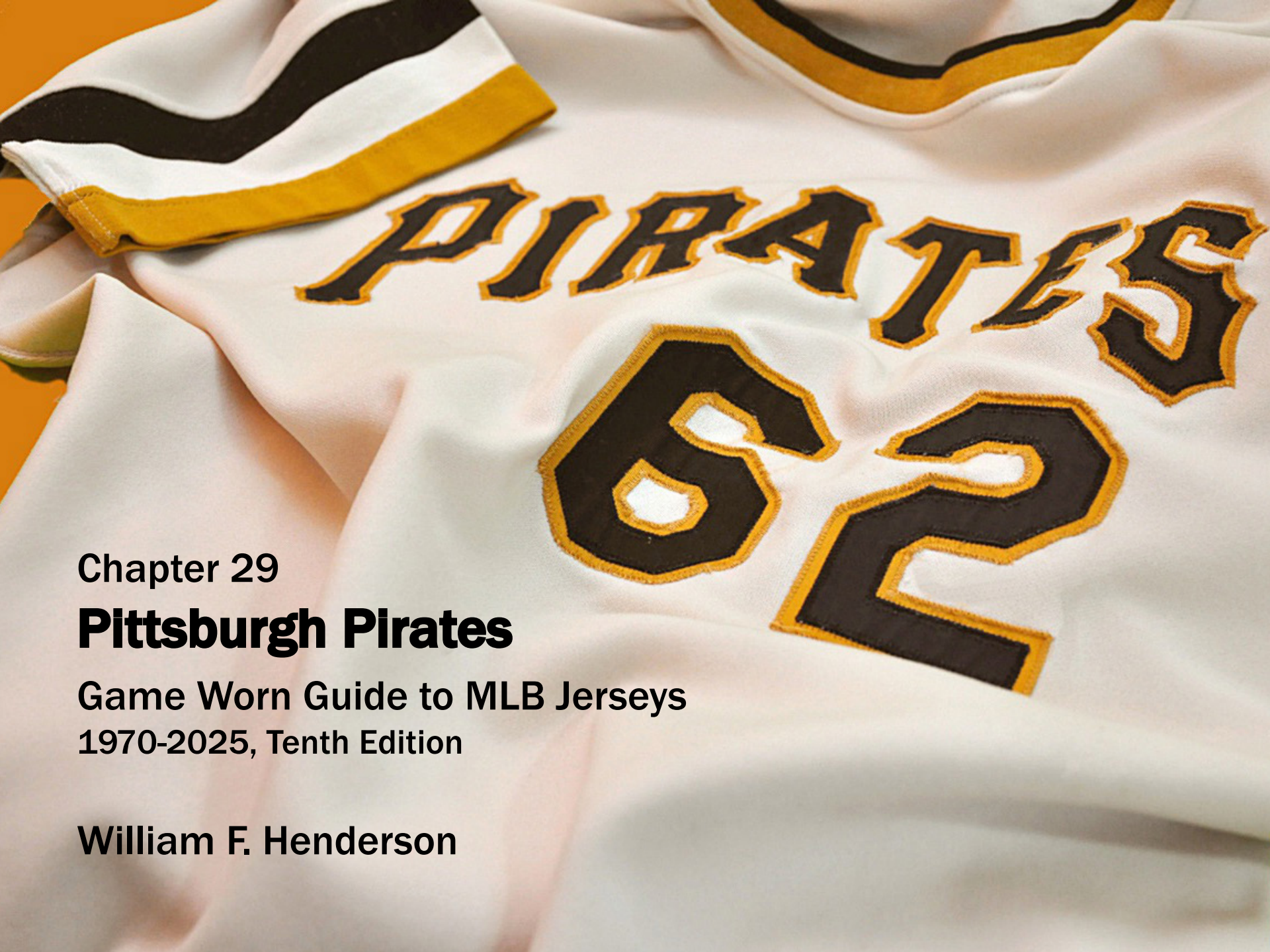

Chapter 29

Pittsburgh Pirates

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Pirates Uniform History Notes

- The Pittsburgh city municipal flag is black and gold. Fans might notice that all of the city's professional sports teams—Steelers, Penguins, and Pirates—all use black and gold as their team colors, with the Penguins the last to join the fray in a January 1980 mid-season change.
- Pirate uniform design has remained remarkably consistent over the years, and though it has been freshened from time to time, they have stayed with basically the same colors and look for many decades.
- Details change over the years mostly involving tweaking of the lettering script and trying different Pirates sleeve patch designs.
- For 1970, their final wool flannels were identical vests with "PIRATES" arched across the front, white for home and gray for the road, and had been used since 1957.
- The Pirates are the first team in Major League Baseball to wear double knit uniforms. Concurrent with their move to brand new, then-ultra-modern Three Rivers Stadium in 1970, the Pirates began wearing these pullover style uniforms mid-season, alternating their use with their old flannel vest style uniforms.
- While they keep the lettering the same with the switch to double knits, the Pirates adapt the first no-button pullover in the majors; a sleeved crew-neck jersey with bold knit sleeve-end and neck trim. The yellow on the new jerseys is more mustard/gold-colored compared to the flannels' brighter yellow.
- Jersey numbers are always the same color scheme as the "Pirates" or "Pittsburgh" lettering on the front.
- Although not the inventors of the "Mix-and-Match" uniform concept of the double knit era (A's, Indians), the Pirates certainly take it to another level with their 1977 rollout of three bold, bright uniforms that allow interchange of three jerseys, three pants, and two caps, creating nine possible uniform combinations (12 if including caps, which were never matched to same-color solid jerseys).
- To add further flair, in 1977 the team changes their subdued mustard color to bright gold, and adopts full-time the pillbox cap style that was used by some NL teams occasionally during 1976 to celebrate the National League's 100th anniversary.
- From 1977–1979, the team liberally mixes and matches both at home and on the road, creating some dizzying, eye-catching combinations, especially when pairing solid tops or bottoms with wide pinstriped ones (from their so-nicknamed "Bumblebee" set). This fondly remembered, fun period culminates in a 1979 World Series title, the team's most recent.
- Names are added to team jerseys for the first time in 1979 and have continued to this day, minus the 1995 home jersey (which removes the player name as a humble response to the 1994 players' strike-canceled season).
- 1980 brings a more traditional white home uniform replacing the "Bumblebee" set, becoming the primary home uniform set through 1990. Given the short, three-year run for the Bumblebee jersey and its affiliation with the popular 1979 team, it is rare and remains highly sought after by collectors today.
- The conservative trend continues in 1985, as the colorful solid black and gold tops are replaced by a gray pullover jersey, which except for a wordmark change at the end of the run, lasts through 1990.
- Button-front jerseys return in 1991 for the first time in 21 years and look similar to the prior V-necks, just without collar trim, and 1997 adds pinstripes to the road gray and also introduces the first black alternate since 1984.
- Somewhat late to a trend that started in the early 1990s, vests become the team's primary home and road outfits 2001–2008, including a bold alternate red vest that is not popular and only lasts two years
- For 2013, a regular Sunday home alternate uniform fashioned after the nostalgic and groundbreaking 1970 knit uniform is added, and from 2016–2019 they replace it with a replica of the 1977–1984 gold one.
- In 2015, an alternate camouflage jerseys is added, retired after 2017 and replaced in 2018 by a version of their home jersey with olive green lettering.
- The 2020 season brings two new jerseys that offer a nod to the past, including changing the road gray jersey's front wordmark to a script "Pittsburgh" last seen in 2000, and a black alternate with the same script is also introduced.
- In 2022, the Pirates unveil their City Connect uniform: a bright yellow-gold jersey with large black "PGH" lettering in a bridge-like font, with matching black player names and numbers in a similarly stylized typeface. Hidden within the shoulder fabric is a patterned grid containing symbols of the city's identity—the 'Steelmark' astroid diamond, an inverted "Y" for the river confluence, and a check square symbolizing community. The printed twill pattern on the lettering references the city's bridges, while the sleeve carries a black disc patch with a stylized "P." It is paired with black or white pants.
- The Pirates' 1970–2025 uniform evolution reflects a balance of deep-rooted tradition and periodic experimentation, but always anchored in their iconic black and gold color scheme.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworn guides@gmail.com . Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1970 Transition Year

1970-1976

1977-1979

1977-1984

1980-1990

1977-1984

1985-1989

1990

Pirates Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home Flannel	Front Block 2 color	Block w Serifs 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Flannel	Front Block 2 color	Block w Serifs 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings/Spalding
	Home White *	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray *	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1971	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1972	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1973	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	21 Clemente Memorial	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	21 Clemente Memorial	-	Rawlings
1974	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1975	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	NL Centennial	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	NL Centennial	-	Wilson
1977	Home Pinstripe	Descente Varsity 2 clr	Descente Varsity 2 clr	No	-	-	-	Descente
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente Varsity 1 clr	No	-	-	-	Descente
1978	Home Pinstripe	Descente Varsity 2 clr	Block Variant 2 color	No	-	-	-	Descente
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Block Variant 1 color	No	-	-	-	Descente
1979	Home Pinstripe	Descente Varsity 2 clr	Descente Varsity 2 clr	Descente var. 2 clr	No	-	-	Descente
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	1 clor Block Vert Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente var. 1 clr	Yes	-	-	Descente
1980	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	1 clor Block Vert Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente var. 1 clr	Yes	-	-	Descente
1981	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	1 clor Block Vert Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente var. 1 clr	Yes	-	-	Descente
1982	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	1 clor Block Vert Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente var. 1 clr	Yes	-	-	Descente
1983	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	1 clor Block Vert Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente var. 1 clr	Yes	-	-	Descente
1984	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Gold Alt	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	1 clor Block Vert Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
	Black Alt	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente Varsity 1 clr	Descente var. 1 clr	Yes	-	-	Descente
1985	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block/ and Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1986	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block/ and Vertical Arch	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1987	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Pirates 100 Years	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Pirates 100 Years	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	RSC Memorial	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	RSC Memorial	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Rawlings

* Pirates started wearing the new-style double knit uniforms FIRST in the Major Leagues, midway through the 1970 season

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Pirates Game Jerseys

1991-1996

1991-1996

1997-2000

1997-2000

1997-2005

2001-2008

2001-2008

2005-2010

2007-2008

Style Continues Onward

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1991	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	"H" Memorial ^	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	"H" Memorial ^	Rawlings
1992	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Russell/Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Russell/Rawlings
1993	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Russell/Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Russell
1994	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	All Star Game**	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	All Star Game**	Rawlings
1995	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	9 1/2" Block 2 color	No	-	Pirates FANS		Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Pirates FANS		Rawlings
1996	Home White	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block Var#2, 2 clr	Block 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirates Diamond	-	Rawlings
1997	Home White	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Clemente 25th Anniv	Russell/Rawlings
	Road Gray PS	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Jackie Robinson	Russell/Rawlings
	Black Alt	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Russell
1998	Home White	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Russell/Rawlings
	Road Gray PS	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Russell/Rawlings
	Black Alt	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Russell
1999	Home White	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray PS	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Russell/Rawlings
	Black Alt	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Russell
2000	Home White	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Three Rivers Patch	Rawlings
	Road Gray PS	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head		Rawlings
	Black Alt	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Three Rivers Patch	Rawlings
2001	Home White Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Stargell Mem "Star"***	Rawlings
	Road Gray Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Stargell Mem "Star"***	Rawlings
	Black Alt	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Stargell Mem "Star"***	Rawlings
2002	Home White Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Rawlings
	Alt Black	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Rawlings
2003	Home White Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
2004	Home White Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
2005	Home White Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt PS Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Block Frnt Var #2, 2 color	Pirates Block Var. 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
2006	Home White Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	All Star Patch ****	Majestic
	Road Gray vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	All Star Patch ****	Majestic
	Home Alt PS Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	All Star Patch ****	Majestic
2007	Home White vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt PS vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Red Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
2008	Home White Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Pittsburgh 250	Majestic
	Road Gray Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head		Majestic
	Home Alt PS vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	Pittsburgh 250	Majestic
	Alt Red Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic

** Pirates wore the All-Star Game patch in 1994 instead of the MLB 125th Anniversary patch, as worn by all the other teams that year
*** Willie Stargell died on opening day of the 2001 season. The Pirates wore a gold star patch on the **left chest** during the 2001 season
+Note: Where I show two manufacturers in a given year for a single style, I have seen year tagged jerseys by each manufacturer. It is possible some may be salesman's samples, or jerseys from prior years reused.
**** Pirates wore "BOB" patch on left chest final three weeks of the season in tribute to the city's deceased mayor. See patches page.
^ "H" Memorial worn after 9/14/91

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2009-2025

2009-2019

2009-2025

2005-2010

2013-2015*

2015-2017

Pirates Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2009	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt PS Vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	JLB Disc (from Sept 3 on)	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt PS vest	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Star/7 Memorial, Tanner	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Star/7 Memorial, Tanner	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	Star/7 Memorial, Tanner	Majestic
2012	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	Yes	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt 1970 Retro*	Front Block 2 color	Special Tall Block 2 color	2 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	#4 Ralph Kiner patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	#4 Ralph Kiner patch	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	#4 Ralph Kiner patch	Majestic
	Home Alt 1970 Retro*	Front Block 2 color	Special Tall Block 2 color	2 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt 1970 Retro	Front Block 2 color	Special Tall Block 2 color	2 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	USA Flag	Majestic
2016	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt 1979 Yellow	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	USA Flag	Majestic
2017	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt 1979 Yellow	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Camouflage	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	USA Flag	Majestic
2018	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Majestic
	Home Alt 1979 Yellow	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	1 color Block	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Memorial Day Style	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	Olive bar with stars	Majestic
2019	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Road Gray	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Home Alt 1979 Yellow	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	1 color Block	No	-	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Memorial Day Style	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	MLB 150th/Olive bar with stars	Majestic
2020	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Road Gray/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Road Black/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head (yellow bandanna)	-	Nike
	Alt Memorial Day Style	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	Olive bar with stars	Nike

Change to Flex Base

2016-2019

2018-2022

2020-2025

2020-2025

*As an aside, the Pirates 2013-2015 home alternate 1970s Retro jersey is depicted incorrectly in the official MLB Style Guide for all three of its years. There it is shown as a button front with Pirates-font numbers, like the regular home jersey. It is actually a pullover with slightly modified Block numbers.

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Pirates Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Road Gray/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Road Black/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head (yellow bandanna)	-	Nike
	Alt Memorial Day Style	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	Olive bar with stars	Nike
2022	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Road Gray/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Road Black/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head (yellow bandanna)	-	Nike
	Alt Memorial Day Style	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	Olive bar with stars	Nike
2023	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Road Gray/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	Alt Road Black/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head	-	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 2 color	Custom 1 color	No	P disc	-	Nike
2024	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color (perf)	Pirates Font 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Team Pirate Head‡**	Sheetz Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Road Gray/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 2 color (perf)	Pirates Font 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Team Pirate Head‡**	Sheetz Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color (perf)	Pirates Font 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Team Pirate Head‡**	Sheetz Ad patch‡*	Nike
	Alt Road Black/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 3 color (perf)	Pirates Font 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Team Pirate Head‡**	Sheetz Ad patch‡*	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 2 color (perf)	2" Custom 1 color	No	P disc‡**	Sheetz Ad patch‡*	Nike
2025	Home White	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head‡	Sheetz Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 2 color	Pirates Font 2 color	2 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head‡	Sheetz Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Black	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head‡	Sheetz Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Road Black/Pittsburgh Script	Pirates Font 3 color	Pirates Font 3 color	1 color Block	No	Team Pirate Head‡	Sheetz Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 2 color (perf)	2" Custom 1 color	No	P disc‡	Sheetz Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

* Starting June 21

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-Mid 1970 Home

The Pirates wore their flannel vests for the start of the 1970 season. They switched over to their radical new knit uniforms with pullover jerseys on the opening day of the new Three Rivers Stadium on July 16, 1970. Classic style that had been in use virtually unchanged since 1957. No player NOB, numbers in Block with Serifs style. Most surviving examples have been restored and re-numbered. The old flannels were used to the point of exhaustion in the minor leagues after their big league service had ended.

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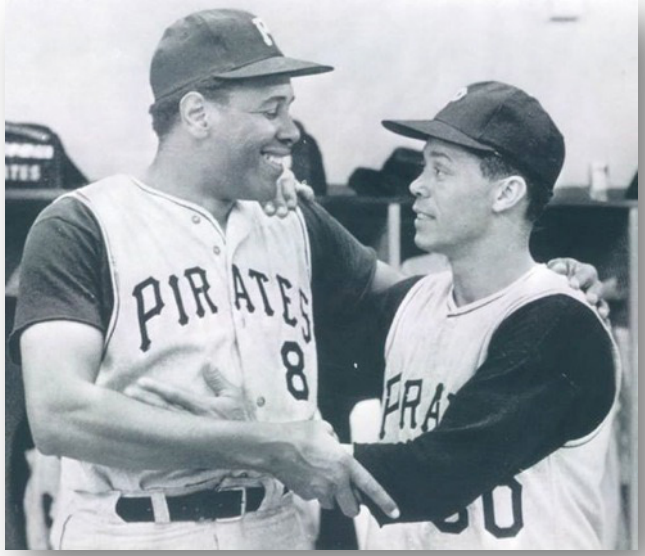
1970-Mid 1970 Road



The Pirates wore their gray flannel road vests for the start of the 1970 season. The old flannels were replaced by new knit uniforms with pullover jerseys sometime in the middle of the 1970 season, probably soon after the home knits were introduced in mid-July. Classic style that had been in use unchanged since 1957. No player NOB, numbers in Block with Serifs style.

Most surviving examples have been restored and renumbered, even re-lettered. The majority of these that I have evaluated have been renumbered for minor league use. 1970 year-tagged sets made by both Rawlings and Spalding .

© GameWornGuides.com

Mid 1970-1976 Home

1971

1970-1971 Pirate knits used this old-style Rawlings tag, usually seen on flannel jerseys.

1976

1974

Bill Henderson Collection

The team used identically lettered home and road jerseys during this period, differentiated only by the color of the jersey fabric.

Pirates spelled out on front in black outlined with gold.

The Pirates are the first team to wear double knit jerseys, July 21, 1970. Identify these jerseys by the black/white/dark gold sleeve end trim and black/gold neck trim. Mustard colored yellow, crew neck, and slightly smaller lettering on the team wordmark distinguish this era's jerseys from the very similar jerseys of the late 1980s.

No names on the back. Block numbers are two-color, black and gold, and numbers are extra tall, 9 to 9 ½.".

1975

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Mid 1970-1976 Road

Rawlings 1970-1974

The road jersey is lettered identically to the home. The only difference is the color of the crew-neck jersey body. The gray jerseys are a very pale gray, washing and years of use causes most of them to be almost indistinguishable from the white ones, today. No names on back. Back numbers are a tall 9". Rawlings uses their "house font", athletic block on these. Stripes on the sleeves are black-white-gold. Flat tails are common, 1970–1973; rounded ones, 1974.

1970–1971

Gary Tkac collection

1970

1973

1973 jerseys have a small round 21 patch on the left sleeve to honor Roberto Clemente who died in December 1972. This is the first time in MLB a player is memorialized in any way other than a black armband.

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Mid 1970-1976 Road, continued: Wilson 1975-1976

1975

Gary Tkac collection

1976

Wilson was awarded the contract to provide the Pirates with their road uniforms 1975-1976. A sign of the times, Wilson simply used their "house font", Varsity with its signature serifs on many of the digits, replacing Rawlings' Block font. While these received excessive use in the minor leagues after their MLB service was through, the black twill on many is notably faded, which is odd and suggests a substandard fabric may have been used, as tackle twill rarely fades like this.

1975

Above: *This 1975 jersey is so well-worn that even the numbers are bleached out.*

1976

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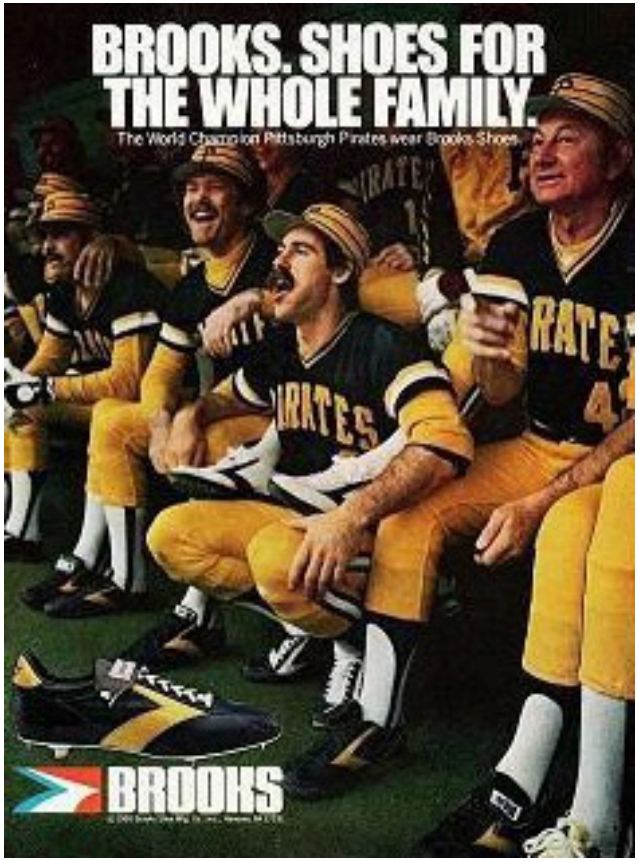
1977-1984 Mix & Match

Regarding 1977 Pirates use of Descente uniforms, *in a September 15, 2010 interview with Paul Lukas of Uni Watch, pitcher Jerry Reuss recalled:*

"…But there's some background here that nobody ever knew but that I remember. One thing I remember is that when we got the uniforms, they were Japanese-made, and a union that made uniforms sent a telegram to Willie Stargell asking him to encourage the players not to wear these, because they weren't made in America. But Willie said, "Look, I'm a baseball player. I'm not a union representative. So let's go play." So that was that."



In 1977, the Pirates dropped their conservative whites and grays, and came out with three colors of jerseys and pants. They mixed them up for many different combinations. They also chose Japanese sportswear maker Descente to make their black and "bumblebee-striped" uniforms.

The National League mandated player names on the back of all road uniforms in 1979. Since the Pirates wore all three of their different jerseys on the road, they put names on the back of them all.

For 1980, an all-white jersey and pants replaced the bumblebee-striped ones. We have searched photo archives and cannot be certain, but the white jersey and pants seem to be used exclusively together, and going forward, only the gold and black pants and shirts were mixed, creating only five possible mix-and-match combinations,1980–1984.

The Tuscaloosa News - Mar 16, 1977

Fashion imports, baseball style

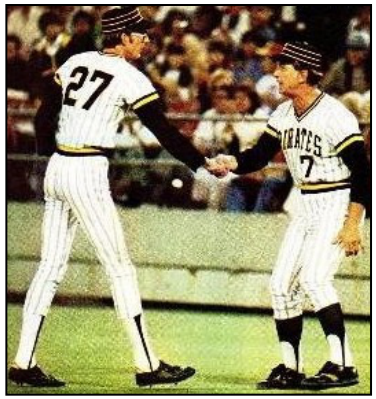
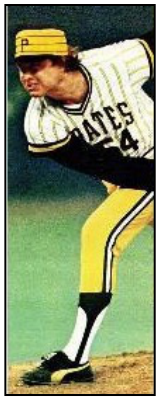
The Pittsburgh Pirates baseball club will be wearing new uniforms this season. The Pirates have purchased three sets, two made in Japan, a first in baseball. Al Oliver (C) models the uniform made in the United States, while Bob Robertson (L) and Duffy Dyer wear the Japanese made uniforms. (AP wirephoto)

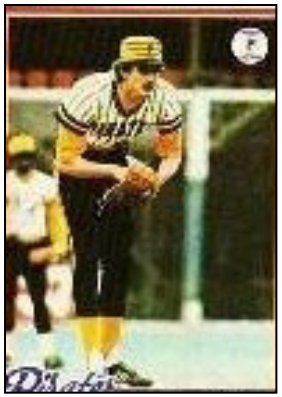
Right-Source: Baseball Hall of Fame's "Dressed to the Nines" website. Here, in 1977, six of the possible nine combinations are shown… all nine are shown on the next page.

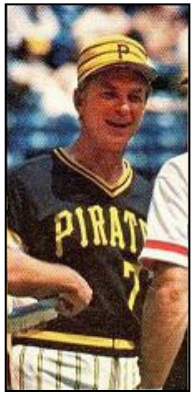
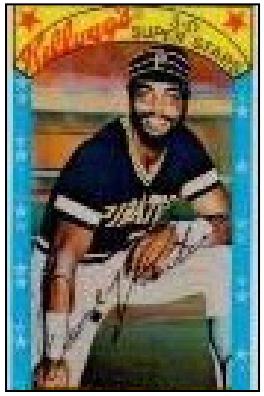
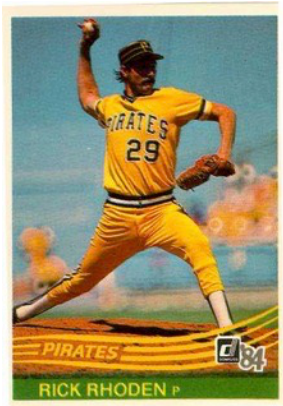
1980

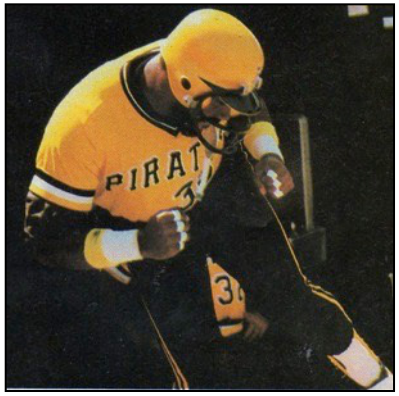
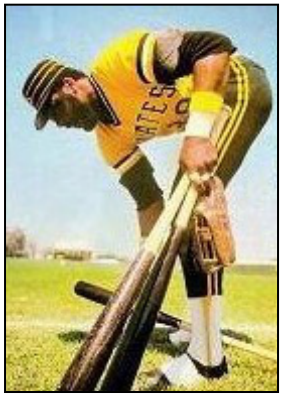
© GameWornGuides.com

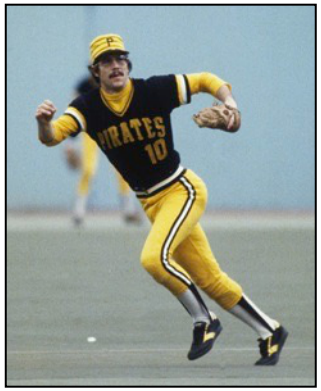
1977-1984 Mix & Match, continued





There are nine possible 1977–1979 "mix & match" combinations, and all of them are shown here. In actual use, gold and black combinations seem most common; all black or any mixing involving pinstripes is less common. Also, same-color caps and jerseys are almost never paired together. Look here for much more obsessive details. **Right:** an unusual spring training-only 1985 "mix & match" example!

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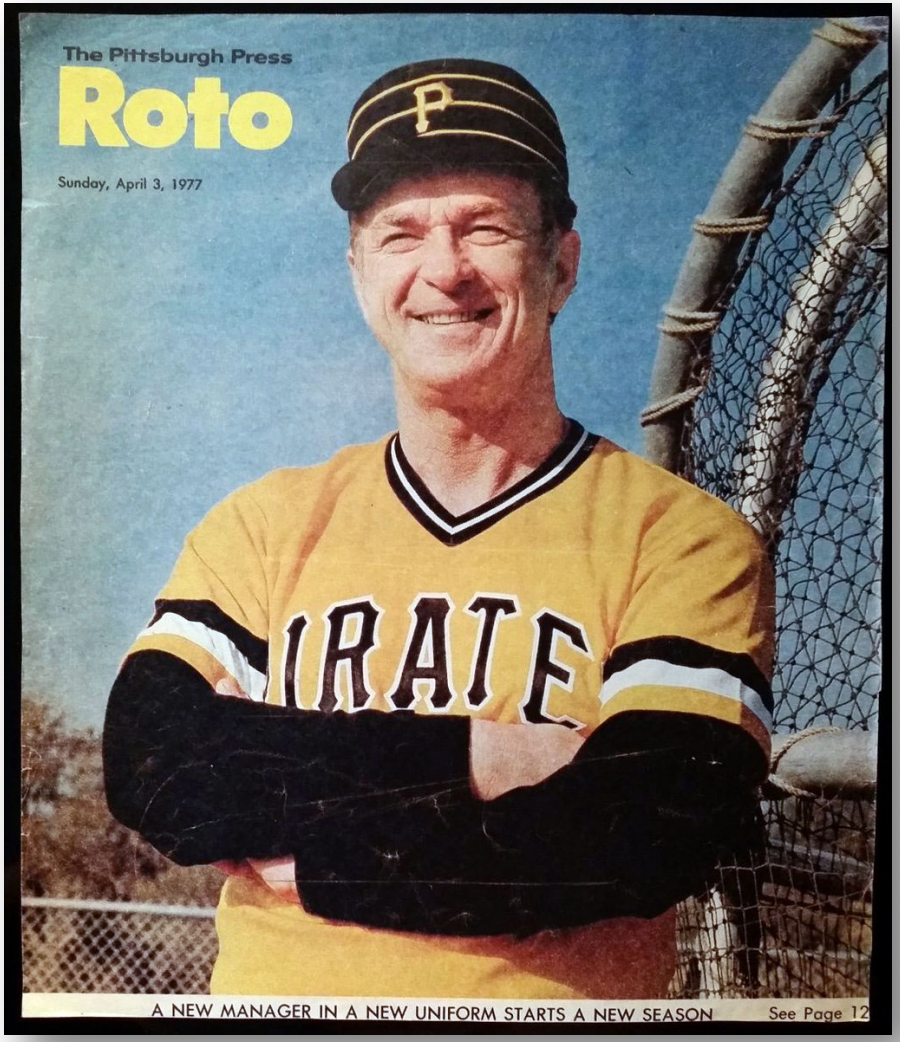
1977 Pittsburgh Press's Look at the Pirates' New Uniforms

An interesting introduction of the Pirates new manager, and a look at their new non-traditional uniforms from the month that they debuted.



Reprinted from the Pittsburgh Press*, April 3, 1977*

A New-Fashioned Team

By Bob Smizik

Press Photos By Edwin Morgan

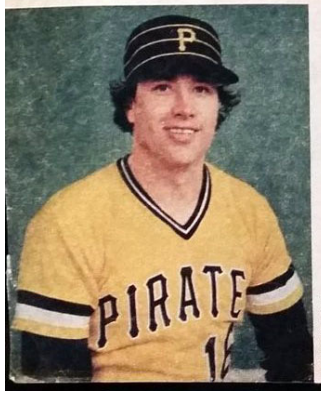
The baserunning skills of speedsters like outfielder Omar Moreno are crucial to the go-go philosophy of new Pirate manager Chuck Tanner.

The '77 Pirates Will Look And Play The Tanner Way

Hitters have always been a big part of the Pirate picture, and few have been as effective as Al Oliver.

© GameWornGuides.com

The team's new look is symbolized in three sets of uniforms. Tanner, left, wears last year' model, while the new ones are shown on Bob Robertson, Oliver and Duffy Dyer. Dis parities in players' numbers shown here are because permanent uniform assignments aren' made in spring training



Relief pitcher Rich Gossage is one of the players Tanner traded for in the off season, and should be a frequent occupant of the mound at Three Rivers Stadium.

IT IS A decidedly different baseball team that will be playing at Three Rivers Stadium this summer. Uniforms will be different, the players will be different, the manager will be different and so will the philosophy of the team.

The uniforms are a complete turnaround from the Pirates' traditional white. They have three new uniforms — trousers and shirts of which are interchangeable — giving the team nine different outfits.

New players are mainly pitchers, with relievers Grant Jackson, Rich Gossage and Terry Forster the most notable additions.

The Pirates also apparently filled the third-base gap left by the departure of Richie Hebner, when they pulled off an 11th-hour trade with the Oakland A's. Sent to Oakland were pitchers Dave Giusti, George "Doc" Medich, Rick Langford and Doug Bair; first baseman Mitchell Page; and outfielder Tony Armas. Acquired were Phil Garner, an All-Star second baseman who will convert to third; utility infielder Tommy Helms and pitcher Chris Batton.

Continued On Next Page

A New-Fashioned Team

Continued

Those additions reflect the manager. And the manager reflects the new philosophy. The manager is Charles William Tanner Jr., and he's so happy to be back in Western Pennsylvania, he has a hard time expressing it. That's strange. There are few subjects on which Chuck Tanner doesn't have a couple of thousand words.

Born in New Castle 47 years ago, Tanner brings an entire new philosophy to the Pirates. The Pirates used to sit back and wait for things to happen. This year they'll be going out and making things happen. Or at least trying to.

Tanner stresses running on every team he manages and the Pirates will be no different. But he stresses the running for more than the sake of running.

"I want the opposition to have in its mind what we might be doing," said Tanner. "I want that second baseman and the shortstop thinking about a guy on first trying to steal. I want that pitcher thinking about it. Maybe we can change a breaking ball pitcher into a fast ball pitcher. If that catcher thinks our runner might be going, he's not going to want to call for the curve. He's going to want that ball to get there a little sooner so he'll have a better chance."

The Pirates played Cincinnati on two consecutive days early in spring training. Tanner had the Pirates doing all kinds of things on the bases.

Tanner explained: "I did some things in the two days that we played them that I might never do against them during the regular season. But I want them thinking about it. I want them wondering, 'what's that guy going to do next.' "

Chuck Tanner has learned to live by his baseball wits. He never had that much talent as a player. Signed by the Milwaukee Braves right out of New Castle's Shenango High in 1946, Tanner began a journey through the minor leagues that didn't end until 1955. And it ended with a big noise.

On the opening day of the 1955 season, Tanner made his big league debut as a pinch hitter for Warren Spahn. Gerry Staley was on the mound for Cincinnati, and Tanner didn't waste any time. He homered on the first pitch.

"When I got back to the bench," said Tanner, "they told me it wasn't going to be that easy."

And it wasn't. His major league career was not a memorable one and by 1963, after establishing himself as a capable but hardly an outstanding player, Chuck Tanner was a manager.

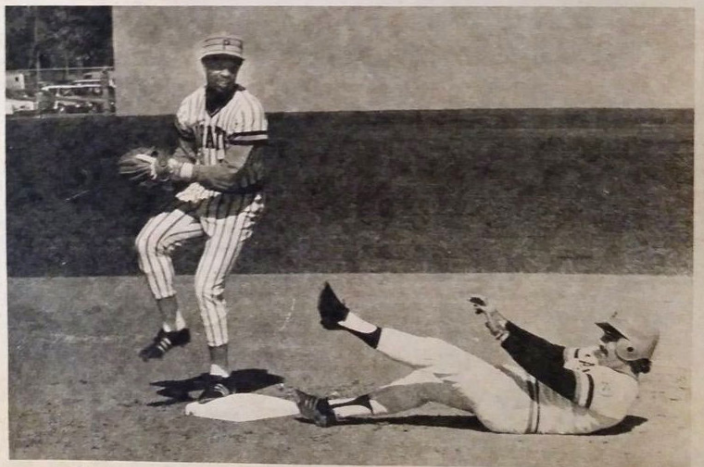
The path out of the minors was no easier as a manager than as a player. He stopped off at Quad Cities, El Paso (twice), Seattle and Hawaii before getting the managerial job with the Chicago White Sox in 1971. The White Sox had won 56 games the previous year. Under Tanner they won 79 and finished third. The next season they won 87 and contended for the Western Division title before finishing second.

That's as close as Tanner came with the White Sox in six years. He finished second again with the Oakland A's last year.

And now he's back home. "It's always something you dream about," he said, "but you never expect it to happen."

Well, it has happened. Tanner's waited a long time for it. Maybe Pittsburgh will find it was worth the wait.•

Shortstop Frank Taveras executes a bunt in a practice game. Catcher Richard Baker is behind the plate.



Second baseman Rennie Stennett forces a runner and pivots to complete a double play. The '77 Pirates' philosophy stresses speed and defense.

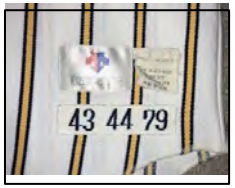
"The uniforms are a complete turnaround from the Pirates' traditional white. They have three new uniforms – trousers and shirts of which are interchangeable – giving the team nine different outfits."

© GameWornGuides.com

1977-1979 “Bumblebee” Pinstripe

Bill Henderson Collection

Japanese manufacturer Descente made these jerseys and lettered them too. The names are in an odd, semi-block, semi-rounded font I have never seen elsewhere. The number type style looks like a narrow and bold variant of Varsity. They are Descente’s own lettering patterns.



Unique Descente font used for short names

Wild looking even in their day, and often referred to as the “Bumblebee" uniform. Certainly nontraditional and polarizing, and probably the reason for their relatively short life of three years. Numbers are two-color, black/yellow. Names appear in 1979, and are two-color like the numbers; these have smaller numbers placed lower than those from 1977–1978 without names. Surviving 1979 jerseys have mostly been stripped of their player names presumably for use in the minors. We have never found one with an original NOB. Due to their short run and association with the popular “We Are Family” World Series team, these jerseys are highly sought after by collectors.

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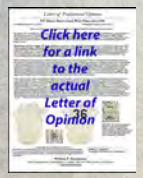
1977-1979 Black/1980-1984 Alternate Road Black (Mesh)

1980



1978

Japan's Descente made these jerseys, and lettered them too. The names are in an odd, semi-block, semi-rounded font. The number type style looks like a slightly narrow and bold variant of Varsity. These are both Descente's own lettering patterns. Most of the black jerseys are rendered in mesh, not solid fabric, to make them cooler to wear. Numbers are one color, yellow. No NOB 1977-1978. Names first appear in 1979. Names are one-color yellow only, on nameplates.

1982

(Right) *Note huge, wide custom font for short 4-letter name*

1981

1984

Bill Henderson Collection

1984

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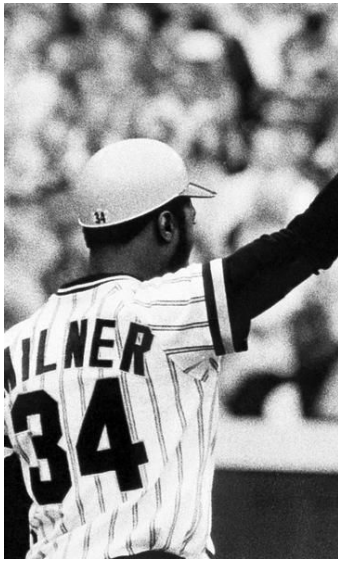
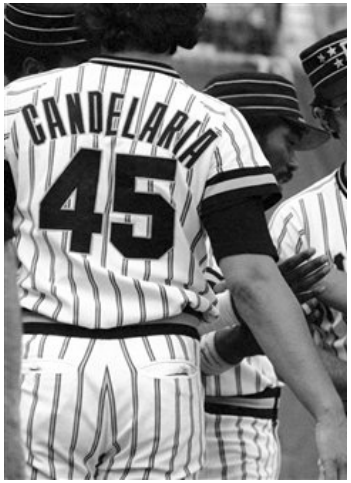
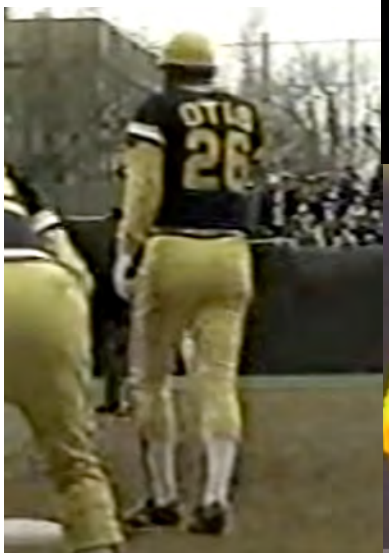
More Pirates Name on Back Examples - Descente of Japan

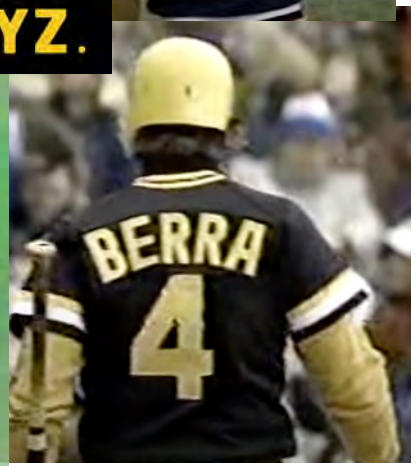




It is not uncommon for teams to have *two* name on back fonts; a standard one and a condensed version for long names. But the Japanese take it a step further with *four* documented font widths, shown here as recreated by me from game jerseys and used by us in restorations.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ.
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ.
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ.
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ.





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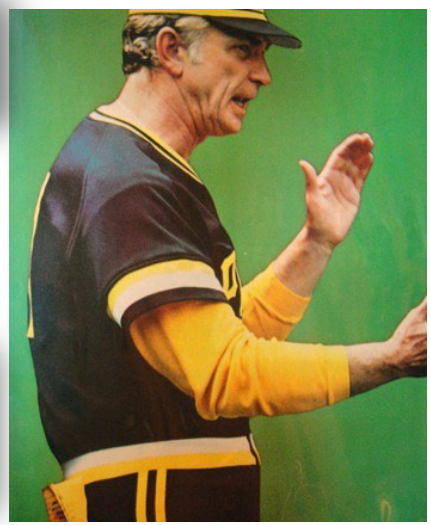
1977-1979 Black/1980-1984 Alternate Road Black (Knit)

1978

Kevin Korenski Collection



Chuck Tanner in Sport Magazine Oct. 1977

We have found multiple examples of solid-fabric black jersey in the 1977–1984 style. While black mesh was the standard in those years, these examples all appear to be original. The names and numbers are correct in the odd Descente-only type style and some show minor signs of a number change, though very little overall wear.

The photo above/right shows manager Chuck Tanner wearing a solid-fabric black Descente jersey in 1977. We have also found the #3 1981 jersey of Phil Garner on an auction site, and recently were alerted to a solid black knit Willie Stargell game worn jersey offered by another major auction house.

#10 Richie Hebner played for the Pirates 1968–1976, before the black jerseys were used, and then rejoined them in 1982 and 1983 at the tail end the mix-and-match era.

I asked pitcher Jerry Reuss, who played for the Pirates during this time, if he remembers being given a choice of either a mesh or solid fabric black jersey to wear, and he said that he was not asked, and simply wore what he was issued. My conclusion is, It appears that at least some of the black jerseys made in 1977–1984 randomly used solid, non-mesh fabric.

After being used frequently at home (and on the road) 1977–1979 as part of the “mix & match “ rotation, the black jersey became almost exclusively a road alternate in 1980, worn at home for only four games, all in September, and used only on the road 1981–1984.

1983

#10 jersey photos Courtesy Frank Fleizach

© GameWornGuides.com

1977-1979 Gold/1980-1984 Alternate Road Gold

1977

Kevin Korenski collection

1977

Guy Hankel collection

1978

Gold jerseys made in 1977 by Rawlings, 1978–1984 by Wilson. Note the application of the standard-style Block numbers, different from the pinstripe and black jerseys. It was apparently not important to the team to have a standard number or name font on all its many uniforms! Two-color numbers– black/white. Practically all of these jerseys are recycled to the minors and used heavily without nameplates and often changed numbers. Finding one with an original numbers and nameplate is very rare. After being used frequently at home (and on the road) 1977–1979 as part of the “mix & match “ rotation, the gold jersey became almost exclusively a road alternate in 1980, worn at home for only four games, all in September, and used only on the road 1981–1984.

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1977-1979 Gold/1980-1984 Alternate Road Gold, continued

1982

Gary Tkac Collection

1982

Gary Tkac Collection

1980

Gary Tkac Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1980-1990 Home

1981

Pullover white jersey replaces the "Bumblebee" striped jersey in 1980 and becomes the standard home jersey. In 1980 it is used as the home jersey for all but eight games near the end of the season, then exclusively worn as the home jersey 1981–1990.

These uniforms were shown no mercy, reused again and again in the minors. Nearly all surviving examples are heavily worn. Look at the ground-in dirt on the #14 example at right compare where the lower part of the shirt which was tucked in and stayed more nearly the original white. Two-color black/yellow Block numbers. Names on back are on a nameplate, though original nameplates are usually long gone, stripped off surviving examples before they were sent to the minor leagues. Team Pirate Head diamond-shaped patch added to left sleeve starting 1988.

Top right: *Note the use of Extra Condensed name on back font for the long name.*
Below: *Extra Condendensed font is also used for "Parker" below, suggesting that the font style used was up to the whim of the stitcher.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1980-1990 Home, continued

Bill Henderson Collection

Left sleeve patch 1987

Left sleeve patch 1988–1990

Even the sewn-on year and set tagging on this jersey is almost washed out from heavy use.

Extra condensed font used for longer names

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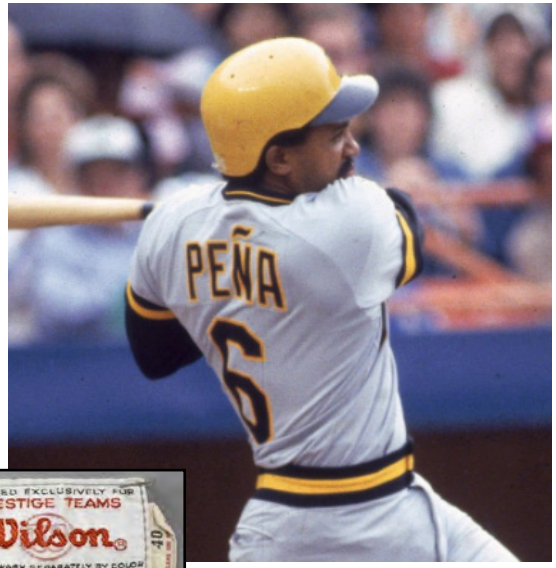
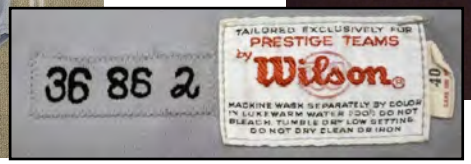
1985-1986 Road

1985

1985 officially marks the end of “Mix & Match” as the Pirates return to traditional road grays to accompany their home whites. Wilson is contracted to make the road grays, and while they use the same block numbers as the home Rawlings jerseys, Wilson interjects its own style by using their own vertical arched player names on nameplates to the backs. Examining period game photos, it appears that some 1985 news photos dated 1985 and 1986 seem to show both styles of NOB being worn, but news photo dating is often unreliable. It is just a guess, but perhaps Set 1 was vertical arched, and Set 2 was not? Because most surviving examples today are without nameplates or have had their plates restored. I do not have enough data points to be sure.



1986



© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1989 Road

Most of these jerseys were well used in the minors before being retired, however the “Fisher” mint condition example still sports its original player nameplate (sewn slightly off-center as well) and seems to have been spared minor league use.

© GameWornGuides.com

1990 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

For 1990, the Pirates changed their road jersey to a gray pullover with Pittsburgh written in black/yellow script across the front. This is the first time the city name is used on a Pirates jersey since back in 1953. Note that there is no dot over the “i” in Pittsburgh.

This pullover is a hard-to-find, one-year style. Note the wide, 3” sleeve end trim (compared to later years) and the Rawlings script embroidered into the trim. Tagging is sewn inside the front tail. Numbers and names stay the same as always. All block, two-color black/yellow, with names on nameplates.

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1991-1996 Home

1994

1995

1996

1995

Now a button front with black/yellow/black knit sleeve trim that is narrower than previous years. Pirate head diamond-shaped patch on left sleeve. Names on back continue except for 1995. All lettering is two-color black/yellow. Names go on nameplates.

1995: Names on back omitted for one year only, and numbers are made marginally larger. Pirate head patch on sleeve is replaced with "FANS" patch for this year only.

The 1995 "FANS" sleeve patch and the removal of player names was the Pirates' humble response to fans' anger over the disastrous 1994 players' strike that wiped out the end of the 1994 season and canceled the World Series for the first time in 90 years.

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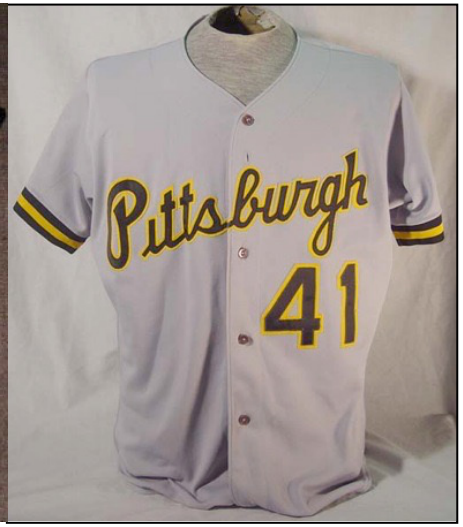
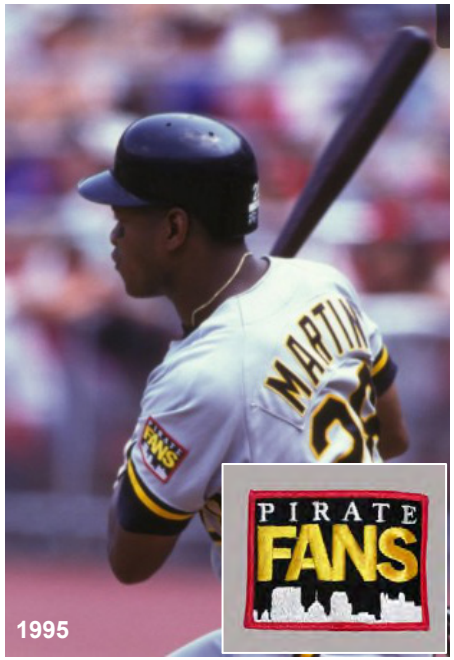
1991-1996 Road



1991–1996 change to button front, solid gray fabric black/yellow/black knit sleeve trim. Notice that sleeve trim is narrower than 1990. Manufacturer logo is embroidered on the gray shirt above the sleeve trim. Pittsburgh scripted across front. Numbers on front and back – front numbers are Block font and almost 5" tall. Names on back use nameplates.

Team patch of Pirate in a gold diamond on left sleeve all years except 1995. 1995 has "FANS" patch instead.



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1997-2000 Home

Above: Here are two 1999 jerseys , showing that both Russell and Rawlings made sets for the team. Contractually, 1997-1999 only Russell could display their maker-logo on the sleeve, Rawlings sleeves were blank. However, in 2000 contracts changed; Rawlings became the only supplier, and they were allowed to display their sleeve logo that year.

In 1997, while the rest of baseball wore the Jackie Robinson Breaking Barriers patch, the Pirates only wore the Robinson patch on their road jerseys. On their home 1997 jerseys, they elected to wear a Roberto Clemente patch commemorating the 25th anniversary of the fallen player's untimely passing.

New bridged-arch style for Pirates wordmark (a nod to the city's nickname of "City of Bridges"). Note that the bottom is arched, but top of the lettering is flat.

Two sets of jerseys; On Rawlings-made, set/year team tagging is on the inside of the front tail; on Russell jerseys there is no team tagging.

Block names on nameplates, Pirates Block numbers, all two-color black/yellow. The Pirates use a slightly narrower version of the font used by other teams.

New cartoonish Pirate with crossed bats behind him is the new sleeve patch. White background used for home jerseys

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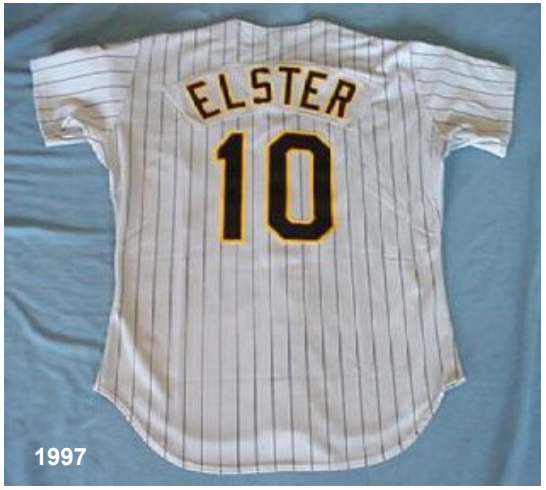
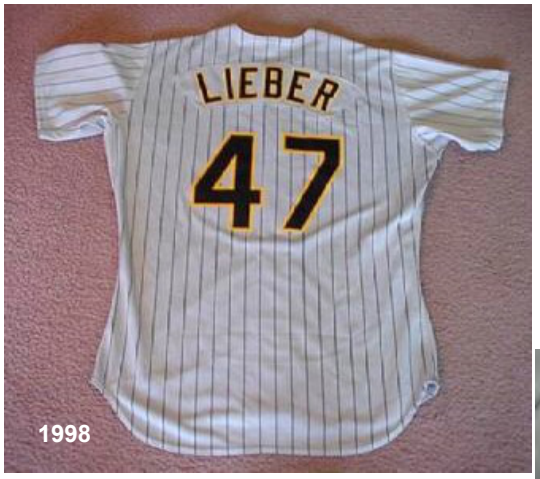
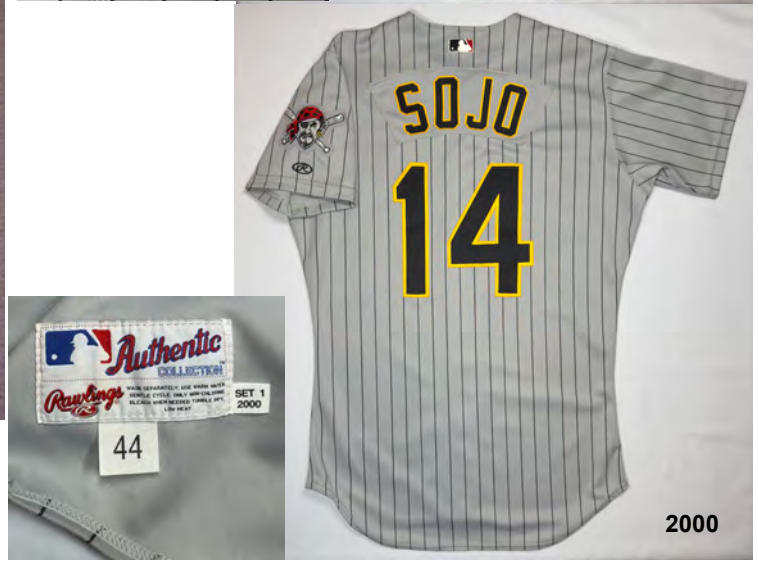
1997-2000 Road





Stephen Kraljic collection



Gray body with black pinstripes, button-front, Pittsburgh script in black over gold. Names go on nameplates, and are also two-color black/yellow. New cartoonish Pirate with crossed bats behind him is the left-sleeve patch. Gray background patch used for road jerseys. Both Russell and Rawlings make sets of jerseys 1997–1999. Note manufacturer tagging on Rawlings jerseys: sewn inside the jersey, no Russell team tagging is used. 1997–1999, only Russell could display their maker-logo on the sleeve, Rawlings sleeves were blank. However, in 2000 contracts changed; Rawlings became the only supplier, and they were allowed to display their sleeve logo that year. Notice that the pinstripes are not visible from the backside of the fabric.

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1997-2005 Alternate Black

2001

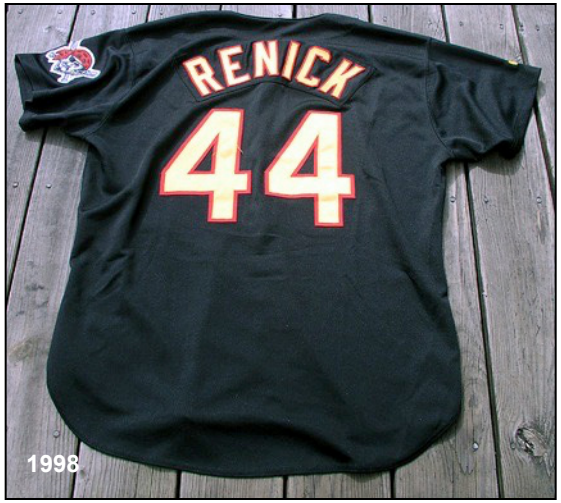
2000

1997

This jersey was introduced with the 1997 generation of Pirates jerseys, but it stayed in the uniform lineup even when the team style changed again in 2001. Worn at home and on the road.

Even after the rest of the team's jerseys are lettered with the new Pirates font starting in 2001, the black jersey still gets the older block lettering for numbers. Numbers and name two-color, yellow/red

Cartoon pirate with crossed bats behind him is the sleeve patch. White background patch used for alternate jerseys.



1998

2000

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2001-2008 Home Vest

2002

2006

2001

2001

White vest with names and numbers black/yellow, with a custom Pirates-only number font. Names are Block style and on nameplates.

Near left: The round patch with the star on the front of the jersey is a 2001-only memorial for Willie Stargell, who died on Opening Day.

Cartoon Pirate remains on the left sleeve, now sewn to the undershirt for vests. Home jerseys use black undershirt, white background Pirate patch.

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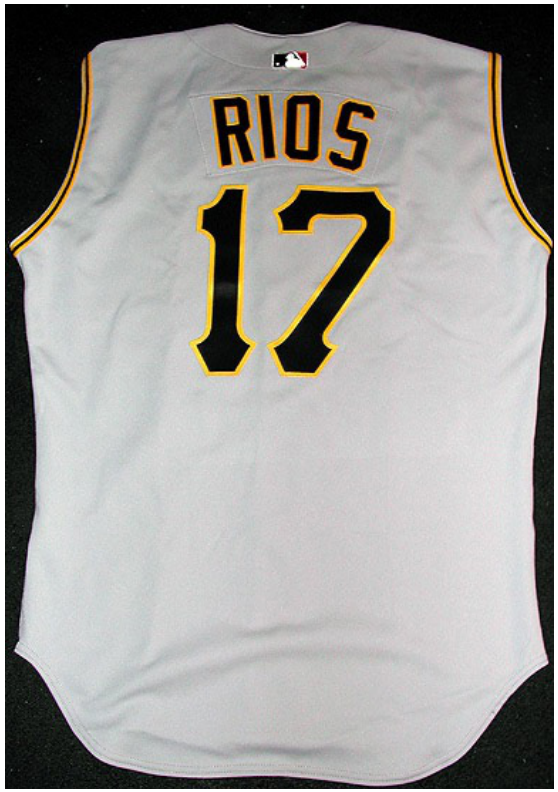
2001-2008 Road Vest



- Gray vest with names and numbers black/yellow, with Pirates-only number style. Names are Block style.
- Nameplates used
- Cartoon pirate remains on the left sleeve, now sewn to the undershirt for vests. Road jerseys use black undershirt, gray background Pirate patch

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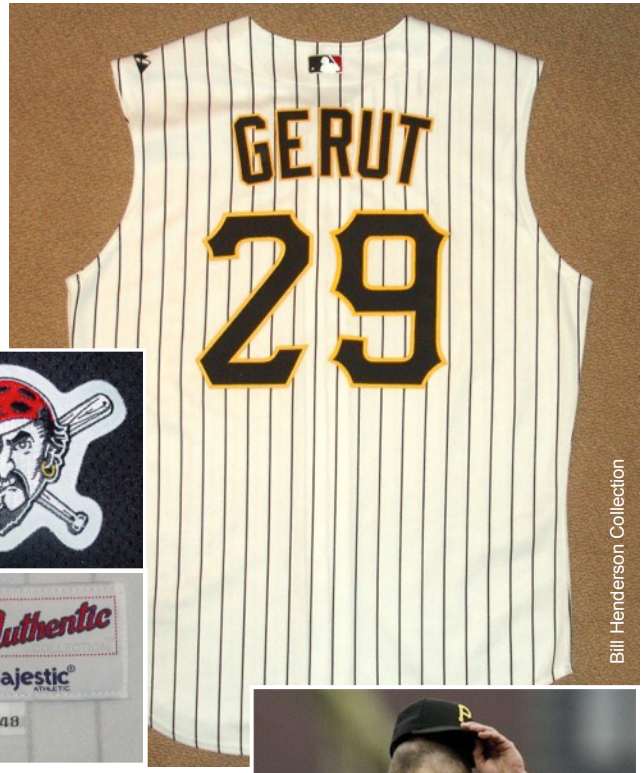
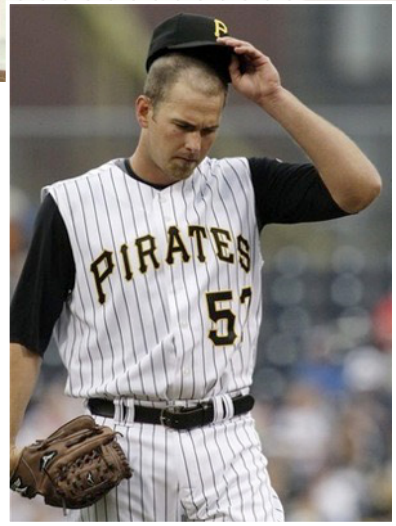
2005-2010 Alternate Home Pinstripe Vest





- The Pirates add an alternate pinstriped vest uniform in 2005. Lettering is identical to home and road jerseys. Pirate patch is sewn to left undershirt sleeve.
- No nameplates are used.
- 2005–2010 made as a regular-knit fabric jersey, no Cool Base version of this style is worn by the team.
- The pinstriped vest was worn for Sunday home games.

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2007-2008 Alternate Home Red Vest

2007

- The Pirates introduce an alternate red vest for the 2007 season, intended to be worn only on Fridays at home. While red has been an accent color on Pirates jerseys and caps as far back as 1997, it has never taken center stage like this before.
- Like the team's other jerseys, numbers are used front and back, and player names are sewn on back. All team lettering; names and numbers are rendered in black outlined in yellow.
- Unveiled in February 2007, fan reaction was swift and severe. Few liked the garish uniform design, detractors saying it simply did not belong as a part of the Pirates' traditional image.
- The style lasts only two seasons and is retired after 2008.

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2009-2023 Home

The Pirates' uniform lineup is revamped again for 2009, but the changes to the home uniform are subtle. Home vest grows sleeves, and the pirate head patch previously sewn on the vest's undershirt sleeve returns to the left jersey sleeve.

Everything else remains the same as the prior year's vest: player names in two-color Block are sewn on nameplates, two-color numbers are in the Pirates unique font and are sewn on both back and left chest.

Nameplates used 2009–2012, direct-sewn names 2013–2023. Majestic makes this style from 2009–2019, Nike takes over in 2020.

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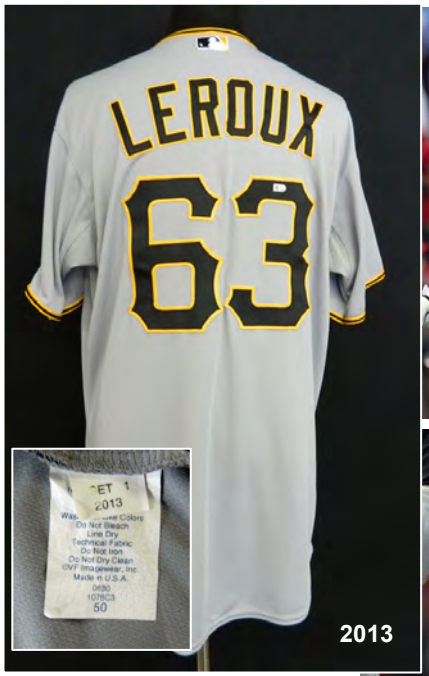
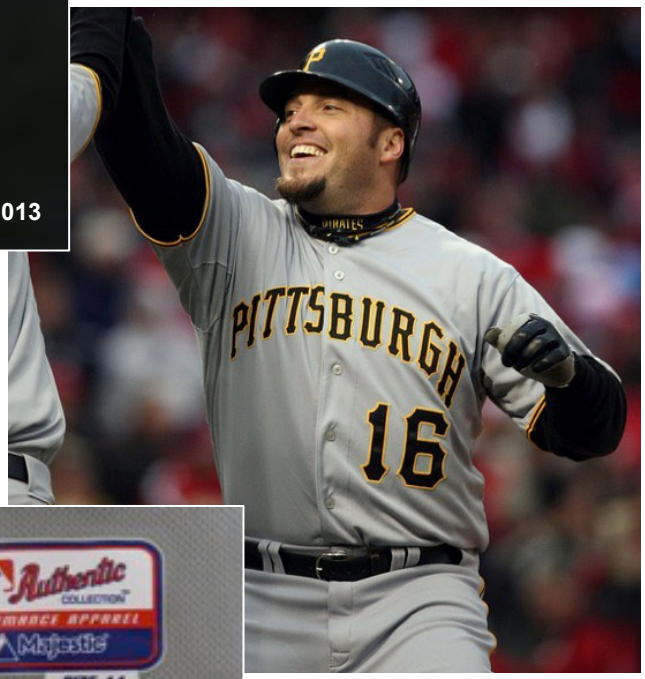
2009-2019 Road

2011



2013



New sleeved gray road jersey replaces the prior year's road vest, and the changes are simple. The pirate head patch previously sewn on the vest's undershirt sleeve returns to the left jersey sleeve.

Player names in two-color, two-color numbers are in the Pirates unique font and are sewn on both back and left chest.

Nameplates used 2009–2012, direct-sewn names 2013–2019. Majestic makes this style for its entire run.

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2009-2019 Alternate Black/2020-2023 Home Alternate Black

New-for-2009 black alternate jersey features three-color lettering in gold/black/white for numbers and large P on front. Thin double-stripe yellow knit trim on sleeve ends and on collar edge.

The jersey is worn liberally both at home and on the road 2009–2019, before being relegated to home alternate status only in 2020 with the introduction of a new black "Pittsburgh" script road alternate.

Names are one-color, gold. Nameplates used 2009–2012, direct-sewn names in 2013–2023. Note the very low placement of front numbers. White-bordered pirate head patch continues from prior years, sewn on left sleeve. These are only offered in Cool Base and Flex Base, never as knits.

Majestic makes these from 2009–2019, Nike takes over in 2020

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2013-2015 Alternate Home 1970s Retro

After using a visually identical jersey for a 1971 Turn Back the Clock game in 2011, the Pirates add this style for use as an alternate on home on Sundays, 2013–2015. The crew neck style is the one first worn in July 1970 and worn during the Pirates 1971 World Series run. Similar in many ways to the team's usual home jersey, it is different in that it is a pullover design, has wider sleeve stripes and uses mustard yellow ("Old Gold") throughout instead of the brighter gold used on the team's standard uniforms. Player names on back are used (not found on the original 1970s versions), two-color front numbers on the left side, and two-color back numbers that are a recreation of the font used by the Pirates in the early 1970s: a slightly taller and thinner variant of the Block font than used by most other teams. Fabric is Cool Base.

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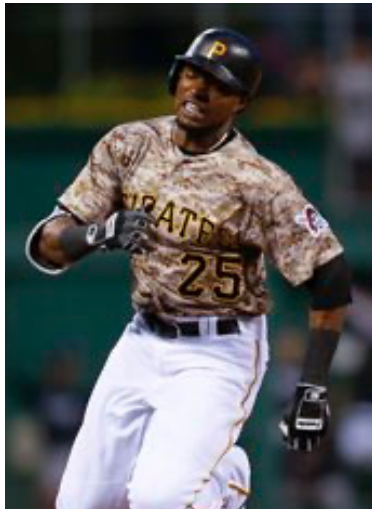
2015-2017 Alternate Home Camouflage

2015 Cool Base

The Pirates announced an alternate USMC digital camouflage jersey for the 2015 season, planned to be worn for Thursday home games. These are different than the Memorial Day jersey the Pirates wore on Memorial Day 2012 and 2013, which used a different, non-digital camouflage pattern. USA flag is sewn to the right sleeve, Pirate head logo on the left.

The jersey converts to Flex Base for 2016, and it gains a solid tan tail and tan vented side inserts differentiating it from the one-year Cool Base 2015 version.



2016 Flex Base

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2016-2019 Alternate Home 1979 Retro

In 2016, the Pirates replace one throwback with another, taking their white 1970–1976 throwback out of official rotation as an alternate, where it had been since 2013, and substituting a yellow throwback in its place. Based on their 1979–1984 gold jersey, the front wordmark on this version is smaller than the white throwback it replaces, with front and back numbers in black/white Block and a black Block name on back. A rare Flex Base pullover, this alternate is paired with black pants and a pillbox cap, making it a fairly faithful reproduction of the original, except for the names on back, which were then vertically arched on a nameplate. Here, they are radially arched and directly sewn on. These uniforms were exclusively worn for Sunday home games.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of prior years.

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

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2018-2022 Alternate Home Military Appreciation

After wearing camo jerseys to honor the military from 2015–2017, the Pirates retire that jersey in favor of adopting the league-wide Memorial Day style at home in 2018. This Majestic Flex Base jersey swaps out the usual black/yellow elements of the home jersey with olive green/black, except for the name on back, which is now solid black. The yellow/black/yellow sleeve and neck trim is reduced to black, while the left-sleeve pirate patch is rendered in black and green. The green bar patch with five stars, representing the five branches of the armed services, appears on the right sleeve. It is distinguishable from the Pirates' identical 2017–2018 home Memorial Day jersey only by the code on the interior tagging. The Memorial Day white jersey is coded with "PTUX" while the Military jersey has "PT8M." Majestic makes these from 2018–2019, Nike takes over in 2020 and changes the style code to "PT3M." The jersey is discontinued after the 2022 season.

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2020-2023 Road

The Pirates make changes to two of their jerseys in 2020, rather than taking on a full redesign. Their road gray jersey, which has been unchanged since 2008, gets a minor modification that has a major impact, with the front team lettering reverting back to script, as it had appeared from 1990–2000. Otherwise, all of the details on this Nike version of the Majestic Flex Base jersey remain the same, including yellow/black/yellow braid on sleeve ends and neck opening, and all lettering in black/yellow. The pirate head patch, with the red bandanna, still appears on the left sleeve. Of note, the script lettering does differ in one way from the old version – where the previous lettering split between the "s" and "b," this one breaks in the middle of the "s," a choice that might balance the logo more evenly on the shirt, but one that creates an unusual look when the placket comes open as seen to the right. There's still no dot over the "i" here either, which seems like a nod to tradition that could have been addressed.

Above: *Splitting the "S" across the placket makes for an awkward look when it opens.*

Right: *A 1996 Pirates road jersey, a source for the 2020 refresh.*

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2020-2023 Alternate Road

The Pirates have had a black jersey for many years, long before it was trendy to do so, but 2020 marks the first appearance of script on this second black alternate the team now carries. Matching the wordmark on the new road jersey, “Pittsburgh” script now appears on front in black/yellow (with the same break across the “s”), while front and back numbers in the Pirates’ font are yellow/black/yellow, and the name on back is simply yellow. The team’s pirate head logo patch appears on the left sleeve, but this time, with a new, yellow bandanna instead of red. (He last wore a yellow bandanna in 1999 on the front of the Pirates jersey worn as part of the infamous Turn Ahead the Clock promotion.) For the 2023 season, the Pirate replaces his yellow bandanna with red again, falling in line with his brethren on the other jerseys. The look is completed with yellow/black/yellow braid on the sleeve ends and neck opening of Nike’s version of Majestic’s Flex Base jersey. As for what’s not completed, there’s still no dotted “i” in “Pittsburgh.”

2020-2022

2023

2023

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2023 City Connect

Pittsburgh is the only city in the United States where all of the pro teams share the came colors. So, when it came time for the Pirates to join the City Connect program, there was only one color scheme to use - black and gold. From afar, the yellow jerseys and black pants bring the "We are Family" 1970s Pirates powerhouse clubs to mind, but like a lot of other City Connect uniforms, there are many hidden details that tell a different story, even if they aren't particularly visible on-field. For one, the shoulder areas of the jersey contain a pattern with several distinctive shapes. According to the team, "The astroid, or the diamond shape inside of the squares, references the famous 'Steelmark' logo, the same icon that the Pittsburgh Steelers sampled and made their own. The check, which is the square icon that houses the astroid, plays off Pittsburgh's city seal and is meant to evoke the idea of community. The inverted "Y" represents the convergence of the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers." The front of the jersey is emblazoned with large "PGH" lettering in black, shaped appropriately like a bridge, with back player names and numbers in a similar font, all printed with a pattern that the team says "can be located on the sides of the Three Sisters Bridges—the spans over the Allegheny named for Roberto Clemente, Andy Warhol and Rachel Carson that connect downtown to the North Shore and PNC Park." All lettering is printed twill/black, though the outline can't be seen from a distance. Rounding out the jersey, the motto "We bleed black and gold" is heat pressed above the jock tag, while a comparatively simple disc patch with the Pirates' "P" logo adorns the sleeve.

Above left, the front lettering on the jersey with a pattern shown in detail above right. Below left, the "astroid, check, and Y" pattern of the jersey shoulders. Below right, the jock tag motto. Most of these embellishments are invisible from the stands and on TV.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Pirates classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "A" in "PIRATES" now splits across the placket. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Pirates road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "S" in "Pittsburgh" now splits in a different place. Still no sign of a dot on the "i" though. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate “P”

The switch to Nike’s Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Pirates longstanding home alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. As far as we can tell, this jersey was worn only once in 2024, for a home game against the Red Sox on April 21. As such, it never appeared with the ad patch applied, which was introduced in June. The road alternate was worn for every other instance of the team wearing black that season.

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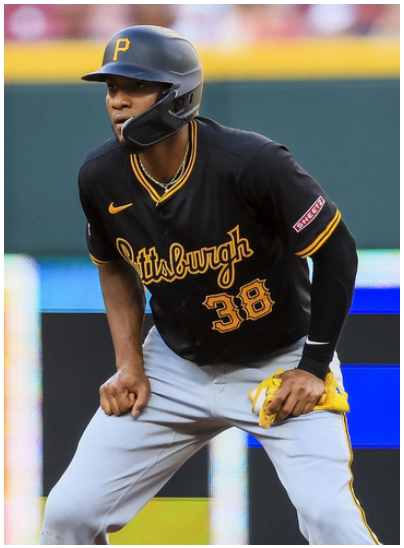
2024 Alternate “Pittsburgh”



The switch to Nike’s Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Pirates road alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the “S” in “Pittsburgh” now splits in a different place. Still no sign of a dot on the “i” though. Neck and sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. After being worn only on the road 2020-2023, this style jersey is worn both at home and on the road in 2024.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Pirates' City Connect jersey that was introduced just one season prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket, but the front lettering still splits the "G" in roughly the same place. The neck and sleeve-end trim is sewn in to the sleeves rather than on to them, which is wider than before. The Pirates use perforated numbers on this jersey. The 2023 version had a black printed twill layer with a black border, almost impossible to see, on all lettering. The "PGH" lettering remains that way, but on the perforated back numbers, the pattern is gone and the black border remains. Starting June 21, an ad patch occupies the sleeve opposite the team disc. The specific sleeves for the patches vary based on the handedness of each player. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to their other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The jersey has the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag, which is used on a handful of jerseys around the league.

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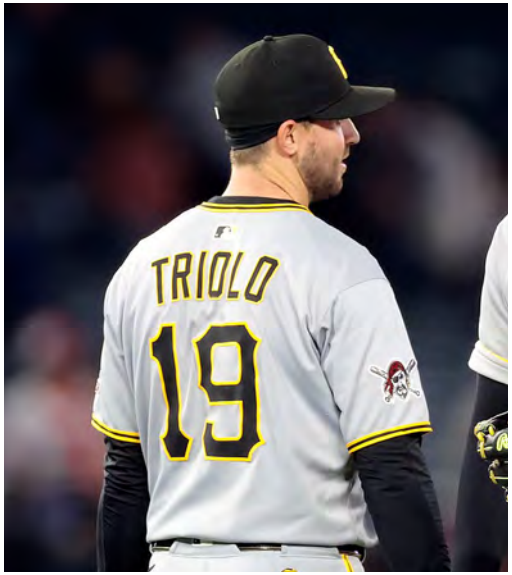
2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Pittsburgh” script breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.



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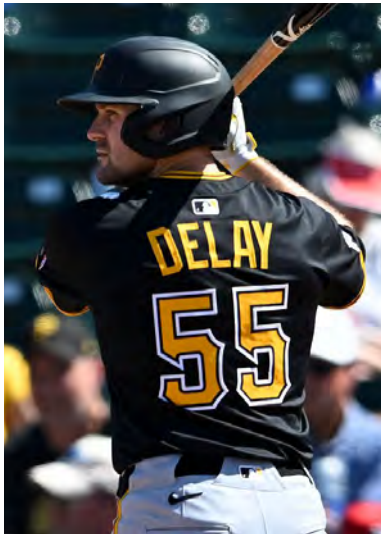
2025 Alternate “P”

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams’ non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. As of press time, the Pirates had not worn this style in the 2025 regular season, although it was worn frequently in 2025 Spring Training. Given that it was worn only once in the 2024 regular season, it is possible the team is phasing it out in favor of the “Pittsburgh” script black alternate. Nevertheless, it is still an official alternate in the MLB Style Guide for the 2025 season, so we catalog it here. Note that all game photos on this page are from Spring Training 2025.



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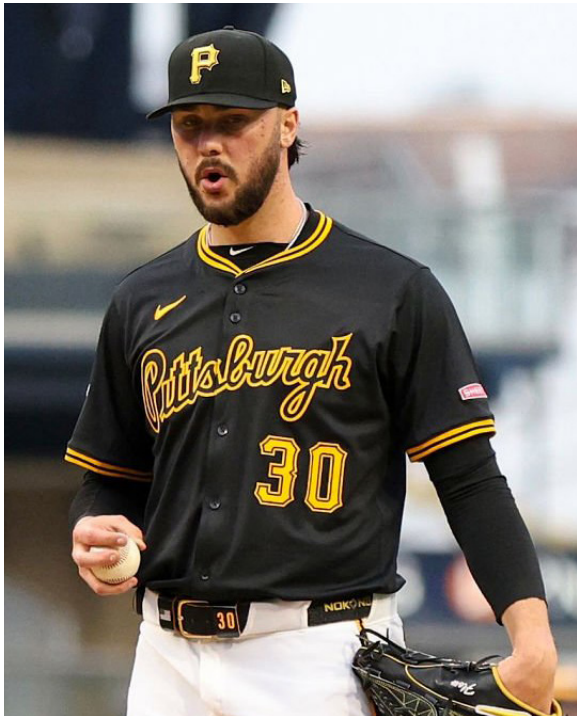
2025 Alternate “Pittsburgh”



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams’ non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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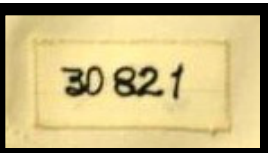
Pirates Team Tagging

Top left: This old-style Rawlings tag is used by that company up until about 1971, and therefore is most always associated with flannel jerseys. However, since the Pirates are the first team to try double knits, this style tag is seen on jerseys used in 1970–1971, and since the Pirates regularly reused equipment from year to year, this particular tag comes from a jersey claimed to be last worn in 1973.

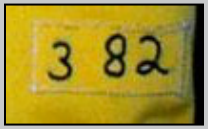
1977–1979 bumblebee-striped jerseys are made by Descente and most are tagged as below. We have seen a few with the flag tag style shown at left.

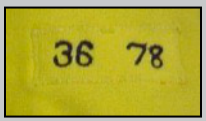
Above: 1971–1976 jerseys are made by Rawlings and Wilson, each manufacturer has its own tagging style.

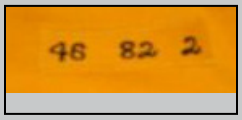


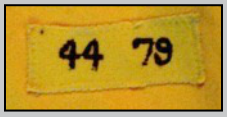
Early mix-and-match white jerseys are made by Rawlings and are tagged like this either inside or outside the right front shirt tail

1977 yellow jerseys are made by Rawlings and tagged inside the bottom center of the front tail. In all other years, the yellow jerseys are made by Wilson and the tag is sewn on the outside of the front left tail.

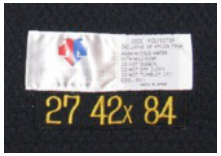








1977–1984 black jerseys are made by Descente. The Japanese maker affixed its distinctive machine-embroidered tags to the outside front shirt tail.



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Pirates on-field jerseys were made by Rawlings in most years 1985–1999, though Russell made a few, and Wilson creating a set of road gray jerseys for 1985–1986. The team had multiple sets of jerseys each year for each style, and often the different sets were each made by different manufacturers. Manufacturer tagging styles were unique.

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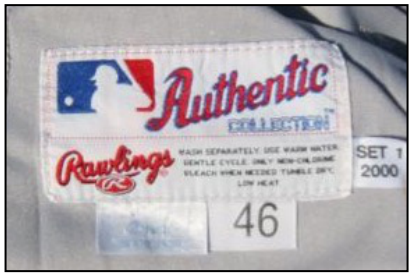

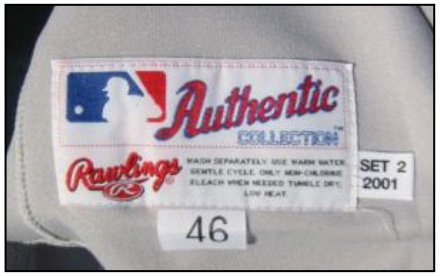

2000–2002 the team went back to Rawlings to supply all its jerseys, then switched completely to Majestic for 2003–2019, before the whole league switched to Nike in 2020.

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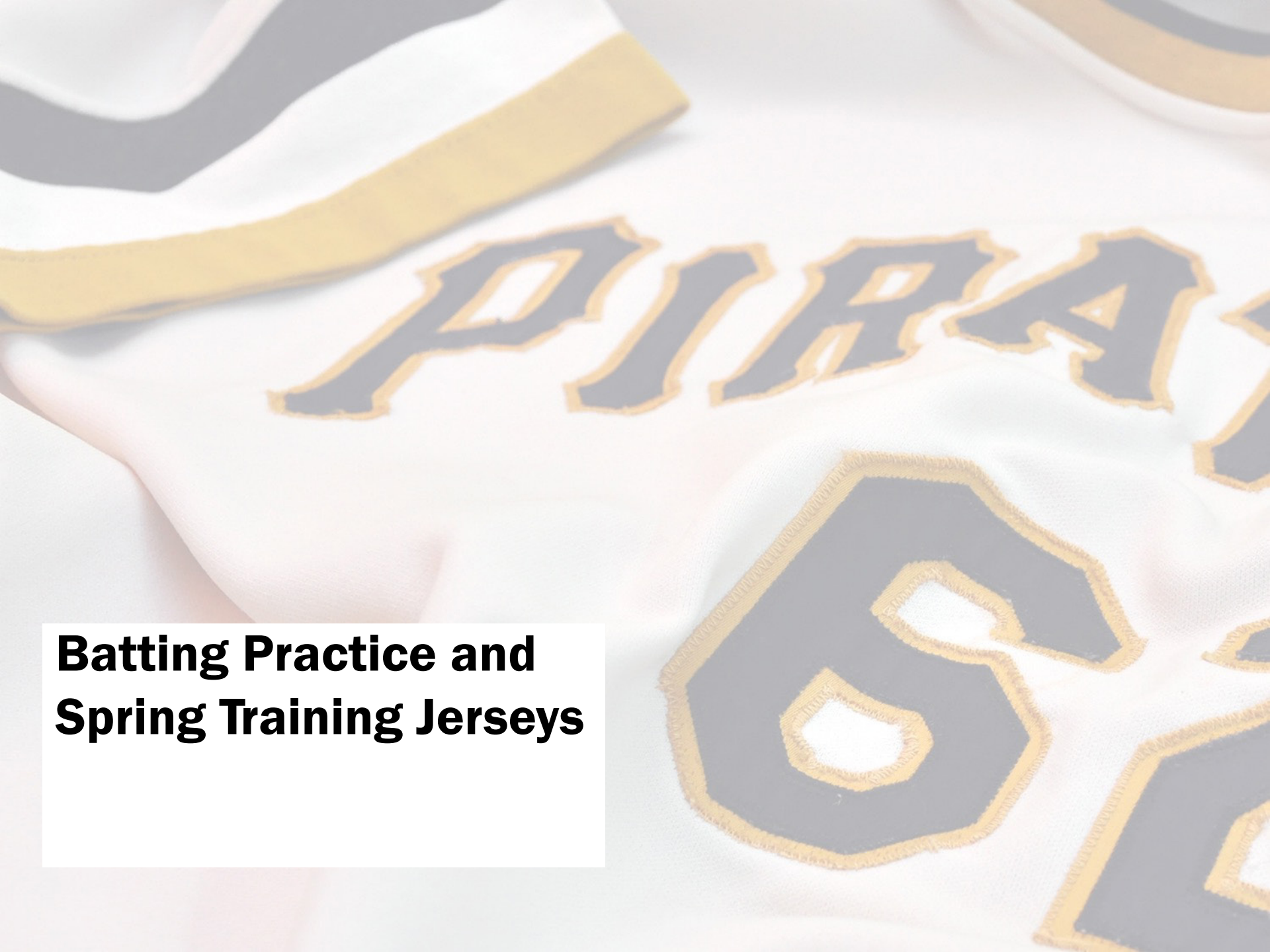

Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

Early 1980s Gold Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Bill Henderson Collection

This bright yellow pullover warm-up with elastic sleeves and waist and short zipper in the neck is likely the first batting practice style worn by the Pirates. I would date these from around 1982–1985. These are made by Roman Sport, a company that made similar jerseys for the Padres (and others).

Pirate head embroidered on a yellow backing, then sewn to the jersey front.

One-color black twill numbers and names.

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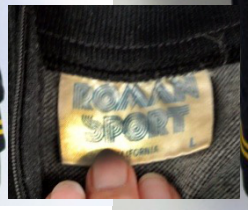
Mid 1980s-Early 1990s Black Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Both Sand Knit and Roman Sport made these pullover, zip-neck warm-up jerseys with the "handsome pirate" logo on the left chest.

Top Left: The Sand-Knit manufacturer's tagging in the neck identifies it from the 1985–1986 period, though Milt May #14 was only on the 1983–1984 roster. Perhaps this was made for his use in the 1985 season; he retired just before that season began.

Bottom Left: Roman Sport of California made similar style batting practice jerseys for several teams during the mid-1980s, including the Pirates' yellow BP jersey shown on the prior page.

Bottom Right: Majestic tagging on this model suggests 1986–1992. This team issued jersey has no number on back.



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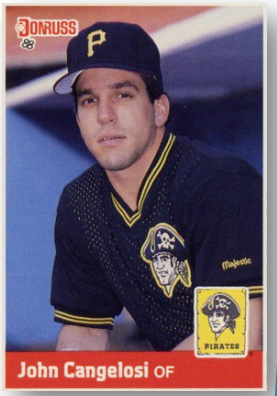
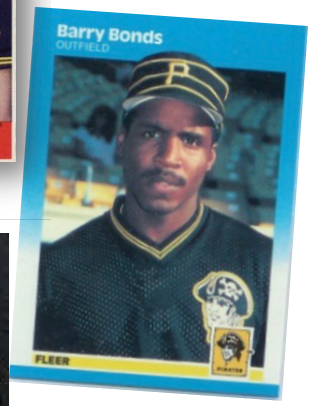
Mid-Late 1980s Black Batting Practice

1986

Stephen Kraljic collection





The Pirates wore these BP jerseys with the "Handsome Pirate" on the left chest during the mid to late 1980s. Jerseys are pullover mesh shirts with thin double yellow lines in the trim of the collar and sleeves, like the Majestic example and on the baseball cards shown here. Note the use of bold yellow twill number in a two different variants of Varsity. Consistency, especially on pregame gear, was not so important in the 1980s. Pirate head is an embroidered patch sewn to the jersey front.

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1985-1996 Black Batting Practice

1994

1994

- Fully arched yellow PIRATES wordmark text on front.
- Pirates Diamond team patch used on left sleeve. On Majestic version, yellow tackle twill Majestic Varsity numbers on back. On Russell and Rawlings versions, standard Varsity font is used. No player names used.
- The Pirates wore commemorative patches on their batting practice jerseys. The 1994 model above sports an MLB 125th anniversary patch.
- There was likely some overlap of use with the black batting practice jersey on the prior page.

1986

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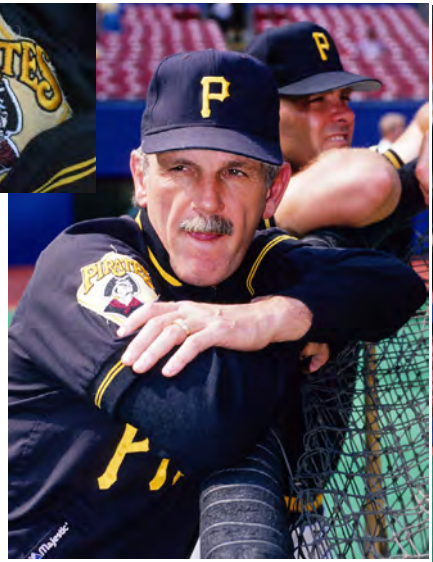
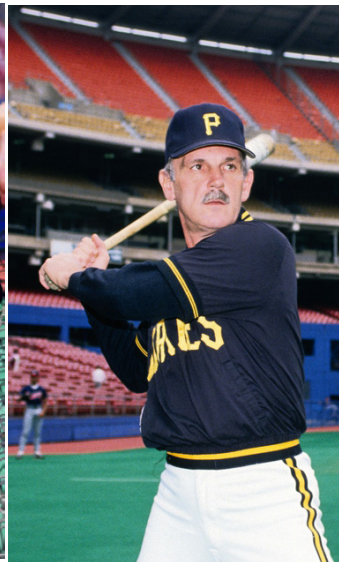
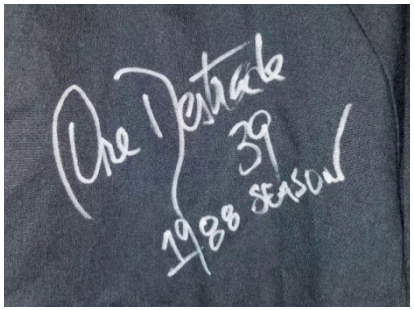
Late 1980s-Early 1990s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck





Majestic supplied these zip-neck, short-waisted solid (non-mesh) batting practice jerseys to teams that wanted them. They were also marketed in a very limited way to fans. Called "The Gamewarmer," the jerseys were sometimes mesh and other times made of sheer, solid fabric, and featured striped neck and sleeve end trim, a sewn twill wordmark on front, and the opportunity for teams to sew player names and numbers on back. The Pirate-head diamond shaped patch is stitched to the right sleeve.



This jersey is autographed and dated "1988" by infielder Orestes Destrade.

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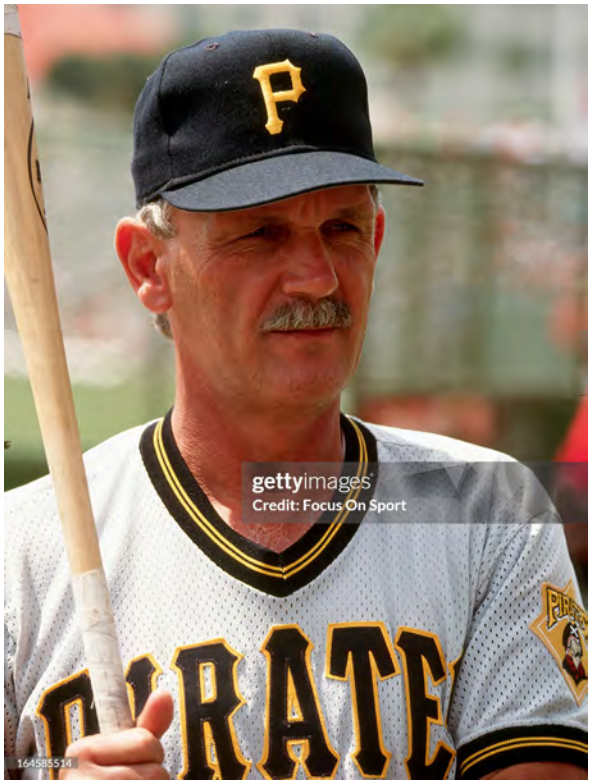
1990 Mesh Batting Practice

Gray Mesh pullover with black and yellow V-neck and sleeve end trim, "Pirates" arched on front like the team's home jersey. Note the use of two different fonts on these two examples, both purported to be team issued.



Whenever I can, I avoid using examples of star player jerseys (like Bonds #24, at left) in this book unless I have myself authenticated them, because of the large number of fakes in the hobby. This style is difficult to locate for photos, so I offer these examples for your consideration. I have determined the one at left is not game worn, and the back numbers may be inauthentic.

Below, white mesh version of the same jersey with similar Rawlings tail tagging (tag sewn on all four sides as typical with team issue) We have no photos of this in team-use., but given how few pre-game photos are available from this period it is possible this was also used.

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1991-1996 Road Batting Practice

Gray mesh fabric with Pittsburgh script on the front.

Numbers only on the back, two-color Block style, black/yellow. Very uncommon, these are the only examples I have come across.

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1997-2000 Batting Practice

Above: *1999 game worn example uses a name on back. Likely, names on back were used on regular season jerseys, while no-name jerseys originated in Spring Training.*

- Pirates arched across the front with flat top, pullover design with two-button neck, black mesh fabric.
- Majestic Varsity one-color yellow numbers on the back; player names used sometimes, on nameplate
- Cartoon pirate head patch sewn to the left sleeve

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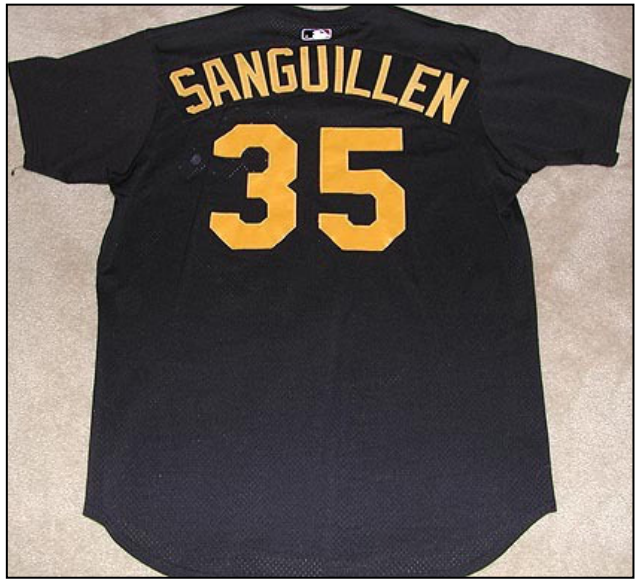
2001-2002 Batting Practice



Black, durable heavy mesh fabric, pullover with two-button neck. Pirates head logo with crossed bats on left front chest.

Names and numbers on the back, one-color, yellow. Numbers are Majestic Varsity.

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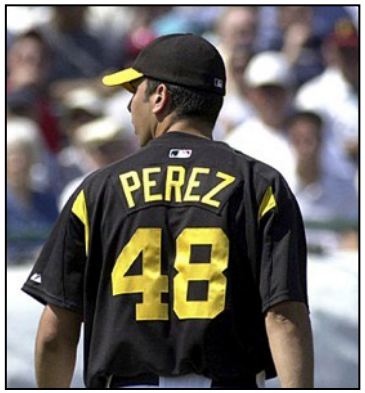
2003-2006 Batting Practice

Softer non-mesh black fabric, first generation tech fabric with yellow sleeve inserts. Two-button neck.

One-color block name, Varsity numbers, all yellow, on back. Extra condensed font used for longer names. Nameplates are used.

This fabric is very susceptible to pulls and runs. Team-used ones also often exhibit moderate fading. This first generation fabric was not very durable.



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2007-2010 Batting Practice

Along with the rest of Major League Baseball, the Pirates adopted new batting practice jerseys in 2007.

Jerseys are constructed of a very lightweight polyester fabric and have a one-button neck design New side panels are two-color: yellow and red.

Front logo is same as 2006's design, back lettering is one-color (yellow), numbers are in special Pirates font for the first time, the same as used on game uniforms.

All lettering and front design are heat-transferred appliqués, no longer embroidered patches or tackle twill.

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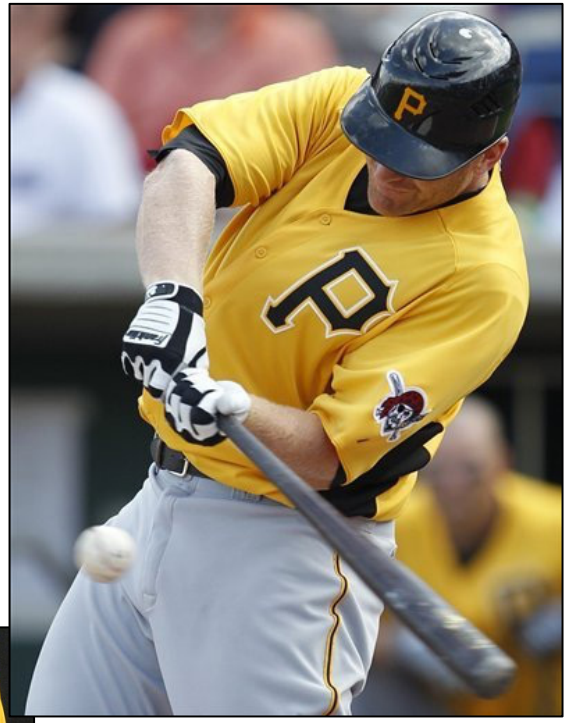
2011-2013 Batting Practice



The 2011–2013 Pirates batting practice jersey is a button-front design that has returned to yellow for the first time since the mid 1980s. The “P” on the chest is similar to the one from the current black alternate jersey.

Back name and Pirate-font numbers in black. White-background Pirates patch on the left sleeve.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

After three seasons in yellow warm-ups, the Pirates changed back to black Cool Base for 2014. Front wordmark and back numbers are a subtle black outlined with yellow. Player names are yellow block. All adornment is tackle twill. The front tag is a tall rectangle featuring the Pirates “P."
The Majestic sleeve logo is updated for 2014 as well.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team.

The Pirates use their regular season black alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are yellow patterned twill/black/white. The name on back is yellow pattered twill. Front numbers are the standard yellow/black/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Pirates spend Spring Training.

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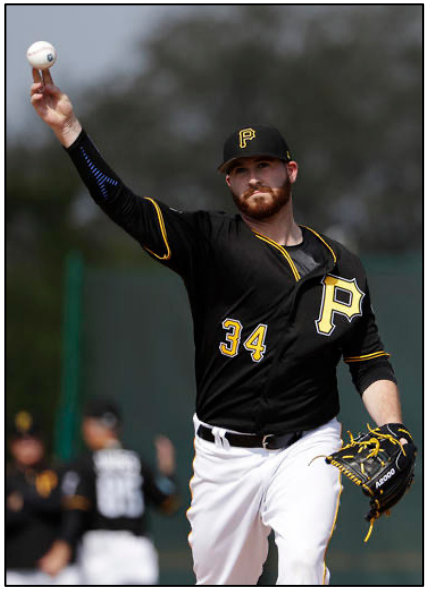
2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Pirates again use their regular season black alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard yellow/black/white, as is used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Pirates spend Spring Training.



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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Pirates jersey is black with yellow back and underarm. The "P" from their cap logo appears on the front left chest in black/yellow. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in black/yellow in special Pirates font on the left sleeve.

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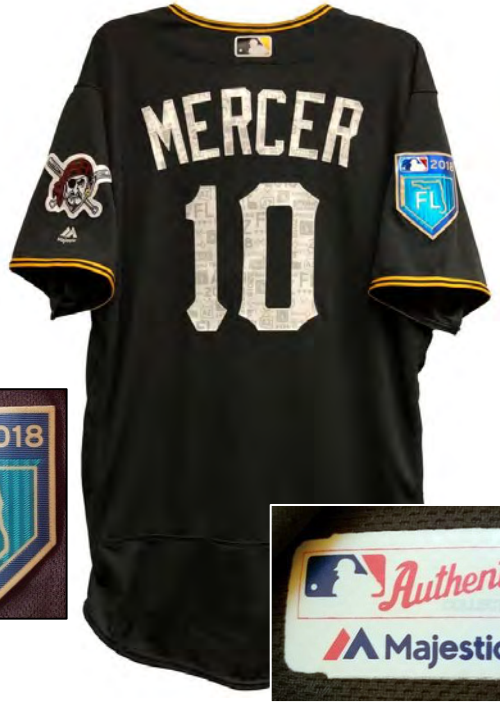
2018 Spring Training



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Pirates use their regular-season black alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard yellow/black/white, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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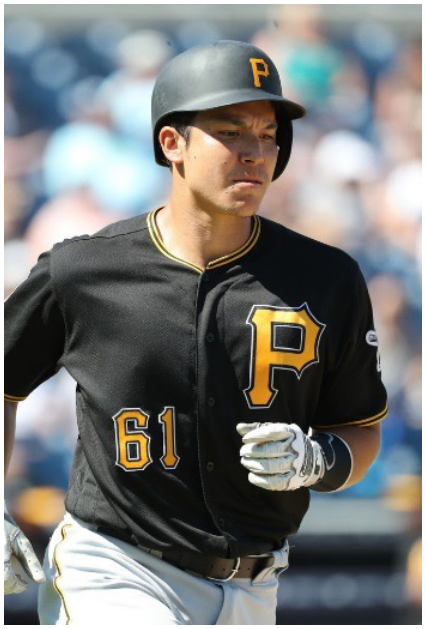
2019 Spring Training



The 2019 Spring Training jersey template evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Pirates use their regular-season black alternate as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. Front and back numbers are yellow/black/white, and the name on back is yellow.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training's jerseys are simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular season alternates. For 2020, the Pirates use their regular season home black alternate with the P on front left chest, with yellow/black/white back and front numbers. The name on back is yellow.

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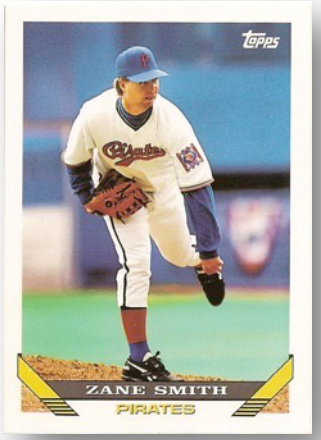
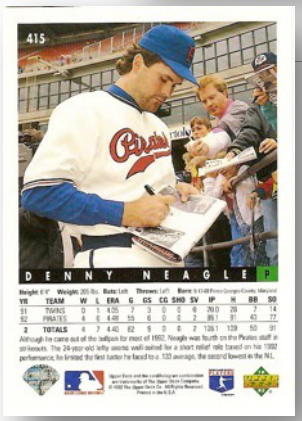
Special Events Jerseys

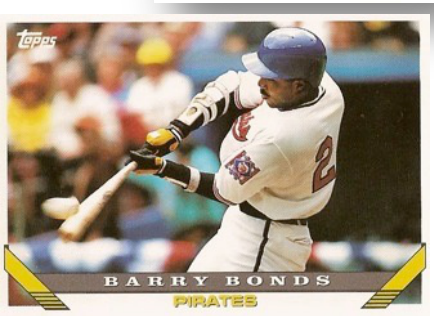
1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1939





Original 1939

Left: *Original Pirates 1939 uniform confirms that the front lettering of the TBTC copy is pretty accurate.*



TBTC uniform from one of the first TBTC games in on May 31, 1992, duplicating the 1939 Pirates' uniform in double knit by Rawlings. All lettering is two color layered felt. The Pirates played the "1939" Giants that day.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1925

July 11, 1993: The Pirates appeared as the 1925 Pirates, wearing Mitchell & Ness cream-colored poly-knit uniforms, vs. the Reds in Pittsburgh

The Pirates did not wear numbers in 1925. These throwbacks use Cubs-style numbers.

© GameWornGuides.com

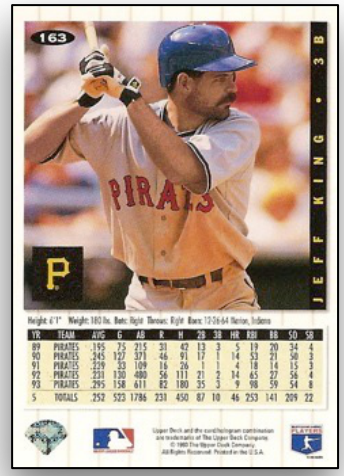
1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1933

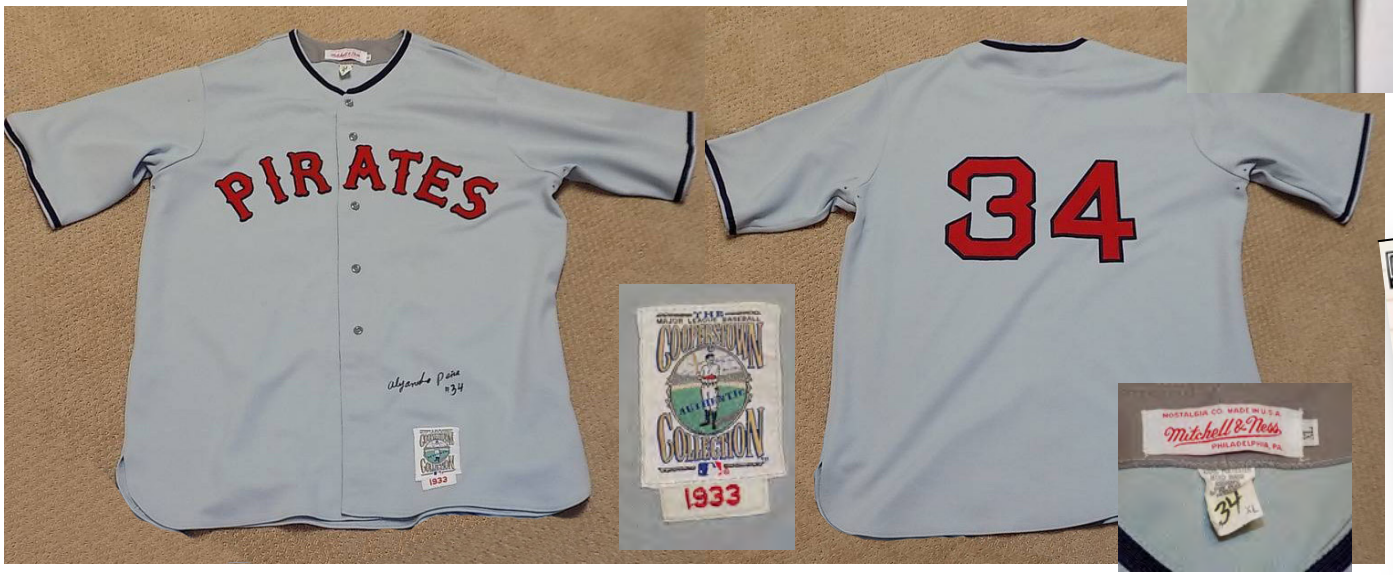
Stephen Kraljic collection

August 1, 1993: Mitchell & Ness recreated the uniforms of the 1933 Pirates for a Turn Back the Clock game. Game is played against the 1933-attired Phillies in Philadelphia.

The uniform is gray double knit and the lettering and numbers are felt. Red Sox/McAuliffe-style numbers are used on back only, and are what the Pirates actually wore in 1933.

Below: *Note gusseted underarm vents, as were used on wool jerseys of the era. We have never seen this detail added to a knit reproduction as seen on this one.*





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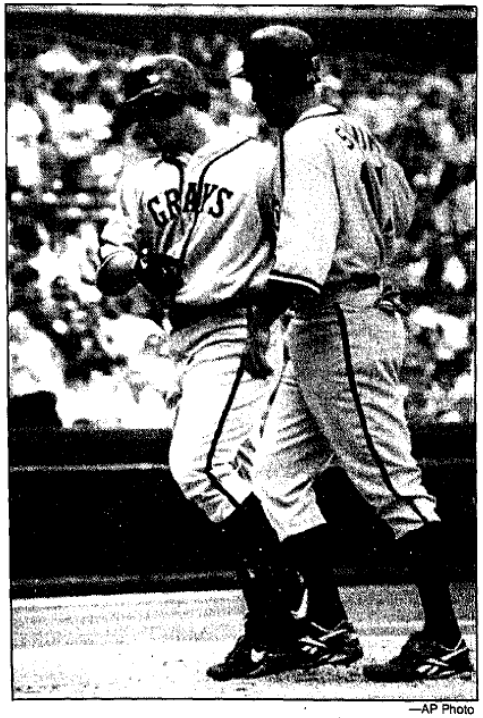
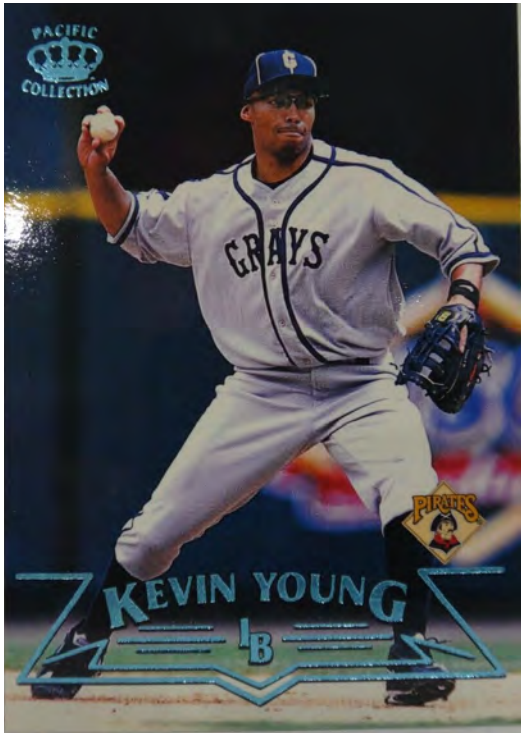
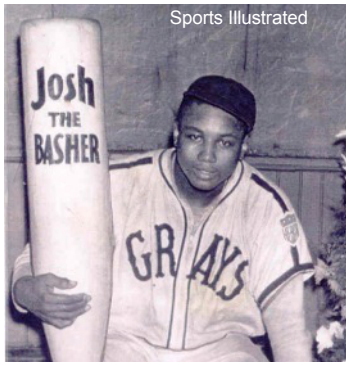
1997 Negro Leagues Tribute (Homestead Grays)



—AP Photo

Pittsburgh's Mark Smith is congratulated by teammate Dale Sveum after Smith hit a home run in the 10th inning.





July 4, 1997: the Pirates played the Cardinals in St. Louis in a Negro Leagues tribute game. The Pirates wore the road uniforms of the Homestead Grays, the Cardinals wore the home uniforms of the St. Louis Stars

The Rawlings jerseys made for the Pirates had a front wordmark that is much smaller than the Grays' original one. But especially noticeable is the modern inclusion of player names on back (which both teams used). This game is the only example that I can recall in the dozens of Negro Leagues games played where player NOBs are used on a throwback jersey.

The image at far right is of Josh Gibson, the Grays' biggest star.

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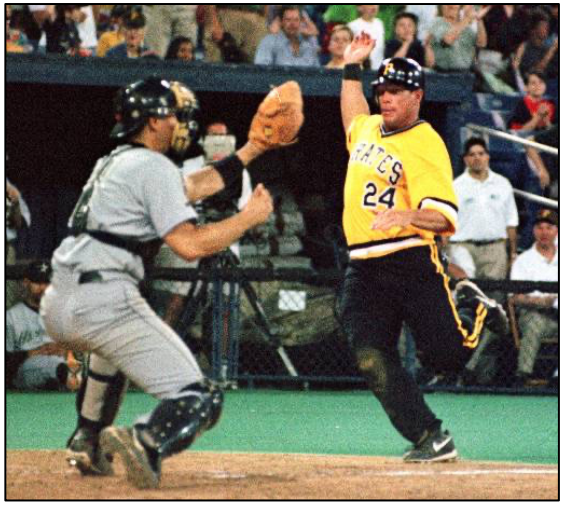
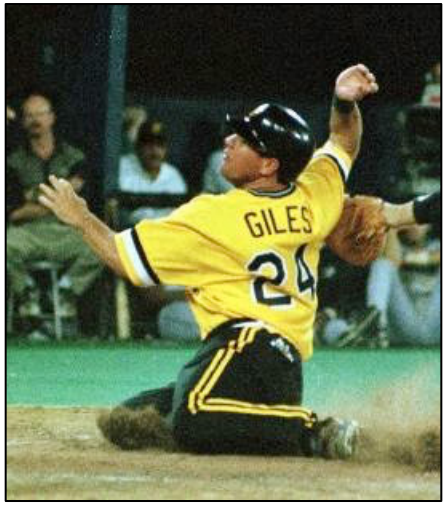
1999 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Stephen Kraljic collection

Bill Henderson Collection





Original jersey for comparison

May 29, 1999: For the 20th anniversary of the 1979 World Series victory, "mix-and-match" era, gold jerseys are worn, this time with black pants. These knit uniforms are made by Mitchell & Ness. The visiting Astros wore their regular road uniforms.

Fairly accurate in execution. A little too baggy, sleeve end trim a tiny bit too wide, numbers on front a little bit too bold, and NOB not in vertical arch.

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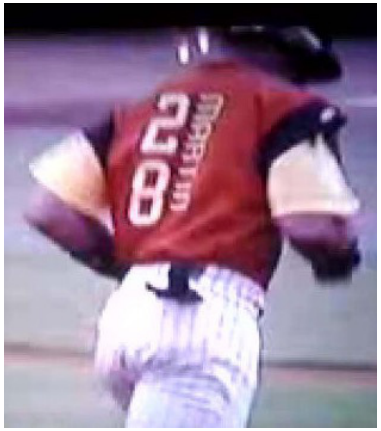
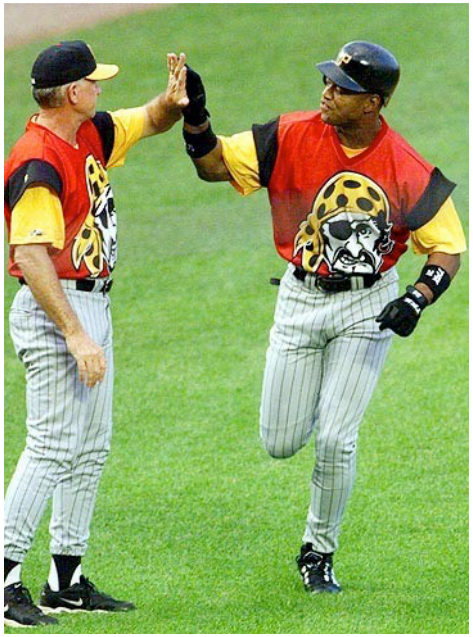
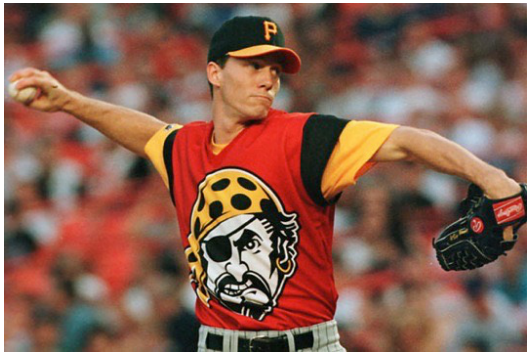
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

The pirate head on the jersey front is sublimated directly into the fabric. It has no texture at all.

The Pirates wore these twice: July 27 vs. the NY Mets in New York and August 20 against the Diamondbacks at home. Notice the interesting vertical layout of the back numbers. Back lettering is yellow twill outlined with black. Very few of these were ever made for retail sale; they are as rare as the proverbial “hen’s teeth.”







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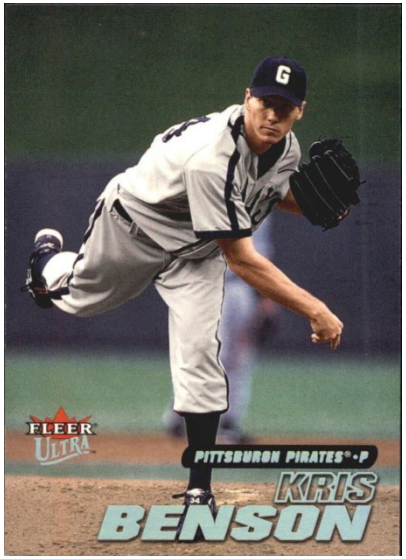
2000 Negro Leagues Tribute (1945 Homestead Grays)



June 10, 2000: The Pirates visited Kansas City and participated in their Salute to the Negro Leagues. Our reference material says that this game pitted the home 1945 Kansas City Monarchs against the road 1945 Homestead Grays.

The uniforms of the Pirates are more 1935 than 1945. These are made by AIS, who made the uniforms for the home Royals, and as you can see on pages that follow, AIS made this style for the Pirates time and again for both home and road contests.

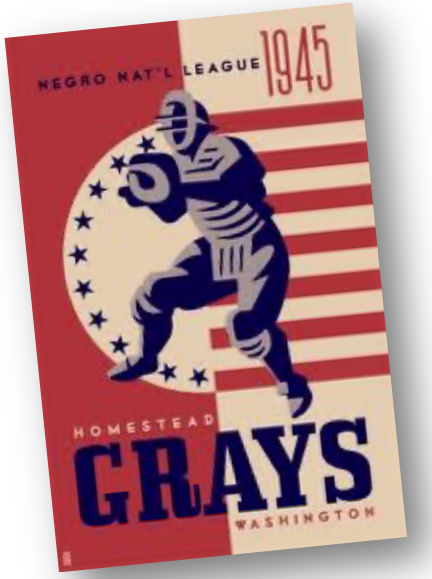


Photo below shows how the 1945 Grays actually appeared.

Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

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2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1960

Left: *Bill Mazeroski's actual 1960 Pirates uniform.*

Below: *Mitchell & Ness 1960-model Pirates jersey from their catalog, but not game worn from this contest.*

The Pirates take on the Padres for a Turn Back the Clock contest played July 29, 2000. Uniforms were sourced by the Pirates for both teams from Mitchell & Ness. The Pirates wore 1960 throwbacks, while the visiting Padres got tan-colored 1969 road uniforms. At right, the recap from the next day's San Diego Union-Tribune.

…(The Pirates) won the battle of the turn-back-the-clock uniforms. While the Padres wore their baggy 1969 grocery-sack brown outfits, the Pirates looked trim in the black and white, sleeveless attire worn by the 1960 World Series champions.

"Those guys had to wear UPS uniforms, and it carried over into the game," cracked Pirates star Brian Giles, who drilled two doubles and three singles.

The uniforms were as thick as burlap. Just the trick in muggy Pittsburgh.

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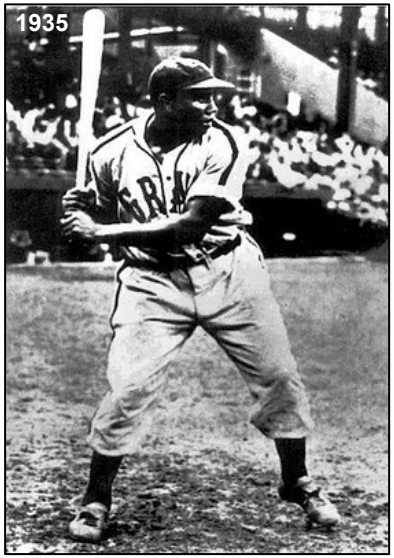
2001 Negro Leagues Tribute (Homestead Grays)



The Pirates played as the Homestead Grays of the Negro Leagues on July 14, 2001 vs. the visiting Kansas City Royals. Notice White Sox “Leisure Suit” number font used here, which my historian tells me is quite likely correct and what the Grays wore then. Whatever the case, it matches the front lettering nicely.

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2002 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords)

- On June 29, 2002, the Pirates appeared in Detroit for the Tigers' annual Negro Leagues salute day, and dressed in gray as the 1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords, while the Tigers wore the uniforms of the 1930 Detroit Stars.
- These uniforms were made for the Pirates by AIS. Red twill graphics on front and Block Bold numbers are used on back.

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2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1979-1984

The Pirates wore their all-gold mix-and-match set on four occasions 2003: on April 4, 5, 6, 2003 for the final home opener at Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium (the Phillies wore Turn Back the Clock uniforms from 1971 in those games, representing the Vet's first year). The Pirates wore them a final time on July 9 at home against the visiting Brewers.

Majestic did a passable job of matching the 1979–1984 originals, though the names on back should have been vertical arched and they were not.

I will note the players in 1979 would never have worn their uniforms this baggy– though surely Majestic had no say in this matter!

In a non-uniform-related comment about the July 9 game, it will be best remembered for "Sausagegate" when Pirates player Randall Simon decided it might be funny to trip one of the racing sausages during the seventh-inning stretch. His antics netted him a $432 dis-orderly conduct fine and some unwanted publicity. Your author ashamedly admits to finding this all very funny, but then he enjoys the Three Stooges, too.

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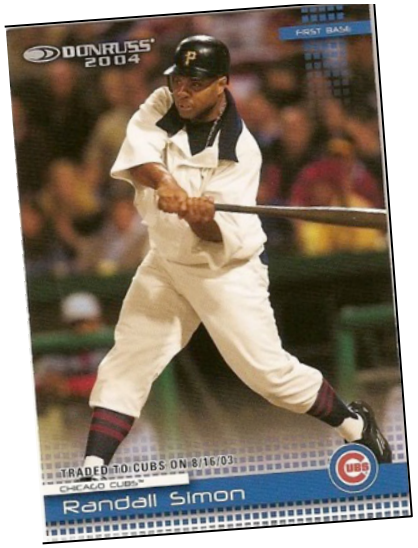
2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1903 World Series



In an interleague game June 5, 2003, with the help of AIS, the Pirates and the Red Sox recreated the match-up of the first World Series in 1903, where Pittsburgh and Boston originally faced off.

I wonder how players felt playing in these long sleeved double knit suits? I am tempted to ask if it is any better or worse than playing with uniforms three sizes too big, as many do in the current era anyway.

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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

Playing the Expos in Puerto Rico on July 9, 2004 (despite what it says on the tag!), the Pirates dressed in these replica 1969 vest uniforms rendered in double knit by Mitchell & Ness. The Expos wore 1971 style knits.

This style is nearly identical to the Pirates' then-current road uniforms, except that those say *Pittsburgh* on front. I wonder how many people even noticed that these were supposed to be old-time uniforms on that day?

Original 1969 flannel

Original 1966 flannel

© GameWornGuides.com

2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1979 (Gold)

July 23 and 25, 2004 brings another revival of “mix-and-match” TBTC day, this time at home against the Reds attired in 1979-style duds.

These yellow jerseys are made by Majestic, and are worn on this occasion with black knit pants. Note tag hidden inside the front tail.

Identical to the Majestic jerseys worn in 2003, and the same comments apply regarding their accuracy.

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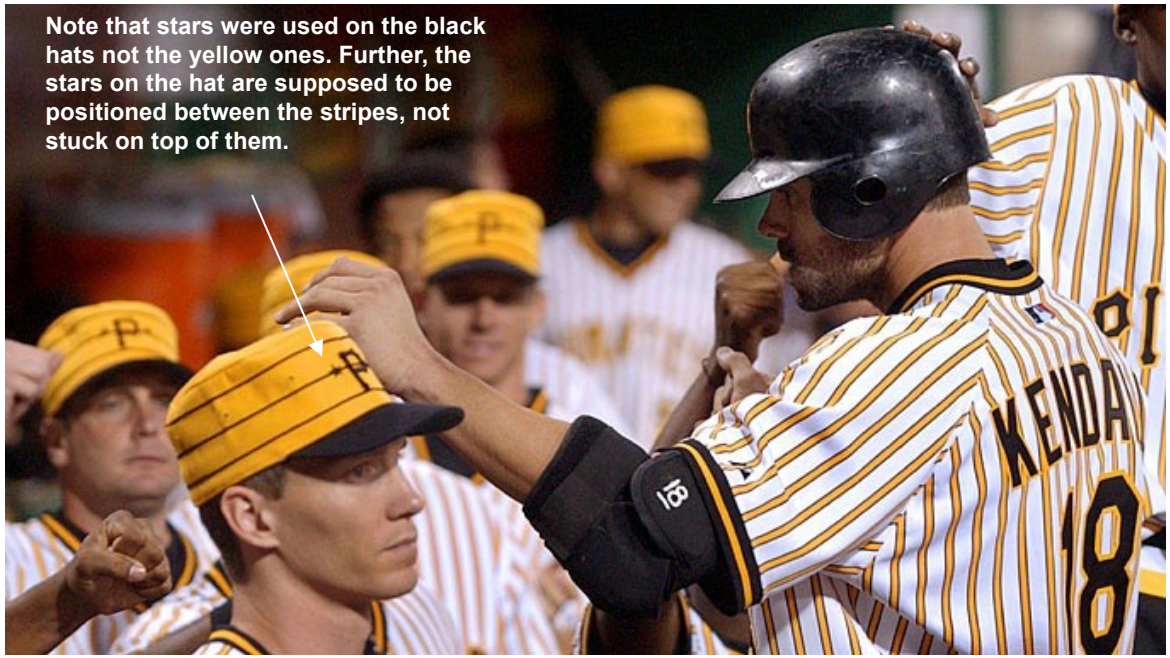
2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1979 (Pinstripe)



Original 1979 jersey

July 24, 2004: The Pirates wore Majestic replicas of their wild 1979 “We Are Family” Disco-Era Bumblebee striped uniforms, which are part of the “mix-and-match” uniform set used 1977–1984. They played the 1979-attired Cincinnati Reds. The Bumblebee stripes are too narrow and too close together, and the black in the stripes is not prominent enough. The sleeve trim is wrong and the front lettering is too small and proportioned wrong. No attempt was made to duplicate the funky 1970s Descente numbers, either.

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2005 Negro Leagues Tribute (1930s Pittsburgh Crawfords)

July 9, 2005 the Pirates donned the uniforms of the Pittsburgh Crawfords of the 1930s. Their opponents were the New York Mets, who dressed as the 1945 New York Cubans.

Uniforms are made in knit by AIS.

Right: *Josh Gibson of the Crawfords in 1932.*

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2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Homestead Grays, Road)

Visiting Cleveland on May 20, 2006, the Pirates appeared again as their frequent Turn Back the Clock alter egos, the 1935 Homestead Grays. The Indians wore the home uniforms of the 1946 Cleveland Buckeyes.

Most likely these uniforms are made by AIS, as the lettering on front is bolder than those made for the team by Ebbets Field Flannels two years later in 2008, and they look very similar to the ones made by AIS worn in Kansas City in 2000.

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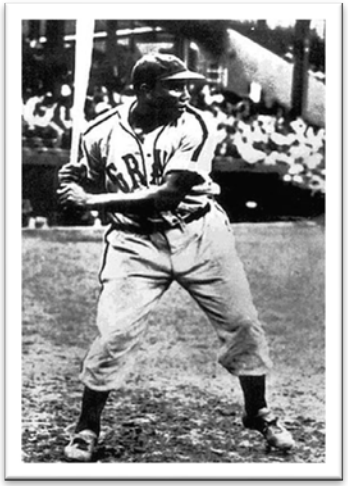
2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Homestead Grays, Home)

- On August 12, 2006 the Pirates hosted the visiting St. Louis Cardinals in a Negro Leagues tribute game. The Pirates dressed as the 1935 Homestead Grays, the Cardinals as the 1928 St. Louis Stars.
- The action photo at top left is from the 2006 game, but the photo of the #39 jersey at right is a 2009 game used model. Based on the frequency that this style is made by AIS for the Pirates, there are likely no differences.



Though NOT from the 2006 contest, the 2009 jersey above is likely identical to the jerseys used in this contest.

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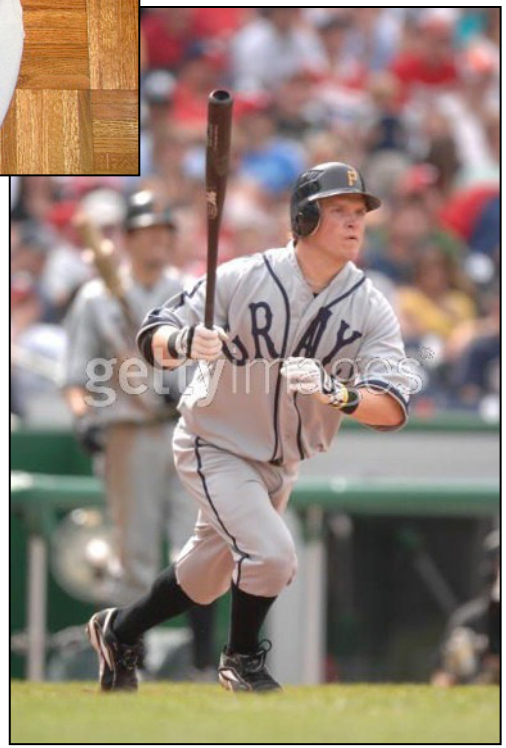
2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (Homestead Grays)



- The Bucs dressed as the Negro Leagues' Homestead Grays in a road game on May 3, 2008 vs. the Washington Nationals.
- The Nationals also dressed for this game as the Grays, wearing a white home uniform with red/navy lettering. The Grays split their home games between Washington and Pittsburgh back in the day.
- Number font is an uncatalogued (here) old-time cross between Varsity and Block. It may be the original and authentic style; it is not a contemporary font.
- Uniforms are made of knit by Ebbets Field Flannels.

The Pirates have played as the Homestead Grays several times in recent years, wearing similar but not identical uniforms to these. Notice that these uniforms are made by Ebbets Field Flannels, and the others have all been by AIS. Why would they not just stick with the vendor they are used to? The answer is that for almost all Turn Back the Clock games, the uniforms for the visitors are ordered and bought by the home team staging the game. And almost always, as these were, the uniforms are auctioned after the game by the home team as a fundraiser.

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2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1930s Pittsburgh Crawfords)

- The Pirates again dressed like the 1930s Pittsburgh Crawfords of the Negro Leagues, June 28, 2008, at home vs. The Tampa Bay Rays.
- AIS again made the uniforms, doubtlessly using the same patterns they used in 2005.
- Numbers on back are a Varsity variant.

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2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Pittsburgh Crawfords)

July 5, 2008, Pirates visiting the Brewers. The uniforms appear identical to those road uniforms made by AIS and worn in 2002. Home versions of this same uniform were worn in 2005 and just a week prior in Tampa Bay.

Gray knit with red pinstripes and thick red sewn on knit trim on the placket and around the early-style stand-up sun collar. All sewn-on red twill lettering. Numbers on back are in a bold variant of Block, no player names used.

The Brewers wore the 1923 home uniforms of the Milwaukee Bears.

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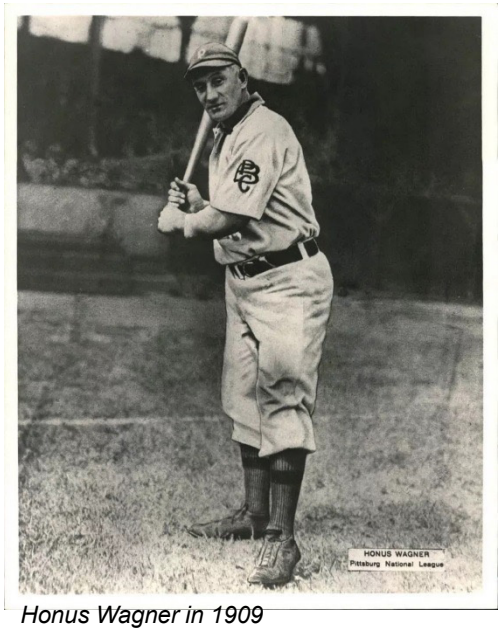
2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1909

Stephen Kraljic collection

On June 14, 2009 in Pittsburgh, the Pirates played the Tigers in a rematch of the 1909 World Series between the two teams, and also celebrated the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Pirates' former Forbes Field ballpark.

The stark white Pirates uniforms looked like they were missing something… like perhaps a team name on the front! Knit copies of original flannel uniforms feature ¾ length sleeves and large floppy collars. Only uniform adornment is interlocking "PBC" on sleeve, surely stands for "*Pittsburg Baseball Club*." Numbers on back are a modern touch not found on 1909 originals, for certain.

The game featured an old-time environment: video scoreboards were turned off and the score was kept by hand; there was no music on the loudspeakers, and mascots (Jolly Roger and the Pirate Parrot) were banished from the park for the day.



Honus Wagner in 1909

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Homestead Grays)

The Pirates wore the same Homestead Grays uniforms made by AIS as they had in contests of 2000 and 2006. Games were held on two consecutive nights, June 26th and 27 th against the Kansas City Royals who dressed as the Kansas City Monarchs.

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2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1979 (Gold)

- The Pirates dressed in 1979 gold jerseys and black pants for this Turn Back the Clock contest against the 1979-attired Cincinnati Reds on August 21, 2009 at home.
- These jerseys are probably nearly identical to the ones Majestic made for the club in both 2003 and 2004, though we note that the jock tag in those two years as sewn inside the front tail, not on the outside like these are.
- Same comments about originality as before: fairly accurate, but number fonts are not the exact ones, NOB should be vertical arched and on nameplates. And the players in 1979 would never have worn their uniforms this baggy.

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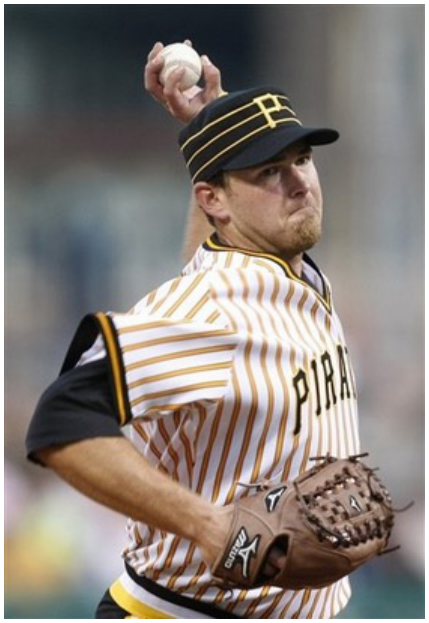
2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1979 (Pinstripe)



For a second night in a row, the Pirates and the Cincinnati Reds recreated their 1979 National League Championship Series uniforms on August 22 as part of the Buccos' 30th anniversary celebration of their last World Series championship. While it is nice to see this wild style from the 70s for an evening, the pattern and width of the stripes is wrong. In the photo at left, notice how the original has nine stripes behind the wordmark. The replica has 14 stripes.

The loose and baggy way these uniforms were worn bear absolutely no resemblance to the players of 30 years ago.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1931 Pittsburgh Crawfords)

June 12, 2010: The Pirates again appeared as a favorite for Turn Back the Clock contests, the 1931 Pittsburgh Crawfords, this time at Detroit.

These uniforms are identical to those made by AIS and worn by the Pirates on several of their past Turn Back the Clock dates.

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Turn Back the Clock game played on June 26, 2010 in Oakland. The Pirates wore their all-black uniforms from their 1979 championship year. The Athletics wore all-gold uniforms from 1974.

When I saw this game's highlights on TV– I had to smile. These Pirates uniforms are as close to perfect as is possible, because these use the correct Descente name and number fonts. Very good quality, accurate reproductions.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Hispanic Heritage

The Pirates were the guests in Milwaukee on July 10 for Hispanic Heritage night. The Brewers wore their "C*erveceros*" uniforms, and the Pirates played along by wearing jerseys with the word "*Piratas*" on it. I give extra credit for this effort, as I have to admit annoyance at those teams sewing a stupid "Los" in front of their wordmark in an effort to become Hispanic for the day. "*Los Rangers*" and "*Los Mets*"… really.

I went looking for photo evidence of this game and was surprisingly unable to find any! Perhaps the change to the Pirates jerseys was so subtle no one had noticed it or bothered to photograph it. But at right, you see two photos, where did they come from?

Funny that these photos of Ronny Cedeno were taken when the Pirates played the Marlins almost three months later, at the very end of the season. Cedeno was the only player on the field wearing the "*Piratas*" jersey. Somehow it had been given to him to wear, and nobody noticed until after the game was in progress. This was the only time during the road trip that he wore this jersey, so he must have had another one along on the trip. I love that kind of stuff.

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2010 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

On August 12, 2010, the Pirates and Padres treated us to the memory of how baseball looked in the late 1970s…sort of.. by both wearing their Turn Back the Clock uniforms from that era. While the Padres dressed in their brown tops with the yellow sleeves, the Bucs wore the Bumblebee-striped tops and black pants.

The Majestic jerseys the Pirates wore was a full-weight knit, not Cool Base. Majestic has made these for the Pirates before, and while the intent is there, they are simply not correct. Since clearly Majestic must have had this cloth custom-made for the Pirates (this isn't a pattern that is at the fabric store on a roll) I just wonder why they don't do it accurately. We have covered this before: see my write-ups on the similar 2004 and 2009 Turn Back the Clock uniforms. These feature an inaccurate number font and size on both front and back, and wrong name font too. This, sadly after they GOT IT RIGHT for the first time just six weeks prior in Oakland.

Interesting that these uniforms would have been ordered by the Pirates for their home game, while the more accurate ones at Oakland were (most likely) ordered for them by the A's.

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2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords)

The Mets and Pirates honored the Negro Leagues by wearing the uniforms of the 1944 New York Cubans and the 1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords.

The game took place in Pittsburgh on August 21, and was shortened by rain.

AIS Manufacturer's tag is sewn inside back shirt tail on the 2010 version. It had been on the outer front shirt tail in all prior years.

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2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1971

- Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the 1971 World Series, the Orioles and the Pirates played in Turn Back the Clock uniforms on June 21, 2011 in Pittsburgh.
- 1971 featured the first double knit World Series, especially unusual because most teams would not adopt knits until 1972. But both the NL Champs and the AL Champion Orioles had been early adopters and had begun wearing knits in 1970 and 1971, respectively.
- The Majestic replicas are extremely faithful reproductions of the originals from 40 years prior, including the extra-large back numbers.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Homestead Grays)

- On July 23, 2011, the Cardinals visited the Pirates for another Turn Back the Clock contest between the 1935 Homestead Grays and the 1931 St. Louis Stars.
- The Pirates' Grays uniforms were sewn by AIS, and were probably identical to the home Grays uniforms made by that company for 2000, 2006 and 2009.

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2011 German Heritage

The Brewers have celebrated the Milwaukee region's German heritage before, but never have had a visitor join in the fun. The Pirates, following their "Piratas" Hispanic Heritage day appearance as visitors in Milwaukee in 2010 followed up with an 2011 encore as the German "Piraten" on Sunday, August 14, 2011. Impressive.

Aside from the fabric color and one-letter change in the front wordmark, these uniforms are identical to the Pirates usual road Cool Base uniforms.

We were watching, but Ronny Cedeno did not wear his German uniform shirt in any other cities in 2011.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Memorial Day/Armed Services Day

Billed as the Pirates' Memorial Day "Salute to the Troops," they wear camouflage Cool Base jerseys with black and yellow twill lettering on May 26 and 27. Cartoon Pirate patch in white border on the left sleeve, American Flag patch on the right sleeve.

MLB must have liked the idea, because all teams wore camo-themed uniforms for Memorial Day in both 2013 and 2014.

This same jersey style was worn on May 17 and 18, 2013 for Armed Services Day in Pittsburgh. Though they are a different set of actual jerseys worn a year later, the pattern appears to be identical to the ones worn for 2012 Memorial Day.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords)

On May 19, 2012 the Pirates visited Detroit and participated in the Tigers' annual Negro League tribute game. Gray pinstripe knit uniforms of the Pittsburgh Crawfords were ordered from AIS by the Tigers for the visiting Bucs, and the style of the uniform is unique to any the Pirates had worn in the past.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Negro Leagues Tribute (Homestead Grays)

The Pirates have maintained a tradition of having a home Negro Leagues Tribute day each year, and June 9, 2012 they dressed as the Grays in home uniforms made by AIS, likely using the same patterns as those made by AIS and worn by the Pirates in 2000, 2006, 2009 and 2011.

Though they have worn these exact uniforms before, in home contest on at least five other occasions, and also made by AIS, I am showing them again here because this particular set seems to have the manufacturer tagging on the inside back tail rather than on the outside front left shirt tail.

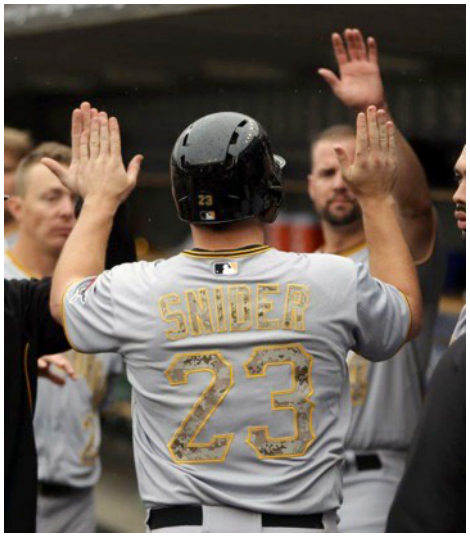
© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

Recall that on Memorial Day 2012 the Pirates wore jerseys made of camouflage fabric. On May 27, Memorial Day 2013, the Pirates joined all the other teams in a MLB-sponsored event by wearing uniforms with camouflage-styled lettering. All black in the uniform lettering, both wordmark and player number/NOB was replaced by desert camo twill.

The gray uniforms with camouflage twill outlined in yellow and made for practically invisible lettering for the Pirates, the worst of perhaps any team in baseball for this league-wide promotion, and a clear reminder of why camouflage is worn by servicemen: so they cannot be easily seen. Really.



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2013 Negro Leagues Tribute (Homestead Grays)

The uniforms for the June 1, 2013 Negro League contest were made by AIS and visually identical to those worn at home in 2000, 2006, 2009, 2011 and 2012. The AIS tagging returns to the outside left front shirttail compared to those worn in the 2012 contest, where examples we have see have the tagging on the inside.

Player customization is limited to the number on back, in a special and ornate font, one-color navy blue twill.

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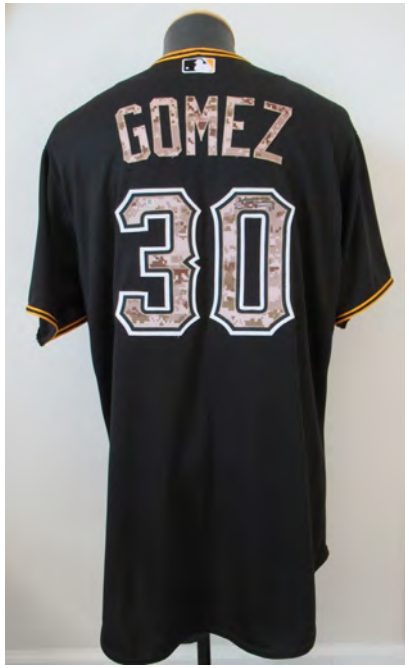
2014 Memorial Day/Military Appreciation Day



The Pirates wore these same uniforms twice in 2014: first on May 26 on the road in New York for Memorial Day, and then two weeks later at home in Pittsburgh for Military Appreciation Day on June 10. The choice of the black alternate uniform allowed the Pirates to wear the same uniform to be worn both at home and on the road. And there would be little argument that the camouflage twill is far easier to see and read on a background of black vs. other options.

All yellow twill on both front wordmark and player name and number lettering is changed to desert-camo twill. The effect is subtle, and charitably might even be called “hardly noticeable.”

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1953

The Pirates were the guests on June 22, 2014 at Wrigley Field in Chicago as part of the Cubs' yearlong celebration of the 100th anniversary of Wrigley Field. On this day, both teams reprised uniforms of 1953. The Pirates uniforms were reproduced in gray knit by Majestic, and feature the word "Pittsburgh" in a grand arch across the front. Back player numbers are the only adornment, and they are rendered in a tall variant of block.

An actual 1953 jersey is pictured here for comparison. The front wordmark is excellent in its faithfulness to the original. The back numbers used on the reproduction are a different font that the original, which uses a custom form of Varsity vs. the stretched Block font used on the replica, likely the same font used on the back of the Pirates' white 1970s retro uniforms.

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2014 Negro Leagues Tribute (Pittsburgh Crawfords)

As they had in 2005, 2008 and 2010, the Pirates dressed as the Pittsburgh Crawfords in uniforms made of knit fabric by AIS. The uniforms for all these dates are identical-appearing. The only player adornments are the red numbers on back, sewn in Block Bold. Their opponent for this June 28 game were the New York Mets.

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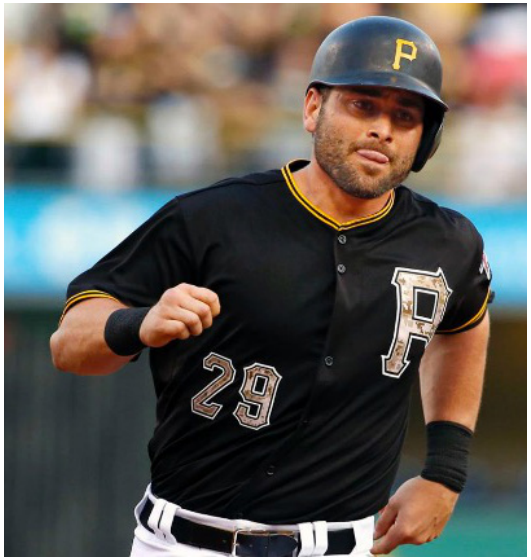
2015 Memorial Day

Repeating the look worn on Military Appreciation Day and Memorial Day 2014, the Pirates use their black alternate jersey for Memorial Day, May 25, 2015. Once again, the top layer of all player names, numbers, and the team wordmark is desert camouflage, while the rest of the jersey remains the same as usual. There is a slight change here, in that the NOB is outlined in white, a detail that was not part of the 2014 version. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.



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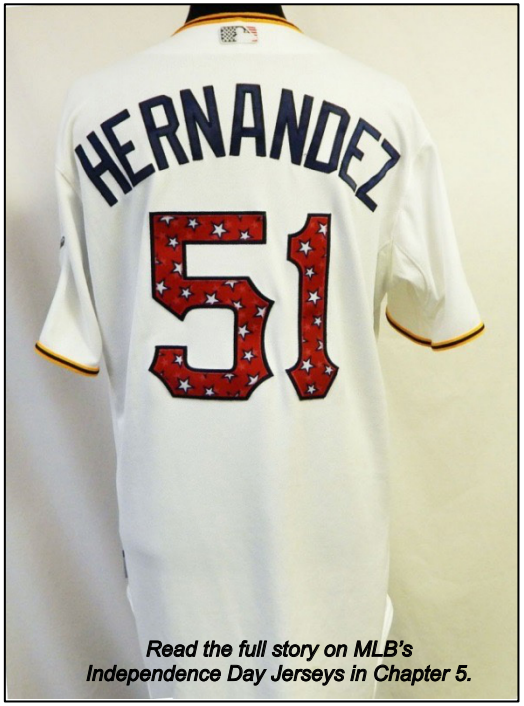
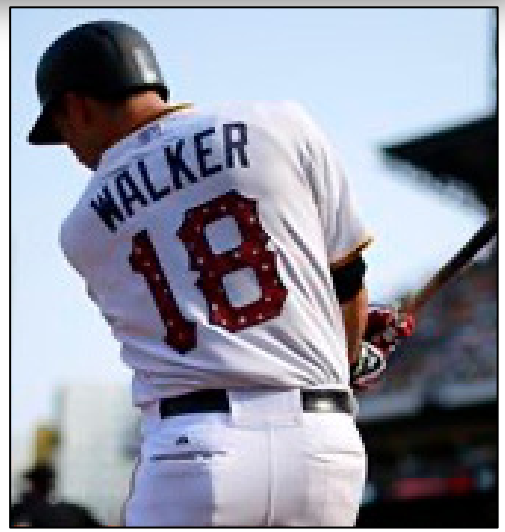
2015 Independence Day



Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys, which causes a clash with the Pirates' black and yellow pre-existing trim. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Pirates wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.



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2014 Negro Leagues Tribute (1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords)

Stephen Kraljic collection

The Pirates once again pay tribute to the Negro League Pittsburgh Crawfords, this time in a road matchup against the Brewers, who wear the uniforms of the Negro League Milwaukee Bears.

This is the second time the Pirates have worn this style of Crawfords road jersey, circa 1935, the first being 2012 at Kansas City. The gray Majestic pinstriped knit jerseys sport simple block lettering in red on front and red block numbers on back, sans names. Double strands of red braid circle the sleeve ends and neck/placket.

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2016 St. Patrick's Day

Stephen Kraljic collection

The Pirates go green for St. Patrick's Day 2016 in a Spring Training game held March 17. Based on their black alternate jersey, this Flex Base model is in solid green, with front logo and front and back numbers in white/gray Pirates font and player name in white Block. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The Pirates' left sleeve patch is reduced to shades of gray and white, while the right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the 2016 St. Patrick's Day promotion. White knit trim encircles both sleeves.

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2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, May 8, 2016 and May 13–14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Pirates wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally gold/black/gold, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Pirates apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from gold/black/gold.

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2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Pirates wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally gold/black/gold, becomes dark gray.

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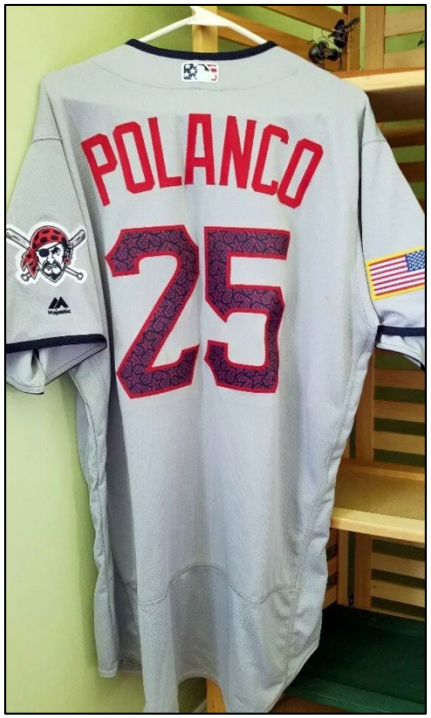
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Pirates are on the road and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Pirates select the blue twill version with red outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with a red player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim, normally gold/black/gold, becomes single-color blue.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to the 1990s

The Pirates throwback to the 1990s on July 30 against the Brewers, who are attired in their 1994–1996 home uniforms. Made by Majestic, the gray pinstriped knit jerseys are good recreations of the 1997–2000 road jerseys, with black/yellow lettering throughout and the names on back properly on nameplates. However, these use a standard version of the Block font for front and back numbers where the originals used a Pirates-specific version that was slightly narrower than most other teams.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1971

Less than a year after decommissioning their white, early 1970s throwback as an alternate, the Pirates bring it back for Turn Back the Clock nights on September 3 and 7. This version is a Cool Base pullover despite bearing traditional knit-jersey tagging on front. Just like the discontinued alternate, it has two-color player names on back, two-color front numbers on the left side, and two-color back numbers that are a recreation of the font used by the Pirates in the early 1970s: a slightly taller and thinner variant of the Block font than used by most other teams. Though the 1971 jerseys also featured the same rounded, crew neck as this jersey, the originals did not have names on back.

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2016-2017 Negro Leagues Tributes (Homestead Grays)

Derek Damian Collection

On September 9, 2016 and June 16, 2017, the Pirates take the field honoring the Negro League's Homestead Grays for the eighth and ninth time in this particular home uniform. The 2016 version was the first one made by Majestic, with the majority of previous incarnations, including the most recent in 2012, made by AIS. Like its predecessors, player customization is limited to the number on back, in a special and ornate font, one-color navy blue twill. Majestic's front lettering appears smaller than the style used by AIS, but the Majestic sleeve and neck trim are the same size, whereas sleeve trim on recent AIS jerseys was wider than the neck trim.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Pirates apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017 and May 26–28, 2018. It is distinguishable from the Pirates' identical home Military Appreciation jersey only by the code on the interior tagging. The Memorial Day white jersey is coded with "PTUX" while the Military jersey has "PT8M."

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Pirates wear home white with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally gold/black/gold, becomes dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 template for MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017, the Pirates wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Road)

Because teams wore these Memorial Day jerseys for the entire weekend, some teams like the Pirates required both home and road versions because of their schedule. Like the home version of these jerseys, the 2017 road version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3–4, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the Pirates wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Pirates wear jerseys with black bodies and yellow sleeves with white nicknames and yellow numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide yellow/white/yellow trim. The front features a straight-across version of their normally arched home lettering, here rendered in yellow/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

This jersey was also worn on August 20, 2017 for the Little League Classic with this patch on the left sleeve.

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2018 Negro Leagues Tribute (Pittsburgh Crawfords)

For the fifth time, on July 13, 2018, the Pirates dress in this version of the Negro League's Pittsburgh Crawfords uniforms, but for the first time, reproduced in full knit by Majestic after AIS produced previous versions. Though the overall look is very similar with a cream jersey base, many of the small details differ for 2018. The double sleeve knit trim and neck/placket knit trim are much thinner on this version, the script wordmark is less angled than before, and McAuliffe-style numbers on back replace what had been Block Bold. For the first time for this style, a maker's mark appears on the left sleeve under the "C" logo, which did not appear on the AIS sets, as they do not have a contract to place their logo on the on-field uniforms.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood.

Heat-pressed Majestic and team set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Pirates wear jerseys with gray bodies and yellow sleeves with white nicknames and yellow numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide yellow/white/yellow trim. The front features a straight-across version of their normally arched home lettering, here rendered in yellow/white kiss-cut twill.

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2019 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Pittsburgh Crawfords)

Stephen Kraljic collection

The Pirates frequently honor the Crawfords, a Negro League team that called Pittsburgh home throughout the 1930s. In 2019, they participate in two separate Negro League tribute games against the Brewers with these jerseys, on June 1 in Pittsburgh and June 7 in Milwaukee. These Majestic Cool Base throwbacks are roughly based on the Crawfords' 1938 uniforms, with black/red/black braid around the neck and placket, as well as just above both sleeve ends, and black Block numbers on back. The front logo is the real standout on this set, featuring "Pittsburgh" in black script, underscored with a broad gray/black swash with "CRAWFORDS" in black sans-serif font embroidered on. The full effect is quite striking, especially with the red caps worn on defense.

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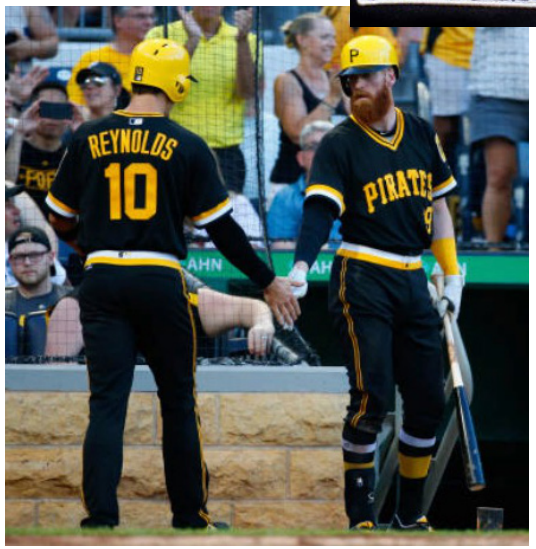
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1979



Forty years after their "We are Family" 1979 World Series victory, the Pirates throw back to the all-black version of the nine variations of their mix-and-match 1977–1984 sets on July 20. Like the 2010 throwbacks to this set, also made by Majestic, these full knit pullover V-necks are excellent reproductions, down to the Descente-styled name and number fonts. The look is a little less historical, though certainly more festive, with the inclusion of the 1979 World Series Celebration patch on the left sleeve.

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2019 Little League Classic

The Little League Classic, an MLB game played in Williamsport, PA, home of the Little League World Series, was a major element of the Players Weekend promotion when it started in 2017. The game served as a preview, of sorts, of the colorful, Little League-inspired uniforms worn for the Major League promotion a week later. Then, August 18, 2019 brought a stark monochromatization (yes, I said it…) of the Players Weekend look, so to stick to its roots, the Little League Classic had to change….to stripes. Wide chest stripes with team nickname inside, that is. On August 18, the Pirates sport these white Majestic Cool Base pullovers for the Classic, with black/white "THE BURGH" emblazoned on front, centered in the two-tone yellow horizontal chest stripe. A yellow V-neck and sleeves complete the look, while back numbers appear in black/yellow in the Pirates usual font, and black player nicknames (a holdover from Players Weekend) surmount the back numbers. Also returning from previous Players Weekend games is the right-sleeve CFX patch, featuring an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood, with a space for the player to personalize with names of people instrumental in his life. A CFX Little League Classic logo patch appears on the right sleeve.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve, though several Pirates players wore it on their left chest instead, and a few did not have it at all. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Pirates wear a black version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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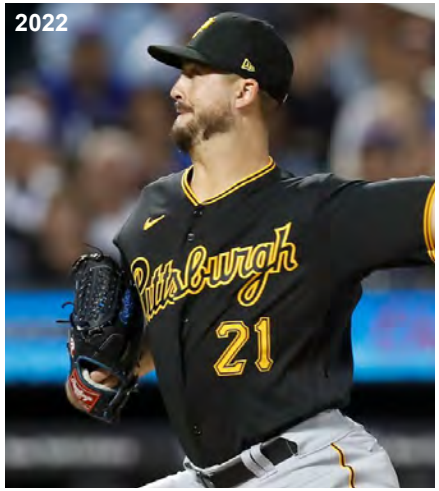
2020-2023 Roberto Clemente Tributes

September 9, 2020, September 15, 2021, 2022, and 2023: MLB declares its first official Roberto Clemente Day in 2020, and solidifies September 15 as its annual date in 2021. Whereas other teams have the option of wearing Clemente patches and/or having certain players wear "21" for the game, the Pirates have all their players wear the number of their legendary player from the start. In 2020, 2021,and 2023, they apply the number to their home whites. The team wears their black road alternates against the Mets in 2022, who return the favor by all wearing 21 as well.



Left: Note the label added to the tagging of this example so the clubhouse staff would know which locker to place this jersey in, because everyone was wearing 21.

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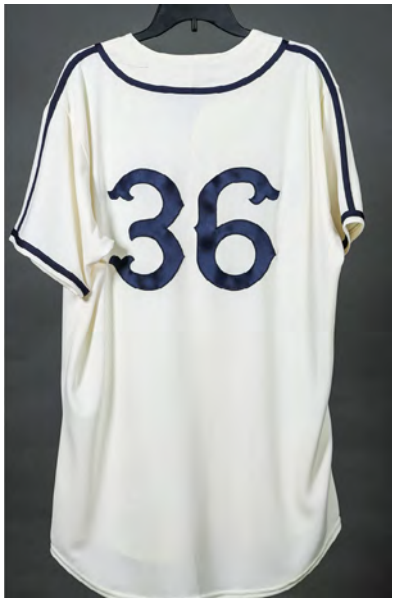
2021, 2023 Negro Leagues Tributes (Homestead Grays)



On August 27, 2021 and August 15, 2023 (game two of a doubleheader), the Pirates take the field honoring the Negro League's Homestead Grays for the 10th and 11th times in this particular home uniform. This version, in Cool Base fabric, was made by Nike, with previous incarnations made by Majestic and AIS. Like its predecessors, player customization is limited to the number on back, in a special and ornate font, one-color navy blue twill. Given that the Nike jerseys are manufactured in the former Majestic factory (that Nike bought out) these are essentially identical to the 2016 and 2017 versions of this jersey, save for the deletion of the Majestic logo on the sleeve and the addition of the Nike logo on the front, right chest.

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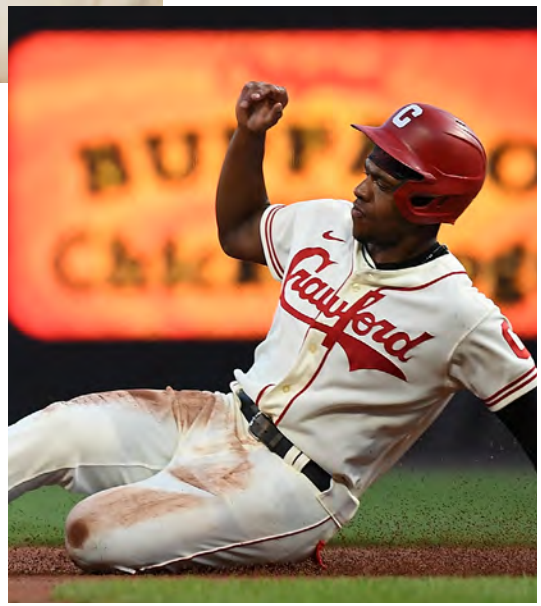
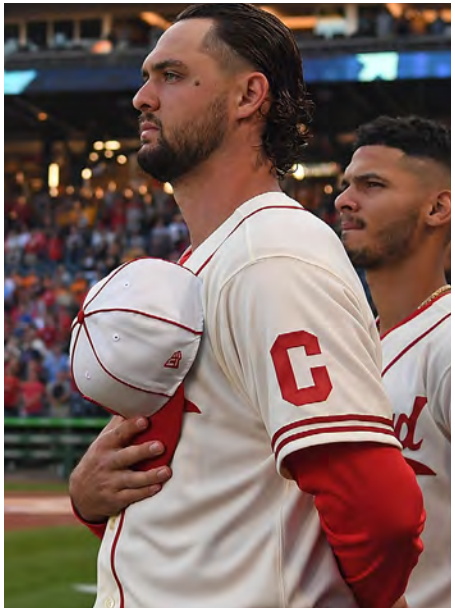
2022 Negro Leagues Tribute (Pittsburgh Crawfords)

For the sixth time, on September 9, 2022, the Pirates dress in this version of the Negro League Pittsburgh Crawfords uniforms, for the first time, reproduced by Nike after Majestic and AIS produced previous versions. Given that the Nike jerseys are manufactured in the former Majestic factory (that Nike bought out) these are essentially identical to the 2018 version of this jersey, save for the deletion of the Majestic logo on the sleeve and the addition of the Nike logo on the front, right chest.





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2024 Roberto Clemente Tribute

On September 15, 2024, Roberto Clemente Day throughout MLB, the Pirates honor their team legend by all wearing his number 21. This practice is not new, but with the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite that year, the jerseys are. The jersey itself if the team's standard home jersey, so all of the VPE updates apply, but the new, smaller back numbers look even smaller with no player name above. Front and back numbers are perforated on this jersey. The team's ad patch occupies the sleeve opposite the Pirate head patch. The specific sleeves for the patches vary based on the handedness of each player.

The Pirates don't usually wear the league-wide "21" patch on Clemente Day, as their jerseys already feature his number. But Pirates pitcher David Bednar was honored pregame as the team's Roberto Clemente Award nominee for his track record of community service, so he wore the award nominee version of the patch for the day.

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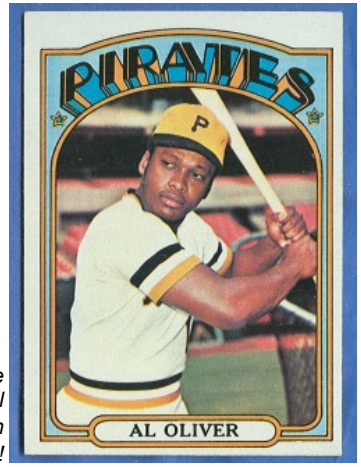
Prototypes and Oddballs

1970 Prototypes?

- Even among die-hard collectors, probably only one in 100 would spot the oddity with this jersey. Can you see it?
- *The difference is* the sleeve stripes. They are sewn on with the colors in the opposite order from what the Pirates wore on the field. Game worn Pirates jerseys have the stripes in black-white-gold, not the other way around.
- First, yes, it is a 1970–1971 period jersey, and is not a reproduction. The old-style Rawlings tag sewn in the shirt tail identifies it as pre-1972.
- I have seen this particular jersey bought and sold three times in two years on eBay… advertised as *"Game Worn Al Oliver Pirates Jersey."*
- Since our last edition, reader and collector Tony Cocchi has provided this photo ***(top right)*** which he suggests may have been part of a promotional shoot by Rawlings, taken of Roberto Clemente in Puerto Rico in the winter of 1970. Tony claims that he has seen one other such jersey with the sleeve stripes in reverse order.
- Since we have multiple images of this jersey configuration, I am concluding it is likely an earlier design, and that the stripes were switched before team release. Having the gold stripe nearest the end makes it stand out against a black undershirt. Note that the Baltimore Orioles also switched the order of their sleeve stripes in this same way between the 1971 postseason and the 1972 regular season (examples shown in the Orioles chapter).



As actually used, sleeve stripes on Al Oliver's baseball card, backwards stripes on sample jerseys above!

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1977 Prototype Black

Zoom in on the photo and you can read after his autograph: ***"7 for 7 9/16/75."*** On September 16, 1975, Rennie Stennett became the second player in Major League history to get 7 hits in a 9-inning game, going 7-for-7. Since this feat is his major claim to fame, he might add that notation on many of the autographs he signs, like Bobby Thomson adding "10/3/51" after his signature for the "Shot Heard 'Round the World" – and not the date he actually signed the autograph.

This particular jersey is made by Wilson, while all the other black jerseys are made by Descente. The name on back is two-color, vertical arch. No nameplate. The numbers on front and back are two-color block, yellow/white.

It is likely that this jersey is a prototype; a salesman's sample for the 1977 season. The team had probably asked different manufacturers to submit designs for the upcoming 1977 "mix-and-match" uniform redesign. While Wilson was selected to make the yellow jerseys in 1977, they were not awarded the black ones.

It is sort of a shame. These solid fabric jerseys with the two-color vertically arched lettering are nicer looking (to me) than the black Descente ones that were used by the team.

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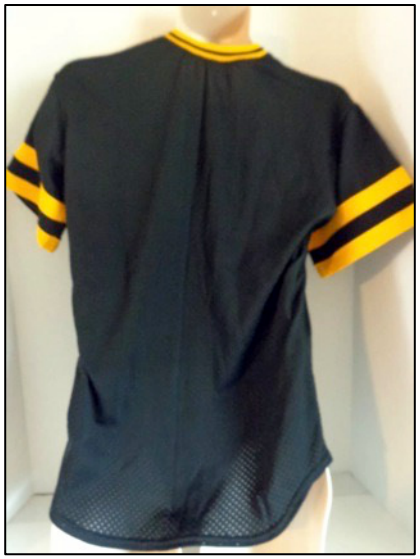
1977 Prototype Black Mesh?

We don't know very much about this jersey at all, but will make some educated guesses. While we have no record of Goodman making jerseys for the Pirates, it does appear that the team was soliciting suggestions for its planned uniform modifications for the 1977 season. While the team eventually selected Japanese maker Descente to make its black game jerseys, note that they were concerned about how hot it would be for players to wear black jerseys and had suggested to makers that they wanted mesh jerseys. It is possible that this may be a Goodman submission.
It features the new-for-1977 taller wordmark, yet has the very wide knit sleeve trim in fashion at that time as well as using bright yellow instead of the 1976-and-prior mustard yellow.

Yet, this is just one possible explanation. It could have been made by Goodman for a local softball team in California and was never submitted to the Pirates at all. This is part of the fun of dealing with undocumented relics of 40 years ago.



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1970s Rescued Nameplates

A noted dealer had offered a large number of Pirates' team-removed nameplates for sale during 2012, and they appear periodically for sale in the years that followed. The Bucs regularly recycled uniforms into the minor leagues, so nameplates were stripped before the jerseys were shipped off to be reused.

I am showing these here to illustrate the variety of type fonts the team used in the 1970s. The pinstripe and black uniforms were made and lettered by Descente of Japan, white and yellow uniforms by Wilson. The Wilson yellow jerseys used vertical arch, the others did not.

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Mystery Auction Jersey

The auction listing for this jersey claims that it was acquired from the collection of Pirates Pitcher Jim Rooker. The white crew neck pullover with mustard/black knit trim is odd in a number of ways: It is styled and trimmed like Pirates jerseys made only through 1976, but carries a version of the Pirates front wordmark that was not used until 1980. The Wilson neck tag dates it as being from between 1976–1985. Rooker played for the Pirates 1973–1980. Wilson did not make Pirates home jerseys until 1980 and later, though they made the road grays from 1975 through past the end of Rooker's career in 1985.

But things don't add up… the Pirates stopped using both this color scheme and crew neck jerseys after 1976, yet the Wilson tagging was not used AFTER 1976, and the tall-style wordmark did not come into use until after 1976 as well. And if you look really closely, the wordmark is not exactly like any of the others used by Wilson on its own team-made jerseys, Descente, Russell or Rawlings (Rawlings is the closest - not used by the team until 1980, though!)

My best guess is that this is a prototype made by Wilson when the team was changing up all its uniform designs before the 1977 season. Or, it is a phantom, made by someone at home.

Bottom left: *A Rawlings 1971 jersey with the usual style of wordmark seen on this style.* ***Above:*** *The Rawlings script used starting 1980 on home jerseys, and later adopted by Russell. It is not exactly like the Wilson jerseys. Note the shape of the top of the "T" for example.* ***Right)****: The version of the Pirates script used by Wilson on its 1977–1984 yellow jerseys is still another variant of the wordmark!*

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Various Prototypes at Auction

Long after the auction closed, we came across a 2009 listing from Leland's that included what it reported to be various Pirates prototypes and salesman's samples. The listing description read as follows: "Includes early Roberto Clemente sample, Rawlings size 42 label on the tail. Rawlings size 42 for #12 with 1986 year tag, and three different styles made by Descente with either #25 and #85. Total of five jerseys and five pair of pants."

The photo included here was the only one with the listing, and we can't see all of any of the jerseys, and no backs are visible, but we'll do our best to describe these items. Numbers have been added for reference and were not part of the listing.

1. Descente never made a gray jersey for the Pirates, but the listing notes that this is made by the company. It matches closely to the team's post-Descente 1985-1989 road jersey, for which Wilson was the on-field manufacturer. We can't see the front number, but the listing indicates that some of these were numbered with "85" - and if this is one, it is very possible this was a sample for the team's switch to this style.

2. On close inspection, this appears to be a mesh version of jersey #1. This one does appear to have "85" on front, so it was likely another Descente-made sample for the team's 1985 switch to this style. It may have been intended to be a BP jersey (the team did have a similar BP, made by Rawlings, in 1990), or it could have been a game jersey with a mesh body, which Descente had made in the past for the Pirates black jerseys.

3. The listing states that this one is an "early Roberto Clemente sample, Rawlings size 42 label on the tail." It is hard to know for sure without seeing the tag, but this may have been a sample for the team's initial foray into knits for 1970 - note the rounded crew neck used on the team's jerseys from 1970-1976, also made by Rawlings. The center placement of the front number is unusual, and was not adopted by the team. It is reminiscent of the Cubs' one-year-only road jerseys from 1972, but those were made by Wilson.

4. The listing suggests that this v-neck, pinstriped pullover was made by Descente. We can't see any tagging to be sure, but the number font used for the front "25" does not match those used by Descente for the Pirates from 1977-1984. It is possible this was another prototype for the 1985 uniform refresh, one that was cut for both style and manufacturer. The "25" is curious - José DeLeón wore the number for the team into 1986. Bobby Bonilla took it over that year. A long shot, 1985 was the 25th anniversary of the Pirates 1960 World Series championship, so that could be the reason, but it seems a stretch.

5. The listing says that this is a Rawlings jersey in size 42 with a 1986 year tag - the most helpful info it has provided yet! Perhaps the team was considering a switch to button-fronts as early as 1986, after changing to new pullovers in 1985? Button-front Rawlings road jerseys would eventually appear in 1991, but with the "Pittsburgh" script and no stripes. By the time the stripes arrived on the road jerseys in 1997, the script was still there, but Rawlings had given way to Russell as manufacturer.

If any collectors out there bought this lot and would be willing to share more info and better photos, please be in touch!

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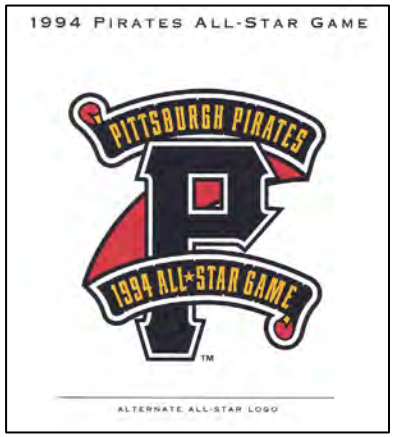
1997 Prototype Road

Paul Lukas' Uni Watch blog posted these photos by Wayne A. Jones (@waj97 on Twitter) of an odd-ball Pirates road jersey he saw at a Pittsburgh-area Goodwill shop around 2015. Based on the tagging and design, it looks to be a prototype sample for the Pirates' 1997 uniform changes. Ultimately, the Pirates went for a pinstriped jersey with "Pittsburgh" script instead, but this design would have meshed well with the home jerseys from that generation, also shown here for comparison.

Of note, the unusual sleeve patch that features the team's cap logo "P" wrapped by a scroll featuring "Pittsburgh Pirates" text. It is a dead ringer for an alternate logo for the 1994 All-Star Game, held in Pittsburgh. The logo slick from the 1994 Style Guide is shown here as well. The back number is sewn odd-ly high, leaving scant room for a player name. Though undocumented, since 1979, the National League has asked that all teams wear a name on back of their road jerseys.



*The 1994 MLB All-Star Game alternate logo **(far left)** is the likely inspiration for the sleeve patch **(near left)** on this 1997 prototype.*

*The 1997 home jersey **(near right)** showing similar letter-ing to the prototype and the design ultimately chosen for the 1997 road jerseys **(far right).***

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2000-2001 Prototype Road

The Pirates were set to change things up again for the 2001 season, and Rawlings had been able to keep some of the Pirates business for the whole decade of the 1990s, preventing the Bucs from switching to Russell, the league's preferred provider. But starting again in 2000, Russell's exclusivity in displaying their brand logo on MLB jersey sleeves had ended, and if Rawlings could win the team's business, the right to display their sleeve logo came with it.

This is probably a prototype design exercise for a 2001 road jersey by Rawlings. It has the 2000 and later Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck and 2000-2002 front tail tagging.

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2005 Prototype Alternate Gold

Zack Tanner Collection

In 2005, the Pirates introduced a vest version of their home jersey with pinstripes added. It was something of an amalgam of their flannel era vests and their experimentation with stripes from their late-1970s home and late-1990s road jerseys. As such, it was fairly restrained. Just two years later, they added a red vest out of nowhere.

In the middle of those polar opposite changes was this gold alternate jersey, which the team previewed for possible use in 2005. Shared by its owner with Uni-Watch via Twitter, this jersey has the sample-standard “PLAYER” and “5” on back..Sample strip tagging inside the placket also confirms its status as a prototype. The tag reads “PIR05-GoldJers-1,” for Pirates 2005 gold jersey (version) 1, giving us all the info we need to know.

The jersey’s gold base is devoid of all trim. All lettering, front and back, is black/white, while the team’s Pirate head patch is on the left sleeve. Player numbers are in the custom font introduced in 2001, and layer name is on a nameplate like the team’s other jerseys of the time.

This design was likely evaluated side-by-side with the striped vest that the team did introduce in 2005. It may have been considered too loud or garish for the time (funny, considering the team’s sartorial history), or since the team’s home and road jerseys were already vests, the striped vest may have fit with the set better.

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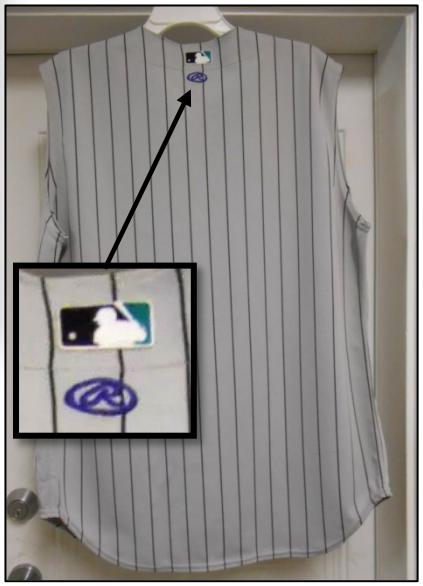
More Oddballs

Right: This jersey is a home vest style never actually used by the team. Notice the flat topped lettering used from 1997-2000. However, they are official Rawlings Authentic Collection tagged jerseys.

My opinion is that they were made in anticipation of the return to vest jerseys by the Pirates for the 2001 season, and might have been a design that had been approved for use by the team since retail sale copies were made. It is quite likely that this style was actually used by a Pirates' minor league affiliate on the field. Reader input welcome.

Right: This baseball card indicates that the unused MLB style above may have found a home in the Pirates' minor league system.

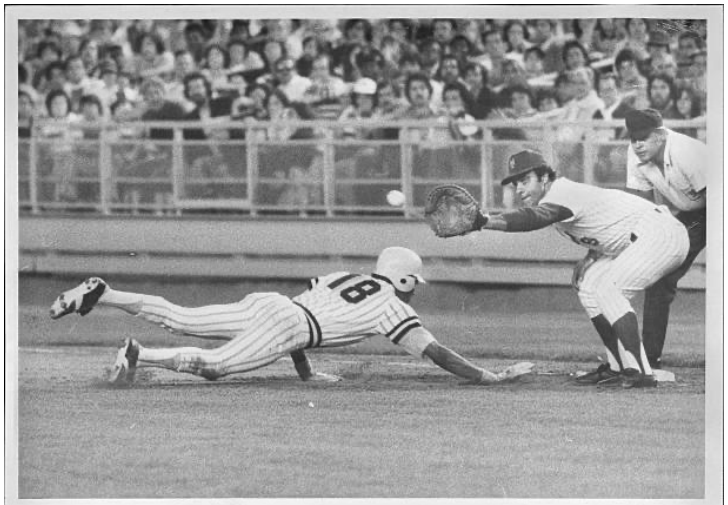
Left: Extra Advertising? This jersey has the Rawlings logo mistakenly embroidered on both sleeves.



Right: This Rawlings vest is a "Frankenstein" jersey that might have been a prototype, or just a mistake. The purple and teal tagging on the back collar identifies that it started life destined to become a 2001-2002 Arizona Diamondbacks road jersey.

© GameWornGuides.com

...Yet More Oddballs



4/22/77 – We believe the only time that the "Mix and Match" Pirates wore pinstripes on the road

Top right: only example we have ever seen of a Majestic zip-neck "Gamewarmer" from the early 1990s. This one still wears its retail tagging. We don't believe that the team wore these, even though they were offered them as an official option by the manufacturer.

Left: These retail model Authentic 1990 jerseys oddly have a dotted "i" in Pittsburgh. We've looked but have never seen game worn ones one with a dotted i, or even one sewn with a space large enough to fit one.

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2012 Oopsies

Left: When relief pitcher Ryan Reid took the mound during an early season road game in Atlanta in 2012, his teammates noticed that his uniform was lacking any front numbers. They remedied the oversight with masking tape when he returned to the dugout.

Above: That number 2 on Brock Holt's shirt… it's on the wrong side of the jersey… but they knew that, right? The Pirates response in social media was:

September 3 2012

Pittsburgh Pirates@Pirates

In regards to Brock Holt's jersey today, it was a mistake made by a human being and will be corrected.

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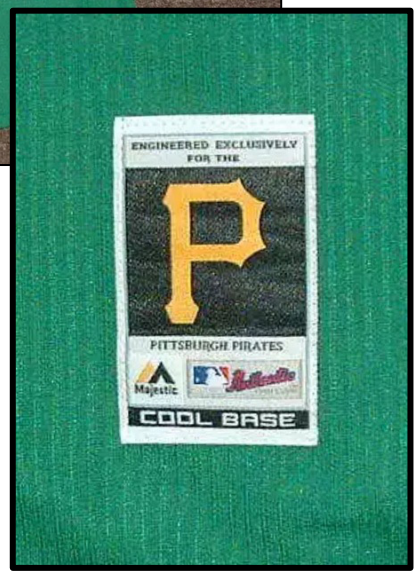
2014-2015 Unworn St. Patrick's Day?



Despite the creation of this retail St. Patrick's Day jersey, it appears the Pirates never wore this style on the field. The jersey dates from 2014-2015, however, the Pirates' 2014 St. Pat's contest against the Yankees was rained out. On that day, they were to wear green caps, but they took BP in their standard black BP jerseys, so it is possible these were intended for that canceled game. In 2015, the Bucs again wore green caps for March 17, but wore their black BP jerseys for the game. Still, the sight of green, white, black, and yellow together leaves no reason for Irish eyes to be smiling. Perhaps it is for the best that they never saw the field.

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2016 Sample Alternate Home 1979 Retros

In 2016, the Pirates brought gold back in a big way, adopting a version of their 1979 gold pullover as an alternate, one that they kept in their rotation through 2019. Though they had made gold samples before (see earlier in this section) they were not adopted for use on-field. These samples show two different versions of a similar concept that was made official.

Both jerseys are typical in their tell-tale sample attributes, both are size 46, have “PLAYER” and “16” for name and number (where “16” means “2016”) and have heat-pressed sample tagging. Overall, both are similarly styled, with minor adjustments between the two.

The top jersey is a Flex Base pullover with black/white/black neck trim and black/white/gold sewn-in sleeve-end trim. Its sample tag reads “PIR-AJ-RETRO-D1-2-2016” for Pirates Alternate Jersey retro design 1, version 2, 2016.”

Photos: Gary Taylor

Photos: Gary Taylor

The bottom jersey is almost identical, except it is a Flex Base button-front with wide black/white/gold sewn-in sleeve trim. The sample tag reads “PIT-AJ-RET-D2-1-2016” for Pirates Alternate Jersey retro design 2, version 1, 2016. It also has a very early, pre-production version of the Flex Base tag with “Made in the USA” on it, which was not on the tag ultimately used. It suggests it was made before the jersey on top, though the design 1 designation on the top may refute that.

It is very hard to see on the jerseys, but both have the new-for-2016 Majestic mountain logo on the left sleeves, but it lacks the “Majestic” text below the logo that was used starting in 2016.Ultimately, the team chose the top version as the one they used starting for the 2016 season.

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2023 Pirate Patch Goes Missing

On the final game of the 2023 season (October 1), most of the Pirates took to the field without their pirate patches on their sleeves. Game photos and video show that the vast majority of players had blank-sleeved home jerseys for the day, though some coaches, bat boys, and even an occasional player (Miguel Andujar) had jerseys complete with the expected patch. That final homestand ended in "Fan Appreciation Weekend" at PNC Park, and Sunday's game included a "Shirt of Their Backs" promotion where "select winners [were] awarded jerseys off the players backs." It appears that the team may have made up a special set of jerseys for the promo, and intentionally (or neglectfully) left off the patch. So, there is at least one set of Pirates home jerseys out there without the patch that is authentic and game worn. As of press time, none of them have surfaced in the hobby to know if there are other special markings to indicate these were part of the fan promotion, and it is unclear if they were authenticated by MLB after the game. More info about this anomaly is welcome!

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA - OCTOBER 1: Joshua Palacios (R) #54 of the Pittsburgh Pirates signs an autograph for a fan during a post-game fan appreciation event following the Pirates 3-0 win over the Miami Marlins at PNC Park on October 1, 2023 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (Photo by Justin Berl/Getty Images)

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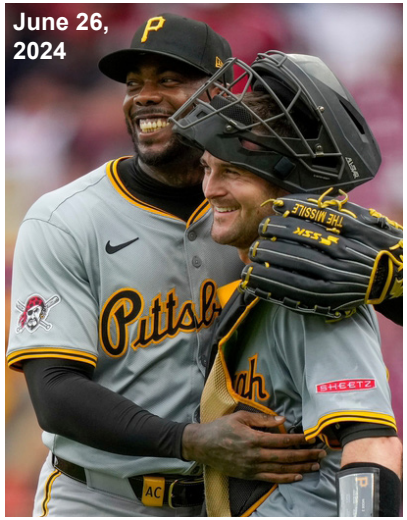
2024: A Sleeve-Sick Pirate (Patch) Tale

Left: *Notice the visible outline of the Pirate patch on the left sleeve of this jersey, shown below in greater detail.*

Right: *It is hard to see, but catcher Jason Delay has similar residue under the ad patch on his right sleeve. Meanwhile, left-handed pitcher Aroldis Chapman has the pirate patch on his right sleeve where the ad should be in this photo.*



Below: *Chapman with the Pirate patch on the wrong side on this road alternate jersey as well. Yet, several of his other jerseys had it on the correct sleeve.*

Prior to the 2023 season, MLB teams were permitted to start selling ad space on their jerseys sleeves. Most teams decided that they could get more value from the deals if they were able to pitch a greater number of impressions to potential sponsors by putting the ad patch on the sleeve that got the most TV air time, which meant that the location of the patch would depend on if the player was left or right handed. As a result, if a team had an existing sleeve patch it planned to keep, starting in 2023, most teams preemptively applied the patch to the less-visible sleeve, keeping the prominent sleeve open in anticipation, leading to inconsistencies that were forgiven in pursuit of ad money. The Pirates, however, stuck to their guns and kept their Pirate head patch on its traditional left-sleeve home. With no ad deal for the team in 2023, that's where he stayed. With no ad deal to start 2024, he remained there. And when an ad deal was announced in mid-June, all hell broke loose for poor Mr. Pirate.

From June 21 through the end of the 2024 season, the Pirates seemed to embark on a quest to move the Pirate patch from the left sleeve to the right for most of their right-handed hitters and left-handed pitchers. Navigating this uncharted course entailed fighting a powerful undercurrent, leaving some evidence of the Pirate head's opposite-sleeve banishment it its wake. Many teams would probably just purchase new jerseys for these players and call it a day. But with all of the issues getting jerseys from Nike and Fanatics in 2024, the Pirates may have been left with no other choice. In fairness, the most visible evidence of the moved patches is on a few the team's road gray jerseys, so this may have been the only set to get the switch. As we are able to see more 2024 Pirates jerseys with the ad patch on the left sleeve in person, we may be able to make a better determination of exactly what happened and to how many jerseys.

Even more strange, Oneil Cruz' road jersey was completely devoid of the Pirate patch before ***(above left)*** *and after* ***(above right)*** *the ad patch was introduced.*

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Commemorative Patches

Pirates Patches

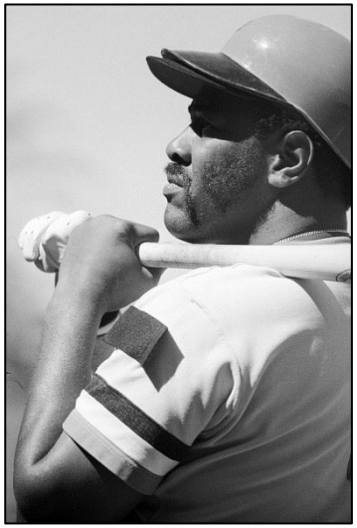
1973 Spring Training: When I began researching memorial patches for this book many years ago, I noticed photos of Pirates players wearing what looked like a floppy ribbon pinned to their sleeves in some photos from early 1973. It turned out these were from Spring Training 1973, and they were temporary memorial patches for Roberto Clemente who had tragically died over the winter.

For the 1973 regular season, the black-bordered “21” disk was the first time in Major league baseball that a memorial player number disk is worn in MLB.

Photo courtesy of Jerry Reuss

Above right: *Collector Jonathan Longar shares his original Pirates 1973 Spring Training-used jersey with the memorial ribbon still attached.*

1973, Regular season: the “21” in a disk memorializing Roberto Clemente is a first in Major League Baseball.



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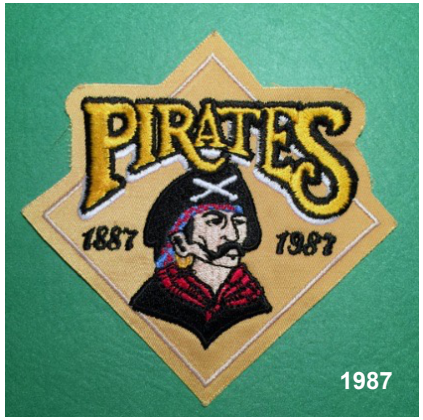

1987

1988

July 21-24, 1989

Regarding the Hall of Fame patch shown in the photo below, Jim Gates, Librarian at the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown writes: "I passed this along to one of our curators who has been working the history of patches in Major League baseball and he reports that this particular item was created for the 50th HOF Anniversary. It was made available to Major League teams, but as far as we can tell, only the Pittsburgh Pirates actually wore them on their uniforms.

Why, we only have a guess at this time, but in 1989 Bill Guilfoile was our director of public relations and he came to Cooperstown from the Pirates organization. We surmise that he had sufficiently good relations with the team to convince them to wear the patch. We have no proof of this, but it seems to make sense."

1991, after September 14

1994

- 1987: Pirates 100th Anniversary patch is very understated and almost unnoticed, because in 1988 it remained as the team's regular sleeve patch, except minus the dates on either side of the pirate's head.
- 1988: RSC Memorial for Pittsburgh Mayor Richard S. Caliguiri who died in office in 1988. These letters are the heat-pressed type, not sewn on.
- 1989, July 21-24: The Pirates wear a Baseball Hall of Fame 50th Anniversary patch to commemorate the Hall's milestone, coinciding with Hall of Fame Induction Weekend. See comment from Hall of Fame librarian, Jim Gates, above.
- 1991, after September 14: "H" Memorial for equipment manager John "Hully" Hallahan.
- 1994: All Star Game, following which the players went on strike and the season was canceled.

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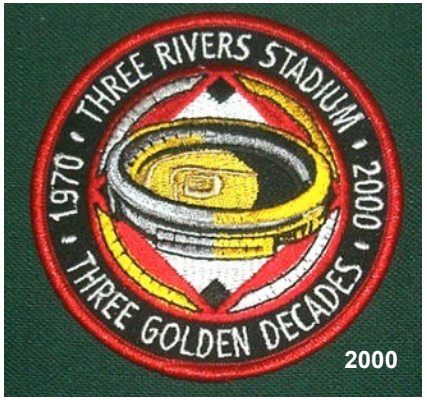
1995

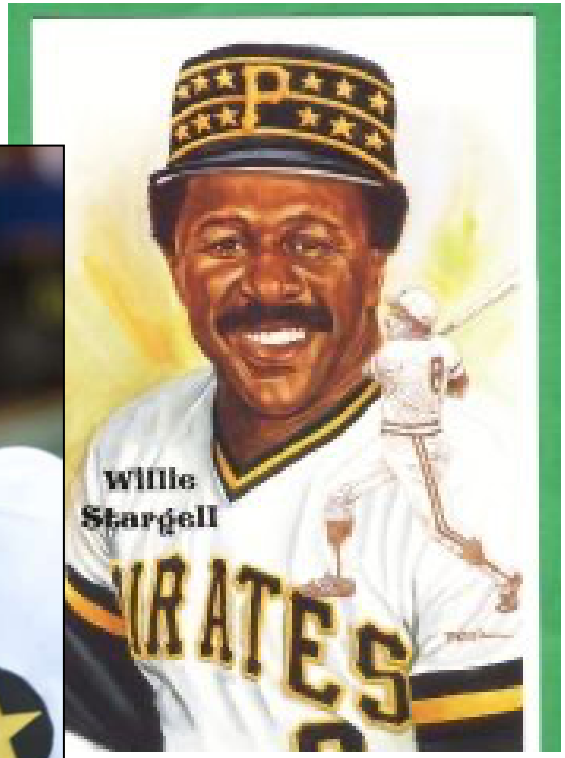
1997



2000

Willie Stargell used to award teammates yellow stars to wear on their hats after they had done something extraordinary…

2001



...when he died, the team honored him by wearing stars on their uniform chests all year long

2006

- 1995: Pirate Fans Patch worn instead of the regular team left-sleeve patch as an olive branch offered to angry fans after the 1994-95 baseball players' strike.
- 1997: Home-jersey-only Clemente 25th Anniversary patch (Pirates wore the 1997 Jackie Robinson Patch on their road jerseys only, no special patch on the black alternate).
- 2000: Three Rivers Stadium "Three Golden Decades"
- 2001: Willie Stargell memorial star
- 2006: All-Star Game – worn on all uniforms all year long
- 2006, starting September 11: Following the untimely death of Pittsburgh Mayor Robert O'Connor, the Pirates wore black and yellow
- BOB patches on the left chest of both home and road jerseys for the final three weeks of the season. This is the second time the Pirates have worn a memorial commemorating the death of a sitting Pittsburgh mayor. The other was in 1988.

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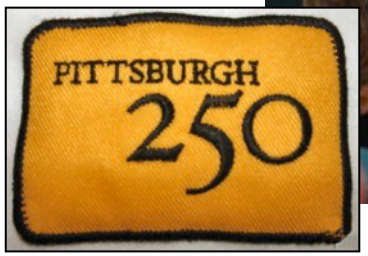
2008 Spring Training only



2008 Regular Season

- 2008, Spring Training: Bradenton Florida 40 Years,
- 2008: Pittsburgh 250 patch worn on right chest of white vest and pinstripe vest uniforms only.
- 2010, starting September 3: The Pittsburgh Pirates honored former general manager Joe L. Brown following his death, with his initials in yellow on a black circle worn on the right sleeve.
- 2011: Chuck Tanner memorial “7” in a “Stargell Star” on the right sleeve
- 2014: #4 in a gold-trimmed black disk, a memorial for former star and Hall of Famer Ralph Kiner, worn on right sleeve of home, road, and black alternate.

2010 –September 3 to end of Season only

2011

2014

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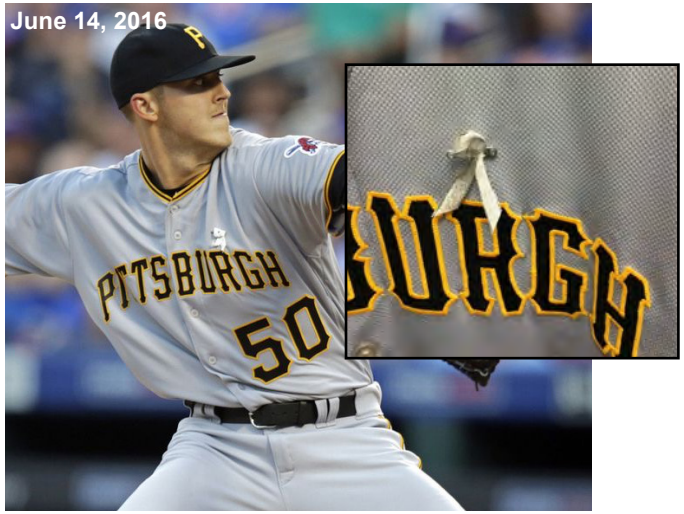
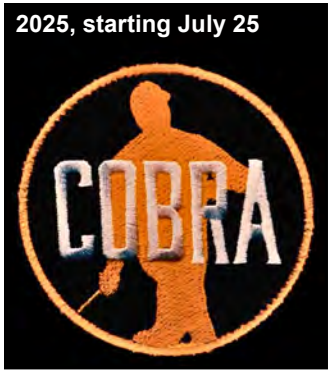


- 2016, June 14: An actual ribbon (not a patch), safety-pinned to the road jersey for the victims of the Orlando nightclub shooting massacre.
- 2016, July 9: Pittsburgh Bicentennial patch
- 2019, April 20: Patch in honor of Pittsburgh first responders following the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting
- 2021, July 17: 50th anniversary of 1971 World Series champs
- 2023, May 2-4: Green Mental Health Awareness Month ribbon for games against the Rays, who wore this same ribbon for all of May 2022 and May 2-7, 2023 in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, following the suicide of Rays bullpen catcher Jean Ramirez.
- 2025, starting July 25: COBRA memorial patch for Dave Parker

April 20, 2019

July 17, 2021



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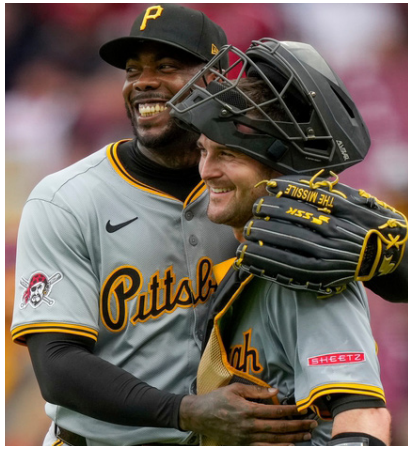
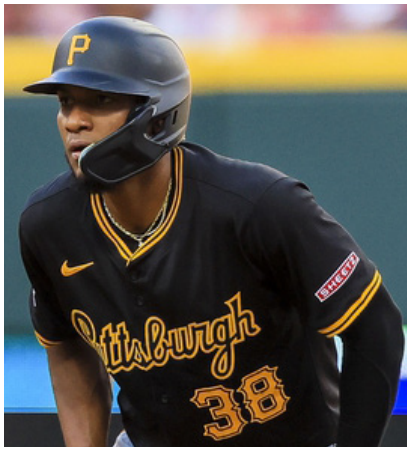
2024-2025 Pirates Advertising Patches



Note this jersey did not appear with the ad patch in 2024. This photo is from Spring Training 2025.



Home

Road,Alternate Home,Alternate Road, and City Connect

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Pirates struck a sponsor patch deal with Sheetz, a convenience store chain. The patches first appeared on June 21, 2024. The patch is a representation of the company logo, a red, flat-ended oblong shape with the company name inside in white. The version used on the home jersey has a red border, the version for all other jerseys has a white border.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

Unlike many clubs, the Pirates did not place their team sleeve patch on different sleeves depending on a player's handedness in 2023 prior to reaching an ad deal. That year, the Pirate head patch was on the left sleeve for all players. In early 2024, the Pirate patch remained on the left sleeve until the ad patch was introduced, after which it varied based on player handedness.

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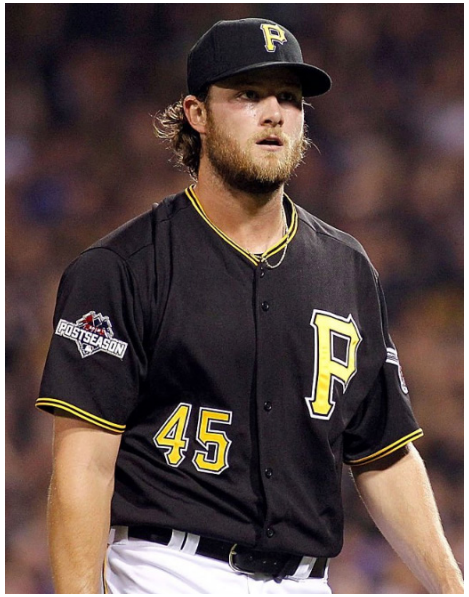
Pirates Postseason Patches

2013 NL Wild Card
2013 NL Division Series
(right sleeve)

2014 NL Wild Card
(right sleeve above “4” patch)



2015 NL Wild Card
(right sleeve)

© GameWornGuides.com

Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Dave Cash 1970-1971 Pittsburgh Pirates Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 15, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0715J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, Rawlings-made gray pullover jersey size 40 (marked and measured), first year double-knit style tailored with flat tails and side vents. The fabric used for this jersey is the early style polyester that has the softer and different colored texture on the inside surface, not generally seen after 1971. 1" Dark gold/black crew-neck knit trim, wide 3" black/white/dark gold sleeve end knit trim. "PIRATES" arched on front in the team's signature style, as received the number 37 on front and back all in black over dark gold. A light table evaluation shows that the second digit and the number has been replaced, the original second digit clearly having been a number zero. The leading "3" on both front and back is original. Pirates did not use player names on back in these years.

Rookie infielder Dave Cash appeared in 64 games with the Pirates in 1970 wearing both number 10 and number 30. In 1971 he played the full season wearing number 30. No other player wore number 30 in either of those two seasons. Cash wore size 40 jerseys during most of his career.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Red "Action Tailored" Rawlings tag sewn into the inside bottom front left tail, next to it the old-style flannel jersey style wash tag. Both of these tags are relics of the very end of the flannel era, and were also used on the very first Rawlings knits in 1970-1971. Both the Pirates and the Cardinals experimented then converted to Rawlings double knit jerseys starting in 1970. These Rawlings tags were not used after 1971. There is no further team or player tagging on this jersey. The stitching around the tags appears tight, so it is not likely that a year tag fell off, but it is of course possible. In my experience the early 1970 and 1971 knit jerseys were not consistently tagged with year/set designations.

Wear & Repairs: Overall this jersey is in surprisingly good condition, much better than most Pirates jerseys of this vintage that I have examined or restored. All of the lettering is still stitched tightly and is not unduly faded. The knit trim on the sleeve end and collar is not excessively worn or faded and just shows a few splatter stains of dirt on the white parts. Pirates jerseys typically were used so severely as to make surviving examples display poorly: this one is a near-gem. As was the practice in major-league baseball at the time, jerseys were regularly re-numbered for other players once their initial use was complete. The light table clearly shows that this jersey started as number 30.

Continued, overleaf

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Restoration Performed: Removing the replacement sevens from the back and the front, which showed inconsistent wear with the other lettering and were also slightly larger revealed the ghost of the original zeros that were underneath. Using my original Pirates patterns from 1970–1971 and then tuning the size of the replacement numbers to the ghosts, I cut new numbers from matching fabric then media blasted them aggressively and dyed them to try to make them approximate the use and wear of the well-worn originals.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the numbers have been restored to the original "30" by replacing only the second digit on each. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Dave Cash of the 1970-1971 Pittsburgh Pirates.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

Here, as received, renumbered by the team for use after its first life in MLB was through. Outlines of original "0" on both front and back were clearly visible

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Ed Ott 1975 Pittsburgh Pirates Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 15, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0715J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, Wilson-made gray pullover double-knit jersey size 42 (marked and measured). 1" Dark gold/black crew-neck knit trim, wide 3" black/white/dark gold sleeve end knit trim. "PIRATES" arched on front in the team's signature style, as received the number 52 on front and back all in black over dark gold. A light table evaluation shows that the first digit of the numbers on back and front had been replaced with 5s. The "2" on both front and back is original. Pirates did not use player names on back in these years. Besides showing different wear characteristics, the non-original numbers "5" also were slightly larger than the 2's next to them. The fabric of the 5 on back had failed badly; torn and separated with supplemental stitching added to hold it on.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag correct for use in 1975 is stitched onto the outer left tail at the bottom, and shows the size as 42. Stitched directly above it is a 3 inch strip of gray jersey fabric with the numbers **32 42 75** hand chain stitched onto it in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher (player 32, size 42, 1975). Tagging matches exemplars for 1975 Pirates road jerseys. Catcher Ed Ott (5' 10", 198 lbs) was the only player issued number 32 in 1975. Several exemplar jerseys in our photo library attributed to the player are also listed as size 42.

Wear & Repairs: Overall this jersey is in fair or slightly better condition, typical of Pirates jerseys of this vintage that I have examined or restored. While the front wordmark is still tightly stitched, the fabric is notably faded., The black is more a charcoal gray. The numbers on back show great wear and are very loosely attached with most of the thread having failed. The knit trim on the sleeve end and collar is not excessively worn or faded and is in generally good condition. Pirates jerseys typically were used so severely as to make surviving examples display poorly: this one is average compared to others I have seen of this vintage. As was the practice in major-league baseball at the time, jerseys were regularly re-numbered for other players once their initial use was complete. The light table clearly shows that this jersey started as number 32. Ground in dirt is notable on the sides under the sleeves.

Continued, overleaf

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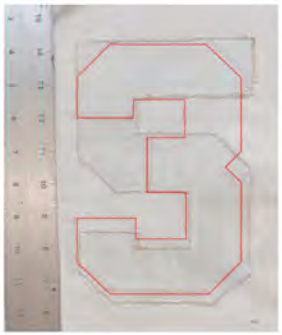
Restoration Performed: Removing the replacement fives from the back and the front, which showed inconsistent wear with the other lettering and were also slightly revealed the ghost of the original threes that were underneath. Using my original pirates patterns from 1970 1971 and then tuning the size of the replacement numbers to the ghosts, I cut new numbers from matching fabric then aggressively media blasted them and dyed them to try to make them approximate the use and wear of the well-worn originals. I also re-stitched the perimeter of the back number two as it was practically falling off the jersey. I've also tightened up the stitching on the front Wilson tag as it had failed on two of the four sides and was partially detached. I did not remove the original stitching which remained on the shirt.



Here, as received, renumbered by the team for use after its first life in MLB was through. Outlines of original "3" on both front and back were clearly visible. Notice above how the replacement five on both front and back are larger than the two next to them.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair to good condition: the numbers have been restored to the original "32" by replacing only the first digit on each. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by catcher Ed Ott of the 1975 Pittsburgh Pirates.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Don Robinson Rookie 1978 "Bumblebee Striped" Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 16, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0516J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White with bold black/gold/black pinstripes, pullover size 46 Descente-made Pittsburgh Pirates home jersey, #43. 2 1/4" wide black/gold/black sewn in sleeve end knit trim. 1" wide similarly colored V-Neck trim. "Pirates" arched across the front in black over gold. Player number #43 on left front and on the back, no name on back. The jersey is tagged 1977 in the tail. 1977's #43 was pitching coach Don Sherry, and this jersey as surely issued to him. But it was reissued for use the next year, and can be conclusively photo-matched to use by Don Robinson in his rookie year of 1978. (Sherry switched to #51 for 1978).

In 1978, as a 21-year-old rookie, Robinson was 14–6 with a 3.47 ERA. His won-loss percentage was second to NL Cy Young Award winner Gaylord Perry. Robinson was named The Sporting News NL Rookie Pitcher of the Year and was third in overall NL Rookie of the Year. Robinson was regarded as one of the best-hitting pitchers during his time, winning three Silver Slugger Awards in 1982, 1989, and 1990. (Wikipedia)

The Pirates introduced a bold set of "mix and match" uniform tops and pants in 1977. Solid black, solid gold and bumblebee striped, the elements were meant to be swapped around allowing 9 different uniform combinations. The team took some heat for buying two of their three flashy colored uniform sets from Japanese maker Descente, and yet the bumblebee uniforms became synonymous with the 1979 World Champion "We Are Family" Pirates. This uniform style was retired after 1979, and though everyone remembers them well, they were used for only three seasons.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The jersey is properly tagged matching exemplars on the outside left front tail. There are two manufacturer tags side by side, one is a wash instructions tag. Pinch-sewn under the right side of the tag set is a small flag tab that reads "SET II 1977". Centered below is a 7/8" x 1 3/4" rectangle of white knit fabric, with the code 43 46 77 machine-embroidery onto it in a style matching exemplars (Player #43, size 46, 1977). This embroidery thread was once black but has been characteristically bleached to a pinkish-brown.

Continued, overleaf

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Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all elements of this jersey are original and unaltered. It is in very good overall condition. It is a common characteristic of these Descente jerseys to experience premature thread failure on the player number lettering from repeated wash and wear, and for the gold number-outline fabric to lose some of its color, as well as the gold in the knit sleeve end and collar trim. These jerseys are not lettered with the tough tackle twill fabric that Wilson and Rawlings jerseys used, instead they have lettering cut from a non-twill, polyester double knit material similar in appearance to what we commonly call Dodger Twill. In wash use, fading and number detachment was common. This jersey experienced two years of use— 1977 by coach Sherry, and by pitcher Robinson in 1978. The wear characteristics clearly show a jersey that was washed a lot of times but was spared the abrasive daily-on field game-wear that would be expected from the same two-year use of a jersey by a position player.

Photo matching: While, based on the alignment of the pinstripes with the team crest and front numbers, this jersey appears to be the same one Robinson is wearing on his low-resolution profile photo the SABR (Society for American Baseball Research) site, a 100% conclusive match is gained from a watermarked high resolution image from the Topps baseball card files. All lettering matches this photo, and there is a conclusive match of the sewn alignment of pinstripes where the sleeves join the jersey body.

Restoration Performed: For the purposes of preservation, I have professionally touched up and renewed the yellow stitching holding the player numbers in place has been touched up, only in the spots it was missing. No existing and tight stitching was disturbed in this effort.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good to very good condition, with minor repairs made to the lettering stitching that had come completely loose in some spots. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Don Robinson of the 1978 Pittsburgh Pirates, and earlier by pitching coach Larry Sherry of the 1977 Pirates.

Above left: The cropped, high-resolution proof of Robinson in Spring training 1978 wearing this jersey, center, the jersey under evaluation for direct comparison of match. Note the tagging at the waist, pulling out of his pants. At right, Robinson pitching in 1978 wearing the same jersey based on stripe/sleeve.lettering alignment. Bottom right, Robinson's 1978 Topps baseball card.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bill Robinson 1979 Pittsburgh Pirates "Bumblebee" Game Worn Jersey, World Series Champs Year

Examination Date: June 7, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0607J01

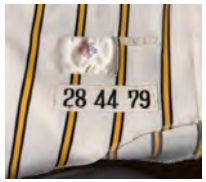
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White with bold black/gold/black pinstripes, pullover size 44 (though it now measures closer to a size 40 due to characteristic wash shrinkage) Descente-made Pittsburgh Pirates home jersey. 2 1/4" wide black/gold/black sewn in sleeve end knit trim. 1" wide similarly colored V-Neck trim. "Pirates" arched across the front in black over gold. Player number #28 on left front and on the back. The bottom hem of the jersey tail is simply double needle serged, rather than hemmed with a cap stitch as is typical of the construction of period competitive Wilson and Rawlings knit jerseys. The jersey is tagged 1979 in the tail. Outfielder Bill Robinson wore #28 for the Pirates in 1979, and this jersey is tagged the correct size for him and all characteristics mentioned here match exemplars. In 1979 Robinson hit .264 in 148 games played for the Pirates, with 24 home runs.

The Pirates had introduced a bold set of "mix and match" uniform tops and pants in 1977. Solid black, solid gold and bumblebee striped, the elements were meant to be swapped around allowing nine different uniform combinations. The team took some heat for buying two of their three flashy colored uniform sets from Japanese maker Descente, and yet the bumblebee uniforms became synonymous with the 1979 World Champion "We Are Family" Pirates. Player names were added on back in 1979. This uniform style was retired after 1979, and though everyone remembers them well, they were used for only three seasons.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The jersey is properly tagged matching exemplars on the outside left front tail. The satin printed Descente manufacturer tag is present, faded and very puckered underneath from washing, To its right would normally be a wash instruction tag, it has been clipped off so only the top of it still remains, a common occurrence with these jerseys. Centered below is a 7/8" x 31 3/4" rectangle of white knit fabric, with the code 28 44 79 machine-embroidery onto it in black in a style matching exemplars (Player #28, size 44, 1979). The thread on these is often bleached but this one is still dark black.

Wear & Repairs/Restoration Performed: A light table evaluation shows that the name "B. Robinson" was removed from the back; its outlines and glue remnants remain behind. (Pitcher Don Robinson was also on the 1979 team, thus the addition of the first initial.) Overlaying the Descente player name font in its extra-condensed variant shows that it matches the ghosts exactly. All



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Document of Restoration

Pittsburgh Pirates #2 1980 Black Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: September 10, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0910J01

This is not an opinion of authentication; it is simply a documentation of a restoration performed.

Year tagged 1980 Pittsburgh Pirates black alternate jersey in size 38, tagged as set 2. The bottom of the tails has been roughly trimmed off and as received, the numbers and nameplate had been removed. Descente (Japan) manufacturer and team tagging is correct for team issue. Ghost of former nameplate(s) visible, ghosts of former numbers 6, 26 and 50/56 are visible.

Bernie Carbo wore #2 very briefly in 1980 with the Pirates, he was a late season acquisition, appeared in 6 games and retired at the end of the season. The size is reasonable to other jerseys he wore in his career. Pitcher Jim Bibby wore #26 in 1980-81, at 6' 5" and 235 he would not have worn this size. No roster player was issued #50 or 56 in 1980-81.

Restored using team patterns to match, covering the ghosts of the old numbers, and nameplate was a reasonable size for Carbo's name. Photos below show the jersey as completed, and some of the ghosted images visible the light table.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Al Oliver 1977 Pittsburgh Pirates Autographed Gold Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: May 18, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0518J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gold body Rawlings pullover jersey, size 42 (tagged and measured). The jersey appears tailored to be tapered at the waist, although the tailoring is not tagged. Black/white/gold wide 2 1/4" stretchy sleeve end trim, 1" black/white/black V-neck trim. PIRATES arched on the front in the Rawlings variant of the Pirates wordmark, number 16 below on the left chest. #16 on back in the correct Pirates variant of the athletic block font, 8 1/2" tall. All lettering is layered twill black over white. Al Oliver's autograph is in bold black marker below the front number, though I have no professional opinion on its authenticity. Al Oliver wore size 42 jerseys through most of his career. There is no player name on back, 1977 was the final year that Pirates jerseys were without player names on back.

The Pirates introduced a bold set of "mix and match" uniform tops and pants in 1977. Solid black, solid gold and bumblebee striped, the elements were meant to be swapped around allowing 9 different uniform combinations. The gold jerseys were made exclusively by Rawlings.

Oliver was a MLB outfielder and first baseman from 1968 through 1985, most notably as a member of the Pittsburgh Pirates teams that won five National League Eastern Division titles in six years between 1970 and 1975 and, won the World Series in 1971. A seven-time All-Star, Oliver was the 1982 National League batting champion and RBI champion as a member of the Montreal Expos. He was also a three-time Silver Slugger Award winner. He played in 154 games for the 1977 Pirates, batting .308 with 19 home runs. He batted .323 in 1976, and proceeded to reel off nine straight .300+ seasons. (*Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings size 42 manufacturer's red tag correct for 1977 is stitched inside the left front tail. A white flag tab is sewn under the right border, on which is printed SET 1 1977. Matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey displays honest game use, with some stains. One notably across the top of the left sleeve which appears to be pine tar, and in the spot where a shouldered bat would rest. The jersey color remains bright and unfaded, and the stitching is dense and tight, but the lettering shows softening from washing, and the jersey body fabric is slightly puckered beneath the twill lettering from hot water washing. The Pirates were a frugal team that wasted nothing, yet this jersey seems to have been spared MLB overuse or having been sent to the minor leagues for reissue.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Al Oliver of the 1977 Pittsburgh Pirates.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Grant Jackson Pittsburgh Pirates 1978 Black Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 11, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0611J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Black-body Descente-made pullover jersey, size 44 (tagged and measured). This jersey is made of solid knit black fabric, not mesh. While the original specification for Pirates black jerseys 1977-1984 were to be made of a heavy mesh fabric, related to the concern that they would be hot to wear in the summer sun, I have encountered a few examples that are made of solid black fabric as this one is. Black/white/gold wide 2 1/4" stretchy sleeve end trim, 1" black/white/black V-neck trim. PIRATES wordmark arched on the front, number 23 below on the left chest and on back in the correct unique Descente-Pirates variant of the athletic block font, 8 1/4" tall. Correct for 1977-1978 the black jerseys were without player names on back: these were added in 1979. All lettering on this particular jersey is gold double knit fabric, it is not the usual tackle twill as seen on baseball jerseys (including other Pirates Descente black jerseys I have evaluated). The cut lettering edge is bound with a very tight zig zag stitch to prevent fraying. The bottom hem of the jersey is finished with a simple single-needle serged edge, it is not a rolled and hemmed cap-stitch hem as is typical of Wilson or Rawlings professional knit jerseys, and matches exemplars. Grant Jackson wore #23 for the 1978 season. At 6' 0" and 180 lbs, a size 44 jersey is reasonable for the player, and matches other jerseys of the player that I have authenticated. Like nearly all teams at that time, the Pirates recycled team uniforms to the minor leagues as soon as the their MLB service was through. However, this one does not show excessive use, it is entirely possible that it avoided a minor league tour of duty, post-MLB.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The jersey is properly tagged on the outside left front tail, matching exemplars There are two manufacturer tags side by side, The white Descente tag is on the left, the right one is a wash instructions tag. Centered below is a 7/8" x 1 3/4" rectangle of black knit fabric, with the code 23 44 78 machine-embroidery onto it in a style matching exemplars (Player #23, size 44, 1978). The Descente tags faded notably in heavy use, and these are relatively unfaded.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey displays use, but is in better condition that most Pirates jerseys from this time period that I have evaluated. It is free of damage, shrinkage or staining, the elastic trim is still stretchy and bright, the stitched edges of the lettering are not frayed, overall puckering is minimal, The tagging shows very little fading, puckering or wear, an indication that this jersey was probably not recycled to the minor leagues.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition with no contrivances of any kind. It has team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Grant Jackson of the 1978 Pittsburgh Pirates.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Grant Jackson Pittsburgh Pirates 1977 Gold Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: June 10, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0610J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gold body Rawlings pullover jersey, size 44 (tagged and measured). Black/white/gold wide 2" stretchy sleeve end trim, 1" black/white/black V-neck trim. PIRATES arched on the front, number 35 below on the left chest and on back in the correct Pirates variant of the athletic block font, 8 1/4" tall. Correct for 1977-1978 the gold jerseys were without player names on back: these were added in 1979. All lettering is layered twill black over white. Grant Jackson wore #35 for a part of the 1977 season and #23 for the rest of the season. At 6' 0" and 180 lbs, a size 44 jersey is reasonable for the player, and matches other jerseys of the player that I have authenticated. Like nearly all teams at that time, the Pirates recycled team uniforms to the minor leagues as soon as the their MLB service was through. This one was certainly redeployed and used in the minors. Because 1977 season jerseys were used in 1978 spring training, and might have been used as backup jerseys in the 1978 season, there is a possibility that this jersey was reissued to catcher Manny Sanguillen who was issued #35 for 1978, but this is not at all certain. Notably, 1978 issued Pirates gold jerseys were issued by Wilson, not Rawlings.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings size 44 manufacturer's red tag correct for 1977 is stitched inside the front right tail. Pinch-sewn under it right edge is a white flag tab that says SET 1 1977. There is no other team tagging, as is correct for 1977 Pirates gold jerseys matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey displays heavy use with significant damage on the left side below the numbers at the waist level, that has been treated to a very sloppy team repair; it appears that several horizontal slash-cuts were made through the fabric, then they were repaired by backing them with matching gold fabric, then repeated overstitching with a sewing machine and bright gold thread. The light table shows that all stitched lettering elements are original and without contrivance. Based on its rough condition, this jersey most certainly as used for multiple seasons in the minors. Lettering is puckered, the jersey color is notably faded, especially above the waist, with multiple snags and pulls, and the lettering stitching remains dense but shows characteristic signs of failing on the vertical strokes of the back numbers. The knit trim at the neck and sleeve ends shows fading of the black areas There are stains on the body, especially around the slash-repairs on the side. The Pirates were a team that wasted nothing, and this jersey shows the extent of the team's frugality.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair condition. The jersey has ample team repairs but no contrivances of any kind. It has team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Grant Jackson of the 1977 Pittsburgh Pirates.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Restoration

Chuck Tanner 1982 Pittsburgh Pirates Gold Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: April 22, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0422J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gold body Rawlings pullover jersey, size 44 (tagged and measured). Black/white/gold wide 2" stretchy sleeve end trim, 1" black/white/black V-neck trim. PIRATES arched on the front, number 7 below on the left chest and on back in the correct Pirates variant of the athletic block font, 8 7/8" tall. All lettering is layered twill black over white. Exemplars show Tanner wore size 44 jerseys through most of his managing career. TANNER stitched in Wilson's vertical arch font 1977 on a gold plate that matches the jersey. As received, the jersey was without a nameplate, and the very clear stitching outline of the original plate remained. Like nearly all teams at that time, the Pirates recycled team uniforms to the minor leagues as soon as the their MLB service was through, and at the end of the season nameplates were routinely stripped from all jerseys to allow re-use. During the 2000s, a large trove of original Pirates nameplates surfaced in the hobby, and this appears to be one of these. It is a gold warp-knit fabric Tanner nameplate without a serged edge, and it matched the shape of the stitching outline nearly exactly. Using the light table, I repositioned it exactly and stitched it to the jersey using a tight zig-zag stitch as was originally done. It may or may not have been this jersey's original plate, but if not, it is a near perfect match.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson size 44 manufacturer's tag correct for 1982 is stitched inside the back of the collar. A 1"x3" piece of gold jersey fabric is zig zag stitched to the lower outside left tail with "7 82 1" hand chain stitched in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. It matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey displays honest use for a season's worth of use by the team manager (considering the Pirates had three different jersey top styles and then at least two sets of each); the light table shows that all stitched elements are original and without contrivance. Based on its excellent condition, it is conceivable that this jersey avoided a second life in the minor leagues.The jersey color remains bright and unfaded, and the stitching is dense and tight, but the lettering shows softening from washing, and the jersey body fabric is surprisingly unpuckered beneath the twill lettering from hot water washing. There are some light stains on the body and the sleeve end trim. The Pirates were a frugal team that wasted nothing, yet this jersey seems to have been spared overuse.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good to excellent condition. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by manager Chuck Tanner of the 1982 Pittsburgh Pirates.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Restoration

Nelson Norman 1982 Pittsburgh Pirates Gold Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: April 22, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0422J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gold body Rawlings pullover jersey, size 40 (tagged and measured). Black/white/gold wide 2" stretchy sleeve end trim, 1" black/white/black V-neck trim. PIRATES arched on the front, number 25 below on the left chest and on back in the correct Pirates variant of the athletic block font, 9" tall. All lettering is layered twill black over white. While I can find no other examples of Nelson Norman game jerseys, At 6' 2" but only 160 lbs, a size 40 jersey would have been reasonable for a player so slim. NORMAN stitched in Wilson's a non-vertical arch font (not surprising for a September call- up, as all vertical are plates were done by Wilson at the factory. Those for call-ups were often done quickly and locally.) on a gold plate that matches the jersey. As received, the jersey was without a nameplate, and the very clear stitching outline of the original plate remained. Like nearly all teams at that time, the Pirates recycled team uniforms to the minor leagues as soon as the their MLB service was through, and at the end of the season nameplates were routinely stripped from all jerseys to allow re-use. During the 2000s, a large trove of original Pirates nameplates surfaced in the hobby, and this appears to be one of these. It is a gold warp-knit fabric NORMAN nameplate without a serged edge, and it matched the shape of the stitching outline nearly exactly. Using the light table, I repositioned it exactly and stitched it to the jersey using a tight zig-zag stitch as was originally done. Norman had a brief Pirates career, as he was a September call-up in 1982 who appeared in only three games. No other Pirate was issued #25 in 1982. Given that this was his only Pirates roster appearance, it is highly likely that this jersey has been reunited with its original nameplate.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson size 40 manufacturer's tag correct for 1982 is stitched inside the back of the collar. A 1"x3" piece of gold jersey fabric is zig zag stitched to the lower outside left tail with "25 82 1" hand chain stitched in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. It matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey displays very light use (considering the Pirates had three different jersey top styles and the player was on the team for only about a month); the light table shows that all stitched elements are original and without contrivance. Based on its excellent condition, it is conceivable that this jersey avoided a second life in the minor leagues.The jersey color remains bright and unfaded, and the stitching is dense and tight, but the lettering shows barely any softening from washing, and the jersey body fabric is unpuckered beneath the twill lettering from hot water washing. There are some light stains on the body and the sleeve end trim. The Pirates were a frugal team that wasted nothing, yet this jersey seems to have been spared MLB overuse or having been sent to the minor leagues for reissue. This is the finest-condition example of a game worn Pirates gold jersey that I have evaluated, to date.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by call-up infielder Nelson Norman of the 1982 Pittsburgh Pirates.

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Document of Restoration

Pittsburgh Pirates 1980 Gold Jersey- Sanguillen

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Pittsburgh Pirates Gold alternate jersey front tail team tagging "35 80". Player #35 on the 1980 roaster was catcher Manny Sanguillen. This jersey had received an earlier restoration of sorts, with all elements including replacement of the front wordmark, nameplate and numbers. The condition was poor, as the twill lettering was of low quality and was puckered and discolored. The nameplate on back was on a pale yellow cotton fabric that did not come close to matching the jersey.

Work Performed: I completely stripped the jersey of all sewn lettering, and pre-soaked and laundered it, brightening it considerably. Using my historic team templates for the jersey lettering, I tuned the outlines to match the ghosts on the jersey and recut all lettering. It is clear from the fading in the numbers area that this jersey had experienced a long period of use as #65 The sun fading on back indicated it was used for several years the sun with the #65 in place and likely with no name on back, probably in Spring Training or in the minors.

The jersey body itself has faded considerably, comparing the tops of the shoulders to the tail. The tail is several shades of gold darker than either the middle of the back and chest or the aggressively faded shoulders. Finding knit nameplate material to match the faded shoulder area proved extremely difficult; the closest match came from a faded pair of pants that were closer in shade to the jersey tail.

I recreated the player name on back in the proper vertical arch condensed style used by the Pirates in 1980 on nameplates, and surged the plate's edge. I aged the lettering slightly with media blasting to dull the surface shine.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bill Madlock 1981 Pittsburgh Pirates Home Game Jersey, NL Batting Title Year

Examination Date: July 29, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0729J02

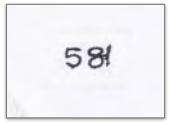
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White pullover size 44 Pittsburgh Pirates home jersey of #5, Bill Madlock. Pirates wordmark arched on front with player number "5" below on the left side. On back, player name "MADLOCK" arched above the number 5. All lettering is black over light gold, two-layer tackle twill. The name on back is on a nameplate, as is correct. The correct Pirates fonts are used; while similar to other teams', the propositions of the numbers are unique to the Bucs. A light table examination shows that the lettering is original to this jersey and that there was not another name or number on it prior. The original nameplate remains, which is an oddity among Pirates jerseys of this vintage, nearly all of which were heavily recycled to spring training and the minor leagues. Sewn-in black/gold/black 3" wide knit sleeve end trim and 1" V-Neck trim.

In 1981 Madlock won the NL Batting title with an average of .341. In a 15-season career, Madlock, nicknamed "Mad Dog", compiled a .305 batting average with 2008 hits, 920 runs, 348 doubles, 163 home runs, 174 stolen bases, 605 bases on balls and 860 runs batted in (RBI). (Wikipedia) He earned four batting titles (including 1981), and is the only player to have earned multiple batting tittles with different teams. He was selected to the All Star squad three times.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The jersey is tagged inside the back of the neck with a Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1981 noting the size as 44. A now-blank white fabric tag is pinched under the right side of the Rawlings tag that may have indicated special tailoring, from appearances perhaps it indicated extra sleeve length. On the outside bottom of the right tail is a small square of knit fabric with the numbers "5-81" hand chain stitched on them in the familiar script of the Rawlings factory stitcher. The tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of a full season's use; some minor ground-in dirt and a few small stains, minor fabric pulls and loose threads, plus slight wrinkling of the twill lettering and curling of the tags show that it was worn and washed frequent times. It remains is in very good condition, with bright colors and relatively clean white fabric. It is very unusual to see a Pirates jersey from 1981 is such fine condition, as these were often so over-used as to sometimes make them indistinguishable as originally white or gray, the twill lettering faded to three shades and even the chain-stitched tagging worn out.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is an uncommonly excellent example of a game worn Pirates home jersey from a star player, in a year in which he won a National League batting title. It exhibits good use and is free from alteration or contrivances. It has the proper tagging.It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and game worn by Bill Madlock of the 1981 Pittsburgh Pirates.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dave Parker 1980 Pittsburgh Pirates Home Game Jersey

Examination Date:April 1, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0401J01

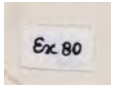
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White pullover size 46 (marked and measured) Pittsburgh Pirates home jersey of #39, Dave Parker. Sewn-in black/gold/black 3" wide knit sleeve end trim and 1" V-Neck trim. Pirates wordmark arched on front with player number "39" below on the left side. On back, player name "PARKER" on a nameplate as is correct, arched above the number 39. All lettering is black over light gold, two-layer tackle twill. The correct Pirates fonts are used; while similar to other teams', the proportions of the numbers are unique to the Bucs. A light table examination shows that the numbers original to this jersey but the nameplate has been replaced with a vintage item. Pirates jerseys of this vintage were heavily recycled to spring training and the minor leagues. Parker was wearing size 46 jerseys at this point in his career, surveying other examples attributed to him.

Dave Parker enjoyed a 19 year MLB career, spending 11 seasons as a Pirate. In 1977, he was National League batting champion, a feat he repeated in 1978 when he was named the National League MVP. In 1980, he played in 139 games hitting .295 with 19 home runs. (Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The jersey is tagged inside the back of the neck with a Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1981 noting the size as 46. A small white fabric tab is pinched under the right side of the Rawlings tag on which is printed SET 1 1980. The stitching around this tag is loose from abrasion and use. On the outside bottom of the right tail is a small square of white twill fabric with the inscription "Ex 80" hand chain stitched in black embroidery thread. In this spot would normally have been a tag that had the player number and two-digit year (as in 39 80). This inscription would indicate that this jersey was provided to the team as an extra at the start of the season, not assigned at the Rawlings factory to any player. This is a common practice, so the the team can quickly provide a jersey when one is damaged, or create a jersey for a player who is called up or acquired in a trade. Tagging style and location matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of a full season's use plus additional use in the minor leagues/spring training as typical for the 1980s Pirates. There is ground-in dirt and a few small stains, minor fabric pulls and loose threads, plus slight wrinkling of the twill lettering and curling of the tags show that it was worn and washed frequently. Very careful examination of the stitching shows that typical for jerseys that have been worn a lot the thread on the inside has worn out, especially on the vertical strokes of



Continued, overleaf

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Johnny Ray 1987 Pittsburgh Pirates Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: May 27, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0527J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White Rawlings pullover, size 42 (marked and measured) Pittsburgh Pirates home jersey of #3, second baseman Johnny Ray. The size is reasonable for the player. Sewn-in black/gold/black 3" wide knit sleeve end trim and 1" V-Neck trim. Gold Pirates team patch on the left sleeve. Pirates wordmark arched on front with player number "3" below on the left side. On back, player name "RAY" arched on a nameplate above the number 3, as is correct. All lettering is black over gold, two-layer tackle twill. The correct Pirates fonts are used; while similar to other teams', the taller and narrower proportions of the numbers are unique to the Bucs. A light table examination shows that the number lettering is original to this jersey and that there was not another number on it prior. The nameplate is a replacement, which is typical among Pirates jerseys of this vintage, nearly all of which were heavily recycled to spring training and the minor leagues. The light table reveals that the original nameplate was about the same length, but with sharply angled ends different from the replacement.

Johnny Ray had a 10-year career from 1981 to 1990. He played for the Pittsburgh Pirates of the National League and the California Angels of the American League. He also played two seasons for the Yakult Swallows in Japan in 1991 and 1992. (Wikipedia). Ray started the season for the Pirates in 1987, appearing in 123 games and hitting .273 with 5 home runs. He was traded to the Angels at the end of August, where he appeared in 29 games finishing the season providing a strong contribution, hitting .346 for the final month of 1987.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings script logo is direct embroidered in white into the top black stripe on the right sleeve trim. 1987 was the first year that this occurred. The jersey is locker-tagged inside the front left tail with a Rawlings red tag appropriate for 1987 noting the size as 42. A white fabric flag tag is pinched under the right side of the Rawlings tag shows SET 1 1987. There are no team tags referencing the player's name or number. This tagging matches 1987 Pirates' exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of at least a full season's use; some minor ground-in dirt and a few small stains, minor fabric pulls, a couple of tiny holes in the left sleeve, plus some wrinkling of the twill lettering and curling of the tags show that it was worn and washed frequently. This jersey likely spent some time in the minors, where it was used with the nameplate removed. The replacement nameplate is marginally whiter than the jersey, and with an un-serged edge, but it is sewn on the proper fabrics with the correct font. The original numbers front and back have been reinforced with a second corse of thread on all outlines, sewn through. Overall, the jersey remains is in good condition, with bright colors and relatively clean white fabric. It is unusual to see a Pirates jersey from the 1980s is good condition, as these were often over-used and in poor condition when finally retired.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is good example of a game worn Pirates home jersey. It exhibits use and has a replacement nameplate. It is free contrivances. It has the proper tagging.It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and game worn by Johnny Ray of the 1987 Pittsburgh Pirates.

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Chapter 30

Texas Rangers

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys 1970-2025 Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Rangers Uniform History Notes

- The Rangers were born for the 1972 season, when the long-suffering Washington Senators pulled up stakes and moved to Arlington, Texas.
- The team's first "branded look" had a decidedly modern 1970s feel to it, with a bold and bright team logo and uniform wordmark. It had two unique features. One was the small star inside a circle at the base of the "R," either signifying the Lone Star State, or looking like a little Ranger badge. The second was the prominently larger "R" and "S," the first and last letters of the team name, that also happened to be the initials of Robert Short, the team's new owner.
- Close inspection however showed that those first Rangers uniforms were actually 1971 Washington Senators uniforms that had been meticulously stripped of their lettering and turned into Rangers uniforms by a tailor's hand! It is hard to imagine the amount of work this was to do, and shows how thrifty the team was in those years.
- The 1972 Senators/Rangers Spring Training flannel uniforms featured a straight-across (no curve) wordmark and no trim.
- For the start of the 1972 season, the team took the field with new double knits. The Rangers wordmark took on a gentle curve, and red/white/blue knit trim was added to the jersey sleeve ends and to the neck opening. Player names on the back used a very wide Block-style font, and perhaps unsurprisingly, the player number font pattern was the same Block variation as had been used by the Senators for most of the 1960s.
- The Rangers have made many year-to-year changes since they first took the field in 1972. During the 1970s and through 1985, there are several one-year-only jersey styles and many, many trim and detail changes.
- During the 1970s, the Rangers' quality control is among the shoddiest in MLB. Uniforms are continually recycled from year to year, back numbers are mismatched, names on back are removed and re-sewn so many times that some gamers look like a patchwork quilt of repaired holes. Quality and consistency improve greatly starting in the early 1980s.
- Game worn Rangers' jerseys of the 1970s usually have seen much wear, being used and reused before they entered the hobby.
- In 1983, the first alternate is unveiled, a royal blue jersey. In 1984 it is joined by a red alternate. Both are discontinued after 1985.
- From 1986–1993, the Rangers settled into a period of uniform consistency, wearing only home whites and road grays. The clean "Rangers" script on home whites earned the nickname "Texas Dodgers" due to its visual similarity to L.A.'s iconic uniforms
- In 1994, red became the primary team color, and the uniform set began evolving rapidly once again. A blue alternate returned in 2000, and by 2006–2008, the Rangers had five active jersey options, including home and road vests.
- Around 1996, the Rangers entered into a relationship with The MeiGray Group, marketing the team's game worn uniforms on an exclusive basis. However, not every game worn jersey has a MeiGray tag sewn in. This relationship seems to have run through about 2002.
- 2002 and later team-tagged jerseys are incredibly common in the hobby, and their availability makes it is clear the team markets them more aggressively to collectors and fans. When one considers all the jersey options plus Spring Training, Turn Back the Clock, and special events, the total of team issued and game worn Rangers jerseys marketed each year probably numbers in the high hundreds!
- Both home and road vests are retired after the 2008 season.
- The 2009 redesign switches all uniforms to Cool Base, and (oddly) the very same "TEXAS" wordmark is sewn on the front of all four team jerseys, as the team name is no longer on the uniforms. The player name and number font is a fussy four-color, including a drop shadow. A red alternate is introduced, worn on select home dates.
- 2013 brings simplification to the 2009 redesign on all jerseys, eliminating drop shadows and 3D beveling, rearranging outline layer colors for better visibility.
- The 2020 season sees several updates to the lineup. The home white jersey now features a script "Rangers"—the first time the team name has been seen on a game jersey since 2000. The same script adorns a new powder blue uniform set worn for Sunday home games. The blue alternate is relegated to road use only
- The home red alternate is retired after the 2022 season.
- In 2023, the Rangers add a City Connect uniform featuring custom fonts and iconography, like the Panther/Eagle badge. These cream colored jerseys are worn with dark (midnight blue) pants, an unusual combination.
- Across the decades, the Rangers have cycled between script and block lettering, multiple trim styles, vest and pullover designs, and fluctuating uses of red and blue—often leaving fans unsure of whether Texas is a red team with blue accents or a blue team with red.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Rangers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1972	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	1 color Block Wide*	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	2 color 7” Block Variant	1 color Block Wide*	No	-	-	Wilson
1973	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	1 color Block Wide*	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	2 color 7” Block Variant	1 color Block Wide*	No	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	1 color Block Wide*	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	2 color 7” Block Variant	1 color Block Wide*	No	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	2 color Varsity variant	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
1976	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	2 color Varsity variant	No	Texas 1976	-	Wilson
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	1 color Block	No	Texas 1976	-	Goodman
1977	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	2 color Varsity variant	No	Black Armband/4	Team Shield	Wilson
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	1 color Block	No	Black Armband/4	Team Shield	Rawlings
1978	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	2 color Varsity variant	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	1 color Block	No	-	Team Shield	Rawlings
1979	Home	No	2 color 7” Block variant	2 color Varsity Variant	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	1 color Block	No		Team Shield	Rawlings
1980	Home	No	2 color 7” Block	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	No	-	-	Team Shield	Rawlings
1981	Home	No	2 color 7” Block	2 color Block Cond & Block XCond	Yes	-	Round TR Disc	Rawlings
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	1 color Block	No	Round TR Disc	-	Wilson
1982	Home	No	2 color 7” Block	2 color Block Cond & Block XCond	Yes	-	Round TR Disc	Rawlings
	Road	No	3 color 7” Block	1 color Block	No	-	Round TR Disc	Wilson

1972-1982 General Notes: Surviving Rangers jerseys of this timeframe have inconsistent team name/number lettering, with 1972-74 jerseys being the most erratic examples. Part of the reason may be that these jerseys were recycled by the team many times and by the time they made it to the hobby, surviving examples show a mixture of Major League, Minor League, and restored names and numbers on them. Home and road jerseys during this period appear to have been lettered at different establishments.

•**In 1972-1974,** the number font on both home and road jerseys is a custom cross between Block and Varsity, same as used by the 1960s-71 Senators. It is essentially Block with square number insides (2,3,6,8,9,0). Numbers are often different sizes from each other, a usual sign of re-numbering. During these years, names on back are very inconsistent. I have filled in the table using my best estimates of original lettering colors and styles. It does not appear to have been a priority for the Rangers to have names on back in a consistent style during this period. Comparing jerseys of the same year to one another shows different spacing between letters, different degree of curve across the back (even straight across is seen), and different widths of lettering used indiscriminately between garments.

•**Between 1975-1979**, there is a clear difference between the lettering on the teams' home Rawlings' jersey and the road Wilson jerseys, almost certainly indicating these were sewn by different shops. The home jersey only uses a Varsity variant alphabet in two-color for the player names. It is close, but not exactly like the version used by the 1992-2004 Expos; the Rangers version being slightly lighter in stroke than the Expos'. Home numbers continue in the 1972-74 style, a cross between Block and Varsity. During this period, the road jerseys get a much more consistent (year to year, and garment to garment) player name font, which is close to Block standard, and also get very nicely sewn three-color Block standard numbers on the back. I would have to say the road jerseys of this five-year period were much more consistent and nicely done.

•**1980-1982** sees a standardization, at least, between the numbers used on the home and road jerseys, as all are now Block Standard from a common pattern. Names on back though are hard to categorize. Home jerseys have names in two-color (red/blue) sometimes in Block Condensed, but often in Block Extra Condensed, even for player names that are not that long. Road jerseys seem to simply use one-color Block names. They may exist, but I have never yet come across a road jersey with condensed or extra condensed font for names.

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Rangers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1983	Home	No	2 color 7” Block	1 color Block	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	2 color 7” Block	1 color Block	Yes	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home	2 color 4 7/8” Block Var #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color 3 1/2” Block	No	Team Texas Patch	-	Rawlings
	Blue Alt	2 color 4 7/8” Block Var #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color 3 1/2” Block	Yes	Team Texas Patch	-	Wilson
	Red Alt	2 color 4 7/8” Block Var #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color 3 1/2” Block	Yes	Team Texas Patch	-	Wilson
1985	Home	2 color 4 7/8” Block Var #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color 3 1/2” Block	No	Team Texas Patch	-	Rawlings
	Blue Alt	2 color 4 7/8” Block Var #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color 3 1/2” Block	Yes	Team Texas Patch	-	Wilson
	Red Alt	2 color 4 7/8” Block Var #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color 3 1/2” Block	Yes	Team Texas Patch	-	Wilson
1986	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	-	-	Wilson
1987	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	-	-	Russell
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	-	-	Russell
1993	Home	2 color 5” Front Block #2	2 color 8” Block	1 color Block	No	Arlington Stadium	HEC Memorial after Aug 22	Russell
	Road	No	2 color 8” Block	2 color Block	No	Arlington Stadium	HEC Memorial after Aug 22	Russell

*Among my collection of many Rangers game worn jersey photos of 1992, there is only one with a Rawlings tag. It is on a Dickie Thon road gray jersey, and though it has team set tagging, it is not year tagged. However, two facts make it almost certainly from 1992. First, Thon joined the Rangers on December 16, 1991, after the end of the 1991 season. Second, it has a tag style that Rawlings did not begin to use with other teams until the 1992 season.

Through the 1980s, even though the Rangers seldom used player nameplates, it is not uncommon to find individual jerseys with “cover up” plates put over other player names so that jerseys could be reissued without removing the old name beneath, letter by letter.

The Texas Rangers wing of my collection, featuring one of each style for an almost complete set. The Rangers certainly know how to keep a collector busy.

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Jersey styles and variations come and go, rarely is the lineup the same two seasons running.

1994-2000

1994 only

1995-1999

2000-2008

2000 only

2001-2008

2001- 2008

2004-2008

2006-2008

Rangers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1994	Home	No	2 color Block	2 color Block	No	Team Diamond*	-	Russell
	Road	No	2 color Block w/Serifs	2 color Block	No	-	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home	No	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Team Diamond	All Star Game	Russell
	Road	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Team Diamond	All Star Game	Russell
1996	Home	No	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Team Diamond	-	Russell
	Road	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Team Diamond	-	Russell
1997	Home	No	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Team Diamond*	Jackie & MH Memorial**	Russell
	Road	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Team Diamond	Jackie & MH Memorial**	Russell
1998	Home	No	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Team Diamond	-	Russell
	Road	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Team Diamond	-	Russell
1999	Home	No	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Team Diamond	-	Russell
	Road	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Team Diamond	-	Russell
2000	Home	No	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	1999 W Div Champs	Rawlings
	Road	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	1999 W Div Champs	Rawlings
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	1999 W Div Champs	Rawlings
2001	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	AL 100th Anniv	Rawlings
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	AL 100th Anniv	Rawlings
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	AL 100th Anniv	Rawlings
2002	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	-	Rawlings
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	-	Rawlings
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	-	Rawlings
2003	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	Yes	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2004	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Vest	2 color Front Block	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	-	Majestic
2005	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	Texas Flag Logo	26 Patch (Johnny Oates)	Majestic
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	26 Patch (Johnny Oates)	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	26 Patch (Johnny Oates)	Majestic
	Alt Vest	2 color Front Block	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	26 Patch (on right chest)	Majestic
2006	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt White Vest	2 color Front Block	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Gray Vest	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	3 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt White Vest	2 color Front Block	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Gray Vest	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	3 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	-	Majestic
2008	Home	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road	No	4 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Block	3 color Block Cond Lt or Block XCond	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt White Vest	2 color Front Block	2 color Block	2 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Gray Vest	3 color Front Block	3 color Block	3 color Block or Block Cond	No	-	-	Majestic

* Interleague Play logo patch worn in place of team diamond at home on June 12,13
** MH memorial patch worn after September 8.

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Change to Flex Base

Rangers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2009	Home White	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	Bobby Bragan patch, Spring Training only	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2012	Home White	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	4 color Special Block	4 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	40th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	40th Anniversary	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo		Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	MACKO patch Spring Training Only	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Final Year/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Final Year/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Final Year/MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block	3 color Special Block	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Final Year/MLB 150th	Majestic
2020	Home White	No	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Inaugural	Nike
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Inaugural	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Inaugural	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue	No	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Inaugural	Nike
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/ Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Stadium Inaugural	Nike

* Texas flag patch is notably smaller and with a gold border starting 2019

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These five styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Rangers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
2022	Home White	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	50th Anniversary	Nike
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	50th Anniversary	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	50th Anniversary	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	50th Anniversary	Nike
	Alt Red	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	50th Anniversary	Nike
2023	Home White	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	-	-	-	Eagle/Panther patch	Nike
2024	Home White	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow (perf)	2" 3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Energy Transfer Ad patch	Nike
	Road Gray	No	4 color Special Block/Drop Shadow (perf)	2" 3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Energy Transfer Ad patch	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	5 color Special Block/Drop Shadow (perf)	2" 3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Energy Transfer Ad patch	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue	No	6 color Special Block/Drop Shadow (perf)	2" 3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*	Energy Transfer Ad patch	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	-	-	Energy Transfer Ad patch	Eagle/Panther patch	Nike
2025	Home White	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*‡	Energy Transfer Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*‡	Energy Transfer Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*‡	Energy Transfer Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Powder Blue	No	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	3 color Special Block/Drop Shadow	No	Texas Flag Logo*‡	Energy Transfer Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	-	-	Eagle/Panther patch‡	Energy Transfer Ad patch‡	Nike

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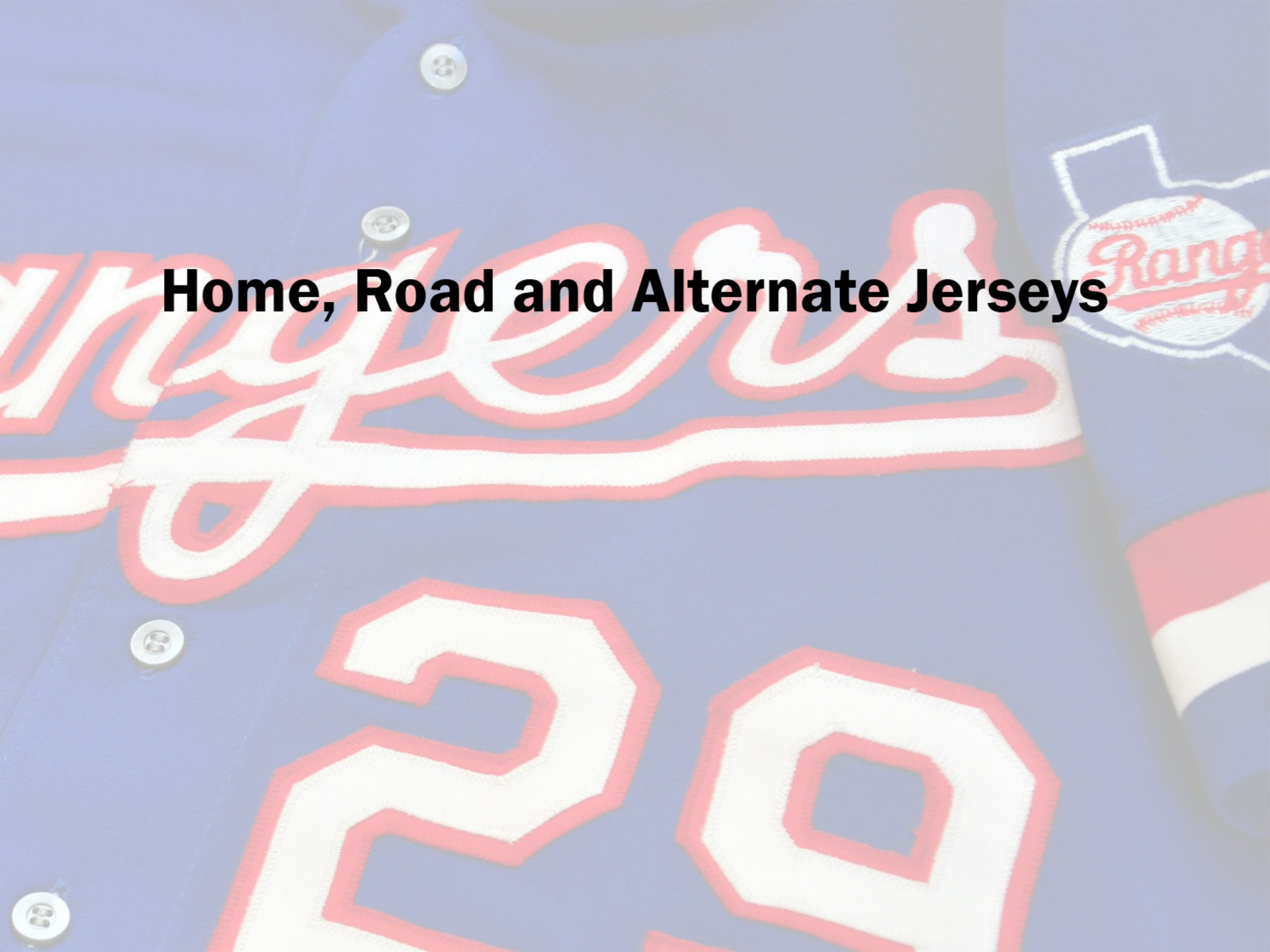
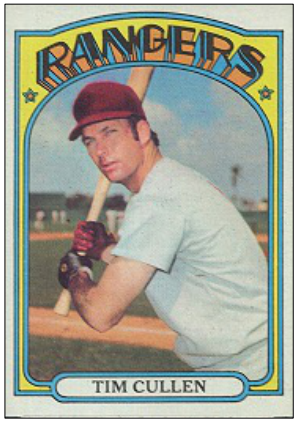
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

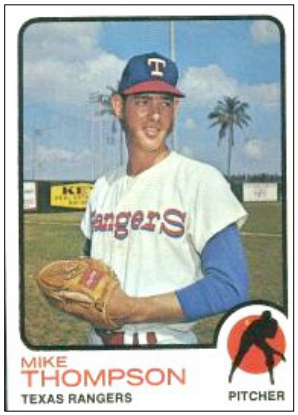


1972 Home Spring Training

Far Left: *A surviving Senators' final-style flannel that was spared the indignity of conversion. Next to it, a converted Senators/Rangers flannel still featuring the original "1971 Set 1" shirt tail tagging of the Senators.*



Airbrushed 1971 Senators photo on 1972 card



Card shows flannel jersey from 1972 Spring Training

The first Texas Rangers team took the field for the 1972 season wearing new double knits. One could easily surmise that the Rangers, therefore, have no history in flannel. But, that is not so. When the Senators packed up and left Washington, DC to become the Rangers after the 1971 season, they brought all of their equipment with them, including all remaining 1971 uniforms. Then, unbelievably, these jerseys were converted into Rangers jerseys by painstakingly removing all of the Senators scripts from the fronts, then re-sewing Rangers lettering on. This amount of work would be unthinkable today. Today, the final set of Senators' uniforms could certainly be auctioned off as highly sought-after collectibles. But back in 1971, they were nothing more than obsolete baggage.

The new Rangers team appeared on 1972 baseball cards, with most players shown from the neck up, and wearing red caps. Clearly 1971 Senators' player photos, they were primitively airbrushed by Topps' artists to remove any trace of the Senators' logos. Note too, that the 1972 Rangers wore blue, not red hats.

The flannel jerseys might have been gone forever as soon as the season-issue double knits arrived. But frugally, the converted Senators flannels lived on in Spring Training for another year, best seen on baseball cards.

The "ghosts" of the removed Senators wordmark are still clearly visible

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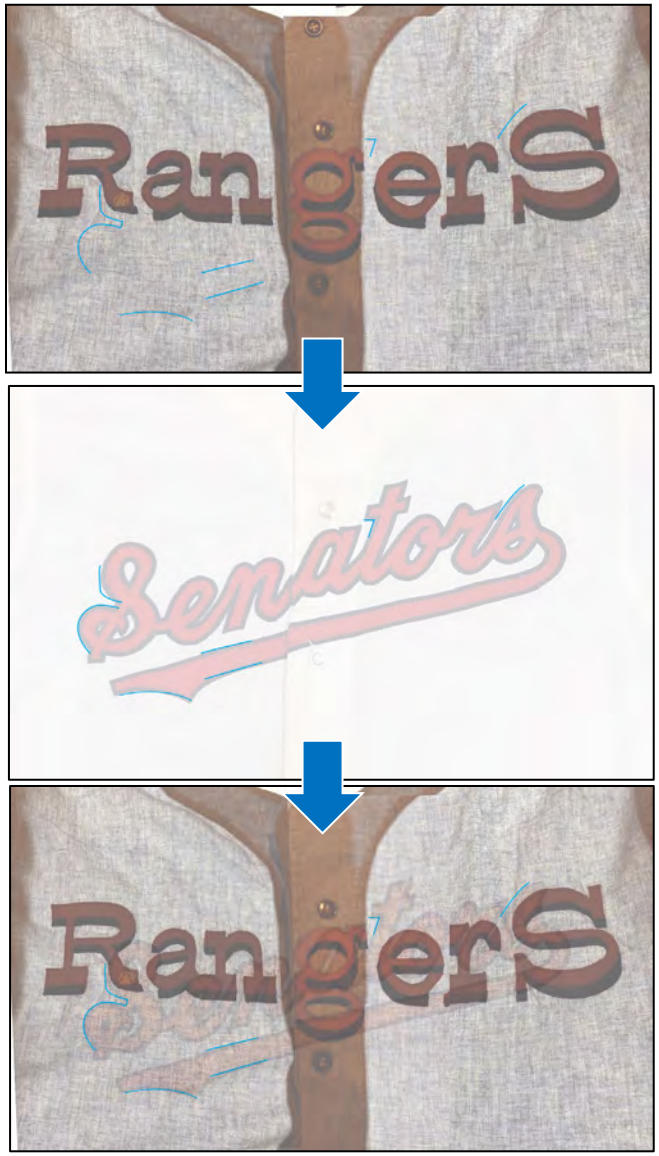
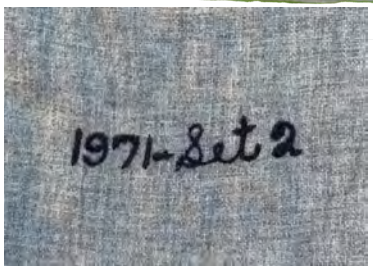
1972 Road Spring Training





I had the opportunity to examine this jersey on the light table. Tagged as a 1971 Set 2 and with Ted Williams' Senators-style #9 on the back (original) I was able to look for evidence of the Senators wordmark on front. It was faint, but it was there. The top photo shows the jersey on the light table with the clearest points of the ghosts highlighted in blue. I've then overlaid a 1970 Senators wordmark from a jersey I had in the shop and was able to confirm the points of intersection. The button spacing and placement helps with alignment. The bottom photo shows the Senators wordmark superimposed where it would have appeared on Williams' 1971 Senators jersey, converted to Rangers for 1972 Spring Training by a very, very frugal team.

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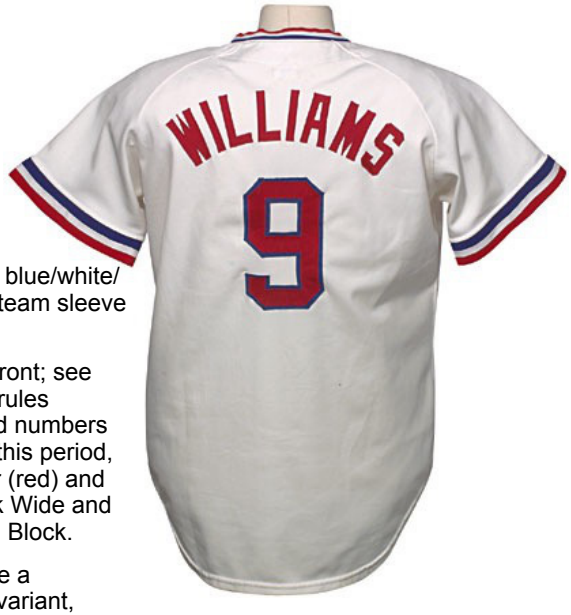
1972-1974 Home

1972



1974

Stephen Kraljic collection

Button front with knit blue/white/red sleeve ends, no team sleeve patch.

No numbers on the front; see "Overview" table for rules regarding names and numbers on the back. During this period, names are one-color (red) and are sometimes Block Wide and sometimes Standard Block.

Numbers on back are a Rangers-only Block variant, two-color red/royal.

Uniforms from this period show heavy wear as they were obviously used and re-used through the minor leagues.

1973

1974

1973–Note Block Wide lettering

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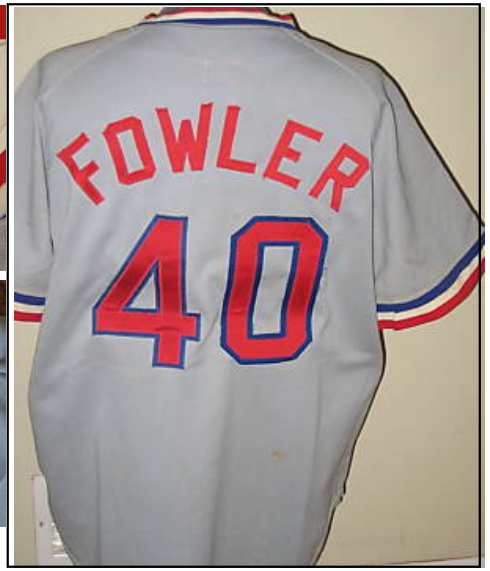
1972-1974 Road

1974

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion



1974

Button front gray with knit blue/white/red sleeve ends, no team sleeve patch. No numbers on the front. During this period, names are one color (red) and are sometimes Block Wide and sometimes Standard Block. Numbers on back are a Rangers-only Block variant, two-color red/royal. Uniforms from this period are heavily worn as they were obviously used and re-used through the minor leagues.

Right: *This 1972 year--tagged jersey may have been reissued in the minors. Look at the number "8"- nearly a full inch smaller from the (presumed) original "2" next to it. This example uses Block wide (variant) for a very long name!*

1972

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1975-1980 Home

1977

Nearly identical to the 1972–1974 style, except this jersey is now a pullover with a two-button Henley neck. Numbers on the back remain the same Senators carryover font. Player names, however, change to two-color Varsity red/royal, a font rarely seen for player names in MLB. Names on back are omitted in 1980 only.

No sleeve patch used in 1975; 1976 has special Texas Bicentennial patch, 1977–1980 has a nearly identical patch, minus the years on the 1976 version. However, sleeve patch jumps back and forth from one sleeve to the other on home jersey only during these years (see year-by-year overview table. Based on all the other inconsistencies found on Rangers jerseys of the 1970s, it is hard not to dismiss this as simply another example of poor quality control rather than being done for a reason.

The Marc Okkonen illustrations in the Dressed to the Nines exhibit on the Baseball Hall of Fame website shows this style being worn incorrectly starting in 1976.

1980 only—
no NOB

***Above Left**: 1976-only patch. **Above Right**: 1977–1980 patch. **Top Left:** Note the two different 3s on the back. Evidence of either an inexact restoration or if not, poor original team quality control. Black sleeve stripe is a 1977-only memorial armband.*

1976

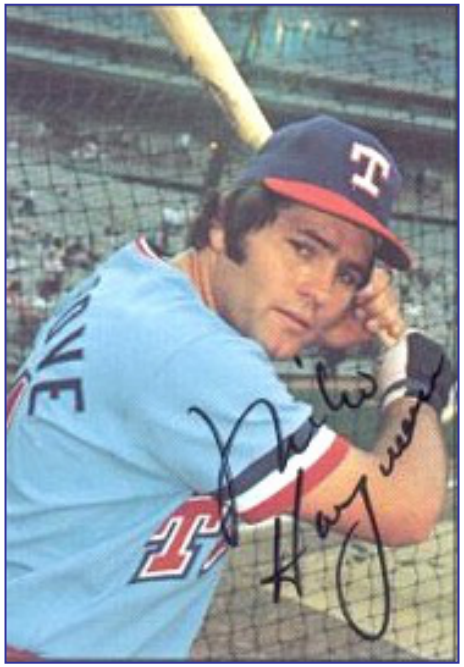
Stephen Kraljic Collection

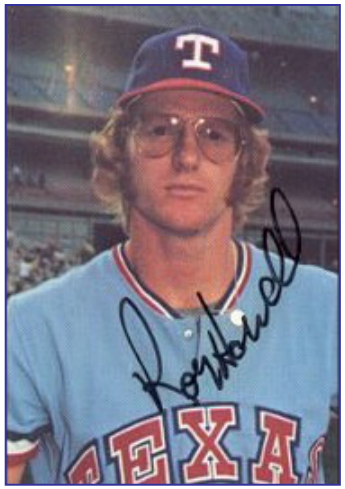
© GameWornGuides.com

1975 Road

One-year style. Three-color "TEXAS" on front, red/white/blue, two-button neck design. Block numbers are three-color red/white/royal blue. Notice the narrow white/then wide blue outline style. Names one color royal blue. These one-year jerseys are extremely difficult to find in the hobby.

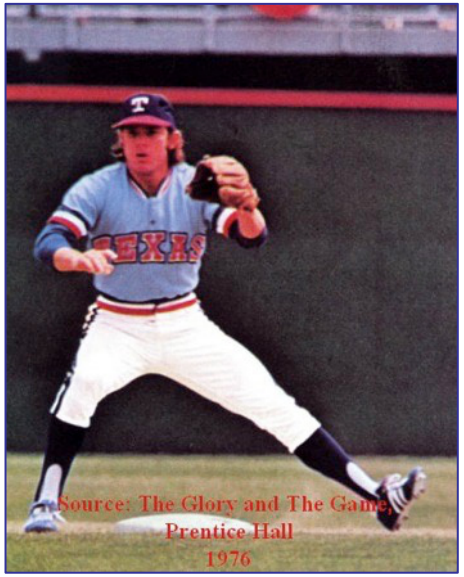
Rawlings is the manufacturer. (formerly Wilson). Wilson continues to be manufacturer for home jerseys.





(Top Left) *Note tagging for two different jerseys (likely "Set 1" and "Set 2") for the same player in the same year, plus autographed photo* ***(top right)*** *most likely showing the actual jersey at the top left being worn.*

(Right) *These road jerseys were worn at home on a few occasions with white pants.*



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1976-1980 Road

1976

Patch used 1976 only

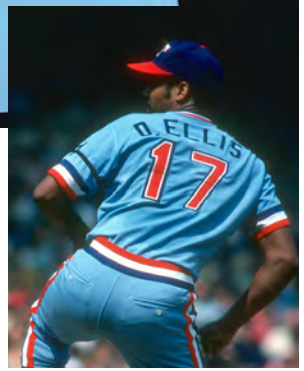
Sleeve Patch: *In* 1976: special Rangers "1776–1976" patch used on left sleeve, 1977–1980: The same "look" patch continues, minus the years at the top, and it moves to the right sleeve.

1977

1978

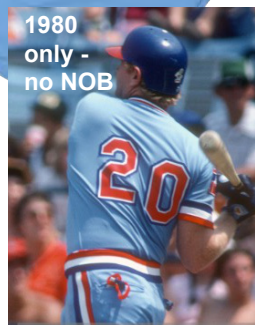
1979

Pullover with two-button Henley neck. Goodman jerseys used in 1976; Rawlings in 1977–1980. New "TexaS" team wordmark introduced on road jersey in 1976 in red/white. Numbers on back only, in three-color red/white/royal using Block font, unlike the home jersey which uses a custom number font. Notice the narrow white/then wide blue outline style. Names on back 1976–1979 are Block, one-color (royal), yet another difference from the home jersey, and are inconsistently sewn with different degrees of arch and spacing. No NOB 1980.



1980

Patch used 1977-1980



1980 only - no NOB

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1981-1982 Home

Top middle: *Block Extra Condensed is used for most names, it appears only very short names got Block Condensed (**below left and right**). This is different from road jerseys of this era, which seem to use Block Standard exclusively.*

Same basic look that dates back to 1972. The jersey once again is a full button-front as it had been in 1972–1974. This time, the sleeve-end knit trim is wider, and Rawlings is the maker.

New "TR" disc patch sewn on the right sleeve in both years.

Numbers on the back finally change to Block Standard, matching the road jerseys, which have used this style since 1975.

Names on back are often in Block Extra Condensed font, two-color. Shorter names (like those two at right) may be set in Block Condensed. Nameplates used on home jerseys in these two years.

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1981-1982 Road

1981

Bill Henderson Collection

1981

1981

Same basic look of the 1976–1980 style, except, like the home jersey, changes to a full button-front. Sleeve patch is new "TR" team disc logo. In 1981, on the road jersey, the patch is on the left sleeve, and in 1982 it moves to the right sleeve. Although I have seen some of these with nameplates ***(top right)***, which was not standard. Most likely, all were sewn with names directly on the jersey, then if reused, a nameplate with the new player's name would be sewn over top.

1982

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Rangers Jerseys Demoted to the Minor Leagues

While every team sent its MLB jerseys to the minors in the 1980s and before, the Rangers were especially hard on their equipment, seemingly using and reusing every uniform beyond its useful life, often stripping not only names and numbers, but front team crests as well. I have restored a number of these, Very few unrestored originals remain in existence.

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1983 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

One-year home style features state of Texas "TR" logo introduced by the team in 1981 on the front with arched "RANGERS" arched wordmark, wide knit blue/white/red sleeve trim.

Jersey made by Rawlings, number on back is in the same colors as the front logo— royal/red. Names on back are one-color royal blue, on a nameplate. Block Condensed used for shorter names, Block Extra Condensed for longer names. No sleeve patches in 1983.

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1983 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

One-year road style features TR logo on the front, arched white/red "TEXAS" wordmark. A very attractive style that could have lasted far longer than a single year. Two-color numbers on the back, white/red. One-color NOB, white, on a nameplate. These jerseys are made exclusively by Wilson.

© GameWornGuides.com

1984-1985 Home

On this jersey, look carefully to see the "Foli" name plate sewn over top of the original name, which had been sewn directly to the jersey. Not typical, this was probably done to make a quick change mid-season.

Rawlings made; identify by the wide blue/ white/red sleeve trim and the State of Texas/ Rangers script patch on the left sleeve.

Two-color royal/red numbers on the front and back, one-color royal names on back, usually with no nameplates. But the Rangers have a habit of covering old names with nameplates if jerseys are reissued.

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1984-1985 Alternate Blue

Bill Henderson Collection

These jerseys were used both at home and on the road. Identify by the wide red/white/blue knit sleeve trim and the state of Texas/Rangers script patch on the left sleeve. Two-color white/red numbers on the front and back, one-color white names on back. Nameplates used.

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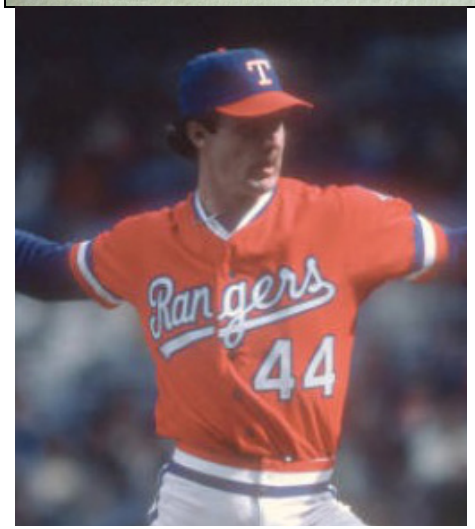
1984-1985 Alternate Red

Bill Henderson Collection



These jerseys were used sometimes as alternates at home, and also as road jerseys. Identify by the wide blue/white/red sleeve trim and the state of Texas/Rangers script logo patch on the left sleeve. Two color white/royal numbers on the front and back, one-color white names on back, nameplates used.

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1986-1993 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

1986

1987

1990

1991

1993

The team adopts what some have called a "Texas Dodgers" look; sleeve ends are now plain and more traditional, as the wide, colorful knit sleeve trim disappears. Two-color numbers on front and back, royal/red. Names on back one-color (royal blue) The front number font is unique to the Rangers, it is not identical to the Dodgers' numbers. Rawlings is the team's official supplier 1986–1991, Russell takes over in 1992

HEC Memorial after August 22, 1993

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Rangers Nolan Ryan Jerseys

Nolan Ryan was a lock to be a first ballot Hall of Famer by the time his career reached Texas in 1989, about the time the collectability of MLB was growing. A search of "game worn" Ryan Rangers jerseys on the web produces an avalanche of results. But it has long been claimed that Ryan preferred "only" to wear Goodman-made jerseys. What of all the Rawlings and Russell jerseys in our search results? Something can help to prove or disprove the Goodman story, and that is the appearance of manufacturers' logos on jersey sleeves in 1987. Rawlings was allowed to display their mark 1987-1991; Russell 1992–1993. If Ryan was wearing a jersey by another maker, there would not be a sleeve logo on his jersey, by contract. Searching news photos will tell you if he was wearing the contracted jerseys...or not, and they show that Ryan indeed *did not* always wear Goodman jerseys. Here are two letters of opinion from me; one for a Goodman jersey, and one for a Rawlings. You be the judge.

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1986*-1993 Road

Two-color royal/white "Texas" on front. Team sleeve patch disappears. Two-color name and numbers on back, royal/white. Nameplates no longer used. Wilson is the supplier 1986, Rawlings 1987–1991; Russell 1992–1993.

**The Rangers wore the new 1986 road uniforms during the final month of the 1985 season as a "preview" of the next season.*

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Rangers Team Tagging 1977-1999

These examples show that the Rangers used multiple manufacturers and had tagging styles that changed frequently. There are even legitimately different styles of tagging used in the same year by the team (1993 for example). These examples probably do not represent all of the variations.

I have purposely excluded any examples of tagging from purported Nolan Ryan jerseys. There are so many Ryan counterfeits that I want to avoid showing tagging here that may be fake.

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1994-2000 Home

2000

1994–1999

2000

1994 marks the change to a red as the team's primary color from royal blue. Two-color red/royal "Rangers" on front, red knit trim on sleeves and front.

Two-color red/royal name and number on back, name on a plate.

Rangers diamond-shaped shield with star patch on left sleeve 1994–1999. Texas flag team alternate logo replaces it 2000.

1995

1997 with very rare Interleague play patch

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1994 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

This jersey style was used for only one year—identify it by the simple, two-color red/white Texas on the front and the MLB 125th patch that should be on the right sleeve of any game worn jersey. Red knit trim used on sleeves but not on the front of this jersey. Oddly, Block with serifs numbers (on back only); this font used only on this style and this year (home jerseys in 1994 used Block). All others are standard Block. Names directly sewn with no nameplates.

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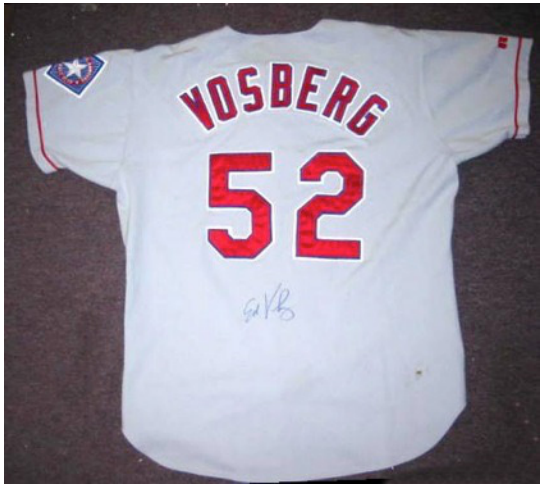
1995-1999 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

1997: "MH" memorial patch for broadcaster Mark Holtz added after September 8.

MeiGray Group "Texas Rangers Collection" tagging was added after the jersey was retired from use and before it was sold by the team.

- Gray jersey with red knit trim on sleeves, red/blue/white lettering throughout.
- Blue is added as an outline color to the "Texas" logo on the front (now red/blue/white).
- Diamond-shaped Texas Rangers new logo patch added to left sleeve
- Name goes on a plate, Extra condensed type style is used for longer names.



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2000 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

One-year-style gray jersey with blue knit trim on sleeves only, TEXAS in blue with red, white outline and then an additional gray drop shadow. The gray outline was very subtle—in fact, it was too subtle to be seen from further than three inches away. Outline will change to more visible black in 2001.

Block condensed font used for most names, extra condensed font used for long names. Names and numbers blue/red/white, names on nameplates. Game worn jerseys with the gray Texas drop shadow outline layer should always have the 1999 Division Champions patch on the right sleeve.

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2000-2008 Alternate Blue

2000

"TEXAS" on front is white/gray/royal/red. Writing is sewn to look 3D, a technique known as "bevel."

Name is on a nameplate, 2000–2003, then direct sewn 2004–2008. Number on back is three-color white/royal/red. Texas flag patch on left sleeve, white knit trim on ends of sleeves.

(Right) Block Condensed Light is the font used for "normal" length player names; ***(Above)*** Extra Condensed style used for long player names. Note that on both, the 2nd (blue) outline is very thin, and the 3rd (red) outline is thicker.

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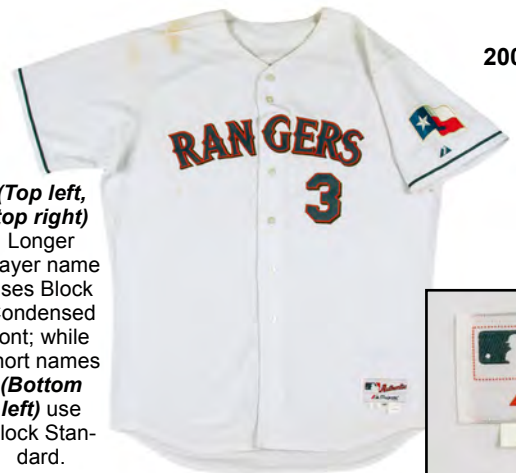
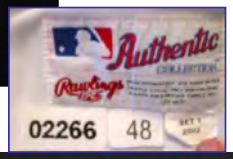
2001-2008 Home

2001



2003

(Top left, top right) Longer player name uses Block Condensed font; while short names ***(Bottom left)*** use Block Standard.



Black 3D drop shadow is added to “Rangers” logo on front. Numbers added to front. Front and back numbers are three-color dark royal/red/black 3D drop shadow. Names are on nameplates 2000–2003, direct sewn 2004–2008, two-color royal/red. Home jerseys use Block for short names, Block Condensed for long names. Rawlings is the contracted maker 2001–2002, Majestic 2003–2008.

Bill Henderson Collection

2003

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2008 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

2002

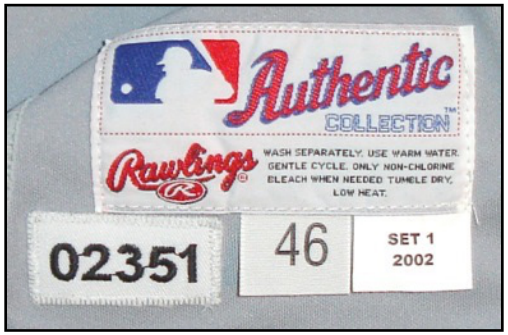
2002 Tagging

Below: 2002, as used in the All-Star Game by Alex Rodriguez

2002

- Identify by four-color "TEXAS" lettering on front now with *black* drop shadow, royal/red/white/black 3D drop shadow
- Four-color numbers royal/red/white/black 3D drop shadow
- Three-color names in royal/red/white, on plate 2001–2003, then direct sewn 2004–2008.

2001



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2004-2008 Alternate Home Vest

- White vest with blue knit trim on front and sleeve openings, with a red/white "T" and 3D blue drop shadow on left chest.
- Royal blue undershirt has Texas flag logo sewn on left sleeve.
- Numbers on front and back are two-color royal/red. They are sewn very low; the top of the number is an inch below the bottom of the "T".
- Names are on nameplates, two-color royal/red. Lettering colors and styles follow the home jersey.
- The white vest is discontinued after 2008.

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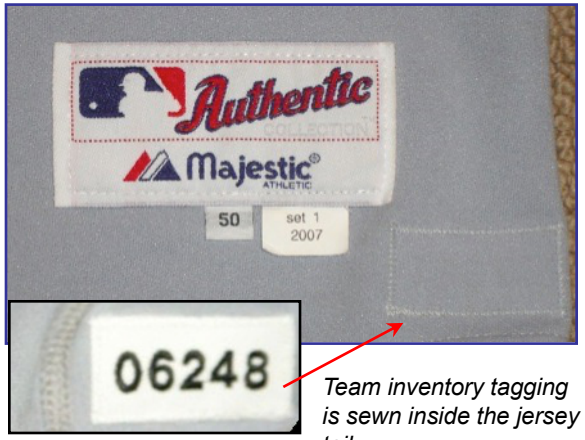
2006-2008 Alternate Road Vest



Team inventory tagging is sewn inside the jersey tail.

- The Rangers add yet another alternate uniform for 2006, this time a road vest version of their gray jersey.
- The gray vest features blue knit trim around the sleeve holes and on the front. It has the same team lettering on the front as the standard road jersey, MINUS the black drop shadow, and the vest adds player numbers to the front in three-color blue/red/white, using Front Block font.
- A three-year run; 2008 is the final year for the gray vest, which is retired along with the home white vest.

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Rangers Player Name Lettering

- In the-2001–2008 style, the Rangers do not appear to have set rules when sewing player names on jerseys. All of the jerseys above are claimed to be game worn, all by the same player.
- The first three examples are from 2001, and all use versions of Block Condensed. “A” uses two-color royal/red. “B” is Block Light Condensed (meaning the red layer is identical to the main color on the first jersey, and the blue layer is one step thinner and sewn on top). “C” is also in Block Light Condensed, with a very thin second color (blue).
- The last two jerseys, “D” and “E”, are from 2002. These NOBs are both in Block Extra Condensed, three-color. On “D” the second (blue) layer is very narrow.
- While I could be tempted to say that this is a documented difference between 2001 and 2002–2008 jerseys, it probably depended on who was cutting the letters at the sewing shop at the time, using individual judgment on how the name would look best.

Nobody is perfect, but in the thousands of photos I have cataloged in preparation of this book, the Rangers seem to have the most trouble with mixing alphabets on player NOBs.

Very likely, their shop had trays of pre-cut letters, already tacked together in their multi-colored layers. The person sewing the name pulls the letters out of the bins and sews them on the nameplates.

And, doubtlessly what happens is that the letters in the bins get mixed up, and the careless result is at left: Block Condensed names that get an Extra-Condensed letter in the middle ***(far left),*** and vice versa ***(near left)***.

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2009-2013 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

OK, I admit I find something perversely funny about a player name this long in a three-color plus drop shadow style using a fancy font that is apparently not available in either a "condensed" or "extra condensed" style.

The 2009 uniform line is changed top to bottom, yet retains the same overall "look" that the Rangers have sported since 1994. 2009 jerseys are exclusively Cool Base, Rangers regular double knits are history.

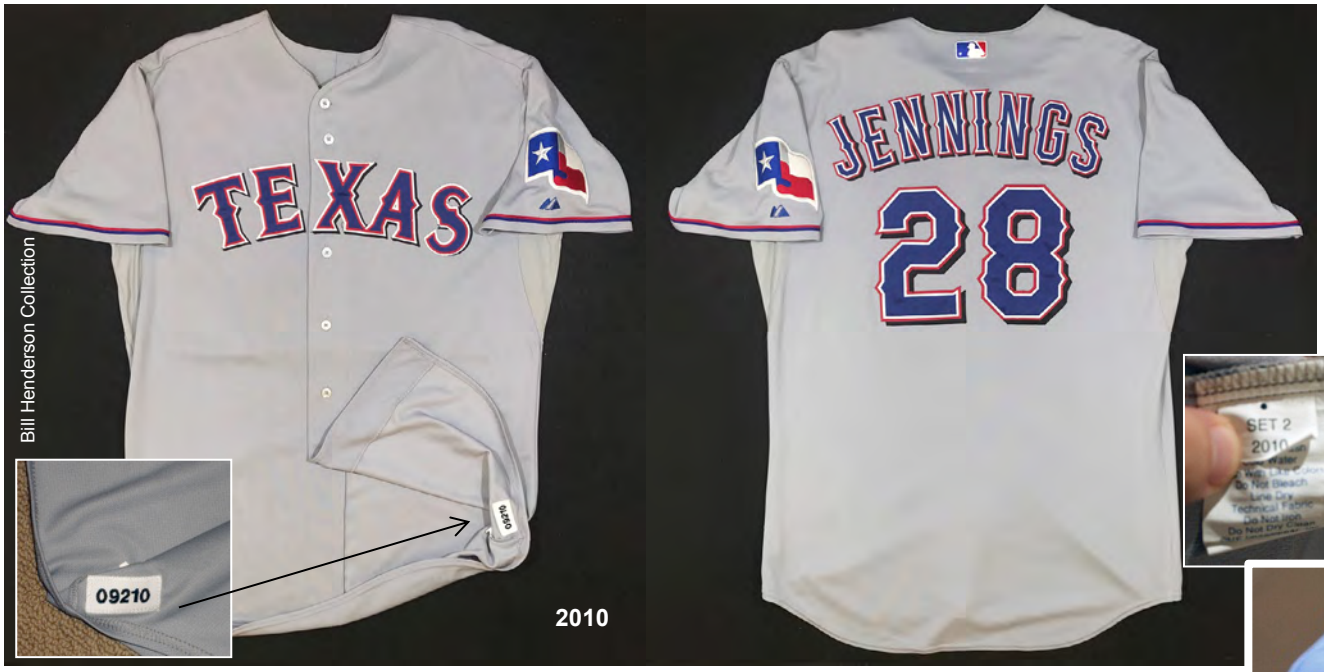
All of the Rangers 2009 jerseys now say "Texas" on them –the team name is nowhere to be found. We cannot think of another example of a team prior to this that has simply spelled out its city or state name on all of its jerseys, home and away. The home jersey wordmark is four-color, including a black 3D drop shadow.

Player name and number font changes to a stylized version of Block, adding little tweaks to the characters, matching the "Texas" wordmark and similar to the style used by the Los Angeles Angels. Oddly, though, the order of the twill colors is different on front and back of this jersey. Ultra-thick four-layered numbers and letters include a black drop shadow, and they are a regular drop shadow, not 3D shadow like the front wordmark.

Sleeve-end sewn-on knit trim changes to a narrow red/blue braid, replacing the prior year's plain blue knit trim.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009-2013 Road



Bill Henderson Collection

- The 2009 road jersey is very similar to the 2008 version.
- Front lettering is the same, as is the use of the Texas state flag on the left sleeve.
- The only changes from the prior year's design are the new player name and number font and the change of sleeve-end braid color to blue/red from the earlier blue only.
- 2009 jerseys are exclusively Coo Base, regular double knits are history for the Rangers.

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2009-2013 Alternate Blue

2010

Even though the team has a complete uniform makeover for 2009, the basic blue jersey is mostly identical to its 2000–2008 counterpart. The wordmark is a four-color white/gray/blue/red design making for a very thick appliqué. It is now made in Cool Base fabric only.

Player name and numbers change and are in the new-for-2009 style. Three-color design used on the blue jersey is simpler than on the home and road jerseys, rendered here in white/royal blue/red and no drop shadows.

The Texas state flag patch is used on the left sleeve.

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2009-2013 Alternate Home Red

The Rangers add a red alternate to the lineup for the first time since 1985. It is intended for home use only.

The red jersey features simpler white knit trim on the sleeve ends, and a three-color wordmark that lacks the drop shadow found on the home and road jerseys. The front wordmark is done in a fancy, beveled style that makes it look 3D, in the same style as that used on blue jerseys of 2000–2008.

Player name and numbers are in the new style, and are also a simpler three-color design than on the home and road jerseys, rendered here in white/gray/royal blue. No drop shadows.

The Texas state flag patch is used on the left sleeve.

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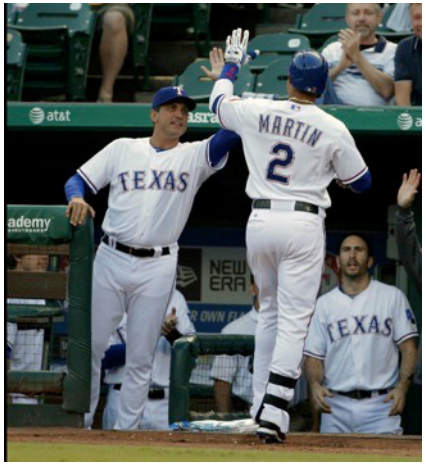
2014-2019 Home



For 2014, the front wordmark is simplified by removing the black drop shadow. The order of the colors is changed as well, as the “TEXAS” is now rendered in blue/white/red. The back number and the player NOB is changed as well, identical to the front wordmark, now in blue/white/red.

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2014-2019 Road

Changes are the same as those made to the home white jersey. The front wordmark is simplified by removing the black drop shadow. The order of the colors is changed as well, as the “TEXAS” is now rendered in blue/white/red. The back number and the player NOB are changed similarly, now also in blue/white/red.

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2014-2019 Alternate Blue

Of the Rangers' four jerseys, the blue one is least changed for 2014.

The blue jersey is simplified by losing the fussy and complex gray "bevel-cut" layer on the team wordmark, making it now a three-color design (white/blue/red). Player name and number on the back, however, does not change, and it is the only jersey in the Rangers set of four that is left alone. It remains three-color, white/blue/red, now just like the front wordmark.

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2014-2019 Alternate Home Red

The front wordmark is changed, losing its fussy gray three-dimensional beveling, but remains three-color. In place of the removed gray, an additional red outline is substituted; the lettering is now white/red/blue.

On the back, the lettering of both NOB and player number changes from white/gray/blue to white/red/blue.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2020-2023 Home

2021

2020

2022

The team name returns to the front of the Rangers 2020 home jersey, where only “TEXAS” has appeared since 2009. In a new script font only slightly reminiscent of the one the team used from 1984–1993, “Rangers” appears in blue/white/red on front of Nike’s version of Majestic’s Flex Base jersey. The team’s ornate player name and number font returns on this set, here in blue/white/red drop shadow. Red/white/blue trim encircles both sleeve ends, and the Texas state flag patch returns to the left sleeve, and bowing to player requests, the patch has been reduced in size.

For 2020, the Rangers’ Inaugural Season at Globe Life Field patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2022, the team’s 50th anniversary logo takes residence on the right sleeve.

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2020-2023 Road

2020

2022

The Rangers' 2020 full redesign of their uniforms includes their road gray jerseys, which retains "TEXAS" in blue/white/red from the last incarnation, now on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template. The back font on player names and numbers remains the same as well, but now appears in blue/white/red drop shadow, while the Texas state flag patch returns to the left sleeve, and bowing to player requests, the patch has been reduced in size. Sleeve-end braid is now red/white/blue.

For 2020, the Rangers' Inaugural Season at Globe Life Field patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2022, the team's 50th anniversary logo takes residence on the right sleeve.

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2020-2022 Alternate Home Red

2020

2022

Like the road jersey, the 2020 version of the red alternate jersey is substantially similar to the previous version, now on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template. "TEXAS" appears again on front in white/red/blue as before, and the back font on player names and numbers remains the same as well, but now appears in white/red/blue drop shadow. The Texas state flag patch returns to the left sleeve, smaller than in prior years, and sleeve-end braid is now red/white/blue.

For 2020, the Rangers' Inaugural Season at Globe Life Field patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2022, the team's 50th anniversary logo takes residence on the right sleeve. For 2020–2022, these are worn for Friday home games. This style is discontinued after the 2022 season to make room for the City Connect jersey launched in 2023.

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2020-2022 Alternate Home Powder Blue/2023 Alternate Home

2021

2020

2022

Powder blue returns to MLB with a vengeance in the late 2010s, and in 2020 the Rangers also re-adopt the color, which was once a feature of their road jerseys. “Rangers” script adorns the front of this Nike version of Majestic’s Flex Base jersey, here rendered in white/blue/red drop shadow (the home jersey does not have the drop shadow). The team’s ornate player name and number font appears on this new set, here in white/blue/red drop shadow. Red/white/blue trim encircles both sleeve ends, and the now-smaller Texas state flag patch appears on the left sleeve. These were intended for use for Sunday home games.

For 2020, the Rangers’ Inaugural Season at Globe Life Field patch adorns the right sleeve. In 2022, the team’s 50th anniversary logo takes residence on the right sleeve.

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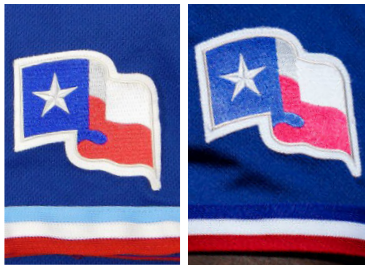
2020-2023 Alternate Road

2020

2022

The 2020 version of the blue alternate jersey is substantially similar to the previous version, now on Nike's version of Majestic's Flex Base template. "TEXAS" appears again on front in white/blue/red as before, and the back font on player names and numbers remains the same as well, but now appears in white/blue/red drop shadow. By player request, a smaller Texas state flag patch returns to the left sleeve, while sleeve-end braid is red/white/powder blue through 2021, and changes to red/white/blue in 2022. For 2020, the Rangers' Inaugural Season at Globe Life Field patch appears on the right sleeve. In 2022, the team's 50th anniversary logo takes residence on the right sleeve. After having been worn at as an alternate at home and on the road for many years, it becomes strictly a road alternate beginning in 2020.



A comparison of the 2020-2021 red/white/powder blue sleeve trim on left, vs. the red/white/blue sleeve trim starting in 2022 on right.

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2023 City Connect

The Rangers' entry into City Connect combines several references to the rich history of baseball in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, including the Fort Worth Panthers, the Dallas Eagles, and the Dallas-Fort Worth Spurs. The cream-colored Nike jersey features midnight blue braid trim around the sleeve openings, and a midnight blue/cream "TX" logo that mirrors the Old English font the Eagles wore on their caps with a spur added to reference the Spurs. Front and back player numbers in red/cream are in a typeface borrowed from the Panthers' 1920 championship medal. The sleeve patch is a combination of an Eagle and a Panther. Two other details are included that reinforce the theme, but are invisible on the field, though attractive at retail. The motto "Dream the Big Dream," heat pressed above the jock tag, is a quote from former Arlington Mayor Tom Vandergriff, who brought the Rangers to Arlington. Finally, "4-21" heat pressed inside the collar represents the date of San Jacinto Day, when Texas won its independence from Mexico. Appropriately, it also is the anniversary of the Rangers' first game in Arlington in 1972, and the debut date of these jerseys in 2023.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rangers recently updated home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Rangers" script splits in a slightly different place than before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the team's ad patch appears on the right sleeve while the Texas flag patch is on the left. The Rangers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rangers recently updated road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "TEXAS" lettering splits the across the "X" rather than between the "E" and "X" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the team's ad patch appears on the right sleeve while the Texas flag patch is on the left. The Rangers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rangers dark blue alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "TEXAS" lettering splits the across the "X" rather than between the "E" and "X" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the team's ad patch appears on the right sleeve while the Texas flag patch is on the left. The Rangers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rangers popular powder blue alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Rangers" script splits in a slightly different place than before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the team's ad patch appears on the right sleeve while the Texas flag patch is on the left. The Rangers use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rangers year-old City Connect jersey. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide shrinking of the back names and numbers. The Rangers' City Connect, however, has no name on back, and the numbering and front logo do not look to be much smaller, if at all. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it as before. The team's ad patch appears opposite the eagle/panther patch starting in 2024, marking another addition, which also includes the use of perforated numbers, consistent with the switch to VPE as well. Overall, it is one of the least noticeable conversions to VPE in all of MLB. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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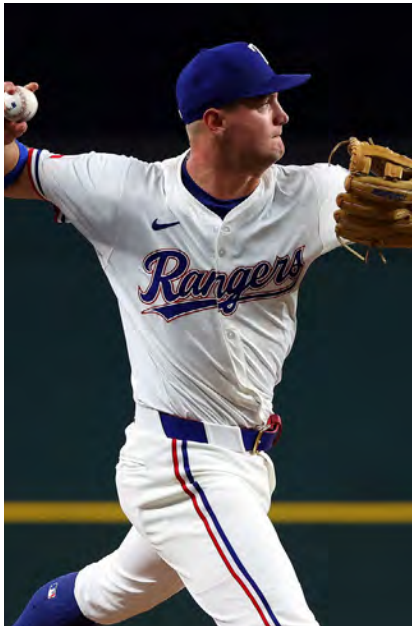
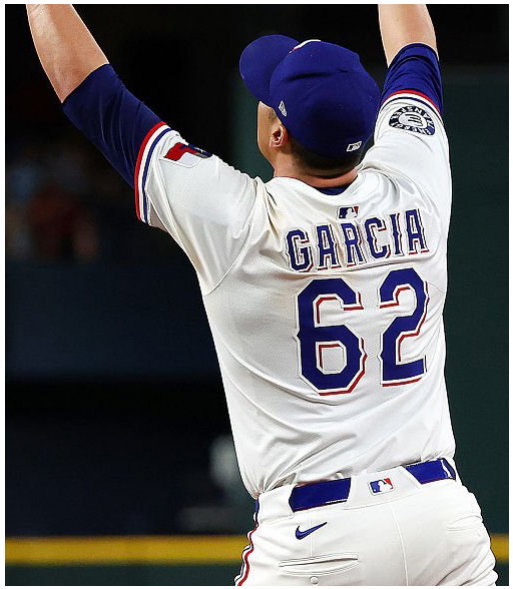
2025 Home



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The jersey also features the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag used on a handful of jerseys around MLB. Otherwise, these remain the same as in 2024.



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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. The redundant, jersey-colored band of trim around the neck opening is also deleted. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “TEXAS” script breaks in the same place as in 2024, that is to say, awkwardly across the “X”. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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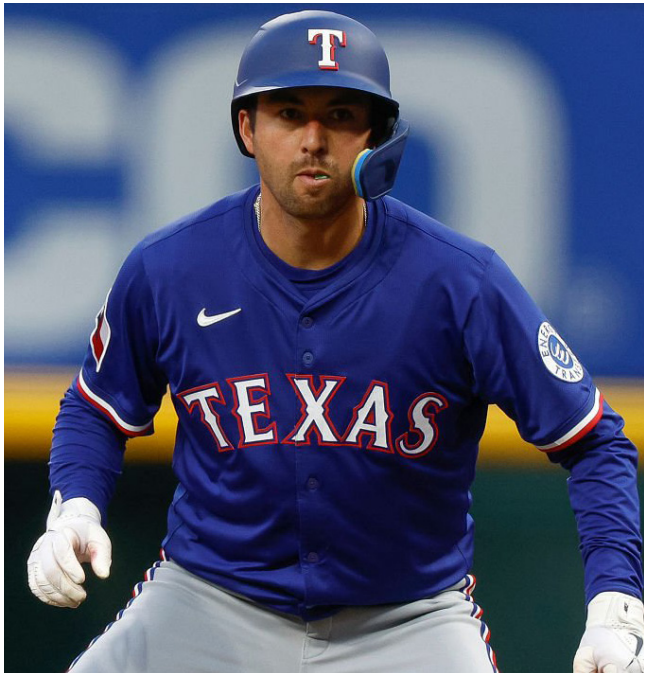
2025 Alternate Road



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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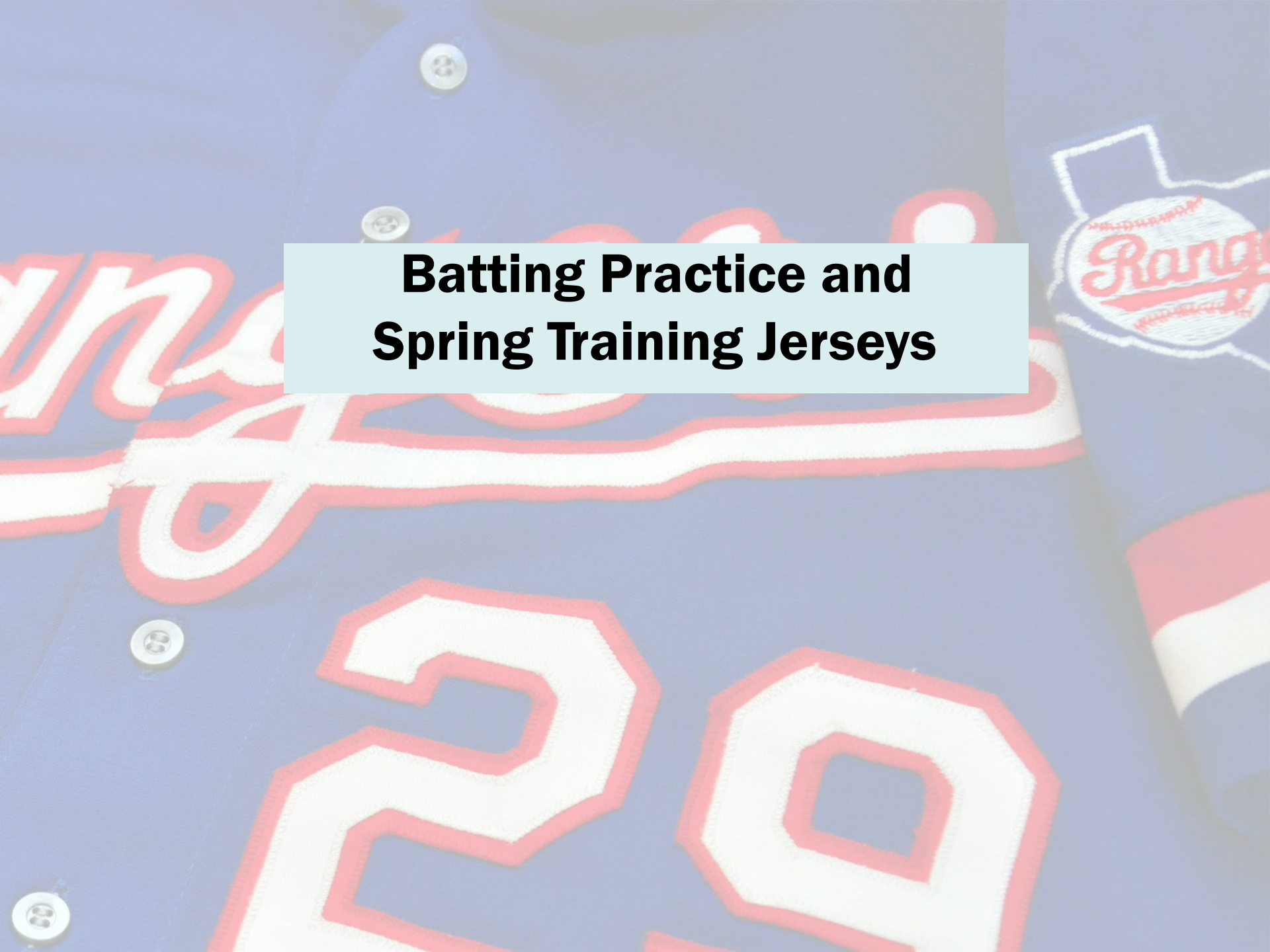
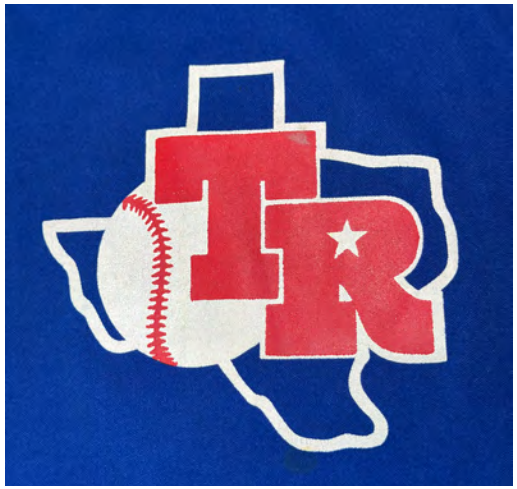
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



1982-1983 Batting Practice

Stephen Kraljic collection

Royal blue mesh jersey with wide knit white/red/ white racing stripes sewn in across the shoulder tops.“TR” Texas state logo on front left chest. Every example I have seen of this type jersey has the logo SCREENED on, not sewn on. Numbers on the back are white vinyl heat-press type. They are in a stock catalog font, different from the style of the Rangers’ game jerseys.



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1984-1993 Batting Practice

1990

1989

Above Right: *Large rectangular red Rawlings tag on example helps us date it as 1992–1993.* ***Left:*** *1989 example is made by Majestic and uses Majestic Varsity font for numbers.*

Royal blue mesh, white/red "Rangers" script sewn on front. Two-color – white/red numbers sewn on back only. The font for the numbers varies from year to year and seems related to which manufacturer makes the jersey. Majestic Bold is used on Majestic jerseys, Both Block and Block with Serifs on Rawlings jerseys. No player names on back are used.

1992

Bottom right: *The sewn-in elastic stripes on the sleeve tops on this jersey style are easily damaged by bleach. On casual examination it appears that the elastic is only red/white/red, but it is actually quite a bit wider, with a thick blue stripe in the elastic on each side. Many examples have the blue edges on both sides bleached to a pale blue, like this jersey shown.*

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Mid 1980s-1993 / Mid 1990s
Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Necks

Majestic offered these zipper-neck batting practice jerseys they called *"The Gamewarmer"* to all MLB teams starting in the mid 1980s through the early 1990s (the Rangers wore this style wordmark from 1984 through 1993). Some teams adopted them, putting names and numbers on the backs. Others simply issued them to players who wanted to wear them like a jacket, with no lettering on the back.

I do not have any photos of the Rangers wearing this style, though they well may have. Examples from other teams showed that these came in both mesh and solid fabric styles. This solid-fabric jersey is the only example with Rangers lettering I have in my photo archives.

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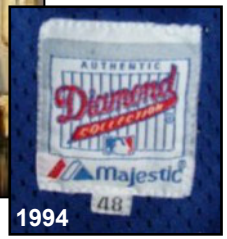
1994-1999 Batting Practice

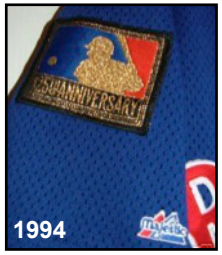
Stephen Kraljic collection

1998

Royal blue mesh with red/white "Rangers" on front. Two-color red/white numbers on back, no player names used. Both Majestic and Russell make sets of these for the Rangers. Notice that Majestic-made jerseys have their "house font," Majestic Block Bold (hallmark is the 8-sided inside holes on the "8"). Russell jerseys use Athletic Block lettering, same as found on the team's game jerseys that are also made by Russell.



1994

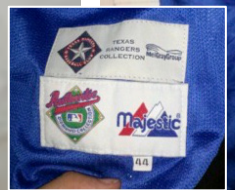


1994

1996

1994

2000-2002 Batting Practice



Heavyweight royal blue mesh, gray/ white/blue/red "Rangers" across the front. This style was made in both regular mesh as well as a shiny micro-mesh. Both are shown above. Block numbers only on the back, no names. Three-color white/ royal/red sewn on.

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2003-2004 Batting Practice

- New softer non-mesh tech fabric, red piping on shoulders.
- “T” with Texas flag on the front.
- Three-color white/royal/red .
- White/red Block numbers only, no names used.

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2005-2006 “Rangers” Batting Practice

The Rangers again change batting practice jerseys for 2005, and they now have two of them. Both are royal blue with red sleeve inserts and piping trim, both are listed in the *MLB Style Guide* as “Home or Away.”

The RANGERS one goes “retro," resurrecting the 1984–1993 lettering script.

Numbers on the back are Block three-color white/blue/red. No names are used.

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2005-2006 “Texas” Batting Practice

- TEXAS batting practice jersey is royal blue with red sleeve inserts and piping, both are listed in the MLB Style Guide as “Home or Away.”
- Jersey has the same beveled, 3-D-looking lettering on the front as the blue alternate game jersey.
- Numbers on the back are identical to home BP jersey on prior page. Block three-color white/blue/red. No names are used.

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2007-2008 Batting Practice

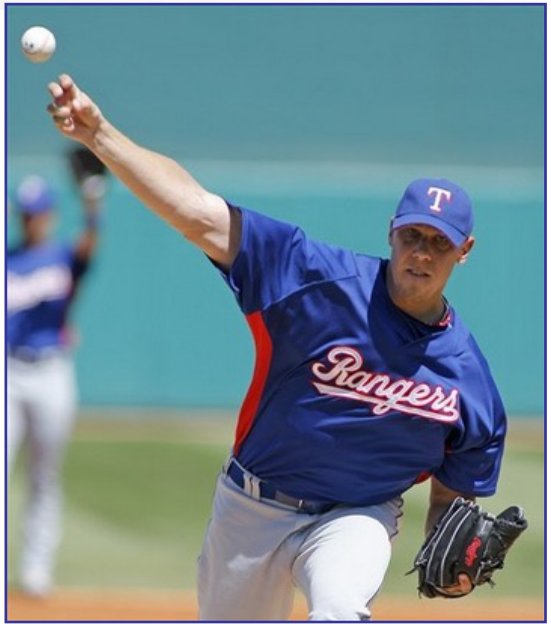
The 2007 version looks very similar to the 2006 edition, with the exception that a new red side panel is added.

Numbers on the back are Block, two-color white/red. No player names are used.

All logos and numbers are heat-applied appliqués, not sewn tackle twill.

The Rangers joined all other teams and participated in the MLB switch to Cool Base batting practice jerseys. While in recent years they had used two different batting practice jerseys, for 2007–2008, they only have one.

The Rangers used these in at least one regular season game on 8/24/2007 vs. the Mariners.



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2009-2010 Batting Practice

For 2009, the Cool Base pullover batting practice jersey says “TEXAS” across its front in non-3D white/gray/royal blue/red. On back, no names and three-color numbers in the new stylized font, white/royal blue/red. Red accent stripes adorn the sides, all lettering is heat-applied appliqué, not tackle twill.

While most teams showcase their batting practice jersey in games during Spring Training, photos show that the Rangers wear their alternate blue game jersey nearly exclusively for Spring Training games.

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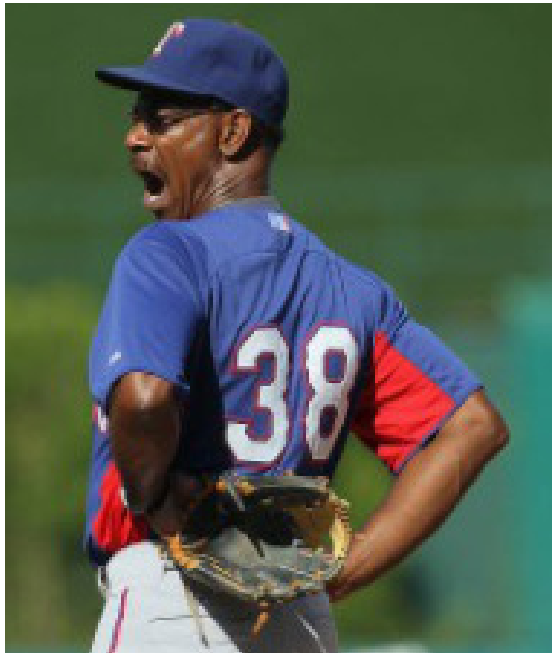
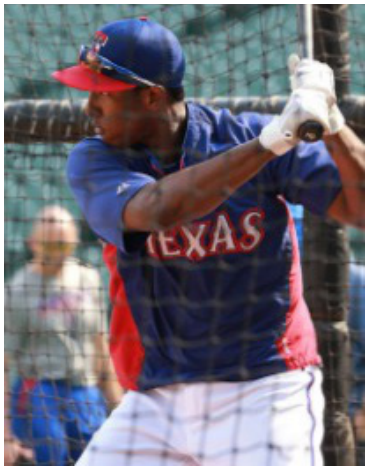
2011-2013 Batting Practice

The Rangers 2011–2013 batting practice jersey is a button-front, light-weight Cool Base shirt in royal blue with red side panels. Numbers on back are three-colors white/blue/red. While most teams wear their batting practice jerseys in Spring Training games, the Rangers appear to rarely use them for that, wearing their similar looking blue alternate jerseys exclusively. Therefore, finding photos of players wearing them are uncommon.





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2014-2016 Batting Practice

MLB and Majestic changed all teams' batting practice jerseys for 2014, but changes to the Rangers' BP jersey are very minor. Knit sleeve end and neck trim in blue/red/blue was added, red side panels are made slightly smaller than in 2013. Finding pictures of Rangers players wearing BP jerseys are very difficult, as the team rarely wears them. In Spring Training, they wear regular season game jerseys for all their contests.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Rangers use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill/ blue/red. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Rangers spend Spring Training. The "PLAYER 16" jersey shown above is a prototype made up for the team.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Rangers again use their regular season blue alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Rangers spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Rangers jersey is royal blue with red back and underarm gussets. The "T" logo from their caps appears on the front left chest in white/royal blue/white 3D drop shadow. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white/royal blue/red in special Rangers font on left sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, in only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Rangers use their regular-season blue alternate as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey template evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season style of multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Rangers use their regular-season blue alternate as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are white/blue/red.

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2020-2022 Spring Training

2020

2022

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020–2022, the Rangers use a design separate from their new, regular-season standard set, trimmed like their blue alternate, but with "TX" on a Texas-shaped patch on the front left chest instead of TEXAS lettering, with white/blue/red drop shadow name and back numbers. The 2022 version has the team's 50th anniversary patch on the right sleeve. This style is discontinued after 2022.

2022

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2023 Spring Training

For 2023, the Rangers move away from their previous Spring Training-only jersey, instead opting to use their regular season blue alternates, likely a result of Nike simplifying the number of jerseys each team uses. Made on Nike's version of the Flex Base template, this jersey has "TEXAS" on front in white/blue/red with player names and numbers on back in white/blue/red drop shadow. Sleeve-end braid is red/white/blue.

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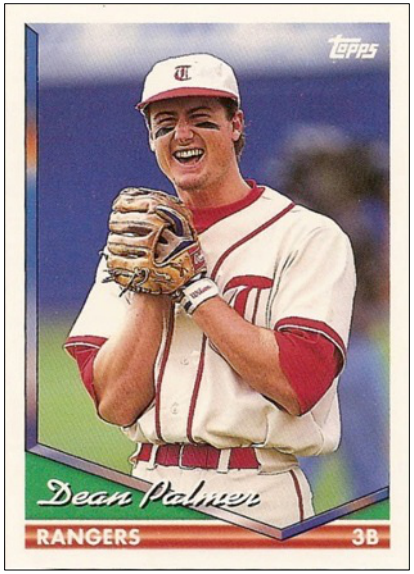
Special Events Jerseys

1993 Turn Back the Clock to the 1940s “Fauxback”



The Rangers and the Brewers played two games wearing 1940s style throwback uniforms: Brewers at Rangers on May 1,1993 and Rangers at Brewers on July 6, 1993. The Rangers wore the same cream-colored knit uniforms with red felt lettering for both home and away games. When the Turn Back the Clock craze was just getting started in the early 1990s, the Rangers wanted to participate—but had little actual MLB history to draw upon. So, they concocted Rangers flannels as they might have looked if the team had existed in the 1940s and asked Mitchell & Ness to make them. Therefore, these are “might have been” TBTC jerseys— or “fauxbacks”— not copies of anything real. They are made of knit fabric, and they do not have tagging on the front tail as later TBTC versions of this jersey do.

I could not resist including this period excerpt from Jayson Stark, my favorite baseball writer. Sort of sums it all up for me.

Philadelphia Inquirer/Jayson Stark/Week in Review/May 9, 1993: THROWBACKS: On May 1, Week in Review officially declared Turn Back the Clock Day to be a once brilliant idea that had outlived its usefulness. It's always been tough enough pretending that, say, Veterans Stadium was the Baker Bowl. But last weekend, when the Texas Rangers tried to roll 'back time and get folks to reminisce about those good old 1940 Rangers, that put us over the line. They supposedly were reenacting a game that night between the 1940 Rangers and the 1920 Milwaukee Brewers. But one minor problem was that the Rangers didn't exist until 1972 and the Brewers didn't come along until 1970. And the dignitaries on hand allegedly included Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who couldn't stay for the whole game because he had to go back to the war, which his army didn't even enter for another year. So turning back the clock is one thing. But inventing your own clock was something else entirely. "Yeah, I don't know how they did that," said Week in Review's favorite Ranger, Jeff Huson. “We must have been in Peabody's time machine." Huson said another thing that made it tough to pretend that it was 1940 was the presence of Jose Canseco, who Was trying to look like a contemporary of Joe DiMaggio's—"especially when he drives up in his Lamborghini. I don't think they had them back then. I think. they had horse-drawn carriages." Since Huson was on the disabled list, he said he was in charge of looking up important facts about the beloved 1940 Rangers. His research showed they had a record of, uh, 153- 1. "Hey, if we're gonna make up a team," he said, "might as well make them pretty good." Some historians believe Nolan Ryan was the fifth starter for that club. But Huson's research disproved that. "Nah, he was the batboy," Huson said. "He wasn't quite old enough. They had child labor laws back then, you know." Yes, but one thing they didn't have was any Turn Back the Clock Days. And we now know they had the right idea.

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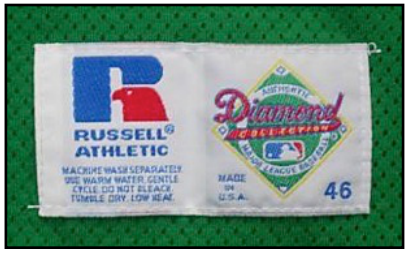
1993-1995 St. Patrick's Day

Top Left: This jersey style may have been worn in 1993. #19 is signed by Juan Gonzalez, who played for the team in 1993-1994. ***Bottom Left:*** The #51 has an MLB trademark screened on the front and was issued to #51 Mark Brandenberg who played in 1995.

Front wordmark, two-color back numbers are screened on in white/black. Look at those odd sleeve end "cuffs."



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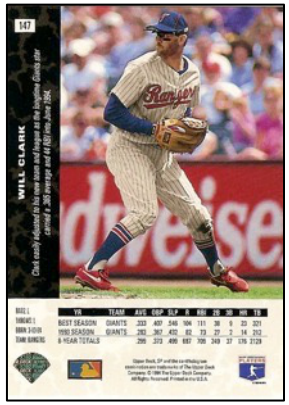
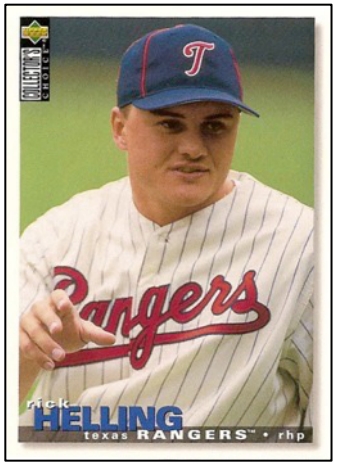
1994 Turn Back the Clock to the 1960s

- The Rangers hosted the Twins on May 8, 1994.These navy blue chalk-pinstripe flannels look very much like 1961 expansion Washington Senators jerseys, fitting because the Rangers were born from the Senators when that team deserted Washington after the 1971 season.
- To meet the Rangers' wishes, Mitchell & Ness designed jerseys that said "Rangers" on the front, but looking like the last Senators uniforms, even though the Rangers never wore jerseys that looked like these.
- The Twins wore 1965 gray flannels by Mitchell & Ness.
- Script and numbers are sewn in two-color, red with navy blue outlining.



Left: *1966 Washington Senators Uniform. Note that the Senators used the same unusual number font was used on the early Rangers home uniforms,with the odd-ly-shaped #1! It is very likely that the team continued to use the same lettering house even after the team moved to Texas from Washington.*



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1996 St. Patrick's Day

This style green mesh jersey was worn in 1996, using the current team wordmark pattern instead of the retro script one. Numbers are sewn on, two-color Block, white/ dark royal blue.

Stephen Kraljic collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1996 Turn Back the Clock to the 1930s "Fauxback"

Stephen Kraljic collection

- In a virtual repeat of their 1993 appearance, the Rangers hosted another Turn Back the Clock day wearing Mitchell & Ness knit uniforms that simply "look like" they are from the 1930s, but are not a copy of any real uniform (aka "fauxbacks").
- The Orioles were the visiting team that day, and they wore 1930s-style AAA International League Orioles knit uniforms.
- The 1996 Rangers tops can be differentiated from the 1993 versions because they feature a Mitchell & Ness tag on the tail as well as a smaller tag reading "T.B.C. 4-21-96," the date of the game.

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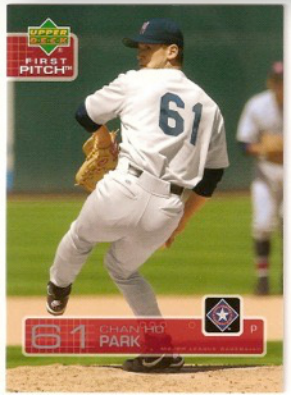
2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1961 Washington Senators

Bill Henderson Collection



- The Rangers visited the Oakland Athletics for a three game series they billed as “The Guts and Glory," July 19, 20, 21, 2002. The Rangers wore the road uniforms of the 1961 Washington Senators while the A’s dressed as the 1972 Athletics.
- The Rangers uniforms are made in knit by Rawlings and are as plain as road uniforms come– devoid of trim and with single-color navy blue Block Bold numbers on back.
- An original 1962 Senators uniform is shown below right. The front wordmark is a little different, and numbers on back are in the McAuliffe font.

Original 1962 Senators road uniform

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1961 Washington Senators

Bill Henderson Collection

- Billed as “The Triumphant Glory Series*," the Rangers played the A’s July 27 and 28, 2002. The Rangers dressed as the expansion 1961 Washington Senators (the ancestral forebearers of the modern Texas Rangers).
- Rawlings made these poly knit jerseys with tackle twill lettering.
- Numbers on back are Block with Serifs.
- Original 1961 Senators uniform is shown below. Note the use of the variant version of Block (pointy tipped “1”) that carried over and was used by the Rangers 1972–1979.

Original 1961 Senators Uniform

* “Triumphant Glory?” I wonder who came up with that? the 1961 Senators finished the season 41 ½ games out… tied for 10th (and last) place with—-the 1961 Kansas City A’s!

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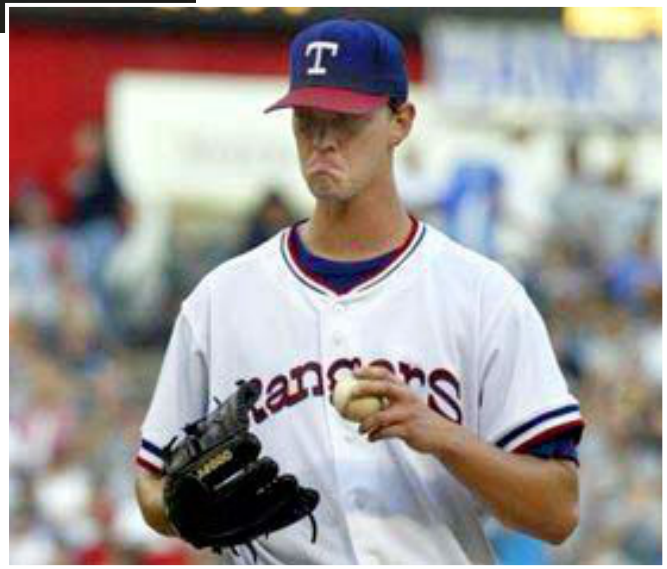
2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1974

Bill Henderson Collection

In 2004, the Rangers appeared at home in relatively close, but not exact copies of their 1974 uniforms. While there is no sleeve patch (like 1972–1974), the names on back are two-color Block Condensed Font (like 1981–1982) and they should actually be one-color to properly reprise 1974.

Majestic did a reasonably good job (but not a perfect one) of copying the Rangers-only variant of Block numbers used by the team on home jerseys throughout the 1970s. An 'A' for effort.

These uniforms were worn for two games, July 30 and July 31 against Oakland, to whom they had finished in second place 30 years prior in 1974.



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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

Bill Henderson Collection

- On August 7 and 8, 2004, the Rangers appeared in Baltimore as the 1983 Rangers, wearing reasonably good copies of their one year-only 1983 uniforms. Perhaps the fabric is a little too dark blue, and the sleeve end stripes on the copies were somewhat narrower than on the originals.
- The gray pants the team wore were good copies of the pants the team wore… from ten years earlier in 1974. 1983 pants would have been white.
- The number font used on the TBTC jerseys was the wrong one, as they use the 1972–1980 Rangers Block variant font. Authentic 1983 jerseys would have used Block Standard font.

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2006 Hispanic Heritage

Bill Henderson Collection

- On May 5, 2006 the Rangers hosted a special date to promote their relationship with the Hispanic community. Since “Rangers” is the same word in both languages, they simply altered the script to say *Los Rangers* for the day.
- The team used the older 1984–1993 jersey script style that still appears as an alternate on jackets and period batting practice jerseys.
- A special *Cinco de Mayo 2006* patch appears on the right sleeve, the standard Texas state flag patch is on the left.
- Player names are two-color, blue/red, no nameplates. Front wordmark and back player numbers are three-color, blue/red/black drop shadow.

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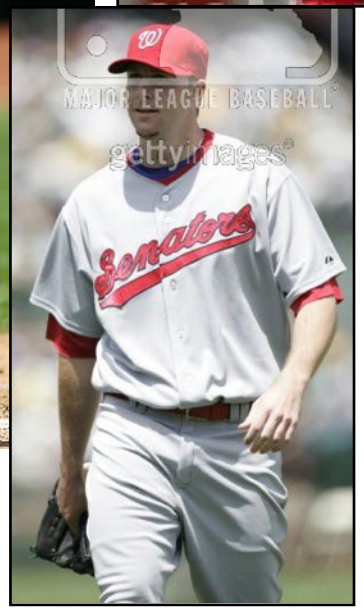
2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1968 Washington Senators



1968 Original
(with 1969 patch)

The Rangers appear as the 1968 Washington Senators on May 4, 2008, vs. the 1968 Oakland A's. Majestic uniforms are a reasonably good copy, but team script is a bit thicker and more slanted than the original ***(left)***.

Red cap is nearly identical to the one adopted by the current Washington Nationals and worn by them in 2008.

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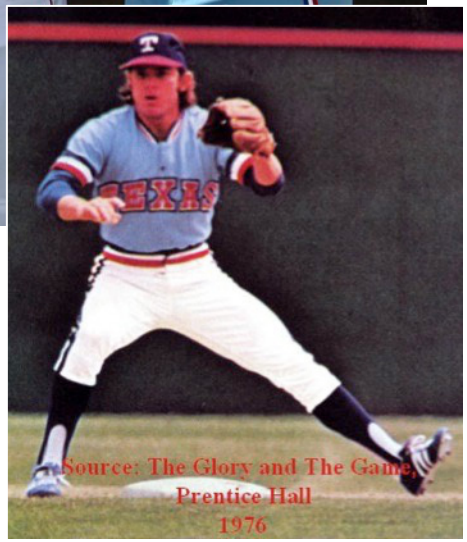
2012 40th Anniversary Celebration Turn Back the Clock Dates

According to a Rangers Press release, December 14, 2011:

"To celebrate the Texas Rangers' 40th Anniversary, the team has scheduled four 'Turn-Back-The-Clock' games in 2012 when the club will wear the home uniform from a different year in Rangers history. The visiting club on each date will be in the road uniforms of the respective years. In addition, the first 30,000 fans will receive a 40th Anniversary promotional item on each date."

- **Saturday, May 12 vs. Los Angeles Angels—1974 white home uniform**
- **Saturday, June 16 vs. Houston—1986 white home uniform**
- **Saturday, July 7 vs. Minnesota—1994 white home uniform**
- **Saturday, August 11 vs. Detroit—1976 powder blue home uniform** "

Did they say ***"powder blue HOME uniform"?*** Someone in the Rangers' Public Relations office needs to go back and look at some photos from the 1976 season, when the home uniform was most definitely white and the ROAD uniform was powder blue. Yes, the Rangers wore their blue jerseys at home a couple of times in 1975 ***(inset right)*** but the all-blue 1976 uniform set was their ROAD duds.



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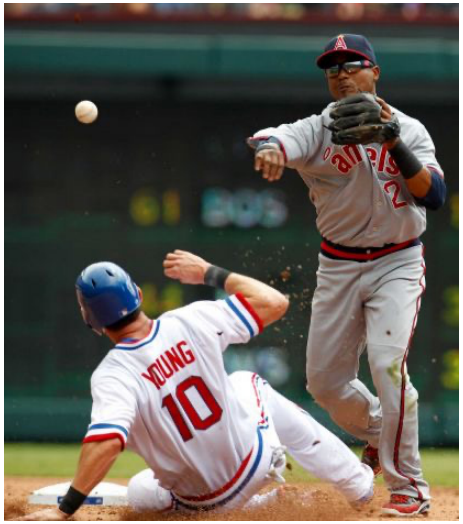
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1974



May 12, 2012: These photos show the Rangers hosting the Angels wearing Turn Back the Clock to 1974 uniforms (the Angels actually wore 1972 road replicas). The Rangers' Majestic uniforms are rather good copies of the originals, even using the obscure and correct number font from 1972–1979 that was actually a holdover from the 1971 Washington Senators.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1986

June 16, 2012: The Rangers truly put together a concerted effort to make their 40th anniversary year a special one, and worked hard with Majestic to create replicas of historic uniforms that were very faithful to the originals.

The 1986 script jersey is nearly perfect in every way, right down to the oversized numbers on front. Were it not for the Majestic "M" on the sleeve, these could easily be passed off as original 1986 jerseys. It is made of full-weight knit fabric and is not Cool Base. The visiting Astros also wore 1986 uniforms.

The jersey above (with tagging below) was issued to Rafael Palmeiro, who retired in 2005, for a pregame ceremony on the day of this throwback game. It features the team's anniversary patch, which was used on regular-season jerseys that year, but not on the jerseys that players wore in the throwback game on June 16.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1994

July 7, 2012: The 1994 replica jerseys are true and faithful reproductions of the originals, replicated in full-weight knit by Majestic. They are nearly indistinguishable from the originals, including the intentional omission of the MLB 125th patch, which the Rangers wore only on their road uniforms that year. The visiting Twins also dressed in 1994 uniforms.

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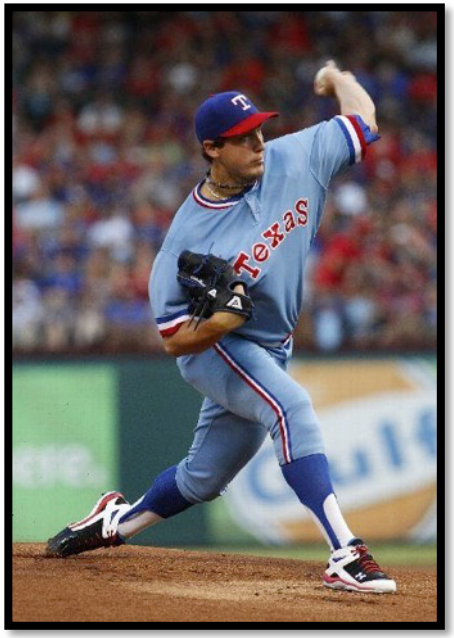
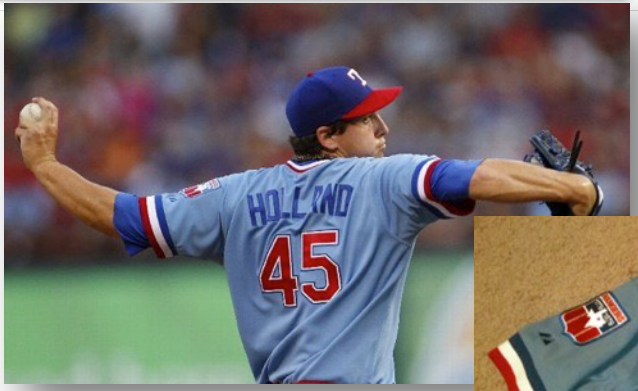
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1976



August 11, 2012: A near-exact replica of the 1976 road jersey was commissioned by the Rangers for their 40th anniversary celebration, and sewn by Majestic. This jersey selection is odd only in that it is a road powder blue, but is made to be worn at home for this game. The visiting Tigers also dressed in replica 1976 road uniforms —theirs in gray—-which pitted two road-uniformed teams against each other. In this day of alternate uniforms of every hue, likely no one even considered this an issue.



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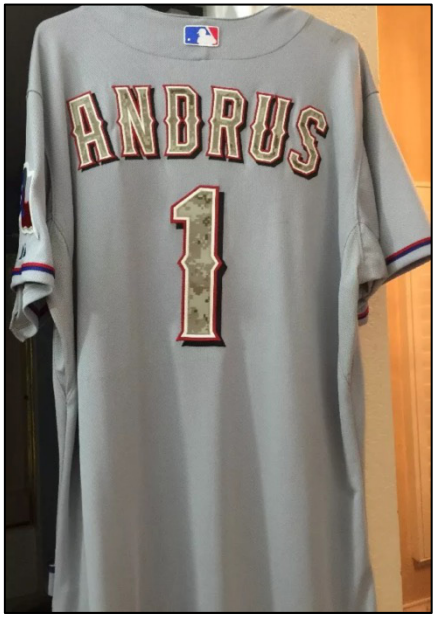
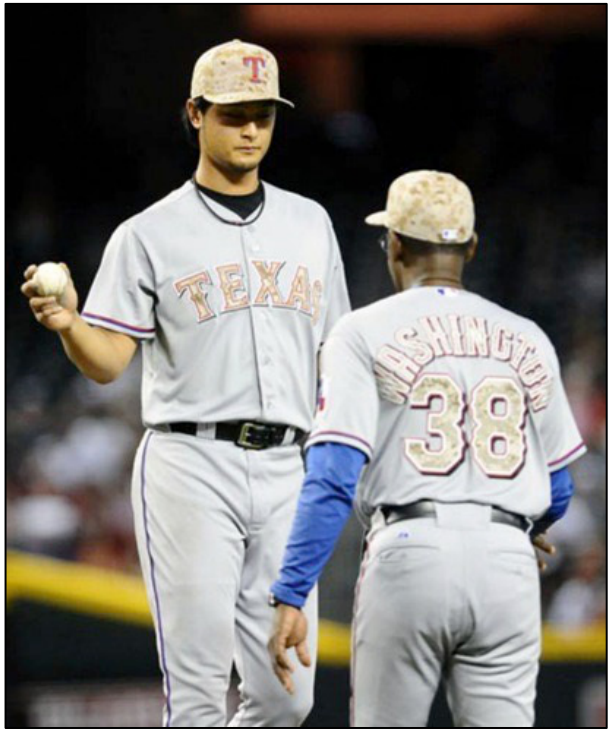
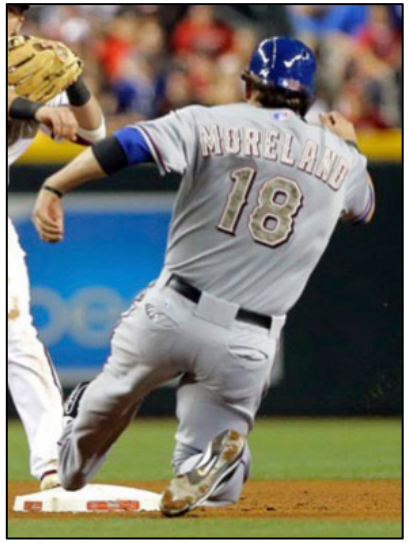
Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013 Memorial Day





On the road in Arizona for May 27, Memorial Day 2013, the Rangers wore a set of gray Cool Base uniforms with the main lettering color (blue) replaced front and back with military desert camouflage twill. While camo-on-gray is usually impossible to read, the Rangers' use of multiple colors of outlining plus a black drop shadow make these only "slightly-passably-visible" from the seats.



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2014 Negro Leagues Tribute (Ft. Worth Black Panthers)

The Rangers visited Detroit for the Tigers' 14th annual Negro Leagues Weekend in 2014, and wore knit uniforms made of a convincingly gray-flannel-appearing fabric by AIS, the Tigers usual supplier for these games. The Rangers uniforms were made to replicate those of the Fort Worth Texas Black Panthers.

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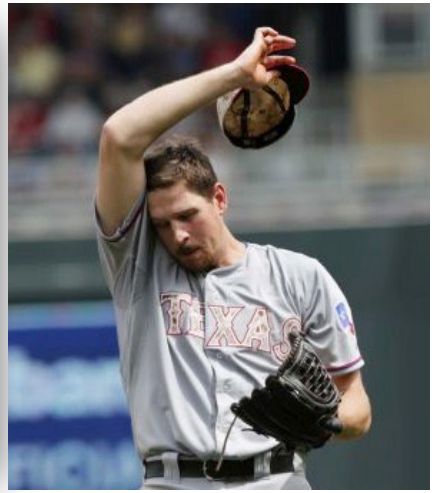
2014 Memorial Day

On the road for a second straight year on May 26, Memorial Day 2014, the Rangers again wore their road grays with the blue twill lettering replaced with desert camouflage twill. But, because the team had tweaked their uniforms for the 2014 season, the black drop shadows have been removed from all lettering, both in the wordmark and in player name and number. As a result, the Rangers' lettering rendered in desert camouflage/ white/red on gray fabric makes the writing all but invisible from any distance greater than ten feet.



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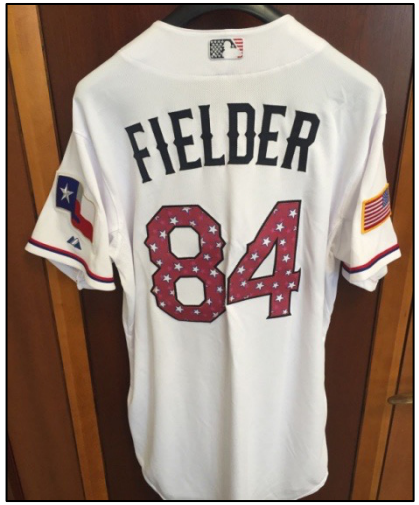
2015 Memorial Day

The Rangers are on the road again for Memorial Day, May 25, 2015, so their jerseys are identical to 2014. Once again, the top layer of all player names, numbers, and the team wordmark is desert camouflage, while the rest of the jersey remains the same as usual. The same issues of camo text on a gray jersey reappear as in the year prior. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Rangers wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as back numbers. Two-layer twill replaces the usual three-color lettering on the jerseys. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2015 Turn Back The Clock to 1976-1980

Stephen Kraljic collection

For the third time, the Rangers throw back to their late 70s powder blue road uniforms with distinctive two-button Henley collar. In a July 18 game against the Astros, who wear their "rainbow guts" uniforms, the Rangers wear these Majestic knit jerseys, which are very good reproductions of the originals. Red/white wordmark on front, blue names sewn directly on back, and red/white/blue numbers on back. One discrepancy: this jersey has no sleeve patches, while the Rangers wore one every season this style jersey was used.

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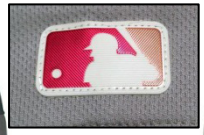
2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white.

The Rangers wear their road gray jerseys with the typical three-color front logo lettering reduced to pink with dark gray outlines. The usually three-color player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, and the standard three-color back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white (unusual, as it changes the representation of a state flag's familiar colors). All jersey trim, normally red/blue, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Rangers apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The typically three-color front lettering and back numbers are rendered in two-color woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black (unusual, as it changes the representation of a state flag's familiar colors), and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from the usual red/blue.

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2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Rangers wear their road gray jerseys with the typically three-color front logo lettering reduced to light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers, usually three-color, are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white (unusual, as it changes the representation of a state flag's familiar colors). All jersey trim, normally red/blue, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Rangers are on the road and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Rangers select the red twill version with blue outlines to replace their typically three-color front lettering and back numbers, with a blue player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, and since the Rangers patch is the flag of Texas, the blue in this version is much darker than the normal blue. This creates an unusual situation where MLB is changing the colors of a state flag (not unlike they did with the Orioles' patch) to honor America. All jersey trim, normally red/blue, becomes single-color red.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1986

The Rangers wear 1986 road throwbacks twice in 2016: on July 20 at the Angels and August 6 at the Astros. In both cases, the opposing home teams also wear their 1986 home throwbacks. The Rangers road uniforms are gray knit by Majestic, and feature royal/white lettering throughout. Overall, very faithful duplicates of the originals.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13–14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Rangers wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white, which makes for an unusual situation with the Texas state flag changing colors. All jersey trim, normally blue/red, becomes dark gray.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

The next version of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment, which makes for an unusual situation with the Texas state flag changing colors. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Rangers apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017 and May 28, 2018.

© GameWornGuides.com

2017-2018 Memorial Day (Home)

Starting in 2017, Memorial Day is represented all days of the three-day weekend, meaning some teams, like the Rangers, have both home and road versions of this jersey. The new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment, which makes for an unusual situation with the Texas state flag changing colors. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Rangers apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017 and May 26–27, 2018.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17–18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch.

The Rangers wear home white with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue/red, becomes dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white, which makes for an unusual situation with the Texas state flag changing colors.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017, the Rangers wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue, much less of an issue here as those are the colors of the Texas state flag to begin with. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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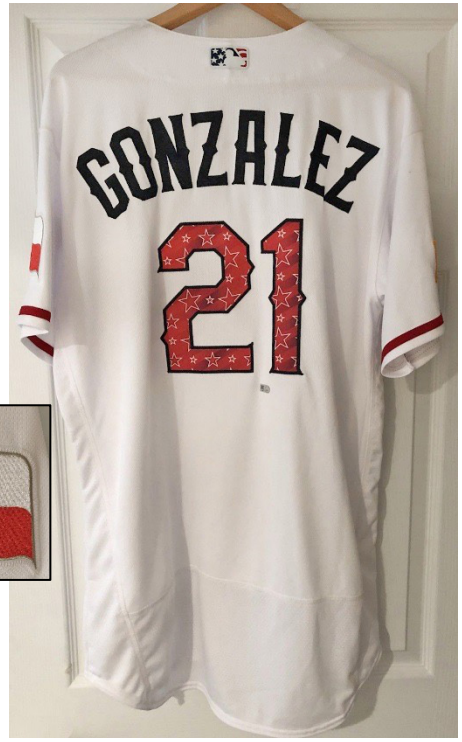
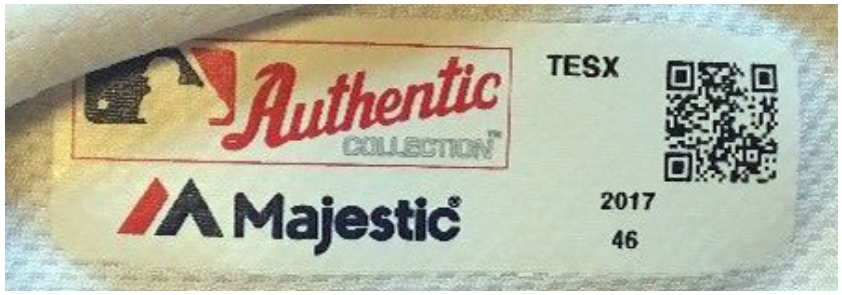
2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)





The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill–appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3–4, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the Rangers wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue, much less of an issue here as those are the colors of the Texas state flag to begin with. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

Stephen Kraljic collection

Original
1977

For a fourth time, the Rangers throw back to their two-button, powder blue road jerseys used from 1976–1980, here advertised as the 1977 version, on July 8, 2017. This entry is a decent representation of the originals, rendered in full knit by Majestic. The red/white/blue sleeve-end and collar trim is well-matched to the 1977 set, while the red/white "TEXAS" wordmark and Block numbers on back in red/white/blue check-in well, though the outline layers are not as thick as they were 40 years prior. Though the blue name on back is sewn without arch, as it was in 1977, the font used is quite different. Finally, this version lacks the team's sleeve patch which was originally worn on the right sleeve, and the Danny Thompson memorial armband with #4 on the left, both of which were part of the 1977 set.

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2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1999

The Rangers throw back to when they were a red-dominant team with these 1999 jerseys, worn on August 12, 2017. Excellent reproductions, as one would expect for such a recent style, these feature all lettering in red/blue including front “RANGERS” wordmark and player numbers and names on plates on the back. Red knit trim appears just above sleeve ends and around the collar and placket, while the Rangers diamond-shaped logo patch is on the left sleeve of these Majestic full-knit jerseys, as it was on the originals.

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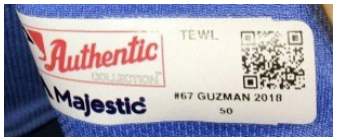
2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Rangers wear jerseys with powder blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here done in red/white/red kiss-cut lightweight twill.



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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Rangers wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

Players Weekend nicknames aren’t limited to letters, Hunter Pence chose the shrug emoticon ¯_(□)_/¯ for 2019, as seen above.

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2022 Turn Back the Clock to 1972

As they had done twice before, the Rangers throw back to their original 1972 home uniforms, this time, in honor of their 50th anniversary season in 2022. Overall, they are very nicely executed throwbacks, though the sleeve trim is a little wider than on the original, shown here for comparison. Of course, the Nike logo on front and MLB logo on back are anachronistic, but kudos to the team for using the correct and unusual number font from 1972 that was carried over from the 1971 Washington Senators. Of note, front team name and back numbers are traditional two-layer twill vs. kiss cut. Worn five times during the season: April 30, June 25, August 13, September 25, and October 5.

1972

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2024 World Series “Gold Program”

The Rangers celebrate their 2023 World Series Championship in the same way as many teams before them, by adding a touch of gold to their jerseys. Here, the Rangers used their home white jersey as the base, replacing the white layer of their front and back lettering with non-metallic gold twill. One sleeve is occupied by an ad patch, while the other replaces the Texas flag patch with a special 2023 World Series Champions patch. The MLB logo on back is also gold for the occasion. This is the first World Series Gold Program jersey (as Nike calls it) to be made on the Vapor Premier Elite template, so the other features of these jerseys apply here - smaller back number and back name with more pronounced curve, narrower placket, and sewn on (rather than sewn on) sleeve-end trim. Back numbers are perforated.

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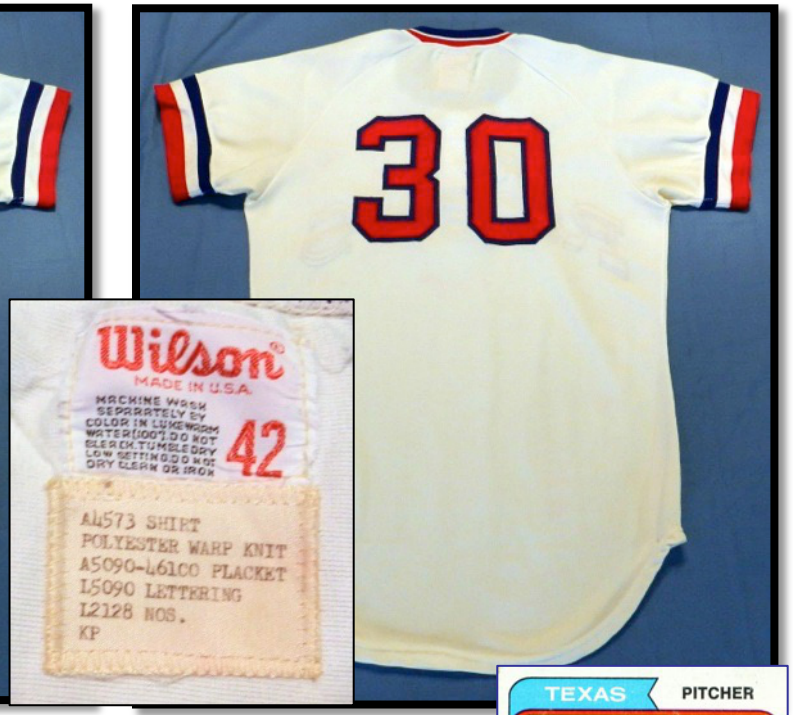
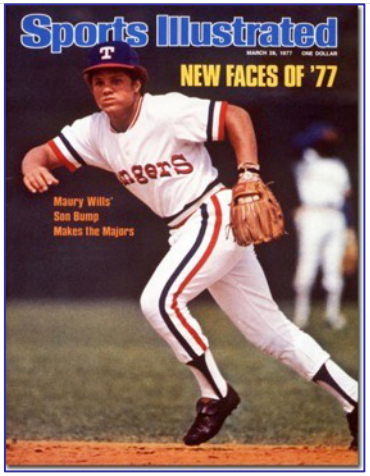
Prototypes and Oddballs

1974-1976 Prototype Home?



There are prototypes and samples for probably every uniform ever approved and put into production, and when we come across them, we like to share them here. This uniform has the Wilson 1974–1977-style laundry tag, with the prototype tag that we have learned to recognize inside the collar that describes all the features of the sample uniform in alphanumeric code. No room for a name is allowed on the back. The jersey has the two-button Henley neck that was adopted in 1975, along with the wide, knit sleeve ends adopted for that year. Because a photo of the matching pants in included, we can see the (ridiculously) wide side stripes that came into use about that time as well. But while the wide stripes were worn with the road blues from 1975 onward, they waited to be worn with the home uniform until 1976.



1975 above,
1977 at right

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1975-1976 Prototype Road?

This Rawlings road jersey was likely a sample, shown to the team, as the Rangers were making the switch to their new 1975 uniform set. The Rawlings tagging shown here was first used in about 1973, which checks out, and many of the other details of the jersey, such as the blue base fabric and two-button neck, were adopted by the team. However, the sleeve stripes on this example are reversed in color order from what eventually appeared on the field. Similarly, the front and back lettering is only two-color red/blue, where the actual lettering in 1975 and 1976 differed. Finally, there is no name on back of this example, but the team did use player names in 1975 and 1976. Rawlings was the primary manufacturer of the Rangers' road sets at this time (sharing with Goodman and Sons in 1976), but it is unclear if this example was made for the big switch in 1975, or the more incremental changes that took place for 1976.

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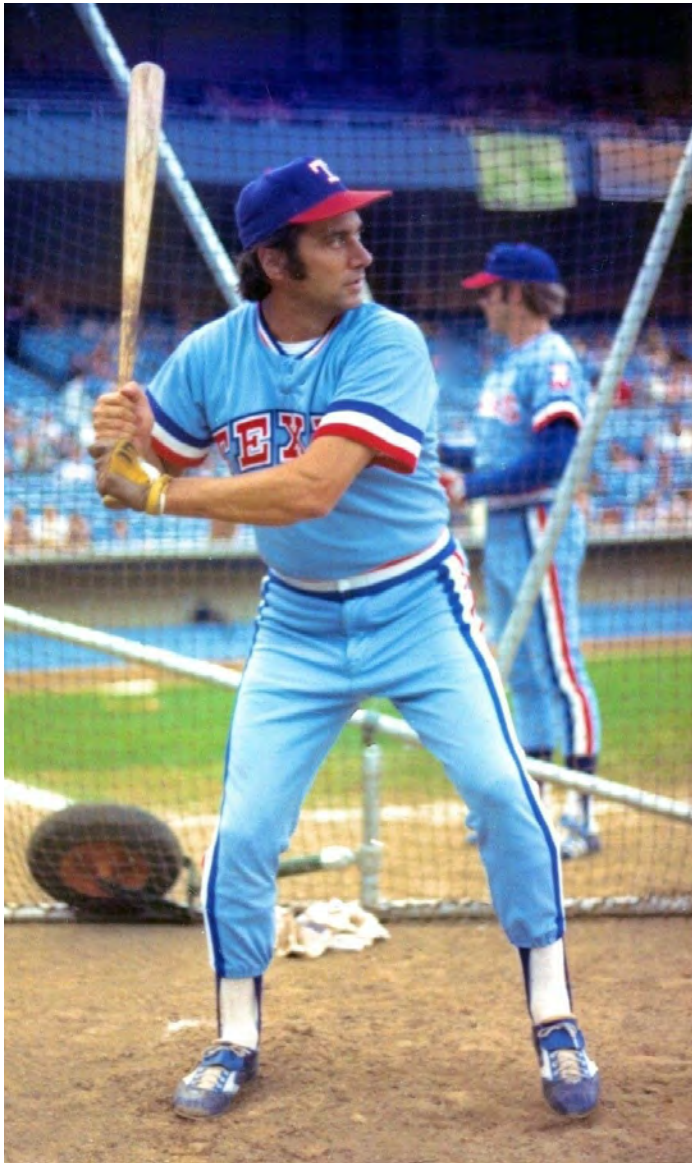
Mix-and-Match 1975-1976 Road



This interesting pregame photo shows a one-year style 1975 road jersey worn in batting practice, while the player behind is clearly wearing the 1976 road uniform with its sleeve patch and different front crest. It is unclear if the team continued to use the older uniforms for BP, or if this one happened to get mixed up with the new ones, given their general similarity.

© GameWornGuides.com

1984 Prototype Road

The jersey that "won" over our prototype and was most often used on the road in 1984. Note that the new script is the same as the prototype's.

It is a good guess that this is a Wilson prototype road gray jersey prepared prior to the 1984 season. The Rangers were trying out new jersey designs that winter, and finally settled on a combo of three jerseys for 1983– one each in red, white and blue. No gray uniform in sight.

The tag in the neck is Wilson's 1978–1985 style tag, the front script is identical to that used in production newly for 1984.

Doug Rader was the Rangers' new manager for 1983. It is always safest for the uniform company to make a sample using the name of someone who they are sure is going to be on the club—why risk trying to sell a new design sullied with the name of a possibly just-traded player?

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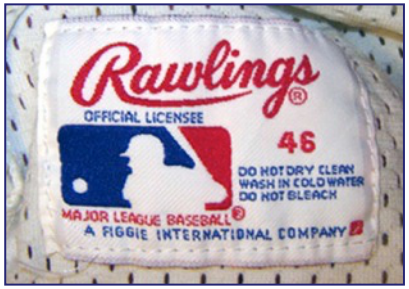
Late 1980s Spring Training Practice



- White mesh jersey, the Rawlings jock tag sewn inside the front tail is from 1988–1991, the small sewn-on sleeve tag was rarely seen later than 1987. So we'll call this a 1988 model.
- Odd because both the front crest and the back numbers are screened on instead of sewn, if used by the big club it was probably a Spring Training issue. We have seen many of these floating around the hobby identified as such. The Rangers' regular season BP was blue with wide shoulder stripes and sewn on crest and player numbers.

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Rangers Minor League Jerseys

I normally don't include minor league jerseys here, but these styles show up frequently and are often misidentified as MLB Rangers issues. In prior editions we had even speculated the top one was an MLB prototype design. The top style examples are very attractive in royal blue mesh and has the team's new-for-1984 wordmark on the front in red outlined with white. It also has the Rawlings red-label tag in the tail, and 1984 was the last year this tag was used. Note the glued-on Rawlings script on the left sleeve, opposite of where it is placed on MLB jerseys.

The bottom example is all screened on and uses the 1972–1982 wordmark. The non-MLB issue Russell tagging suggests it is from the 1980s.

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1992-1993 Prototype Road

Bill Henderson Collection

I customized this jersey with Kenny Rogers' name and number the way I assume the Rangers might have done so if this jersey style had reached production.

The origin of this jersey remains a mystery to me. They are gray versions of the Rangers 1988–1993 white home jerseys. I found about two dozen of them in an outlet warehouse in about 1998.

I strongly suspect that these were prototypes made for the Texas Rangers that were not used. Here are some of my ideas:

I suspect that they were intended for the professional team's use. The main reason is that the set of jerseys I found had all the "odd" sizes not normally made for retail sale (38, 42, 46, etc.). Also, notice the Russell "R" in the Rangers' two-color (blue/red) split as used on their home jerseys

Russell first supplied the Major Leagues in 1992, and this Diamond Collection logo tag appeared that year as well. The specific variation of the tag is consistent with that used in 1992 and early 1993 only. The Rangers road uniforms in 1992–1993 were gray, but had the word "TEXAS" spelled across the front. Could it be possible that the Rangers were considering switching to this design for their road uniforms in 1992 or 1993, and then did not?

They might have been made for a minor league Rangers affiliate. While possible, minor league teams do not usually get the "Diamond Collection" tag. They instead get a different type of "authentic" tag that Russell also sewed on to college jerseys.

I have checked with my Rangers sources and no one can tell me anything about them. Who knows?

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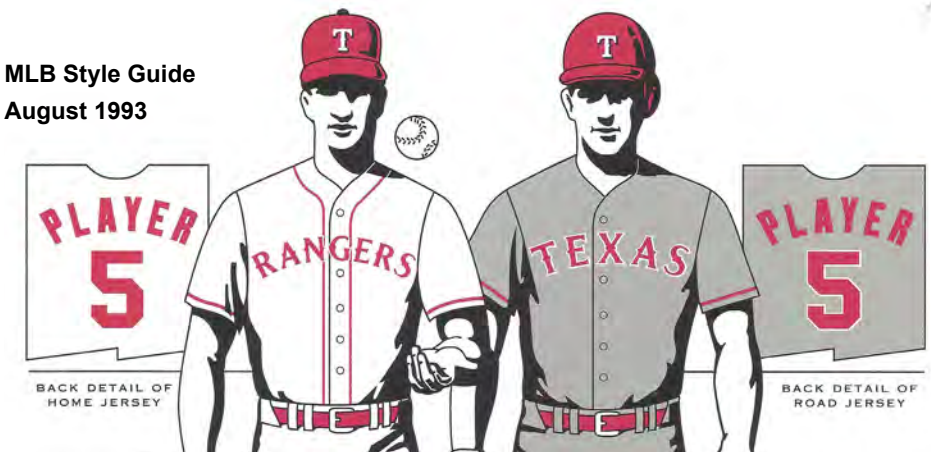
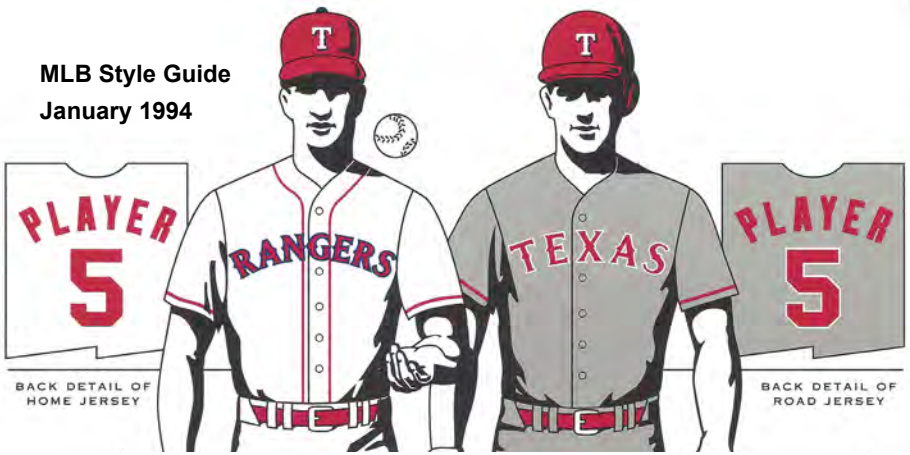
1994 Last-Minute Style Changes

MLB Style Guide
August 1993



MLB Style Guide
January 1994



For years, there's been a running joke that the Rangers can't decide if they are a red team with blue accents, or a blue team with red accents. It seems their indecision on uniform matters reaches back decades, and nowhere was their waffling more apparent than in the saga of their 1994 uniforms.

Shown at top left is the original style sheet for their 1994 jerseys, dated August 1993. It reflects a home uniform with red/white front lettering and red back lettering. The road uniform has similar red/white front lettering, but red/white player numbers on back with red names.

By January of 1994, the sheet was updated to show that a blue outline had replaced white on the front lettering of the home jerseys. Accompanying this second set of drawings was a memo from MLB, dated February 8, 1994 (just days before Spring Training), indicating that yet more adjustments had been made that were not reflected on the January renderings, and that player names and numbers on the home jersey would also be outlined in blue. There were no other changes to the road jersey at that time. However, when the Rangers took to the field for Opening Day on April 4 in New York, their road jerseys had gained a previously unmentioned white outline on the player names. Nowhere in these style sheets is the left-sleeve patch, worn in 1994 on the home uniform, ever represented.

Though the 1994 home jersey stuck around for many years, the 1994 road jersey lasted just one, replaced by a version that included red/blue/white lettering, and the same sleeve patch as the home jersey. For the Rangers, the more things change, the more they...change.

The Rangers' jerseys as they (finally) appeared on-field in 1994, home at top, road on bottom.

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1999 Hall of Fame Game Throwback

Above: Juan Moreno pitches in this throwback at the 1999 Hall of Fame Game, other photos from this date.

Below: An original from 1993, made by Russell, for the sake of comparison to the throwback

The 1999 Baseball Hall of Fame class featured George Brett, Nolan Ryan (among others), so to celebrate, the Royals and Giants were invited to Cooperstown to compete in the annual Hall of Fame Game on July 26, 1999. The Royals wore their then-current road uniforms, but the Rangers used the celebration as a chance to throwback to Ryan's years with the team. This jersey is one of the special throwbacks made up for the game. However, a close inspection reveals it is anything but special. The jerseys appear to have been very hastily put together, with rough sewing that approaches carelessness. The front numbers are much too small compared to the original 1986-1993 models, and the sleeve patch date from 1984-1985, before this set of jerseys was adopted and before Ryan was even on the team. Really, the best tribute to him is the use of his name on the tag, which was assume was on every jersey, and went unseen by anyone but the wearer. We assume that the team must have had short notice about playing in the game, and that Russell had even shorter notice to make these up. But there's just enough off about this jersey that it would have been very hard to believe it was actually used by the Rangers if we didn't know the story behind it. Yet, what is most incredible is that Russell made this exact style for the Rangers just six years before...and they still managed to fall so short of making an accurate and fitting tribute to one of the Rangers' best-loved franchise icons.

Original 1993

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2001 Unused Turn Back the Clock to 1976-1980

Original 1979

Though the tag on front and A-Rod's autograph on the jersey indicate that this jersey was to be worn on July 18, 2001, we have confirmed that this was not the case. True, the Orioles and Rangers were planning to have a throwback game as part of the second match of a doubleheader that day. But between games, a train carrying hazardous chemicals derailed near Camden Yards, causing the postponement of this, and two other games in Baltimore. The Orioles were able to reuse their jerseys in a game against the Royals later in the year, but we have found no evidence that the Rangers wore this for their remaining games against the Orioles, or any other games that season. Perhaps it is all for the best, as these were not very accurate reproductions, as noted below.

The front is accurate, however, the team lettering on the back is not. The NOB lettering font is not the right one, as this font style was used on 1975-1979 home jerseys only. Player names on the road jersey were one-color, blue. Numbers are the home font, not the proper Wilson-sourced road one, and should be three-color, red/white/blue. Jersey is also missing the Rangers team patch that ought to be sewn on the right sleeve (an original jersey shown ***top right)***.

Train fire postpones third straight Orioles game

By David Ginsburg, Excerpted from CBC Sports, July 20, 2001

A persistent fire aboard a derailed train forced postponement of Friday night's scheduled Angels-Orioles game at Camden Yards, the third game knocked out by the accident.

The derailment occurred late Wednesday afternoon between games of a scheduled day-night doubleheader against the Rangers. Because the accident took place deep in a lengthy tunnel, cleanup operations have been slow and arduous.

The 60-car freight train was carrying hydrochloric acid and other hazardous chemicals.

The second game of Wednesday's doubleheader was postponed, and a split doubleheader between the Orioles and Texas on Thursday also was called off.

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2001 Factory Frankenstein Jersey

A reader sent this to me after purchasing it from an online seller, and asked what in the world it was. It has a 2001 patch on the right sleeve, and a tag sewn inside the button flap with the word “SUCCESS” computer embroidered on it in a style identical to how typical manufacturer-applied game jersey tagging appears in that year range.

But the front wordmark is all wrong. It is four-color gray/white/blue/red 3D drop shadow, like the four-color road gray jersey (shown for comparison at bottom left), but with the colors all mixed up.

Now, the Rangers had just introduced the blue alternate jersey for 2000 and wore it very frequently, so I won’t jump to the conclusion that it is a prototype for a hasty redesign. And past experience with the short-lived 2000 road jerseys hopefully taught the Rangers a lesson against pairing low-contrast colors immediately next to each other. It could be a one-off design exercise, or a sewing error. But it is the odd factory-appearing “SUCCESS” tag that throws me and makes me wonder what this is and how it came to be.

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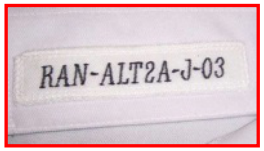
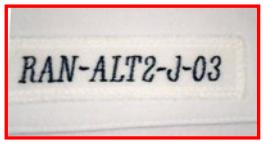
2003 Prototype Vests

- Shown here are Majestic factory tagged prototypes for 2003. Their codes “ALT2” and “ALT2A” indicates they are preproduction samples.
- At a casual glance, these might be mistaken for a production Rangers 2004 alternate vest, but differences abound.
- First, the front numbers and the “T” logo are on opposite sides from the 2004 jersey.
- Logo colors on one of them are exactly reversed from the 2004 vest, which has a red “T” with a blue drop shadow.
- Numbers on the prototype are three-color and feature a drop shadow. The production jersey has no drop shadow. Front numbers are also sewn higher up than the eventual production jersey.
- The prototypes use a thin red/white/blue knit braid trim at neck and the arm holes, while the production vest uses a different trim placement of blue knit trim only.





The production 2004 vest for comparison

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2006 Hispanic Heritage Prototype

On May 5, 2006 the Rangers wore special Cinco de Mayo-themed jerseys with “Los Rangers” on front. Here we have a prototype of that jersey, which is very close to what the team selected to wear that day.

This jersey’s pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the “0062” code on the back of the laundry tag indicates it is a team-issued jersey. Next, the use of “PLAYER” and “6” on back are typical sample elements, where “6” stands for the year in which the jersey is intended to be used. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding “RANH06-cdm” indicating it is a Rangers (RAN) 2018 home jersey (H) for I2006 (06) Cinco de Mayo (cdm).

The prototype lacks the Texas flag patch on the right sleeve that was present on the final model, replacing it with the special Cinco de Mayo patch, which was on the right sleeve on the jersey used in the game. Otherwise it is identical.

Right: *The jersey as used on-field in 2006.*

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2011-2012 Mystery Prototype Flex Base

Top: Cloth tag from a prototype 2012 BP jersey with Majestic "mountain" logo.

Bottom: Heat-pressed tag from this jersey with updated "M" logo, and a missing "N" in "Engineered"

Here is a mystery jersey, one that appears to be a prototype for the 2016 introduction of Flex Base, but leaves us with lots of questions.

First, some facts. It is a 2009-2013 style Rangers blue alternate jersey, made up for star player Josh Hamilton, who left the Rangers as a free agent after the 2012 season (he returned in 2015, but by then, the Rangers didn't use this style of jersey). So that would seem to limit this to the 2009-2012 range. Yet, the logo on the sleeve and on the jock tag (more about those later) was introduced by Majestic in 2014, and not seen on an on-field jersey until 2016. However, Majestic did file the logo with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in 2012, so the art for it existed at least that early. So, for that reason, we're guessing this dates in the 2011-2012 range.

Elsewhere in this book (including later in this chapter) we have seen Flex Base prototype jerseys worn by players in 2012 Spring Training. Those are usually tagged with the then-standard heat-pressed Cool Base jock tags, laundry tags with a "063A" code, and team tagging indicating them as "Test A" jerseys. This example, however, has some distinguishing characteristics that lead us to believe it might have come earlier.

First, the jersey's construction mirrors Flex Base, with mesh side panels and back tail. Here, however, those panels (and the lining inside the collar) are of a much lighter and far stretchier material than the mesh used in regular Flex Base jerseys. It is almost like gauze. Similarly, the heat-pressed jock tag here is of a completely different style than Test A and Flex Base, a design we've seen on sample BP jerseys for the 2012-2014 seasons. (Those BP samples had cloth tags and the old Majestic "mountain" logo, rather than heat-pressed with the Majestic "M" logo like this one.) Like the Test A jerseys of 2012, the MLB logo on the back of the neck of this jersey is embroidered, not CFX as on regular Flex Base. *(continued)*

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2011-2012 Mystery Prototype Flex Base, continued

Top row: *Details of the front lettering (left), player name (center), and player number (right). Note that the lettering appears to be one layer of white, perforated twill with red dyed edges and blue and gray heat pressed on. From the look of it, the red was applied to the white twill, which was then perforated, with the blue and gray added after perforation.*

Bottom left: *Washed-out wash tag with what appears to be 0730 as style code, the same as standard Flex Base jerseys, but it is very hard to make out.*

Bottom right: *A closeup of the mesh tail (with white paper underneath to show detail) vs. that of a Flex Base jersey. Note the very raw hem of the sample jersey vs. the white Flex Base jersey.*

Where the Test A jerseys had heat-pressed, multi-color perforated mesh lettering, this sample uses what looks like a single layer of perforated twill with heavy silk screened ink or a heat-pressed material that appears to cover over the perforations in some spots but not in others. It appears to be a single layer of white twill with the red dyed on and the blue and gray heat pressed on.

Oddly, the wash tag here seems to have an 0730 code, typical of regular Flex Base jerseys, vs. the updated code for the Test A jerseys used in 2012 Spring Training. The tag itself is washed out, showing some wear and likely laundering. Given the size of the jersey (46), it is unlikely that Hamilton wore this as he usually wore larger jerseys, and 46 is typical for Majestic samples. However, the wear could indicate that the sample was laundered many times to test how well it would stand up to use and washing.

What's most noticeable about the jersey is how light it is. It weighs just 10.6 ounces. Two other game worn size 46 Flex Base jerseys we tested (Astros home and Red Sox home alternate) weighed in at 12.9 and 12.2 ounces respectively. If Majestic were aiming for a light jersey, they hit the mark here. Perhaps even too light to stand up to a season of abuse.

It is hard to know for sure exactly when this example was made, though we know that Hamilton was one of the players who tried out the Test A style jersey during Spring training in 2012 (see next page), which means he may have been asked to review this sample too. We could not find any images of him wearing this unique style of jersey in Spring Training or the regular season.

Thus far, this is the only example of this type of Flex Base prototype we have seen. More research is required.

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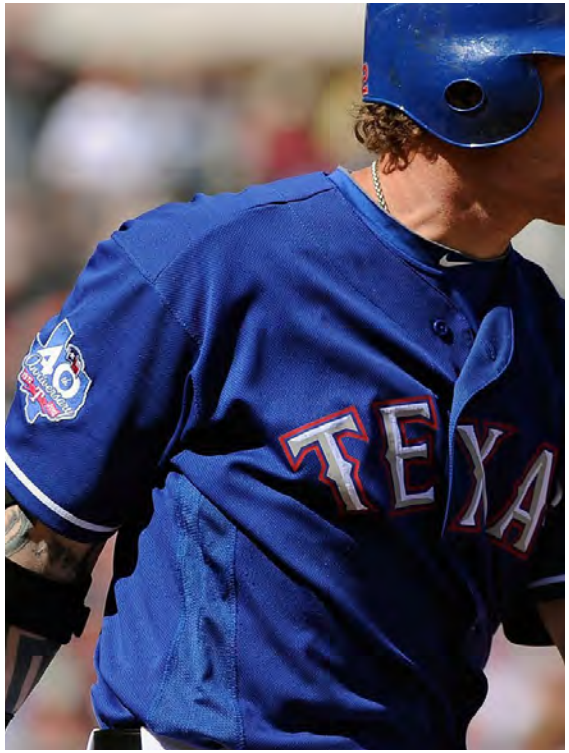
2012 Sample Spring Training Flex Base “Test A”



In other chapters (Dodgers, Tigers, White Sox) we have noted instances of prototype Flex Base jerseys used in 2012 Spring Training, four years before their official release. Each of those entries has examples of the jerseys, which shows strip tagging reading “Test A” and a wash tag with “063A” as the style code.

Here, we do not have a similar Rangers jersey to share “in the cloth,” but we have discovered photos of Rangers slugger Josh Hamilton wearing such a jersey in Spring Training 2012. The attributes of the jersey match up exactly with other Test A jerseys we have observed.

In these images, you can see the tell-tale heat-pressed mesh numbers and letters as well as mesh side panels that were a common Flex Base feature, but not part of Cool Base jerseys of this era.

Majestic claimed to work with more than 50 players when developing the Flex Base jerseys, and this jersey was yet another example of this early testing.

Of note, this is not the sample jersey on the previous page. That one has sewn lettering and a different Majestic logo on the sleeve. Further this jersey has the Rangers’ 2012 40th anniversary patch, which is not present on the example on the previous pages.

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2012 Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1972

So many prototype jerseys like this are sewn and presented to the teams for consideration. This one happens to be in my personal collection. It is a prototype for one of the series of throwback games hosted by the Rangers throughout their 2012 40th anniversary year. The actual version used in the game is shown below right, displaying lettering more "correct" for what had been worn in 1972: Senators-style numbers and one-color red player names. The sample above uses the generic Block font in two colors for both player number and names, and like many prototypes, uses the customized identification of "Player #5"

As used in the 2012 game

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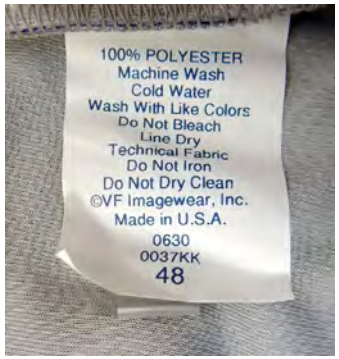
2014 “Frankenstein” Road Jersey?



This one is more likely an error rather than a prototype. Super-utilityman Chris Gimenez appeared in 69 games for the Rangers in 2014–2015, though he wore #60 only in 2014. This jersey’s inside seam tagging identifies it as a team-spec jersey shell that would have been made for and issued to Gimenez. Most likely, however, the stitcher simply pulled the pre-stitched lettering from the bin for the team’s alternate blue jersey and created this oddball by accident.

Though primarily a catcher over a 10-year career with six teams, Gimenez also played both corner outfield spots, both corner infield spots, DH, and appeared in 11 games as a pitcher, a career about as distinctive as this jersey.

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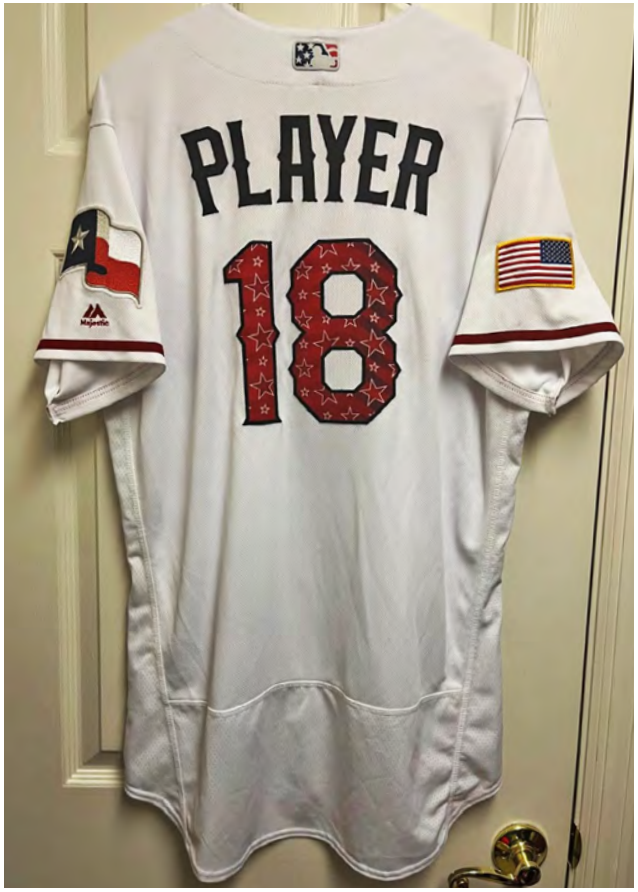
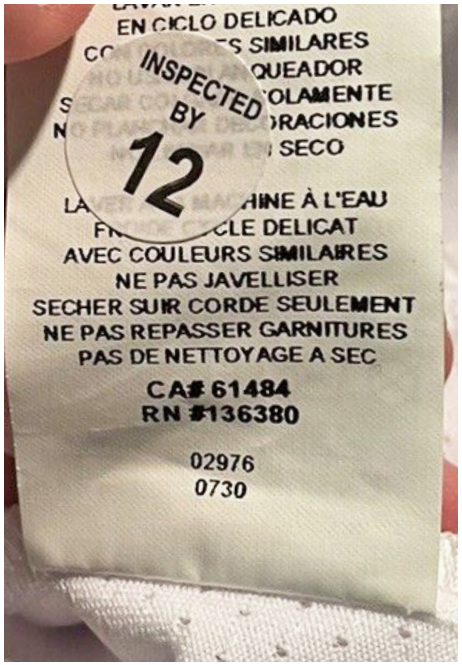
2018 Sample Independence Day





Harrison Katapodis/dormroomjerseys on eBay

As we have seen elsewhere in this book, for the 2018 season at least, MLB and Majestic spared no expense creating samples of jerseys with even the slightest proposed change. Here, we have a sample of an Independence Day jersey made up for the Rangers, rendering all twill in different colors, and adding the American flag patch to the right sleeve. This is identical to what the Rangers wore for Memorial Day Weekend games at home in 2018, so the sample's mission was accomplished. But, the Rangers also wore the exact same jersey for Memorial Day in 2017, rendering this sample overkill. But if that was the policy, at least they stuck to it.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag indicates it is a team-issued jersey. Next, the use of "PLAYER" and "18" on back are typical sample elements, where "18" stands for the year in which the jersey is intended to be used. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "RAN-STARS&STRIPES-HJ-D1-1-2018" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a Rangers (RAN) 2018 home jersey (HJ) for Independence Day (STARS&STRIPES).

The 2018 season seemed to be a high-water mark for "in-the-cloth" samples of jerseys for every occasion, as we have seen many other examples for other teams.

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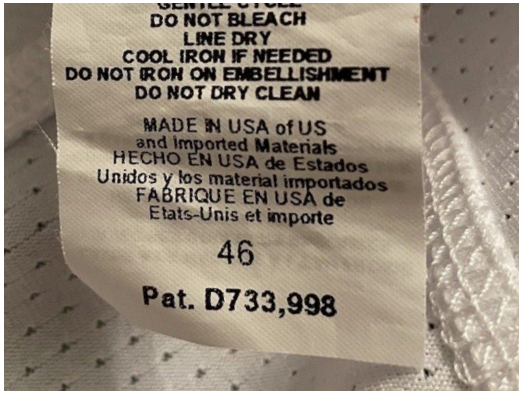
2020 Nike Sample Home Oddball



The 2020 season was one of two big uniform changes for the Rangers. First, they completely redesigned their full uniform set for that season. And, like every other MLB team, their uniforms switched from Majestic to Nike that year as well.

This jersey's possible pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the player number "20" represents the year for which the sample was made. The use of "Nike" as the player name, rather than "Player" is unusual for MLB samples, however, Nike has done this for samples made in other sports in the past, and we have come across one other MLB jersey done this way for the Astros.

We have seen a few other 2020 samples made up for other teams that were not changing their uniforms, which were made just so teams could see their jerseys with the new Nike branding. Most of those had "0730" coded wash tags and heat-pressed neck tags, indicating that they were likely made before the final decisions on Nike branding were completed. This jersey has the "0890" wash tag code, like all other on-field Nike jerseys. It is possible that this was a later creation, made specifically for the team's uniform overhaul, though it lacks some typical prototype tagging that would support this.

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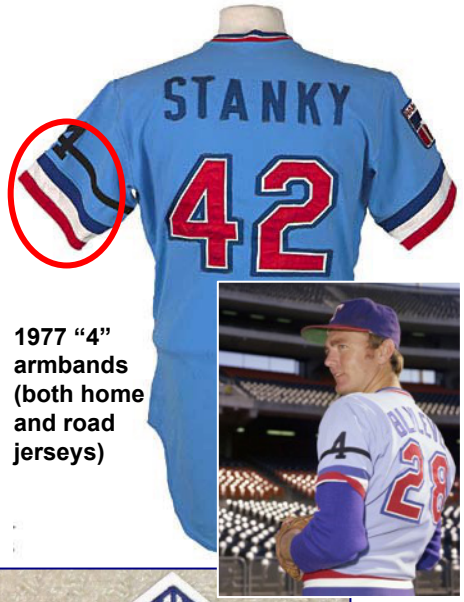
Commemorative Patches

Rangers Patches

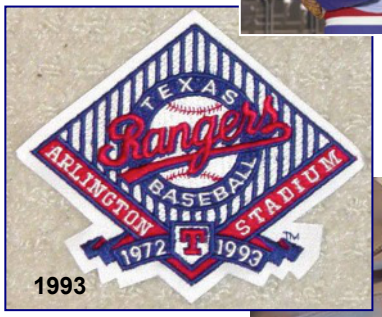
1976



1977 "4" armbands (both home and road jerseys)

- 1976: USA Bicentennial Patch.
- 1977: Danny Thompson memorial armband with #4 (all season).
- 1993: Arlington Stadium Patch (Final Year), left sleeve.
- 1993, after August 22: HEC for former owner H.E. "Eddie" Chiles, right sleeve .
- 1995: All-Star Game Patch.
- 1997, June 12–13: Interleague patch on left sleeve instead of team patch for two games only, first year of Interleague Play commemorative (2 eagles with baseball). This patch was worn for the very first games of Interleague play only between the Rangers and Giants.
- 1997, after September 7: "MH" Memorial Patch for broadcaster Mark Holtz, in addition to Jackie Robinson patch: both on right sleeve.

1993, after August 22



1993

June 12–13, 1997

1997, after September 7

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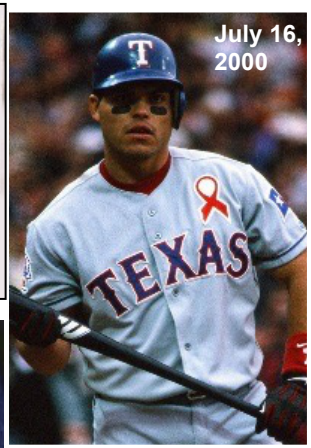

September 16, 2005

- 2000: AL West Champs (of 1999).
- 2000, July 16: Red AIDS ribbon for “Until There’s a Cure” Day in San Francisco.
- 2005: “26” for former manager Johnny Oates (all season).
- 2005, September 15: Red Cross patch, left chest, for Hurricane Katrina relief.
- 2010, Spring Training: Bobby Bragan memorial oval, long-time front office employee of the Rangers.
- 2011, July 8–10: Black ribbons in memory of Rangers fan Shannon Stone, who died from a 20-foot fall after catching Josh Hamilton's toss of a foul ball into the left field stands.
- 2012: Rangers 40th Anniversary 2013, July 6: “Support West” patch in honor or 15 people who died in a fertilizer explosion on April 17 in West, Texas.

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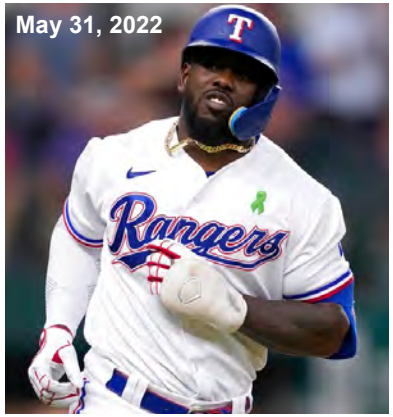

- 2013, August 24: The annual Civil Rights game was held in Chicago, and for the first time, participants wore only a patch and no special uniform.
- 2015, Spring Training: MACKO patch in memory of clubhouse manager Joe Macko, who died December 2014.
- 2017, July 29-30: Ivan Rodriguez Hall of Fame commemoration.
- 2019: Final Season at Globe Life Park in Arlington.
- 2020: Inaugural season at Globe Life Field.
- 2022: 50th Anniversary.
- 2022, May 31: Green Mental Health Awareness Month ribbon against the Rays, who wore this same ribbon for all of May 2022 in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, following the suicide of bullpen catcher Jean Ramirez.

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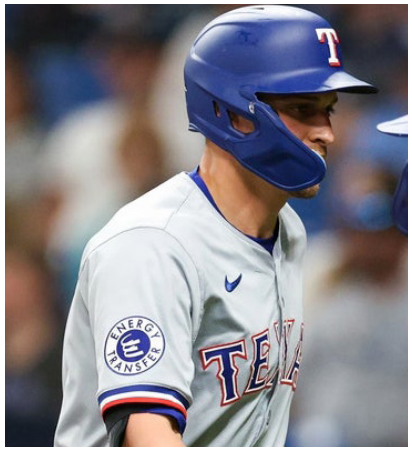
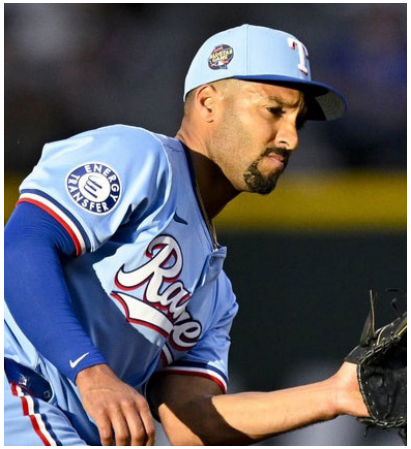
2024-2025 Advertising Patches





With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Rangers did not have an ad patch in 2023, but before the 2024 season, they struck a sponsor patch deal with Energy Transfer, an energy-related service company. The patches first appeared on Opening Day in 2024.

The patch is white-bordered circle with a blue ring with “Energy Transfer” in white letters surrounding a blue company logo on a white circle for the home white, powder blue, and City Connect jerseys. The colors flip to be a blue-bordered circle with a white ring with “Energy Transfer” in blue letters surrounding a white company logo on a blue circle for the road and dark blue jerseys.

In 2024, the patch is on the right sleeve of each jersey, except the City Connect, where it is on the left. It alternates sleeves based on player handedness starting in 2025.

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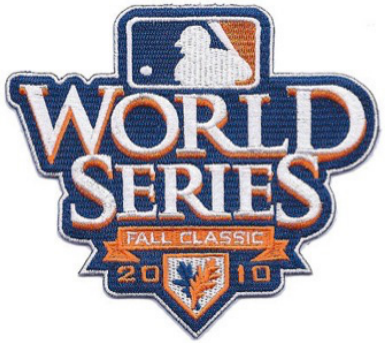
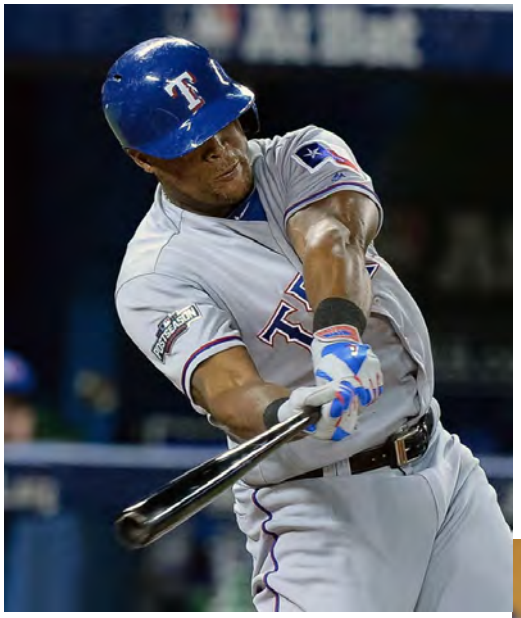
Rangers Postseason Patches



2010 World Series (right sleeve)



2015 AL Division Series (right sleeve)

2011 World Series (right sleeve)

2016 AL Division Series (right sleeve)

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Rangers Postseason Patches Continued

2023 World Series
(left chest)

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Letter of Authenticity

1971-1972 Ted Williams Texas Rangers Spring Training Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: December 26, 2019 **Certification Number**: 191226E12

This letter will serve as the opinion of Sports Investors Authentication LLC regarding the item in review.

Description: Presented is a 1971-1972 Texas Rangers "Wilson" gray flannel size 48 jersey of #9, manager Ted Williams. The jersey is tagged 1971 Set 2; the Rangers' first year of existence as an expansion team was 1972. Quoted, from Bill Henderson's Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys (eighth edition): *"The first Texas Rangers team took the field for the 1972 season wearing new double knits. One could easily surmise that the Rangers, therefore, have no history in flannel. But, that is not so. When the Senators packed up and left Washington, DC to become the Rangers after the 1971 season, they brought all of their equipment with them, including all remaining 1971 uniforms. Then, unbelievably, these jerseys were converted into Rangers jerseys by painstakingly removing all of the Senators scripts from the fronts, then re-sewing Rangers lettering on. This amount of work would be unthinkable today. Today, the final set of Senators' uniforms could certainly be auctioned off as highly sought after collectables. But back in 1971, they were nothing more than obsolete baggage."*

This jersey appears to be a bona-fide example of this event. Scant light table evidence of the removal of the Senators script with underline exists, and the tail tagging as Set 2 1971 links it to the defunct Senators. Willams had been the Senators' manager in 1971, and when the team moved to Texas for 1972 he retained his position. The 1972 Rangers kept the team colors of the 1971 Senators, and so the number on back is original, and displays more fading and wear than the newer, replacement Rangers wordmark on front.

Matching exemplars and period photos, the Rangers team word marks is sewn in a straight line. When the team unveiled flashier red-white-and-blue trimmed jerseys for the regular season, the Rangers wordmark was arched on the front and player names were added to the back. The Wilson tag in the back of the collar is the correct style for 1971. The size 48 in the neck tag, the correct size for Williams, is hand-embroidered onto a Wilson tag that originally lacked a machine-embroidered size designation. This is not common, but we have seen other examples of this practice that we assume was employed when the maker had run out of pre-sized tags, and so modified a blank tag to match.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in very good condition and shows signs of wash wear commensurate with use by the team manager, who would have not have been very active while wearing it. Review on the light table indicates the removal of the front Senators script, and that the back number is original.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and its alterations are significant and explainable. Therefore, it is the considered opinion of Sports Investors Authentication that this jersey is genuine and was worn by manager Ted Williams in both the 1971 season of the Washington Senators, and in the 1972 Texas Rangers' Spring Training.

David Randolph
Managing Member

Bill Henderson
Lead Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Pat Jarvis 1974 Texas Rangers Spring Training Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 6, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-1106J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Texas Rangers road gray button-front Wilson jersey, size 44. "Rangers" arched on front in red with a blue drop-shadow and a white embroidered star on the leading "R". Red-white-blue knit sleeve end trim and around the neck. The placket is lined with linen as is the standard with Wilson pro jerseys of the period. Autographed in what appears to be ball-point pen, "Pat Jarvis" on the right front chest below the wordmark. On back, the well-worn numbers "33" in red outlined with blue in the Rangers font as used 1972-1974. As received, the name on back "JARVIS" arched in red, clearly a replacement name in bright red twill and when viewed on the light table, not exactly matching the outlines of the shadows beneath it.

Pat Jarvis was signed by the Chicago Cubs organization as a pitcher in 1960, and toiled in the minor leagues for several years before the Atlanta Braves traded for him and gave him a chance on their MLB roster in 1966. He stayed in the majors pitching for the Braves for seven seasons through 1972, and was traded to the Expos for the 1973 season. During his eight years pitching in the bigs, he appeared in 249 games, had an 85-73 record with a respectable 3.58 ERA. Jarvis was traded to the Texas Rangers before the 1974 season, but failed to make the MLB roster that year, and his career was over. Jarvis never played a regular season game for the Texas Rangers.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rangers jerseys 1972-1974 are generally year tagged with a two-digit year hand-embroidered on a square of jersey fabric stitched into the back of the neck below the Wilson tag. This jersey has no such tag nor evidence that one was ever there. We can isolate its use to 1972-1974 as these are the only years this exact style jersey was worn by the Rangers.

Restoration Performed: As the name on back on this jersey was clearly a replacement, its owner asked me to remove it to see if there was light table evidence of a different name having been sewn there. After careful examination I can say that there was no such evidence. It was apparent that "Jarvis" was the only name that was visible having been there, and the original ghost revealed that the font originally used was accurate for the 1972-1974 Rangers. The current replacement had used a stock letter set that was close but not exactly like the original. The well-worn #33 on back appears to be original to the garment and there are no signs that another number was ever there.

Continued, overleaf

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A search of the Rangers roster for these years showed that Hall of Famer Frank Howard wore #33 in 1972, and pitcher Jim Kremmel wore #33 in 1973. No player was issued #33 in 1974. It is my conclusion that this jersey was issued to Pat Jarvis for 1974 spring training, and when he failed to make the team, the jersey was returned to the trainer's room, and probably stripped of its name on back. It is possible that Lenny Randle wore it in spring training 1975 without a name on back, as he was roster #33 for 1975. My guess is that this jersey had a long second life in the Rangers' minor league system, where all of their equipment ended up. It is incredibly uncommon to find a Rangers jersey of this vintage in better condition than this one.

Wear & Repairs: After stripping the incorrect name from the back, I used the team fonts (there are several that were used interchangeably at the time) to recreate the name using the visible ghosts. After cutting the letters from twill fabric, I distressed and dyed the lettering to make it better match the rest of the jersey's lettering, and then stitched it in place with suitably faded matching thread.

Above: As received, name on back had been replaced with an inexact font, shown at right overlaid with the proper font matching the original faint ghosts (black lines). Jarvis' time with the Rangers was short, he was there only during the weeks of 1974 spring training before he was released prior to opening day. A photo assumedly from that time is shown at right, the only image I could find of Jarvis in a Rangers uniform. In these years, players wore prior years' regular uniforms in the spring.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front lettering and back numbers are all original, and the player name on back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Pat Jarvis in 1974 spring training with the Texas Rangers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dock Ellis 1979 Texas Rangers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: December 20, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1220J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia blue two-button neck pullover Texas Rangers of pitcher Dock Ellis. Rawlings size 44. 2 1/2" red-white-blue sewn-in knit sleeve ends. Similarly colored 1" neck trim. Texas Rangers red/white/blue shield patch on the right sleeve. "TEXAS" arched on front in the teams stylized wordmark font in red outlined with white. Player name in the correct font for the 1979 Rangers, "D. Ellis" in medium blue; three-color #17 in red/white/medium blue centered on the back in the team's proper font.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red label tagging correct for 1979 is sewn inside the bottom of the front left tail. A "Set 1 1979" flag tab is stitched pinched beneath its right side. Stitched to the left of the Rawlings tag is a small rectangle of Columbia Blue twill with "17 79" (player #17, 1979) hand chain stitched on it in dark blue in the familiar hand of the Rawlings stitcher. All of these match the details of other 1979 Rangers' road jerseys in our exemplar library.

Wear & Repairs; Restoration Performed: This jersey shows a full season worth of wear, with some staining and some white marks of unknown origin on the tops of the shoulders. As received, the jersey wore a non-standard #20 on back and had no player name on back. Light table examination showed that two names had been on it before: BABCOCK (strong image) and D. ELLIS (faint image). Both players wore #17 on the 1979 Rangers. Ellis from the start of the season until early June when he was traded, then Bob Babcock from July. At some point before the end of the season, Babcock changed his number to 20. My educated assumption is that the #20 lettering on back was locally sourced, and did not come from Rawlings, as it is neither the exact font or same size as the standard font used by the Rangers on road jerseys. Notably, the correct font also used a narrow white outline bordered by a wider blue one. The numbers on the back of this jersey as received had same-width outlines. Removal of the #20 more clearly revealed the ghosts of the original #17 below in its proper (smaller) size. The fact that no name was present on the back probably indicates that the jersey was used again in spring training. The fact that the original "TEXAS" is still on the front suggests it was spared a trim to the minor leagues. Many uniforms of these style were sent to the Tucson, Arizona minor league club where they were used to the point of destruction.

The jersey was restored to its original configuration. Notably, the corners of many of the letters in the correct team font used for the restored player name align with small holes that had been caused by the name's removal back in 1979. Pictures of the restoration are shown on the back of this page.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good used condition, and has been professionally restored to its original configuration. It has correct team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was originally worn by Dock Ellis of the 1979 Texas Rangers, then by Bob Babcock of the 1979 Rangers.

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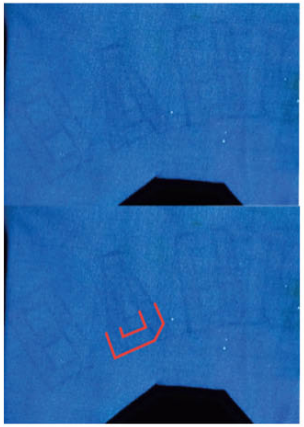
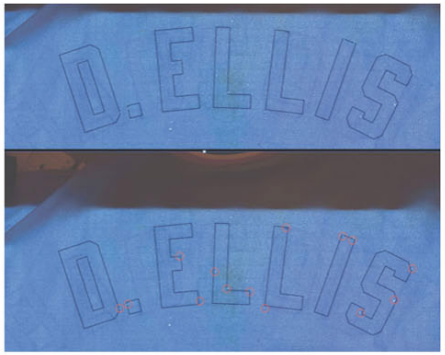
As received for evaluation and eventual restoration, the jersey had back numbers that did not match the team tagging, nor did the match the team template in terms of font, outline styles or size. The back numbers were removed and examination on the light table revealed trace lines of the ghosts of the original number 17 on back. The ghosts of the name BABCOCK were easily visible, but further examination showed that another name had been there before, though only a few trace lines were visible. The Rangers' condensed font was used to reveal that "D. ELLIS" had been there prior. His first initial was used because catcher John Ellis had the simple designation "ELLIS" on his shirt. In the bottom photo the tiny pinholes visible on the light table align with the corners of the original removed player name.





Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Jim Kern 1980 Texas Rangers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: August 4, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0804J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Columbia blue two-button neck pullover Texas Rangers jersey of pitcher Jim Kern. Rawlings size 44 with 2" extra length (marked and measured; length is 36" to the end of the back tail). This is appropriate for the 6' 5" 205 lb. pitcher. 2 1/4" red-white-blue sewn-in knit sleeve ends. Similarly colored 1" neck trim. Texas Rangers red/white/blue shield patch on the right sleeve. "TEXAS" arched on front in the team's stylized wordmark font in red outlined with white. Three-color #35 in red/white/medium blue centered on the back, 7" from the collar as correct, in the team's proper three-color font. In 1980 for a single year the Rangers had no player names on back.

Working in the first year of a 5-year contract in 1980, he tried to pitch through a hyper extended elbow sustained in spring training and then a neck injury during the season, going 3–11 with two saves and a 4.83 ERA in 38 games before going on the disabled list for the rest of the season in July.Jim Kern went 3-11 for the 1980 Rangers. (Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red label tagging correct for 1980 is sewn inside the bottom of the front left tail. A "Set 1 1980" flag tab is stitched pinched beneath its right side. Beneath that is a small white tab that says 2 inch extra length. On the outside of the tail, stitched to the left of the Rawlings tag is a small rectangle of Columbia Blue twill with "34 80 1" (player #34, 1980 set 1) hand chain stitched on it in dark blue in the familiar hand of the Rawlings stitcher. All of these match the details of other 1980 Rangers' road jerseys in our exemplar library.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows a full season worth of wear, with some characteristic sun-fading especially on the back and the tops of the shoulders and some tiny white spots that look like bleach stains between the back numbers. The twill is slightly puckered from hot water washing and is burnished from use. The fact that the original "TEXAS" is still on the front suggests it was spared a trip to the minor leagues. Many uniforms of these style were sent to the Tucson, Arizona minor league club where they were stripped, re-lettered, and used to the point of destruction. In faded black marker on the outer tail is written 34# L. McLin; Larry McLin was a pitcher drafted by the Rangers in 1982, so it is probable that McLin wore this in Spring Training in 1982 or 1983. He was never called up to the majors.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good used condition, without alteration or contrivance. It has correct team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was worn by Jim Kern of the 1980 Texas Rangers

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Nolan Ryan 1989-1992 Game Worn Jersey with 1989 Pants

Examination Date: February 5, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201JP25

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Texas Rangers white home jersey with pants, Nolan Ryan #34. Goodman and Sons 7-button full weight knit, size 44. "Rangers" scripted across the front and underlined, royal blue over red. Number 34 on the left front and centered on back in the same colors and in the correct Goodman-specific font used for the Rangers. "Ryan" name on back in one-color Royal Blue arched above in the correct font/size. Matching white team pants with team strip tagging in the waist. Working zipper, one-button closure, 7 belt tunnels, two slash pockets with button closure, all intact. 1989 was Ryan's first year with the Rangers, and it is well known that regardless of his team, Ryan preferred and specified Goodman-made uniforms for his use, and the Rangers obliged.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings made the rest of the team's jerseys in 1989-1992 and they are year flag-tagged, but Goodman-Ryan ones are notably not player tagged. The Goodman tag inside the back of the neck designates the jersey as size 44. The pants have a Goodman tag inside the waistband with a small size 34 flag tag. A machine-embroidered strip tag is also stitched into the waistband, "Ryan 34-25 '89 Set 1" This tag matches other Ryan-attributed pants in our exemplar library, and we have examples of these numbered as high as set 7. Because the jersey is not year tagged, and Ryan played for the team wearing this style 1989-1992 (in 1993 the jersey was the same style but had distinguishing sleeve patches not present on this example) without an photo matching we can't decisively pin this jersey to any particular year.

Continued, overleaf

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Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of light wash/wear. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without contrivance or alterations. The pants show slightly more wear but are still in excellent condition. There are a few stray fabric pulls and some graying of the seams from wash and wear.

Conclusion: This jersey and pants set in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for and worn by Nolan Ryan of the 1989-1992 Texas Rangers, the pants are tagged for use in 1989.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Nolan Ryan 1991 Texas Rangers Team Issue Autographed Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 31, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0131J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

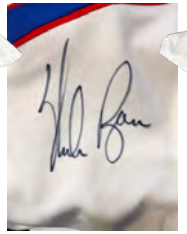
Description: Texas Rangers white home jersey, Nolan Ryan #34. Rawlings 6-button full weight knit, size 44 (marked and measured). "Rangers" scripted across the front and underlined, Royal Blue over red. Number 34 on the left front and centered on back in the same colors and in the Rawlings block font used by the Rangers. "Ryan" name on back in one-color Royal Blue arched above in the correct font/size. Ryan game jerseys often specified 1" extra length, and while this one does not have special tailoring marked, it is 34" from collar to tail; an inch longer than normal. The jersey is correctly lettered for a Rawlings example. This jersey was presented without provenance. The jersey is autographed on the right front below the Rangers script. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

It is well known that regardless of his team and throughout his career beginning with his time during the mid 1970s on the California Angels, Ryan preferred and specified Goodman-made uniforms for his use, and the Rangers obliged him. There are tiny distinguishing features that allow a careful observer to tell what kind of jersey Ryan is wearing in game photos; the shape of the "3" on the front of his jersey, the shapes of the letters on his name on back (most notably the letter "N") and very small detail differences with how the Rangers script is drawn. But most notably, Goodman jersey have no brand-logo on the sleeve end as Rawlings jerseys always did. A casual survey of news photos shows that during 1990-1991 while Ryan usually wore Goodman jerseys, he in fact clearly sometimes wore Rawlings ones. So it cannot be said that Ryan "always wore Goodman jerseys" as is sometimes claimed by collectors.

A survey of exemplars shows a significant number of year tagged autographed Rawlings Nolan Ryan Rangers jerseys exist, signed by Ryan in exactly the same spot, and with team tagging that is similar to or identical to this one. Research shows that while he was a Ranger, Ryan was under contract with Score Board, Inc. a new and innovative company, whose mission it was to provide licensed authentic, autographed memorabilia to the hobby. At this time, the sports memorabilia industry was in its infancy, and there was no attempt to designate any of these signed jerseys differently than ones that were actually game issued or used. Therefore, we can't say for sure which jerseys were issued to players to wear, and which were made for signing for Score Board. They were essentially identical: made in the same place at the same time by the same people.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings locker tag is stitched to the left outer front tail of the jersey in the correct style for 1991. The tag notes the jersey's size as 44. Pinch sewn to the right side of the tag is a flag tab, "SET 1 1991". Stitched below is 1" x 1/2" white twill tag with machine embroidery in dark blue, "34 1". This tagging matches exemplars. Rawlings was the licensed provider of Rangers jerseys in 1989-1992 and these jerseys are year flag-tagged. Only Rawlings was permitted to display its brand name script on the end of the right sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows no obvious signs of wash/wear. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without contrivance or alterations.



Above: Tagging on evaluated jersey, below comparison tagging on another 1991 exemplar.

Conclusion: This jersey in review is in excellent unused condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to the team specifications of Nolan Ryan of the 1991 Texas Rangers.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Ivan Rodriguez 2000 Texas Rangers Team Issue Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: December 7, 2021 **Certification Number**: 211207J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings size 50 six-button gray road Texas Rangers jersey issued to catcher Ivan Rodriguez. The size is reasonable for the player to have worn at this stage of his career. One year style, "TEXAS" is arched across the front in four colors- Dark Royal blue, red, white and an almost invisible gray drop shadow. A single corse of royal blue knit trim rings the sleeve ends. Rangers Texas flag patch on the left sleeve, 2000-only Rangers 1999 Western Division Champions patch on the right sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo patch is stitched to the center of the back collar, in its first year of use on all MLB jerseys. The player number "7" and the name on back in properly extra-condensed team font RODRIGUEZ are all in three-layer stitched twill, Dark Royal blue, red and white. The name is sewn first to a matching gray nameplate with a serged edge. This nameplate is extra long, with more than two extra inches of fabric at each end.

Regarded as one of the best ever catchers ever to play the game, Rodriguez was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2017 in his first year of eligibility. Off to a great first half in 2000, Rodriguez broke his thumb on late July and missed the final third of the season. In his career of 21 seasons, he played 11 of them with the Rangers. He appeared in the MLB All-Star game 14 times.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings was the official on-field uniform supplier to the Rangers and just a few other teams in 2000, and contractually was allowed to display its circled-R logo on the end of the left sleeve, direct-embroidered in dark Royal. Authentic Collection Rawlings tagging is stitched inside the left front tail. Two side-by-side flag tabs pinched beneath the bottom edge of the Rawlings locker tag show the size as 50, and a tailoring tag that says "Minus 2 inch body and sleeves length" (measuring these elements, the body is minus 2 inches, the sleeves are 1" shorter than normal). Pinch-sewn under the right side of the locker tag is a flag that says SET 2 2000. Finally, above these tags is a MieGray Group embroidered tag signaling this jersey as part of the Texas Rangers Collection. MeiGray was the team's exclusive Memorbilia partner for a number of years.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey presents as new, without signs of use or washing. All elements including the tagging are crisp and unblemished. This is a perfect example of a Rangers 2000 team issued road jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered, with tailoring as consistent with known exemplars. It has no contrivances but does not exhibit obvious wear. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was team issued made to the specifications of Ivan Rodriguez of the 2000 Texas Rangers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Alex Rodriguez 2003 Texas Rangers Game Used MVP-Year Auto'ed Home Jersey

Examination Date: August 5, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0805J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic white size 52 with special tailoring (marked and measured) six-button home Texas Rangers jersey, Alex Rodriguez #3. Navy trim sewn near the end of each sleeve, Rangers' Texas state patch on the left sleeve, supplemental velcro closure under wordmark. RANGERS arched on the front in dark Royal blue over red with a black drop shadow. Player number 3 below and centered on the back in the same colors. Player name is arched on back in two colors, dark Royal over red in the proper font for the 2003 Rangers. Name is correctly stitched to a double-needle serged edge nameplate. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo in red-white-blue is stitched to the center of the back of the neck. The jersey is autographed in blue marker on the left back, and inscribed "2003 Game Used" I have no professional opinion on the autograph. A blue hologram sticker is applied to the back number that reads "AROD 4 ASI 2303". In 2003 Rodriguez led the league in home runs for the third consecutive year and earned his first of three career MVP awards. (Baseball Almanac) He led the American League in home runs, runs scored, and slugging percentage, and won his second consecutive Gold Glove Award. He also led the league in fewest at-bats per home run (12.9) and became the youngest player to hit 300 homers. (Wikipedia)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic locker tag in the correct style for 2002 is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinch sewn beneath it are three sets of flag tags: from the left, Set 3 2003, size 52 tab, and two overlaid tabs: +1" slv and +2" body. This size and tailoring is consistent with other 2003 Alex Rodriguez jerseys in our exemplar library. On the inside side seam is a Majestic manufacturer garment style tag that notes this jersey as a model 0062, the proper code for team-issue. The Majestic twin peaks logo is direct embroidered in blue to the end of the left sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all stitched elements on this jersey are original and untampered with. The jersey shows signs of use and light wash wear, and remains dirty with several spots on the front and back, as well as dirt and what appears to be pine-tar marks on the top of the right sleeve. Rodriguez was very aware of the collector value of his game worn gear, and wore multiple sets of uniforms throughout the season.

Conclusion: This jersey is properly tagged, lettered and tailored for the player, matching exemplars. All elements are original and uncontrived. After a careful examination, I would conclude that the jersey is authentic and worn by Alex Rodriguez of the 2003 Texas Rangers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Alex Rodriguez 2002 Texas Rangers Road Game Used All-Star Jersey

Examination Date: May 24, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0524J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings size 50 six-button gray road Texas Rangers jersey, special tailoring noted, issued to infielder Alex Rodriguez. The size and tailoring matches exemplars for this player. "TEXAS" is arched across the front in four colors- Dark Royal blue, red, white with a black drop shadow. A single corse of dark royal blue knit trim rings the sleeve ends. Rangers' Texas flag patch on the left sleeve, 2002 All-Star Game patch on the right sleeve. The MLB Silhouetted Batter logo patch is stitched to the center of the back collar, in its second year of use on all MLB jerseys. The player number "3" (with black drop shadow) and the name on back in properly extra-condensed team font RODRIGUEZ is in three-layer stitched twill, Dark Royal Blue, red and white. The name is sewn first to a matching gray nameplate with a double-needle serged edge. The jersey is autographed on the back by the player, with the inscription below "2002 Game Used All Star". (I have no professional opinion on the autograph). There is a blue holographic disk label on the back number 3 on which is printed "AROD 3 ASI 3047".

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings was the official on-field uniform supplier to the Rangers and just a few other teams in 2002, and contractually was allowed to display its circled-R logo on the end of the left sleeve, direct-embroidered in dark Royal. Authentic Collection Rawlings tagging is stitched inside the left front tail. Two side-by-side flag tabs pinched beneath the bottom edge of the Rawlings locker tag show the size as 50, and two overlaid tailoring tags that say "2 inch extra length", and "Sleeve 1 inch extra length". Pinch-sewn under the right side of the locker tag is a flag that says 2002 SET 2. Measuring the jersey, it is 37" long confirming its 2" extra length tag, and the sleeves appear to be 1/2" longer than standard.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey overall shows light use, and has been washed. The tags are slightly curled from washing. During the 2002 All-Star Game, Rodriguez made a diving play where the front of his jersey was ground into the dirt. Very close inspection shows wear to the jersey front below the "X" and many parallel rows of light vertical scuffs/scratches in the twill of the "X" in TEXAS. Further, the Velcro closure behind the *X* has brown dirt infused thoroughly into the adhesive that held it in place for stitching. This jersey may have been made specifically for use in the All-Star game, or it could have been issued prior and the sleeve patch added. But since the game patch remains on the sleeve, we can safely assume it was removed from use after the All-Star game.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Juan Gonzalez Texas Rangers Blue BP Jersey circa 1992

Examination Date: August 3, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0803J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Blue mesh pullover Texas Rangers batting practice jersey, Rawlings size 44. Sewn-in red-white-blue knit "racing" stripes on the top of each sleeve from the neck to the armhole. "Rangers" scripted with underline on the front in white over red, layered and stitched tackle twill. On back in white outlined with red is the number "19" in the correct font as used by Rawlings for the 1992 rangers. The size is reasonable for the player: from our library, we have evidence that Gonzalez wore size 42 jerseys at the start of his career, graduated to 44 by 1991, then moved to size 48 in the mid 1990s.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: There is no Rawlings script embroidered on the sleeve end as is correct for 1992. (Starting in 1992, only Russell and Majestic were allowed to use their logos on sleeves). There is something intelligible written on the tag in faded black marker (looks like AFT14). Rawlings red tag in the style correct for 1991-1992 is stitched properly on all four sides to the outside left front tail, and shows the size as 44. White printed fabric Rawlings tag in the neck also identifies the size as 44. While early 1990s BP jerseys were not team tagged by the Rangers, this has all the hallmarks of a team-issued jersey. Notably, in 1992 Rawlings was not authorized to sell retail copies of BP jerseys; that right was contractually awarded only to Majestic and Russell.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of moderate wash and wear, yet it has been spared the fate of so many of these Rangers BPs that have been bleached, which ruins the sleeve-top stripes. A light table examination does not reveal any signs of tampering or contrivance; there are no signs that any other numbers have been on this jersey before.

Conclusion: While not year or team tagged, this jersey has several points of positive reference that allow me to conclude that it was team issued. There are no signs of contrivance, and therefore it is reasonable to conclude that this is a team issued and game-worn jersey issued to Juan Gonzalez in the 1992 season.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Raphael Palmeiro 1991 Texas Rangers Team Issue Autographed TBTC Jersey

Examination Date: April 2, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0402J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Texas Rangers turn back the clock style white home jersey, Raphael Palmeiro Majestic 6-button full weight knit, size 50 (marked and measured). "Rangers" scripted across the front and underlined, Dark Royal Blue over red. Number 25 on the left front and centered on back in the same colors and in the proper block font used by the Rangers. "Palmeiro" name on back in one-color dark Royal Blue arched above in the correct font/size. It is autographed on back between the name and number. I have no professional opinion on the autograph, but the jersey is accompanied by a JSA certificate authenticating it. Retired from MLB since after the 2005 season, size 50 is reasonable for the player. On August 11, 2012 the Rangers hosted a pregame ceremony honoring their 40th Anniversary All-Time Team, chosen by fan balloting. Palmeiro was one of two players named as the team's top first basemen. The jersey is accompanied by a photocopied letter of authenticity from the personal collection of Ivan Rodriguez, originally offered by Hunt Auctions. A survey of exemplars including one in our personal collection confirms that this is a team issued Rangers jersey from the 2012 season, with a Majestic 62TB garment style code (inside seam tag). It has a very slight purplish cast to the white fabric as do all others in this set. The Rangers 2012 40th anniversary patch is stitched to the right sleeve.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic locker tag is sewn to the outer left tail, in the correct style for 2012. Pinch-sewn beneath the bottom border is a small flag tab noting the size, 50. Beneath that is a 1" x 3" serged edge tag with "TBTC 1986" machine embroidered on it in black.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows no obvious signs of wash/wear, as would be expected given its purpose. A slight dirt scuff mark is on the front near the numbers. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without contrivance or alteration.

Conclusion: This jersey in review is in excellent condition, is properly lettered and has no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to the team specifications for Rafael Palmeiro, formerly of the Texas Rangers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Stan Thomas Texas Rangers 1975 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: April 29, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0429J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, Texas Rangers home jersey made by Wilson, team-converted to Tulsa Drillers jersey for minor league use. 2-button Henley neck; red, white, and blue knit trim sewn-in at the neck and around the sleeve ends. Replacement "Drillers" on front in red over dark Royal Blue, original #23 on back, severely worn and partly detached, with no name above, but showing the marks of multiple names having been there previously. This jersey was generally filthy with ground-in dirt, many glue marks and scuffing stains all over it, in fair condition at best. It has no sleeve patch, nor evidence that one was ever present as was correct for 1975 Rangers jerseys and showing that it did not see service in 1976 when a sleeve patch was used. It had been altered, taken in 4" on the sides with full-length side-seam darts, effectively making it a size 40.

Restoration Performed: I was commissioned to restore the jersey to its original 1975 MLB Rangers appearance. I started by removing the Drillers lettering from the front; a light table analysis clearly showed the ghost of the former placement of the Rangers wordmark. On back, the ghosts of two overlaid names were distinctly visible. Besides the original THOMAS (who had been issued #23 in 1975, and who at 6' 2" and 195 this jersey would have fit) the second ghost of BRILES was apparent. Notably, #23 Stan Thomas was traded to the Indians after 1975, and Nelson Briles was acquired from the Royals and joined the Rangers in 1976's spring training. While Briles was eventually issued his preferred number #34 for the regular season, my conclusion is that this was Briles' 1976 spring training jersey. #34 had previously belonged to teammate Mike Bacsic, who changed his number to #25 for the regular season, likely so the veteran pitcher could have his preferred number that he had worn for most of his career. After 1976 spring training, this jersey became expendable and was shipped off to Tulsa to begin its next stage of life.

I thoroughly cleaned the jersey body, and other than being filthy and full of dried on glue it was in generally solid shape.. All replacement lettering was cut from original patterns tuned to match the shape of the removed lettering: Rangers script from the original team die-cut pattern, complete with its small hand-embroidered star on the leading letter "R"; and the back lettering- which in 1975 was mostly hand cut with some irregular angles and outlines evident. I removed the side dart stitching, allowing the jersey to return to its original size, and fixed a couple of small holes in the fabric with team-style darned repairs. A few small un-repaired holes remain on the front where the Drillers crest was removed. With wash shrinkage the garment now measures as a 42, not its

Continued, overleaf

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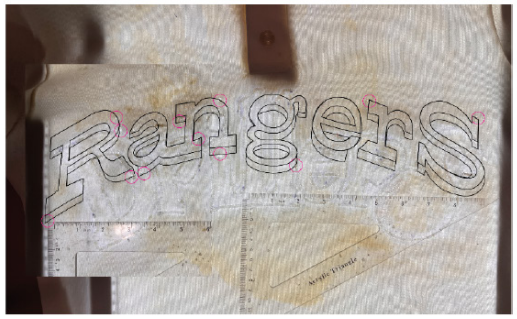
original 44. I spot-stitched the back numbers in a few small places as they were coming detached, without removing any existing stitching. The replacement lettering was media blasted to give it the patina of wear to match the rest of the fabric.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Tagging matches exemplars. Wilson tag noting the size 44 in the center of the back of the neck. A small strip tag is stitched below, "75 Set 1" is hand chain stitched onto it, in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher.



Here, as received, jersey then stripped and showing major glue staining and ground in dirt as well and the and the ghost impressions of both former wordmarks, on back the ghost of both THOMAS and BRILES is visible on the light table. THOMAS name is highlighted for visibility.

Conclusion: As restored, the jersey in review is now in generally good condition: The knit trim is intact and surprisingly bright and unfaded, while some tiny holes and stains still exist from ground in dirt and removed glue, the jersey is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Stan Thomas of the 1975 Texas Rangers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Joe Lahoud 1976 Texas Rangers Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0113J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson size 42 1976 Texas Rangers home pullover Henley two-button neck style jersey. "Rangers" arched on the front in red and Royal blue with a small embroidered white star on the leading "R". On back the number "3" in the same red and blue. The name on back had been removed. Wide, red-white-blue stretchy knit trim on both sleeve ends and around the collar. The very hard to find Rangers one-year 1976 patch is still affixed to the left sleeve.

Joe Lahoud played in all or part of eleven seasons in MLB primarily as an outfielder and designated hitter, for the Boston Red Sox (1968–71), Milwaukee Brewers (1972–73), California Angels (1974–76), Texas Rangers (1976) and Kansas City Royals (1977–78). For the 1976 Rangers, he appeared in 38 games and compiled a .200 average with one home run. The jersey is reasonably sized for the 6", 202 lb., player.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tagging is sewn into the back of the neck in the correct stye for 1976. Immediately beneath it, inside the back of the neck is a small rectangle of white jersey fabric with "76 1" (1976 Set 1) hand chain stitched on it in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher and matching exemplars (Some said: "76 Set 1")

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey was in poor condition. The jersey body was filthy with dirt and grease and had a three inch oval jagged hole about three inches in diameter ripped from the left stomach area, with fabric wholly missing. A smaller hole repeated on the back adjacent to the front damage; almost as if the jersey had gotten caught in some sort of machinery. The twill of the front wordmark and back number were both bleached many shades lighter than original, and they were so stiff they could not easily be bent. This fading is typical of 1976 Rangers jerseys, but this jersey was exceptionally damaged. The thread had failed in

Continued, overleaf

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many spots, and as presented it was not acceptable for display. Its owner opted to do a complete replacement of the front and back lettering so it could be enjoyed, and asked me to repair the holes in it as well. The name on back ghosts were visible on the light table, matching the team alphabet font pattern. These jerseys were typically sent to the minor leagues for reuse when their MLB service was through, and that is why it is rare to see one with the 1976 sleeve patch still attached as these were typically stripped.

In restoration, the original lettering was completely removed; and the jersey was spot scrubbed, pretreated and washed. The fabric holes were backed up with pieces of similarly colored ivory cloth from team pants, and were darned into place as they would have been had the work been performed in the clubhouse. Using original team patterns the wordmark, number and name on back were created and tweaked to match the ghosts left on the fabric. Prior to stitching, they were media blasted to soften the sheen, dulling the colors to better match the overall patina of the garment. Notably, the restored player name arch is less than perfect, just as it originally was.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair restored condition: holes have been repaired, and all lettering has been restored with intentionally-distressed lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Joe Lahoud of the 1976 Texas Rangers.

Photos before restoration show jersey condition, below center, the light table reveals the shape and placement of the original name on back.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bill Fahey Texas Rangers 1975 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: February 17, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0217J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, Texas Rangers home jersey made by Wilson, team-converted to Tuscan Toros jersey for minor league use. 2- button Henley neck; red, white, and blue knit trim at the neck and around the sleeve ends. "Toros" on front in red over dark Royal Blue, #14 on back, worn and partly detached, with FAHEY arched above in the Rangers' distinctive fonts. Stitching marks show that the player name had been covered up with a plate overtop, the back numbers were very worn and discolored, and the jersey was generally filthy with ground-in dirt, glue marks and scuffing stains all over it, in fair condition.

Fahey was a Rangers' backup catcher in 1975. He appeared in only 21 games that season and in 37 at bats he hit an even .300. In his eleven-year career, he played for four different teams and appeared in 383 MLB games. Notably, he was the first player selected in the very first round of the 1971 draft, by the Washington Senators, the team that moved and became the expansion Rangers in 1972.

Restoration Performed: I was commissioned to restore the jersey to its original MLB Rangers appearance. I started by removing the TOROS lettering from the front; a light table analysis clearly showed the ghost of the former placement of the 1976 Rangers wordmark. As the back lettering was excessively worn and discolored, I was asked to replace it exactly with new lettering to exactly match the original. Though 1975 Rangers jerseys did not use a sleeve patch, this same style jersey was worn in 1976, and the owner requested I sew an original 1976 Rangers patch on the sleeve that he supplied. Though this jersey did not show obvious signs of having a sleeve patch in place, adding it is not incorrect since teams at that time regularly re-issued the prior year's uniforms to players for backup use the following season.

I thoroughly cleaned the jersey body, and other than being filthy, happily it needed no repairs. All lettering was cut from original patterns tuned to match the shape of the removed lettering: Rangers script from the original team die-cut pattern, complete with its small hand-embroidered star on the leading letter "R"; and the back lettering- which in 1976 was mostly hand cut with some irregular angles and outlines evident.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Tagging matches exemplars. Wilson tag noting the size 46 (marked and measured) in the center of the back of the neck. A small strip tag is stitched below, "75 Set 2" is hand chain stitched onto it, in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Continued, overleaf

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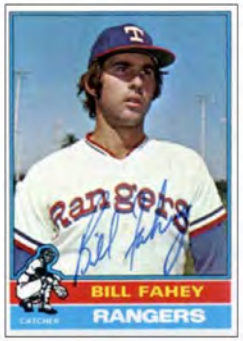

Here, as received, jersey then stripped and showing ground in dirt and the ghost impressions of both former word marks, template for front laid in place over ghosts.

Conclusion: As restored, the jersey in review is now in very good condition. The knit trim is intact and surprisingly bright and unfaded, it is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bill Fahey of the 1975 Texas Rangers.

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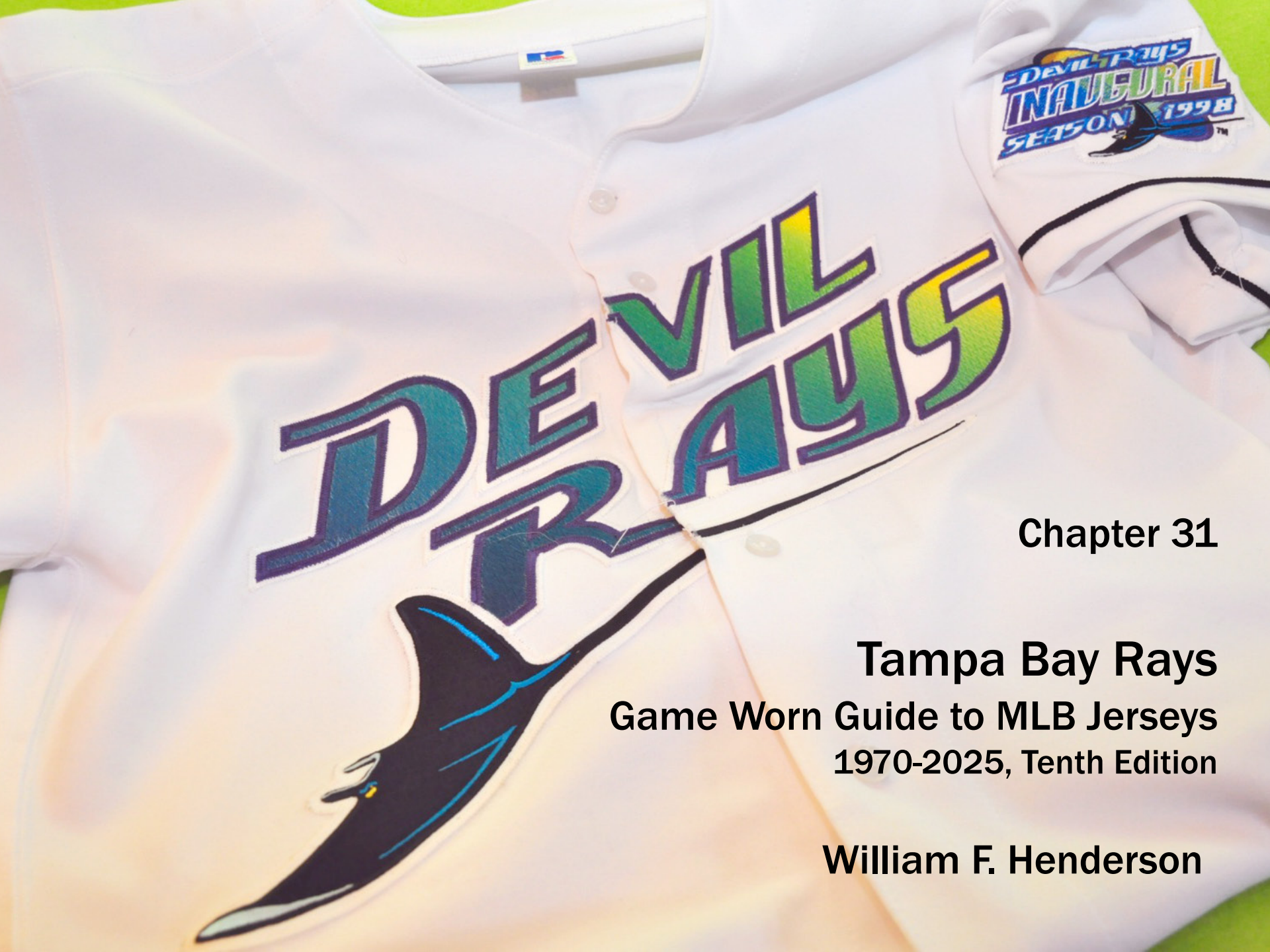

Chapter 31

Tampa Bay Rays

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Rays Uniform History Notes

- One of the two newest teams in Major League Baseball, the Rays nonetheless have more uniform history than one might expect. When the Devil Rays took the field in 1998, they wanted to make a mark with non-traditional uniforms. The front featured a large, wild wordmark and Devil Ray design that transitioned from blue through green to yellow.
- The Devil Rays' basic uniform elements–colors and logo–were created in 1995. Note that in the three years' time that Tampa Bay was awarded the MLB expansion franchise in early 1995 and the time the team played its first game in April 1998, much authentic official merchandise was created and sold, some of which was never actually worn by the club. These items included an "official" cap style unused by the team, and a purple batting practice jersey. There is also an alternate style of the team's inaugural year sleeve patch using different colors than the one adopted by the team that we often times find for sale on eBay that we suspect was planned for use but superseded by another version (both versions are shown in the patches section of this chapter).
- The Rays' inaugural style was certainly different from other teams' and no one would call it traditional. The front wordmarks were so large that they necessitated the elimination of a shirt button on many examples, substituting Velcro inside the jersey to help keep it closed. The herringbone-pattern "Glacier" style twill that formed the home "Devil Rays" emblem and the road "Tampa Bay" crest (as well as the BP jersey's predictive use of the nickname "Rays") were specially woven so that they shifted colors from one end of the logo to the other: going from aqua blue through various shades of green, to yellow at the far left. A black devil ray with a long tail floated below the wordmark on all jerseys.
- Other than the team artwork, the uniform fabrics were indeed rather traditional: solid colored cloth in white, gray, or black, with very simple black knit trim at the sleeve ends only. Player numbers were in three-color block, featuring purple and black as the main colors, separated by white.
- Just three years later for the 2001 season, the team performed a radical conversion to a more traditional style, dropping the wild colors and design. The team began to refer to themselves informally simply as the "Rays" on their jersey fronts, though the official team name remained unchanged. Colors are modified, dropping the bright purple and iridescent greens and yellows, replacing them with dark green and a deep purplish shade of blue. In addition to standard home white and road gray, an alternate home vest is added to the suite of options.
- For 2005, they kept the same basic design but shuffled the deck again, dropping the sleeved white jersey, adding a road vest and an alternate green jersey closely resembling the BP jersey.
- Then after just three more years, 2008 saw an official name change to make the team name officially simply "Rays," accompanied by a complete redesign of the team image: colors, official team name, and logos, for the third time in ten years. This is unprecedented in MLB, eclipsing even the mercurial '70s Padres and '80s-'90s Astros.
- The 2009 season introduced a new dark blue alternate, while a Columbia blue alternate was added in 2010. Between 2013-2017, the team also used a blue "fauxback" pullover intended to look like a 1970s throwback, from before the team existed.
- With the change to Flex Base in 2016, the sunbursts on all jersey fronts were standardized (they had been larger on the alternates).
- One of two remaining holdouts with nameplates (with the Indians), the Rays finally switch to direct-sewn player names after 2018.
- In 2022, the Columbia blue alternate is replaced with a similar light blue alternate with a"sunburst" on the left chest, a jersey which had been used as the team's Spring Training jersey since 2016.
- In 2023, the team elevates the 1998-2000 home throwbacks, frequently used for Turn Back the Clock games, to alternate status.
- In 2024, a City Connect jersey channels Tampa's skate and street culture with a weathered asphalt look and grip-tape-textured lettering. "Tampa Bay" returns to the chest for the first time since 2007, styled with flame-tipped letters. Logos include a skating ray, palm trees, and a pelican—each tied to local landmarks. Despite vibrant pops of color, the jersey presents as a minimalist faded black tee.
- During their whirlwind first 16 seasons, the Rays went through a complete re-branding twice, changed their team name, overhauled logos, switched color schemes, and had an astonishing 13 distinct jersey styles. From the psychedelic gradients of the late-'90s Devil Rays to the clean, sunburst-emblazoned Rays of the 2000s, few teams packed more uniform evolution into such a short span. Since 2014, however, changes have slowed, with just three new jersey sets.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com.. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

---------- 1998-2000 ----------

2001-2004

2001-2007

2001-2004

----------2005-2007 ----------

Rays Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1998	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Inaugural Patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Inaugural Patch	-	Russell
	Black Alternate	No	Block Bold 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Inaugural Patch	-	Russell
1999	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Team Logo Patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Team Logo Patch	-	Russell
	Black Alternate	No	Block Bold 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Team Logo Patch	-	Russell
2000	Home White	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Team Logo Patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Team Logo Patch	-	Russell
	Black Alternate	No	Block Bold 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	Team Logo Patch	-	Russell
2001	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	AL 100th Ann.	Russell
	Home White Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	AL 100th Ann.	Russell
2002	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Russell
	Home White Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Russell
2003	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Russell
	Home White Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Russell
2004	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Russell
	Home White Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Russell
2005	Home White Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Alt Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Green	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 Color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
2006	Home White Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Alt Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Green	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 Color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
2007	Home White Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	10 Seasons Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	10 Seasons Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray Alt Vest	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Green	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 Color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	10 Seasons Patch	Majestic

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2008-2020

2009-2020

2010-2020

2013-2017

Change to Flex Base

Rays Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2008	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2012	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Retro	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	No	St. Petersburg City Disc	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	"Zim" Memorial*	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	"Zim" Memorial*	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	"Zim" Memorial*	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	"Zim" Memorial*	Majestic
	Alt Retro	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	No	St. Petersburg City Disc	"Zim" Memorial*	Majestic
2015	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Retro	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	No	St. Petersburg City Disc	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Retro	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	No	St. Petersburg City Disc	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Retro	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	Special 1 color	No	St. Petersburg City Disc	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	20th Anniversary		Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	20th Anniversary		Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 1 color	Yes	20th Anniversary		Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	20th Anniversary		Majestic
2019	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	MLB 150th/VJN disc**	Majestic
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	MLB 150th/VJN disc**	Majestic
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	MLB 150th/VJN disc**	Majestic
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	MLB 150th/VJN disc**	Majestic
2020	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike

* Don Zimmer memorial patch added June 8
** VJN memorial for first owner Vince Naimoli starting August 30

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Rays Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Columbia Blue	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
2022	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Road Gray	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Lite Blue Sunburst	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch	-	Nike
2023	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	25th anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	25th anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Lite Blue Sunburst	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	25th anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Devil Rays	-	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Yes	25th anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
2024	Home White	-	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch‡*	-	Nike
	Alternate Navy	-	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch‡*	-	Nike
	Alt Lite Blue Sunburst	-	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch‡*	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Devil Rays	-	Nike Block 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 3 color	No	-	-	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 3 color (perf)	Nike Standard Block 1 color	No	-	Sunburst patch	Nike
2025	Home White	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch‡*	-	Nike
	Alternate Navy	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch‡*	-	Nike
	Alt Lite Blue Sunburst	-	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Manta Ray Team Patch‡*	-	Nike
	Alt Nostalgia Devil Rays	-	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 3 color (perf)	Nike Standard Block 1 color	No	-	Sunburst patch	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

* There are different versions of the Manta Ray patch depending on the sleeve on which it is worn - the Ray always faces forward

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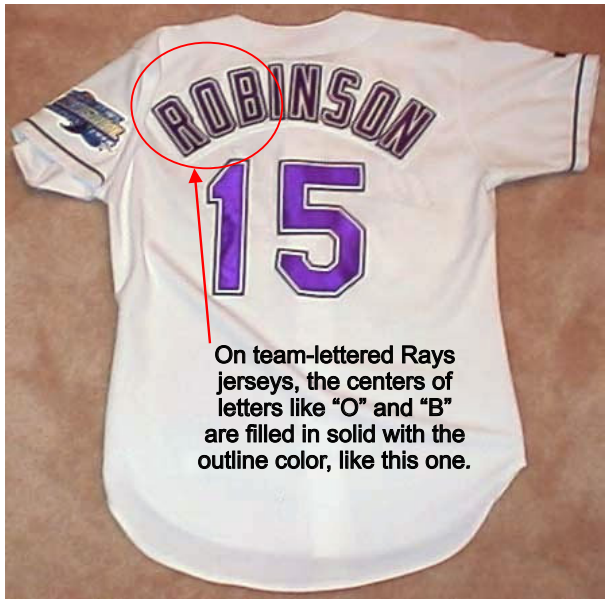
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1998-2000 Home



Very large, non-traditional multicolored Devil Rays logo and lettering on the front, sublimated colors on a glacier twill background. Jerseys may feature anywhere from five to seven buttons on front. See descriptor on next page. Name and number on back only, name on a plate. Three-color Block purple/white/black. No team year or set tags used.

left, *Left sleeve Inaugural patch, 1998* ***right,*** *Team patch 1999-2000. MLB Silhouetted Batter patch at center of back of neck used in 2000 only.*

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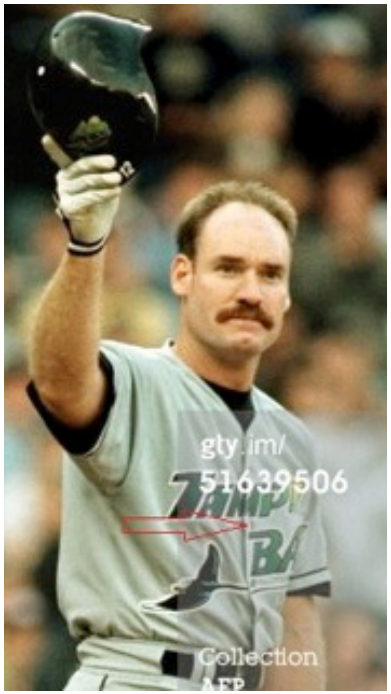
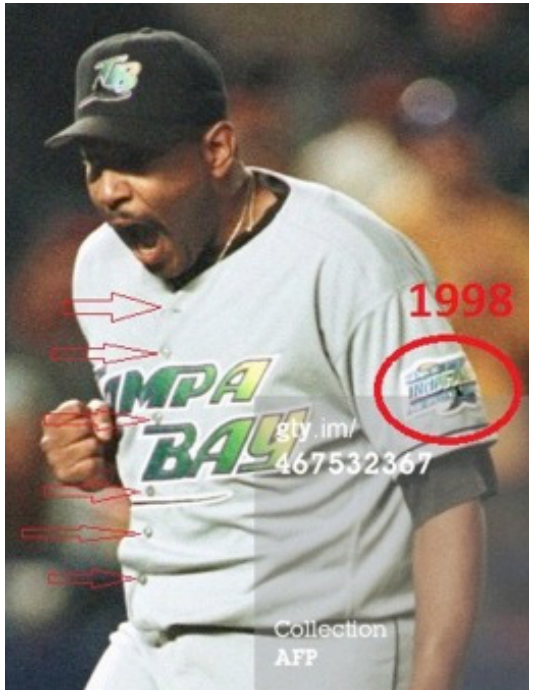
1998-2000 Jersey Buttons – 5, 6, or 7?

In past editions of this book, we have stated with authority that the first generation of Devil Rays jerseys had only five buttons, and in place of the usual middle button–right in the middle of the wordmark–these is a Velcro closure. Why? Well, because every jersey in your author's collection has five buttons and Velcro. But several wrote and commented that this was wrong, and provided photos of game jerseys with six buttons: the third button from the top button "shoehorned" into the tiny space between the upper and lower words in the huge wordmark. Still others have six buttons, but with the sixth one at the bottom of the placket, and use Velcro instead of a button in the middle. On occasion, seven-button versions also appear. Needless to say, the whole issue is mysterious.

We have tried to determine a pattern in all this, but have been unsuccessful. We first suspected it might be related to the size of the jersey; perhaps on larger jerseys there is room for that middle button. But we don't believe this is right, because of the jerseys in our collections are sizes 44, 48 and 52, and all have five buttons and Velcro. And since all these jerseys were made by Russell, it is not a manufacturer thing. The best we can say is, a few jerseys just have six buttons while many others have five. Some have Velcro while others don't.

So, unless someone knows the secret to determining when a jersey gets five, six, or seven buttons, or has Velcro or not, let's just say that all three options are correct. On this page we feature jerseys of all three styles.





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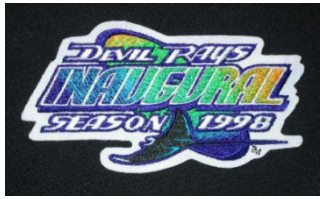
1998-2000 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

Very large, multi-colored, non-traditional "Tampa Bay" lettering and logo on the front. The lettering is so large there is little room for the third button from the top, and it is often (but not always) replaced with a large Velcro closure. Name and number on back only, name on a plate, Block style, three-color black/white/purple, both name and number. No team year or set tagging used, team issued jerseys should have small 100% polyester tag under Russell tag on tail and no size tag inside the neck. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch is added to the back of the neck in 2000.



(Above left) *Left sleeve Inaugural patch, 1998.*
(Above right) *Team patch 1999-2000.*

MLB Silhouetted Batter patch at center of back of neck in 2000 only.

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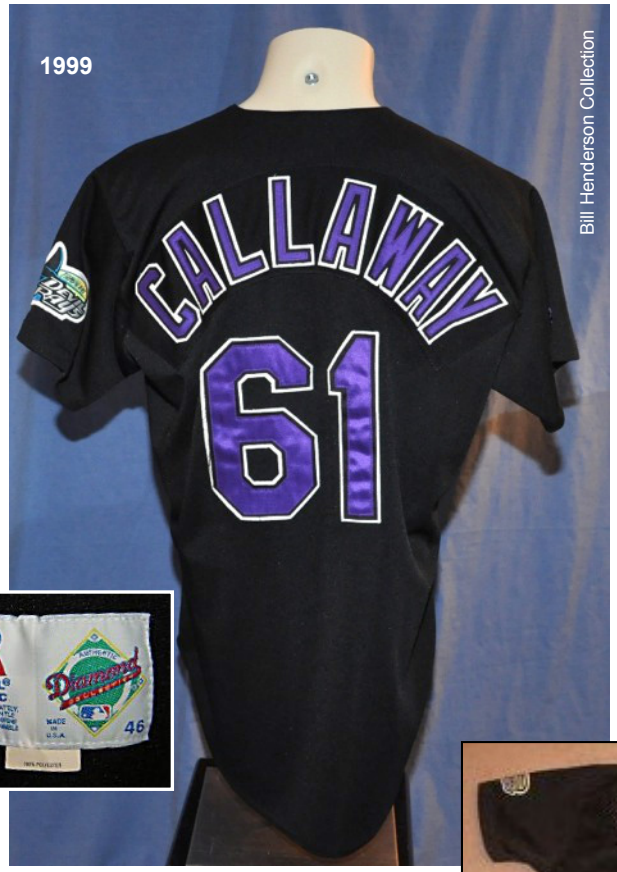
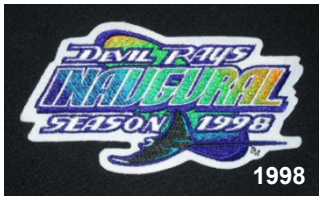
1998-2000 Alternate

1999-2000



1999

Bill Henderson Collection



1998

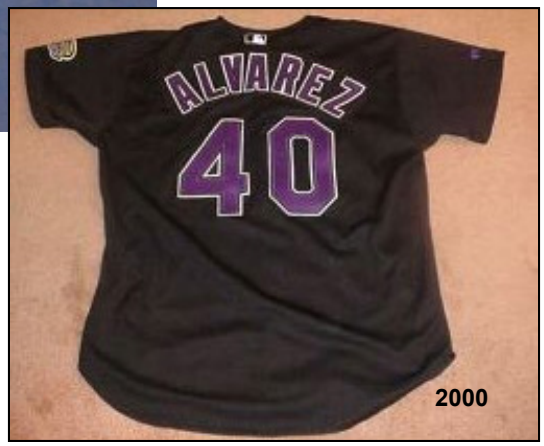
(Above) *Left sleeve Inaugural patch, 1998.* ***(Below)*** *Team patch 1999-2000.*

MLB Silhouetted Batter patch at center of back of neck in 2000 only.

1999-2000

Very large, multicolored Devil Rays lettering and logo on the front. The lettering is so large there is little room for the third button from the top, and it is usually (but not always) replaced with a large Velcro closure. Name and number on back only, name goes on a plate. Three-color name and block numbers on back – purple/black/white. On black jerseys, the purple numbers are Block Bold (Not Block), with very thin black and white outlines.

No team year or set tagging used, team issued jerseys should have small 100% polyester tag and any tailoring tags under Russell tag on tail, no size tag inside back collar.



2000

(Above) *Notice the MLB logo on the back collar, identifying this jersey as one made in 2000.*

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2001-2004 Home

2001

The Rays change their look for 2001, keeping only the player number font from their inaugural design. The new look is much more traditional, losing the oversized psychedelic-shaded front logo. The word “Devil” is dropped from use on the uniforms though it officially remains in the team name...at least for the time being.

Green/white/green knit trim is added to the sleeve ends and the placket.

A new simpler Devil Ray patch adorns the left sleeve.

Front of jersey says “Rays” in four-color design, dark green/white/royal blue and black 3D drop shadow. Notice the tail on the “Y," and how it differs from the treatment on the team vest (next page). Numbers on front and back, both follow the same three-color combination. One-color name – dark green, on a nameplate.

No team year or set tags used, small 100% Polyester flag with size under jock tag on tail is found on game spec jerseys.

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2001-2004 Alternate Home Vest/2005-2007 Home Vest

Bill Henderson Collection

The Rays added this white vest as an alternate home jersey in 2001. Notice that the Rays wordmark lettering on the front of the vest is different than that on the regular (sleeved) home jersey, The vest has a fancy tail with the Devil Ray logo attached to the end.

In 2005, this jersey becomes the standard home jersey, as the sleeved white jersey is discontinued.

The vest is usually worn with a plain dark green undershirt, few players wear one with the ray patch sewn on, as is specified in the style guide. No team year or set tags used.

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2001-2004 Road

Above- *Notice the odd tailoring on this Andy Sheets game worn jersey from 2001. It has one extra inch of length added–by having a second hemmed shirt bottom sewn below the original one! We can only guess that the infielder got the jersey and wore it, complained that it was too short, and it was sent back for alterations.*

Gray jersey body with green/white/green knit trim on sleeve ends, down front, and around collar. Front of jersey says “Tampa Bay” in a more traditional script than prior design, now arched across front. Tampa Bay wordmark is four-color: green/white/royal blue/black 3D drop shadow. Block numbers on front left and back is three-color, dark green/white/royal blue. Name goes on a plate, one-color, dark green. No team year or set tags used.

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2005-2007 Road

Tampa Bay lettering is tampered with yet again in 2005. The T and the Y at the start and end of the word mark now have tails that extend across the lettering (see next page for 2004 logo compared with 2005).

Three-color block numbers on both front and back, green/white/blue. One-color dark green names on back, sewn on nameplates.

No team year or set tags used.

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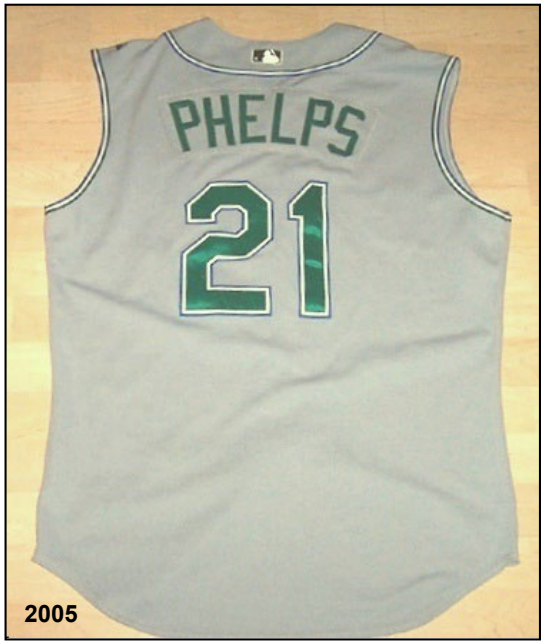
2005-2007 Alternate Road Vest



The Devil Rays unveil their fourth alternate jersey type in just the eighth year of their existence. The Tampa Bay script is tampered with yet again in 2005. The T and the Y at the start and end of the lettering wordmark now have short tails that extend across the lettering ***(Right)*** 2004 wordmark compared with 2005.

Dark green undershirts are worn with plain sleeves; no patches. Three-color Block numbers on both front and back, green/white/blue. One-color green names on back, sewn on nameplates. No team year or set tags used.

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2005-2007 Alternate Green

The Devil Rays unveil a dark green button-front alternate jersey in 2005. It has the TB logo from their batting practice jersey on the left chest. There is thin strip of green/white/blue knit trim on the front and around the collar and near the sleeve ends. However, only the white color in the trim is visible unless the observer is standing less than a foot away!

Devil Ray team patch sewn on left sleeve. The Rays' official style guide unmistakably shows the front and back numbers to be three-color, white/dark green/blue, just like the 2000-2002 batting practice jersey. However, in actual practice, the numbers on game-worn jerseys appear to all have been only white/blue, the green layer omitted. Not surprisingly, some retail-lettered jerseys exist with the three-color lettering as specified in the style guide. Names on back are one-color white, sewn on nameplates. No team year or set tags used.

The official MLB style guide clearly shows three-color numbers, white/green/blue though I had to extensively lighten this photo to allow you to see it!

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2008-2023 Home

There is again a complete team identity change for 2008, as the team's press release explains, below. On the back, player names are in one-color navy sewn on nameplates. The numbers are two-color, navy over white in Block standard style. In 2008-2009, these jerseys are knit only, not Cool Base. (Devil) ray patch on sleeve. Cool Base jerseys appear 2010 and after.

With the change to Flex Base in 2016, the sunburst increased in size to match the two blue alternate jerseys. Nameplates are removed for 2019 onward and a nearly invisible white outline is added to player name on back.

> ...After months of speculation about coming changes, the Rays spilled the beans about the subtraction of "Devil" from the name, their new team colors -- navy blue and light blue -- and a new icon, a bright yellow sunburst invoking the magnificence of life in the Sunshine State.
>
> The new home and away uniforms feature "Rays" in navy-blue lettering cast with a light-blue shadow. The sunburst gleams from the letter "R." The two hues of blue suggest the deep-blue waters and bright-blue sky for which Florida is known. The elongated tail of the "R" further reinforces the water imagery.

Majestic makes these jerseys from 2008-2019, Nike takes over for 2020-2023.

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2008-2023 Home, continued

*Starting in 2016, the sunburst is made larger on the Rays logo **(above)**, and 2019 brings the removal of nameplates with the addition a nearly invisible white outline to the navy player name lettering **(below)**. Nike takes over manufacture of the jerseys starting in 2020, with the company's logo appearing on right chest **(top right)**. Nike changes the code for this jersey from RAH1 to RAYL **(middle right)**.*

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2008-2022 Road

Road gray jerseys are identical to the home whites, except for the color of the jersey body. Numbers are Block, two-color blue/white, names are Block one-color navy, on nameplates. In 2008-2009, these jerseys are knit only, not Cool Base. Cool Base follows in 2010 and after. Road jersey also uses the ray sleeve patch. With the change to Flex Base in 2016, the sunburst increased in size to match the one used on the two blue jerseys. Nameplates are omitted for 2019 and onward, and a white outline is added to player name on back. The team eliminates the road gray jersey after 2022.

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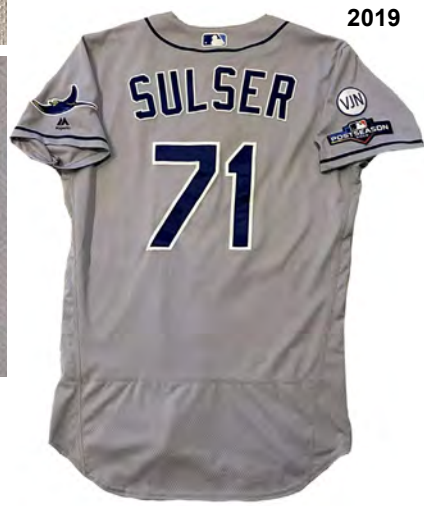
2008-2022 Road, continued

*Starting in 2016, the size of the sunburst increases on the Rays logo **(above)**, and 2019 brings the removal of nameplates with the addition a white outline to the navy player name lettering **(below)**. Nike takes over manufacture of the jerseys starting in 2020, with the company's logo appearing on right chest **(top right)**. The road gray jersey is discontinued after 2022.*



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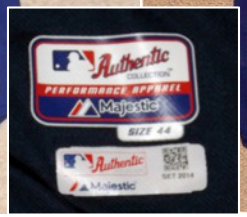
2009-2023 Alternate Navy



This new-for-2009 jersey is made in Cool Base fabric only through 2015, before moving to Flex Base. Names on back are white, one-color Block on nameplates, numbers are two-color Block navy/white. Manta ray sleeve patch added in 2019. Nameplates are removed for 2019 onward, and the player name on back takes on a nearly invisible navy outline. Starting in 2023, this jersey becomes the team's primary road jersey when the gray uniform is deleted, although it is still occasionally worn at home as well. Majestic makes these jerseys from 2009-2019, Nike takes over for 2020-2023.

A detail of the player name on a 2021 Nike jersey, with subtle blue outline on lettering barely visible, and certainly not discernible from the stands.

Excerpts From a Tampa Bay Ray press release, winter 2009:

"The Rays unveiled their new navy blue alternate jersey today.

The jersey will be worn occasionally at home games and on the road. It will debut on May 1 when the Rays play host to the Boston Red Sox. The jersey is a navy blue button-down with RAYS outlined in white trim with a light blue shadow across the chest. The sunburst emanating from the "R" is forty percent larger than the sunburst on the team's home and road jerseys. Light blue piping surrounds the sleeves and collar and extends down the front of the jersey. Rays apparel, marked by our signature sunburst and light blue accents, has been embraced by fans throughout the state of Florida and across the nation," Rays President Matt Silverman said in the release. "The amplified sunburst on our new alternate jersey represents the brightness of our organization and its growing impact throughout the Tampa Bay region and central Florida."

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2009-2023 Alternate Navy, continued

2017

Note the style code change from Majestic's RAAA to Nike's RA3A.

2020

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2010-2021 Alternate Home Columbia Blue

For 2010 the Tampa Bay Rays add a second alternate jersey, this one meant only to be worn at home. They choose to wear it during Sunday home games.

The color is “Columbia blue," the same as the Royals used as their alternate jersey color, from 2008 through 2011 (in 2012 the Royals changed their jersey fabric and made it a bit deeper blue).

Names on back are white/blue sewn on nameplates. Numbers are Block, navy/ white.

The sunburst in the “R” of “Rays” is 40% larger on the alternate jerseys than on the white and gray jerseys, until 2016, when all jerseys use the larger graphic.

No manta ray sleeve patch until 2019 when it is added. Nameplates are removed for 2019 onward. This style is discontinued after 2021. Majestic makes these jerseys from 2010-2019, Nike takes over for 2020-2021.

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2013-2017 Alternate Home 1970s “Faux-back”

2014

2016

The story of the first use of these jerseys is told later in the chapter, as these were originally worn as a one-off in 2012. The team decided to add these as an alternate uniform choice for future years, and sets were made for 2013-2017. The 2014 set has the “ZIM” patch on the right sleeve for Don Zimmer.

All adornment is in twill, player names and numbers use a special “mod” retro 1970s font. 2016 jersey construction switches to Flex Base.

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Rays Tagging

Rays jerseys are not tagged in any way by the team from 1998 through the 2008 season.

2009 jerseys are tagged on the inside of the front tail behind the Majestic label.

2010 jerseys not tagged.

2011-2103 jerseys tagged vertically below the last button.

2014-2019 jerseys have Majestic QR code tagging, which continues with Nike jerseys from 2020-2023.

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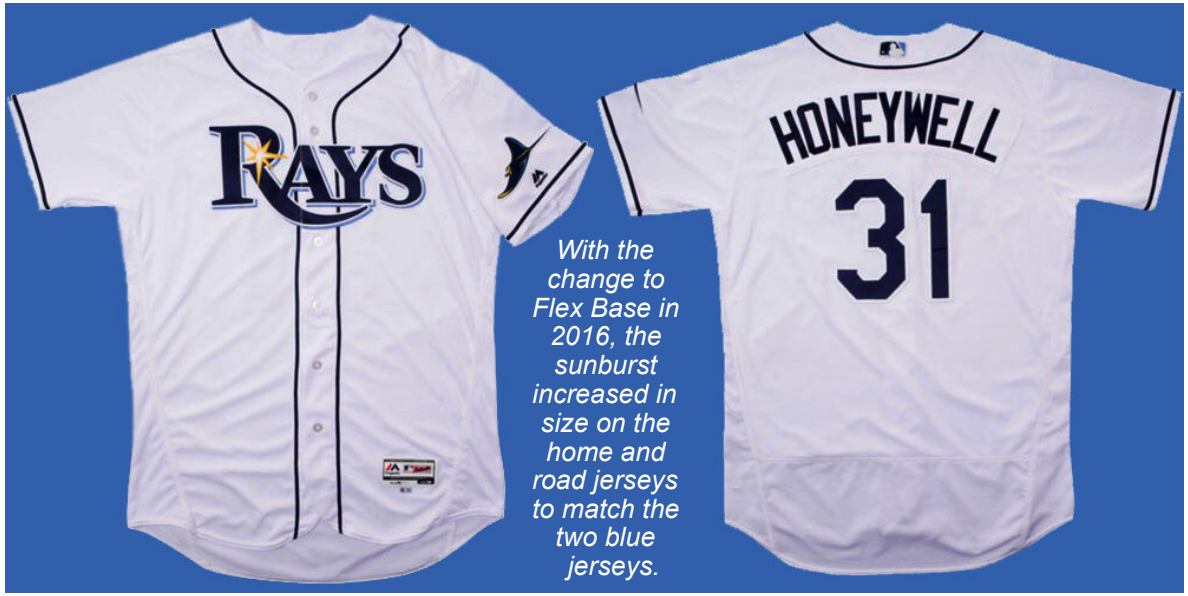
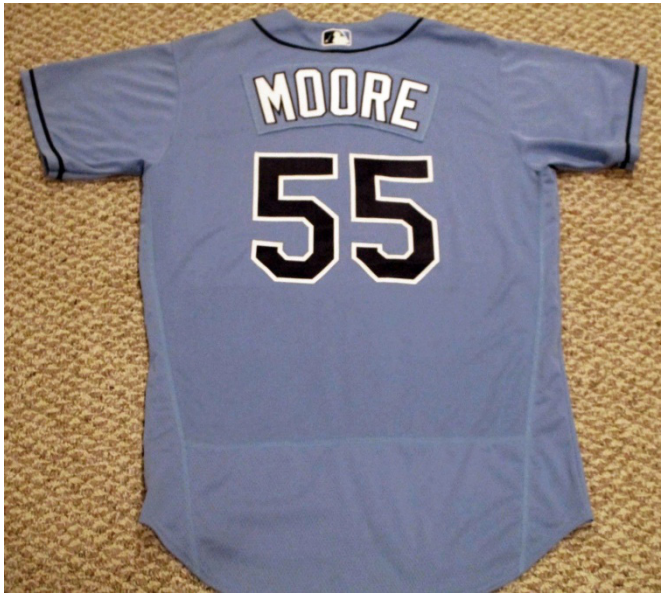
2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.



With the change to Flex Base in 2016, the sunburst increased in size on the home and road jerseys to match the two blue jerseys.



In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys used prior to 2016.

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2022 Alternate Home Light Blue/2023 Alternate Light Blue

Starting in 2022, the Rays elevate their Spring Training jersey to alternate status, replacing the Columbia blue “Rays” version of prior years. The jersey has the Rays’ sunburst logo on front left chest in white/yellow/navy with blue/white back numbers and white/blue player name on back. The team’s Devil Ray patch resides on the left sleeve. In 2022 this jersey is worn only as a home alternate, before becoming an alternate for both home and road use in 2023.

Despite being a regular season jersey, the jersey’s code on the Nike heat pressed tag still reads “RAST” where the “ST” originally stood for “Spring Training.”

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2023 Alternate Home Throwback

For the 2023 season, the Rays again elevate a special jersey into their regular rotation, this time, the 1998 throwback jersey becomes an official home alternate. These Nike iterations of the Rays' inaugural home jersey sport the large, non-traditional, multicolored Devil Rays logo and glacier twill lettering on the front. The color scheme is slightly different from the originals, with front-lettering elements outlined in black rather than the purple from the late 1990s. Similarly, the color gradient pattern is more an interpretation than a reproduction, with the colors on the throwback leaning darker than the originals. Player names are rendered in purple/white/black on nameplates, while back numbers in Block share the same color pattern. The 2023 version includes the team's 25th anniversary sleeve patch.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rays longstanding home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the blue trim around the neck and placket appears closer together, and the "RAYS" script splits in a slightly different place than before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the blue stripe appears much wider as a result. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The manta ray patch varies sleeves based on player handedness. To accommodate the variable sleeve placement, the team creates a "reverse" ray patch, so the ray will be swimming "forward" regardless of the sleeve on which it appears

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2024 Alternate Navy

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rays dark blue alternate jersey, which is also now their primary road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the light blue trim around the neck and placket appears closer together, and the "RAYS" script splits in a slightly different place than before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the light blue stripe appears much wider as a result. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.The manta ray patch varies sleeves based on player handedness. To accommodate the variable sleeve placement, the team creates a "reverse" ray patch, so the ray will be swimming "forward" regardless of the sleeve on which it appears. While this is the team's primary road jersey, it is also occasionally worn at home as an alternate.

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2024 Alternate Light Blue

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rays light blue alternate jersey, which was elevated from a Spring Training jersey in 2022. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the navy blue trim around the neck and placket appears closer together. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the dark blue stripe appears much wider as a result. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The manta ray patch varies sleeves based on player handedness. To accommodate the variable sleeve placement, the team creates a "reverse" ray patch, so the ray will be swimming "forward" regardless of the sleeve on which it appears

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2024 Alternate Home Throwback

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rays throwback alternate jersey, which hearkens back to their inaugural season. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Nameplates are no longer used. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "DEVIL RAYS" script and graphic splits in about the same place than before. It appears that the connections between the "E" and "V" in "DEVIL" and the "R" and "A" in "RAYS" was extended to make the break between letters happen. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than sewn on to it, and the dark blue stripe appears much wider as a result. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

Note the elongation in the connections between the "D" and "E" and the "R" and "A" on VPE in 2024, likely to allow the lettering to break across the narrower placket without cutting the letters themselves.

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2024-2025 City Connect

"Skating Ray" logo inside jersey collar

The Rays, a team with a very colorful history, enter the City Connect fray with a jersey that looks like the asphalt of an old parking lot. And, its intentional. According to the team's press release skate/street culture and weathering by the Tampa sun are inspirations.

- The words "Tampa Bay" are on the front of their jerseys for the first time since 2007, the first and most obvious way to represent the entire area. The stylized flames coming off the top of each letter are an homage to street art and skate media like "Thrasher" magazine.
- Another logo features three palm trees and a pelican, both of which have several ties to the area. The three palms logo can be seen on a Florida Historical Marker, such as the one located at Perry Harvey Sr. Park in Tampa -- home of the "Bro Bowl," Florida's first public skatepark. The pelican is featured on St. Petersburg's city flag, and it is a nod to the St. Petersburg Pelicans, who played in the Florida State Negro Baseball League in the 1940s and '50s.
- A third logo is the "skating ray," which is exactly what it sounds like -- a ray on a skateboard.
- The uniforms are designed to look weathered and sun-faded, a familiar feeling on the Gulf Coast, and the Rays used skateboarding grip tape texture on inside the letters and numbers of the jersey.
- The gradient elements of the lettering recall the team's inaugural jerseys, while the band of gradient on the right sleeve end only seems a nod to their unused original alternate jersey prototype, which had "rainbow" trim on just the right sleeve as well.

All that combines into a jersey that, despite the tiny pops of vibrant color, looks like a worn, blank, black t-shirt on the field, with only the player's name on back clearly visible. Made on the Vapor Premier Elite template, this jersey has perforated back numbers in 2024. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Navy

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

Of note, gray jerseys received many updates across MLB in 2025 in response to sweat-staining issues and player feedback. The Rays do not have a traditional gray jersey since they deleted the style in favor of this blue jersey after the 2022 season. As a result, none of their jerseys move to the updated version of the VPE template (which uses Flex Base fabric, eliminates the extra band of fabric on the neck opening, and replaces sewn-in trim for sewn-on trim) in 2025. While this is the team's primary road jersey, it is also occasionally worn at home as an alternate.

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2025 Alternate Light Blue

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home Throwback

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone.

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Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1998-2000 Batting Practice

Black mesh 2-button Henley pullover with large and colorful "RAYS" nickname script lettering on front (as opposed to the full team name on the game jerseys). This "nickname" script is used on the Batting Practice jersey only.

Player name is one-color white, on a plate. Number is three-color, white/black/white.

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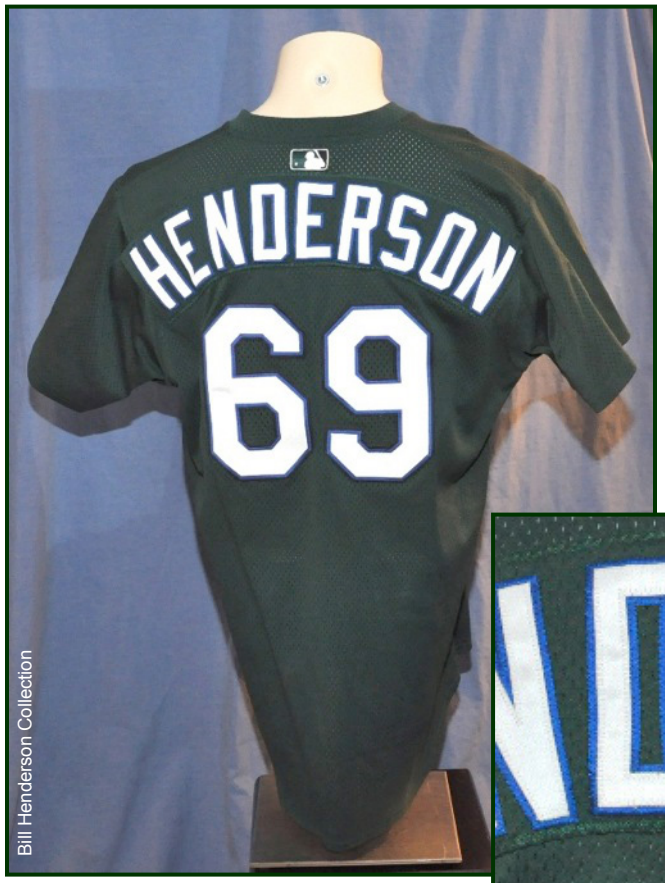
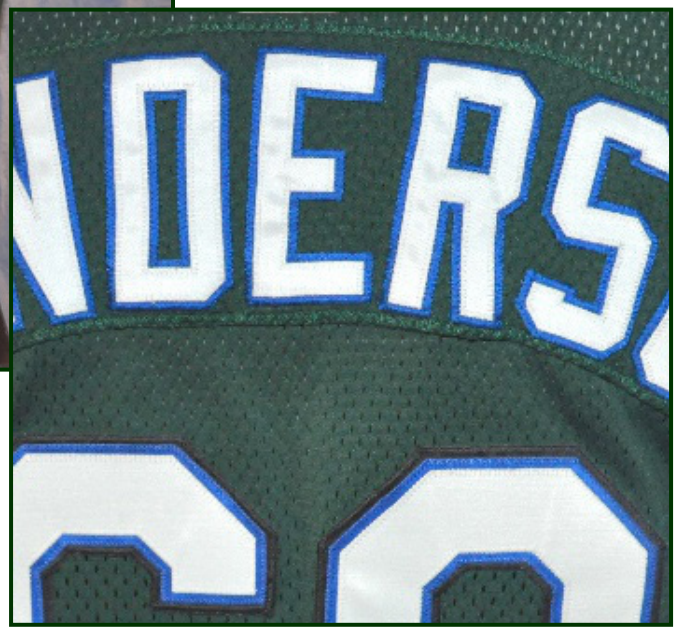
2001-2002 Batting Practice



Bill Henderson Collection

Until I actually held one of these in my hands, I did not realize that the white name is outlined with blue, and numbers on the back are outlined with two colors; blue and black. Even from three feet away the outline colors are all but invisible! If the effect is intentional, it is certainly very subtle. Most likely, it looked good on paper but translated poorly to fabric in actual use.



Dark green mesh 2-button Henley, small new TB logo on front left chest. The player number is three-color, the NOB is two-color – though the color combination has such poor contrast it is nearly impossible to see any color but the white. White block outlined with royal blue and then black. Name is two-color, white/royal blue. Player name is sewn on a plate.

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2003-2006 Batting Practice

2004: patch on sleeve from opening series in Tokyo

Softer, non-mesh fabric. Very dark green (a cross between dark green and charcoal) jersey has team's TB logo on the left chest, lighter green sleeve inserts. Player name and number are now one color, and an extra bold Block font is used for the numerals.

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2007 Batting Practice

Devil Rays' 2007 Cool Base batting practice jersey features a one-button neck and contrasting white and royal blue side panels

Numbers are white/blue/black, names are white/blue, though against a dark green background the outlines are invisible.

All designs and player names/numbers are heat-pressed appliqués, and not sewn tackle twill.

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2008-2010 Batting Practice

With the Rays' uniform design change for 2008, they receive a new batting practice jersey as well. This Cool Base style batting practice jersey is a pullover with one-button Henley-style neck.

The front team wordmark is rendered in navy outlined with white and a light blue 3D drop shadow. Player names in white and back numbers in navy/white Block Bold. Side panels are white on bottom and light blue at top. All lettering is heat-pressed not sewn.

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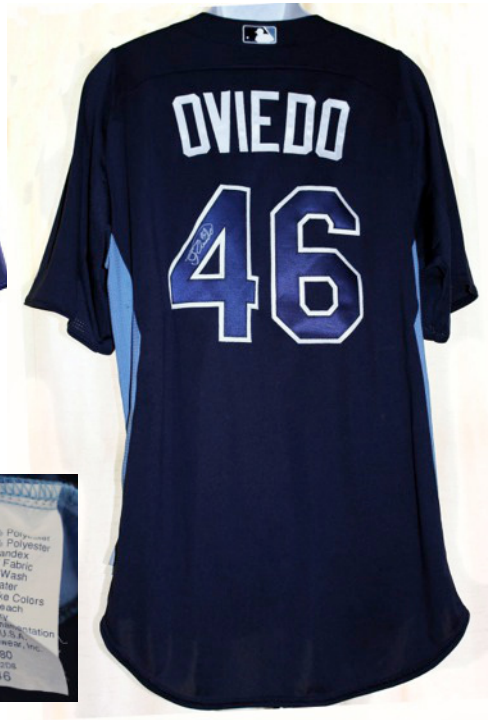
2011-2013 Batting Practice



The Rays join the rest of the teams in Major League Baseball by switching to button-front batting practice jerseys for 2011. The sunburst on the front of this jersey is the same as the blue alternates, and is larger than the one on the team's white and gray jerseys of the era.

The Rays' also change their side panels, making them solid Columbia blue instead of blue/white.

Two-color Block font numbers on back only navy/white with one-color white names.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

All teams in MLB get newly designed batting practice jerseys for 2014. The Rays add more color to theirs by making the sides and entire back panel Columbia Blue, the color of one of their alternate jerseys. Names on back are white outlined with navy; player numbers are the reverse, navy outlined with white. Knit trim is added to neck and sleeve openings in navy/Columbia blue. This jersey uses the special alternate front insignia with the extra-large sunburst (compared to the team's white and gray jerseys of the era).

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

Bill Henderson Collection

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Rays use a new design for this jersey, based on their regular-season Columbia blue jersey, but with "Rays" lettering replaced by the sunburst graphic. The back numbers are blue patterned twill/white. The name on back is white patterned twill/blue on a nameplate. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Rays spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Rays again use a new design for this jersey, based on their regular-season Columbia blue jersey, but with "Rays" lettering replaced by the sunburst graphic as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Rays spend Spring Training.

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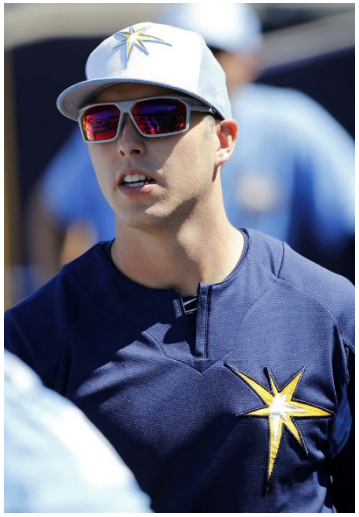
2017-2019 Batting Practice



With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Rays jersey is blue with light blue back and underarm gussets. The sunburst logo, also seen on their Spring Training jerseys, appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Unlike most other teams, these are used by the Rays “blank,” without any player identification added.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in only one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Rays again use a design distinct from their regular season lineup, based on their regular-season Columbia blue jersey, but with "Rays" lettering replaced by the sunburst graphic. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Rays use the same base jersey they introduced n 2016, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The back numbers are blue/white and the name on back is white/blue.

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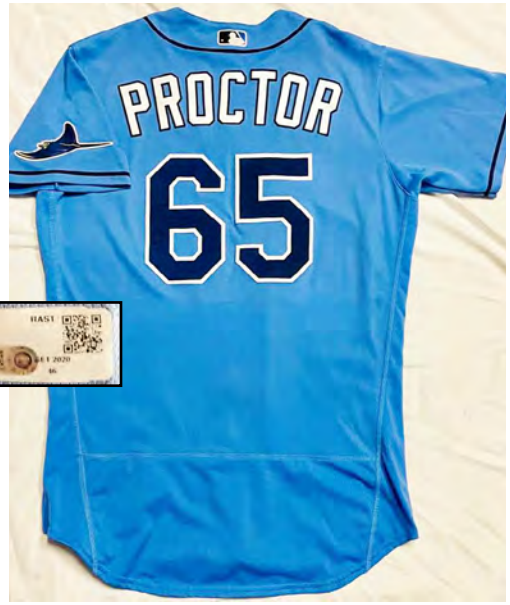
2020-2023 Spring Training



Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season. For 2020, the Rays use the same Spring Training jersey as years prior, a special jersey not part of their regular season rotation (until it becomes an official alternate in 2022), with blue/white back numbers and white/blue player name on back. Though the jersey shares the same design as the team's previous spring jerseys, Nike changes the tag code to "RAST" from Majestic's "RAAS."

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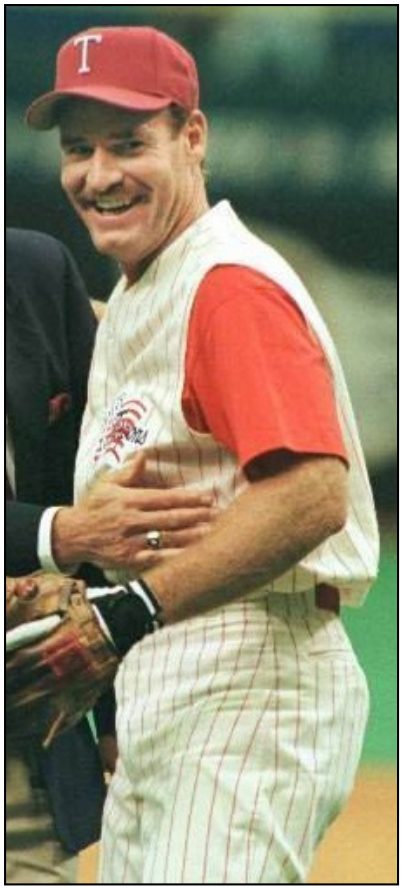
Special Events Jerseys

1999 Turn Back The Clock to 1960s FSL Tampa Tarpons



Game played July 17, 1999. Being in the MLB for only one year did not stop the Devil Rays from turning back the clock in 1999… and dressing in flannels as the Tampa Tarpons, an old Florida State League team affiliated with the Reds during the early 1960s flannel era. Their opponent that day was the 1969-attired New York Mets.

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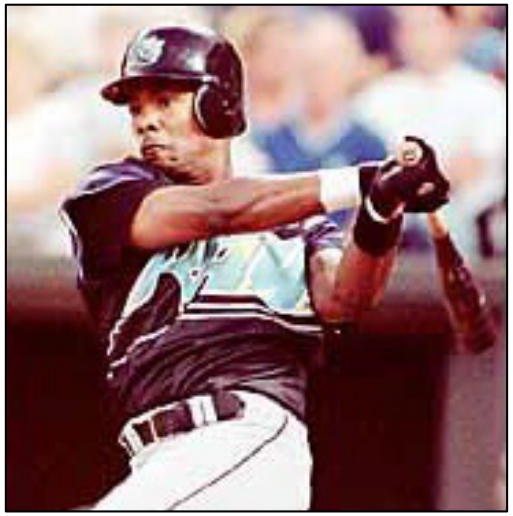
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock



August 14, 1999 at Kansas City: After many years of searching, we have finally found two game worn examples of the elusive Rays' 1999 Turn Ahead the Clock jersey, to learn what the lettering on the back looked like. This uniform concept, predicting what the team's uniforms might look like in the future, was not popular and barely received any mention in the press.

Back lettering is in the same "futuristic" type style used by many of the teams in MLB who participated in this promotion. Names are vertically sewn, assuming that people in the future will read better when things are written sideways.

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2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1966 FSL St. Petersburg Saints

May 29, 2000, The Devil Rays dressed as the 1966 minor league St. Petersburg Saints of the Florida State League in wool flannel jerseys by Ebbets Field Flannels.

Their opponents that day were the Baltimore Orioles, who wore their 1970 gray road uniforms.

Photos courtesy of Rob Loeffler

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2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1922 FSL St. Petersburg Saints

From the Corpus Christie Caller, August 13, 2000:

Both teams wore replica uniforms as part of a salute to 100 years of American League baseball. The White Sox had the uniforms of their 1906 World Series championship team. Tampa Bay wore the uniform of the 1922 Florida State League champion St. Petersburg Saints.

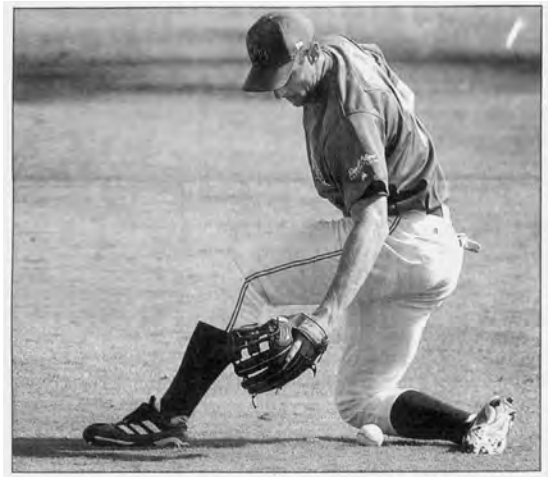
August 12, 2000: The Rays invited the White Sox to a Turn Back the Clock contest, where the home team dressed at the 1922 St. Petersburg Saints (of the minor league Florida State League). The White Sox dressed as the 1906 White Sox in their distinctive monochrome dark blue road uniforms.

The Rays are one of the few teams who have used real flannel uniforms from Ebbets Field Flannels for Turn Back the Clock contests.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Rays of Hope/St. Patrick's Day

On March 17, 2002, the Rays wore special kelly green versions of their BP/Spring Training jerseys for St. Patrick's Day. Rather than the white/blue lettering on back of their usual BP, these had just white twill for player names (on a nameplate) and numbers. They were autographed and auctioned off after the game to support the Rays of Hope Foundation, which was the team's charity at the time. The foundation's logo is embroidered on to the left sleeve above the Majestic logo. Game photos from the day are scarce, but several of these jerseys have turned up in the hobby over the years.

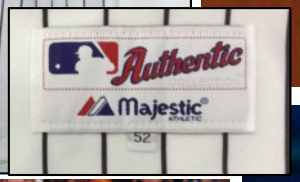


Times photo — MICHAEL RONDOU

SEARCHING: Rightfielder Ben Grieve has trouble finding the ball after a pop fly by Bobby Kielty in the eighth inning. The play was ruled a hit in the Rays' 7-4 loss to Minnesota at Florida Power Park.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005 Turn Back the Clock to 1960 University of Tampa



The Rays enjoy participating in Turn Back the Clock contests, but given their short span of existence they don't have much of their own history to call upon.

On June 18, 2005 the Rays dressed as the 1960 University of Tampa team to honor their manager Lou Piniella who played there then. They played the St. Louis Cardinals, who dressed in 1982 road uniforms. The University of Tampa uniforms were made by Majestic in pinstriped knit with red lettering.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Turn Back The Clock to 1975 FSL Tampa Tarpons

Original 1975 (Reds affiliate) Tarpons jersey, for comparison. Different number font is used.

The Rays played a June 24, 2006 game dressed as the 1975 Tampa Tarpons of the Florida State League. They wore poly knit replicas of the Tarpons' uniforms, made by Majestic. Their opponent that day was the Atlanta Braves, who dressed in 1975 road blue uniforms.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1955 FSL St. Petersburg Saints

The Rays played the Dodgers on June 22, 2007 honoring the 1955 Dodgers' World Series championship team. The Devil Rays wore wool flannel uniforms of the 1955 St. Petersburg Saints of the Florida State League, made by Ebbets Field Flannels. Lettering is felt.

We note that while MLB Turn Back the Clock games became popular and even commonplace, on-field uniforms made of real flannel and felt grew rarer as the years went on, as more teams opted for the old styles sewn in double knit fabric.

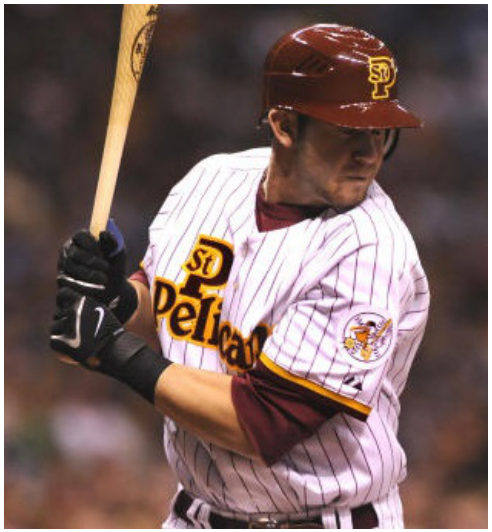
© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1989-1990 St. Petersburg Pelicans

The Rays played the Houston Astros on June 21, 2008.

The St. Petersburg Pelicans were the only champions of the short-lived Senior Professional Baseball Association, which played only one and a half seasons in 1989-1990.

Knit pinstriped uniforms made by Majestic. The Astros wore 1980s-style rainbow uniforms.



***Left, and below**: Original 1989 Pelicans road jersey for comparison*

Number font is close but not quite the same, wordmark should be sewn at a slight angle; otherwise accurate.

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1938 Jacksonville Red Caps)

- Game played against the Pirates in Pittsburgh on June 28, 2008 on African American Heritage Day.
- The Rays dressed as the Negro American League's 1938 Jacksonville Red Caps.
- Uniforms made in double knit by AIS.
- Varsity back numbers in red/navy, no player names on back.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1998

July 11, 2009: With their fondness for throwback games, this 2009 contest was the first time that the Rays actually were able to wear their own uniforms for the event.

The Rays wore uniforms from their inaugural season of 1998 when they were known as the "Devil Rays" (though the sleeve patch dates from 1999-2000).

These look very, very close to the Russell-made originals. Three-color names and numbers on back (purple/white/black), player names on nameplates.

In this game the Rays wore a fitted cap with the team logo on front, sold at retail prior to 1998 but never worn on the field by the Devil Rays! The one actually worn in 1998 had the “TB” on the front.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1970s FSL Tampa Tarpons

August 13, 2010: Once again appearing as a minor league team in their annual Turn Back the Clock exercise, the Rays appeared as a 1970s Tampa Tarpons team at home, playing the Baltimore Orioles who wore their unusual and controversial (at the time) all-orange 1971 uniforms.

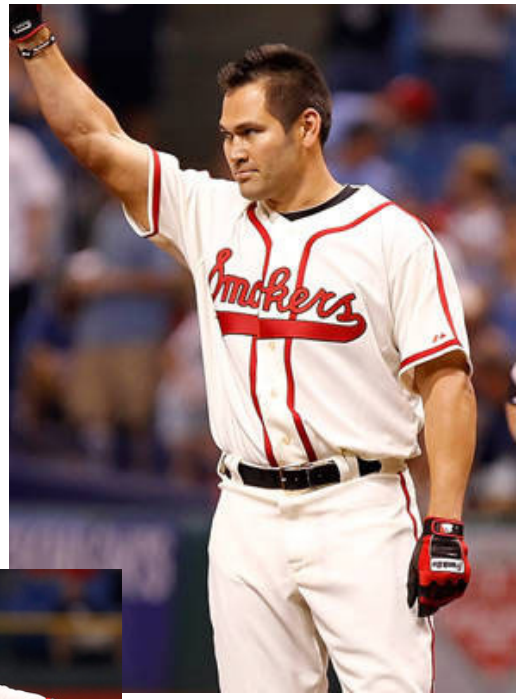
Original 1970s-era jersey

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1951 Tampa Smokers)

Steve Kraljic Collection

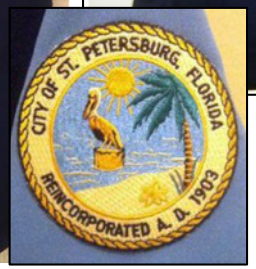
The Rays' July 2, 2011 Turn Back the Clock game generated more press than any such event in memory, all over a smoking cigar. The Tampa Smokers were a minor league team, their name referring to the city's cigar industry. But the Rays' support of the "Tobacco Free Florida" initiative mixed politics with their game, causing revisionist history to be created, and the lit cigar to be removed from the jersey front. Their opponent on this day were the Cardinals who dressed in 1953 uniforms. Two-color name and Varsity style numbers, red/black.



(Right) Non-revisionist Smokers jersey replica by Ebbets Field Flannels; its cigar intact

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1979 “Faux-back”



June 30, 2012 the Rays invited the Tigers for a “Turn Back the Clock” game to the 1970s. One problem: the Rays did not exist then. So, they borrowed the design concept of the Padres 1978-1979-era uniforms, selected from the blue color palate, and made these up, incorporating their own design mod-style bold yellow numbers and names. The 1979-era city patch for St. Petersburg is added to the left sleeve. The visiting Tigers wore their 1979 road uniforms.

The term “fauxback” was coined to describe these Rays uniforms that never were. The Rays are not the first team to do this; the Texas Rangers twice wore “never-were” throwback uniforms in the 1990s so they could participate in throwback games.

Reaction in the press was mixed, but most seemed amused by the idea. As shown earlier in this chapter, this design was picked up as a team alternate uniform in 2013-2017 and worn again occasionally.

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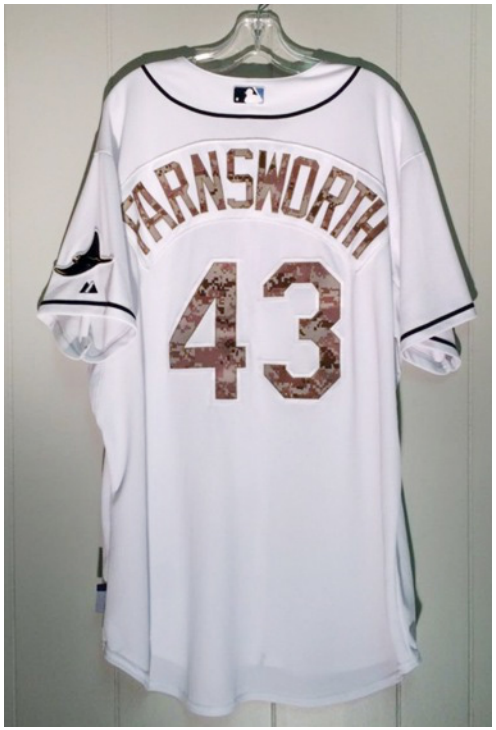
2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



May 27, 2013, MLB decreed that all teams would wear camouflage-twill lettered jerseys for their Memorial Day games. The Rays hosted the cross-state Marlins, and wore their home white uniforms with all lettering and wordmarks in desert camouflage. Player names are sewn to nameplates. The Rays are one of the few teams who still use player nameplates in modern times.

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2014 Memorial Day/Armed Services Day

These camouflage-lettered gray uniforms were worn twice by the Rays in 2014: first for Armed Services Day at the Angels on May 17, then less than two weeks later for memorial day in Toronto against the Blue Jays on May 26. Player names on nameplates. Desert camouflage lettering outlined in white on gray uniforms is a horrible combination, providing the visibility that camouflage is best known for.

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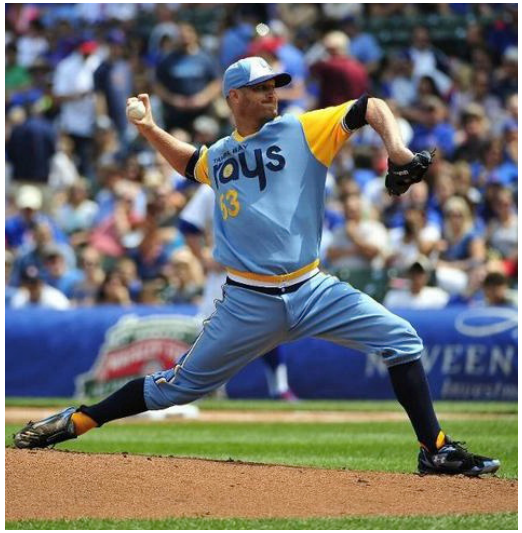
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1988 “Faux-back”

Bill Henderson Collection

August 10, 2014: The Rays were the guest at the Cubs’ 1988-retro day during the Cubs’ yearlong celebration of Wrigley Field’s 100th birthday. Since the Rays did not exist until 1998, they did the next best thing, wearing a yellow-trimmed variant of their retro-themed alternate “fauxback” uniforms, which are supposed to resemble what the Rays *might have worn* had they existed in the 1980s. These are fun, and while I suppose the Rays could have worn their regular dark blue home fauxbacks, the Cubs were picking up the tab for this game, so new uniforms were ordered and auctioned after the game. Note the Don Zimmer memorial patch (worn on team jerseys starting June 8th).



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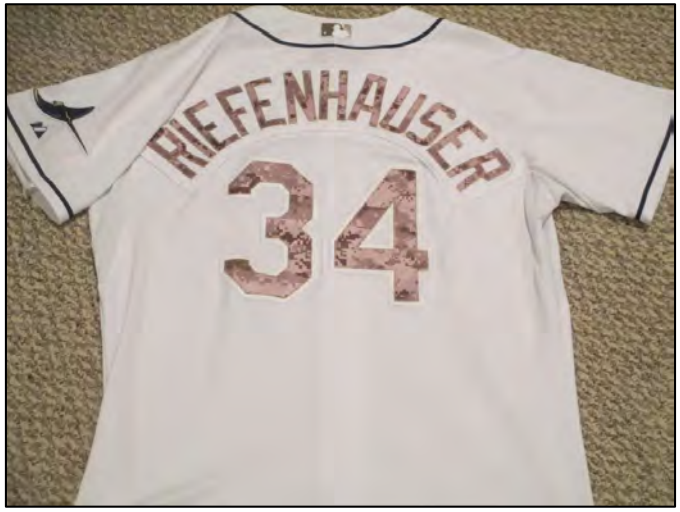
2015 Memorial Day

Repeating the look worn for 2013 Memorial Day, the Rays use their home whites for Memorial Day on May 25, 2015. Once again, the top layer of back numbers and the team wordmark is desert camouflage, and the names on back are single-color camo on nameplates. The MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white from its typical colors, as it appeared on the 2013 Memorial Day jersey. The rest of the jersey remains the same as usual.



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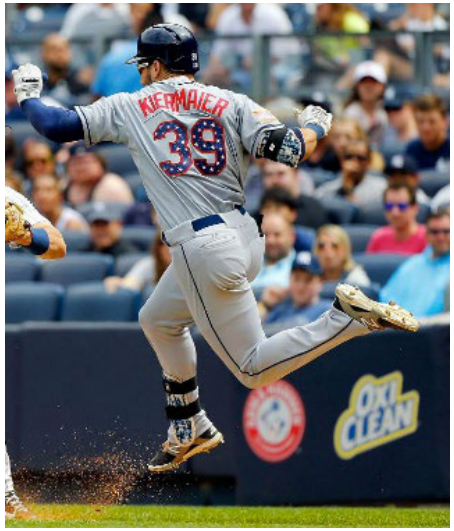
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day



For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Rays wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as back numbers. Two-layer twill replaces the usual three-color front lettering on the jerseys. Player names on back are in red on a nameplate. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Mother's Day

All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, May 8, 2016 and May 13-14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Rays wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines, losing its usual drop shadow layer. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray on a nameplate, while back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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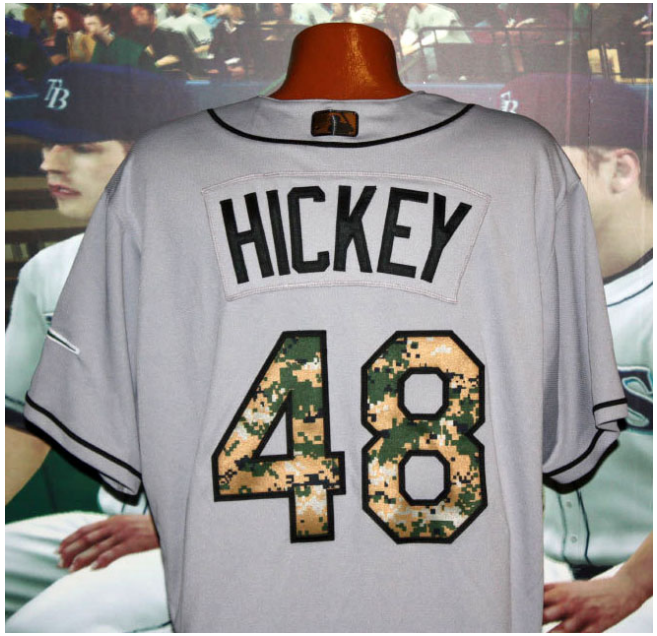
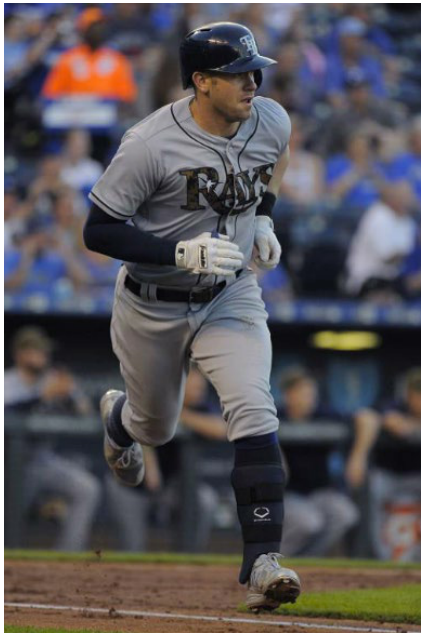
2016 Memorial Day





The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time for the event, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Rays apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30.

The typically three-color front lettering loses the drop shadow and becomes two-color camo/black, while back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline and player names appear in single-color black on a nameplate. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are changed to single-color black from the usual blue.

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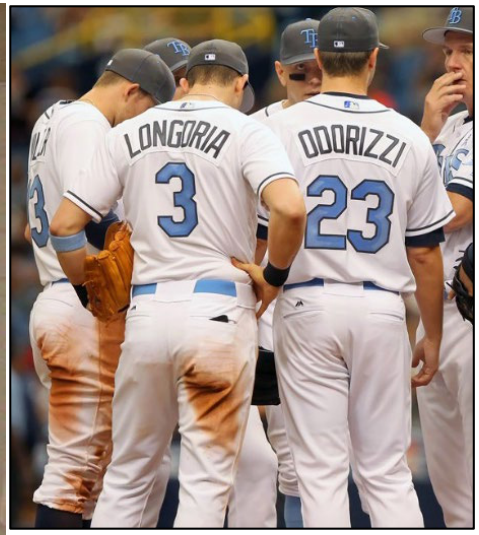
2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team Also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted batter patch appears in dark royal blue/ light blue/white.

The Rays wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines, losing the usual drop shadow layer. The player names on back are sewn in single-color dark gray on a nameplate, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Rays are at home and wear their alternate dark blue jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Rays select the blue twill version with gray outlines for their typically three-color front lettering and for their back numbers, with a gray player name on back on a nameplate. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim, normally light blue, becomes single-color red.

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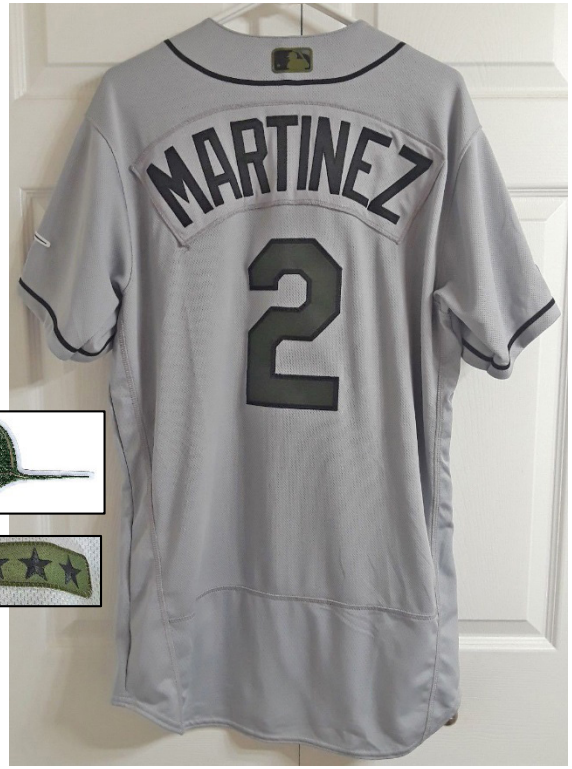
2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)



The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Rays apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27-29, 2017 and May 28, 2018.

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2017 Powder Blue “Faux-backs”

The Rays have had two pullover “fauxbacks” over the years, one powder blue and one dark blue, and the dark blue version was brought on as an official alternate in 2013-2017. The powder blue version, used only once before in 2014, returns for two games in 2017, on June 10 and August 12. It is identical to the earlier version, with the addition of the new Majestic logo on the left sleeve and the heat-pressed set tags on front. It also lacks the Don Zimmer memorial patch the team wore that year. Powder blue full-knit body with yellow raglan sleeves and V-neck opening. Navy/white/powder blue braid at sleeve ends. All adornment is in twill, player names and numbers use a special “mod” retro 1970s font.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue lettered Father's Day jerseys return on June 17-18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch.

The Rays wear road gray with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.

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2017-2018 Independence Day

The next version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 1-4, 2017 and July 2-4, 2018, the Rays wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team--standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font.

On August 25-27, 2017 and August 2426, 2018, the Rays wear jerseys with powder blue bodies and yellow sleeves with white nicknames and yellow numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide yellow/white/yellow trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in navy/white/navy drop shadow with white/yellow sunburst.

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2018-2019, 2021-2022 Turn Back the Clock to 1998

This style is worn:

2018: March 31, June 9, June 23, September 8

2019: April 20, May 11, June 15, August 17, August 31, September 21

2021: May 29, June 26, July 31, August 21, September 25

2022: May 28, June 25, July 30, August 20, September 24

As they did in 2008 for their 10th anniversary, the Rays honor their 20th anniversary in 2018 with a throwback to their first home jersey. These Majestic Flex Base jerseys look very close to the Russell-made originals, with the large, untraditional multicolored Devil Rays logo and lettering on the front. The color scheme is slightly different from the originals, with front lettering elements outlined in black rather than the purple from the late 1990s. Similarly, the color gradient pattern is more an interpretation than a reproduction, with the colors on the throwback leaning darker than the originals. Player names are accurately rendered in purple/white/black on nameplates, while back numbers in Block share the same color pattern.

The team and its fans liked the style so much, it returned in 2019, 2021, and 2022 for occasional throwback games as well. The 2018 version sports the team's 20th anniversary patch on the left sleeve, while the 2019 has the MLB150 anniversary patch on the right sleeve and adds the "VJN" memorial for original owner Vince Naimoli starting August 30. The 2021-2022 version is made by Nike and has the Nike logo on front right chest.

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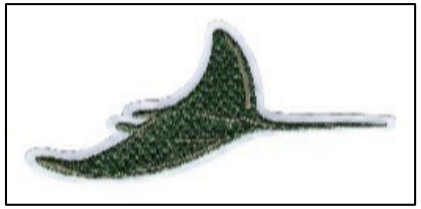
2018 Memorial Day (Home)

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Rays apply this style to their home white jerseys on May 26-27, 2018.



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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Rays wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back Varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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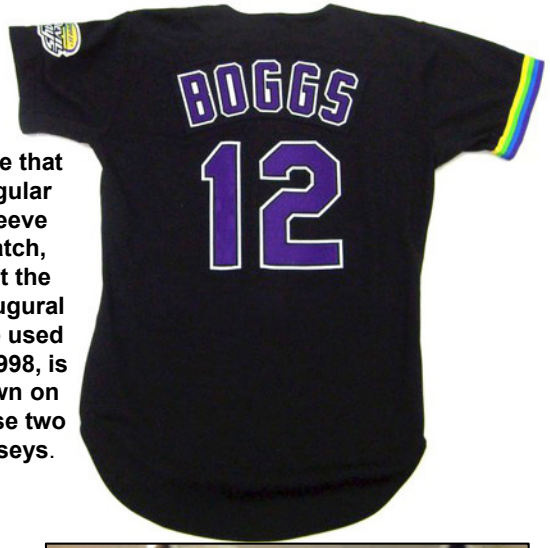
Prototypes and Oddballs

Pre-1998 “Rainbow Sleeve” Alternate



Note that regular sleeve patch, not the Inaugural one used in 1998, is sewn on these two jerseys.

In prior editions of this Guide we had noted spotting a few of Rays jerseys with the “mistake” of having one knit rainbow sleeve end. Turns out that these were not errors, but instead this was the original design for how these black jerseys were to be worn by the team.
As you can see in the photos at right, they showed up in several official places, including the Rays’ inaugural press conference hosted by the Commissioner of Baseball himself, and in the Rays’ first two retail catalogs in 1996-1997. Never worn by the team on the field, finding one is a happy rarity today.

(Left, below)) *The rainbow sleeve black jersey was pictured on the cover of the 1996 team catalog, and on the inside of the 1997 one.* ***(Right)*** *Note team’s first manager Larry Rothschild holding one at the 1996 press conference announcing the birth of the Devil Rays and that the lettering on that one has different colors than those finally decided upon.*

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Pre-1998 Unused Batting Practice

This is likely another example of a jersey style planned to be used by the team, but that was lost somewhere along the way between the Rays' launch as an entity in 1996 and the team taking the field in 1998. I had seen this style jersey with "authentic merchandise" (replica) tagging many times, but finding one with Diamond Collection (on field specification) as this one has, is uncommon. While an "Authentic" This particular example with its neck size tag and heat-applied sleeve logo can be identified as a retail sale item and not a jersey that was made for on-field use. Its back is blank. I have not seen one of these with an on-field spec embroidered sleeve logo.

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Purple and Green Batting Practice Jerseys

From time to time I have come across purple mesh Diamond Collection tagged batting practice jerseys and suspect that early on these are were planned for MLB team on-field use. This decision seems to have changed in the period between the time the franchise is awarded in 1995 and the team began to play its games in 1998.

Some purple jerseys claimed to be game used may be minor league, most were made for retail sale. Purple BPs were not used on-field by the MLB team. We have not yet come across a purple jersey with an embroidered sleeve Majestic tag, the type used for on-field gear. All the ones so far I have seen are the decal-type featured on retail sale models.

Green team issued or game worn versions of the Rays mesh batting practice jersey also appear from time to time, these are often minor league issue. Rawlings sleeve tagging is a good clue, as Rawlings did not have the MLB contract for any on-field gear during this time period.

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2000-2003 Unused Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1968?

This jersey is something of a mystery. It appears to be a Tampa Tarpons throwback jersey, likely to around the 1960s when the minor league club was affiliated with the Cincinnati Reds. The Rays have done a handful of Tarpons throwback nights, but they have never used this jersey style in any of them. The jersey's tagging dates it to around 2000-2003, which puts it between other Tarpons throwback games by the Rays. The Rays also used Russell to make their on-field jerseys through 2004, so the time period lines up in that regard.

However, this jersey does not show any typical signs of a prototype, and in fact, leans closer to retail with the size tag in the neck. The tag is cut so the size is not readable, but the jersey measures to about a size 52, which is also unusual for a sample. Note in the photo of the neck tag that the jersey appears to have the outline of an MLB logo that would have been sewn on the back of the collar, but is not present on the jersey any longer. The "47" on back, which often stands for a year a jersey is meant to represent (or be used) does not make sense for the Tarpons, a team founded in 1955. Note also that the jersey's sleeve lacks a manufacturer logo, which at this time would have been unusual, especially since Russell was permitted to have their logos on sleeves for MLB jerseys they made. Perhaps the lack of logo is what caused the cut tag, which is normally used to show a jersey rejected for some sort of mistake or manufacturing error.

One possibility is that this was used for a throwback game for the second incarnation of the minor league Tarpons, a Yankees affiliate founded in 1994. We could not find a record of such a throwback game, so our research will continue.

Left: *A game used 1968 Tarpons jersey, likely the inspiration for this throwback.*

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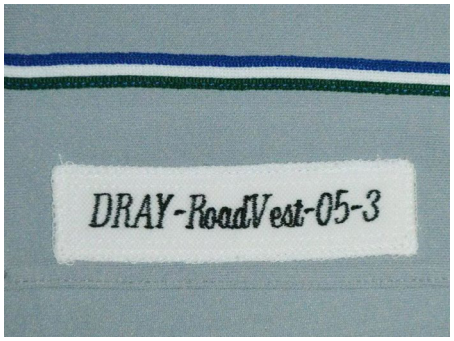
2005 Prototype Road Vest



Majestic made this prototype road vest for the team's consideration prior to the 2005 season. As is typical of Majestic prototypes, it has team-issued inside seam tag number (0062 = full weight knit for team use) and the generic "Player #5" lettering on its back. Placket code tag tells us its origin.

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2008 Prototype Home

Photos: Gary Taylor

The Rays changed their overall look for the 2008 season, the third time in their 11-year history to that point. Here we have a prototype home jersey for that change that is very close to their final on-field jerseys for that year. As is typical of samples, the back is lettered "PLAYER" (on a nameplate) and "8" where the 8 stands for 2008, the year of intended use. The jersey is also a typical sample size 46, and bears a sample tag sewn in to the front placket reading "RAYH-0062-08-03" meaning Rays Home 0062, 2008, version 3 (0062 is the style code for a team-issue Majestic knit jersey of this era).

The front lettering of this sample with the filled-in "A"

The front lettering of the team's final jersey with the open "A"

At first glance, one might assume this was the version of the jersey the team approved for use, but close inspection of the front lettering reveals that the open space in the "A" is filled in with blue, where the final version of the jersey had this spot open, leading to a more awkward split of the three-color letter over the placket. It is possible that was what the filled-in letter was intended to address. It is hard to tell from photos, but the shade of the light blue drop shadow may be darker on this sample than what was used on-field, but that may also be a result of the photo lighting. Notably, the sample omits the ray patch on the sleeve, which appeared on this jersey starting in 2008.

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2009 Prototypes: Alternate Navy

A year after overhauling their uniforms, introducing new home and road jerseys in 2008, the Rays add a dark blue alternate for 2009. Here we have two prototypes for that jersey. Both feature the name and number of team star Carl Crawford, a practice not common (rather than using "PLAYER" and the year for the number) but not unprecedented. The photos show incomplete tagging for both jerseys, but the top one is a 46, typical of samples, though its sample tagging was removed from inside the placket. The bottom jersey does have a sample tag, reading "RAY A-09-CBJ-2" for Rays Alternate 2009 Cool Base Jersey version 2. However, the size tag is not visible for that one.

Given a quick look, the two seem identical. And they almost are. However, note the sunburst on the bottom jersey. It is in a different position from the one above, and it is overlapped by the "R", rather than appearing on top of it. It seems that this very subtle difference is the only thing that separated these two iterations.

When the team introduced this jersey, they touted that the sunburst was 40% larger than the one on the home jersey, and that modification appears here as well, showing that tinkering with the sunburst was an important element for the team.

Notably, both samples include the ray patch on the left sleeve, a patch that appeared on the team's home and road jerseys starting in 2008, but not on the dark blue alternate until 2019. Perhaps the team thought there was enough dark blue here already. Curiously, they also lack the MLB logo on the back of the neck for reasons unknown.

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2010 Prototype Alternate Columbia Blue

Photos: Gary Taylor

Just two years after overhauling their uniforms, introducing new home and road jerseys in 2008, and one year after rolling out a dark blue alternate, the Rays add a Columbia blue alternate for 2010 (it may be the slowest multi-uniform roll out in history).

Here we have a prototype for that jersey. Like the navy blue alternate prototypes a page earlier, this one features the name and number of a star player, here, Evan Longoria, a practice not common (rather than using “PLAYER” and the year for the number) but obviously not unprecedented. The jersey is a 46, typical of samples, and there is sample tagging inside the placket reading “RAY B-ALT-D1-1-2010” for Rays Blue Alternate, design 1, version 1, 2010”.

In this case the first time was the charm, with this design 1, version 1 being “the one” for the team, as it exactly represents the alternate the team wore starting in 2010.

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Oddballs

(Left) From Spring Training 2008: As a joke, the names of the Rays' top three starting pitchers are listed directly above those of the Braves legendary trio of Glavine, Avery, and Smoltz on this batting practice jersey, testimony in the belief that the Rays' pitching was every bit as good if not better than Atlanta's in their heyday. The Rays did, in fact, go on to win the American League pennant in 2008 with this combo.

Another example came in Spring Training 2012 when a jersey appeared for coach Tom Foley, with the name on back reading FO-LEE to prank his high opinion of infield prospect Hak-Ju Lee. Foley decided to wear it to coach third one day when Lee was playing shortstop.

(Left) Pitcher Jae Seo oddly sported this jersey with an upside-down nameplate in 2007.

(Above) I do not have a confirmed explanation of the red jersey shown here. It sports the same front tail tag as is usually found on full-weight knit (not Cool Base) jerseys. My guess could be that it was a proposed Independence Day jersey for 2011. It appears to be a pre-2012 Majestic tag and the cap is a 2011 Stars and Stripes model.

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Retail Oops

WRONG

When the Rays announced their new-for-2009 blue game jersey, the press release promised:

"…The sunburst emanating from the "R" is forty percent larger than the sunburst on the team's home and road jerseys. Light blue piping surrounds the sleeves and collar and extends down the front of the jersey."

Back then, we noticed early batches of retail Authentic jerseys being sold which did not have the new, larger sunburst. It was probably a mistake or perhaps an early production run before the team's design was finalized. Later jerseys have the correct wordmark.

You need to have a sharp eye to catch this one.

RIGHT

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Good Sport

ST. PETERSBURG - When Rocco Baldelli pulled on his jersey Tuesday, he didn't know someone was pulling his leg.

Maybe he was distracted by the ``This Week in Baseball'' crew that followed him around before the game at Tropicana Field against the Reds, chronicling his every move. He will become the second rookie to be player-host of the show when it airs sometime before the All-Star break.

But the jersey stunt wasn't a part of the TWIB script. Throughout the top of the first inning - during which he made a nice diving catch in center field - the name on the back of the No. 5 jersey was ``Rocco.’

First base umpire Ed Rapuano let Baldelli in on the joke after the top of the first.

``I said, `are you serious?' '' Baldelli said. ``And then I came in and everybody was laughing at me. ... He was goofing around. He thought it was funny. I think he realized that I was getting pranked on.''

Equipment manager Chris Westmoreland was just following orders when he had the jersey customized.
``I think [pitcher Steve] Parris was behind that,'' Baldelli said. ``I'll call him out. I'm sure a lot of other people were, too, but I only know about him. I had no idea.’

(Rays’ mlb.com website press release, June 11, 2003)

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2014 Pregame Tribute to Don Zimmer

Dreck Damian Collection

Fan favorite and baseball institution Don Zimmer capped a 65-year career by spending his final 11 years in baseball as a coach with the Tampa Bay Rays. Zimmer died on June 4, 2014.

Zimmer spent most of his playing years as a Dodger. In a pregame ceremony on June 7, 2014, both the Rays and the Visiting Dodgers lined up wearing Zimmer's number 23 on Brooklyn-script jerseys, white for the Rays and gray for the visiting Dodgers. Each jersey has a "ZIM" patch sewn to the right sleeve.

Shown here is a home white version of the tribute jersey.

https://www.nydailynews.com/2014/06/08/joe-torre-leads-rays-tribute-to-don-zimmer/

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May 1-3, 2015: “Road” Games at Home

Rays coming home for weekend to play Orioles
By Marc Topkin, Tampa Bay Times Staff Writer
Tampabay.com, Tuesday, April 28, 2015

…Expect more of a "generic" presentation at the Trop, likely without the usual Rays-themed promos and in-game activities. Rays players may not get their walk-up songs played,

The Orioles will be responsible for the expenses in staging the games and will get the ticket and concessions revenue. Unclear on who gets parking money.

The Trop was chosen by mutual decision of the teams. Philadelphia and Washington were considered. The Orioles Sarasota spring stadium came up in internal discussions…

In the wake of rioting that spread across Baltimore in April 2015, the Orioles were forced to play three “home” games in Tampa against the Rays on May 1-3. As a result, the O’s wore home uniforms at the Trop, while the Rays wore their road grays.

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2021 Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1998

The Rays introduced a throwback to their inaugural rainbow-style jerseys for Thursday games in 2018. It was such a hit, they stuck with it for the next several years, skipping only the pandemic-shortened 2020, before adding the style as a full-time alternate in the MLB Style Guide for the 2023 season. Here, we have a sample of such a jersey intended for use in 2021. Why prototype a jersey if the team had already been using it for a few seasons? Before the 2020 season, many teams saw samples of their existing jerseys bearing the new Nike logo, first used in 2020. Possibly because this style was skipped in 2020, its prototype, now with Nike branding, was issued for 2021. As is typical of samples, the back is lettered “PLAYER” (on a nameplate) and “21” where the 21 stands for 2021, the year of intended use. The heat-pressed inventory tag also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads “RAY-LUJ-D1-1-2021” where “RAY” is for the team name, “D1-1” means design 1, sample 1, and “2021” is the year. The “LUJ” notation is confusion, as it is not a common code on jerseys, and we are unsure what it stands for. There is also a small, handwritten “2” on the bottom corner of the tag, which could mean that other copies or versions were made up for team review. Ultimately the team did reintroduce this style for the 2021 season as it appears in this sample.

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2021: The Many Rays of Chris Mazza

A correct, patch-free example of this style of throwback jersey.

Relief pitcher Chris Mazza took to the field on July 31, 2021 with one more ray than his teammates. That day, his 1998 throwback jersey featured the team's current manta ray patch on the left sleeve - a patch that was neither worn in 1998, nor by any of his other teammates on that uniform in 2021. The Rays wore this jersey five times that season, and Mazza only appeared in one of those games, so his bonus ray was short-lived. However, if the photo of him wearing this jersey (at right) is any indication, he was still pretty psyched about it.

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2022 Jean Ramirez Memorial

On March 25, 2022, every member of the Rays took to the field wearing “Ramirez” and number 98 on the backs of their blue Spring Training jerseys in honor of Jean Ramirez, their bullpen catcher who died by suicide in January of that year. Each jersey also had a small label by the jock tag with the players’ name and number (for identification purposes) and a special “JR” decal in memory of Ramirez. After the game, the jerseys were signed and auctioned off, with proceeds benefiting the Suicide Prevention Program at the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, which offers a variety of services aimed at preventing suicidal behavior and intervening with affected people.

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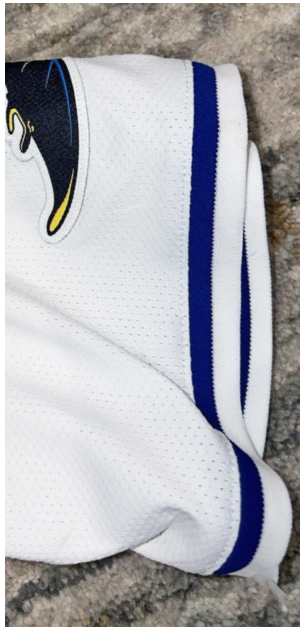
2023 Prototype Home



Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were “pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024.” Ultimately, the new template was in fact delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made up in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

This Rays home jersey, at first glance, is mostly the same as what they wore before and after the switch from Nike’s version of Flex Base to VPE. Closer inspection reveals that the template is VPE - including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, a lightweight sleeve patch, and perforated back numbers (the home jerseys ultimately did not use perforated numbers). The tell-tale “Player” and “23” on back reinforce this as a sample, intended for the 2023 season.

Oddly, the name on back lettering appears to be purple/white on this example, rather than the navy/white the team then used, and the color used here on the numbers. It could be a trick of lighting, but if it is the case, it may have been a manufacturing mistake, or even a change the team considered and vetoed.

The heat-pressed inventory tag also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads “DH0500 RAY 2023 CONV. JERSEY HOME P2.” There is also a small, handwritten “2” on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, “RAY” and “2023 home” are self explanatory. The “DH0500” indication is not clear, although Nike has used a “DX” prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of “Conversion Jersey P2” is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a second iteration of a sample.

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2023 Prototype Alternate Blue

RGVDEAL on eBay

Here is another example of a 2023 Nike Vapor Premier Elite prototype jersey. Unlike the home prototype also shown in this chapter, this example is for what appears to be a rejected version of a new alternate jersey.

Given the details of this jersey, including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, the band of fabric around the neck opening, sewn-in sleeve-end trim, and perforated back numbers, it is clear it is an early VPE sample. The tell-tale "Player" and "23" on back reinforce this as a prototype, intended for the 2023 season.

In contrast to the home sample that had a few slight style details changed, this alternate is unlike anything the Rays wore before or since. It is medium blue in color and includes the same blue/white sleeve trim. We've seen other odd alternate samples in this jersey color, but this is the only one we've seen with this sleeve-end trim, most use blue/royal blue/white. It also features very strange gray knit trim around the collar and placket, an odd choice for a jersey of this color.

The jersey sports the team's sunburst logo on front left chest, with numbers in navy/white and player name in white/navy. The overall design concept is similar to their Spring Training jersey that debuted in 2016 and later became a full-time alternate, though that one is on a light blue jersey.

Like that of the home sample, the heat-pressed inventory tag on the alternate also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads "DQ6267 RAY 2023 CONV. JERSEY ALT2 P1." There is also a small, handwritten "1" on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, "RAY" and "2023 ALT2" is self explanatory, assuming that the navy alternate was considered ALT1. The "DQ6267" indication is not clear, although Nike has used a "DX" prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of "Conv. Jersey" and "P1" is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a first iteration of multiple samples.

Ultimately, the Rays did not adopt a new alternate like this blue jersey, electing to transfer their existing lineup to VPE rather than trying something new.

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2024 Prototype Home/Prototype Alternate Dark Blue

In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the ones shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. These Rays home and dark blue alternate versions are examples. In many ways they replicate the team's home and dark blue alternate jerseys that they had worn for years, just carried over to VPE. This meant that the original sleeve-end trim was now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it, player names and numbers are smaller with names more arched, and back numbers are perforated (which was not an element of the team's final, on-field home or alternate dark blue jerseys for 2024).

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tags, which read "RAYS HOME JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" and MARLINS ALT1 JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the text "DH0500-100" and "DH0500-410" on the front tags mean. They are likely internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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Commemorative Patches

Rays Patches

1998

(Above) The gold, blue and black version of the Inaugural Patch was not used by the team but shows up for sale from dealers now and again. We suspect that this is an earlier pre-approved design the patch that was supplanted, but got far enough along in the approval process that many were produced for retail sale.

March 30-31, 2004, Opening Series in Tokyo

2007

2014, starting June 8

June 17, 2016

- 1998: Inaugural Patch-sewn to left sleeve, replaced in 1999 by the team patch.
- 2004, March 30-31: For the opening games of the 2004 season, the Devil Rays played the Yankees in Tokyo, Japan, and wore their BP jerseys as game jerseys. All players wore a square, white RICOH sponsorship patch on their right sleeve.
- 2007: 10 Seasons patch.
- 2014: Starting June 8: “ZIM” patch for coach Don Zimmer.

- 2016, June 17: “Orlando” patch on right chest of the white home jersey, along with the team wearing the cap of the Orlando Rays. I have to imagine that these were one-day patches and were removed, and the jerseys remained in use. I have never seen a jersey with patch affixed for sale.

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2018

2019, starting August 30

- 2018: 20th anniversary patches, Columbia blue border for white, gray, and dark blue jerseys, dark blue border for Columbia blue jersey. Left sleeve.
- 2019, starting August 30: VJN memorial for original owner Vince Naimoli. Right sleeve, rest of season.
- 2022, Most of May and June 1; 2023, May 2-7; 2024, May 20-30, 2025, May 19-28: Green ribbon, left chest, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, following the suicide of Rays bullpen catcher Jean Ramirez.
- 2022, June 24: Rainbow-colored pride-themed sunburst logo patch on right sleeve. Players had the option to wear the patch, all but five Rays did. The following year, MLB informed the team they could not wear pride caps or patches, despite the fact that other teams were still allowed to do so.
- 2023: 25th anniversary patch
- 2024, March 9-10: Heat-pressed Mercasid sponsor patch and embroidered MLB World Tour Dominican Series patch for games in DR vs. Red Sox

2023

March 9-10, 2024

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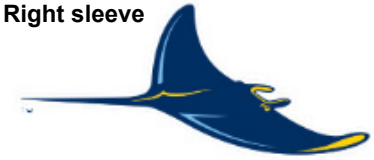
2023-2025 Rays Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

As of press time, the Rays had not yet made a deal with a jersey patch sponsor. In 2023, the location of the team's 25th Anniversary patch (which replaced the ray patch for the season) varied depending on the handedness of each player, and in 2024, the ray patch returned, also on varying sleeves, perhaps in preparation for a sponsor that did not materialize. To accommodate the variable sleeve placement, the team creates a "reverse" ray patch, so the ray will be swimming "forward" regardless of the sleeve on which it appears

Left sleeve

Right sleeve



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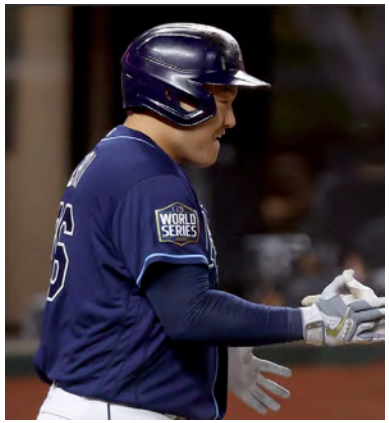
Rays Postseason Patches

2008 World Series
(right sleeve)

2019 AL Wild Card
2019 AL Division Series
(right sleeve, below “VJN” patch,
MLB150 patch removed)

2013 AL Wild Card
2013 AL Division Series
(right sleeve)

2020 World Series



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Chapter 32

Boston Red Sox

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025 Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Red Sox Uniform History Notes

- The Boston Red Sox are one of the most traditional teams in baseball, avoiding unnecessary changes to their uniforms. The basic appearance of their home uniform has not changed since 1936. Their road uniforms change infrequently, though they have cycled through a few variations in the time covered by this book. Additionally, they have added red alternate in 2003 and then added a blue alternate jersey in 2009.
- 1970 through 1972 home jerseys are cream-colored flannel, plain and without trim of any kind. “RED SOX” is arched across the front in the display font known as “Tuscan,” also used by the Los Angeles Angels during the 1960s and the New York Mets on their road jerseys. Player numbers on the back are red outlined with navy, and are in a once-common baseball number font (McAuliffe) that is today associated with the Red Sox alone, but had been used by many teams in the 1930s through 1960s.
- Road uniforms for 1970 to mid-1972 are gray flannel with “Boston” spelled out in bold navy/red Block letters on front. Back numbers are also navy outlined with red, and are in the McAuliffe/Red Sox” font.
- The Red Sox introduce pullover knit tops and sansabelt pants mid-year 1972. Home knits featured a red/blue/red trimmed V-neck but otherwise looked just like the flannels they replaced. The road knits, however, change appearance from the old flannels, spelling out “BOSTON” in the same Tuscan font as the home jersey wordmark, and using numbers on back that were red outlined with navy, the same as the home uniform. The same red/blue/red V-neck trim is used on the road jersey as the knit home. Flannels and knits are used interchangeably through the end of the 1972 season, both at home and on the road.
- The pullover look continues only through 1978, after which the Red Sox switch back to traditional button-front jerseys and belted pants, a trend that most other teams eventually followed. Both home and road uniform jerseys return to the same design used 1938-1968, although the road change back number from McAuliffe to Varsity font. The new button-front home jersey for 1979 has thin red knit trim on the placket on either side of the buttons, the road jersey is gray, totally devoid of trim and has “Boston” spelled out in plain navy blue block letters.
- For 1990 the road jersey wordmark returns to the Tuscan “Boston” and McAuliffe font returns to the back number, both last used in 1978. Names are added to road jersey backs for the first time in team history. The only trim on the new road jersey is thin red knit trim near the sleeve end. The home jersey remains the same.
- The introduction of alternate jerseys began in 2003 with a red home alternate, initially worn only on Friday nights. A navy blue road alternate followed in 2009.
- In a minor design change for 2009, the road jersey’s front wordmark change to simple navy blue, still in Tuscan font, and back names/numbers go single-color blue as well. The home jersey remains the same, while minor changes are made to the trim on the red alternate.
- For 2014, the road jersey reverts to a design more consistent with its traditional look, very close to the prior 2008 model.
- In 2021, the Red Sox are the first team to unveil a City Connect uniform. The bold, daring design is a bright yellow jersey that paid tribute to the Boston Marathon, using its official yellow and blue color palette and incorporating nods such as bib-style sleeve patches with the area code “617” and typography styled after the marathon finish line. Despite bearing no resemblance to the club’s traditional look, it became popular with fans, and is worn frequently during hot streaks.
- In 2025, the team introduced a new City Connect 2.0 uniform that shifted from commemorating the marathon to celebrating Fenway Park itself, particularly the Green Monster. The design included a slate green jersey (mimicking the color of the wall) with white lettering and yellow front numbers styled after scoreboard tiles, along with white/green/white trim and a scoreboard-style “B” patch. An additional unique detail is scoreboard-inspired notches in the back numbers.
- The navy blue road alternate is retired after 2024 to make room for the yellow City Connect 1.0 style, which was promoted to full alternate status in 2025. As a result, the red alternate jersey—previously worn only at home—is now also used for select road games, marking the first time since 1933 that a Red Sox jersey worn on the road bore “RED SOX” instead of “BOSTON” on the front.
- Notable for collectors is the fact that the Red Sox, along with the Yankees, are the only teams to have never used player names on home jerseys (other than MLB’s gimmicky late-2010s Players Weekend jerseys). Along with the Brewers, the Sox were the last team in baseball to add player names to road jerseys, for the 1990 season (noting that the Yankees remain the only team to use no names on any player uniforms, home or road).

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Style continues onward

Red Sox Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
1972	Home White Flannel	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Home White*	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray*	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
1973	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
1974	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
1975	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Mass. Bicentennial**	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-		-	McAuliffe
1976	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	(Tom Yawkey) Armband+	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	(Tom Yawkey) Armband+	-	McAuliffe
1977	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
1978	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	McAuliffe
1979	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1980	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1985	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1986	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1987	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Fenway Park 75th	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Fenway Park 75th	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings

* The Red Sox made a mid-season switch to double knits in 1972, but wore both for the rest of the season.. There are sets of both flannels and double-knit jerseys year tagged 1972

** The Mass. Bicentennial patch was also worn part of 1976
+ Starting July 10

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Red Sox Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1990	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	(Tony C) Armband	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	(Tony C) Armband	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	JRY Armband	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	JRY Armband	-	Russell/Rawlings
1993	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell/Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1994	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1996	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1997	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
1999	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	All Star Game	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	All Star Game	-	Russell
2000	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
2001	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	AL 100th Charter Member	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	AL 100th Charter Member	Russell
2002	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	#9 (Williams) Armband(t)	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	#9 (Williams) Armband(t)	Russell
2003	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
2004	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Russell
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
2005	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic

(t) Worn after 7/5

Style continues onward

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1979-2025

2009-2013

2009-2025

2009-2024

2014-2025

Change to Flex Base

Red Sox Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2009	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2012	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Johnny Pesky 6***	Fenway Park 100 yrs	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Red Sox Patch	Fenway Park 100 yrs/ Pesky armband ***	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Johnny Pesky 6***	Fenway Park 100 yrs	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Johnny Pesky 6***	Fenway Park 100 yrs	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	B-Strong****	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Red Sox Patch	Black Armband****	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	B-Strong****	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	B-Strong****	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2019	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Nike
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike

*** Armband for Johnny Pesky starting August 14 on road jersey. "6" disc memorial patch added to other jerseys on August 17.
****For bombing victims at the Boston Marathon: Temporary armbands worn April 16. On April 21, BStrong (Boston Strong) patch added to all but road gray. April 22 Road gray gets permanent armband.

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Red Sox Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	-	-	Nike
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 2 color	No	-	617 patch	-	Nike
2022	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Jerry Remy memorial	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Red Sox Patch	Jerry Remy memorial	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Jerry Remy memorial	-	Nike
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Jerry Remy memorial	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 2 color	No	-	617 patch	Jerry Remy memorial	Nike
2023	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 2 color	No	-	617 patch	Mass Mutual Ad patch	Nike
2024	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color (no perf)	No	-	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	Tim Wakefield memorial‡	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	Tim Wakefield memorial‡	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color (perf)	No	-	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	Tim Wakefield memorial‡	Nike
	Alt Road Blue	No	Red Sox Font 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	Tim Wakefield memorial‡	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 2 color (perf)	No	-	617 patch/Tim Wakefield memorial	Mass Mutual Ad Patch	Nike
2025	Home White	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Red	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Yellow	No	Red Sox Font 2 color	No	-	617 patch	Mass Mutual Ad patch	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	No	-	Mass Mutual Ad patch‡	Circle B patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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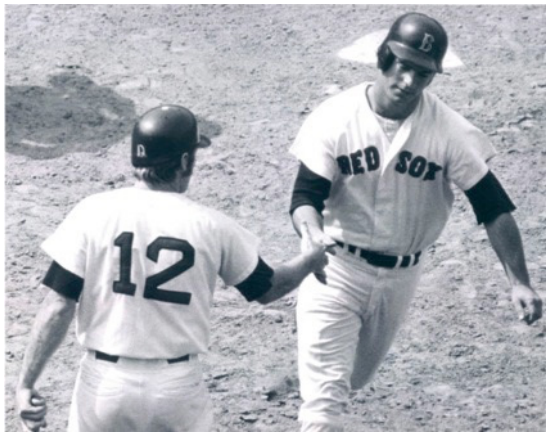
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1972 Home



The Red Sox opened the 1972 season in traditional button-front flannel jerseys, introduced their knit jerseys in mid-June, and wore both styles interchangeably through season end.

One of the most tradition-minded teams in baseball, the Red Sox uniform had changed little since the Great Depression in the 1930s. Since 1933, the home uniform had been cream-colored button-front with thin red knit trim up the front, around the collar and at the sleeve ends, and “Red Sox” spelled out across the front in a consistent and recognizable lettering font. In 1968, all the red trim was eliminated, leaving a very plain jersey, as seen here.

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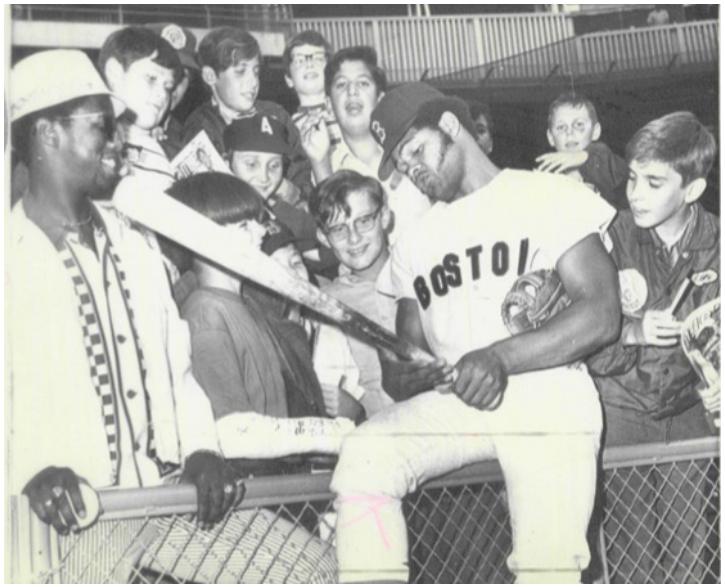
1970-1972 Road



The Red Sox opened the 1972 season in traditional button-front flannel and then wore them interchangeably with the new knits from mid-June through the end of the year.

Road gray uniforms are exceptionally plain with no trim of any kind, and over the years had almost always been solid gray with a block-style navy blue “Boston” spelled across the front. The 1969-1971 road jerseys were treated to a red outline around both the “Boston” wordmark and the numbers on back.

The team’s flannels were tagged for many years by local sporting goods company Tim McAuliffe Uniform Company. McAuliffe continued as supplier of the team’s knit uniforms through the 1978 season when they were replaced by Wilson.

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Mid 1972-1978 Home

1972

1973

1972

The Red Sox joined the double-knit era by converting their traditional jersey design into a pullover, with thin red/blue/red knit V-neck trim. These were introduced in mid-June to a lukewarm response. These were worn interchangeably with the old flannels through the end of the 1972 season, then full-time from 1973 on. Numbers on back always in Red Sox font, two-color, red/navy. No names ever on the back of home jerseys.

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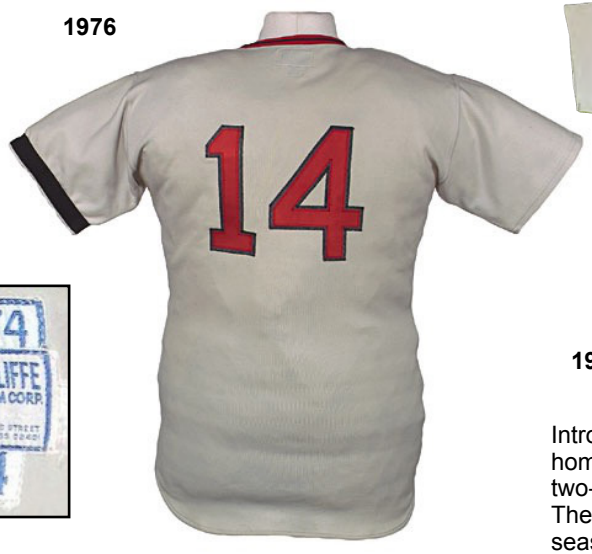
Mid 1972-1978 Road

1974

1976



1975

Introduced in mid-June 1972, the road jersey is reborn as a pullover just like the home one, with slim red/navy/red neck knit trim. “Boston” is spelled across the front in two-color in the same lettering style as the “Red Sox” wordmark on the home jersey. They were worn interchangeably with the old flannels through the end of the 1972 season, and then full-time from 1973 on. The road jersey now has “Boston” sewn in the “Tuscan” font. Two-color numbers on back, red/navy, in McAuliffe/Red Sox-style number font. No names on back.

1973

Alex Prignano Collection

1976

© GameWornGuides.com

1979-2023 Home

1979

1988

The home jersey returns to the more traditional button-front design. Thin red knit trim is added to the front placket, last seen on Red Sox jerseys in 1967. Two-color numbers on back, red/navy, in the Red Sox/McAuliffe number font. No names ever on back of Red Sox home jerseys. Made by Wilson from 1979-1991, Russell from 1992-2003, Majestic from 2004-2019, Nike from 2020-2023. A timeless jersey design first introduced in 1933.

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1979-2023 Home, continued

1988

Since Wilson retains the contract for Red Sox home jerseys during the era that Rawlings is the official MLB supplier (1987-1991) no Wilson manufacturer brand logo is allowed to be shown on home jersey sleeves during that time.

1989

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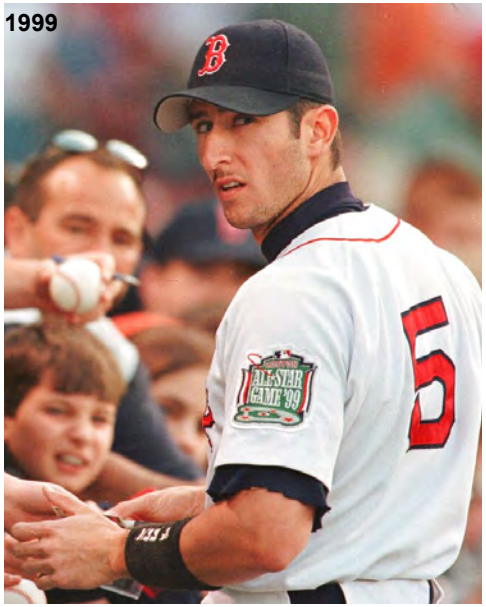
1979-2023 Home, continued

Starting 1992, official MLB supplier Russell takes over as the maker, and Russell's "R" contractually appears on the jersey's right sleeve.



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1979-2023 Home, continued

2002

Starting in 2000, the Russell "R" logo moves to the left sleeve, and the MLB logo appears on the back of the collar.

2004

2005

Majestic takes over as jersey maker for 2005. The Majestic Triple Peaks logo appears on the left sleeve.

2012

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1979-2023 Home, continued

2015

2018

2022

Left-sleeve Majestic logo changes with the introduction of Flex Base in 2016. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020, and their logo appears on right chest. Note the change in style code from BQHH for Majestic to BQ1H for Nike.

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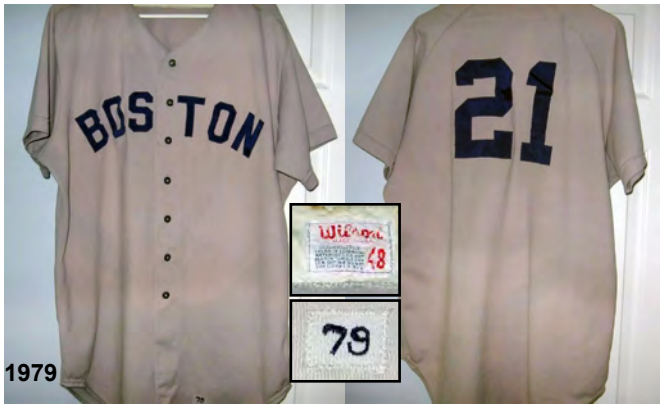
1979-1989 Road



1979

1980

1982

1984

1985

1986

No names on back, midnight blue (darker than navy) numbers on back, in Varsity font. 1979-1983 has Boston spelled with a space: “BOS TON” while 1984-1989 has the space removed. Wilson made the Red Sox road jerseys through 1983 with seven front buttons spaced evenly from top to bottom, placing the second button from the top in the middle of the wordmark, forcing the awkward split. Starting in about 1984, the second button is moved up about ¼," making room for lettering without a gap. For more detail than you can imagine exists on the topic of where the space goes in the word “Boston,” see: http://letsgosox.blogspot.com/2007/06/red-sox-80s-road-uniform-thesis-last.html

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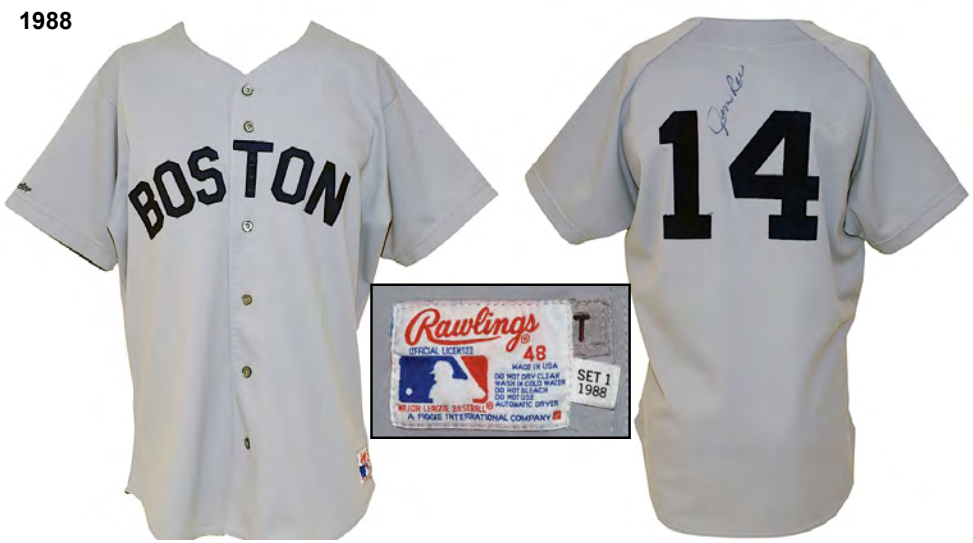
1979-1989 Road, continued



In 1987, Rawlings took over the manufacture of the road uniforms, and changed from seven to six buttons on the front, with an extra wide gap for lettering to cross between buttons 2 and 3, employing the same button spacing they used for the other teams in baseball. As official supplier for MLB at this time, Rawlings featured their tiny logo script on the end of the right sleeve of all jerseys in this run.

© GameWornGuides.com

1990-2008 Road

1990

"Boston" stylized lettering last used in 1978 returns after a 12 year absence. Jerseys remain button-front design.

Two-color numbers on back, red/navy, return to Red Sox/McAuliffe font also last seen on the road jersey in 1978.

Block two-color player names added to back in 1990, the first time any Red Sox jerseys have ever featured player names. No nameplates on Rawlings jerseys 1990, added in 1991.

Rawlings is manufacturer in 1990-1991, As official supplier for MLB at this time, their tiny logo script appears on the end of the right sleeve of all jerseys in these two years.

Above left: *1990 tagging variation*

Above right: *Rawlings left sleeve logo, 1990-1991*

1991

1990

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1990-2008 Road, continued

1992

1993

1994

Russell takes over manufacturing between 1992-2004, with their "R" logo on the right sleeve 1993-1999, moving to the left sleeve 2000-2004.

1997

2002

2004

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1990-2008 Road, continued

2005

Jason Varitek wore the captain "C" 2005-2011.

2006

2008

2008

Majestic takes over manufacturing between 2005-2008, with their logo on the left sleeve. In 2008, Cool Base road jerseys appeared for the first time as an option for players. Based on game used examples, they did not catch on with many players at this time.

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2003-2008 Alternate Home

2003

2007

2004

2008

With new ownership coming on board in 2002, the Red Sox lean in, appropriately, on their namesake color. This is the Red Sox's first alternate jersey, and is meant to be worn on weekend day games at home, though its use expands over the years. Red body with navy blue placket and sleeve knit trim.

Two-color Red Sox/McAuliffe style numbers on back in navy/white. It is worn at home only, so no player names are used on the back. Made by Russell 2003-2004, then Majestic 2005-2008.A Cool Base version debuts in 2006, though knit is still available through the rest of this jersey's run.

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2009-2013 Road

Soon after going all-in on red with a new home alternate, the team removes nearly all of their namesake color from their road uniforms. The new design borrows from history, but is not a direct copy of any previous style.

One-color navy "BOSTON" is arched across the front using the Red Sox "Tuscan" wordmark type font. The "Hanging Sox" logo patch is used on left sleeve, introducing the only red in the set. Block one-color navy name on back is used without a nameplate. Back numbers are in Red Sox/ McAuliffe font, also one-color navy. The team wears both Cool Base and knit versions of this jersey 2009-2013.

(Below) *Briefly in 2009, this uniform was actually paired with BLUE socks. Given the team's name and fan outcry, that did not last long.*

Steve Kraljic Collection

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2009-2023 Alternate Home

2009

2010

In 2009, the red alternate jersey loses its blue trim to match a new-for-2009 blue road alternate that lacks trim as well. It is now solid red in color, and otherwise the same as the previous iteration. Wordmark on front and numbers on back are two-color, navy/white.

The team wears both Cool Base and double knit versions of this jersey between 2009-2015 (though use of knit declines during this time), and Flex Base thereafter. Majestic is manufacturer from 2009-2019, Nike takes over in 2020.

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2009-2023 Alternate Home, continued

2013

2015

2019

2022

Note the change in style code from BQAA for Majestic to BQ3A for Nike.

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2009-2023 Alternate Road

2010

2010

*Briefly in 2009, this uniform was actually paired with BLUE socks **(right)** and an alternate "Hanging Sox" logo cap. Given the team's name, and fan outcry, the socks did not last long.*

A navy blue road alternate jersey, the first road alternate in team history, is introduced for 2009. Front BOSTON is identical style to that used on the 1990-2008 road jersey, here rendered in red/white. Back player names and numbers are two-color, red/white. No nameplates used.

The team wears both Cool Base and double knit versions of this jersey between 2009-2015 (though use of knit declines during this time), and Flex Base thereafter. Majestic is manufacturer from 2009-2019, Nike takes over in 2020.

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2009-2023 Alternate Road, continued

2013

2015

2019

Note the change in style code from BQAB for Majestic to BQ3B for Nike.

2023

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2014-2023 Road

The Red Sox return to the past by reintroducing an updated version of their 1990-2008 road jersey, replacing the plain navy-on-gray model they had adopted for the 2009 season. There are two changes from the earlier design: the sleeve ends are now devoid of trim and the jersey gains the addition of the "Hanging Sox" logo on the left sleeve. "Boston" is arched across the front in the team's traditional Tuscan font, in red/navy. McAuliffe-style numbers on the back, and player names direct-sewn in Block Condensed all in red/navy. Full knit versions are still available at the start of this run, but disappear with the switch to Flex Base in 2016. Majestic is manufacturer from 2014-2019, Nike takes over in 2020. The left-sleeve patch is deleted after 2022, in favor of an advertising patch.

2014

2015

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2014-2023 Road, continued

2016

Note the change in style code from BQR3 for Majestic to BQ23 for Nike.

2022

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2021-2023 City Connect

The Red Sox, one of baseball's most tradition-laden teams, unveiled MLB's first City Connect jersey in 2021, and its variance from anything related to the team's colors and branding set the tone for things to come. Boston's City Connect takes its full inspiration from the Boston Marathon, which is run at the same time as the team's annual 11 AM game on Patriots' Day, a local holiday. The yellow, blue, and white color scheme stems from the official colors of the marathon, and the front and back lettering on the jersey copy the fonts used on the finish line in 2013, the year of the marathon bombing. The patch on the left sleeve is a take on the marathon runners' bibs, mimicking the colors but using "617" - Boston's area code - as the bib number. The patch even has a tiny line of stitching that extends diagonally from each corner of the patch into the jersey material, reminiscent of safety pins runners use to hold their numbers on their shirts. It is very difficult to see, even with the jersey in hand, and completely invisible from more than a few inches away. The opposite of that attention to detail is the blank heat-pressed tag above the jock tag. Many teams use that space, which is never seen when players wear the jersey, to reinforce the theme. The Red Sox do not fill the space, nor do they explain why the tag is applied if not used. The 2022 version of this jersey has the Jerry Remy memorial patch on the right sleeve, while a sponsor patch is on the right sleeve in 2023.

(Left) *The mysterious blank tag on the front tail of the jersey.*

(Near right) *A view of the finish line painting that inspired the jersey.*

(Bottom right) *A 2013 Boston Marathon runner's bib, the source for the jersey's sleeve patch.*

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The 2024 incarnation of the classic Red Sox home jersey sticks to the established script in spirit, allowing for some of the template changes forced on teams from the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite template. The material is now a slight off-white color, and the red knit trim around the neck and placket is now spaced more closely together than in years past. The lack of a name on back means the change in lettering size is not an factor here, though the back numbers are slightly smaller (down to 7 3/8" from 7 1/2"), and possibly sewn on lower, than in previous jerseys, though that may be as a result of the difference in size versus placement. Nike's style code on the front tag now reads BQHO, changed from BQ1H of their Flex Base template. Numbers on back are not perforated. This single-season style includes the Tim Wakefield memorial patch on one sleeve and the sponsor patch on the other.

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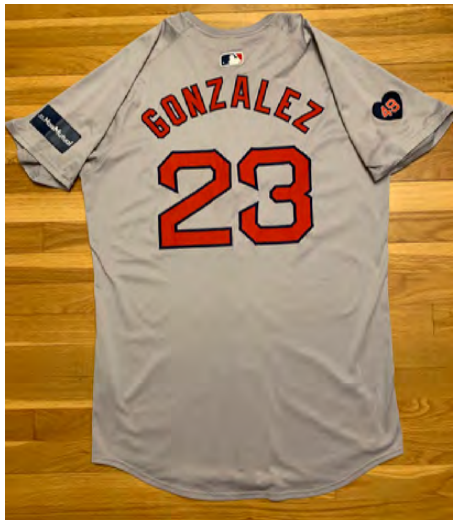
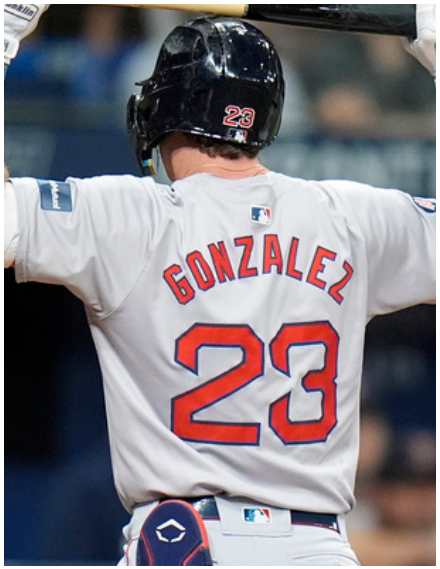
2024 Road





The 2024 version of the Red Sox road jersey varies little from those before it, even as it adopts the new Nike Vapor Premier Elite template. The new name on back font is smaller and more arched than the previous incarnation, making it the most obvious change. Back numbers shrink slightly down to 7 3/8” from 7 1/2”. Nike’s style code on the front tag now reads BQRD, changed from BQ1H of their Flex Base template. Numbers on back are not perforated. This single-season style includes the Tim Wakefield memorial patch on one sleeve and the sponsor patch on the other.

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2024 Alternate Home

Of the Red Sox full suite of jerseys, the red home alternate may be the one that appears to have changed the least with the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite template. Aside from some of the template's smaller details, like the new sewn-in collar that matches the jersey color and essentially disappears for teams without collar trim, the most noticeable change is the smaller back numbers. The effect is lessened somewhat with this jersey as it features no name on back, which was also shrunken down from previous seasons. However, the slightly smaller back number (down to 7 3/8" from 7 1/2") make them appear to be sewn lower than in past seasons. Nike's style code on the front tag now reads BQA1, changed from BQ3A of their Flex Base template. Numbers on back appear to be perforated on this contrary to the home and road jerseys. This single-season style includes the Tim Wakefield memorial patch on one sleeve and the sponsor patch on the other.

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2024 Alternate Road

The Red Sox road alternate exists in the Vapor Premier Elite template for one season only - but not because the many changes in lettering size were unpopular. After the 2024 season, the team retires this jersey in favor of making their yellow City Connect 1.0 a regular entry into their 4+1 rotation. As with the road jersey, the name on back lettering was shrunken and standardized compared to previous years. Back numbers shrink slightly down to 7 3/8" from 7 1/2". Nike's style code on the front tag now reads BQA2, changed from BQ3B of their Flex Base template. These jerseys use perforated numbering on back. This single-season style includes the Tim Wakefield memorial patch on one sleeve (the only jersey that uses a patch with a white border to contrast it from the blue jersey) and the sponsor patch on the other.

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2024 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a few small changes to the Red Sox inaugural City Connect jersey. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide shrinking of the back names and numbers. The Red Sox City Connect, however, has no name on back, and the numbering does not look to be much smaller, if at all. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it as before, and the stripes appear wider. Contrary to the team's other jerseys, here, the ad patch is always on the right sleeve and the "617" patch is on the left. For 2024, the Tim Wakefield memorial is above the "617" patch on the left sleeve. Inconceivably left over from Nike Flex Base is the blank heat-pressed tag above the jock tag that still serves no purpose. Even more incredible, it remains the same shape as it was when it was introduced, regardless of Nike changing the shape of the heat-pressed tags for 2023. It still makes no sense. Numbers are perforated.

Left: *The blank tag above the jock tag remains, despite having no purpose. Notice it is the pre-2023 shape, contrasting with the current shape seen under the jock tag.*

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

For the Red Sox iconic home jersey, those changes mainly mean that back numbers are enlarged to their former size of 7 1/2" up from 7 3/8" form 2024. Aside from the VPE changes, the team's ad patch also changes shape for 2025. The jersey also features the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag used on a handful of jerseys around MLB. Otherwise, these remain the same as in 2024.

Left: *Red Sox player Rob Refsnyder wearing the home jersey for a community event in 2025. Note the new white Nike jock tag.*

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Like other 2025 jerseys, gray jerseys also have back name and numbers enlarged, in most cases back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025 here as well. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Separate from the VPE changes, the team’s ad patch changes shape for 2025.

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2025 Alternate Red

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

For the Red Sox comparatively plain red alternate, those changes mainly mean that back numbers are enlarged to their former size of 7 1/2" up from 7 3/8" form 2024. Separate from the VPE changes, the team's ad patch changes shape for 2025. Otherwise, these remain the same as before. However, with the deletion of the blue road alternate jersey, the team starts to wear the red jersey as a road alternate. It is the first time since 1933 that a jersey worn on the road says "RED SOX" rather than "BOSTON" on the front

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2025 Alternate Home “Boston”

The Red Sox add their Patriots’ Day/Marathon Monday jerseys to full alternate status in the MLB Style Guide in 2025, despite wearing the jersey only one day each year. It is likely this is done to ensure its availability to them, as other teams were made to add special Spring Training and BP jerseys they wear as alternates, even when they are only used in spring or pregame (the Tigers and Yankees with their blue jerseys, for example). Though the Red Sox wore this style in 2024, the version they used that day was still Flex Base, despite the league-wide switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE). It is possible this happened because of production difficulties, or because this jersey was not an official alternate for the season in the guide. The 2024 version was also worn on April 15, so each player wore “42” for Jackie Robinson Day, which may also have held back production of this jersey on the VPE template. Regardless, the Red Sox are one of only a few teams permitted to break Nike’s 4+1 rule (four regular jerseys and a City Connect), as this one-day style is allowed to remain in rotation given its importance to the team and city as a commemoration of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing. The switch to VPE means the placket trim is closer together than on the previous version, and even though the lettering breaks across the “S” and “T” as before, the “T” overlaps the trim differently as a result. The “B Strong” patch appears again on left chest, and the backs of the jerseys are the same as the Red Sox typical home jerseys, including the lower MLB logo due to the smaller collar and placket. It appears that back numbers are the same size as before (7 1/2”), but since no 2024 VPE version exists, we can’t compare. The team’s ad patch changes for 2025 as well.

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2025 Alternate Home Yellow

In advance of releasing a City Connect 2.0 jersey in 2025, the Red Sox elevate their City Connect 1.0 style to full alternate status in the MLB Style Guide for the season, deleting their blue road alternate to make room. The team had a strong winning record in this style since its introduction and it had become a fan and team favorite. City Connect jerseys that were introduced prior to 2025 did not have any changes made in advance of the 2025 season, such as reverting to larger names and numbers. With the change from City Connect to alternate status for this jersey, we are unsure if there have been any major updates. One notable change is that the jersey now has the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag, that has been used on a handful of jerseys around the league. (The blank heat-pressed tag above the new jock tag is still there too, again, for no discernible reason.) However, we cannot tell if the back numbers are perforated as they were in 2024, since those perforations were almost impossible to see without holding the jersey in-hand. More research is required to be sure on all counts. One thing is clear, the team's sponsor patch is updated for the 2025 season, as it is on all its other jerseys, and for this style only, patches do not alternate sleeves based on player handedness. The "617" patch is always on the left sleeve, while the sponsor patch is always on the right.

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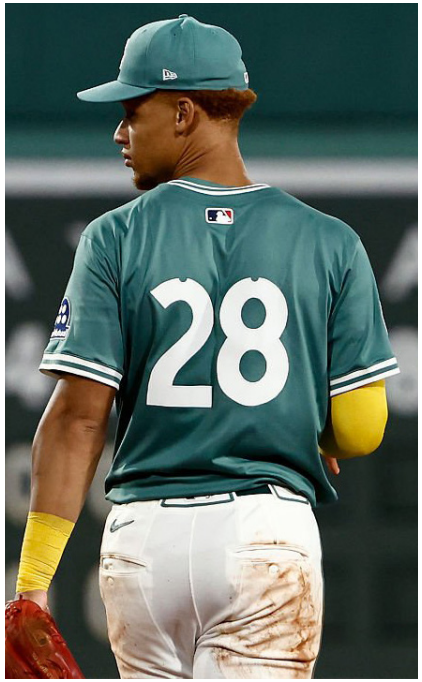
2025 City Connect 2.0

The Red Sox go from honoring one local sports landmark to another, elevating their Boston Marathon-inspired CC 1.0 to home alternates and replacing them with a new set that takes its cues from Fenway Park's vaunted Green Monster. Called "Fenway Greens" by the Red Sox, the jersey color is meant to represent the Green Monster's longstanding paint hue (known by the team as "Scoreboard Green" which is different from the other green around the ballpark called "Fence Green"). "RED SOX" is spelled out in white on front in a font that echoes the hand-painted details of the scoreboard. White/green/white trim, recalling the white stripes throughout the Green Monster, encircle the sleeve and collar openings. Front numbers appear in bright yellow ("Safety Yellow" officially as a paint color...Seriously!) that echoes the paint on Fenway's foul poles and the yellow numbers of Green Monster scoreboard tiles that are used to represent runs scored in an in-progress inning. Back numbers are in a similar font, but white, following from the manual scoreboard's other, and more frequently-used tiles. In an impressive detail, back numbers also have a small notch at the top that cuts into each number. The notch represents how each single-number tile appears as each tile has a hole at top center to hang them up inside the Green Monster. (The number "4" does not have the notch because it does not overlap the hole on the tiles.) Speaking of which, the ancient and spartan concrete walls inside the Monster inspired the gray inner collar of the jersey, which also has a heat-pressed "1912" to honor the year Fenway Park opened. One sleeve is adorned with a patch with a white "B" on a green field and a thick white border that recalls the notation above the "Hit (H)" and "Error (E)" lights on the scoreboard. A final Green Monster detail is out of sight when worn on-field, but attractive at retail - a head pressed series of red and green dots that represent the balls, strikes, and outs lights on the board. Aside from the inaccuracy of the jersey reading "Red Sox" rather than "Boston" as the Green Monster itself does, it is a very spot-on representation of the landmark that inspired it.



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1970-1994 Red Sox Team Tagging

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1995-2012 Red Sox Team Tagging

Up until Majestic took over the jersey contract in 2005, Red Sox team tagging is rather inconsistent, even for different jerseys in the same year. These pages show multiple variations in tags for any given year, and there is no absolute guarantee even that all of these examples represent authentic team issued jerseys. I always attempt to show tags from “common” player jerseys and avoid the superstars’ whenever possible, to decrease the odds of showing counterfeit tagging.

*

There is some controversy in the hobby about jerseys with this style tagging for 2003 and 2004. The controversy is discussed that these "large number" versions of the 2003 and 2004 year tags are an exception, and are said to be usually only seen on Manny Ramirez jerseys. Some collectors contend Manny had these made up and sold them as game worn, and some have questioned the wear patterns on them (many of them have almost identical wear). Jerseys with this style tag are more of an exception than a rule for those two years. I am reporting this here simply to make people aware. I have no evidence one way or another about the situation.

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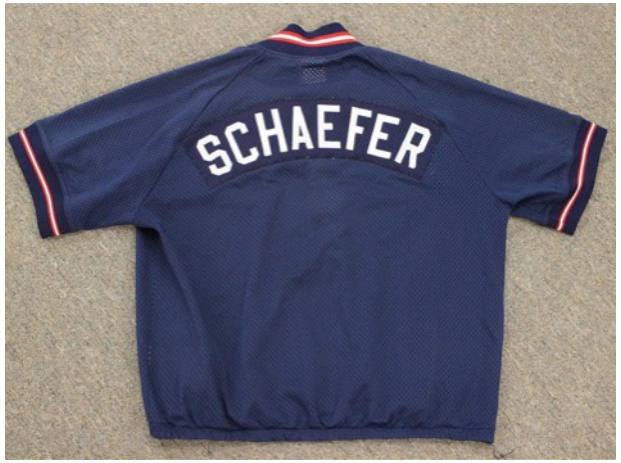
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

Mid 1980s Alternate Zip-Neck Batting Practice



Majestic supplied this half-zip style “Gamewarmer” batting practice jersey to most but not all MLB clubs starting in the mid-1980s. The Red Sox used the style briefly. Features slash pockets and thin red and white knit trim on the collar and sleeve ends. The small Majestic logo is spelled out on the right pocket edge. These were issued and used by coaches with names but without numbers and used by players with the backs blank.

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1989-2002 Batting Practice

1989-1996 back number style

1997-2002 back number style

Blue mesh pullover with red/white sleeve end and V-neck knit trim. “RED SOX” wordmark on the front, in same Tuscan style as team’s home jersey.

Two-color numbers on back, red/white, in Varsity or Majestic Varsity font 1989-1996, in special Red Sox number font 1997-2002. No names on back. These same style jerseys were used by Red Sox’ minor league clubs, although usually feature white numbers and have player names on the back.

1992

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1989-1991 Alternate Batting Practice/Spring Training

Majestic-tagged, navy blue mesh with red/white sleeve end trim and V-neck. Red Sox alternate Hanging Sox logo sewn to the left chest. This style jersey seems to have been used concurrently with the 1989-2002 batting practice jersey shown on the prior page. Many photos in my collection show it in use as a Spring Training game jersey. Two-color number on back, red/white. Numbers in a very bold Varsity font variant, not the Red Sox number font. No names on back.

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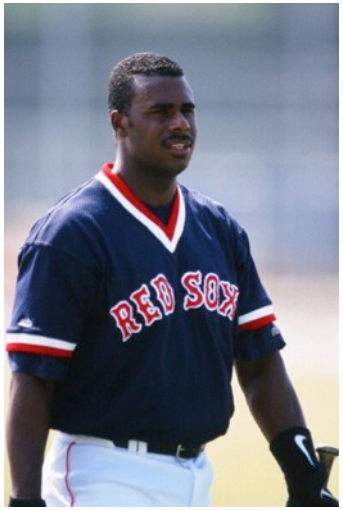
Batting Practice Jersey Lettering Variations



(Below) This is another different variation of this jersey, notice the difference in sleeve and neck trim vs. the others on this page. We have seen this version on instructors and minor league players but have yet to see it on MLB players either in Spring Training or in season. Just an FYI.

(Left, Right) *The sharp V-neck with the two wide stripes is the version seen on MLB jerseys.*

Over the course of the last couple of decades, Majestic changed the shape of the Red Sox logo lettering on BP jerseys. From 1989 to about 1999, the “R” was the same general shape as used on the home jerseys. Starting around 2000, Majestic went to using a much different version, with the easiest differentiator being the letter “R”, which now had a circle in the middle and no “points” so to speak. Then, in 2007, they returned to the shape that was closer to the home jersey version. This can be helpful with dating a Red Sox BP jersey, especially the final few years of the blue mesh pullovers and the St. Patrick’s Day mesh jerseys. However, it isn’t a perfect system, as BP jerseys seemed to carry over in use for multiple years, and it is possible that Majestic even produced both in the same year(s).

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2003-2006 Batting Practice
(two back lettering variations)

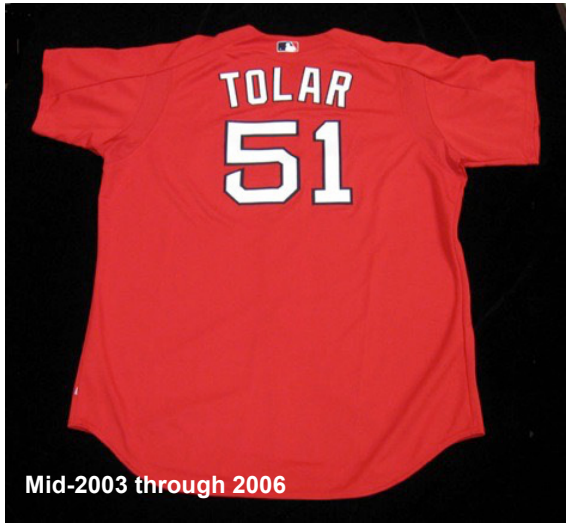
Early 2003

Early 2003

New softer non-mesh. Moisture-wicking fabric, highly susceptible to fading and pulls.

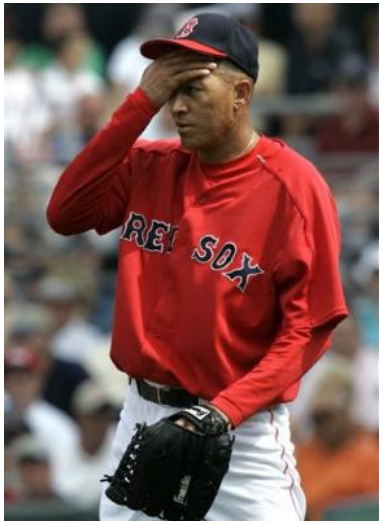
Early 2003: Two-color names on back– navy/white ***(top center)***

Mid 2003-2006: Names and numbers' colors reverse: white/navy ***(bottom left)***



Mid-2003 through 2006

2004



At a point early in the 2003 season, the team changed the lettering colors on the jersey back from navy/white to white/navy. Insiders tell me that the original intent was for the navy over white lettering on the back to match the lettering on front. But when the players were out on the field, club personnel noticed they were challenging to read from a distance, so they were changed at some point before the mid-season All-Star break.

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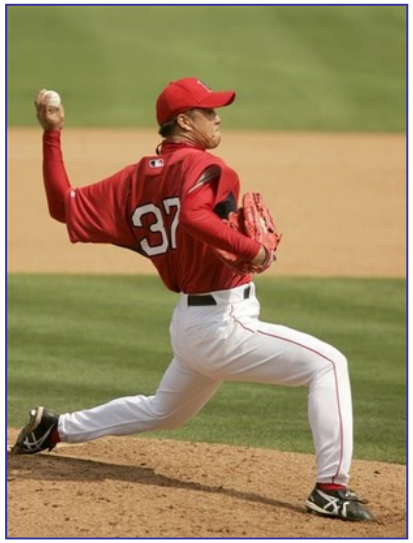
2007-2010 Home Batting Practice

For the 2007 all-MLB batting practice jersey makeover, the Red Sox have two styles to wear. Their home one is solid red with small blue inserts under the arms. It looks very close in appearance to the 2003-2006 batting practice jersey.

Two-color player numbers in the Red Sox font on the back only. No player names are used.

All lettering and numbers are heat-applied appliqués, and are no longer sewn tackle twill.



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2007-2010 Road Batting Practice

The road version of the batting practice jersey reverses the colors from the home version, and is blue with red inserts under the sleeves. “Boston” is spelled across the front. This is the first time the Red Sox have utilized different batting practice jerseys for home and road, something the team will embrace going forward.

Two-color Red Sox-style/McAuliffe numbers are used on the back. All lettering and numbers are flocked and heat pressed on.

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2011-2013 Home Batting Practice

Major League Baseball changes all teams' batting practice jerseys to button fronts for 2011. While most other teams also change the side panel trim at the same time, the Red Sox stay with the small blue panels under the arms as their only contrasting color. All lettering sewn on, front and back. McAuliffe/Red Sox-style numbers on back in two-color twill, white outlined with navy. Player names return to batting practice jerseys after a four year absence.

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2011-2013 Road Batting Practice

Major League Baseball changes all teams' batting practice jerseys to button fronts for 2011. Blue Cool Base jersey body, red panels remain under the arm. The Red Sox retain both the home and away batting practice jerseys in their wardrobe.

All lettering sewn on, front and back. McAuliffe/Red Sox-style numbers on back in two-color twill, red outlined with white. Player names return to batting practice jerseys after a four year absence.

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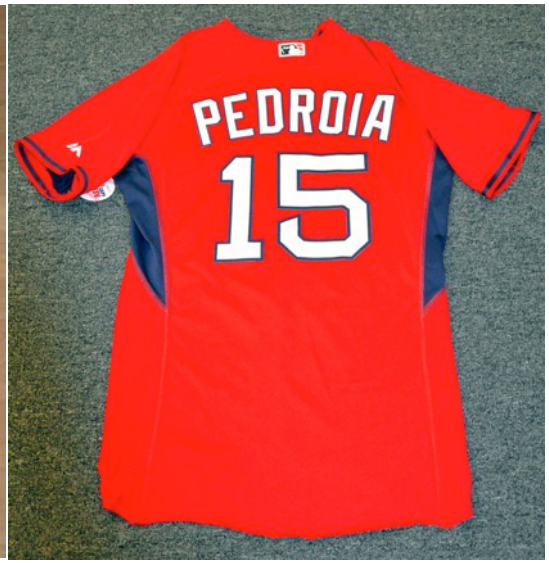
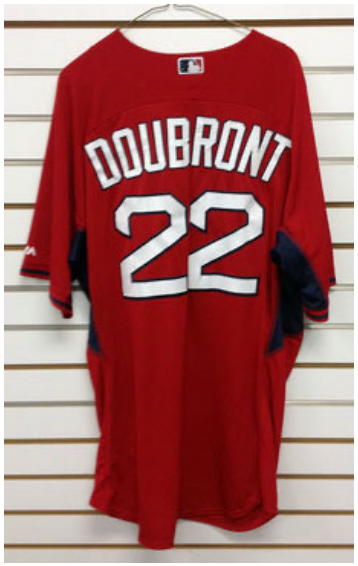
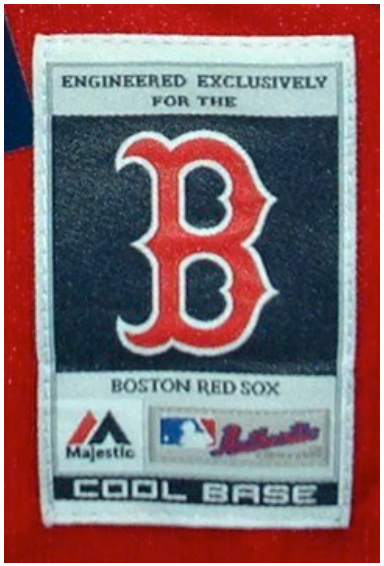
2014-2016 Home Batting Practice







All the teams in MLB received new batting practice jerseys for 2014. The Red Sox's home BPs receive very subtle, almost unnoticeable alterations. Red and navy striped knit trim is added to the collar and the sleeve ends, and the blue side inserts are made larger than the previous style, now extending halfway down the jersey side. All lettering remains the same, white outlined with navy, names on back used.

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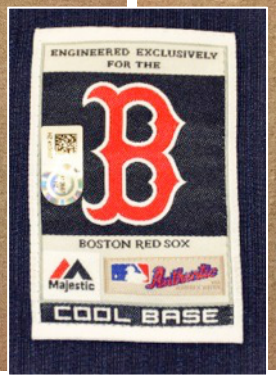
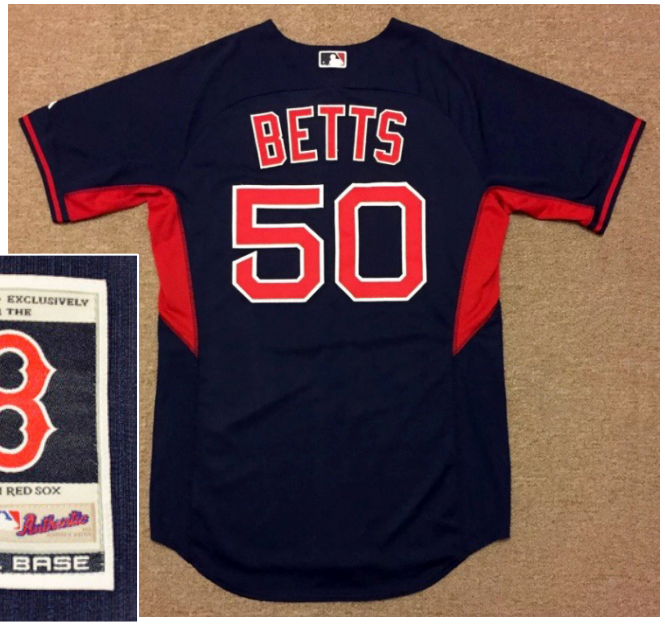
2014-2016 Road Batting Practice





Players have NOB, #78 is likely a Spring Training instructor

All the teams in MLB received new batting practice jerseys for 2014. The Red Sox's road BPs receive very subtle, almost unnoticeable alterations. Red and navy striped knit trim is added to the collar and the sleeve ends, and the red side inserts are made larger than the previous style, now extending halfway down the jersey side. All lettering remains the same, red outlined with white, names on back used.

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2016 Spring Training

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Red Sox use their regular season red home alternate, but adding a name on back, as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are blue patterned twill/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Red Sox spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. The Red Sox again use their regular season red home alternate, here with a name on back as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Red Sox spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Home Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Player number lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Red Sox jersey is red with blue underarm gussets. “Red Sox" appears arched in white/navy across the chest. Unlike nearly every other team which has issued this style jersey with a blank back and player numbers only on the left sleeve, the Red Sox letter theirs traditionally, with player names and numbers on the back, names in Block and player number in Red Sox font, both in white/navy.

In our first look at the new BP jerseys for 2017, we were somewhat surprised that while player numbers are sewn in the new lightweight “kiss cut” twill, team wordmarks are sewn in the old-fashioned layered twill style.

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2017-2019 Road Batting Practice

The Red Sox continue their practice of issuing different home and road BP jerseys. The road BP is blue with red underarm panels, compared to the home's red with blue panels. The word "Boston" is arched across the front in red/white, Unlike nearly every other team which has issued this style jersey with a blank back and player numbers only on the left sleeve, the Red Sox letter theirs traditionally, with player names and numbers on the back in red/white. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail.

In our first look at the new BP jerseys for 2017, we were somewhat surprised that while player numbers are sewn in the new lightweight "kiss cut" twill, team wordmarks are sewn in the old-fashioned layered twill style.

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2018 Spring Training

The Red Sox' 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Red Sox use their regular-season red home alternate, here with a name on back, as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Red Sox use their regular-season red home alternate, here with a name on back, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are blue/white twill.

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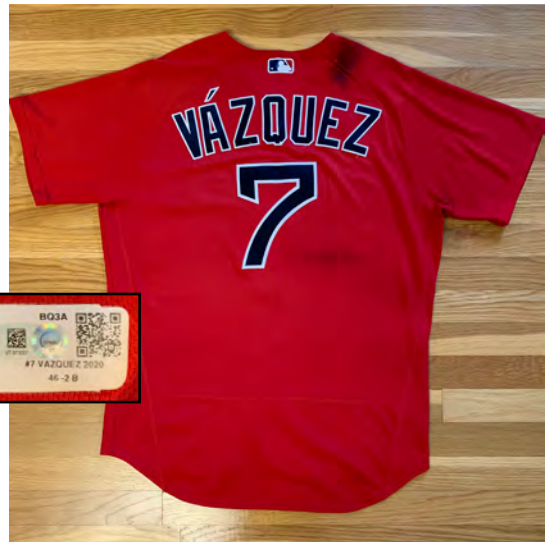
2020-2023 Spring Training



Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Red Sox use their regular-season red home alternate, here with a name on back, with blue/white name and back numbers.

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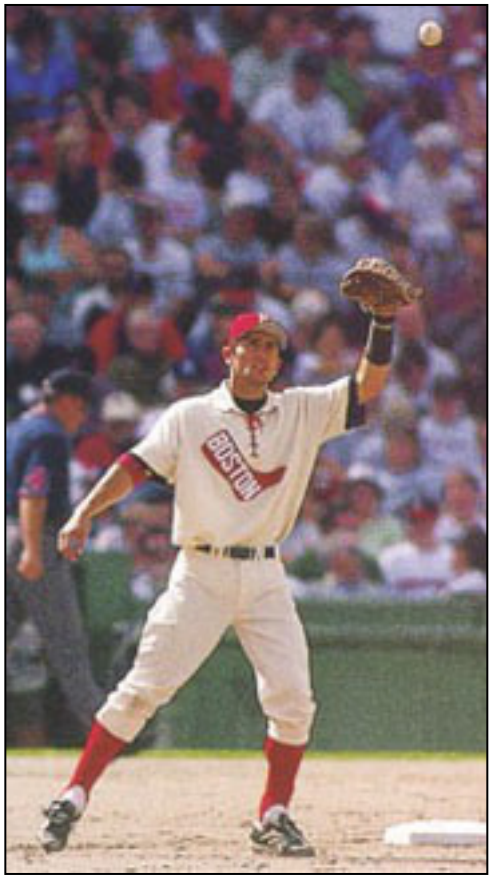
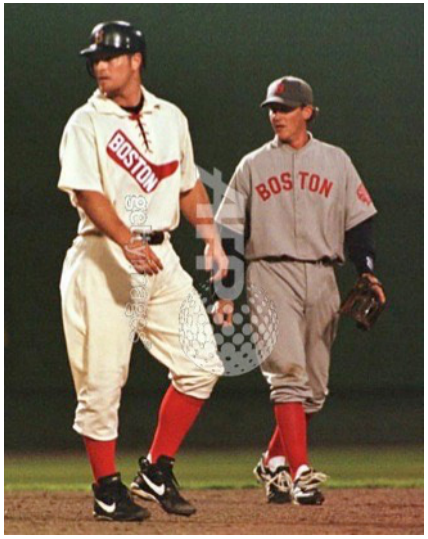
Special Events Jerseys

1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1908





August 29 and 30,1997: Recreating the 1908 Red Sox with help from Mitchell & Ness, the games were Interleague contests played against the Atlanta Braves in their first game back in Boston since the Braves bolted in 1952 for Milwaukee.

The visiting Braves wore 1912 Boston Braves road uniforms. Reportedly, Braves' manager Bobby Cox objected strongly to his team wearing uniforms that said "Boston" on front.

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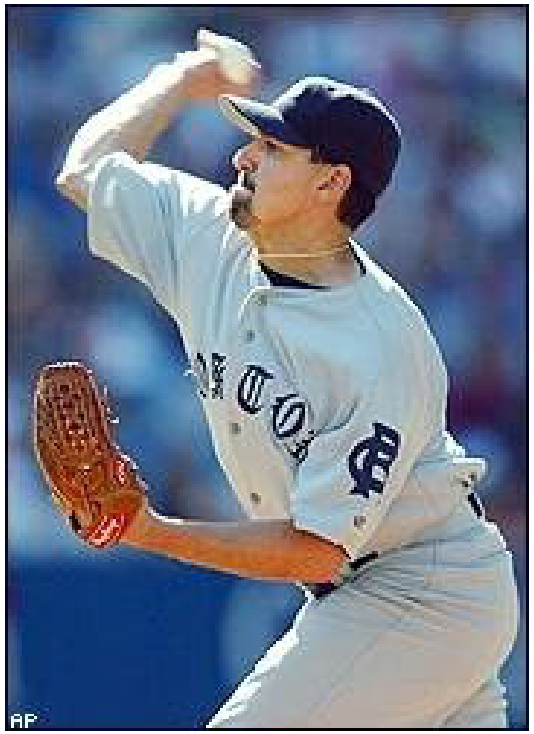
2002 Negro Leagues Tribute (1948 Boston Royal Giants)



On July 13, 2002, the Boston Red Sox dressed in 1948 Boston Royal Giants uniforms to honor the Negro Leagues. The shirts are modeled after a uniform that player Herb Holmes' great-grandson found in a foot locker. Over time, the team had also been known as the Boston Giants, Quaker Giants, Philadelphia Giants and Boston Colored Giants.

In this game, the Red Sox faced the Toronto Blue Jays who were wearing the Turn Back the Clock uniforms of Toronto's 1930 Chatham All-Stars. The game worn uniform at top left is autographed by Rickey Henderson in 2002. It is the only year he played for the Red Sox.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1903

The Red Sox and the Pirates recreated the 100th Anniversary match-up of the 1903 World Series during interleague play on June 5, 2003.

The uniforms were reproduced in polyester by AIS. Player numbers would not have been used in 1903, but they were included here for the fans' convenience and following MLB rules.

During this game, the Jumbotron video screen was kept dark, and the scoreboard showed the team names as the "Boston Americans" against the "Pittsburg Pirates." They used a megaphone to make announcements from the field.

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2004-2007 St. Patrick's Day/2007 Red Auerbach Tribute

2006

Spring Training, 2004

The 2005 jerseys used nameplates, the other years (2004, 2006-2007) had direct-sewn names.

April 20, 2007

- **St. Patrick's Day green jerseys:** They are actually green mesh batting practice jerseys. These jerseys are made of mesh fabric (and have manufacturer tagging) last used by the team for its 2002 blue BP jerseys. Notice the "Hanging Sox" patch sewn to the left sleeve, not used on the team's regular BP jerseys at that time.
- **Same style jersey also worn for regular season game, April 20, 2007** honoring Red Auerbach of the Boston Celtics (thus the green color connection) who passed away the previous winter. On that day, the jersey also featured a small "VT" screened on the left sleeve above the Hanging Red Sox patch, honoring the victims of the Virginia Tech killings of that week.

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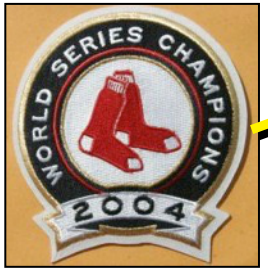
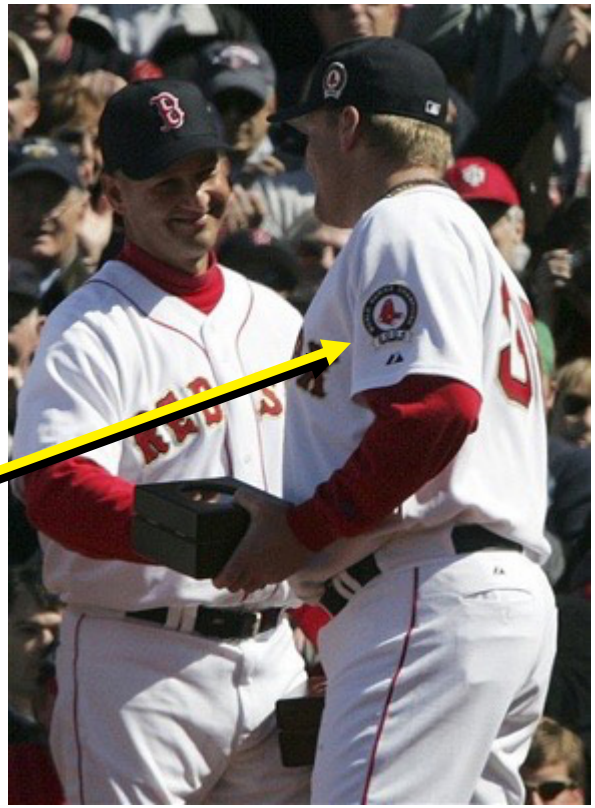
2005 Special Gold Trimmed Ring Ceremony





Eighty-six years after their last championship in 1918, the Red Sox finally had a chance to celebrate. For the ring ceremony before the game on April 11, 2005, the team wore these special jerseys. Notice the normally red/navy lettering and numbers were all outlined with metallic gold. The effect was subtle. Immediately following the ceremony, the team changed into regular home jerseys, with the same 2004 World Champions patch, which the team wore for that day only.

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2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1982

- On June 22, 2007 the Red Sox played the Padres in a Turn Back the Clock game wearing early 1980s-style uniforms. The host Padres wore 1982 home uniforms.
- The 2007 Majestic uniforms are inexact copies of the originals, featuring front script that is too tall and thin. This is such a simple design it would not have taken too much more work to get it exactly right. Likely a stock typeface was used to replicate the BOSTON lettering instead of making an attempt to copy the exact earlier art.
- And, as is the norm, the players wore these uniforms in 2007's baggy style, varying from the skin-tight look used when these were originally worn.

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2008 Celtics Celebration/2010 St. Patrick's Day

2008

- This jersey is a special style Cool Base batting practice jersey made with white side panel inserts, white and navy back numbers, and a white and navy front RED SOX wordmark. All lettering is flocked and heat pressed, not sewn-on twill.
- They were worn on June 20, 2008 in a regular season game at home celebrating the Celtics NBA World Championship that had just occurred a few days before. However, it did not appear on St. Patrick's Day in 2008.
- While the team wore different all white St. Patrick's uniforms in 2009, they returned to this identical style for 2010, except the 2010 jersey had a white shamrock on the left sleeve.

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2009 St. Patrick's Day/Earth Day

Getting double duty yet again from their St. Pat's jerseys, the Red Sox added the Earth Day logo patch to the right sleeve and reused the green-trimmed white Cool Base jerseys for Earth Day on April 22.

All lettering is one-color, green, and a flocked/ heat pressed type. A green shamrock patch adorns the left sleeve.

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2011-2012 St. Patrick's Day

2011 and 2012 St. Patrick's Day uniforms are green with white/navy lettering, and white side panels and a white panel across the back. Names and player numbers are white/navy twill. 2012 had the Fenway Park 100 patch on the right sleeve.

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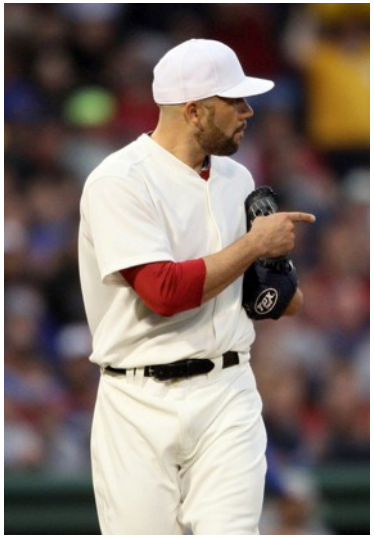
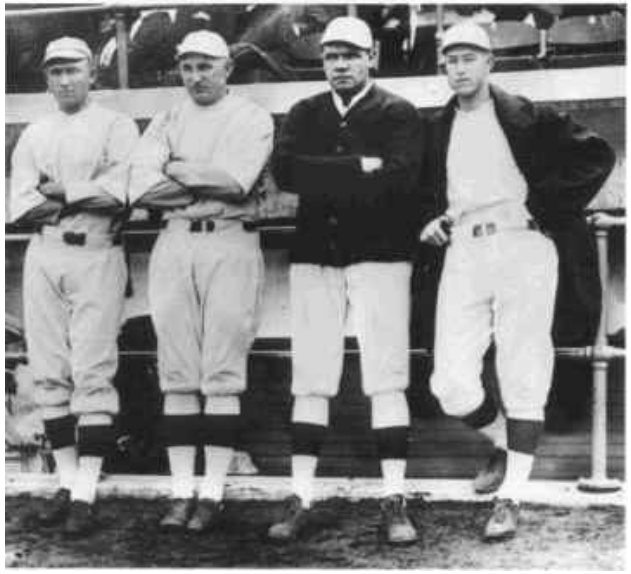
2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1918





On May 21, the Red Sox and Cubs wore 1918 uniforms to mark the Cubs' first visit to Fenway Park since the 1918 World Series.

Faithful Majestic knit reproductions, with blank, white fronts, these suits could not have been plainer. Photo at far left is from 1918 original and shows different hose than worn in the Turn Back the Clock contest.

Varsity Bold numbers on back are not authentic; teams did not wear player numbers until the 1930s. Then, truly the only thing that distinguished this club were their “red socks."

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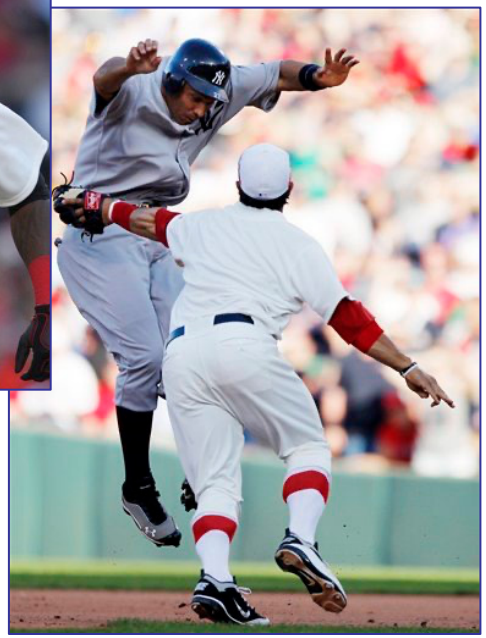
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1912

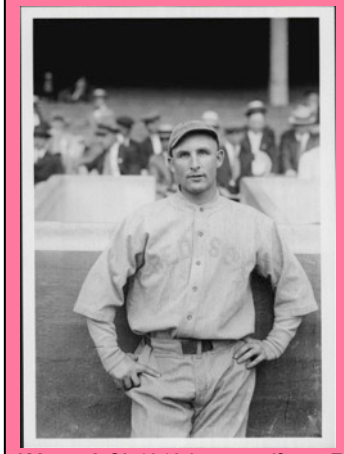


This Turn Back the Clock game is especially interesting for a couple of reasons.

Held on April 20, 2012, the Red Sox invited the Yankees to Turn Back the Clock to the April 20, 1912 opening of Fenway Park, the Red Sox home for the past 100 seasons. The Yankees, who were the opponents for the 1912 contest, participated, wearing the road uniforms of the 1912 NY Highlanders, as they were known at the time. Significant fact *number one* is that this is only the second throwback game the Yankees have ever played, and the first they have played wearing their own old uniforms (the other was a Negro League tribute game).

Significant fact *number two* is that, in being very faithful to the era they represented, neither team wore player numbers on their backs. It was the very early 1930s when the Yankees first introduced player numbers to the game, but in 1912 players did not wear them. There has not been another throwback game where uniform numbers were omitted!

The Majestic knit replica uniforms are as plain as uniforms come. Pure white with "RED SOX arched across the front in red. Majestic logo on the sleeve in a very *un-1912* touch.



(Above left) *1919 home uniform. Front team name hardly visible, probably due to the film type or lens filter.* ***(Above right)*** *1912 road jersey in gray pinstripes*

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1936

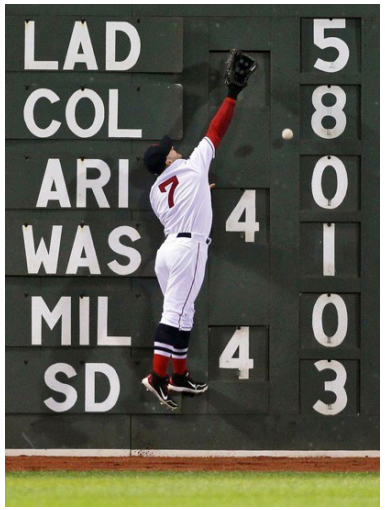
Steve Kraljic Collection

Game played vs. the Oakland Athletics on May 2, 2012, as part of the Red Sox celebration of the opening of Fenway Park 100 years ago. Both teams wore 1936 uniforms

Interestingly, the Red Sox 1936 throw-back uniform is so similar to their current 2012 uniform that it is almost unrecognizable as a nostalgia jersey! The Red Sox wordmark on the front is slightly different than current, with the letters being wider. Twin knit trim red stripes adorn the sleeve ends and at the collar that do not exist on the current uniform. Back numbers are identical to current, in the “Red Sox Font” in red/navy.

Players obligingly wore their fancy striped socks in plain view with high-cuffed pants as would have been done in 1936.

1936



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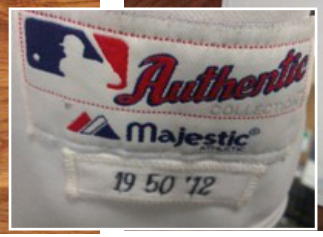
2012 Johnny Pesky Tribute



Red Sox legend Johnny Pesky died August 13, 2012. Known as “The Needle” and “Mr. Red Sox," he had played for the Red Sox 1942-1952 and overall was associated with the Red Sox for 61 of his 73 years in baseball. His number 6 was retired by the Red Sox in 2008. On August 21, all the Red Sox took the field wearing his number on their backs, and this is the way they played the game. They announced that beginning the next day all players would wear a black #6 patch on their sleeves until the end of the season.

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2013 “Boston Strong”/2014-2015 Patriots’ Day

These special “Boston” home jerseys were worn at home on April 20 and 21(for the first game of a doubleheader), 2013 the first games at home following the Boston Marathon bombing which occurred on Patriots’ Day, Monday April 15 (which was also Jackie Robinson Day). Note that these jerseys were NOT worn at home on Patriots’ Day 2013. The jerseys on that day had been the regular Red Sox home jerseys, all with the #42 on back to commemorate Jackie Robinson. According to Wikipedia, “Patriots’ Day is a civic holiday commemorating the anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the first battles of the American Revolutionary War on April 19, 1775…Since 1969, the holiday has been observed on the third Monday in April, providing a three-day long weekend in Massachusetts...”

The Boston Marathon is run each year on Patriots’ Day, and the Red Sox have been scheduled to play at home on this date every year since 1959. In 2013, minutes after the final pitch of the 3-2 Red Sox victory in the traditional Patriots’ Day game, terrorists’ bombs detonated at the finish line of the Boston marathon, killing three people and injuring over 100 more. After a short three-game road trip to Cleveland, the Red Sox returned home, but the game on April 19 was postponed because the city was still in lockdown during the search for the bombers. April 20 and the first game of the (rescheduled game) doubleheader on April 21, the Red Sox wore these special jerseys, white with red trim like their usual home jerseys, but with “Boston” spelled out across the fronts in simple Tuscan font red letters. A round memorial patch, with the team’s fancy “B” from their caps and the word “Strong” was placed on the left chest above the wordmark. The visiting Royals wore this patch as well on April 20 only.

In subsequent years, the Red Sox again wear this jersey for their annual Patriots’ Day morning game. It is worn April 21, 2014 and April 20, 2015.

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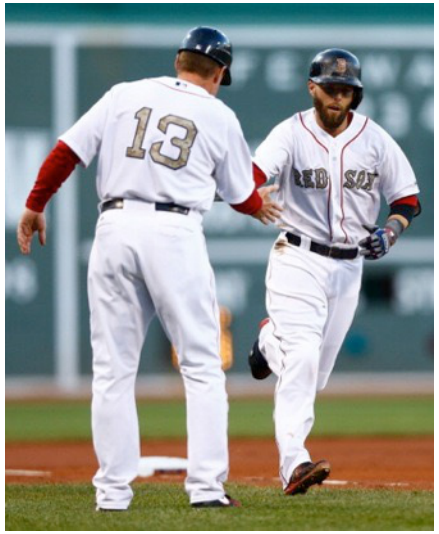
2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.



All teams in MLB wore camouflage-accented jerseys on May 27, 2013. Playing at home against the Phillies, the Red Sox's uniforms were less objectionable than most (my editorial comment) with camo replacing the red in the front wordmark and back numbers. Outlined with navy blue, the lettering was at least visible.

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2014-2015 St. Patrick's Day

The Red Sox continue their tradition of wearing green jerseys for St. Patrick's Day in 2014 and 2015. Both years, the jerseys are based on the batting practice template of the era, with a green body, white underarm panels, and green and white striped knit trim on the collar and the sleeve ends. All lettering is white/navy. A white shamrock appears on the left sleeve.

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2014 Special Gold Trimmed

The Red Sox received their 2013 World Series rings on their April 4 home opener of the new season. These jerseys were identical to the 2005 edition, with metallic gold providing a subtle outline around all lettering and around the World Series Champs patch on the left sleeve. Gold also outlines the MLB logo on the back of the jersey near the neck. The effect is subtle and even elegant. The Red Sox wore the Champs patch only for this game; it never appeared on their regular uniforms in 2014.

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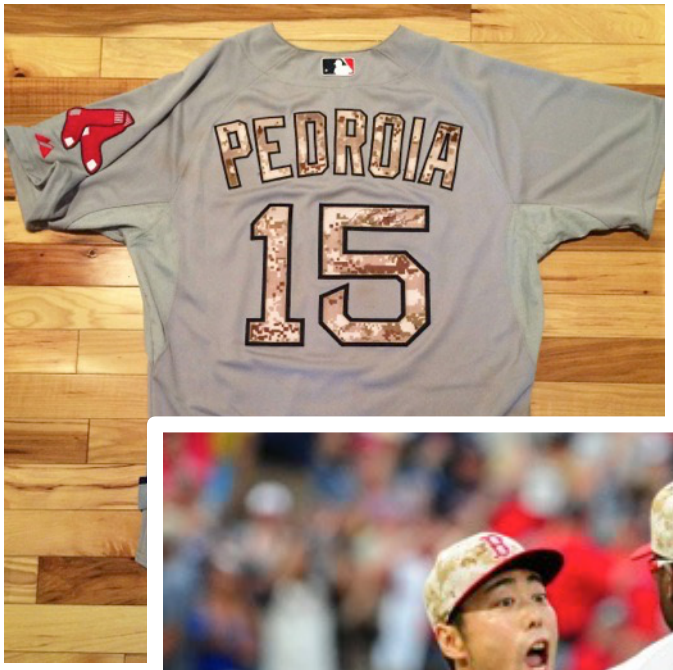
2014 Memorial Day



Year two of this MLB-sanctioned event had all teams again wearing camouflage accented uniforms in tribute to our military forces. The Red Sox were on the road in Atlanta on May 26, 2014, and therefore altered their road jerseys to comply. The red twill of the “BOSTON” wordmark as well as player names and numbers on the back were replaced with desert camo twill outlined with navy blue.

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2015-2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1975 (Home)

2015

2015

2016 - Note updated Majestic logos on sleeve and jock tag.

For two consecutive years, the Red Sox throw back to their 1975 home pullover jerseys. On May 5, 2015, the jerseys were part of a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the AL Champs team. The opposing Rays wore their standard navy alternates. On July 20, 2016, the Sox faced the Giants, who wore 1978 orange throwbacks. These white Majestic knit pullovers are good reproductions of the originals. Aside from the neck trim, which is wider than the 1975 jerseys, and of course, the MLB logo patch on back neck, the rest of the details are solid, including the Massachusetts Bicentennial patch on the left sleeve. Both years' jerseys are identical, save for the tagging, which is updated with Majestic's new logos in 2016.

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2015 Negro Leagues Tribute (1946 Boston Royal Giants)

On May 16, the Red Sox honor the Boston Royal Giants Negro League team again, as they did in 2002. For a road game against the Mariners, who wear 1946 Negro League Seattle Steelheads jerseys, the Sox don these Majestic knit unis. “Boston” is vertically arched on front in navy, with player numbers in navy Block on back. Navy knit trim surrounds the sleeves, neck, and placket, stopping just under the last button. Compared to an original Royal Giants road jersey, these are fairly faithful reproductions, save for back numbers, which were a smaller version of Varsity in 1946.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 Memorial Day

The 2015 Memorial Day jerseys from May 25 are identical to the year before, save for the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag, which is changed to dark green/khaki/ white rather than its typical colors from 2014. The red twill of the “BOSTON” wordmark as well as player names and numbers on the back were replaced with desert camo twill outlined with navy blue.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1975 (Road)

Derek Damian collection

About six weeks after taking on the Rays at Fenway while wearing 1975 home throwbacks, the Sox trot out the road equivalents for a June 27 road game at the Trop. This time, the Rays do play along, wearing their “Fauxback” 70s-style unis. Like the home version, these gray Majestic knit pullovers are good reproductions of the originals. Aside from the neck trim, which is wider than the 1975 jerseys, and of course, the MLB logo patch on back neck, the rest of the details are solid, including the lack of a Massachusetts Bicentennial patch on the left sleeve, which the Sox did not wear on the road in 1975. As with most such throwbacks, the players themselves didn’t do the uniforms any favors, by wearing them several sizes too big and not wearing period-correct striped socks.

© GameWornGuides.com

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar.

The Red Sox wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as back numbers. The resulting look is very similar to their standard home jerseys, and becomes almost indistinguishable from the regular jerseys, especially from a distance. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016-2019, 2021-2022 St. Patrick's Day

The Red Sox go green for St. Patrick's Day in 2016-2019 and 2021-2022. This Flex Base jersey is in solid green, with front logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the St. Patrick's Day promotion. White knit trim encircles both sleeves. Starting in 2020, it is made by Nike. A set was made for use in 2020, but COVID canceled the game. The 2020 jerseys did make their way into the hobby, but were not game worn.

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2016-2017 Patriots' Day/"Boston Strong"

With the switch to Flex Base in 2016, the Red Sox' Patriots' Day/Boston Strong alternate jersey also makes the change in template. Otherwise, all other elements remain the same as previous years. White jerseys with red trim like their usual home jerseys, but with "Boston" spelled out across the fronts in simple Tuscan-font red letters. A round memorial patch, with the team's fancy "B" from their caps and the word "Strong" is sewn-on the left chest above the wordmark. Usually worn annually, this jersey was skipped in 2018 when the game was rained out.

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2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Red Sox wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white.

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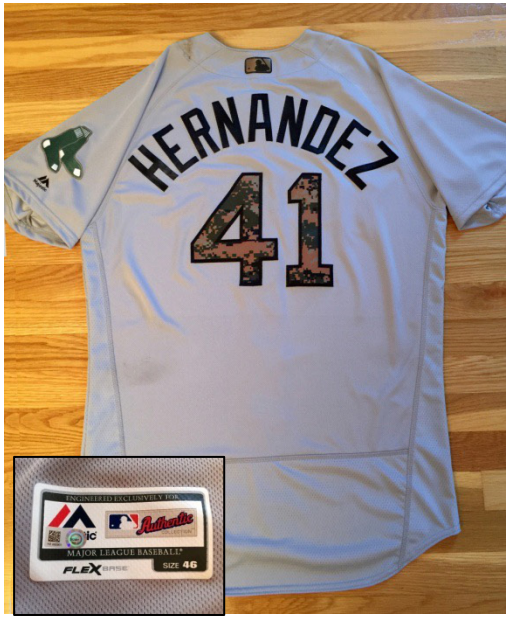
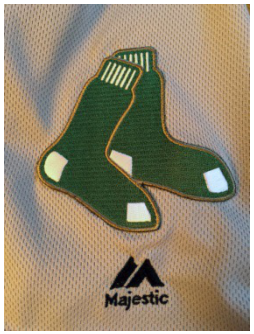
2016 Memorial Day





The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Red Sox apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black.

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2016 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.
The Red Sox wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering and back numbers in light blue with dark gray outlines. All jersey trim, normally red, is changed to dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Red Sox are at home and wear their home jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Red Sox select the blue twill version with gray outlines for their front lettering and for their back numbers. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

When this promotion was announced, the Red Sox planned to wear their red alternate home jerseys for the game with the special twill lettering. However, on game day, the Red Sox took the field in modified white home jerseys, with patterned red/blue outlined with gray. The look was unimpressive: the lettering looked like a mottled blue and the gray outlines were almost invisible on the white jerseys, making the lettering look like single-color muddy-blue from a distance. Perhaps the lettering was prepared for the red jersey and the change to the white was made late in the process. The blue/gray combo on white seems very unusual in this case, and no other team chose that pairing for a white jersey.

***(Right)** Design proposal for the 2016 Independence Day jersey, rejected by the Red Sox. I can understand why. Unless a viewer was standing inches away and noticed the pattern sublimated into the twill, it looks exactly like the team's regular home alternate jersey.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1936

Steve Kraljic Collection

The Red Sox throw back to 1936 for a second time, this time with the road version of that year's style. In a September 7 game at the Padres, who wear 1936 Pacific Coast League Padres uniforms, both teams honor Hall of Famer Ted Williams, a Red Sox legend who was a member of the 1936 PCL Padres. This gray Majestic knit jersey is a fair reproduction with some errors. The navy/red front lettering and navy back numbers in Red Sox font match up to the team's short-lived 1936-1937 road set. However, those original jerseys had navy knit trim around neck and placket, with double stripes of navy knit trim around the sleeve ends. The TBTC jersey neck and placket knit trim is incorrectly red, and the sleeve adornment, inexplicably, is red/white/red braid. See actual 1935 game uniform at right.

© GameWornGuides.com

2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13-14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Red Sox wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. Back numbers are pink/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally red, becomes dark gray.

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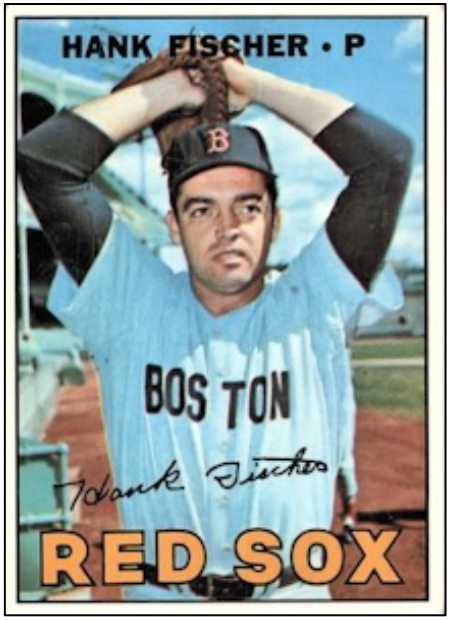
2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1967

Visiting St. Louis on May 16, 2017, the Red Sox break out 1967 road throwbacks to join the Cardinals in celebrating the 1967 World Series between the two teams, 50 years later. Full-knit gray jerseys by Majestic aren't all that close to the original flannels. While the back numbers are in the correct McAuliffe font, still used by the Sox today, the block "BOSTON" on front is much less bold than the originals. Hard to believe it could be so easy to mess up such a simple jersey.



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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Home)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. The back-of-collar MLB logo switches to an olive green and black treatment as well. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Red Sox apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27-28, 2017 and May 26-28, 2018.

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2017 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Red Sox apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17-18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar

ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Red Sox wear road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patch is also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.

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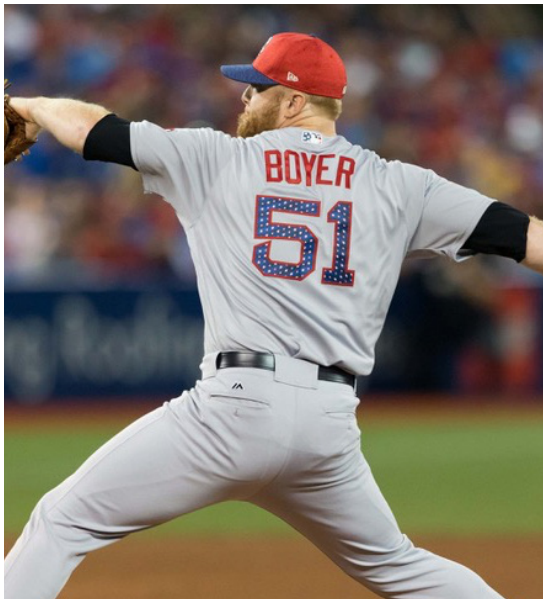
2017-2018 Independence Day



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1-4, 2017 and July 2-4, 2018, the Red Sox wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017 and August 24-26, 2018, the Red Sox wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features a straight-across version of their normally arched home lettering, here rendered in red/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2019 Special Gold Trimmed

On April 9, 2019, the Red Sox celebrate their 2018 World Series victory by bringing gold back into their home jerseys as they had in 2005 and 2014. Much the same as those earlier jerseys, this Majestic Flex Base entry adds a metallic gold outline to the front “RED SOX” lettering and back numbers. The MLB logo on the back of the collar shifts to gold as well, and a 2018 World Series Champions patch, also trimmed in metallic gold to match, adorns the left sleeve,. The Red Sox originated this tradition in 2005, one that many teams have duplicated in subsequent years.

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2019 Patriots' Day/Jackie Robinson Day

The Red Sox have worn their "Boston Strong" home alternates on every Patriots Day since 2014 (except for a rainout in 2018) since first donning the style in 2013 to commemorate the Boston Marathon bombings that year. In 2019, Patriots Day falls on April 15, which is also Jackie Robinson Day across MLB, so these jerseys do double-duty. To the usual "Boston Strong" template of "BOSTON" in red on front of the team's home jersey and a "B Strong" patch on left chest comes the addition of the "42" patch on the right sleeve, worn league-wide, atop the MLB150 patch, also worn by every team that year. As is the custom on Jackie Robinson Day, all players wear 42 as well.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Red Sox wear a black version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2021-2023 Patriots' Day/"Boston Strong"

After a one-year combination of the team's Boston Strong alternates and Jackie Robinson Day in 2019, the Red Sox return to their standard version of this special jersey for 2021 (there was no game in the COVID-shortened 2020 season). Now made by Nike with its logo on front, right chest, all other elements remain the same as previous years. White jerseys with red trim like the team's usual home jerseys, but with "Boston" spelled out across the front in simple Tuscan-font red letters. A round memorial patch, with the team's fancy "B" from their caps and the word "Strong" is sewn-on the left chest above the wordmark. Back numbers are the same as the home jerseys in color and style. The 2022 version had the Jerry Remy memorial patch on the left sleeve, and the 2023 version carried a sponsor patch. Worn April 19, 2021; April 18, 2022; April 17, 2023.

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2024 Patriots' Day/Jackie Robinson Day

The Red Sox have worn their "Boston Strong" home alternates on every Patriots Day since 2014 (except for a rainout in 2018) since first donning the style in 2013 to commemorate the Boston Marathon bombings that year. In 2019, Patriots Day fell on April 15, which is also Jackie Robinson Day across MLB, so the once-a-year home alternate jerseys did double-duty. The dates aligned again in 2024, so that year's Boston Strong alternates were the base for the annual Jackie Robinson tribute once again. This time, however, instead of the "42" in the Red Sox McAuliffe font like 2019, it was rendered in bold Dodger blue, a new tradition in MLB as of 2022. What's most odd about the jersey is that for 2024, rather than being Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) like other teams, it is based on the Nike Flex Base template of years prior. Perhaps with all of the supply issues Nike had in advance of the 2024 season, they were unwilling to dedicate resources to this one-day jersey, and found enough old stock to cover the game. The jersey tagging supports this theory, as it clearly lists "2023" as the year of issue. We have not seen other jerseys to be sure this tagging was universal, but photos from the game show all of the team wearing Flex Base. As always, the team's "B Strong" patch is on the left chest, while for 2024, the Tim Wakefield patch resides on one sleeve and the team's ad patch is on the other.

Above left: *Red Sox starting pitcher Kutter Crawford, whose jersey shows the underarm panels of Nike's version of Flex Base.*

Above right: *The team signed and auctioned off a jersey, which was a retail Vapor Premier Elite, the style they didn't wear on the field.*

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Prototypes and Oddballs

Typical Red Sox Numbering Errors

Shown above is the Red Sox' now-classic McAuliffe uniform number font displayed correctly. But even game worn Red Sox jerseys are not immune from errors in the sewing shop. Below are the three most common errors made by the tailor.

These errors aren't limited to jerseys: in the mid-2000s, the Red Sox display of retired numbers outside Fenway Park also used an upside-down 8 to honor Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski. It was corrected after a few years in this unfortunate position.

Above, some examples of incorrect 6, 8, and 9 digits on Red Sox game used jerseys. In recent years, it seems the team, or manufacturers, have used the "9" digit to stand in for both 6 and 9, likely to avoid creating two sets of numbers for the similar digits. It is unclear if this was a conscious decision, or simply an oversight.

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1972 Prototype Home

Actual 1972

Old vs. New: Here is Tommy Harper (left) in 1972 Red Sox home flannels next to Carl Yastrzemski (right) modeling a prototype Red Sox knit uniform. This photo likely dates to early 1972 at Fenway Park. Notice the sleeve end knit trim and side stripe on the pants that did not make the cut, including what was likely a blue/red/blue color scheme (similar to what the Angels wore at the time) that was scrapped in favor of red/blue/red trim for the actual jersey ***(top right)***. Colorized by @ fenwayphotoshop on X, the color photo is a best guess at colors for these uniforms, but when compared against the black and white original, the color choices seem to be accurate. The Red Sox adopted knits in mid-1972, though they continued to mix in their flannels throughout the rest of the year.

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1972 Prototype Road?

Offered for your consideration is a mysterious Red Sox jersey, made by Rawlings. It appears up to pro specifications, and includes the proper 1972-1984 Rawlings tag in the neck, and a small flag tag with "Set 1, #8P, 1972" sewn inside the front, right tail.

The Red Sox switched from flannel to knit uniforms during the 1972 season (see the prior page) so it is possible this was a sample for the team's road jersey. All lettering is blue/red, which is opposite what we are used to seeing on Red Sox road jerseys now, but was the proper lettering colors for the gray flannel tops worn from 1969-1972, just before the switch to knits.

The "Red Sox" lettering, rather than "Boston" is curious - the team had not had their nickname on its road jerseys since 1933. Perhaps they, or Rawlings, were considering a change?

Rawlings did not make Red Sox jerseys until many years later (interestingly enough, when they did get the team's business, it was exclusively for road jerseys), so if this is, in fact, a sample, the team's brass was not convinced.

It is possible that this may be from one of the team's minor league affiliates as well (the "Red Sox" lettering vs. "Boston" would support that theory). However, big league uniforms were often handed down to the minors in that era, so it would be somewhat unusual to see a style not worn by the big club, in a material they had not yet adopted, in the minors. More research is required regarding this possibility.

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1978 Sample Home?

Here's an unusual, late-70s oddball...a Red Sox home jersey, that appears pretty close to team-spec, with Stall and Dean tags. At this point, McAuliffe supplied Red Sox jerseys to the team, but the truth behind the tag was that Brockton, MA company Stall and Dean actually manufactured the uniforms under the McAuliffe label, which it had bought several years earlier. Retail authentic jerseys were essentially non-existent at this time, but some manufacturers would make up jerseys for fans as special orders, or would create examples like this for other team or player uses. In this era, McAuliffe (actually Stall and Dean) was known for making such special orders, and this example may well have been one of those. Notice the very small size - 36 - which would have been only rarely seen on a pro player, and certainly not on catcher Carlton "Pudge" Fisk, whose number 27 is sewn on back. The proposed year for this one, 1978, comes not only from the pullover style and the fact that Fisk was a popular All-Star at that time, but also by a second small tag, sewn behind the size tag, with an "8" on it. It is not definitive proof that this was the year this was created, but with the other evidence, it seems very plausible.

Listed at 6'3" and 200 pounds, Carlton Fisk was NOT a size 36.

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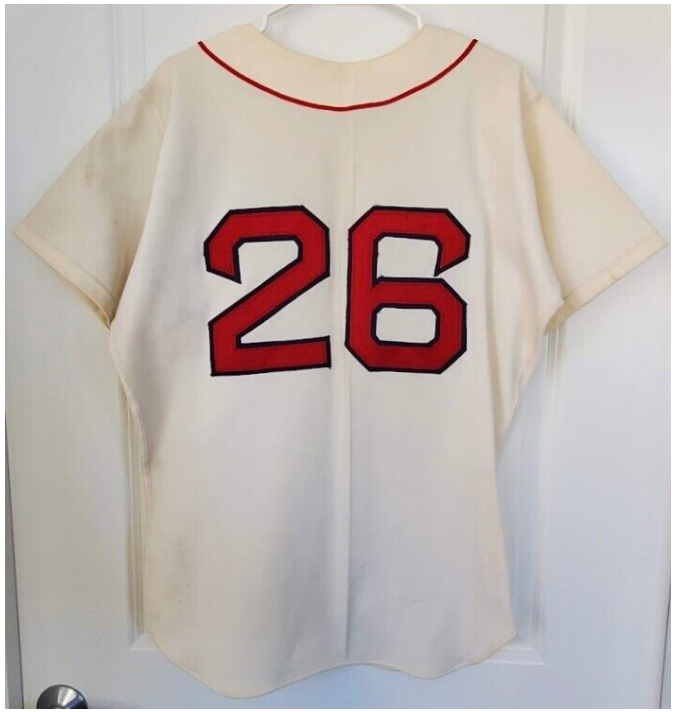
1979 Sample Home?



If you're seeing a trend over these last two pages, you're on to something. Not unlike the possible 1978 home jersey sample by Stall and Dean on a previous page, here's a similar possible sample of the team's next iteration of a home jersey for 1979. The year is a matter of conjecture here, but it is an educated guess.

The 1979 season was when the Sox turned back to a more traditional button-down style after a few years of pullovers and sansabelt pants. Here, and on a few following pages, we see what appear to be samples for that switch. As noted earlier, McAuliffe supplied Red Sox jerseys to the team through the 1978 season, but Brockton, MA company Stall and Dean actually manufactured the uniforms under the McAuliffe label, which it had bought several years earlier. It is possible that, given the company's association with the Red Sox, it was asked to provide a sample of the 1979 home jersey for team review. Given the company's familiarity with the Red Sox, it is not surprising that this jersey looks a lot like what the team wore that year, which was actually made by Wilson. What is odd is the use of an upside-down "9" for a "6" on back - you'd think they'd know better. Oddly, there is also what we believe to be a similar, McAuliffe-tagged example on a later page that was said, by a player, to have been worn in a game. Perhaps this was a precursor to that example?

As noted above, retail authentic jerseys were essentially non-existent at this time, but some manufacturers would make up jerseys for fans as special orders, or would create examples like this for other team or player uses. In this era, McAuliffe (actually Stall and Dean) was known for making such special orders, and this example may well have been one of those too. Unlike the jersey on the page prior, we do not seem to have a year tag applied here that would give us more info on when this may have been created, and as such, what it might be.

As always, it is possible this is a home jersey for a Red Sox minor league affiliate too. At the time, four of the team's five farm clubs were called "Red Sox." But without more info on who made those teams' jerseys (assuming they weren't all just hand-me-downs) we may not be able to verify this theory either way.

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1979 Oddball McAuliffe Home

Historically, Tim McAuliffe Uniform Company, a small Boston-area sporting goods dealer had supplied uniforms to the Red Sox since the 1940s. The nation's much larger major manufacturers were always actively involved in courting business from all the MLB teams, and finally in 1979 Wilson wrested the team contract from McAuliffe. However, with the pending change to button-front jerseys and belted pants for 1979, McAuliffe had prepared the patterns and created samples of the new style, hoping to remain the team's supplier.

The owner of this jersey explains in detail how he came to own it, and details an in-person conversation he had with Yastrzemski at the time he had the jersey signed. Briefly, Yastrzemski confirmed that he did wear a McAuliffe uniform at the start of the 1979 season until he was pressured by the team to change to uniforms made by Wilson, the contracted supplier, shortly after the season began. He said he preferred the thicker, warmer fabric he perceived the McAuliffe uniforms were constructed from, including the heavyweight wool-flannel undershirt.

It had been common for players to visit the McAuliffe site in Brockton, MA. to have their measurements taken and uniforms tailored prior to the start of the season, and Carl Yastrzemski was one of those who liked the special attention provided to him. In 1979 McAuliffe delivered his sets of McAuliffe-made uniforms to him before the start of the season. According to the affidavit, Yastrzemski says he began the season wearing McAuliffe uniforms.

But it was not to be. After the team wore its season-used 1978 pullover jersey uniforms in Spring Training 1979, the players were issued new knit Wilson button-front uniforms for the start of the 1979 season, and McAuliffe's long association as the official provider of Red Sox uniforms came to an end.

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1979 Prototype Home?

The jersey pictured here may be a sample made up for the team for the 1979 season, when the Red Sox transitioned from pullover jerseys back to button-fronts. This was also a time that they moved from McAuliffe as their supplier to Wilson, so they may have contacted other firms to supply prototypes to asses quality and workmanship.

Goodman & Sons was a local, family-owned business in the Los Angeles area. For many years, they made the uniforms for the local Dodgers and Angels, but also supplied uniforms to the Mets, Astros, and a couple of other teams for brief periods. The Goodman and Sons neck tag used here dates between about 1975-1984, hence the presumed year for this sample.

Made up with star player Carl Yastrzemski's #8, this prototype tracks very closely with what the team eventually used on the field, but from another manufacturer. The only read difference is the presence of red knit trim on the sleeve ends, which is only partially visible in one photo. If this is, in fact, a sample, it is clear that after a few years of joining the pullover trend, the Red Sox were quite happy to return to their traditional uniforms, and did not want to experiment.

Another option is that this could be a "retail" jersey of the time, ordered by a fan to honor Yastrzemski in his later career (he retired after the 1983 season). McAuliffe, which at this point was a vanity label for Brockton, MA manufacturer Stall and Dean, made team-spec jerseys as custom orders at this time, and Wilson, the company that ultimately made jerseys of this era for the Red Sox, made "sample" jerseys for VIPs and business partners as well (see other pages for info on both). It seems less likely that a company across the country, not contracted by the team, might do something like this during this era, but without other documentation, it is hard to know for sure. Any info from readers is welcome.

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1983 Sample Home

This jersey appears to be a very well-preserved example of a Wilson 1983 Red Sox home jersey, as worn by Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski. Many of the details match up, proper Wilson-era tag, the embroidered “83” year tag sewn on the tail, and even the size, 42, which Yaz wore at that time. But we have one piece of evidence that proves that this one isn’t what we may think - the bag it came in. The top two photos far right are labels from a bag used to package this jersey, which include a sticker showing that this is a sample.

Yaz retired after the 1983 season, so it is very likely this jersey was made by Wilson - the team’s official supplier at the time - almost exactly to team specifications for use as a gift or VIP/sponsor souvenir. As noted elsewhere, retail authentic jerseys were essentially non-existent at this time, but some manufacturers would make up jerseys for fans as special orders, or would create examples like this for other team or player uses. Aside from the fact that the Wilson tag appears in the neck, rather than above the year tag as was typical at the time (see photo bottom right), we might not otherwise know the truth behind this one. Which is also a problem for buyers who might not be fortunate enough to be presented with the original bag, and may lack the knowledge about the tagging placement. As always, buyer beware!

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1984-1998 Oddball Home

Here is an unusual Red Sox home jersey, made by AIS. The date of 1984-1998 is a possible range of time this was made based on the use of the black AIS tag in the back hem. AIS never made on-field jerseys for the Red Sox, which makes this one an unusual example, especially since we have not seen other AIS Red Sox jerseys before. The Red Sox did change home jersey manufacturers from Wilson to Russell in1992, but that coincides with when Russell became the official MLB supplier, so it is unlikely that AIS made this up as a sample for the team's consideration.

AIS did, however, make custom sports uniforms for hundreds of film and TV productions (sometimes under the name SportsRobe) so it is possible this comes from one of those, perhaps even one in which Williams appeared. The size 50 jersey would be reasonable for Williams during this time.

The seller of the item said that it came from former Red Sox player George Scott, who got it from Williams himself. Though that may explain the source of the jersey, it does not clarify why AIS made it or for what reason. More research is required for this unusual example.

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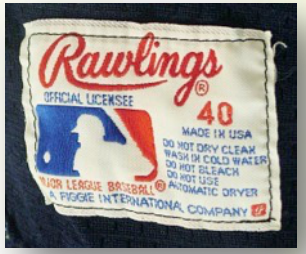
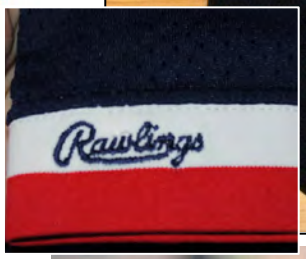
Unusual Batting Practice





When I see a singular photo of something odd, it is easy to dismiss it. This batting practice jersey fell into that category for me, as the Red Sox have so many farm and instructional league teams that all wear variations of the parent club's uniforms. But this style has shown up a few times in recent submissions. These two jerseys pictured have different era Rawlings tagging, one from almost surely from 1987 (red tag on tail with 4 lines of washing instructions, plus the Rawlings script embroidered into the right sleeve trim) and one tag from 1988-1991. Another interesting feature is the player name on back, but without a number, which mimics the way the alternate BP zip-neck jerseys (featured on a prior page) were issued. Our best guess is that these were used only during Spring Training in 1990.

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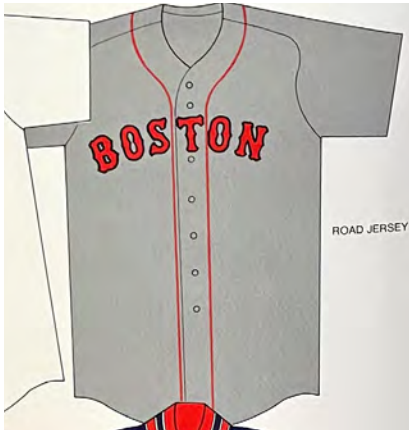
1990, 1993 Prototype Road/Errors



Above: *A detail from the Red Sox 1990 Style Guide sheet (dated September 1989) showing the neck knit trim was planned and approved.*

This Red Sox road jersey design was never worn on the field. Notice it includes narrow red knit trim on the placket and around the back of the neck. But before a final design is settled upon, teams look at many different proposals, both on paper and in the cloth, offered up by their uniform suppliers. In a few rare cases, the team changes their mind at the last minute, after promotional materials (and sometimes prototype jerseys) have been created.

This is likely the case with these two examples. The top one has a (generally) 1988-1991 Rawlings tag sewn in it, the bottom is team year tagged 1993 by Russell, the company that won the MLB uniform contract for 1992. Both have the names of then current players on the back.

New evidence shows that the Rawlings jersey was approved by the team, as it was included in the 1990 MLB Style Guide, and in the Diamond Collection jersey catalog issued to retailers. Over the years, several Rawlings retail jerseys have surfaced that were made and sold this way. This Boggs example has proper "Set 1 1989" team-issue tagging, which could mean it was made as a prototype for approval for 1990. Also, Boggs, a star for the Sox at the time, wore 26, not 29, which could have been a careless error during quick production of a sample jersey.

The 1993 Russell jersey is especially interesting as it has the name on back of a journeyman pitcher (odd, because they usually use a star's name, the team's manager's name, or use the word "Sample" for the player name) and special tailoring tags. This makes me wonder if in fact a whole set of these were made for the team in error? So far, this has been the only such 1993 example we have encountered, so it may have just been a one-off mistake.

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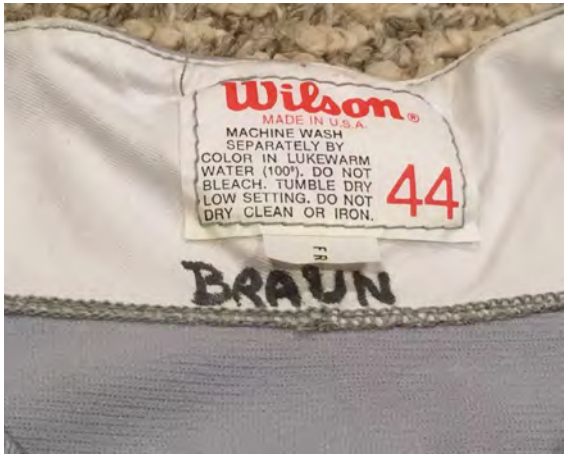
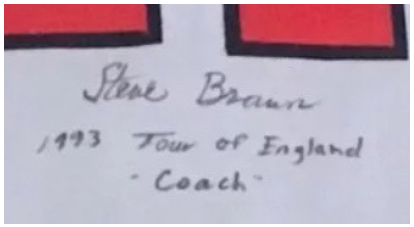
1993 Tour of England Road





In October 1993, MLB sent minor league representatives of the Mets and Red Sox to play post-season exhibition games at London's Oval Cricket Grounds. Steve Braun, recently retired from his MLB career and serving as a coach, wore this unusual jersey that is similar but not identical to the one on the prior page. Notice that the wordmark is split "BOS" "TON" on a seven-button instead of the usual six-button front. Red knit trim appears on the placket and around the neck, a detail that Red Sox road jerseys at that time lacked, and no name appears on back as period road jerseys had. The inside of the placket on this full-weight gray knit is lined with linen, and the Wilson tag is the printed, not embroidered, style the same as appeared on period Blue Jays jerseys, for example. At the time, Wilson did not make the team's regular on-field jerseys.

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1996-1999 Minor/Instructional League Batting Practice

This is an oddball we can (mostly) explain. Red Sox batting practice jerseys like this one turn up from time to time without back numbers, but with a name on a nameplate. In our experience, these names are occasionally pitchers, but more often are minor league coaches and instructors. This BP likely belonged to Glen “Goose” Gregson, who has been a pitching instructor, coordinator, and coach through several levels of the Red Sox system. The tag on this Russell mesh BP jersey dates it to between 1996-1999, when the big club wore a similar pullover jersey rather than this button-down. It is a lighter-weight mesh than the pullovers, and in made of nylon rather than polyester. We offer it here for reference to avoid confusion that these may have come from the Boston clubhouse, rather than from the lower levels of the system.

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1999 Unused Turn Ahead the Clock

The Red Sox had intended to participate in this odd 1999 promotion on September 18, but fate intervened to prevent it. Planning for the promotion was done late, and the jerseys had not yet been lettered a week before the game. The jerseys were reportedly being made in the Atlanta area and the event of Hurricane Floyd prevented them from being completed and arriving in time for the game. The Turn Ahead the Clock Game was never rescheduled and so the Red Sox were not forced the indignity of playing wearing them.

I do not have 100% confirmation that the lettering design on the jersey back shown here is the one the Red Sox planned to use, but it is a very good bet. Really, we still don't even know for sure if the game jerseys were ever actually lettered for the players at all, given their late arrival.

These jerseys are as rare as the proverbial hen's teeth, we have only ever seen a few in the many years since the promotion was to have occurred.

Photo courtesy Nick DiSalvo collection

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2000 Spring Training Recycled Jerseys Patch Confusion

Top Left: *Jersey #2, tagged 1999*

Top right: *Jersey #13, tagged 1999*

Bottom left*: Jersey #57, tagged 1998*

Bottom right*: Two headshots from Red Sox photo day 2000, showing players wearing this type of jersey.*

Though the Red Sox have long been considered a big-spending, major market team, their practice of recycling uniforms continued into the early 2000s. They also had habit of adding current-season patches to past-season jerseys for Spring Training. As a result, jerseys that are legitimate, game used examples can appear to have year/patch conflicts that may call a jersey's authenticity into question years later. Here is one such scenario that is still seen widely throughout the hobby.

For Spring Training in 2000, the team recycled its 1999 (or earlier) home uniforms, complete with 1999 All-Star Game patch, and added the new-for-2000 MLB logo on the back of each jersey's collar. Aside from the patches, the jerseys also had the Russell logo on the right sleeve, which was only used through 1999. These even appeared for the team's photo day, where players had their headshots for the season taken. By opening day, the team took the field in new jerseys with proper logos, tagging, and patches. But these pre-2000 jerseys with the MLB collar logo sewn on can still be confusing for collectors to this day.

It is unclear why the team added the MLB patch for jerseys that were only used in spring, perhaps it was mandated by the league? And was adding hundreds of patches easier or more cost-effective than just removing the All-Star patch, or in the alternative, just leaving them there? Regardless, these are only a few examples of several we have seen in the hobby, so keep this anomaly in mind when looking for game used Red Sox home jerseys of this era.

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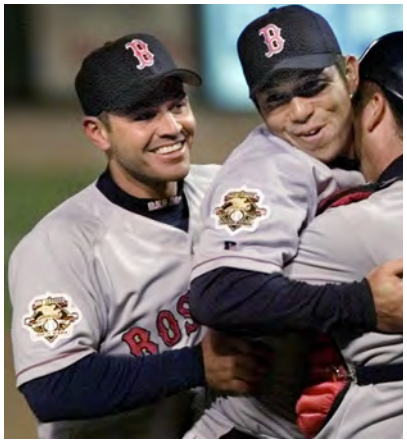
2001 Hand-Sewn Patch Problem

Red Sox reliever Sun-Woo Kim appeared in at least two games in 2001 (August 15 and 19) with his American League Charter Member Anniversary Patch sewn on the wrong sleeve. The patch was applied by legendary Red Sox receptionist Helen B. Robinson. A skilled sewer who was frequently called upon to make last-minute repairs and modifications while she managed the Red Sox switchboard, Robinson accidentally put the patch on the left sleeve of Kim's jersey, rather than the right. She had been misled by the presence of the Russell manufacturer's logo on the right sleeve of Kim's jersey, and added the patch on the opposite sleeve as it normally appeared. The logo was on the left sleeve starting in 2000, however, Kim had been issued an older Red Sox jersey with the logo still on the right. It is unclear why Kim needed a new jersey in a pinch, as he had worn a home jersey with the proper logo and patch placement earlier in the year, but for at least two games toward the end of his 2001 season, he mismatched his teammates.



Right: *These two images captured from a low-res video of Kim's August 19, 2001 appearance, show him again wearing the patch on the wrong (left) sleeve, and the presence of the Russell logo on the right.*

Left: *Evidence of other jersey recycling by the Red Sox in 2001, this time with Hideo Nomo's road jersey as he celebrated his April 4 no-hitter. Note the "R" logo on the right sleeve vs. his teammate's logo-free right sleeve. At least Nomo's anniversary patch was sewn on the correct sleeve.*

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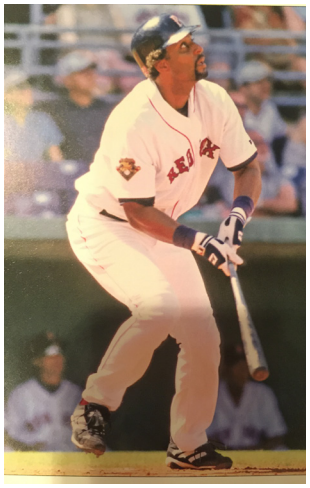
2002 Spring Training Oddball Patched Jerseys



It is not unusual for a team to wear a prior-season's jersey for Spring Training. In fact, it was a common practice for quite some time. However, the Red Sox took a very strange approach to the concept in Spring Training 2002, when several members of the team were photographed wearing the 2001 American League Anniversary patch. The only issue was, it wasn't the patch the team had worn the prior year.

The Red Sox were one of four AL clubs to wear the special "Charter Member" version of the patch, signifying that they were among the original 1901 AL teams and had not moved cities since their founding. In these four photos, the players are wearing the version without the "Charter Member" banner.

All three of the players shown here with the patch, Tony Clark, Pedro Martinez, and Johnny Damon, were new to the Sox in 2002. It is possible that the team recycled the 2001 jerseys for returning players, and made up new ones for the new additions, and somehow put on the wrong patches to "match" the rest of the team. Rickey Henderson, shown at right in the bottom photo, was also new to the Sox in 2002. Though we cannot see his right sleeve to know if he had the patch, he appears to be wearing #13, which was not his actual number. Damon, for his part, is wearing his correct #18. Clark and Henderson only played for the Red Sox in 2002, so their inclusion pinpoints the year of this anomaly.

Three of these photos are promotional, and photos of this type don't always match up with what goes on the field. But the photo of Clark at top right shows him in-game during Spring Training with the oddball jersey, so it is possible that, for Spring Training at least, all of these players used these strange jerseys.

It is a fine, picky little detail of course. But if a knowledgeable collector were to see any of these jerseys in the marketplace, he or she might write them off as fake given the mismatch of jersey and patch. Mistakes can happen. And for the 2002 Red Sox, it seems like they happened a few times, for many of the new guys.

Far left: *The 2001 AL Anniversary patch seen on the jerseys on this page.*

Near left: *The "Charter Member" version the Red Sox actually wore.*

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2005-2011 Jason Varitek Captain's "C"

Captain's patches are a more familiar element of hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, but there have been occasions where they've been worn by baseball players too.

One example is Jason Varitek of the Red Sox, who wore a captain's "C" on the front, left chest of his jersey from 2005 through his retirement after the 2011 season. As seen in these photos, the C appeared in different styles depending on the style of the jersey (always matching the color format of the jersey on which it was worn), and even made it on to batting practice jerseys and special event jerseys on occasion. Varitek is the only Red Sox player to have worn a "C" on his jersey.

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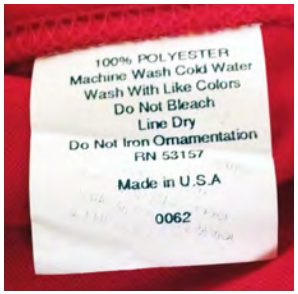
2005 Majestic Sample Alternate



The Red Sox changed jersey manufacturers from Russell to Majestic for the 2005 season, concurrent with Majestic being selected to provide all MLB jerseys that year. Even though the team did not change uniform styles from 2004 to 2005, Majestic still provided them with samples of their work for review. Here is one of those examples for their red home alternate jersey. Made in size 44 with a team-issue 0062 code on the laundry tag, this full-knit jersey also has a sample tag inside the tail reading “RSX-ALT-J-05” for Red Sox alternate jersey 2005. It also bears a player number “5” on back, which was frequently used on samples, and may also (coincidentally) correspond to the year this jersey was intended to be used. The jersey appears almost identical to what the team wore in 2005, except for one very small detail - the left-sleeve Majestic manufacturer’s logo is embroidered in blue thread on this sample. By the time the team took the field in 2005, it had been changed to white, probably to make it easier to see.

Above: *A view of the white Majestic sleeve logo used in 2005, the only change between this sample and the jersey as worn on the field.*

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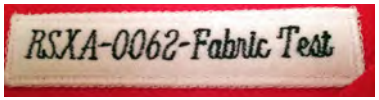
2005 Prototypes: Cool Base Fabric Test



Both jerseys use "05" as the player number, which indicates the year they were produced.

No, you are not seeing double...for your consideration, here we have two identical Red Sox prototype jerseys. Both were produced in 2005, the year before Cool Base was made available as an option to MLB teams. These were used as samples, most likely for team inspection, of the new material that would soon debut. For the 2006 season, each team tried out Cool Base for one of its jerseys (except the Yankees, who did not play along). Based on these samples, the Red Sox introduced Cool Base as an option for their red home alternates in 2006.

As with most Majestic samples, these jerseys each have interior strip tagging with prototype info on them, in this case "RSXA-0062-Fabric Test" ("RSXA" meaning Red Sox Alternate) for both. Both also carry laundry tags with the team-spec 0062 code on them, which was what full-knit jerseys were then using too. For their debut in 2006, Cool Base jerseys carried the new 0063 code instead.

We have seen these fabric test jerseys for several teams. Besides demonstrating how the jersey would look and feel, these sample garments were sometimes washed repeatedly and exposed to harsh conditions of heat and light to test how well they would hold up. This testing was considered very important, because the first attempt in 2004 at using new moisture-wicking, lightweight polyester fabrics for team batting practice jerseys was disappointing. These faded badly and became very ratty looking in normal use as the fabric was easily pulled and ruined. This pair looks new, so they were apparently spared from such abuse.

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2005 Prototype Silver Trimmed

We already told you about the 2005 ring ceremony jersey on as earlier page.

So, even more odd – here is a prototype of that design substituting metallic silver instead of the metallic gold that was adopted in the final design. The silver does not read well from a distance, which may be why gold was ultimately chosen.

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2009 Samples: Road

Companions to the red alternate sample on the next page, these two road samples show that the Red Sox were very active in trying our new things in advance of the 2009 season. Both jerseys are team-issue coded 0063 on their wash tags, and size 46, a typical sample size. The use of a star players' name and number was not common, but also not unprecedented, as seen on the following page as well.

The top sample had its prototype tag removed, but the bottom one reads "RSX-RD-09-J-3" for Red Sox Road 2009 Jersey 3. The top version is very close to what they wore on-field, though it lacks the sleeve patch.

The bottom is a departure, and is very blue with its dark blue knit trim. Note also the much thinner lettering that what was ultimately used (not unlike the following page) and the nameplate, which was not on the final choice.

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2009 Sample Alternate Home

Above: *Closeup of the lettering on this sample jersey;* ***Below:*** *Team issued jersey of the same era. Note the differences in the letter forms and thickness of the white outlines between the two examples. Was this a test for new lettering?*

The Red Sox updated their red alternate jersey for the 2009 season, eliminating the knit trim around the sleeves and placket, which would match the knit trim-free blue road alternate they introduced that year. Here is what appears to be a prototype for that jersey.

Like many other Majestic samples, this one is in size 46 and has the team-issue “0063” code on the laundry tag. It also carries an interior tag sewn in with prototype codes, this one reading “RSXA-ALT-09-J2” for “Red Sox alternate, 2009, jersey #2.” The use of a star player’s number (here David Ortiz’ 34) rather than a number indicating the year is unusual, though not unprecedented, as seen on the 2009 road samples earlier in this section. The red stitching around the sample tag, rather than the usual white thread, is also atypical, bringing some mystery to this otherwise plain jersey.

Ultimately, this jersey was much the same as what the team used on field in 2009. Because this is the second prototype (J2), it is possible that “J1” was identical to the team’s previous alternate. However, the front lettering on this jersey appears in a slightly different type style that what was typical at the time, with different letter forms (note the “R”) and narrower white outlines. Perhaps that was the difference in this version, and the team opted for the more familiar front lettering? Unless and until we find “J1” in the wild, we may never know for sure.

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2011 Prototypes: Batting Practice

Here we have a family, of sorts. These images show three iterations of proposed Red Sox BP jerseys for the 2011 season. That year, all MLB teams changed from a one-button pullover to these full-button jerseys. Each is size 46, with “Player” and “11” on back (representing the year) - all typical traits of samples. All also contain laundry tags with team-spec 0078 codes, which was the proper style code for this generation of BP jerseys. Though it can’t been seen here, none of these jerseys has a front-tail jock tag present, it is possible that the design for those had not been finalized when these were made. Each also has typical prototype strip tagging, where RSXH=Red Sox Home, and RSXR=Red Sox Road. The D1, D2, and D3 notation shows that each version had its own number, likely for ease of ordering and reference.

Since these are the only examples we have seen, we do not know if there were more styles shown, or if home and road versions had separate sets of “version” numbers. What we do know is that the Red Sox went with a more conservative approach for their BP jerseys, skipping the D1 an D2 styles here, opting for red and blue versions of the D3 version for use from 2011-2013.

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2012 Sample Turn Back the Clock

Pants tag

Jersey tag

Jersey tag

Here we have a sample of the jersey and pants worn by the Red Sox on April 20, 2012, 100 years to the day from their first game at Fenway Park. The jersey and pants are identical to what was worn on the field, except for the presence of a back number 12 – here indicating the year of the jersey. The set made for the game did not have back numbers at all, true to the 1912 originals. Note the long tagging codes used for both jersey and pants.

April 20, 1912 was the first major league game at Fenway, but the very first game in the ballpark was an exhibition between the Red Sox and Harvard University on April 9, 1912. 100 years later, Harvard's baseball team returned to Fenway to take batting practice. Just for fun that day, one Harvard player and former Red Sox player and Harvard alumnus Mike Stenhouse suited up in 1912 throwbacks. It is very likely that Stenhouse wore the sample uniform shown here, which included the back number 12.

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2013-2015 Mike Napoli's Extra Button

2015

EXTRA BUTTON

NORMAL

During his Red Sox tenure from 2013-2015, Mike Napoli wore with an extra button between the words "Red" and "Sox" on many of his home and home alternate jerseys (see circles in photos on this page). The road and road alternate jersey have the letter "T" crossing the placket at this point, so it was likely not possible to carry this over to those styles. In addition, Napoli had his jerseys sewn shut starting in 2014, a tactic used by some players who prefer to use their jerseys as pullovers rather than to button them. Often, Napoli would wear at least the first couple of buttons of his jersey open (above), and we assume the extra button and/or sewing allowed him to do that without having to unbutton the jersey below the lettering to have it open enough to suit his preference.

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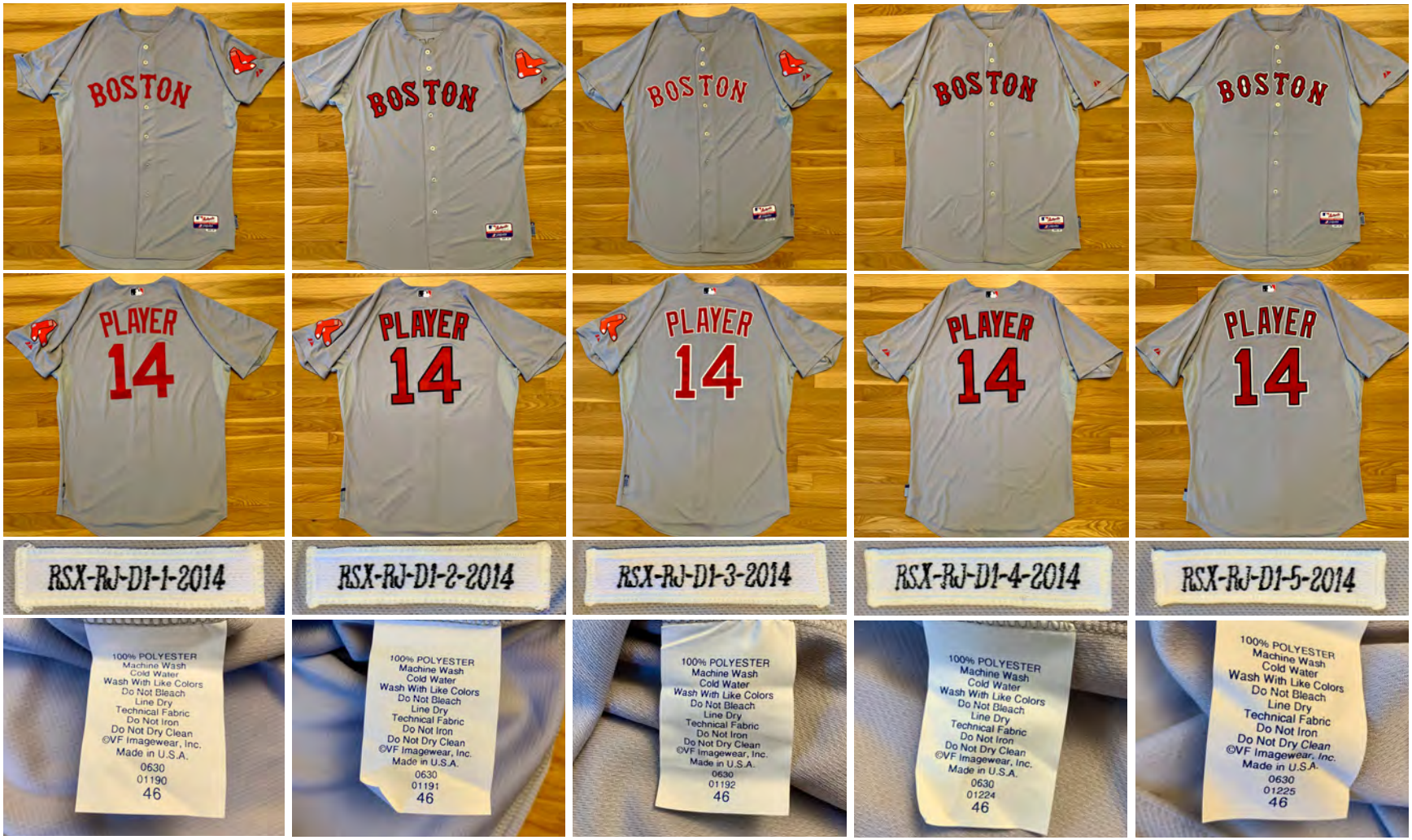
2014 Prototypes: Road



Here we have a whole family of 2014 Red Sox road jersey samples, showing that the team considered at least five options as it made the switch back from its 2009-2013 set with one-color navy lettering. Clearly, the team wanted to re-prioritize red, as it appears on all five versions, in one-, two-, and even three-color varieties. As we have come to expect, all of the jerseys have a team-issued 0630 code on the wash tag, and all are size 46. The use of “PLAYER” and 14 (for 2014) on back are also common for samples. Each version also has a sample tag sewn into the inside of the placket, with RSX-RJ-D1-(1-5)-2014. This stands for Red Sox Road Jersey, design 1, versions 1-5, 2014. It is rare that we get to see this many iterations of samples together at one time, and doing so permits us to see that versions 1-3 have sequential codes on the wash tags of 01190, 01191, and 01192, while versions 4-5 are coded 01224 and 01225. We have yet to decipher these numbers, but they may suggest that the final two were made later than the first three. Perhaps the team wanted more options after viewing the first three samples. Ultimately, the team chose option 2 for use on the field starting in 2014.

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2015 Pete Frates ALS Fundraiser

In a Spring Training exhibition game on March 3, 2015 (note the 3/3 date), all Red Sox players wore "Frates" and number 3 on their red home BP jerseys in honor of Pete Frates. A former Boston College baseball captain who wore #3, Frates was stricken with ALS, and popularized the viral Ice Bucket Challenge video as a fundraiser for ALS research. The Sox played Boston College, who also wore Frates name and his #3. The BC jerseys were auctioned off to benefit ALS research, and the game worn Red Sox jerseys were autographed and given to Frates' foundation to raise funds for ALS research..

Left: *A game worn BC jersey from the game, shown just for fun.*

Above: *The tagging on these still used typical player names and numbers despite the different name and number on back.*

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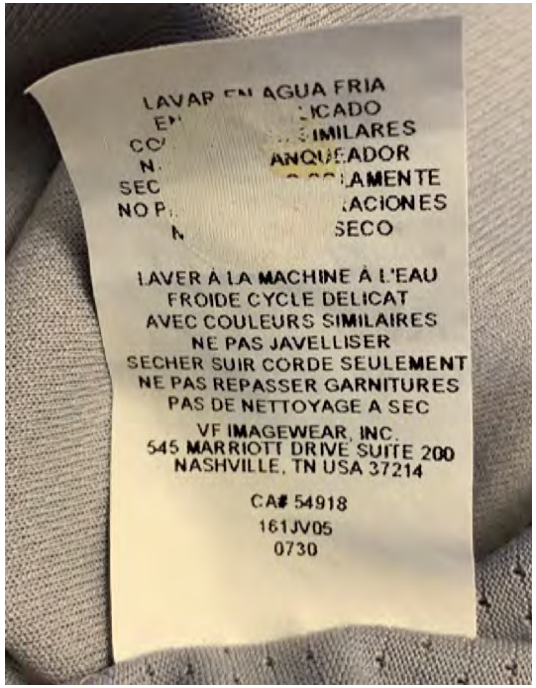
2016-2019 Flex Base Sizing Samples



Majestic changed jersey templates from knit and Cool Base to Flex Base for all MLB teams in 2016. In the lead-up to the change, the company provided teams with sample jerseys for fitting purposes, with a full set consisting of nine jerseys sized 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, and 56. We have seen other examples of such jerseys in all different fabrications elsewhere in this book, but this is the first complete set we've come across.

We feature it here in the Red Sox chapter because this happened to be that team's set of sizing jerseys, though you'd never know it by looking at them. Each is a gray, Flex Base jersey with standard heat-pressed tail tag and "0730" style code on the wash tag, indicating they were made for team issue. But other than that, the only ornamentation is a 4-inch tall, black twill number sewn on the left chest that indicates each jersey's size for easy reference.

Other examples of such sizing jerseys we have seen carry some team-specific branding, and some are even made up with a team's full front lettering. By 2016, however, it seems Majestic was no longer concerned with team lettering on sample jerseys that were used for internal sizing purposes only. And for good reason...if they turned out a full set of nine jerseys for all 30 teams, it was much easier to make 270 nearly identical jerseys than 30 different sets of nine jerseys. There was no intent for these simple, utilitarian pieces ever to see the light of day, but we present them here as a look inside the clubhouse and a glimpse into the work it takes to outfit an MLB team behind the scenes.

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Phantom St. Patrick's Day

Jerseys bearing the "Diamond Collection" or "Authentic Collection" tagging are supposed to be identical to jerseys worn on the field by MLB teams. Yes, we've seen our share of "Authentic" St. Patrick's Day green jerseys for teams that never actually wore them. But this one is especially interesting to me because the Red Sox HAVE been wearing St. Pat's jerseys regularly since 2004. An this one has an inside tag marked with an "0006," which is the Majestic stock code reserved for jerseys made for team issue. Retail-sale destined jerseys will have a "6000" on the tag instead. This jersey is also odd in that it has a Majestic jock tag used 2002--2015, but no back-of-the-neck Silhouetted Batter as has been on every team issued or Authentic jersey since 2000.

It may be a retail sales exercise from prior to 2004, or it could have been a prototype, made by borrowing a blank jersey from another team that regularly used these green jerseys on St. Patrick's Day, like the Phillies. Have readers seen other examples of these or is it a one-off?

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2018 Sample Mother's Day

For MLB's league-wide celebration of Mother's Day in 2018 took a turn for the traditional. After two seasons of rendering every team's jersey twill and team patches in pink and gray, 2018 brought the return of simply using a pink ribbon patch on each team's standard jersey. (It is likely the change was made based on the manufacturing complexities for Majestic, logistical difficulties for teams' clubhouse staff, and the fact that the jerseys were very unpopular at retail). It is a small change, a "correction" really, but this prototype jersey makes clear that any change in uniforms is a big deal to manufacturers and teams.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag indicates it is a team-issued jersey. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "RSX-MD-RJ-D1-1-2018" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a Red Sox (RSX) 2018 road jersey (RJ) for Mother's Day (MD). The Red Sox were, in fact, on the road for Mother's Day in 2018, so it is likely that the road version of the jersey was selected as a test for that reason. Contrary to the jerseys worn on the field, which had adhesive pink ribbons, this prototype's ribbon is sewn on.

It seems odd, even unnecessary, to create a sample like this for something as small as the addition of a single patch. But since this particular initiative was a change from the prior year, it is likely that Majestic made these up as a "proof of concept," not only for their own production needs, but to show to teams for their review and approval. It is likely such samples were made for all MLB teams' jerseys, but so far, we have only seen two turn up, the other an example for the Dodgers.

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2020 Nike Samples: Home

Though Nike's 2020 entry into MLB jerseys resulted only in the rebranding and relabeling of Majestic's previous Flex Base jersey template, it appears that Nike still produced sample jerseys for team inspection. Here are two nearly identical examples, made up for the Red Sox.

This jerseys' pedigree as samples are apparent in a few details. First, they are size 46, a common sample size, and the player number "20" represents the year for which the sample was made. Further, they both carry interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "RSX-HJ-D1-1-2020" indicating it is version 1 (D1-1) of a Red Sox (RSX) home jersey (HJ).

Outwardly, this classic home white jersey appears just as it did on the field in 2020, a testament to the fact the team was not planning any changes for that season. However, there are still some small details in these samples that were updated before the full run of 2020 jerseys went into production. First, a heat-pressed neck tag which was not used in on-field jerseys. Next, an interior heat-pressed tag, almost twice as tall as the ones used by Majestic before and Nike after, appears inside the placket with the sample coding. This location was used by Majestic for team tagging, but Nike versions moved these tags below the jock tags on the lower front of the jerseys.

Finally, the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tags is the same used for Majestic's version of the Flex Base template. By the time these jerseys were released in 2020, the product code had been updated to "0890" to reflect the new Nike jerseys, even though nothing had really changed.

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Whoops! Nasty Nate's Number Switcheroo

"Nasty Nate" Eovaldi got the start for the Red Sox (COVID-delayed) Opening Day game on July 24, 2020. For the top of the first, he took the field in his #17 Red Sox home jersey (and as is Red Sox custom, it had no name on back...this will figure into the story later). However, as the third inning began, Eovaldi was wearing #7. The switcheroo was short-lived, as his expected #17 was back for the top of the fourth. So what of that missing number 1 for an inning?

"[Red Sox catcher Christian Vazquez] and I both sweat a lot," Eovaldi explained to the press. "So we had the jerseys hanging up in the batting cage. And I didn't realize his were down there, too. I glanced over and I just saw the 7 and assumed it was mine. And grabbed it off the hanger, threw it on."

Making the situation even more unusual was that Vazquez was his catcher for the game, so for one inning, both members of the battery wore the same number.

For the record, Eovaldi is known as "Nasty Nate" for his pitching prowess, not his sweating. But he did take the opportunity to throw his battery mate a nasty little curve ball of his own. Regarding Vazquez' jersey, Eovaldi - who looks like he's never missed a day in the weight room - said, "I thought it felt a little tight on my arms but it's all good." Both players, incidentally, wore size 46 that season, so take from that what you will.

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Whoops!

After agreeing to a 10 year/$170 million advertising patch contract with the Red Sox, MassMutual Insurance became the team's "official partner." And after earning a 10 year/$313.5 million contract with the Red Sox, Rafael Devers became the *de facto* face of the franchise. Devers was even featured in a season-long contest MassMutual held to celebrate the partnership. Imagine the company's concern, then, when Devers had his MassMutual patch sewn upside-down on his jersey sleeve on September 8, 2023. In one of their ads, MassMutual states, "We've been with New England for over 170 years, and with this team for 121." Apparently that didn't extend to whenever this patch was applied to Devers' sleeve.

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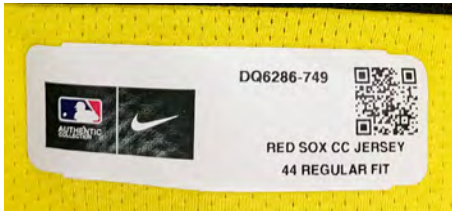
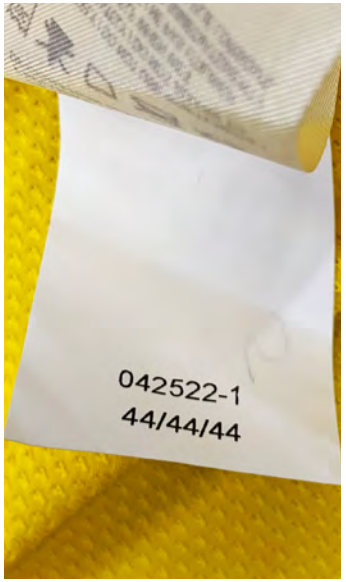
2024 Nike Vapor Premier Elite Sample City Connect





In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the one shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. This Red Sox City Connect version is one of those examples. In many ways it replicates the team's City Connect jersey that they had worn since 2021, just carried over to VPE, which meant that things like the original sleeve-end trim was now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it, and the team's "617" sleeve patch was much lighter embroidery than before. The back numbers on this sample are also perforated, which was not an element of the earlier version. However, when appearing on-field in 2024, the perforations seemed much smaller than on this sample. It is unclear if the holes were smaller, or if it was just an illusion from the photos. One thing missing from this prototype, which wasn't much of a loss, was the blank, white, heat-pressed tag above the black Nike jock tag, which served no purpose on the 2021-2023 versions of the jersey.

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads "RED SOX CC JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with "CC" meaning City Connect, and 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the "DQ6286-749" text on the front tag and "042522-1" on the wash tag mean. It is likely they are internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

Note the perforations on the back numbers, which appear larger here than they did on-field in 2024.

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Commemorative Patches

Red Sox Patches

1975, part of 1976

1976, starting July 10

1987

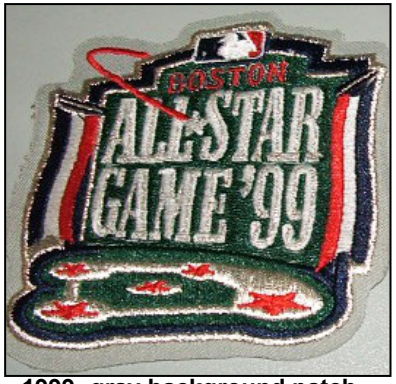
- 1975 and part of 1976, except 1975 World Series: Massachusetts Bicentennial, home jersey only.
- 1976, starting July 10: Tom Yawkey memorial armband
- 1987: Fenway Park 75th Anniversary
- 1990: "Tony C" Black Memorial armband
- 1992: Jean Yawkey memorial initials in red and odd small black rectangular patch that underlines the JRY initials and does not go all the way around the arm. Also worn on BP jersey with white letters.
- 1999 All Star Game, Worn on BP jersey as well
- 2002, after July 5: Ted Williams Memorial "9" and armband worn on right sleeve

1990

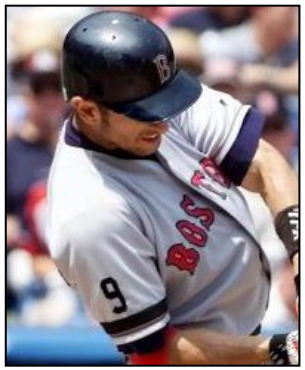
1992

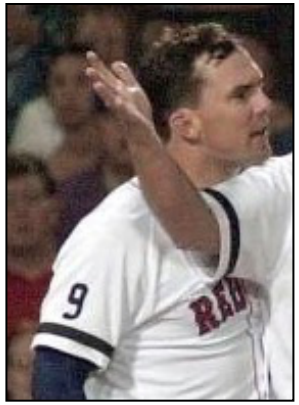
1992 – odd black armband is more like a black "underline"

1999- as used (white background)



1999- gray background patch, made, but not used by Red Sox





2002, after July 5

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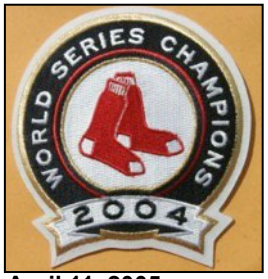
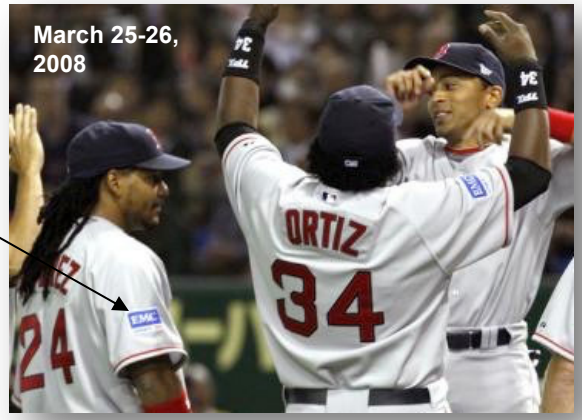


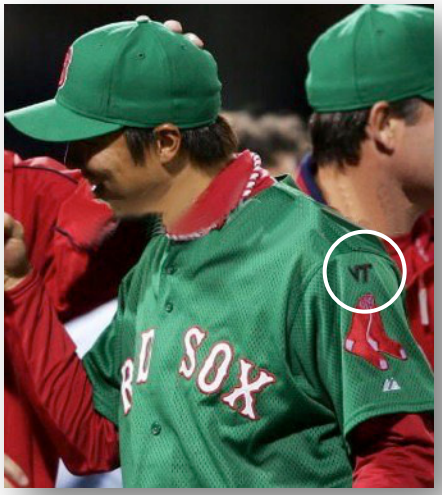
April 11, 2005

April 20, 2008 &

April 22, 2009



- 2005, April 11: World Champs patch worn on special gold-trimmed *ring ceremony* only, and on opening day home jerseys
- 2007, April 20: Green jersey and cap in memory of Celtics' Red Auerbach, also tiny Virginia Tech "VT" logo silk-screened in black on left sleeve of jersey in memory of those who died in a shooting there
- 2008, March 25-26: EMC sponsorship patch on right sleeve for opening series in Japan
- 2008, April 20 and 2009, April 22: Recycling patch worn for Earth Day
- 2012: Fenway Park 100 Years on right sleeve of all game and BP uniforms
- 2012, starting August 14: Black armband for Johnny Pesky, right sleeve of road jerseys only.
- 2012, starting August 21: Johnny Pesky #6 patch on left sleeve on white, red and, blue jerseys.



April 20, 2007

2012, starting August 21, white, red, blue jerseys

2012, starting August 14, road jersey only

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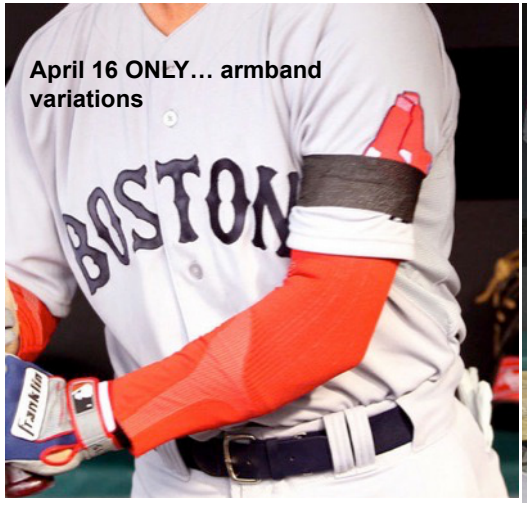
2013 - A year of patches that marked tragedies

The 2013 season started with every team in MLB wearing a patch on Opening Day commemorating the tragedy of the Sandy Hook school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut on December 14, 2012 in which 26 children and teachers died. Originally, the patch was to be worn only by the Red Sox and Yankees, the two teams closest to the locale; the commissioner of baseball asked the other 28 clubs to participate.



April 16 ONLY… armband variations

April 16, the day following the Boston Marathon terrorist bombing, the Red Sox played the Indians in Cleveland. In a hasty effort, it almost seems that players added their own armbands to their road gray jerseys, as there were a few variations from player to player. Most had a single, thin band in the middle of the sleeve, which looked to be elastic. Dustin Pedroia had a very thick band, which looked to be a different material from the others, maybe even black duct tape. Finally, starting pitcher Felix Doubront was a complete outlier, he had the armband on his right sleeve vs. left, and it looked like his is almost drawn on with paint or marker; it was clearly not elastic like the other players'.

Everyone's road gray jersey received a proper and uniform right-sleeve black armband before the game the next day. All other jerseys had the "B Strong" patch sewn to the left sleeve, and these were worn for the remainder of the season.

For the complete story on the B-Strong patch worn on all game jerseys after April 20, see the page earlier in this section entitled "2013 Boston Strong"

Starting April 16

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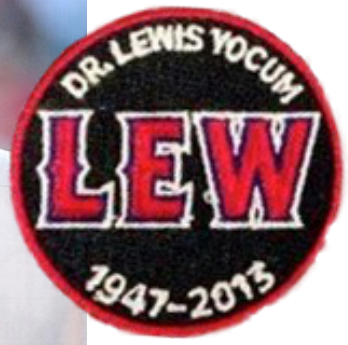
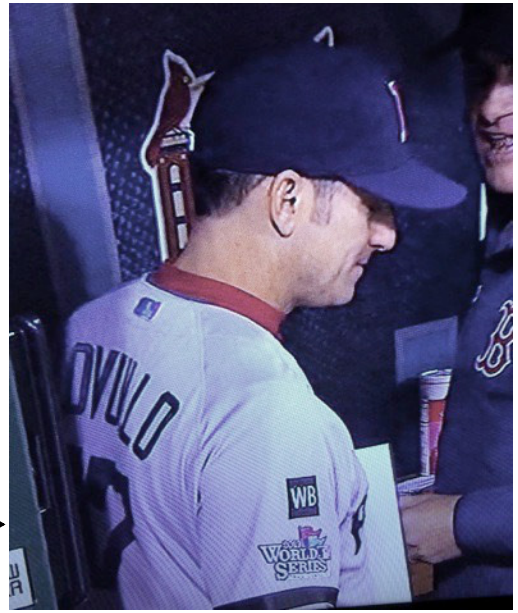


July 7, 2013 (a few players only)



October 28, 2013 Torey Lovullo only

- 2013, July 7: In Anaheim, a few Red Sox players borrowed and wore the Angels' "LEW" patch for one game, in tribute to Angels' team physician Dr. Lewis Yocum who had recently died
- 2013, October 28: Red Sox bench coach Torey Lovullo wore a "WB" patch in memory of umpire Wally Bell who died on October 14. MLB umpires wore this patch from game 4 of both LCS through the World Series, but we are not sure how long Lovullo wore it.
- 2014, April 4: "2013 World Series Champs" during Home Opener on special gold-trimmed jersey.
- 2014, April 21;
  2015, April 20;
  2016, April 18;
  2017, April 17;
  2019, April 15;
  2021, April 19;
  2022, April 18,
  2023, April 17;
  2024, April 15;
  2025, April 21: Patriots' Day, Red Sox wear the special BOSTON jerseys with the "B-Strong" patch (2018 was rained out, no game 2020 due to COVID)

April 4, 2014

April 21, 2014

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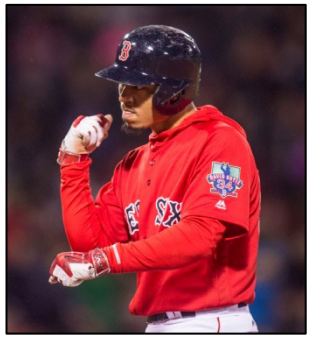
March 13, 2015
March 15, 2016
March 3 , 2018
March 2, 2019

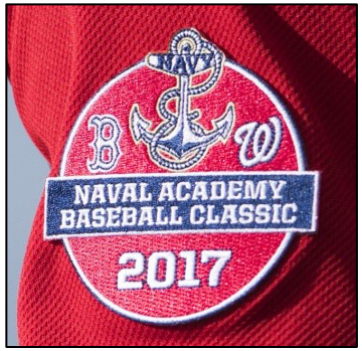
- 2015, March 13 (left sleeve)
  2016, March 15 (right sleeve)
  2018, March 3 (left sleeve)
  2019, March 2 (right sleeve):
  Red Sox Foundation patch. Worn on home white jerseys in Spring Training, these jerseys are auctioned off after the game to benefit the Red Sox Foundation
- 2015, July 1: Canadian Flag for Canada Day vs. Blue Jays
- 2016, April 21: Red Sox Recycle patch for Earth Day, similar to 2008 and 2009.
- 2016, July 21: Heart of 29 patch in recognition of Rod Carew's campaign against heart disease (Carew, who is a heart failure patient, wore 29 during his Twins career. The Red Sox faced the Twins, who also wore the patch. Carew attended the game).
- 2016, September 30, October 1-2: David Ortiz Final Season patch. Red jersey on 9/30, white jersey for 10/1 and 10/2.
- 2017, April 1: Naval Academy Baseball Classic patch on left sleeve of Spring Training jersey



September 30,
October 1-2, 2016

July 21, 2016

April 21, 2016



April 1, 2017

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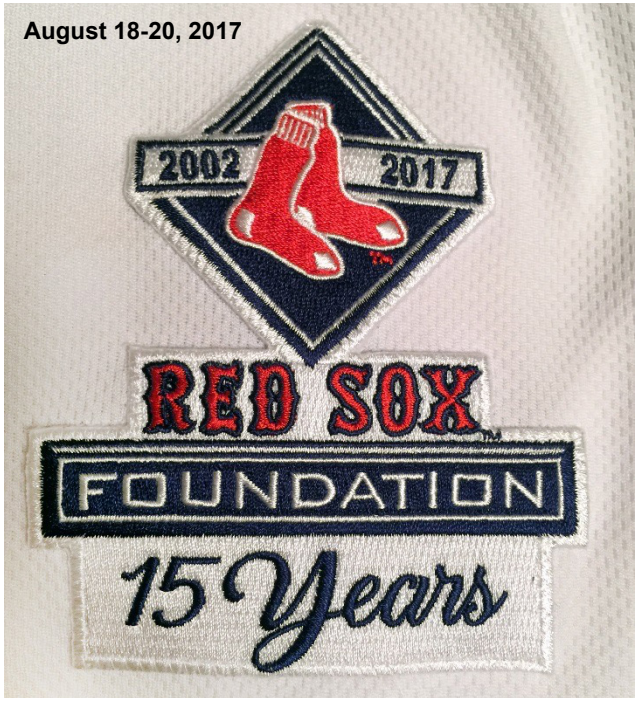
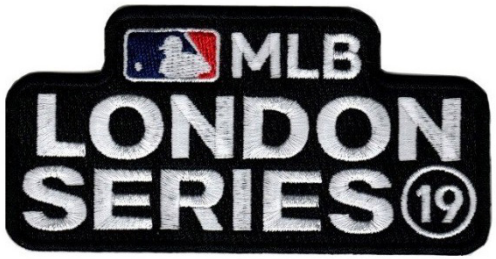
August 18-20, 2017





June 29-30, 2019

April 22, 2021

2022

June 17, 2022

April 9, 2019

March 9-10, 2024

2024

- 2017, August 18-20: Red Sox Foundation 15 Years patch. Worn of left sleeve of red home alternate (August 18) and white home jersey (August 19-20).
- 2019, April 9: 2018 World Series Champions patch worn on left sleeve of gold-trimmed home jersey on home opener only.
- 2019, June 29-30: Biofreeze sponsor patch (left sleeve) and MLB London Series patch (right sleeve) for games in London vs. Yankees. Worn on home white (June 29) and red home alternate (June 30).
- 2021, April 22: Earth Day patch on left sleeve of home jersey.
- 2022: Jerry Remy memorial patch, all season
- 2022, June 17: Red Sox Foundation 20th Anniversary, right sleeve of home jersey.
- 2024, March 9-10: Heat-pressed Mercasid sponsor patch (left sleeve) and embroidered MLB World Tour Dominican Series patch (right sleeve) for games in DR vs. Rays
- 2024: Memorial patch for former pitcher Tim Wakefield, road blue jersey version has a white border

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- 2024, May 20-22: Green mental health awareness ribbon for series in Tampa against the Rays, who wore the patch all month
- 2025, March 24-25: T-Mobile sponsor patch for preseason exhibition games in Monterey, Mexico.

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2023-2024 Red Sox Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Red Sox struck a sponsor patch deal with MassMutual, an insurance company. The patches first appeared in Spring Training 2023.

The patch is navy with white lettering for the team's home, road, home alternate, City Connect, and Marathon Monday/Patriots' Day white "Boston" jerseys. It is white with navy text on the team's road alternate jersey.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The exception is the team's City Connect uniform, where the advertising patch is always on the right sleeve.

To accommodate the new patch, the Red Sox eliminated the "Hanging Sox" logo sleeve patch from the left sleeve of their road jerseys prior to the 2023 season.

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2025 Red Sox Advertising Patches

Home, road, white alternate (Marathon Monday)

Red alternate, yellow alternate (City Connect 1.0), City Connect 2.0

The Red Sox continue with MassMutual as their jersey patch sponsor in 2025, however, they refresh the design of the patch in advance of the season. The new patch appears at the start of Spring Training.

The new patch now contains the company's logo in a semicircle that sits atop the company name in a rectangle. All patches have a navy field with the logo and company name in white. The version on the home, road, and white alternate Marathon Monday "Boston" jerseys has a red border. The version on the red alternate and home yellow alternate (former City Connect 1.0) has a white border.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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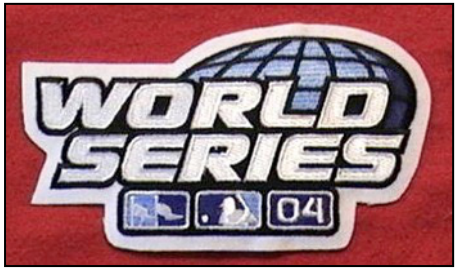
Red Sox Postseason Patches



2004 World Series
(right sleeve)

2013 AL Division Series , 2013 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve; above armband on road jersey)

2007 World Series
(right sleeve)

2013 World Series (right sleeve; above armband on road jersey)

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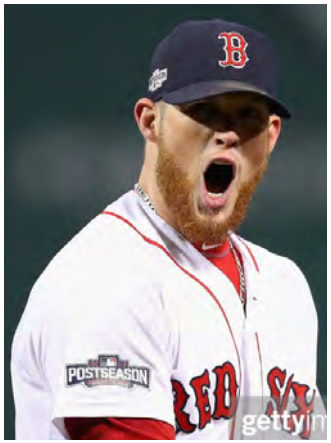
Red Sox Postseason Patches Continued

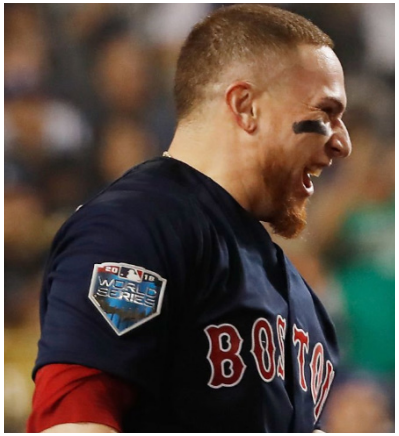
2016 AL Division Series
(right sleeve)



2018 AL Division Series
2018 AL Championship
Series (right sleeve)

2017 AL Division Series
(right sleeve)

2018 World Series (right sleeve)



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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Marty Pattin Boston Red Sox 1972 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: July 21, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0721J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1972 year-tagged Boston Red Sox #33 McAuliffe-labeled pullover, heavy weight (oddly in-between sized) 43 cream-colored double-knit jersey. The style and size is reasonable for the player in 1972; research shows he wore size 42 button front jerseys prior to 1972, and the new pullover knits fit more snugly. On jersey front, "Red Sox" arched in proper stylized team lettering font, in red outlined with Navy Blue. Red/Navy/Red V-Neck knit trim. Restored "33" on back in the Red Sox font, red outlined with Navy.

Pattin was a popular player who enjoyed a 13 year career playing for five different teams. Notably, he was the opening-day pitcher for the single season 1969 Seattle Pilots. In 1972 he compiled a record of 17-13, with four shutouts, and an ERA of 3.24. Those 17 wins proved to be his career best. In 1972, he hit the only two home runs of his major-league career. They were hit three months apart, both at Fenway Park against Milwaukee, both off former Brewers teammate Bill Parsons. (Source, Wikipedia, SABR)

As Received, Prior to Restoration: The jersey wore #15 on its back when I received it for evaluation and its eventual restoration. As 1972 was the first year the Red Sox wore knits, and the ghost of #33 was discernible on the light table, it is a solid conclusion that 33 was its original assigned number. The Red Sox began wearing knits only in mid-1972, and alternated them with a set of old style flannels during that season. As the Red Sox routinely passed their game uniforms down to the minors for further use, it is most likely that the #15 on back was a minor league alteration. The replacement back numbers are the same font as the MLB, but I will note that the stitching of the red layer to the blue backing layer is more typical of minor league issue, with very large widely-spaced stitches that are not typically characteristic of Red Sox MLB-level quality.

Restoration performed: Using the original team templates, adjusting them only slightly to match the old ghosts on the jersey, replacement numbers 33 were made and then aged/distressed to make them better match the patina of the rest of the jersey. They were stitched in place exactly over the original ghosts with stitching to match the front lettering as closely as possible.

Continued, overleaf

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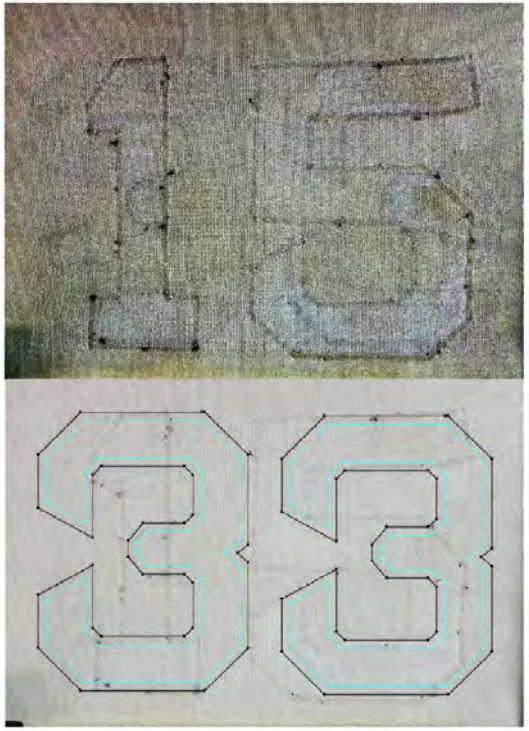
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1972 McAuliffe tagging, three-tag set on the center inside of the bottom of the front tail includes a red machine-knitted 1972 tag centered above a white-edged McAuliffe tag and square size 43 tagging below it. An odd jersey size, the "4" and the "3" are made up of two separate small tags sewn closely to each other, compared to common sizes like 42 and 44 which are displayed on a single, double-numbered tag. On the inside right of the front tail there is a white with red detailed wash instructions.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that the front lettering is original, and that the original back number had been 33. All original twill lettering is burnished, slightly faded and puckered and the thread holding it in place, while intact, is slightly bleached. There is a team-repaired tear in the front right tail, near the side hem. Aside from a few small blemishes on the cream-colored fabric, this jersey is in remarkably good original condition, lacking the extreme wear, ground-in dirt and fading seen on most 1972 Red Sox knits that were abused through overuse in the minors.



The light table reveals the ghosts of the original #33- but the shadows are faint and hard to see in any printed photo. Below, the jersey as received.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good, game-worn condition, is a reasonable size and is properly restored with a correct number set on the back. It has correct team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was worn by pitcher Marty Pattin of the 1972 Boston Red Sox.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Wade Boggs 1983 Boston Red Sox Home Game Worn Jersey and Pants, Autographed

Examination Date: April 25, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0425JP01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1983 Wilson seven-button size 42 white knit jersey, #26 issued to Wade Boggs. Red Sox jerseys in 1983 had the seven buttons evenly spaced. Red soutache trim on the placket. All lettering is in layered twill red over Navy-Blue. Numbers on back are in the Red Sox font and sewn properly 5 1/2" from the top of the collar. Boggs wore size 42 jerseys exclusively during the early years of his career. The jersey is lined inside the placket with white linen for player comfort. 1983 was Boggs' second big-league season, and he won his first of five American League batting titles that year, hitting .361 with 210 hits in 582 at bats.

Matching Wilson size 33 white pants are included, also tagged with the player's number and showing evidence of much wash and wear. The pants have red soutache down the side seam from hip to ankle. Both jersey and pants are autographed on their fronts simply "Wade Boggs" in blue Sharpie. There are a couple of extraneous blue pen marks on the jersey side and on the back number "6" that most likely happened when the jersey was being autographed. I have no opinion on the validity of the autographs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey- Wilson tag correct for 1983 is sewn to the outside of the left tail, with a small square of jersey-style white fabric zig zag stitched beneath it, on it the 2-character year designation "83", hand chain-stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher and matching all exemplars in our library. A small very frayed flag tag is pinched below the Wilson tag that says "tapered". **Pants**- The pants have the Wilson tag inside the waistband with a custom size "33" hand chain stitched in black on the spot where it would normally have been embroidered on the tag by machine. Besides the Wilson tag is a white knit square with "83" hand chain stitched just like the one on the jersey. To the left of these tags is another rectangular tag with "26 23" also hand chain stitched, indicating the player's number and the inseam tailoring ordered. The pants tagging is properly sewn

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in before the pants had been completely assembled, as none of the tag stitching is visible from the outside as stitch-through and all the stitching is concealed inside.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration. **Jersey:** The linen placket lining is yellowed, puckered and stained in the neck showing signs of heavy player use. The jersey is in very good condition but shows signs of a typical full season of wear, including small pulls, puckering to the back numbers and slight fraying of the soutache trim. **Pants:** The pants show harder use, scuffs and abrasions abound with fraying and loose stitching in the waistband and heavier wash-fraying of the side red soutache trim. The Wilson logo in the waistband normally bright red has been bleached nearly white. There is a major 4 x 4 overstitched and fabric-backed-up team repair to the right seat of the pants to repair holes from sliding. The original zipper fly is still in place and operational.

Conclusion: The jersey and pants in review are in good, used condition, are properly lettered, and have no alterations of any kind. They have team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that both jersey and pants were made to team specifications and worn by Wade Boggs of the 1983 Boston Red Sox.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Wade Boggs 1989 Boston Red Sox Home Game Worn Jersey and Pants, Autographed

Examination Date: August 24, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-089225JP03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1989 Wilson seven-button size 42 white knit jersey, #26 issued to Wade Boggs. Red Sox jerseys in 1989 had the seven buttons evenly spaced. RED SOX in the team font arched across both panels of the front of the jersey. Red soutache trim bands the placket, continuing around the back of the neck. All lettering is in layered twill red over Navy-Blue. Numbers "26" on back are in the Red Sox font and sewn 6" from the top of the collar. The jersey is autographed by Boggs on the front left below the team wordmark in blue Sharpie.(I have no professional opinion on the autograph.) Boggs wore size 42 jerseys exclusively during his years in Boston. The jersey is lined inside the placket with white linen for player comfort. There is no visible manufacturer logo on this Wilson uniform; starting in 1987 Rawlings had the exclusive right to display branding on uniforms they made for the teams.

Matching Wilson size 33 white pants are included (again, the correct size compared to exemplars), with two slash pockets with button closures, six belt tunnels and a button at the waist. The pants are tagged inside the waistband with the player's number and show evidence of much wash and wear with team repairs. Red soutache is stitched down the side seam from hip to ankle. They are autographed by Boggs on the back of the left leg below the knee in blue Sharpie. (I have no professional opinion on the autograph.) The original elastic is intact inside the bottoms of the pants legs, though weakened by repeated washing.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey- Wilson "Prestige Teams" tag correct for 1989 is sewn to the outside of the left tail, with a small square of jersey-style white fabric zig zag stitched beneath it, on it is the 2-character year designation "89", machine chain-stitched in the proper style as used in 1989 by the Wilson factory stitcher, and matching exemplars in our library. A tiny very frayed flag tag is pinched below the Wilson tag that says "BX" (meaning not known). A tiny equally frayed tag is pinched under the right side that says "42" referencing the size. **Pants**- The pants have the same 1989-style Wilson tag inside the waistband with a very tiny size 33 size tab, badly frayed, as well as the same "BX" tag as the jersey. Besides the Wilson tag is a 1" white knit square with "83" machine chain stitched just like the one on the jersey. To the left of these tags is another rectangular tag with "26" also machine chain stitched, indicating the player's number. The pants tagging is properly sewn in before the pants had been completely assembled, so that none of the tag stitching is visible from the outside as stitch-through; all the stitching is concealed inside. Some has written "Friedman" in black marker inside the waistband in black marker, perhaps referencing a later owner of the pants.

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Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration. **Jersey:** The linen placket lining is yellowed, puckered and stained in the neck showing signs of heavy player use. The jersey is in good condition but shows signs of a full season of heavy wear, including ground in dirt, small pulls, puckering to the back numbers and some fraying of the red soutache trim. There is a small un-repaired hole about the size of a grain of rice in the jersey front tail about 3" above the locker tag (at waist level) **Pants:** The pants show harder use, scuffs and abrasions abound with fraying and loose stitching in the waistband, a loose belt loop, and heavier wash-fraying of the side red soutache trim. There are team repairs to the back pockets and dark scuffs, ground in dirt and abrasions on the seat and knees The original YKK zipper fly is still in place and operational. The fabric of both the pants and jersey are dulled off-white by wear and repeated washing. It is likely that the pants were re-issued at least once, perhaps in spring training, after their MLB use was completed.

Conclusion: The jersey and pants set in review are in good, but heavily used condition, are properly tagged and lettered, and have no alterations of any kind. They have team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that both jersey and pants were made to team specifications and worn by Wade Boggs of the 1989 Boston Red Sox.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Manny Ramirez Boston Red Sox 2005 Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0101J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Boston Red Sox 2005 six button full-weight white knit home jersey of #34, Manny Ramirez. Majestic size 56. Red soutache trims the placket, two-colored red over Navy-blue Red Sox team wordmark arched across both panels of the front, player number 24 on the back in the same colors. MLB Silhouetted batter patch sewn on the back collar. Ramirez is a large man, but preferred his jerseys even larger as he wore them very loose and baggy. Size 54 and 56 jerseys are common for him to have worn. The jersey is autographed on the "2" on back. I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph. There is a sticker on that same numeral that says "Rich Altman's Hollywood Collection"

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Majestic locker tag correct in style for 2005 is stitched to the outside left front tail. The typical flag tab noting the size has been eliminated, and beneath it is a rectangle of surged-edge fabric with 24 56 05 machine-embroidered on it. (Player number 24, size 56, 2005). Majestic's style tag is sewn pinched inside the left side seam, and it designates this as a style 0062 jersey, the proper code for a team-issued specification garment. The tagging is correct for 2005 Red Sox team issued jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that this jersey is unaltered, and that all sewn elements are original. There is slight wrinkling of the inside seam tag, indicating that it has been washed multiple times. I will note that the numbers on back have identical stitching (i.e. they were sewn on at the same time), and it is unlikely that the jersey was washed after it was autographed, so the wear observed most likely took place before the autograph was applied.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition with some signs of wash-wear, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Manny Ramirez of the 2005 Boston Red Sox.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Wade Boggs 1982 Boston Red Sox Road Gray Rookie Jersey

Examination Date: December 13, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1213J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1982 Wilson seven-button size 42 gray knit jersey, #26 issued to Wade Boggs. Red Sox road jerseys 1979-1983 had the wordmark split as, "BOS TON" with a wide space between the first and last three letters, and the seven buttons evenly spaced. There is no trim on these, and very plain, single color #26 in the back in the Wilson varsity font. All lettering is in Midnight Blue twill. Boggs wore size 42 jerseys exclusively during the early years of his career. The jersey is lined inside the placket with white linen for player comfort. 1982 was Boggs' rookie year, and he batted .349, but was 121 plate appearances short of the minimum required to be considered for the batting title.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson tag correct for 1982 is sewn to the outside of the left tail, with a small square of jersey-style gray fabric zig zag stitched beneath it, on it the 2-character year designation "82", hand chain-stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher and matching all exemplars in our library.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration. The linen placket lining is yellowed, puckered and stained in the neck showing signs of player use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good, used condition, is properly lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Wade Boggs of the 1982 Boston Red Sox.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

2005 David Ortiz Boston Red Sox Autographed Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: March 1, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0301J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Boston Red Sox gray, six-button size 54 road jersey of Hall of Fame DH David Ortiz. Plain gray body trimmed only with red soutache at the sleeve ends. "BOSTON" arched across the front in the team's stylized font in red outlined with Navy Blue. On the back in the same colors is the player number 34 in the Red Sox team font, and above "ORTIZ" is stitched to a fabric nameplate with a properly serged edge. Below the nameplate is the player's autograph with his number 34 written in black marker (I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) Ortiz wore size 54 jerseys at this point in his career, and a check of the actual chest measurement shows that it matches the size marking. All aspects of this jersey match exemplars for team-issued Red Sox 2005 road jerseys. I will note that there are several other autographed Ortiz 2005 road jerseys responsibly authenticated and that have been sold at auction, and it is very reasonable that the popular, future Hall-of-Fame player would have worn multiple jerseys during the season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is stitched to the outside bottom front left tail in the proper style for 2005. Beneath is a 1"x 3" serged-edge rectangular piece of white knit fabric, machine-embroidered with the code "34 54 05" (Player number 34, size 54, 2005). Pinched inside the side seam is a white fabric style tag showing light wrinkling from being washed that is coded 0062, correct for team issue. The Majestic twin-peaks logo is embroidered into the end of the left sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells us that the lettering on this jersey is original and free from alteration or contrivance. The inside tag shows very light wash use, and the jersey itself presents well and the lettering is bright, crisp and clean.There is no notable puckering of the twill on the lettering, but there are a few tiny fabric pulls. All stitching is bright and tight.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent lightly-used condition, is properly lettered and exhibits no alterations of any kind. It has team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by David Ortiz of the 2005 Boston Red Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Curt Schilling 2006 Boston Red Sox Game Worn Autographed Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 5, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0305J06

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Boston Red Sox gray, six-button size 52 road jersey of pitcher Curt Schilling. Plain gray body trimmed only with red soutache at the sleeve ends. "BOSTON" arched across the front in the team's stylized font in red outlined with Navy Blue. On the back in the same colors is the player number 38 in the Red Sox team font, and above "SCHILLING" is stitched to a fabric nameplate with a properly surged edge. Above the nameplate is an inscription written in black marker to pitcher Dontrelle Willis: "Dontrelle-Keep doing what you do! God Bless + Thanks! Curt Schilling" (I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) Schilling wore size 52 jerseys at this point in his career. All aspects of this jersey match exemplars for Red Sox 2006 road jerseys.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is stitched to the outside bottom front left tail in the proper style for 2006. Beneath is a 1"x 3" surged-edge rectangular piece of white knit fabric, machine-embroidered with the code "38 52 06" (Player number 38, size 52, 2006). Pinched inside the side seam is a white fabric tag that is frayed and washed clean of any writing that had been on it. This tag would normally tell us the manufacturing codes that designate a jersey as team spec or retail spec. The Majestic twin-peaks logo is embroidered into the end of the left sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells us that the lettering on this jersey is original and free from alteration or contrivance. While the inside tag shows a great deal of wash use, the jersey itself presents well and the lettering is bright, crisp and clean. These are frequently seen hallmarks of a pitcher's jersey. There is some minor puckering of the twill on the back numbers. All stitching is bright and tight.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good game-used condition, is properly lettered and exhibits no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for and worn by Curt Schilling of the 2006 Boston Red Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bill "Spaceman" Lee 1971 Boston Red Sox Boston Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: May 8, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0508J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Boston Red Sox home size 44 (marked and measured) cream colored seven-button flannel blend jersey. "RED SOX" in straight-stitched thick two color red over Navy felt across both front panels in the team font. No trim, matching Red Sox issue for 1971. The buttons are a matched white set that appear original. Jersey features diamond-shaped underarm panels with four gusseted holes on each for venting. The player number 37 as issued to pitcher Bill Lee is stitched to the back in the same thick two-color felt in the Red Sox's signature font. The size of the jersey is reasonable for the player and is consistent with other attributed to him in our exemplar library.

In 1971, the third one of his MLB career, Lee was used primarily as a reliever in Boston. He appeared in 47 games; 3 as a starter, contributing a 9-2 record and compiled an ERA of 2.74. *(Baseball Almanac)*. He enjoyed a 14-year MLB career. On November 7, 2008, Lee was inducted into the Red Sox Hall of Fame as the team's record-holder for most games pitched by a left-hander (321) and the third highest win total by a Red Sox southpaw (94). *(Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1971 Red Sox jerseys exclusively bore the tagging of Boston sporting goods dealer Tim McAuliffe. On the outside left tail there is a cluster of three tags, the 1971-vintage (white bordered) McAuliffe tag in the center, flanked below by two smaller tags; "71" in red at the left indicating the year of issue. and "44" in blue to the right, indicating the size. The tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching on this jersey is original and without alteration or contrivance. Severe fabric puckering beneath the back numbers demonstrates hot water washing and uneven shrinkage of the two dissimilar materials: the felt lettering has shrunk more aggressively that the flannel jersey. This signature puckering is impossible to replicate except through regular wash and wear. The lettering is in generally excellent condition, with some color bleeding of the blue into the red felt. The jersey is splashed across the front with muddy water, especially over the SOX on the left chest, and left dirty, clearly without any attempt to clean it, as the mud is on the plastic buttons as well which would easily come clean, so this is unwashed. Red Sox jerseys generally were relegated to the minor leagues after their MLB use was done, and it almost sees like this one was plucked off and preserved "as-used". Aside from the mud, this is in very good condition. This jersey was presented without provenance, but displays use that appears appropriate and legitimate.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered and matches exemplars for 1971Red Sox jerseys. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and issued and worn by pitcher Bill Lee during the 1971 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bob Montgomery Boston Red Sox 1972 Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 30, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0330J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1972 year-tagged Boston Red Sox #10 McAuliffe-tagged pullover, heavy weight size 44 cream-colored double-knit jersey. The style and size is reasonable for the player in 1972; 6' tall 190 lb. other jerseys attributed to him that have been offered at auction are also size 44. On jersey front, "Red Sox" arched in proper stylized team lettering font, in red outlined with Navy Blue. Red/Navy/Red V-Neck knit trim. #10 on back in the Red Sox font, red outlined with Navy.

In 1972 Montgomery compiled 77 at bats in just 24 games mostly as a backup starting catcher behind future Hall of Famer Carlton Fisk. He hit .286 with two home runs. In a ten year career spent entirely with the Red Sox 1970-1979, he appeared in 387 games hitting .258 with 23 career home runs. Montgomery is notable for being the last major-league player to bat without wearing a helmet. (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1972 McAuliffe tagging, three-tag set on the center inside of the bottom of the front tail includes a red machine-knitted 1972 tag centered above a white-edged McAuliffe tag and square size 44 tagging below it. On the inside right of the front tail there is a white with red detailed wash instructions. These match exemplars for 1972 Red Sox jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original; burnished, slightly faded and moderately puckered and the thread holding it in place, while intact, is very slightly bleached. The red bottom of the "1" on the back is torn horizontally for about 1/2" above the stitching seam; catcher's jerseys often received extra abuse in this are from the straps that crossed there and abraded the fabric. Aside from a few small blemishes on the cream-colored fabric, this jersey is in remarkably good original condition, lacking the extreme wear, ground-in dirt and fading seen on most 1972 Red Sox knits that were abused through overuse in the minors.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good, game-worn condition, is a reasonable size for the player. It has correct team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was worn by catcher Bob Montgomery of the 1972 Boston Red Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Rico Petrocelli Boston Red Sox 1973 Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 14, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0614J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1973 year-tagged Boston Red Sox #6 McAuliffe-tagged pullover, heavyweight size 42 gray double-knit jersey. The style and size is reasonable for the 6' 0" 185 lb. player who, from a survey of exemplars, wore size 42 jerseys exclusively throughout his career. On jersey front, "BOSTON" is arched in proper stylized team lettering font in red outlined with Navy Blue. Red/Navy/Red knit V-Neck knit trim. Original #6 remains on back in the McAuliffe Red Sox font, red outlined with Navy. The jersey is clearly autographed in black marker on the top left of the chest above the Boston wordmark. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: 1973 McAuliffe tagging, two-tag set on the center inside of the bottom of the front tail includes a very heavily worn and nearly illegible red machine-embroidered 1973 tag next to a white wash instructions tag, both heavily puckered. Inside the back of the neck is the blue bordered McAuliffe tag with the size tag, "42" centered below it, both are abraded, puckered and with ground in dirt. McAuliffe was the exclusive maker of Red Sox jerseys during the 1970s. This collection of four separate tags was found on their team prepared jerseys, and characteristically were not always sewn in the same places or groupings. Other Red Sox 1973 jerseys in our exemplar library generally show three, or all four tags sewn clustered together on the bottom of the front tail. But given the maker's inconsistency, we can ignore this variant.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all the lettering, front and back, is original. The gray jersey body has been bleached to a lighter shade than it originally was. All original twill lettering is burnished, very faded and puckered and the thread holding it in place, while intact, is slightly bleached. The red layer of twill has been bleached with detergent to a dark rose color, especially on the back number. The jersey body itself exhibits many small pulls, and the tops of the shoulders and the top of the back are notably bleached from the sun including sun-bleaching of the red trim that outlines the neck. Notable are characteristics area of brown dirt staining at the waist and up the sides which are typical of an infielders game jersey. There is also some staining under the arms from perspiration. A light table evaluation shows characteristic puckering of the knit fabric beneath the lettering which indicates many hot water washing with the lettering in place, and is impossible to replicate otherwise. The stitching is a rather large zigzag on both the front and the back and I would judge that all stitching was done at the same time, and the same sewing machine. It matches the many exemplars I have examined.

Seeing an originally-lettered 1970s road jersey with this much wear on it is uncommon. But, there are several facts which are notable. It is the correct size for the player. The embroidered writing on the year tag in the front tail are nearly obliterated, more so than any other 1970s Red Sox jersey I have ever evaluated. In fact- it took a great deal of effort to evaluate the tag to even determine that this jersey was from 1973. Although the fact that the date tag has totally lost all of its blue thread is exceptional, but I don't believe it is contrived. That tag is still firmly attached to the jersey with what appears to be its original thread, and it displays puckering beneath it which indicates to me it has not been removed.

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I cannot do an authentication on a 1970s Red Sox jersey without calling out the following facts, presented here for your consideration. Speaking with people who were "there back then", during the 1970s McAuliffe Sporting Goods would gladly take orders from fans who wanted an on-field specification jersey, and these would be prepared and delivered identically, including with a full set of team tagging applied. There was never the intent to be dishonest or produce "fakes" that were represented as game worn jerseys to be sold to collectors. Rather, it was a different time. Collecting sports memorabilia was just not something that most people did in these years. There was no attempt made by McAuliffe to differentiate these fan jerseys from jerseys that were made for the players to wear on the field. In my career as an authenticator, I have seen many 1970s Red Sox jerseys customized for star players which I have determined to be jerseys made for fans, and then later have been represented as having been game worn. There are some things that I can look for to determine authenticity, but this process is not foolproof.

Again, concerning this jersey: While Red Sox home jerseys were often sent to the minor leagues to be used there, Red Sox road jerseys with the "Boston" script on the front in their original configuration generally do not exhibit this much wear. The reason is, they were not useful in the minor leagues without stripping the Boston lettering off the front and replacing it (usually with "Red Sox"). While it is possible that Petrocelli wore this jersey again in 1974 spring training, or could have kept it handy as a spare. After his retirement in 1976 it could have also been used in spring training again in the late 1970s. But again, if we go back to 1975, it is also entirely possible as well that a fan purchased this jersey from the team and enjoyed wearing it to every Red Sox game he went to for the next 30 years.

I will call out a few additional points which would lead me to believe that it is indeed authentic. The wear to it is "honest". That means the abrasion to the jersey in spots that would be common to a player is apparent. There are faded brown stains splattered across the front which are probably from tobacco juice. There is a characteristic brownish stain on the top of the left shoulder where a bat with pine tar might have been frequently rested while the player was standing in the on-deck circle. The fading to the jersey on the top of the shoulders and especially to the top of the number on the back compared to the team wordmark on the front, indicates many hours standing with ones back exposed in the bright sun. The notable line of brown dirt that rings the jersey at the waist where it would have tucked in into the elastic waisted pants is apparent. The aforementioned puckering to the gray jersey fabric beneath the sewn-on lettering is authentic and practically impossible to replicate illicitly.

I mention all of this additional detail not to cast doubt on this jersey's originality, but instead to explain my familiarity with this style and era of Red Sox jersey and explain why I believe that this particular one is authentic; game-worn by a star player.

Above, fabric puckering behind the back number revealing many washes in hot water; light table image shows that the back number is original to the jersey. Above right, the tail year tag and below, with photographic enhancement to show what was originally there. Below right, exemplar tagging from another Red Sox 1973 jersey showing the more typical tail tagging configuration seen on that year's jerseys.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in heavily used game-worn condition, is a reasonable size and lacks any contrivances. It has correct team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was worn by Rico Petrocelli of the 1973 Boston Red Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jim Rice 1988 Boston Red Sox Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: February 26, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0226J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1988 Wilson seven-button size 48/tapered (marked and measured) white knit jersey, #214 issued to designated hitter Jim Rice. Red Sox jerseys in 1988 had seven buttons evenly spaced. RED SOX in the team font arched across both panels of the front of the jersey. Correct old-style red soutache trim (not the modern polyester knit trim) bands the placket, continuing around the back of the neck. All lettering is in layered twill red over Navy-Blue. Numbers "14" on back are in the Red Sox font and sewn 6" from the top of the collar. Rice wore size 48 tapered jerseys towards the end of his career. The jersey is lined inside the placket with white linen for player comfort. There is no visible manufacturer logo on this Wilson uniform; starting in 1987 Rawlings had the exclusive right to display branding on uniforms they made for the teams.

In 1988, appearing in 135 games, Rice hit .264 with 15 home runs. Playing his entire 16-year career with the Red Sox, Rice was an eight-time American League (AL) All-Star and was named the AL's Most Valuable Player in 1978.He joined Ty Cobb as one of two players to lead the AL in total bases three years in a row. He batted above .300 seven times, collected 100+ runs batted in (RBI) eight times, had 200 hits four times and 20+ home runs 11 times. He also led the league in home runs three times, RBIs and slugging percentage twice each, and averaged more than 117 hits for every 100 regular season MLB games he had played in during his career. Between 1975 and 1986, Rice led all major league players in hits, RBIs and total bases, as well as all AL players in home runs and runs scored. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2009.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson "Prestige Teams" tag correct for 1988 is sewn to the outside of the left tail, with a small square of jersey-style white fabric zig zag stitched beneath it, on it is the 2-character year designation "88", machine chain-stitched in the proper style as used in 1988, the first year that machine stitching and not hand-embroidered chain-stitching was used, matching exemplars in our library. A tiny very frayed flag tag is pinched below the Wilson tag that says "Tapered". Another tiny curled tag is pinched under the right side that says "48" referencing the size.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are original without alteration. The linen placket lining is yellowed, puckered and stained in the neck showing signs player use. The jersey is in good condition but shows signs of a full season of wear, including ground in dirt, small stains, fabric pulls, puckering to the back numbers and some typical fading and fraying of the red soutache trim.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good, well-used condition, is properly tagged and lettered, and has no alterations of any kind. It has team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jim Rice of the 1988 Boston Red Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

David Ortiz 2010 Boston Red Sox Game Worn Autographed Road Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: April 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0413J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Boston Red Sox navy blue six-button size 50 (both tagged and measured) road jersey with 1" extra length, of #34 David Ortiz . Plain Navy jersey body devoid of trim. "BOSTON" arched across the front in the team's stylized font in red outlined with white. On the back in the same colors is the player number 34 in the Red Sox team font, and above "ORTIZ" is properly stitched directly to the jersey without a nameplate. Between the back numbers is an autograph, in black Sharpie on the Navy jersey so it is hard to see. (A serialized JSA label referencing the autograph is on the front locker tag, serial number X82913. I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.) Ortiz wore size 50 jerseys at this point in his career. All aspects of this jersey match exemplars for Red Sox 2010 road jerseys.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is stitched to the outside bottom front left tail in the proper style for 2010. Beneath is a 1"x 3" surged-edge rectangular piece of white knit fabric, machine-embroidered with the code "34 50 '10" (Player number 34, size 50, 2010). Pinched inside the side seam is a white fabric style tag that is slightly wrinkled from washing, bearing the code 0062, Majestic's designation for team-spec jerseys. The Majestic twin-peaks logo is embroidered in white into the end of the left sleeve. The MLB silhouetted batter logo in red, white and blue is sewn to the back of the neck.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination tells us that the lettering on this jersey is original and free from alteration or contrivance. The jersey shows very light use, with a couple of lines of dirty discoloration on front and characteristic wash-wrinkling of the inside seam tag which surely would have happened before the jersey was autographed. All twill is unpuckered, all stitching is bright and tight.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition, is properly sized, tailored, tagged and lettered and exhibits no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by David Ortiz of the 2010 Boston Red Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1979 Carl Yastrzemski Game Worn Autographed Home Jersey; w/Undershirt, Jacket

Examination Date: May 18, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0517J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: McAuliffe tagged 1979 Boston Red Sox 7-button size 42, home white jersey. Red over Navy Blue "Red Sox" in team font arched across both front panels. The player number 8 on the back in the traditional Red Sox/McAuliffe font, in the same colors. A narrow 1/8" strip of red knit trim borders the placket and continues around the back of the neck. The jersey is autographed in red felt-tip pen on front by the player, with the added inscription "#8 HOF 89". I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Accompanying the jersey is a matching McAuliffe-tagged pro-model white, size large henley-necked wool undershirt with sewn-on Navy Blue long sleeves. The McAuliffe garment tag is sewn at the base of the neck closure, mid-chest. Also included in this set is a Navy Blue McAuliffe satin Red Sox jacket with seven snap closures and ribbed red/white/Navy knit trim at the neck, waist and sleeve ends. An ornate chenille embroidered Red Sox "twin socks" logo crest in red and white is sewn to the right chest. The jacket has slash pockets on each side, a khaki diamond suited lining for cold weather use and the McAuliffe tag sewn into the back of the neck.

1979 marked the year that the Red Sox switched from pullover jerseys back to the traditional button front jersey design that they had worn for decades in the flannel era, up through 1972. Collectors will puzzle that the jersey carries McAuliffe tagging, as in 1979 the Red Sox had signed an exclusive on-field deal with Wilson to newly supply the team's apparel. Therefore, all team-issued and game worn 1979 Red Sox uniforms should carry Wilson tagging, and this one does not.

Attached to this Letter of Opinion is a detailed notarized statement from the owner of this collection of three garments, who explains in detail how he came to own them, and details an in-person conversation he had with Yastrzemski at the time he had the jersey signed. Briefly, Yastrzemski confirmed that he did wear a McAuliffe uniform at the start of the 1979 season until he was pressured by the team to change to uniforms made by Wilson, the contracted supplier, shortly after the season began. He said he preferred the thicker warmer fabric he perceived the McAuliffe uniforms were constructed from, including the heavyweight wool-flannel undershirt.

Historically, Tim McAuliffe Uniform Company was a small Boston-area sporting goods dealer, and as a point of pride had supplied uniforms to the Red Sox since the 1940s. Notably, they were not a manufacturer themselves; rather they were a dealer who contracted with uniform manufacturers to create their wares, and the McAuliffe-branded tagging was added to their specifications. Following the death of owner Tim McAuliffe in 1969, Stall & Dean acquired the brand name and continued to use it in marketing, selling MLB

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uniforms to the Oakland Athletics and Boston Red Sox, as well as to countless school and semi-pro and club teams. The nation's much larger major manufacturers were always actively involved in courting business from all the MLB teams, and finally in 1979 Wilson wrested the team contract from McAuliffe. However, with the pending change to button-front jerseys and belted pants for 1979, McAuliffe had prepared the patterns and created samples of the new style, hoping to remain the team's supplier.

Notably, it was common for players to visit the McAuliffe site in Brockton, MA. to have their measurements taken and uniforms tailored prior to the start of the season, and Carl Yastrzemski was one of those who liked the special attention provided to him. In 1979 McAuliffe delivered his sets of McAuliffe-made uniforms to him before the start of the season. According to the affidavit, Yastrzemski says he began the season wearing McAuliffe uniforms.

But it was not to be. After the team wore its season-used 1978 pullover jersey uniforms in Spring Training 1979, the players were issued new knit Wilson button-front uniforms for the start of the 1979 season, and McAuliffe's long association as the official provider of Red Sox uniforms was at an end.

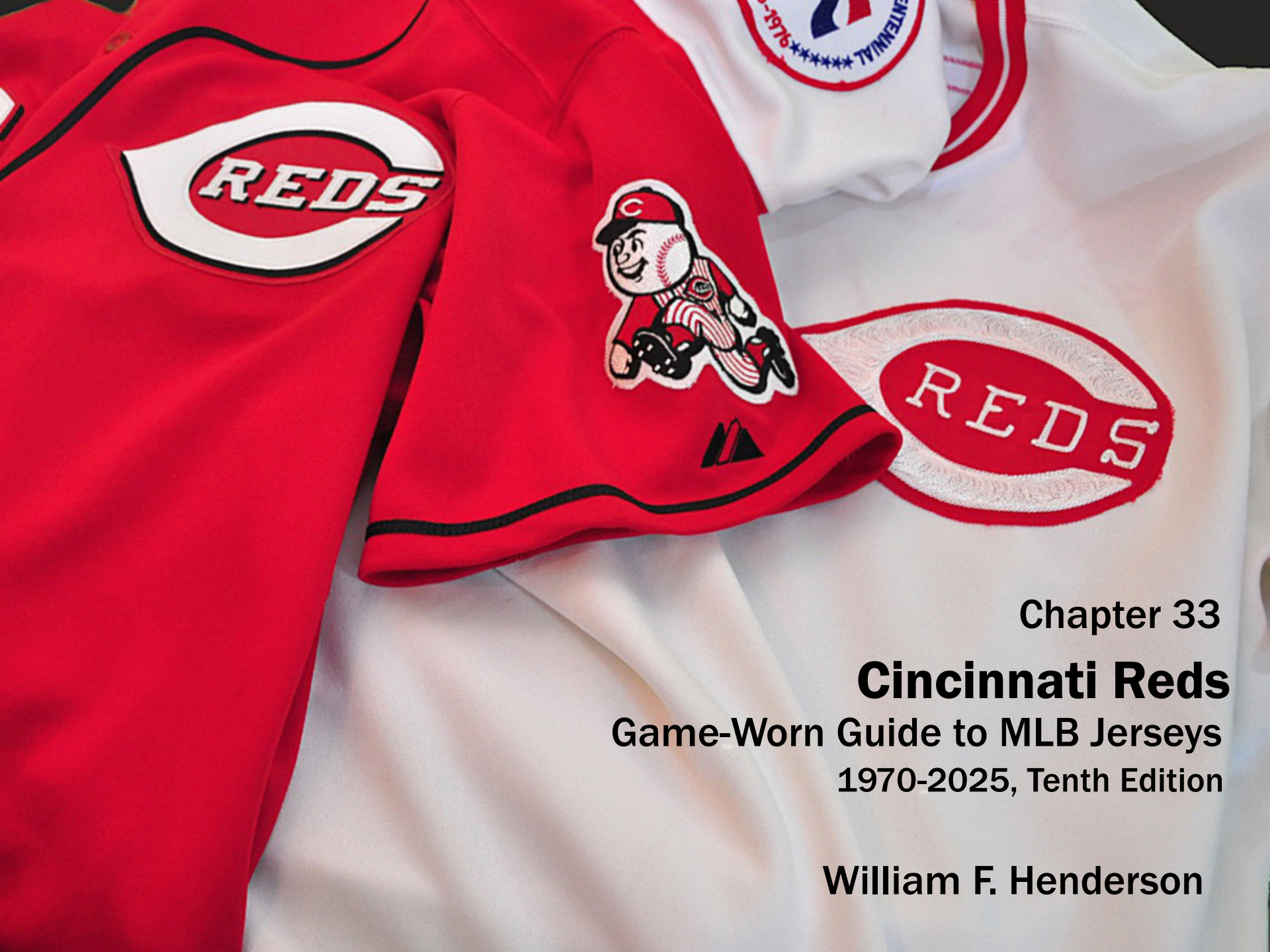
Regarding the jacket and undershirt, from my experience there was less pressure for players to conform to manufacturer restrictions for under and outerwear; jackets were not year tagged, and in my research I do not believe Wilson made Red Sox team jackets until after 1979.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey: McAuliffe tagging is in its usual four individual pieces, sewn to the outer left tail. There is a white-bordered "McAuliffe Uniform Company" tag embroidered in blue and red with the company's address. To its left is a blue bordered red-embroidered "1979" tag. To its right is the seven-line red embroidered washing instructions label, and finally directly below is the square blue-embroidered size tag showing 42, the proper size worn by the player throughout his playing career. The jacket has an identical McAuliffe tag stitched into the lining in the back of the neck, with a small size "MED" flag tag pinch-sewn and centered below. There is no year or player designation on the jacket's tagging. The undershirt has a similar but not identical McAuliffe tag sewn at the base of the neck button flap, indicating its construction of 90% wool 10% Nylon, its size 46-48 and "Made in Canada".

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering and tagging is original without alteration or contrivance. The jersey shows very light wear and is in excellent seldom-washed condition, as is appropriate considering its story. There is a small brown stain on the top the right shoulder that may have come from a hanger it was kept on. The undershirt similarly shows light use with evidence of washing. The Jacket displays what I would consider to be a full season of wear, with the paint partly chipped off of the faces of several of the snaps. Other than that, it remains in fine original condition.

Conclusion: The notarized letter that accompanies my Letter of Opinion provides a clear and plausible explanation for what otherwise would have been a jersey whose existence might have been left to conjecture. All the elements of the construction, lack of alteration and appropriate wear to the three pieces in this lot are correct and consistent with the account provided and are accurate considering many decades of McAuliffe serving as the supplier of on-field apparel to the Boston Red Sox. In my opinion, the jersey, undershirt and jacket were issued to and game-worn by Red Sox Hall of Fame player Carl Yastrzemski.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator
5/18/21



Chapter 33

Cincinnati Reds

Game-Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Reds Uniform History Notes

- As one of the original teams in the National League, the Reds have been long on tradition and have kept major uniform changes to a minimum. They are still using the same basic team logo, and certainly the same colors, for the past 100 years or more. Except for a 1960s experiment with player names sewn below the player numbers, the Reds have been conservative, keeping a consistent team look.
- They moved from flannel to double knits in 1972 with the majority of other Major League teams. The new knit uniforms looked very much like the old flannels. The same lettering was used for home and away, and its placement stayed roughly the same. Names remained in an unusually large font (designed to be readable from the back row) and back numbers remained small.
- The biggest change was the Reds' switch to pullover jerseys, worn mostly skintight by players during the first decade of the new era. Belt-less pants shared the same red and white banded trim at the waist as at the ends of the shirt sleeves. Tall Block-lettered player names carried over to the knits from the last flannels.
- During the 1970s, 1980s, and through 1992, the changes to the Reds' uniforms were superficial: a stripe added to the sleeve trim, player names being made a bit smaller, and numbers a bit larger, minor changes of fonts that mostly accompanied changes in uniform manufacturers, change of the team crest construction from embroidery to sewn twill, a nearly invisible white outline being added where there was none before. But to the casual observer, there seemed to be no changes at all.
- In 1993, the Reds became the last team in baseball to abandon the then-dated 1970s pullover jersey and belt-less pants. However, at the same time, the Reds became the first team in the majors to bring back the old-time-looking vest as their everyday home uniform. The 1993 Marlins also included a vest, but as an alternate jersey.
- Road jerseys from 1993 to 1998 had the odd characteristic of front player numbers being sewn on the right side of the jersey, opposite of all other teams.
- For 1999, the team changes its road jersey to a vest, complimenting the home vest. The home has red pinstripes, and the road is solid gray. Also in 1999, black drop shadows are added to everything: logos, wordmarks, player names, numbers, and even Mr. Red picks up the drop shadow-infested elements on his tiny uniform.
- A red alternate is added for 2003-2004, featuring an old-time Reds logo on the chest, modeled after the version on the 1956-1960 uniform.
- The alternate jersey changes for 2005-2006, picking up the same modern drop shadow logo as the home jersey.
- Another minor redesign in 2007 keeps the traditional Reds logo on the chest but changes all of the lettering on the jerseys: "Cincinnati" wordmark, player name and numbers, to a retro-looking gaslight era 1900s turn-of-the-century font. The use of black as a color element is lessened, but black drop shadows persist through this writing of 2025. The vests, home and away, are replaced by traditional sleeved jerseys in 2007, which continue to enjoy a long run into 2025.
- In 2014, the Reds add a tan camouflage jersey with a script "Reds" wordmark to their lineup for military appreciation days. It is retired after the 2017 season and replaced for 2018-2021 by a version of their "Wishbone-C" home jersey with olive green lettering, matching the league-wide Memorial Day jersey template of that era.
- In 2019, the Reds held an unprecedented 15 Turn Back the Clock games as part of their 150th anniversary celebration (the Cubs had previously established an unofficial record in 2014 at 10). Each uniform represented a specific era from the team's history, spanning from 1902 to 1999. This was one of the most extensive throwback uniform programs ever.
- The 1936 "Reds" script returns in 2020, now on a new red alternate jersey that replaces the "wishbone-C" version that was last updated in 2007 (the script was previously used on 2011-2016 batting practice jerseys).
- In 2023, the Reds debut their first City Connect uniform, featuring a black jersey with "CINCY" across the chest in squared block letters. The chest lettering includes red and white trim in a drop shadow style. The jersey also includes five very narrow red stripes on each sleeve (representing the team's five World Series titles), a stylized "C" patch on the right sleeve, and red player names on the back.
- In 2025, a minimalistic home white alternate is added to the lineup, a stripped down of the existing home jersey devoid of trim except for a single red stripe on sleeve ends. It has a "wishbone-C" on the left chest.
- From 1970-2025, the Reds' uniform evolution shows a club that has mostly leaned traditional, with long stretches of consistency broken by bold experiments—like the 1990s vests, 3D drop shadows, and the modern City Connect look. Despite these changes, the team has kept a core identity centered on its signature red and a consistent presence of Mr. Red.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Reds Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray Flannel	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1971	Home White Flannel	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray Flannel	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1972	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1973	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	NL 100th Anniversary	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	NL 100th Anniversary	Wilson
1977	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1979	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1980	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home White	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Bold block 1 color	Bold block 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1985	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 1 color	Reds varsity 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1986	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Goodman
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 1 color	Reds varsity 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1987	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 1 color	Reds varsity 1 color	XLG Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings

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Reds Game Jerseys

* Reds 1994 NL Anniversary and 1997 Jackie Robinson Patch are sewn on the left chest of the home vest jersey, just above the team logo crest

** All of these patches are worn on the sleeve of the home vest's undershirt 1993-1998, and on the sleeve of the home and road vests' undershirts 1999-2006. Red and black undershirts are used starting 1999; red only, 1993-1998.

1993-1998, except 1997

1997 only

2003 -2004

2005 -2006

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1988	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	All Star Game	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	All Star Game	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	XLG Block 2 color	No	-	-	Russell
1993	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C" Logo**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C Reds" Logo**	-	Russell
1994	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C" Logo**	Reds Special MLB 125th*	Russell
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C Reds" Logo**	Reds Special MLB 125th*	Russell
1995	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C" Logo**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C Reds" Logo**	-	Russell
1996	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C" Logo**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C Reds" Logo**	-	Russell
1997	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C" Logo**	Jackie Robinson*	Russell
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C Reds" Logo**	Jackie Robinson*	Russell
1998	Home White	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C" Logo**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Reds varsity 2 color	Reds varsity 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team "C Reds" Logo**	-	Russell
1999	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Russell
2000	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Reds 25/10 Anniv**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Reds 25/10 Anniv**	-	Russell
2001	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Russell
2002	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Riverfront Memorial**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Riverfront Memorial**	-	Russell
2003	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Inaugural Season**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Inaugural Season**	-	Russell
	Alternate Red	-	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Inaugural Season**	-	Russell
2004	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Russell
	Alternate Red	-	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Russell
2005	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red (New)	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red (new)	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Running Man**	-	Majestic

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Reds Game Jerseys

2007-2025

2007-2025

2007-2019

2013-2021

2014-2017

2018-2021

Change to Flex Base

2020-2025

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2007	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Nuxy memorial disc	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C":	Nuxy memorial disc	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Nuxy memorial disc	Majestic
2009	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Sparky oval memorial	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	Sparky oval memorial	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Sparky oval memorial	Majestic
2012	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man		Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"		Majestic
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man		Majestic
	Alternate Red #2	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man		Majestic
2014	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red #2	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alternate Camouflage	-	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Old time Running Man	American Flag	Majestic
2015	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	All-Star patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	All-Star patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red #2	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	All-Star patch	Majestic
	Alternate Camouflage	-	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Camo Reds "C"	American Flag	Majestic
2016	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Bernie Stowe Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	Bernie Stowe Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red #2	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Bernie Stowe Patch	Majestic
	Alternate Camouflage	-	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Camo Reds "C"	American Flag	Majestic
2017	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red #2	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alternate Camouflage	-	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Camo Reds "C"	American Flag	Majestic
2018	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alternate Red #2	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Majestic
	Alt Memorial Day white	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Old time Running Man	Olive bar with stars	Majestic
2019	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Robinson Memorial (left chest)/Old time Running Man	Reds 150th	Majestic
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Robinson Memorial (left chest)/Reds "C"	Reds 150th Road	Majestic
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Robinson Memorial(left chest)/Old time Running Man	Reds 150th	Majestic
	Alternate Red #2	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Robinson Memorial(left chest)/Old time Running Man	Reds 150th	Majestic
	Alt Memorial Day white	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Robinson Memorial (left chest)/Old time Running Man	Reds 150th/Olive Bar with stars	Majestic
2020	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds "C"	-	Nike
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Nike
	Alt Red Reds script	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Mr. Red head	-	Nike
	Alt Memorial Day white	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Old time Running Man	Olive bar with stars	Nike

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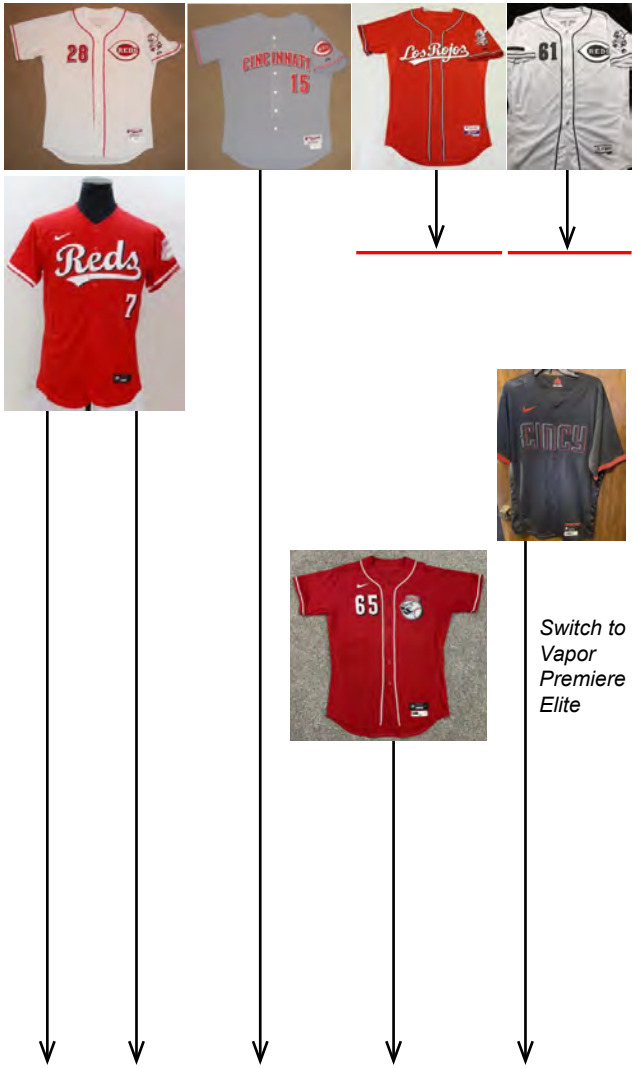
These five styles continue from previous years



Reds Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Joe Morgan memorial	Nike
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds “C”	Joe Morgan memorial	Nike
	Alternate Red/Rojos	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	Joe Morgan memorial	Nike
	Alt Red Reds script	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Mr. Red head	Joe Morgan memorial	Nike
	Alt Memorial Day white	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	Reds Font 2 color	No	Old time Running Man	Olive bar with stars/Joe Morgan memorial	Nike
2022	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds “C”	-	Nike
	Alt Red Reds script	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Mr. Red head	-	Nike
2023	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man*‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds “C”‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Red Reds script	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Mr. Red head*‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 3 color	Custom 1 color	No	Stylized “C”‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
2024	Home White	Reds Font 3 color (perf)	Reds Font 3 color (perf)	2” Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man*‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color (perf)	2” Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds “C”‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Red Reds script	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color (perf)	2” Reds Font 3 color	No	Mr. Red head*‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt. Red Mr. Red head	Reds Font 3 color (perf?)	Reds Font 3 color (perf?)	2” Reds Font 3 color	No	-	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 3 color	2” Custom 1 color	No	Stylized “C”‡	Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home White	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Old time Running Man*‡	Pete Rose Memorial/ Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Reds “C”‡	Pete Rose Memorial/ Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Red Reds script	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Mr. Red head*‡	Pete Rose Memorial/ Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alternate White	-	Reds Font 3 color	Reds Font 3 color	No	Mr. Red head*‡	Pete Rose Memorial/ Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	-	Custom 3 color	2” Custom 1 color	No	Stylized “C”‡	Pete Rose Memorial/ Kroger Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

* Starting 2023, both of the team’s Mr. Red patches come in two versions based on which sleeve they appear. The “reversed” Running Mr. Red (which is worn on the right sleeve of the home jersey) has his Wishbone-C logo on the wrong side of the jersey as a result of the change.

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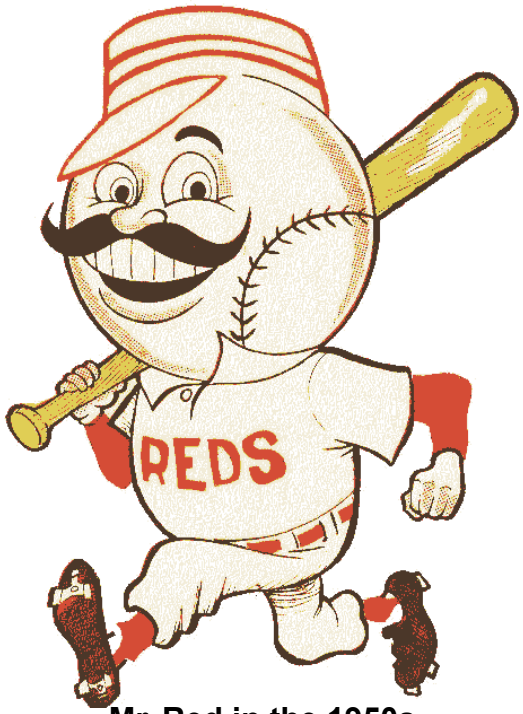
Mr. Red – The Reds' Smiling Mascot



Mr. Red in the 1950s and 60s

The sprightly, smiling, and spry image of the baseball-headed Mr. Red has long been a part of the Reds' history, and has often been displayed on the team's uniform as a patch.

Until 1998, Mr. Red ran from left to right, displaying the number 27 on his chest. In a 1998 team logo update, Mr. Red added pinstripes and black trim to his outfit, and changed directions so he now runs from right to left. His uniform number is no longer visible, and now the team logo on his chest can be seen instead.

Mr. Red wears #27 for a good reason. Teams normally carry a 25-man roster. The loyal fans in Cincinnati are considered the 26th man. Therefore, Mr. Red has been assigned the next available roster number, #27.

Mr. Red in the 1970s

Mr. Red circa 1999

As he appeared on the left chest of the 1956 home uniform

Mr. Red of the 1950s and 60s returns for 2007

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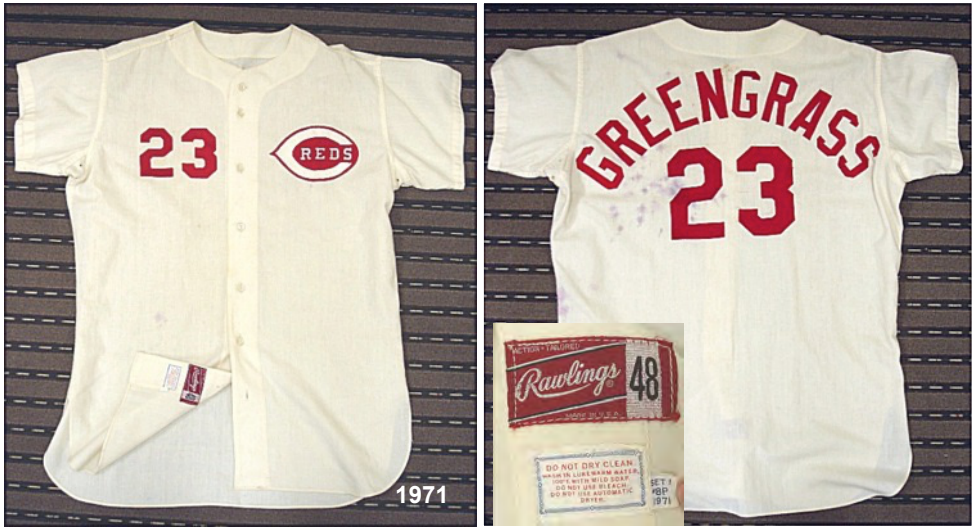
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home

1971

The Reds' 1970-1971 home jersey design was first used in 1968. It is a plain, cream-colored flannel, void of trim. Back numbers are rather small, and the player name font is large, making it rather clumsy for long names. The Reds' front wordmark is chain-stitched onto red twill, then the patch is sewn onto the jersey chest. We believe that a set of 1971 tagged uniforms was made and used in the 1970 World Series and then purposely reused in the 1971 season. The 1971 flannel uniforms were used in 1972 Spring Training.

1971



1971

1970

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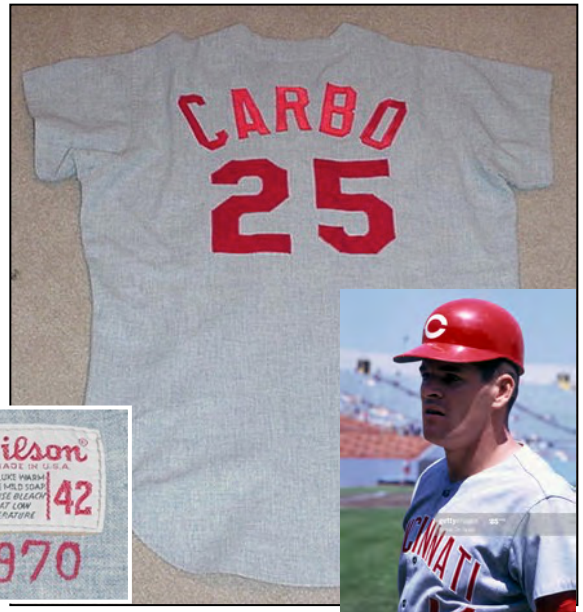
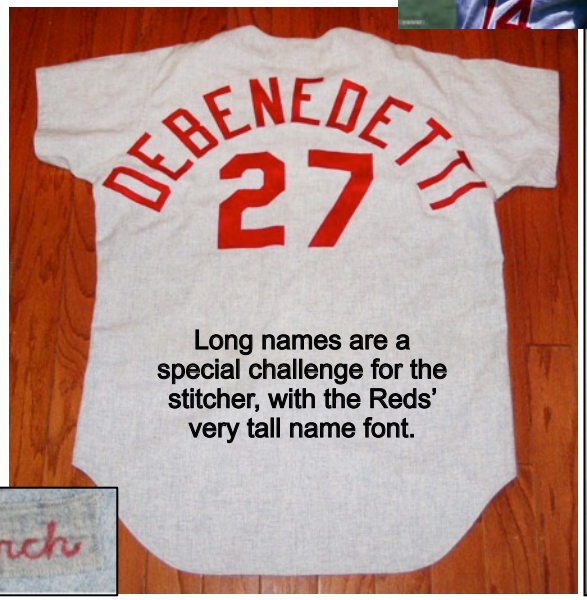
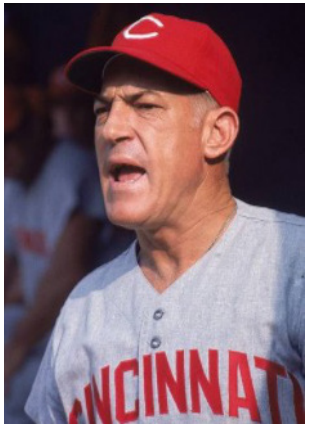
1970 Road



After many years of sleeveless vests, the sleeved road jersey was reintroduced and used 1967 through 1971. “Cincinnati” in vertical arch Block Condensed, curved across the chest. These are made from gray flannel. 1970’s twill wordmark is outlined with white. Block Bold player numbers are on front and back. Back numbers are a scant inch smaller than most teams’, and names an inch larger.



Long names are a special challenge for the stitcher, with the Reds’ very tall name font.



The Reds’ road jersey wordmark was not outlined with white in the 1970 World Series. We believe that the jerseys used in the WS were tagged 1971 and used the following season.

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1971 Road

Compared to the 1970 version, the "Cincinnati" wordmark is slightly bolder and it loses its white outline. Gray flannel with a slight blue tint continues.

Names are a rather tall block font, back numbers are a small 7 ½". The font is the Wilson variant of Block Bold. The 1971 flannel uniforms were used in 1972 Spring Training.

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1972-1984 Home

1981

1976

White knit pullover with red and white knit trim. Knit sleeve trim is red/white. Rawlings is the sole vendor for these 13 seasons.

One-color red numbers on front chest. Note proper placement, vertically centered in relation to Reds logo. Name and number on the back, also one-color red. Reds logo is made from red twill with white chain stitched embroidery ***(bottom left)***. Numbers are Block Bold – which is regular Block with the added thickness equal to one outline layer. Tall player names used, no nameplates. Wilson Block font used.

1976

1974

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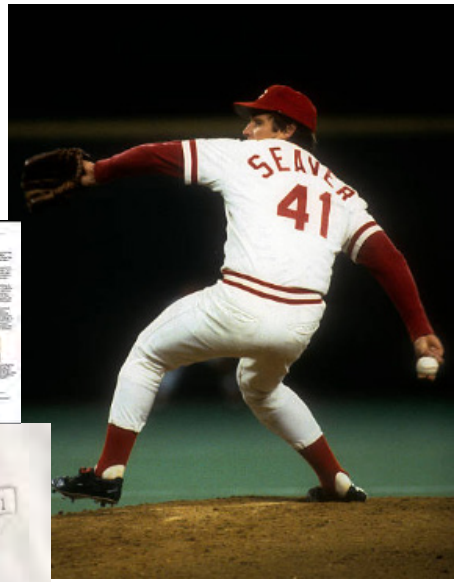
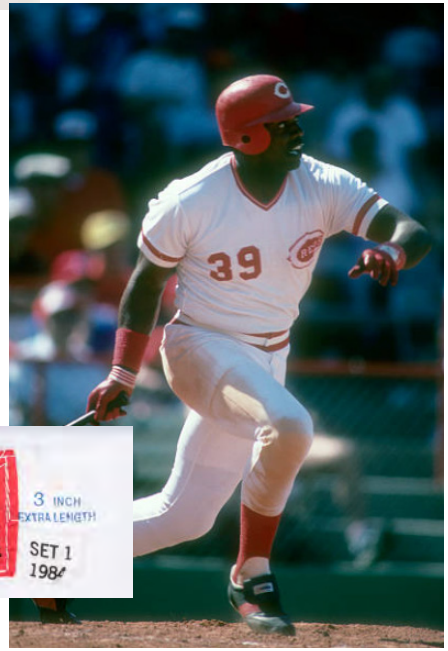
1972-1984 Home, continued

1982



1984



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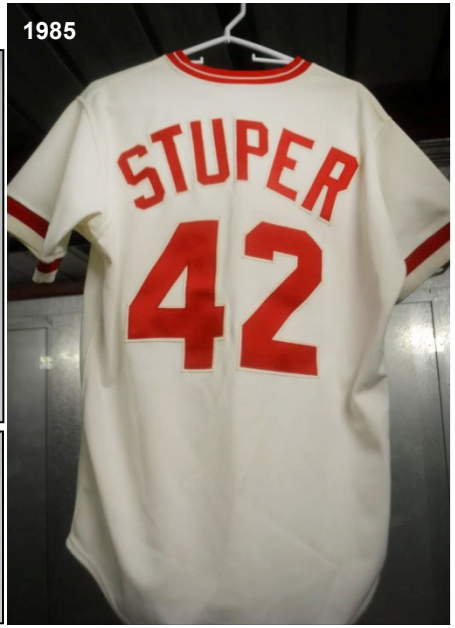
1985-1987 Home

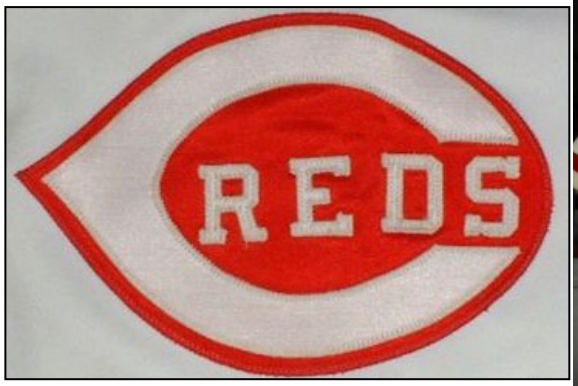
Goodman and Sons 1985-1986



It is a good thing Dave Concepcion's name was not one letter longer. In the Reds' huge name type style, it would have wrapped around to his belt loops.

Jersey is basically the same – the lettering detail changes a bit. Still white knit pullover with red and white trim. Sleeve stripes red/white 1972-1987.

Reds logo is now made from two layers of tackle twill fabric sewn on top of each other ***(right)***, compared to earlier chain-stitched style 1967-1984. Number font changes to Reds Varsity variant in 1985, most noticeable in the numeral 2 above with its long diagonal stroke.



Two-color, red/white numbers on front chest. Note proper placement in relation to Reds logo. Name and number on the back, also two-color red/white. Huge, 4 ” tall red names now outlined in white (adding another ½”), no nameplates, standard Block name type font.

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1985-1987 Home, continued: Rawlings 1987

1987

1987, and Rawlings becomes the official supplier of uniforms to the major leagues. While not every team goes along, the Reds switch from Goodman back to Rawlings, keeping the same jersey design as 1985-1986. The Rawlings embroidered script appears on the red stripe of the sleeve trim on the right arm as is permitted by the new licensing agreement.

Somewhat oddly, they keep the Goodman player name and number fonts (see the signature diagonal stroke "2") instead of going back to the standard Rawlings block font they had used prior to 1985. All lettering is solid red, and the front Reds crest remains layered twill as Goodman had done it, vs. the earlier embroidered style used by Rawlings and Wilson. 1987 is the only year with two stripes at the sleeve ends AND the Rawlings script embroidered on the sleeve end trim.

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1972-1984 Road

1979

1980

1976

The Reds usually specified manufacturers' tags to be hidden inside the shirttail of the garment. This often makes determining manufacturers difficult from photos.

1983

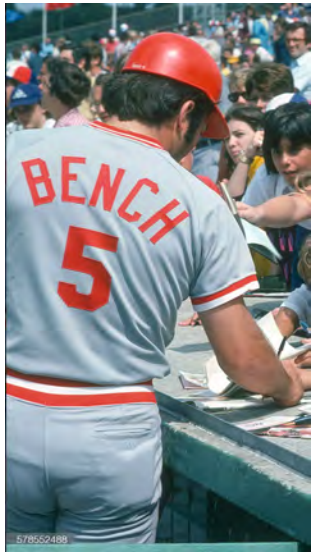
The Reds' giant NOB font is clumsy for long names

Gray pullover with one-color red Cincinnati in vertical arch across front. Two knit sleeve trim stripes in red/white. Single-color red name and numbers. Numbers are in Block Bold 7". Huge 4" names used, no nameplates, standard Block type font.

© GameWornGuides.com

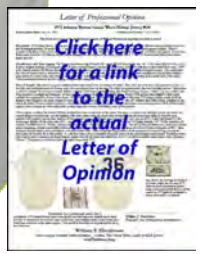
1972-1984 Road, continued

1983



1980

1982



© GameWornGuides.com

1985-1987 Road

1985

1986

1987

Rawlings takes over supplying the Reds' road uniforms for the 1985 season, replacing Wilson. The jersey design remains the same as before, but the player lettering changes. Names on back are ever so slightly smaller and lighter in stroke, and the player number font changes to a variant we have nicknamed "Reds Varsity" characterized by blockier, squarer-edged numerals, a higher crossbar on the 5 and a diagonal on the 2. Mid-season 1985 switch from 7" to 8" numbers surprised everyone, even Koch's, who sewed the jerseys!

For 1987, the Rawlings script appears embroidered into the left sleeve's red knit sleeve-end stripe.

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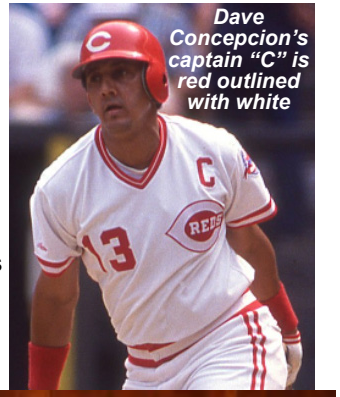
1988-1992 Home

A slight change: there are now three sleeve stripes, red/white/red. Prior to 1988 there were only two, red/white. Subtly, all designs and lettering are outlined with white, even Dave Concepcion's captain "C" ***(right).*** Reds logo has a red outline and continues in two-layer tackle twill, compared to earlier chain-stitched embroidery style. Numbers and names are in unique Reds Varsity two-color red/white. Names are still the large, 4" version of Block. Rawlings is the maker 1988-1991, Russell takes over for 1992 with an identical jersey except for the sleeve branding mark.



1988

1989

1990

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1988-1992 Road

1989

1990

Similar changes as to the home jersey. Gray pullover in all years. Three sleeve stripes replace the earlier two. They are red/white/red. Now two-color red/white vertical arched "Cincinnati" arched across the front. Name and numbers are now two-color red/white as well. Numbers are in the Reds Varsity font. Note long, wide center stroke on the 3, above. Huge two-color 4" names used; no nameplates. Block Standard name type font. Rawlings is the maker 1988-1991, Russell takes over for 1992 with an identical jersey except for the sleeve branding logo.

1988

1992 - Russell

1991

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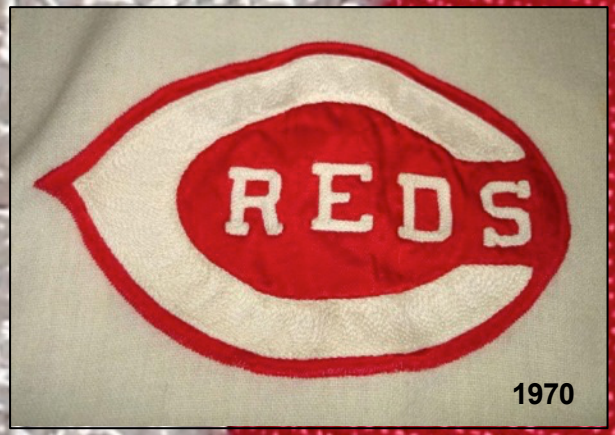
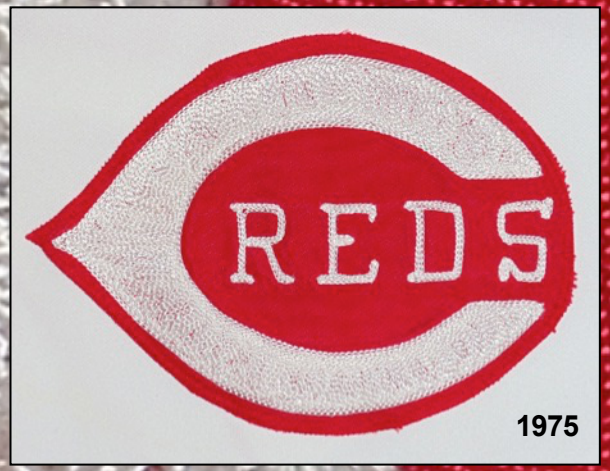
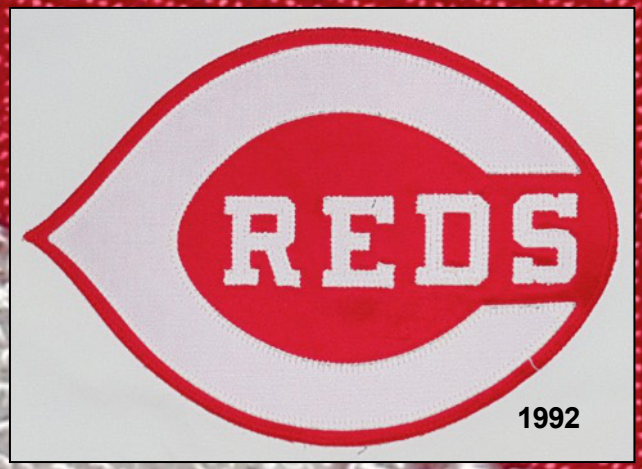


1970



1975

1987



1992

- The Reds have used three basic methods to create their jersey front crest over the years. All three start with a red twill oval patch as the base.
- Earlier jerseys use a completely chain-stitched white “C” and team name, through 1985.
- ***Bottom left:*** The all-embroidered patch is seen through in the late 1980s on many batting practice jerseys.
- ***Near left:*** The all-twill design is seen starting with 1985 Goodman jerseys.

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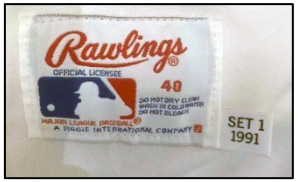
Reds Tagging 1972-1992



(Above) Both jerseys are tagged 1988 set 1, though the manufacturer's tags are different as old stock is used up.

Ever see a size 41 jersey? A Reds insider tells us that a certain famous player would purposely order custom made size 41 or 43 jerseys in order to corner the market on game worn jerseys to sell, since no one else could get this odd size.

Home and road tagging shows differences, whether the uniform was customized by Rawlings or Wilson. Reds tags are difficult to spot in photographs because they are generally hidden inside the garment.

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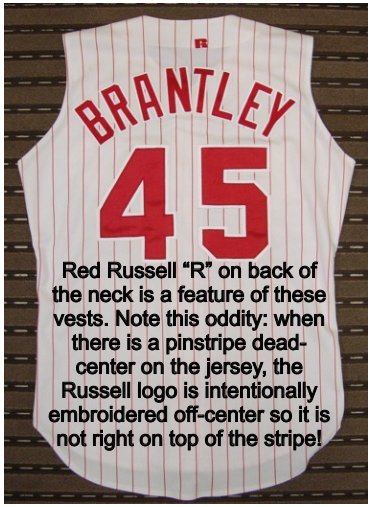
1993-1998 Home Vest

Button-front vest replaces the pullover jersey that had been used basically unchanged for the past 21 seasons. Name and numbers are two-color red/white. Note correct placement of front number. Special Reds Varsity style numbers still used. Vest always worn with a red undershirt. The undershirt has a white twill wishbone-C logo sewn to the left sleeve. Russell "R" logo on right sleeve end.

The 1993 reintroduction of the classic MLB vest that season is shared with the expansion Florida Marlins, who have a vest of their own. Vests were last seen in 1971 and had been worn by several teams in the flannel era including the Reds, A's, Pirates, Indians and Orioles.

Official issue Amapro® undershirt to accompany the vest jerseys.



Red Russell "R" on back of the neck is a feature of these vests. Note this oddity: when there is a pinstripe dead-center on the jersey, the Russell logo is intentionally embroidered off-center so it is not right on top of the stripe!

Note placement of special Reds 1994 MLB 125th Anniversary Patch.

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1993-1998 (Except 1997) Road

(Above) *Ron Gant's jersey from the 1995 All-Star Game, with the All-Star Game patch on the sleeve.*

Gray button-front jersey with red pinstripes. Number and name style identical to home jersey. Note correct placement of front number. It goes on the right chest, opposite to nearly every other jersey you'll ever see!

Name and numbers are two-color red/white; special Reds Varsity font numbers used. Name on back now "normal-size" two-color Block lettering.

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1997 Road "Bobbed Sleeve"

Very likely, after the first set was altered by the local tailor, subsequent sets were ordered with shortened sleeves. Note the presence of the factory's Russell "R" logo on the back neck on some of the jerseys shown on this page.

In 1997, MLB honored Jackie Robinson with a sleeve patch to be worn by every team in baseball -- major leagues and minor leagues. The Reds' Deion Sanders decided this was not enough, and altered the sleeves of his road uniform, cutting them down to resemble the style that Robinson wore while on the Dodgers 50 years earlier (he also wore his pants cuffed up to his knees, as did Robinson).

Period news sources report that MLB executives objected strongly, claiming that the move by Sanders was a violation of the league's interpretation of the rule on player uniforms: *"all players jerseys must have sleeves no more or less than 1" in length from each other."*

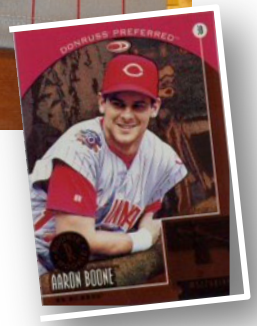
However, the Reds players banded together, and instead got permission to shorten all of the players' shirt sleeves, so that the team would be in compliance with the rule. All this happened by April 12, 1997.

The new sleeves were only three inches off the shoulder, and required quite a bit of tailoring. The sleeve ends are trimmed and re-hemmed by a seamstress. The patches on both sleeves (Reds team patch on the left; Robinson on the right) had to be removed and resewn higher on the sleeve. Contractually, the team needed to display the Russell R on the sleeve. It appears that some players have the R re-embroidered on the new, short uniform sleeve, or on the center of the back collar, above the name on back.

In a public relations move, the team auctioned the cutoff sleeve ends, signed by the player who wore them.

The whole team went back to regular-length sleeves in 1998.

Bill Henderson Collection



*Aaron Boone with his cut sleeves **(right)** and those exact sleeve ends from the author's collection **(above)**. You can see the marks from where the patches were re-moved from each. The small slip of sticky paper carries the logo of a downtown Cincinnati-area tailor who must have done the work.*

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1997 Road “Bobbed Sleeve”, continued

Reds, Deion uni-fied

Team shortens road sleeves to conform with Robinson tribute

Associated Press

SAT 04/12/1997 HOUSTON CHRONICLE, Section Sports, Page 9, 2 STAR Edition

CINCINNATI -Deion Sanders hopes everyone is satisfied - and Jackie Robinson is honored by the Cincinnati Reds' new road look.

Rather than force Sanders to drop his personal tribute to Robinson, the Reds decided to change their road uniforms to conform with Sanders' short-sleeve look.

The center fielder drew the National League's wrath this week by shortening the sleeves on his road jersey so he could look more like Robinson. His teammates agreed to adopt the look, conforming with league rules that everyone have the same sleeve length.

"It's an issue that shouldn't be an issue," Sanders said Friday. "We're not going to blow it out of proportion. We've all gotten together as a team.

"One thing we don't want to do is make it out to be a race issue. I'm just trying to pay a tribute to him."

Sanders saw a picture of Robinson on a cereal box in Spring Training and decided to pull up his pants legs and wear his uniform sleeves short to emulate the Hall of Famer. When NL senior vice president Katy Feeney saw the shortened sleeves during a game in Colorado this week, she warned the club that it would be fined for an improper uniform.

Sanders' teammates urged general manager Jim Bowden to adopt the short-sleeve look for road uniforms, which would satisfy the league's concerns. As long as they all have short sleeves, there is no violation.

"I think if you're going to succeed, you succeed as a team in unity," Bowden said Friday. "The issue over the sleeves is not something I want to divide the clubhouse.

"The intention was to honor Jackie Robinson, and we're happy that the Reds can do it in a way that's going to attract national attention."

The sleeve change got national attention at the start of a season honoring the Brooklyn Dodger who broke baseball's color barrier 50 years ago. Sanders chose the personal tribute because he thinks it's an honor to dress the way someone else does.

"This is the ultimate way to pay tribute to him. If I go to a park and watch a football game and see kids out there with bandannas and gloves unfastened and the same style of facemask, I would be thrilled," said Sanders, who wears his Dallas Cowboys uniform that way. "I feel if Jackie Robinson was in the stands or watching TV and saw a guy running around there with a lot of enthusiasm portraying the look he had, I think he'd be thrilled. I'm not doing it for a fashion statement."

Manager Ray Knight consented to the change after players told him they supported Sanders.

"I said, `No problem.' I just wanted to make sure that the pitchers would be comfortable with it," Knight said. "I asked Jeff Brantley about it, and he said it was unilateral. So I gave it my blessing.

"I think everybody respected Deion for what he was doing."

Reds Keeping Short Sleeves

AP

CINCINNATI -The Cincinnati Reds will continue to wear their sleeves short for road games in tribute to Jackie Robinson, even though there's some question about whether that was the style Robinson preferred. The Reds shortened the sleeves on their road uniforms to honor Robinson. Deion Sanders started the short-sleeve look after seeing a photo of Robinson with his sleeves high.

The team adopted the style after the National League warned that one player may not wear sleeves that are substantially shorter or longer than his teammates'. There has been some question about whether Robinson wore his sleeves short with the Dodgers. Robinson's former roommate told shortstop Barry Larkin that Robinson never shortened his sleeves. "Joe Black told me that Jackie did not wear his uniform up like that," Larkin said. "But the point that Joe Black made to me was that any way you can have the legacy continue or tell the story of Jackie Robinson is good.“

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1999-2006 Home Vest

2004

Captain's "C" is unique to Barry Larkin's jersey.

2001

Black 3D drop shadows are added to all jersey lettering. Numbers are now regular Block style. Name and numbers are three color red/white/bla 3D drop shadow style. No nameplates used. These Reds vests were worn with red or black undershirts.

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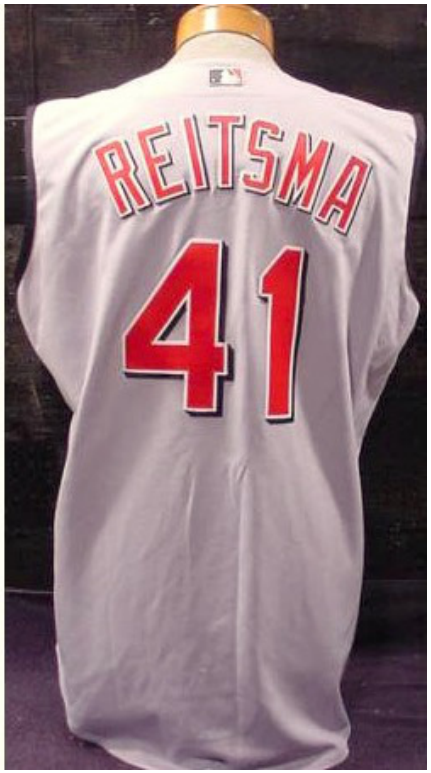
1999-2006 Road Vest

2003



Road jersey front numbers return to the left side of the chest in this style.

Solid gray vest with black knit trim around the arm-holes; numbers are standard Block style. The wordmark's 3D drop shadow is unusual: it changes perspective from left to right on the word … look closely. Name and numbers are three color: red/white/black 3D drop shadow. Front numbers switch back to the left chest; no nameplates used.

Jersey is worn with a red or black undershirt. Mr. Red mascot sewn to the left sleeve of the undershirt.

Game worn 1999 Barry Larkin road jersey features a Reds wishbone-C as a captain's C on the right chest. Larkin's home jersey featured this mark as well.

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2003-2004 Alternate Home

2003

The red alternate jersey debuts for 2003, the Reds' first year in their new Great American Ballpark, and is worn for home Sunday games only. For the first time since 1960, the wishbone-C logo on the jersey front is absent the word REDS inside of it. Name and numbers are three-color: white/red/black 3D drop shadow.

2004

2003-Barry Larkin's jersey with captain "C"

2004

Bill Henderson Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2006 Alternate Home

Bill Henderson Collection

The red alternate jersey is modified for 2005.

Knit trim on sleeves and jersey front is changed to plain black.

Reds logo is the old familiar one, nearly identical to that on the batting practice jersey, with REDS in the center; Mr. Red patch is sewn on the left sleeve; Three-color numbers are added to the front: white/red/back 3D drop shadow, like the numbers on the back. Names on back remain white/red/black 3D drop shadow, with no nameplates used.

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2007-2023 Home

Bill Henderson Collection

The Reds redesigned their uniforms for 2007 in a way that is subtle, yet significant. Moving away from the pinstripes and vest-style jerseys they had worn at home since 1993, the new white uniforms are intended remind the fans of the *Big Red Machine* uniforms of the 1970s.

Home jerseys retain the REDS wishbone-C shield logo on the left chest, and player numbers on the right chest. Thin red knit trim adorns the sleeve ends and the front placket, wrapping up around the back of the collar. In an old-timey touch, the mustached Mr. Red character from the 1950s uniform front returns as a sleeve patch.

A new custom type font is introduced for all numbers and letters. It is an elegant serif Gaslight-era font that looks like it would have been right at home on uniforms from 100 years ago (if players wore numbers and had their names displayed then, which they did not). All lettering is red, outlined with white, then treated to a black 3D drop shadow. Majestic makes these from 2007-2019, Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.

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2007-2023 Home, continued

2007

2012

2019

2020

Note the change in style code from Majestic's REHH to Nike's RE1H.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007-2023 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

On the game used example above, notice the "I" in the player name is sewn on upside down; the shadow is on the wrong side.

Road gray jerseys receive the same subtle updating/backdating as the home ones, with the Cincinnati wordmark now rendered in the Reds' new Gaslight-style font. The vertical arch front lettering features a black drop shadow that falls to the right of the main text all the way across. This is unlike the style it replaced, where the drop shadow fell to the right on the left side of the chest and to the left on the right side of the chest (really! - look and see).

MLB Properties has encouraged teams doing redesigns to try to keep common design elements from the past whenever possible. The Reds have kept their primary logo, used on the chest of the home and alternate jerseys, and on the sleeve of road jerseys. The white C logo with black drop shadow also remains unchanged on their hats and helmets from previous years. Majestic makes these from 2007-2019, Nike takes over manufacture in 2020.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007-2023 Road, continued

2011

2015

2016

2021

Note the change in style code from Majestic's RER2 to Nike's RE22.

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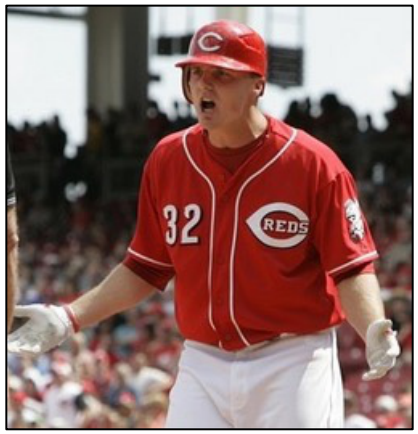
2007-2017 Alternate Home Red/2018-2019 Alternate Red

Bill Henderson Collection

The 2007 red alternate jersey is similar to the 2006 one, with lettering and front number placement. Placket and sleeve end trim changes to white. Numbers and player name are sewn in three-color tackle twill in the Reds' new Gaslight-type font white/red/black 3D drop shadow. No nameplates are used. The revised, 1950s old-timey Mr. Red patch adorns the left sleeve. These are used only as an alternate at home through 2017, then used selectively both at home and on road for its final two years, 2018-2019 before being retired.

Majestic makes these jerseys for their full run, 2007-2019.



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2007-2017 Alternate Home Red/2018-2019 Alternate Red, continued

© GameWornGuides.com

2013-2022 Alternate Home "Los Rojos"

The Reds add a "Los Rojos" alternate into their rotation of official on-field options for 2013, even though they wear it only once or twice each year. Fronts feature *"Los Rojos"* script with underline and a black drop shadow. Sleeve patch and jersey back lettering are identical to the standard red alternate jersey. Placket and sleeve ends are trimmed with narrow black and white knit trim, not the plain white knit trim as is found on the standard red alternate jersey. Worn at home 5/11/2013, 9/27/2013; 9/7/2014, 8/21/2015, 5/5/2016, 9/16/2016, 5/5/2017, 9/22/2017, 5/5/2018, 9/28/2018, 9/6/2019, 9/20/2020, and 5/5/2021. It is also worn once on the road, 8/13/2016 (at Milwaukee for the Brewers' Hispanic Heritage game where they wore their "Cerveceros" jerseys). The 2019 version has the team's 150th anniversary patch on the right sleeve. Nike takes over as manufacturer in 2020. Though it is removed as an official alternate after 2021, it is worn once more on 9/23/22.

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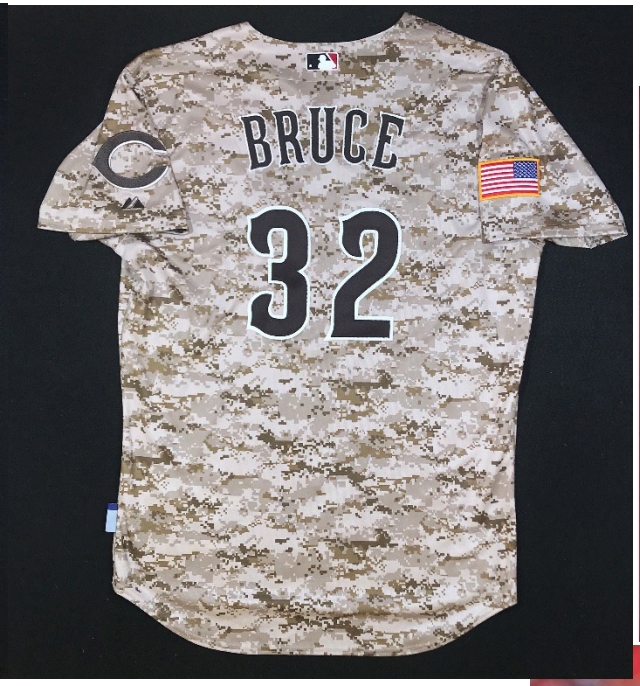
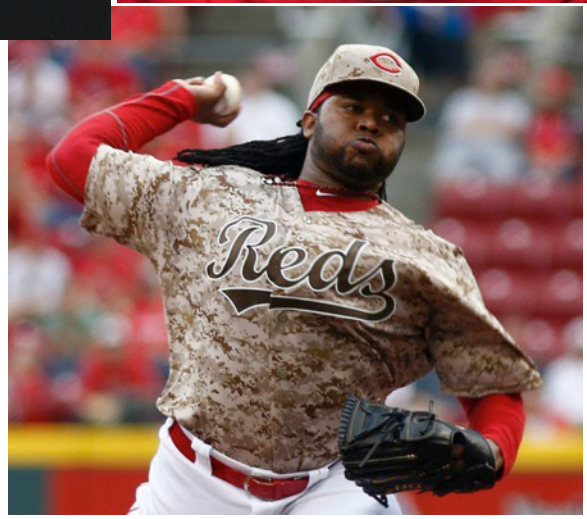
2014-2017 Alternate Home Camouflage



A surprise addition to the 2014 uniform lineup, these digital desert camouflage Cool Base (2014-2015) and Flex Base (2016-2017) jerseys have olive-tinted brown lettering with a white outline (and on these jerseys only, no drop shadow). An American flag patch is sewn to the right sleeve, and the Reds' traditional wishbone-C (last seen on the chest of the 2004 alternate jersey, and on the undershirt sleeve of the 1998 road vest) is sewn to the left.



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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made from Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They are especially noticeable on pinstriped or other jerseys that are not a solid color, and the Reds' camo jersey is one such example. The sides and tail are solid brown, and though the tail is not typically seen, the mismatched sides are visible in game action. They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. The MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2018-2021 Alternate Home Military Appreciation

After wearing camo jerseys to honor the military from 2014-2017, the Reds retire that jersey in favor of adopting the league-wide Memorial Day style at home in 2018. This Majestic Flex Base jersey swaps out the usual red/white layers of the home jersey's front and back numbers for olive green/black, with the player name changing to black. The drop shadows on the home jersey are not present on names or numbers in this style. The Reds logo on front appears as white/black 3D drop shadow/olive green. The red sleeve and neck trim is reduced to black, while the left-sleeve Mr. Red patch is rendered in black, green, and white. The green bar patch with five stars, representing the five branches of the armed services, appears on the right sleeve. In 2019, it is joined by the Reds' 150th anniversary patch. Notably, in the two years that this style of jersey was used for the league-wide Memorial Day promotion, the Reds never played at home on Memorial Day weekend, so any home version of this jersey is from the regular season set vs. the one-off holiday set. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020. It is discontinued after 2021.

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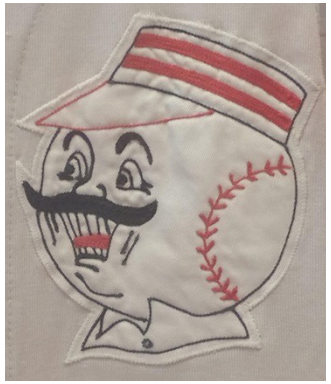
2020-2023 Alternate Red

In 2020, the Reds refresh their alternate red jersey, uniting elements of previous uniforms from well before the double-knit era. Made on Nike's version of Majestic Flex Base template, the 2020 alternate incorporates the script "Reds" wordmark based on their 1936 home jerseys, which has also appeared on recent batting practice jerseys ***(bottom right)***, here in white/black 3D drop shadow. On the left sleeve, a closeup of Mr. Red's head appears ***(below left)***, with black drop shadow, similar to the chest logo on the team's 1956 road jerseys ***(below right)***. Front and back numbers carry on as before, in white/red/black 3D drop shadow. White knit trim completes the look, encircling the sleeves just above the sleeve ends. The alternate red jersey is worn both at home and on the road.



Chest insignia, 1956 road

1936 road

2011-2013 batting practice

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2023 City Connect

City Connect is all about doing something different, and for a team called “Reds,” doing something different meant minimizing their namesake color. To their credit, the did stick to a color that has been a part of their identity - black - as the starting point for this very dark uniform set. The black jersey features the city’s nickname, “CiNCy” across the front in bold, square lettering, which is also black, but trimmed with a little white and red, rendering the letters difficult to read from a distance. The white elements tends to be at the top and left of letters, which the red is at bottom and right, suggesting a drop shadow, though not fully completing the effect. Oddly, the “N” and “Y” in the logo are lowercase, but the same size as the capital letters. The back numbers have the same color treatment, though player names appear in single-color red. Sleeve ends are trimmed with five narrow red stripes, which the team calls “wavelength lines,” that are so close together they appear as one wide band of red from a few feet away. And let’s talk about that red... the team calls the color “infrared” and says that it is “sparked by our passion for our team.” In most cases, infrared light is invisible to humans, but perceptible as heat, so maybe that’s just how hot the passion for the Reds is. A stylized “C” logo appears on the sleeve in the same “infrared wavelength” style, while a sponsor patch appears on the opposite sleeve. Inside the jersey collar, unseen one the field but visible at retail, is a red buckeye leaf, as a nod to the Reds’ home state, and the motto of the City of Cincinnati “Juncta Juvant” meaning “Strength in Unity.” And just above the jocktag, in case anyone who came across this jersey at a store were confused as to what they were holding, the team has helpfully added “Cincinnati Reds.”

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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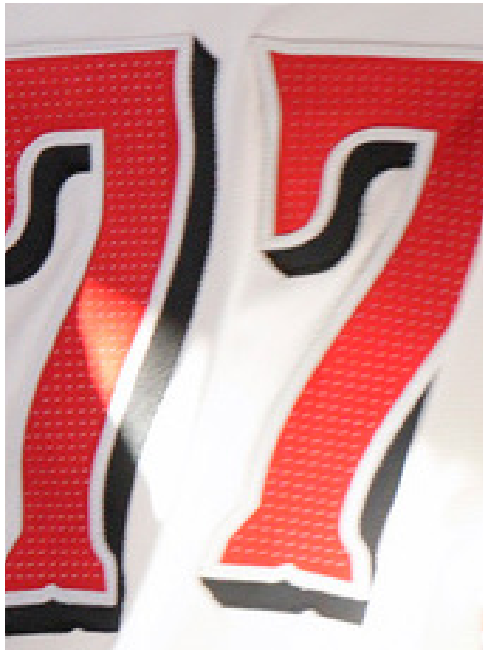
2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Reds home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the red knit trim is closer together than previously. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.



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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Reds road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but fortunately, the front "CINCINNATI" lettering splits in the same place as previously between the second "I" and "N". Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Alternate Script

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Reds script alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the front "REDS" lettering splits in about the same place as previously. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears wider than before. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The alternate jersey is worn both at home and on the road.

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2024 Alternate Mr. Red

For 2024, the Reds elevate their Mr. Red Head jersey to full alternate status in the MLB Style Guide - then never wear it in a regular season game. We have seen other examples of teams doing this, largely for the sake of keeping a unique Spring Training and/or BP jersey available to them by making it part of their official 4+1, as Nike calls it (four main jerseys and a City Connect). Though, in practice, it means this really is a BP/Spring Training jersey (and has been since it was introduced in 2020), we document it here because it was made available for the team to use in 2024. Its tenure as an alternate was short lived - it is replaced in the 2025 MLB Style Guide by a new white alternate jersey with the Mr. Red head logo reduced in size and status to sleeve patch. Alas, poor Mr. Red! A fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy...(apologies to Shakespeare).

All that said, the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to this style. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the white knit trim is closer together than in the 2020-2023 model. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it, and it appears slightly wider than before. It is unclear if the team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024, more research is necessary. The team's ad patch appears on this jersey, and varies in sleeve placement based on each players' handedness.

These photos are from 2024 Spring Training, the only time the team used this jersey. We present them here to show how the jersey translated to the Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template for its only season of use before being replaced by a new alternate.

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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in 2024 creates some small changes to the Reds' City Connect jersey, introduced just one year prior. Player names on back are reduced in size and arch more aggressively than before. Though the placket on VPE is narrower than Flex Base, the "CiNCy" lettering does not look like it was reduced in size very much, if at all, and it still breaks over the placket in much the same way. Despite the intricacies of the "neon shadow" back numbers, the Reds use perforated twill on these jerseys. Sleeve-end trim appears to still be sewn onto the jersey rather than into the sleeve hem, perhaps because of its width. The most significant change is, ironically, the least visible from the field. The heat pressed "CINCINNATI REDS" and "Juncta Juvant" slogans have switched places on the jersey - likely because the buckeye leaf graphic would no longer fit on the inside of the narrower VPE collar. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season. The 2025 version has the Pete Rose "14" memorial patch above the sponsor patch.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version has the Pete Rose "14" memorial patch above the sponsor patch.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. The redundant, jersey-colored band of trim around the neck opening is also deleted. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Cincinnati” wordmark breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version has the Pete Rose “14” memorial patch above the sponsor patch.

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2025 Alternate Red

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The 2025 version has the Pete Rose "14" memorial patch above the sponsor patch. The alternate jersey is worn both at home and on the road.

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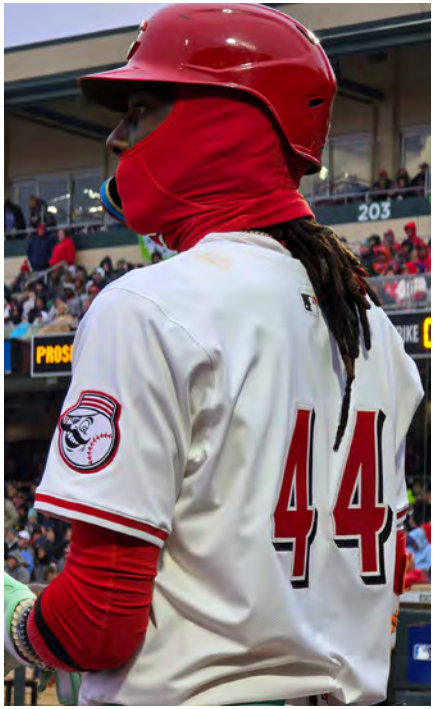
2025 Alternate Home



The Reds introduce a new alternate in 2025, a stripped-down version of their existing home jersey. The base of the jersey is white, with the “wishbone-C” logo on left chest in red/black 3D drop shadow. Red trim encircles each sleeve end, and the Mr. Red Head patch appears on the sleeve with a sponsor patch on the opposite sleeve. The jersey lacks front numbers, and the back is identical to the home jersey, with player names and numbers in red/white/black 3D drop shadow. As of press time, the team has worn it only once, in its annual pre-season game against the team’s top prospects. For that game, there are no player names on back. Refer to the illustration from the MLB Style Guide to see how these are intended to appear in the regular season. For 2025, it is likely this style will also have the Pete Rose “14” memorial patch if used in the regular season. The jersey is built on Nike’s VPE template, but according to the style guide, will have larger player names and numbers than the 2024 version of the template.

Left: *The entry for this jersey in the MLB Style Guide, showing how it is intended to look in the regular season.*

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Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

Pre-1982 Batting Practice

Robert Eden photo

Robert Eden photo

Dr. Zaius photo

Robert Eden photo

These mesh pullover screen printed jerseys found for sale at different times on eBay by different private sellers. Two claimed that their jerseys were from 1973; one simply said “early 1970s Spring Training jersey.”

Careful examination shows that all three jerseys have differences that can help place them.

They are all made by Wilson, but the style of the neck tag helps frame their age. The top jersey (#21) and the middle jersey (#18) sport a 1978-1985 Wilson tag style. The Wilson neck tag on the bottom one dates it from 1975-1977. Notice that the oldest shirt has a different style of back numbers; the top two are the same font.

Not much else is known about these garments, and given the Reds’ great number of similarly named farm teams and instructional camps, these could be from any of them. They could have been used by the MLB club in Spring Training, but I would bet against them ever having been used in the regular season.

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1982-1992 Batting Practice

Red mesh pullover with red/white sleeve/collar trim. The Reds occasionally wore these BP jerseys as game jerseys on hot summer days. Reds logo has red border in earlier years, white border by early 1986 or 1987. Wilson BPs were the first to use twill, not embroidered wordmark. Reds' MLB BP jerseys do not use numbers on front. Numbers on back only, one color white, Block Bold used 1983-1984, Reds Varsity 1985-1993. Reds BP jerseys sometimes used that season's commemorative sleeve patches, but are untagged as to year and set.

Taller than typical NOB used. Wilson and Rawlings, then later Majestic, all made these pullover BP jerseys for the Reds. Times were simpler then, and multiple vendors supplied the team each year. I do not have a record of who supplied BP jerseys in each year, but it is clear that there were not many consistent rules followed. First, the team crest on the front: each vendor had their own pattern(s) and methods. Majestic jerseys seen on this page used an embroidered crest with skinny letters reminiscent of the game jerseys of the early to mid 1970s. By the late 80s Majestic had the right to embroider its logo on the sleeve ends.

Top left: On the Diaz example (Bo Diaz played for the Reds 1985-1989) this Majestic jersey uses the Rawlings player name/number fonts. Bottom left: The Lane jersey uses a Majestic Varsity house font. Above: While the Jones jersey (above) uses the Goodman font of the mid-80s!

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1982-1992 Batting Practice, continued

1983

1984

During this 11 year period, Reds mesh pullover BP jerseys were also made by Wilson and Rawlings. Each maker had its own front crest style and player name/number font set.

Wilson jerseys had front crests made of layered and sewn twill.

Rawlings jerseys had front crests of sewn and layered twill, and in 1987 the Rawlings embroidered sleeve-end logo appeared.

1987

*Reds logo has red border in earlier years **(top left)**, white border by early 1986 or 1987 **(right).***

1988

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1980s White Mesh Spring Training/Batting Practice

These white mesh jerseys carry a 1986-style Wilson tag. All letters and logos are sewn on, and are likely to have been used in Spring Training. Every example I have seen shows some evidence of color running from being washed in too-hot water, or even washed in chlorine bleach. They all are somewhat blotchy and pink.

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Mid 1980s-Early 1990s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Nearly every team in the majors seems to have had a set of these short-waist, zip-necked alternate batting practice jerseys at some time. Majestic called this style their “Game-warmer," and Pete Rose is shown in 1986 or 1987 wearing one on the field ***(bottom left)***. One non-game worn sample jersey shown below has a Diamond Collection patch as was first used in 1992. I have never seen this patch used on anything before except sample Gamewarmers.

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1993-1998 Batting Practice/1999 Spring Training

Bill Henderson Collection

(Above) *1994 Reds BP features the rare Reds-only 125th Anniversary sleeve patch*

1993 example is not team tagged, while the 1995 one is.

Batting practice design switches to button front as part of the team's uniform redesign in 1993. It is plain red, with all sleeve end and collar trim eliminated. Both Russell and Majestic supply BP jerseys. Front crests return to embroidery ***(right)***.

These jerseys are also worn in 1999 Spring Training. Numbers on back in nonstandard styles that vary by manufacturer. Reds logo outlined in white. Names on back shrink to normal 3" size Block lettering. Some early examples still use taller letters

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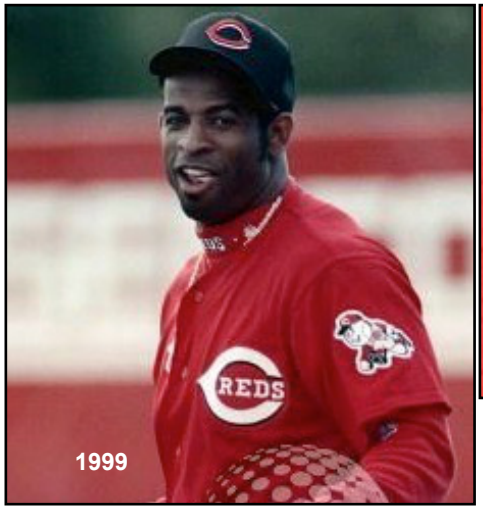
1999-2002 Red Batting Practice

2002

Red mesh fabric. Black used as a 3D drop shadow on logo and all lettering. Three-color names and numbers white/red/black 3D drop shadow. No nameplates used.

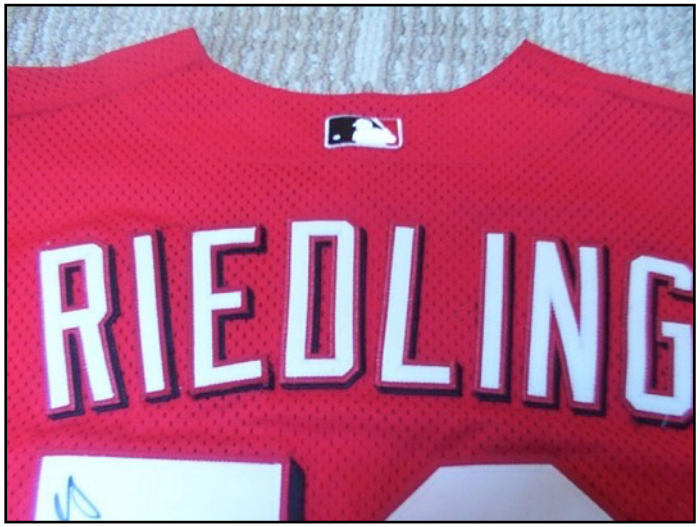
The Reds sewed their game jersey commemorative patches on regular season BP jerseys. Running Mr. Red is sewn on the left sleeve 1999, 2001. Commemorative patches are sewn to the left sleeve 2000, 2002.

Note that these BPs were worn starting with the beginning of the 1999 regular season. In Spring Training 1999 the team wore their 1998 red batting practice jerseys on the prior page.



1999

2000



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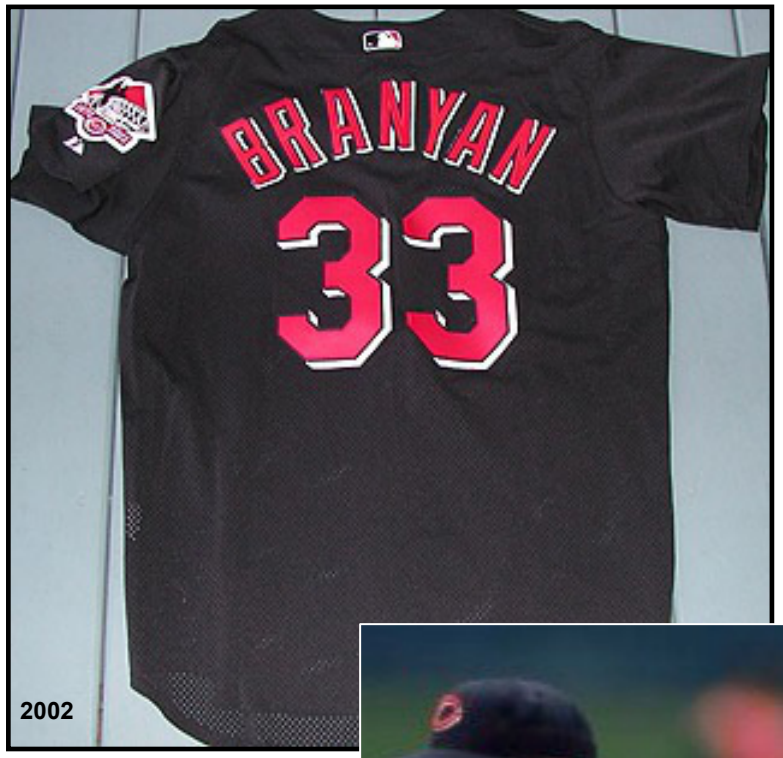
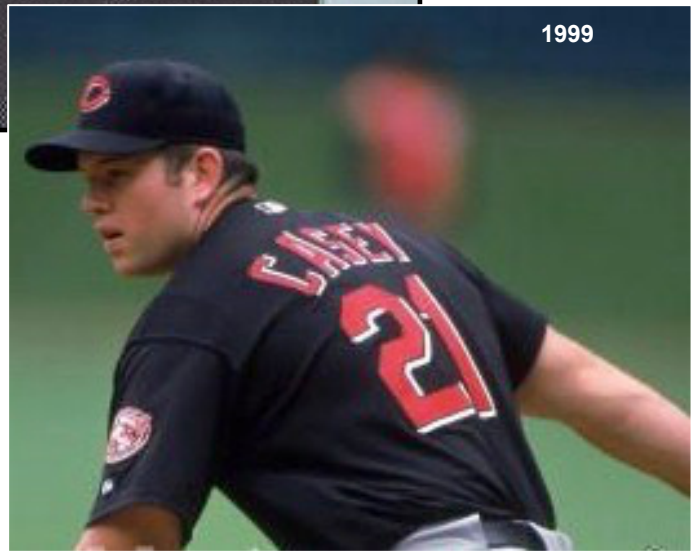
1999-2002 Black Batting Practice



2002



1999

Black mesh fabric button-front design. Three-color names and numbers red/black/white 3D drop shadow; no nameplates.

The Reds sewed their game jersey commemorative patches on regular season BP jerseys. Running Mr. Red is sewn on left sleeve 1999, 2001; commemorative patches are sewn to the left sleeve in 2000, 2002.

Note that these BPs were worn starting with the beginning of the 1999 regular season. In Spring Training 1999 the team wore their 1998 red batting practice jerseys on a prior page.

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2003-2006 Red Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

- Soft non-mesh fabric, early moisture-wicking type that faded quickly and was highly susceptible to pulls and fabric pilling.
- Note thin black highlight piping on shoulder.
- Three-color name and numbers on back white/red/black 3D drop shadow. All sewn twill lettering; no nameplates used.
- Mr. Red patch on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Black Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

- Soft non-mesh fabric, pre-Cool-Base light-weight moisture-wicking fabric, extremely susceptible to pulls and fading.
- Note red highlight sewn in piping on shoulder seam. Three-color name and numbers on back red/black/white 3D drop shadow. All sewn twill lettering.
- No nameplates used.
- Running Mr. Red patch on the left sleeve.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

Red batting practice jerseys are the only option in 2007. The black version is eliminated for the first time since 1999. The Reds' 2007 batting practice jersey is made from the new lightweight Cool Base fabric, and features a one-button neck and contrasting white and black side panel inserts.

The REDS logo is a heat-pressed appliqué on the front left chest. No numbers on the jersey front.

Back name and number are in the Reds' new custom Gaslight font, also heat applied and rendered in three colors white/red/black 3D drop shadow.

The red jersey fabric was susceptible to fading from the sun and in washing, and many jerseys in the hobby are badly faded like the one shown here ***(bottom right)***.

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2011-2013 Batting Practice

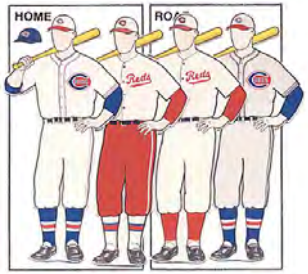
MLB redesigned all team batting practice jerseys for 2011, changing them to a button-front design from the earlier two-button-neck Henley design.

All the rest of the teams made the switch with little fanfare -- maybe changing trim or side panel colors at most –- but the Reds were the only team that offered a brand-new design for 2011.

A new "Reds" script with underline was introduced, white with a black drop shadow on a background of red.

Or was it new after all? Hardly. It was being reintroduced for its 75th anniversary. Pictured here is the Reds' 1936-1937 alternate home uniform, sometimes called the "Palm Beach" uniform as it could be worn with red pants!

Original 1936



Above right: *an original 1936 Reds alternate white jersey, yellowed by the years.* ***Right:*** *The Reds' fashion lineup for 1936, including the "Palm Beach" uniform with the red pants. (Marc Okkonen graphic).*

© GameWornGuides.com

2014-2016 Red Batting Practice

The all-MLB redesign of team batting practice jerseys for 2013 barely impacts the Reds. The changes from 2013 are smaller black side panels, and black-striped knit trim at the sleeve ends and around the collar. All back lettering continues in three colors, in the same font as game uniforms.

© GameWornGuides.com

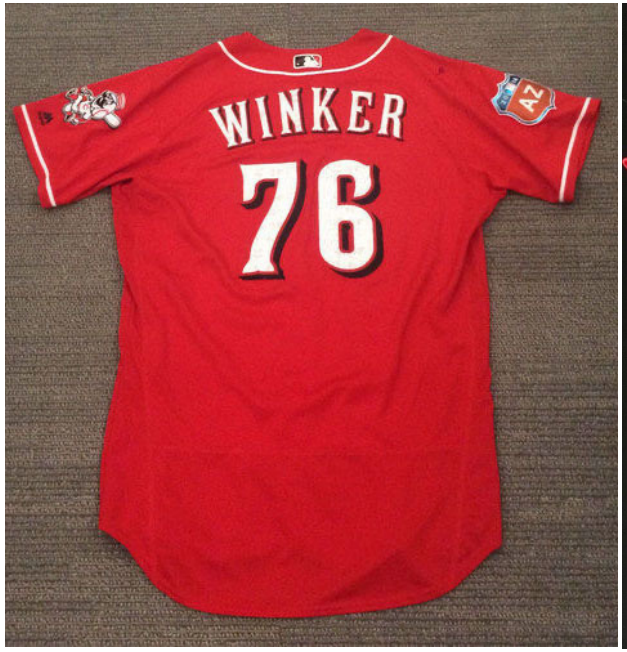
2014-2016 Black Batting Practice

For the first time since 2006, the Reds add an alternate black batting practice jersey, which is generally worn on the road with gray pants. It features red panels under the arms, and white lettering outlined with black and a red 3D drop shadow. Knit sleeve-end and collar trim is black striped with red.

© GameWornGuides.com

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training



2016: For the first time, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Reds use their regular season red alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill/red/black 3D drop shadow. Front numbers are the standard white/red/black 3D drop shadow. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Reds spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Player names and numbers are in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Reds’ jersey is red, with black back and underarm gussets. The "REDS" in wishbone-C logo, also seen on their regular jerseys, appears here on the front left chest in white with black drop shadow. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white/red/black 3D drop shadow in the Reds' special font on the left sleeve.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017, with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Reds again use their regular season red alternate as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard white/red/black 3D drop shadow, as is used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate Highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Reds spend Spring Training.

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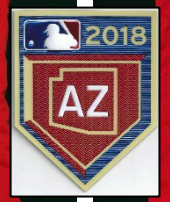
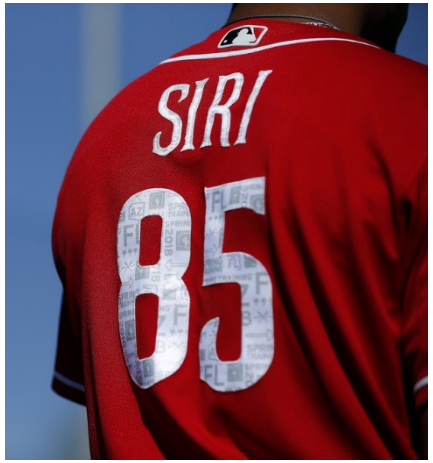
2018 Spring Training



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Reds use their regular-season red alternate as their base.

The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard white/red/black 3D drop shadow, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.



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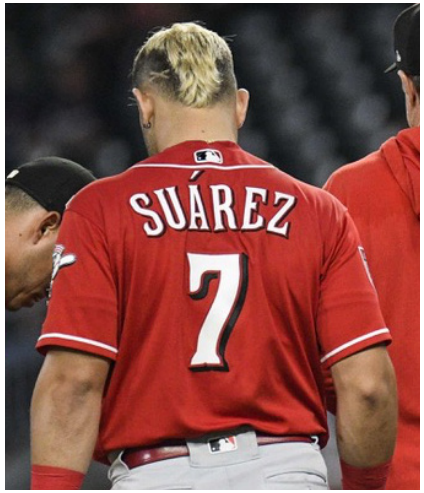
2019 Spring Training



The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns.

The Reds use a brand-new, one-year-only design, separate from their regular-season standard set, featuring a Gothic "C" in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the 1869 Red Stockings. There is a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and front and back numbers are white/red/black 3D drop shadow.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Reds use another brand-new design, separate from their regular-season standard set, featuring Mr. Red on the front left chest, with white/red/black 3D drop shadow name and front and back numbers. It is also worn in a regular season game, April 8, 2022 at Atlanta.

For the 2024 season, it is elevated to full regular season alternate status and appears in the team's official MLB style guide, though the team never wears it in a regular season game.

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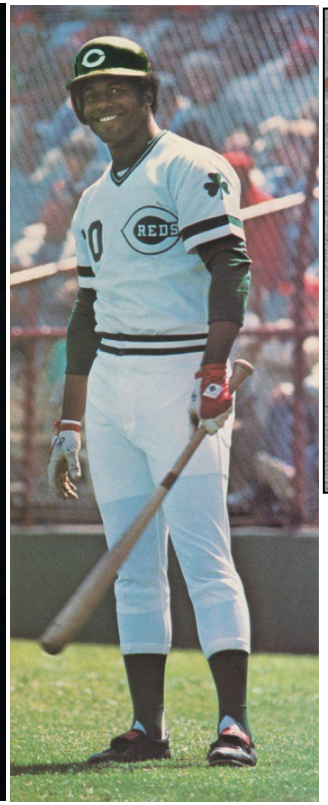
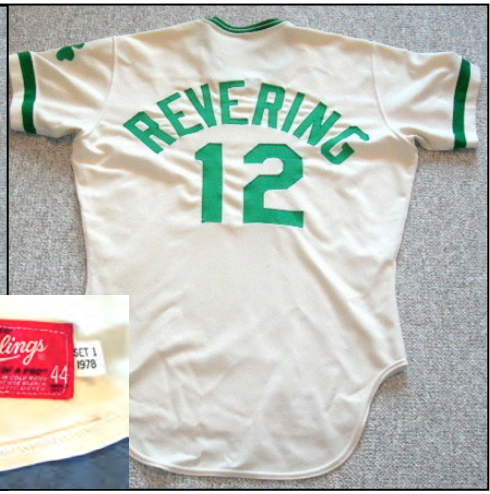
Special Events Jerseys

1978 St. Patrick's Day





Yanks at Lang today; Greens—er, Reds—Sunday

Compiled from staff, wire reports

The New York Yankees will pay their only visit of the year to their one time spring stomping grounds today, visiting Al Lang Stadium for a 1:30 game against the New York Mets.

The Yankees, who trained in St. Petersburg from 1925-61, will start veteran Dick Tidrow on the mound this afternoon. The Mets are expected to pitch Craig Swan, Bill Greif and Kevin Kobel.

The Cincinnati Reds will follow the Yankees to town, showing up Sunday for another 1:30 game with the Mets.

Friday at Tampa's Al Lopez Field, meanwhile, the Reds were up to some new tricks in their game against the Yankees. The Reds played green for a day, sporting specially made St. Patrick's Day uniforms. They came out for batting practice in their traditional red-and-white outfits, but then disappeared into the dressing room.

When they re-emerged, they were resplendent in white uniforms with green hats and green piping. In addition, the uniforms bore shamrocks on the sleeves, much to the delight of the capacity crowd, which was outfitted in green derbys.

"I feel like I've just been traded," said pitcher Tom Seaver, looking as strange in his greenery as he had looked last summer when he first pulled on a Reds' uniform after wearing New York Met pinstripes for the previous decade.

According to a Reds' spokesman, the green uniforms were to be put back in storage after the game but would be used again for future St. Patrick's Day games.

Fifty-three of the uniforms were made at a reported cost of $104 a piece.

Green St Patty's Day jerseys: The Reds are credited with being the originators of this trend, starting with this game in 1978. The REDS logo is multi-layered tackle twill, and all knit trim is green and white.

The Article, *"How St. Patrick's Became Baseball's Holiday"* by Tom Singer highlights the role the Reds had in establishing this tradition and can be found in the "Special Event Jerseys" chapter of this book.

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1979-1980 St. Patrick's Day

Above: *NOB is misspelled: Dave Van Gorder was supposed to be Bench's successor,but tore up a knee and, well, "that was that".*

Robert Eden Collection

On all these examples, the REDS logo is multi-layered tackle twill.

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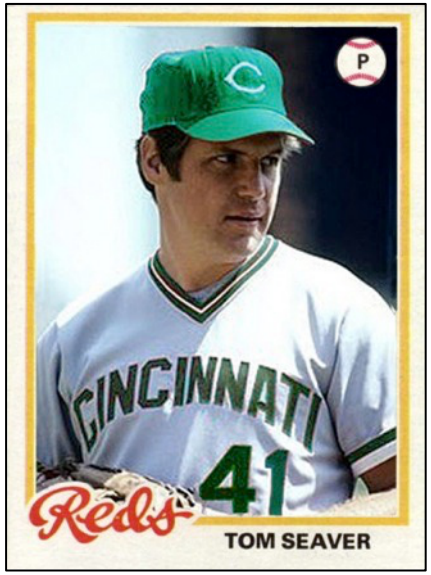
1981-1982 St. Patrick's Day

1981 year-tagging is sewn inside the front tail; 1982 tagging is sewn on the outside of the tail.



Published in past editions as a possible uncatalogued road version, we have learned this is an artist's rendering, and is not real.

These 1981 and 1982 Rawlings St. Patrick's Day uniforms are essentially the same, with the exception of the location of the Rawlings jock tag. Wordmark front crest is sewn twill instead of embroidery. With the cost of creating complete new sets of uniforms for a team, especially with the large roster in Spring Training, we can confirm that returning players would wear the same St. Pat's uniforms as the previous year - with the team ordering new ones only for new players.

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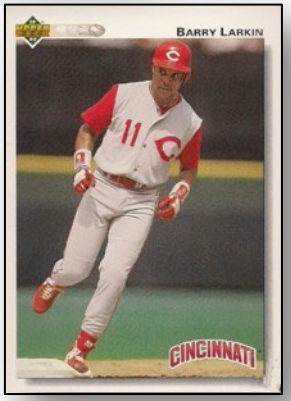
1991 Turn Back the Clock to 1957-1960

June 16, 1991: The Reds played the Phillies at Philadelphia, and wore Rawlings double knit recreations of their 1957-1960 road vests.

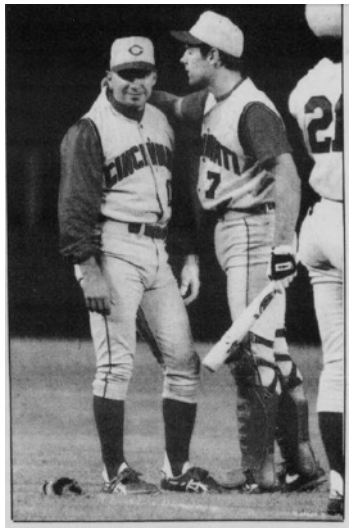
Below: Original 1957 road vest made by MacGregor for comparison. Original numbers were a form of Varsity rarely seen after 1970. The A's used it on some jerseys in the early 1970s and these Turn Back the Clock jerseys do their best to reproduce it.



Original 1957 game worn jersey

© GameWornGuides.com

1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1962



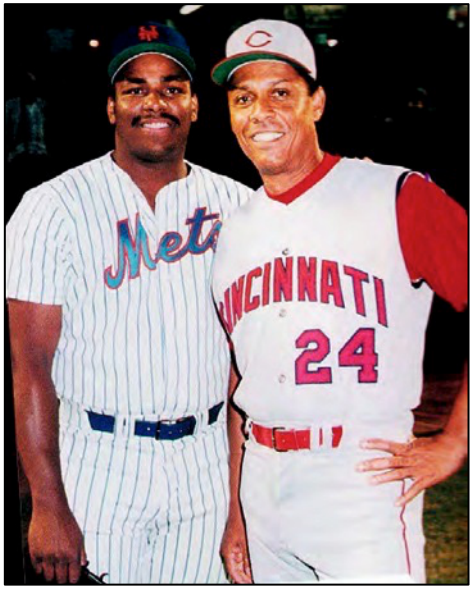
AP photo

Cincinnati's Chris Sabo (left) has his 1962-style uniform checked out by teammate Rick Wrona before Sunday's game against the New York Mets at Shea Stadium. Both teams wore old-style uniforms to celebrate Nostalgia Night.

(Above) *The two different jerseys shown here that were worn in this game feature slightly different tagging, more elaborate than we saw in later years when these games became commonplace.* ***(Below)*** *Original 1962 Reds jersey for a side-by-side comparison with the replicas.*

August 30, 1992: Before they were called *Turn Back the Clock* games, the Reds participated in a 1962 "Nostalgia Game" against the 1962-attired New York Mets at Shea Stadium in New York, reprising the 30th anniversary of the Mets' inaugural season. These Rawlings replicas are made from double knit, and are not very faithful to originals ***(bottom right)***.

This game was quite an anticipated event (it also happened to be televised nationally on cable). It was one of the first Turn Back the Clock games in baseball, though the Reds and Phillies had such a game the previous year. I remember it being really hyped and covered in the news at the time, as the concept had not been used much, and had never been tried in New York.



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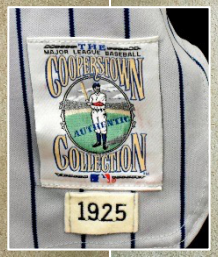
1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1925



Courtesy Jared Wheeler, Mitchell & Ness

July 11,1993: The Reds wore Mitchell & Ness poly-knit reproductions of their 1925 uniforms, with felt lettering and patches. The sleeve patch features chain stitching. They played the Pittsburgh Pirates, who also wore 1925-style uniforms.

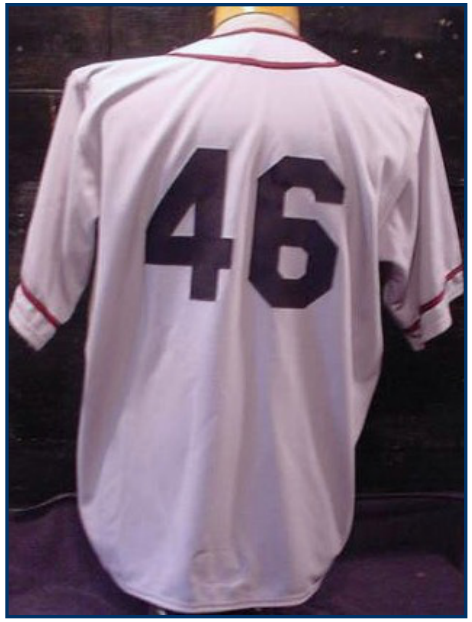
Numbers on back were used on these uniforms, even though the originals would have had none.

© GameWornGuides.com

1998 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Cincinnati Buckeyes)

Steve Kraljic Collection

June 27,1998: TBTC uniforms in knit, representing the 1942 Cincinnati Buckeyes. Uniforms manufactured by AIS. Opponents were the Detroit Tigers, who dressed as the 1920 Detroit Stars. These jerseys were unusually baggy.



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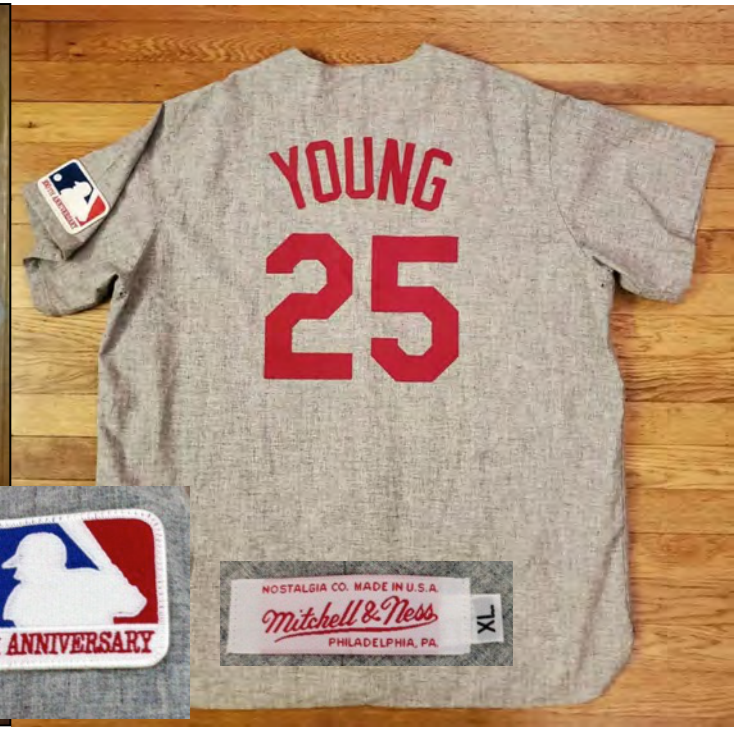
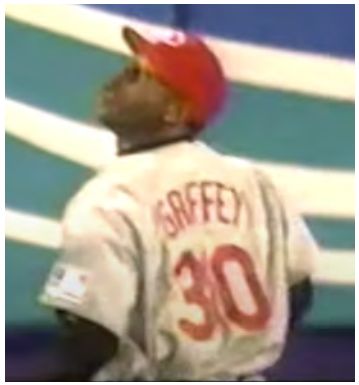
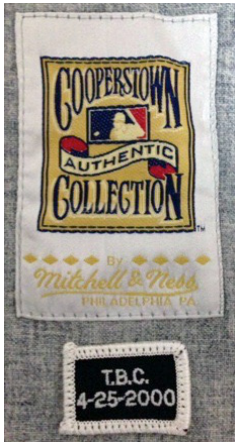
2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1969





Reds Mitchell & Ness flannel reproduction of the 1969 Reds road uniform, complete with the MLB 100th Anniversary sleeve patch, worn against the Mets in New York, April 25, 2000.

Small black tag on tail says "T.B.C. 4-25-2000." This was one of the last Turn Back the Clock games that featured flannel jerseys, as the trend became to use knit replicas instead for player comfort.



Comment on originality: Original flannel Reds jerseys are shown at right. Mitchell & Ness is usually accurate in its historical depictions, especially of the earlier flannel styles. These replicas are reasonably good, but we will note that the reproduction's front wordmark is slightly less bold than the original. The numbers should be Block Bold and they are Block regular. Back numbers on the reproduction are an inch too tall, and the player names on back are noticeably smaller than the originals.

1970 original, for comparison

© GameWornGuides.com

2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1975

Steve Kraljic Collection

June 3, 2000: Turn Back the Clock home jersey copy of the double knit 1975 home uniform. Jersey is made by Mitchell & Ness. A red tag on tail features the date of the game – "T.B.C. 6-3-2000". The opponent that day was the Minnesota Twins, who wore their regular road uniforms.

These used 8" numbers when originals were 7"; NOB is too narrow and too short compared to originals.

Original 1975 among the replicas, shows correct sized NOB

© GameWornGuides.com

2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1971

Original 1971

June 6, 2001: The Reds visited the Brewers for a Turn Back the Clock to 1971 game. Russell was the Reds' uniform supplier in 2002, and they must have passed up the opportunity to make these TBTC jerseys, and Rawlings picked up opportunity to make them. The 1971 vintage replica uniforms for the game are reasonably accurate, though the front wordmark is too tall and light in stroke, more closely resembling the font used on period team jackets. The only photos I have (so far) are here. Player names on back are missing; they should be there.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

Robert Eden collection

Hudson, Reds hot

Reliever's role key in debut: 7-5 over Astros

Reds 7, Astros 5

Today: Reds vs. Houston, 7:10 p.m., Cinergy Field
Radio: WLW-AM (700)
Pitchers: Reds' Joey Hamilton (3-5, 4.66 ERA) vs. Wade Miller (3-3, 5.58)
Inside: Reds, baseball notes, D5

By John Fay
The Cincinnati Enquirer

It looked like it was going to be a nice and easy win for the Reds Monday night. It wasn't.

But that's not necessarily a bad thing. The Reds did, after all, hang on to beat the Houston Astros 7-5 before a crowd of 32,233 at Cinergy Field.

And they may have discovered a key to the future in so doing.

Luke Hudson, making his major-league debut, shut down a Houston comeback with a perfect inning of relief.

"That was nice to see," Reds manager Bob Boone said. "We needed it. A great job, a great way to start a career. Our bullpen is pretty beat up. He better be ready to go again (tonight)."

Hudson pitched the eighth after the Astros had scored three in the seventh to close it to a two-run game.

"That's not what I expected," said Hudson, who was called up from Louisville Friday. "A close game. We're tied for first place."

Hudson, 25-year-old right-hander obtained from Colorado in the Pokey Reese trade, has great stuff. But it can be hard to tame. His first pitch crossed the plate about seven feet above the ground and went to the backstop.

"That first pitch was awesome," said Danny Graves, who closed it for his 25th save. "He settled down and showed some nasty stuff. My knees buckled on his first curveball."

The victory kept the Reds in a tie with the St. Louis Cardinals for first place in the National League Central. It was the Reds' third straight win and sixth in seven games.

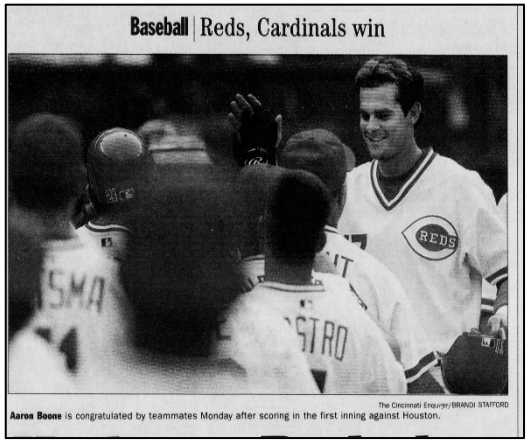
The fans have taken notice. The Reds sold 13,000 after 9 a.m., including 8,600 walk-up tickets after 5:40 p.m. The fact that was turn-back-the-

See REDS, Page D5

The Cincinnati Enquirer/BRANDI STAFFORD
Barry Larkin turns a double play Monday against Houston as Jose Vizcaino slides into second base.

NL/D4
Philadelphia 6, N.Y. Mets 3
Milwaukee 2, Pittsburgh 0
Atlanta 7, Montreal 5
St Louis 7, San Diego 3
Florida 11, Chicago Cubs 1
San Francisco at Colorado n
Los Angeles at Arizona n

AL/D4
Boston 4, Toronto 0
Minnesota at Oakland n
Kansas City at Seattle n



Baseball | Reds, Cardinals win

The Cincinnati Enquirer/BRANDI STAFFORD
Aaron Boone is congratulated by teammates Monday after scoring in the first inning against Houston.

July 1, 2002: The Reds turned back the clock to the 1970s to play the Houston Astros. Both teams wore recreations of 1970s uniforms. The visiting Astros identified their jersey as a 1970 model; the Reds sported the style of jersey they wore 1972-1984. This was Majestic's first shot at making Reds TBTC jerseys, and while they looked pretty good to an uneducated, non-detail-obsessed observer, the player name and number fonts and lettering sizes are inaccurate for any year that this jersey style was worn.

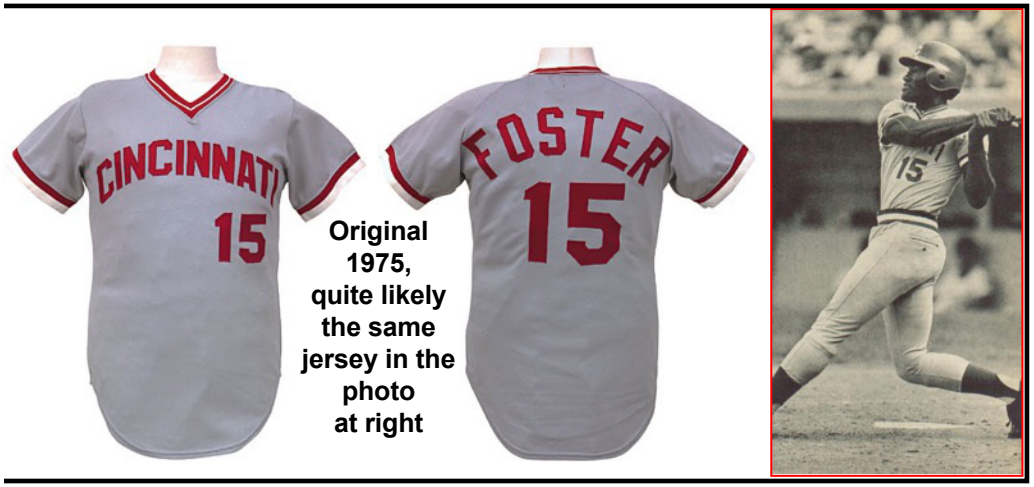
© GameWornGuides.com

2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1975

Reds joined the Indians in TBTC fun during a June 11, 2004 interleague game in Cleveland.

These uniforms are made by Majestic.

My comments: front wordmark and front numbers too thin, back numbers too large and not bold enough, 3"names too small to be authentic, as the originals were 4." Yes, these are minor details maybe, but it would have been so easy to get it perfect.



Original 1975, quite likely the same jersey in the photo at right

(Left) *George Foster models the skintight style worn by the 1975 Reds.* ***(Above, Right)*** *Game photos from this contest show the players wore the 2004 oversized look instead.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

The Pittsburgh Pirates hosted a Turn Back the Clock weekend in Pittsburgh July 23-25, 2004, with the Reds as their opponent. Both teams wore 1979-era replica uniforms for all three games. The Reds dressed in replica 1979 road grays.

Press Release 07/22/2004
Pirates "turn back the clock" this weekend at PNC Park
"Skyblast," "Fam-A-Lee" Reunion and kids' giveaway highlight Reds series

The Pittsburgh Pirates play host to the Cincinnati Reds this weekend at PNC Park. Among the festivities included for the weekend is the team's annual "Skyblast" show, a celebration of the 1979 World Series Champion Pirates and promotional giveaways of a Willie Stargell Figurine and a Pirates Kids Alarm Clock. In addition, the Pirates and the Reds will be wearing replica uniforms from the 1979 season throughout the weekend.

Prior to the Pirates tilt with the Reds on Saturday, July 24 at 7:05 pm, fans will have an opportunity to meet former members of the 1979 World Series Champion Pirates. From 4:306:00 pm on Federal Street, fans can meet and receive free autographs from Pirates alumni such as Dave Parker, Bill Madlock, Grant Jackson, Rennie Stennett, Chuck Tanner and many others. There will be a special "We Are Fam-A-Lee" reunion as part of a pregame ceremony hosted by "Voice of the Pirates" Lanny Frattare. Margaret Stargell will toss out one of the evening's honorary first pitches. To cap off the festivities, all fans will receive a Willie Stargell Figurine upon entering the ballpark, presented by Fox Sports Net.

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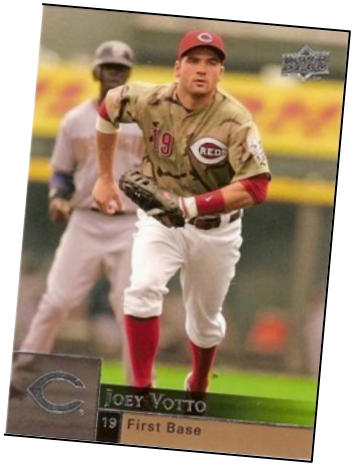
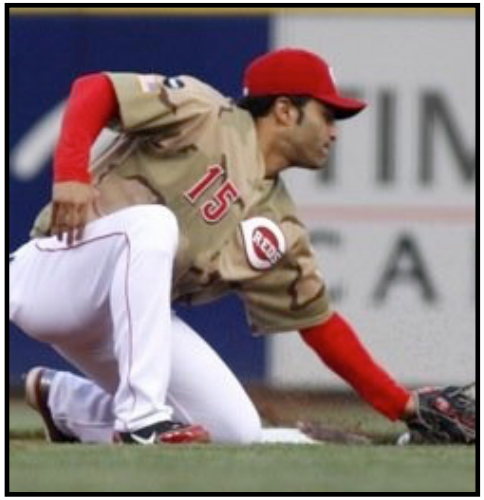
2008 Armed Forces Salute

July 6, 2008: The Reds wore mesh camouflage jerseys as a salute to the nation's Armed Forces. Game photos show that they also wore the 2008 commemorative "NUXY" patch on the sleeve of this one-day jersey, just above the American flag on the right sleeve.





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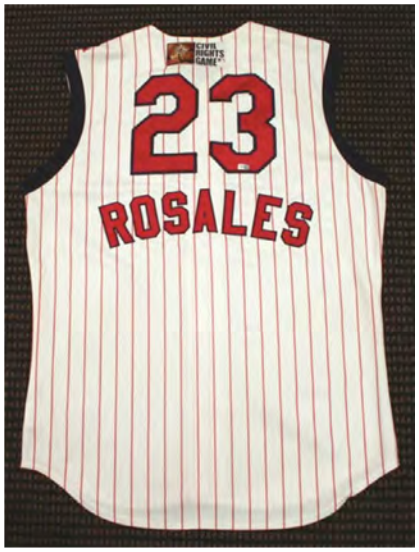
2009 Civil Rights Game (1964 Home)

Steve Kraljic Collection

Original 1964

June 20, 2009: The 2009 Civil Rights game was the first one played as a regular season Interleague contest. It was held in Cincinnati between the Reds and the Chicago White Sox. Both teams wore 1964-style uniforms made by Majestic in double knit. The Reds 1964 vests have the odd period-correct feature of player names sewn below the numbers. All Reds lettering in two color red/black numbers and NOB in Block Bold. Original jerseys used navy, not black. Fonts are “close” but not correct. A Civil Rights Game patch is sewn between the back number and the top of the collar. This patch is approximately six inches wide - larger than the previous years’ patches.



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2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

August 21-22, 2009: In Pittsburgh, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Pirates' last World Championship, the Reds recreated their 1979 N.L. Championship Series uniforms, made by Majestic

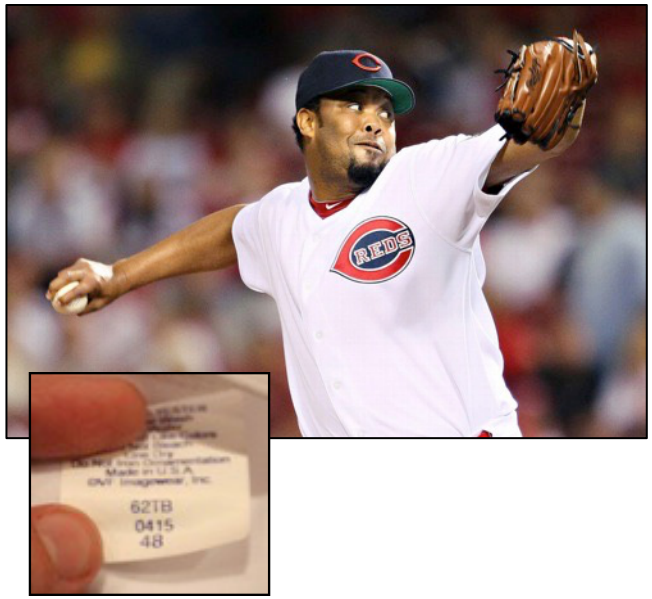
As in my earlier comments, name and numbers are in the wrong font and the wrong sizes. So easy to get it right, and it is wrong.

Your author attended this game in Pittsburgh and cringed at the lack of accuracy in both design and fit.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Civil Rights Game (1954 Home)

Steve Kraljic Collection



May 15, 2010: For the Civil Rights Game, the Reds and St. Louis Cardinals wore replicas of their uniforms from 1954 -- the year in which both teams fielded their first African American players. The Majestic Reds uniforms are white, with Wilson Varsity numbers on back in red, outlined with black. Civil Rights Game logo patch sewn to the left sleeve. As you can see from the photo at right, these are good reproductions.

Original 1954

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1930s Cincinnati Tigers)

These uniforms look remarkably like real flannel, and I believed they were until this photo was posted on Uni-Watch site www.uni-watch.com identified them as a special type of knit fabric used by AIS that is designed to look just like flannel, even up close!

- **July 9, 2011:** The Reds and the Brewers wear Negro League throwbacks made by AIS. The Reds represent the 1930s Cincinnati Tigers, and the uniforms look remarkably like flannel, even up close.
- Inspection reveals that they are indeed knit fabric, but made to look convincingly like old wool flannel. They even “look” itchy!
- Numbers on back are in a font that is close to, but not identical to, the one the White Sox used 1976-1981. “Cincinnati” on the front looks similar to the Reds’ current uniforms.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1944

June 15, 2011: The Reds visited the Dodgers in a Turn Back the Clock game to 1944. The Reds' gray knit uniforms were made by Majestic, and were nearly exact copies of the Reds' period uniforms. Photos of original jerseys show that the Block back numbers are close to the original font – but not exact replicas.

***(Above)** Original 1942 road jersey.*
***(Left)** nearly identical 1947 road jersey.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1991

August 22, 2012: The Phillies Invited the Reds to a throwback game at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, where the teams wore circa 1991 uniforms. The Reds' Majestic uniforms were "pretty close" to the originals. Impressive that a font close to the actual Block variant used by the 1991 Reds was used, instead of a standard one (as is often done when teams used unique fonts; something "close" is often chosen off the shelf) though player name and number were a little smaller than the originals. As is usually our lament, everything was worn too loose, with sleeves too long compared to that earlier time. In short, the uniforms looked nearly the same, but fit so differently as to seem completely different from the originals they were meant to recreate.

© GameWornGuides.com

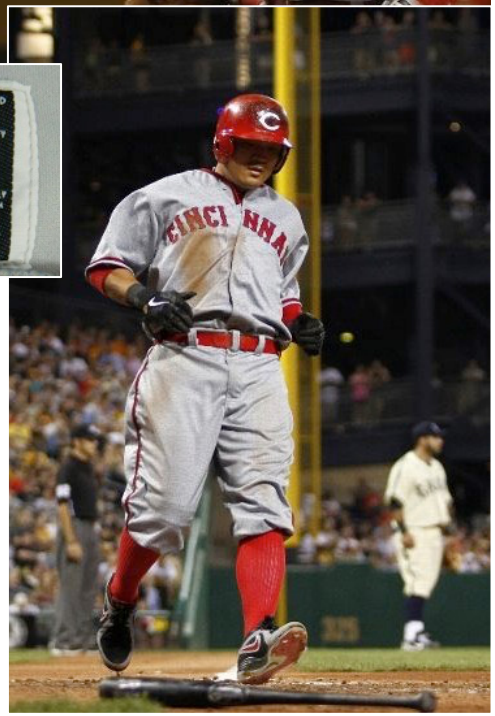
2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

May 27, 2013: Participating in this all-MLB event, the Reds played the Indians at home and modified their uniforms to incorporate desert camouflage into all lettering and wordmarks. Of all the teams in baseball, the Reds' pulled off the stunt among the best, with the usually hard-to-see camouflage (imagine that) accented with outlines and black drop shadows.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Negro Leagues Tribute (1930s Cincinnati Tigers)



June 1, 2013: In Pittsburgh, the Reds wore the same amazingly convincing, flannel-appearing 1930s Cincinnati Tigers uniforms as they had in a tribute game in 2011. AIS again made the suits, using a fabric that is almost indistinguishable in color and texture -- at least from a distance -- from wool flannel. Fancy Red Sox-style wordmark using the traditional lettering font known as Tuscan, and back numbers in a font closely resembling the numbers used by the 1976-1981 White Sox, all in red outlined with black.

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2014 Memorial Day

May 26, 2014: For the Memorial Day contest in Los Angeles against the Dodgers, the Reds took part in the MLB-wide military tribute event by adding camouflage lettering to their road gray uniforms, with results that were less successful than their efforts in 2013. The combination of camo twill on gray fabric is hard to see, though the presence of white outlining and black drop shadowing around all lettering made it somewhat less invisible.

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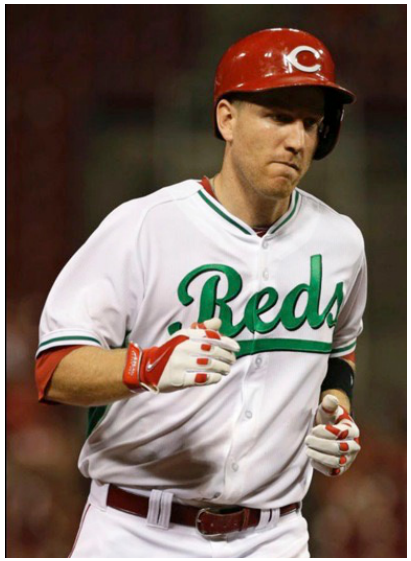
2014 St. Patrick's Day/2014-2015 Irish Heritage

March 17 and September 5, 2014 ; June 19, 2015: The team that pioneered the green-trimmed jersey for St. Patrick's Day brings them back in 2014 after a 31-year absence. They liked them so much, they used them again for their Irish Heritage Celebration toward the end of that season. Then, for some reason, they skip St. Patrick's Day in 2015, only to bring them back for the Irish celebration that June. The jerseys are the home batting practice jersey design and weight, with all red jersey fabric replaced with white, and the black supplanted by green, including side panels and knit trim. Mr. Red is dispatched from the left sleeve in favor of a large green shamrock. Front lettering is green/black 3D drop shadow; back lettering is green/white/black 3D drop shadow. Worn with red helmets, undershirts and other accessories, the Reds looked to be celebrating Christmas in the summertime.



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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1990

April 24, 2015: In honor of the 25th anniversary of their 1990 World Series Championship team, the Reds throw back to that year in a home game against the Cubs, who wear their 1990 roads. The Majestic knit pullovers are striking in their accuracy to the originals, featuring back and front red/white numbers in Reds Varsity, and the names on back in larger red/white Block. Front logo is properly represented in twill. If there is one minor nit to pick, it is that the neck trim and shape are a little off, and the MLB logo on the back neck was, of course, not there in 1990. Otherwise, an impressive job to honor this anniversary.

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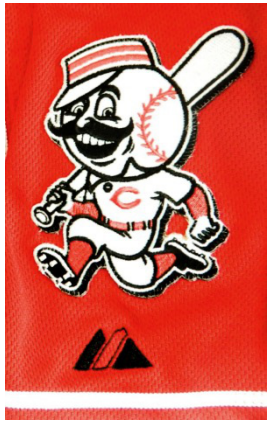
2015 Memorial Day



May 25, 2015: Three seasons, three different Memorial Day jerseys for the Reds. For 2015, the team selects its red alternate jersey for the camo treatment. Here the top layer of twill, usually white, is replaced with the desert camo; the red/black 3D drop shadow layers remain the same. The back numbers are fairly legible against the red background, especially with the drop shadow to help. But on smaller elements, such as player names, front numbers, and especially the REDS text in the front logo, much of the detail disappears, as is the purpose of camouflage. The right sleeve features the 2015 All-Star Game patch. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white.

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2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of the team's normal color palette. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Reds wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. On the front logo, the wishbone-C and the REDS text is red starred twill with a white drop shadow, all on a blue oval field. This setup makes the Reds one of a few teams (along with the Cubs and Marlins) to have more than two colors on their front logo for this promotion. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016-2017 St. Patrick's Day/Irish Heritage

Jeff Jensen Collection

The Reds go all-in on green for St. Patrick's Day in 2016 and 2017, and for their Irish heritage celebration on September 18, 2016 and September 23, 2017. This Flex Base jersey is in solid green, with front logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white -- all in the Reds' special font. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock -- a feature shared by many teams for the 2016-2017 St. Patrick's Day promotion. Contrary to his name, Mr. Red appears on the left sleeve in shades of gray and white, while white knit trim encircles both sleeves.

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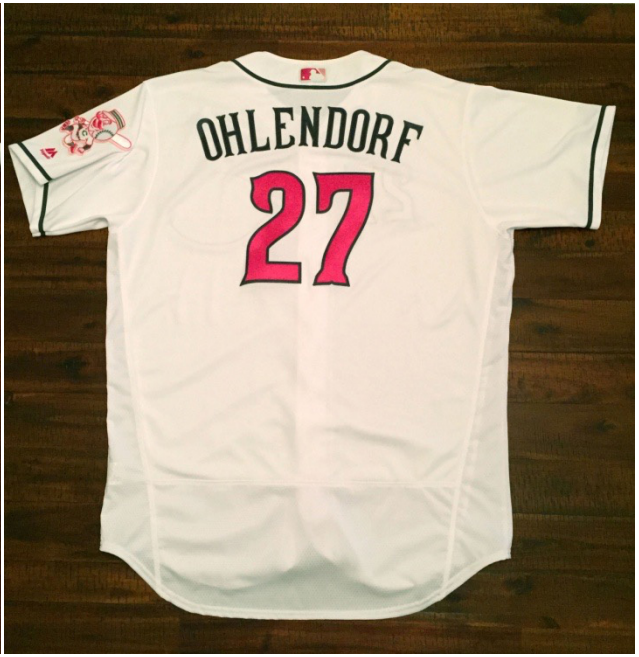
2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

Jeff Jensen Collection



Sunday, May 8: All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for the first time on Mother's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days). The Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink, and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Reds wear their home white jerseys with the front logo REDS lettering and wishbone-C in pink with a white 3D drop shadow over a dark-gray oval field. They are one of a few teams (with the Cubs and Marlins) to have more than two colors on their front logo for this promotion, which helps to increase legibility of the logo's small details. The player names on back are rendered in single-color (dark gray); front and back numbers are pink/dark gray, losing their usual 3D drop shadow. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally red, becomes dark gray. No Bernie Stowe memorial patch on this jersey.

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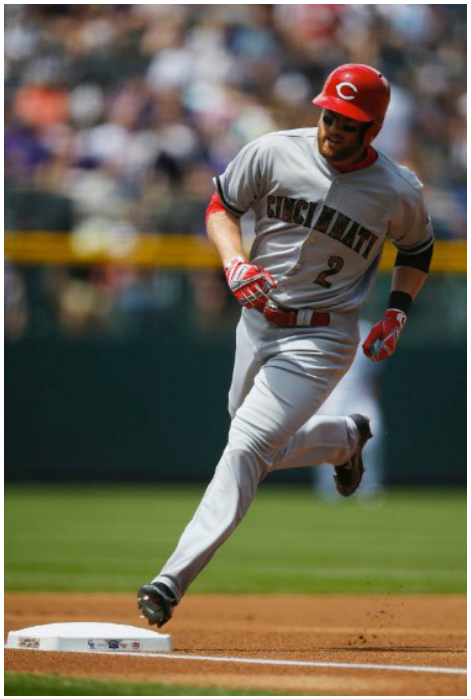
2016 Memorial Day

Jeff Jensen Collection



May 30, 2016: The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Reds apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game. The typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers lose the drop shadow and are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline,. Player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from red/white/red. The Reds do not wear the Bernie Stowe memorial patch on this jersey.

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Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Father's Day

Jeff Jensen Collection

Sunday, June 19: For the first time, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms for Father's Day. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction, with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days). The back-of-the-collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal/light blue/white. The Reds wear their road gray jerseys with the typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers losing the drop shadow, here rendered in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are single-color dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally black, becomes dark gray. The Reds do not wear the Bernie Stowe memorial patch on this jersey.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1976 (Pete Rose Tribute)

June 24, 2016: The Reds retired Pete Rose's #14 in 2016, and as part of the weekend-long celebration, held a 40th anniversary of the World Series-winning 1976 team. For the game, the Reds wore these Majestic knit pullovers that are not particularly faithful to the originals. The 1976 version had a chain stitched front logo; here it is twill. Front and back numbers were originally Block Bold; here they are regular Block. The tall block player names are fairly close to the 1976 jerseys, and the 1976 NL Centennial patch on the right sleeve is appropriate for the year.

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2016 Independence Day

Jeff Jensen Collection

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Reds are on the road, and wear their alternate red jerseys. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Reds select the blue twill version with gray outlines to replace their normally three-color front lettering and front and back numbers (drop shadows are removed here), with a gray player name on back. For some reason, the logo patch on the front of the jersey uses the blue stars twill for the "wishbone C" logo on a gray oval with the "Reds" text in white. The background field of this patch is typically red, matching the jersey, so the choice of gray makes the logo look strange, especially considering that red is one of the primary colors for the event. It also makes the REDS text much harder to read, especially from a distance. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors. All jersey trim, normally black, becomes single-color blue. The Reds do not wear the Bernie Stowe memorial patch on this jersey.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1916

Jeff Jensen Collection

July 6, 2016: Based on their status as descendants of the first professional baseball team, the Reds have no lack of jerseys to throw back to – almost 150 years' worth. For this road game, they turn back the clock farther than ever before: to 1916, against the similarly attired Cubs. The occasion marked the 100th anniversary of the Cubs' first game at Wrigley, which was also against the Reds. The pinstriped, half-button Majestic knit jerseys have the "REDS in wishbone-C" logo, which debuted in 1913, in all red on front, with a fancy, old-fashioned red number on back. Player numbers were not worn in 1916. The jerseys also have a cadet collar -- a common feature for the early 1900s.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1999-2006 (Ken Griffey Tribute)

Jeff Jensen Collection

July 20, 2016: The Reds recognized Ken Griffey Jr.'s enshrinement in the Baseball Hall of Fame with a Turn Back the Clock game against the visiting Braves, who wore 1969 throwbacks. The team did not establish a specific year for the throwback, calling them merely "Ken Griffey Era." Nevertheless, they match the Reds' 1999-2006 home vest, and duplicate them perfectly -- as well they should. These knit vests were made by Majestic for this game, and for the final two years of their run (2005-2006). Name and numbers are three-color red/white/black 3D drop shadow with no nameplates.

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2016-2017 Negro Leagues Tribute (1937 Cincinnati Tigers)

September 9, 2016 and **August 12, 2017**: This Reds' entry honors the 1937 Cincinnati Tigers. The gray Majestic knit jersey features "Cincinnati" in Tuscan font, similar to the Red Sox and Mets, in red/navy on front. Player numbers appear in a fancy display font in red/navy on back. Neck and sleeves are lined with navy/red/navy braid. The uniforms look strikingly similar to the Reds' own 1935 uniforms – because they are. The Tigers wore hand-me-down uniforms from the Reds during their short, four-season history. After a style change in 1936, the Reds went back to this road jersey in 1937, matching the Tigers that year.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13-14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Reds wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally red/white/red, becomes dark gray.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Reds apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27-29, 2017 and May 26-28, 2018.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return for the Reds on June 18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Reds wear home white with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally red becomes dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. Other teams also wore Father's Day jerseys on June 17, 2017, but that day, the Reds wore their home whites with a patch honoring the dedication of a Pete Rose statue at their ballpark instead.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1-2, 2017 and July 2-4, 2018, the Reds wear their home white jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3-4, 2017, the Reds wear their road gray jersey with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017, the Reds wear jerseys with white bodies and red sleeves with red nicknames and numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their script "Reds" lettering with underscore, from their recent BP jerseys, here rendered in red/black 3D drop shadow kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2018 St. Patrick's Day

Ironically enough, the Reds pioneered the use of green uniforms on St. Patrick's day, back in 1978. So, to honor the 40th anniversary of the trend that is now a frequent spring training occurrence, the Reds celebrate with this white Flex Base entry for 2018. Green/gray "Reds" script on front and player numbers on back, with player names in solid green. Green knit trim encircles the sleeves just above the ends, and the ubiquitous green shamrock takes residence on the right sleeve. On the left sleeve, a special anniversary patch declaring, "First Team to Wear Green." Green is clearly a point of pride for the Reds.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24-26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve.

The Reds wear jerseys with gray bodies and red sleeves with red nicknames and numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their script "Reds" lettering with underscore, from their recent BP jerseys, here rendered in red/black 3D drop shadow kiss-cut twill.

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2019 St. Patrick's Day

The Reds debut a new Spring Training jersey with an Olde English "C" on front for 2019, and their St. Patrick's Day entry for that year mirrors that style. Here on a green Majestic Flex Base jersey, the "C" appears on left chest in white/gray drop shadow, while front and back numbers are white/gray without the drop shadow. Back player names are in white, and a shamrock patch adorns the right sleeve.

An updated version of the prior year's "First Team to Wear Green" patch takes up the left sleeve, honoring the achievement of being first in the green-uniform realm, but not calling out the dates as the previous year's patch did for the anniversary.

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2019 150th Anniversary "Turn Back the Clock" Series

As baseball's oldest still-existing professional team, founded in 1869, the Reds can lay claim to a lot of baseball history. And, to mark their 150th anniversary as a pro team, they embark on the most ambitious throwback program in MLB history with 15 different throwback uniforms, spanning from 1902-1999, worn throughout the season. The variations shown here and detailed in the following pages draw from some of the Reds most memorable recent styles and historic older ones from more than a century ago. Overall, the team's dedication to detail, especially considering today's uniform construction and fabrics combined with the importance of player comfort, highlights this initiative as an achievement in presenting team history through on-field throwback uniforms. There's a fascinating story about how the Reds' clubhouse staff managed the 29 different 2019 uniforms the Reds wore (including these throwbacks) at theathletic.com (the story is paywalled).

Why Start in 1902?

With 150 years of uniform history, why did the Reds choose a uniform 33 years after their founding as the starting point of the throwbacks? According to the team, the 1869 long-sleeved, bib-front uniform (a reproduction of which is shown below) would not translate into an accurate throwback that would work on the field today. The 1902 set was chosen because the team opened their Palace of the Fans ballpark that year, which also coincided with a new set of uniforms.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1902

The long march of throwbacks begins on May 4 (the anniversary of the Red Stockings' 45-9 win over the Great Westerns of Cincinnati) with the team's 1902 home throwbacks. Collared, half-button Majestic Cool Base cream jerseys feature a red "CINCINNATI" in an unusual block type on front (note the low crossbeam on the pointy "A"). The most distinctive feature here is the front left chest pocket. One wonders what the ballplayers of 1902 kept here, certainly not batting gloves or body armor. Back player numbers are in what looks to be a bold version of a Block variant used by the Giants and Astros in the mid-70s. Numbers were not worn in baseball at this time. In what will be a theme throughout the series, the anachronistic Majestic logo is on the left sleeve and MLB logo is on the back under the collar.

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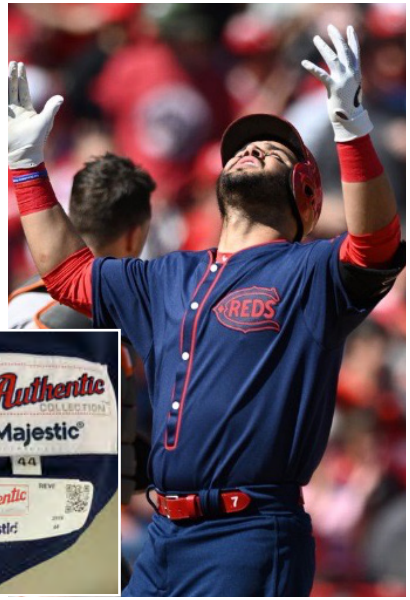
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1911



One day later, on May 5, the Reds jump 9 years in history and feature their 1911 road jersey at home. One of several early blue road jerseys, this entry is represented here in Majestic Cool Base fabric.
A very fancy "REDS in wish-bone-C" appears on left chest in red/blue (the first time this appeared on a Reds uniform), with a similar (but not the same) "C" logo in red and blue on the left sleeve over the Majestic logo. This sleeve logo may have been on the right sleeve as well/ instead on the originals – see photos at right.

Numbers on back in what appears to be an off-white color, in a font very similar to what the Reds wore from 1985-1994. Originals, of course, would not have had back numbers. A cadet collar and three-quarter button placket, all framed in red knit trim, represent some once-common baseball jersey elements that have been lost to time. Very nice attention to detail with the white buttons, which appear to be accurate compared to the photos of the original at right.

Todd Radom photo

© GameWornGuides.com

2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1912

If a jersey could be plain and fancy all at once, this Reds 1912 home jersey, worn May 19, would fit the bill. Of course, much of the "fanciness" comes from the unique and almost hand-drawn-looking back numbers, which weren't worn in 1912, so that year's real jerseys would have verged on plain. Whatever the font is, it matches nicely with the ornate "C" logo on each sleeve. The only other adornment on this cream-color Majestic Cool Base, half-button jersey is a single strip of knit trim running along a single side of the placket and round the top of the collar. Based on the photo of the originals here, the knit trim may not have extended down the placket, but it is hard to be sure. Either way, the set is striking in its simplicity.

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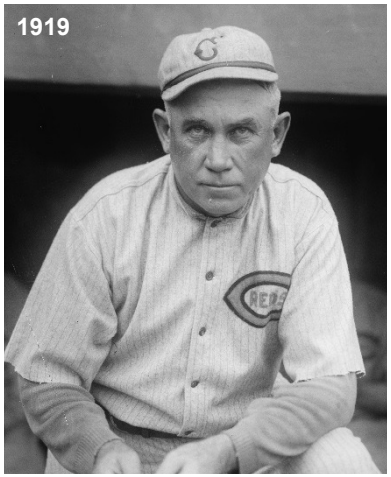
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1919 World Series



The Reds won their first World Series in 1919 against the infamous Chicago "Black Sox" and wore different uniforms in the series than the regular season. This cream, half-button, navy pinstriped Majestic Cool Base jersey replicated the World Series home version for the June 2 game. The era's "wishbone-C" logo has the "C" in red/blue and the "REDS" in red, with red Majestic Varsity numbers on back (not worn by the team at the time). The jersey is finished with a sun collar, sewn atop a separate sewn-in placket (note the different pinstripe patterns on all three elements).

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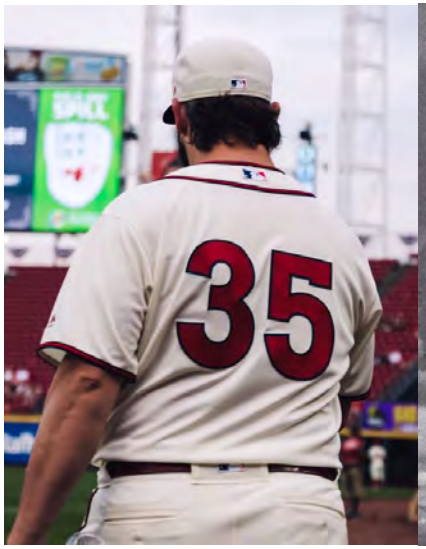
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1935

Steve Kraljic Collection



The Reds played in MLB's first night game in 1935, and these uniforms throw back to that season, one in which this was an alternate home jersey according to legendary uniform historian Marc Okkonen. Cream Majestic Cool Base jerseys have blue/red/blue braid around both sleeve openings, around the neck opening, and around the neck and placket. And no other adornment, at least on front. Large red/blue rounded numbers appear on back, which look similar to the numbers on 1935 Reds catcher Gilly Campbell a photo from the first night game at left (though it is unclear if this, or the Reds' other 1935 home jersey was used in that game, as the photo is somewhat overexposed). This was the team's last home jersey not to have "Reds," the wishbone-C, or both, on front.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock 1936 “Palm Beach” Alternate

Another alternate for the Reds when they throw back to 1936 on June 30. Called the “Palm Beach” (which is what the uniform’s manufacturer called the lighter fabric used on the originals), this jersey with script “Reds” on left chest was paired with alternate red pants on occasion in 1936 only, a look recreated here by Majestic in Cool Base fabric. The throwback version has “Reds” script in red/cream embroidered patch, and no other adornment save for the red back numbers in a rounded font, similar to what the Cubs now use. A check against the original shows that the font is fairly accurate to what was worn in 1936, as are the red front buttons, a nice nod to the past.

Original 1936, including the “Palm Beach” tag

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1939

The Reds were NL Champs in 1939, and the July 6 entry represents that season with a Majestic Cool Base throwback. Elegant in its simplicity, the “REDS in wishbone C” logo appears on left chest in red/white/blue, while the league-wide Baseball Centennial patch adorns the left sleeve. Red/blue McAuliffe style numbers identify the players on back. Based on the images of a game worn 1940 jersey at left (which was the same style, minus the patch) shows this checks out admirably against the real thing.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1956

And out come the vests…and Mr. Red. These 1956 road throwbacks, in Majestic full knit, represent the first appearance of both for the Reds. The team had vests for both home and road, but Mr. Red, who debuted the year prior as a sleeve patch, appears as a primary uniform element for the first time. He'd be gone by the following year, but on July 7, even though at home, the Reds celebrate the brief, shining moment of this uniform specimen with this Majestic Cool Base jersey. And it's a good copy, when viewed against an original at left, though the front number font differs slightly from what may be original manufacturer MacGregor's version of Varsity in 1956. Many players opted to go sans undersleeves, following in the footsteps (shirtsleeves?) of Ted "Big Klu" Kluszewski, who did the same decades ago.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1961

Blue returns to the Reds' uniforms in 1961, and the 1961 home set returns to the field on July 21. That season, the team marked the passing of owner Powell Crosley with black trim around the left sleeve opening – the equivalent for an armband for a sleeveless jersey. Reproduced here by Majestic in Cool Base fabric, the red-pinstriped vest sports a rounder version of the "REDS in wishbone-C" logo, in red/white chainstitch over blue, with red/blue front and back numbers in what was likely original manufacturer MacGregor's own Varsity font, like the 1956 throwback on the prior page.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1967

In 1967, accent colors go away, while sleeves return as does the wishbone-C, chain-stitched in white on a red background. Reproduced here as a Majestic Cool Base jersey on July 28, this is the first Reds throwback of this series to feature names on back in red, rendered in a proper extra-tall font. The red front numbers on the throwback appear less bold than the original, seen middle right, but otherwise, this set well represents what was a one-year style for the Reds, and its last in pinstripes until 1993.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

The 1969 uniform captures the clean white and red simplicity of Reds jersey that will follow for more than two decades. The REDS in wish-bone-C is here chain-stitched in white on a red background, giving the otherwise plain uniform beautiful texture from up close. Block Standard Bold numbers in red on front and back, with small back numbers placed under an extra-tall red NOB. The 1969 MLB 100th Anniversary patch correctly adorns the left sleeve of the Majestic Cool Base throwback. It compares very well to the original, at right.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1976

The Reds won back-to-back World Series in 1975 and 1976, and the August 17 throwback commemorates the second of those seasons. The first of the V-neck pullovers in the series, this Majestic Cool Base jersey features the REDS in wishbone-C logo on left chest, chain-stitched in white over a red background. Red front and (short) back numbers appear in Block Standard Bold, and names on back continue on in the Reds' tall red lettering. Wide white/red trim appears on the sleeve ends, with red/white/red trim around the V-neck. The National League's 1976 Centennial Patch (accurate down to the white copyright symbol and "USA") correctly appears on the right sleeve. Another spot-on throwback, as should be expected at this point in the promotion.

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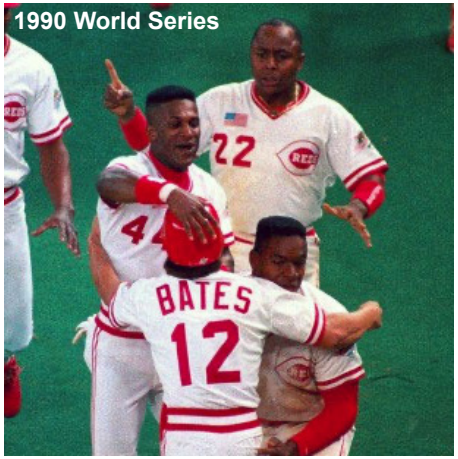
2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1990 World Series

Another World Series throwback for the Reds, this time to 1990 on August 18. Very similar to the previous 1976 model, this one has some very small differences that are captured here accurately. Made in Majestic Cool Base fabric, this is again a white V-neck pullover with red/white/red neck trim, however, the sleeve trim now matches the red/white/red color pattern. The Reds logo is now white on red twill, as chain stitching disappears. The Reds version of Varsity front and back numbers are now red/white, with the white layer almost invisible, and the same goes for the still-tall back names in red/white block. The 1990 World Series patch is on the left sleeve, with an American flag patch on the right chest over the front number, worn in recognition of the First Gulf War. When this throwback was unveiled, the American flag patch had a gold border instead of the proper white border as in 1990. It was corrected for the game, a very impressive example of the Reds' commitment to accuracy.



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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1995

The Reds returned to the postseason again in 1995 and wore this jersey style while doing it. This return to vests and pinstripes was honored on September 8 in Majestic Cool Base fabric. Reds logo in red/white twill, front and back numbers are in red/white Reds Varsity font, NOBs still tall Block in red/white. By this point, the commitment to accuracy is measurable, and much easier to pull off with jerseys of comparatively recent vintage.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1999

The final of the 15 throwbacks, dating two decades old, takes the field on September 22. Another vest, more stripes, but the black shadows have made their way into what was only red and white for decades. Rendered in Majestic Cool Base, the red pinstriped vest sports front and back block numbers and names in red/white/black 3D drop shadow. Black undershirts with a Mr. Red patch on the left sleeve complete the look worn by franchise favorite Ken Griffey, Jr. during his stint in Cincinnati.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Reds wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2020 “Summer Camp”/2021-2022 St. Patrick’s Day

The Reds revert to their 2016-2017 green St. Patrick’s Day jerseys for 2000, even though their annual game is not played that year. With COVID canceling the game in March 2020, the Reds bring out the green jerseys for “Summer Camp” workouts - the delayed Spring Training that began on July 1. When MLB returned to the normal spring schedule in 2021, these jerseys were again worn on their intended March 17 holiday going forward. Now made by Nike on their version of the Flex Base template, the jersey is in solid green, with front script logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white -- all in the Reds’ special font. The layer of gray is thin and light enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock -- a feature shared by many teams for St. Patrick’s Day. Contrary to his name, Mr. Red appears on the left sleeve in shades of gray and white, while white knit trim encircles both sleeves. Discontinued after 2022, as no teams wore green jerseys for the annual holiday in 2023, likely as part of Nike’s efforts to simplify jersey variations for all teams.

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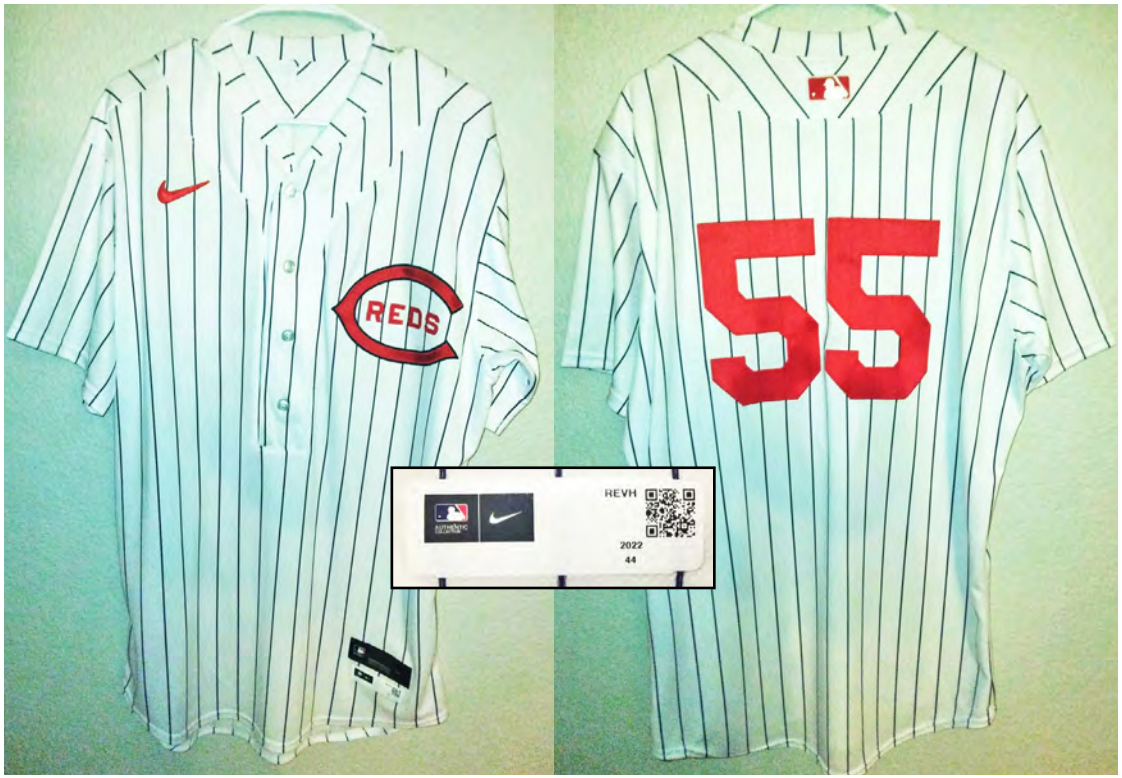
2022 Field of Dreams Game (1919 Home)



For the August 11, 2022 incarnation of the Field of Dreams game in Dyersville, Iowa, the Reds throw it back to their 1919 look. And in a way, to 2019 as well, which is when they last wore a turn back the clock design just like this. Nike made this latest version, half-pullovers in a navy-pinstriped, white Cool Base material, with a four-button front. The left chest sports the Reds' wishbone-C logo in red/navy with "REDS" in red block lettering inside. The jersey is finished with a sun collar, sewn atop a separate sewn-in placket (note the different pinstripe patterns on all three elements). Though they would not have been used at the time this jersey represents, back numbers are added here in bold, red Varsity. Similarly anachronistic are the MLB and Nike logos, which are a sign of our times.

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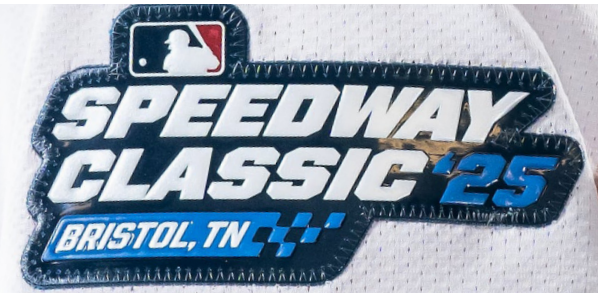
2025 Speedway Classic



Braves, Reds to sport NASCAR-inspired uniforms in Speedway Classic

July 21, 2025
By Jason Foster
(Excerpted from mlb.com)

When the Braves and Reds take the field on Aug. 2 for the 2025 Speedway Classic, the night's distinct NASCAR vibe will extend to racing-themed uniforms for the players.

The special Nike jerseys unveiled on Monday stay true to the usual looks of the two teams, but also feature nods to the racing world. These flashes include custom numbers on the backs designed after the numbers on race cars, with outlines, shadowing and italicized "movement" to represent a race car's forward motion.

The inaugural Speedway Classic represents the first AL/NL game to be played in Tennessee.

Ed. note: The Reds use their white home jersey as the base for this modified style. Each team also wears a special "Speedway Classic" sleeve patch. The patch location varies based on player handedness, and appears opposite the team's ad patch, replacing the Reds' standard team patch.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1978 Tour of Japan

While Wilson made the Reds road uniforms in 1978, participating players in the bi-annual MLB Tour of Japan postseason exhibition series were issued Rawlings-made road grays for the trip. Photo evidence shows the Reds players wearing Rawlings logoed pants, not worn in MLB. Several of these complete uniforms have come up for auction over the years.

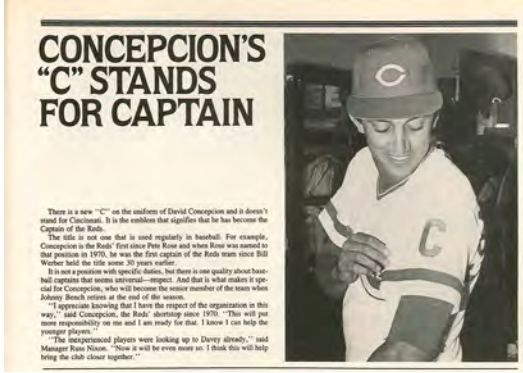
© GameWornGuides.com

1983-1988 Dave Concepción Captain's "C"

Captain's patches are a more familiar element of hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, but there have been occasions where they've been worn by baseball players too.

According to research by Paul Lukas, Dave Concepción was the first MLB player to wear a captain's "C" on his uniform. The addition of the letter was called out in a story in the Reds' 1983 yearbook (shown at right).

Photo research shows that Concepción's "C" was inconsistent in size, style, and placement across his tenure as captain, and did not always appear on all of his jerseys, though it was on his BP jersey at least once. Some examples of the variations across the years are shown here.



CONCEPCION'S "C" STANDS FOR CAPTAIN

There is a new "C" on the uniform of David Concepcion and it doesn't stand for Cincinnati. It is the emblem that signifies that he has become the Captain of the Reds.

The title is not one that is used regularly in baseball. For example, Concepcion is the Reds' first since Pete Rose and when Rose was named to that position in 1970, he was the first captain of the Reds team since Bill Werber held the title some 30 years earlier.

It is not a position with specific duties, but there is one quality about baseball captains that seems universal—respect. And that is what makes it special for Concepcion, who will become the senior member of the team when Johnny Bench retires at the end of the season.

"I appreciate knowing that I have the respect of the organization in this way," said Concepcion, the Reds' shortstop since 1970. "This will put more responsibility on me and I am ready for that. I know I can help the younger players."

"The inexperienced players were looking up to Davey already," said Manager Russ Nixon. "Now it will be even more so. I think this will help bring the club closer together."

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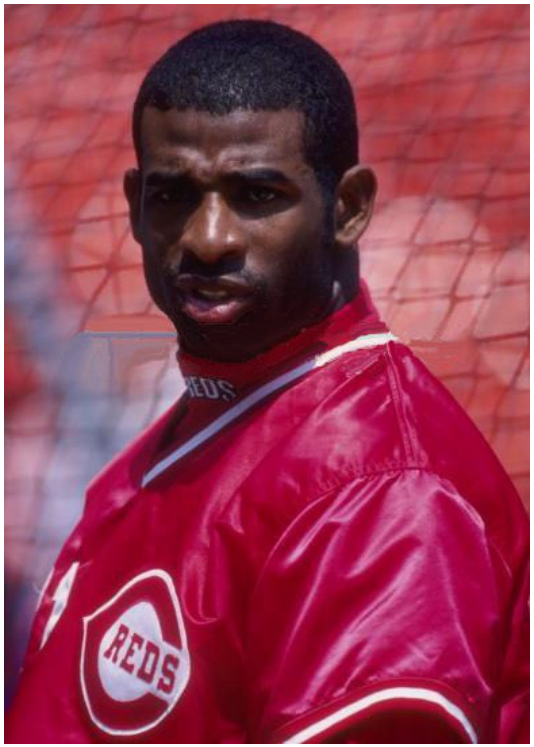
1992/1993 Reversed Logo Colors Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

(Left) I have only seen a couple like the batting practice jersey shown at left, and am not sure if the team ever wore them on the field. The subtle difference on this Diamond Collection batting practice jersey is that the Reds logo is reversed from the usual colors.

At right, notice the standard-colored logo at top for comparison, and a similar reversed logo from the oddball Deion Sanders satin BP shown at right.

"Normal" version for comparison



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1992-1994 Undershirt

The “Diamond Collection” line of branded products was launched in 1992, and represented products supplied to clubs for on-field use but also available to fans who wanted to own authentic merchandise. It was really the beginning of the massive MLB merchandising that has become a staple of team revenue today. A line of Amapro-labeled team undershirts was sold in limited outlets, albeit briefly, before the contract for team undershirts went to Russell sometime around 1995. This one features a V-neck and an embroidered Reds logo high on the left chest.

© GameWornGuides.com

1985-1993 Phantom Alternate

Bill Henderson collection

These examples are from my collection. They are retail-spec Russell 1992 authentic jerseys with replica lettering. Any insight from other collectors is always gratefully appreciated. Below, the phantom jersey is clearly pictured in the official 1993 MLB style guide!

In 1985 the Reds supposedly introduced this solid (non-mesh) red alternate jersey. Sleeve-end knit stripes are white/red/white.

Though it had been generally accepted that this was available for use on the field up through 1992, I have never come across a game used jersey in this style, and In fact, have never seen single photo of this jersey being used in a game, or for that matter even being worn by a player.

Discussion among Reds collectors that has been going on since our Fourth Edition casts doubt if these were ever used by the team, or even issued to players. I would think that if they did exist, in nearly 35 years of searching, I would have seen one by now. The wordmark is the same as the team jacket's, not the road jersey.

We have removed this jersey from the summary tables at the chapter's beginning, and have moved this jersey to "oddball" status, even noting that the MLB Hall of Fame Dressed to the Nines database has removed this jersey from its historic listing of on-field jerseys.

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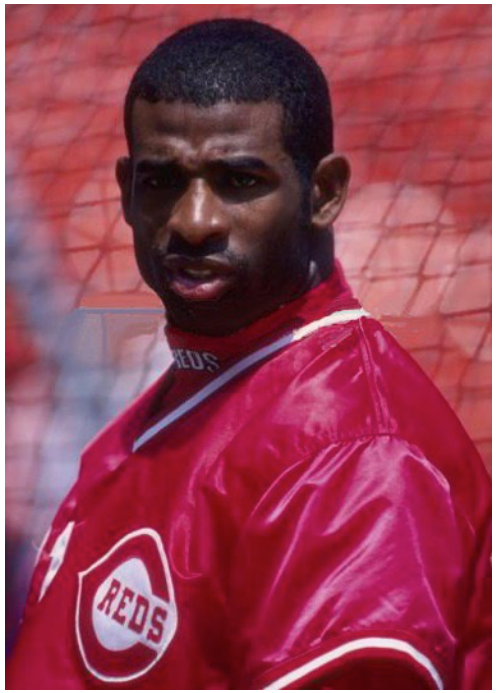
1997 Deion Sanders' Batting Practice Satin Pullover



- **More from Deion Sanders:** Deion has a specially made shiny red satin batting practice jersey crafted for him in 1997, with his numbers on front and back and his nickname PRIME TIME in tall Reds letters on the back.
- Unknown if the satin jersey below and the one in the period pictures above are the same garment.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997-2004 Barry Larkin Captain's "C"

Captain's patches are a more familiar element of hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, but there have been occasions where they've been worn by baseball players too.

Reds Hall of Famer Barry Larkin wore a captain's C from 1997 until his retirement in 2004. The location of the "C," which was appropriately rendered in the team's "Wishbone C" style, moved from sleeve to chest between the team's regular and vest jerseys over the years.

What Happened in 1998?

Larkin was unhappy that the Reds were moving toward becoming a "young and cheap" team by trading away veterans in 1998. As a result, he removed the "C" from his home jersey before the July 4 game in protest (on the heels of two consecutive days with trades). The following day, he replaced the "C" with the numbers of four traded teammates written in marker, along with a question mark, asking who would be next to go. The numbers represented Dave Burba (34), David Weather (49), Lenny Harris (28), and Jeff Shaw (41).

Also, though Larkin had worn the "C" on home and road jerseys in 1997, it appeared only on his home jersey for most of 1998. It was added to his road jersey in late July 1998, after months of absence, and appeared there through his retirement.

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Oops: Sean Casey's Signed 1999 All-Star Jersey

Known affectionately as "The Mayor" for his habit of talking to everyone who reached first base, Sean Casey was, and still is, a beloved figure in MLB circles. During a breakout season in 1999, Casey was selected to appear in the MLB All-Star Game for the first time. Unfortunately for him, a slight jersey snafu made his inaugural All-Star appearance even more memorable. He retold the story on his "The Mayor's Office" podcast (edited for length and clarity):

"At the All-Star Game in '99 we're coming in, Vlad Guerrero, Sr. to my left, it was like his second year in the big leagues, mine too, [and] to my right Randy Johnson, Bonds, I mean it was incredible…[Red Sox Visiting Clubhouse Attendant] Tommy [McLaughlin] comes in he's like, 'Hey, listen guys, you got two jerseys in your locker. Sign one for charity…the other one you're going to [wear] in the game.' So, I'm there, 'Oh yeah this so cool man.' [I] sign my jersey real big give it to Tommy…

"So, I come back from BP getting ready for the game, go in my locker, can't wait to put on my jersey. I got one jersey in my locker, and it has a huge signature on it…So I go to Tom, I go, 'Tom, hey, I think you messed up man, you put the jersey I signed yesterday back in my locker.' He goes, 'I don't know what to tell you dude, I don't know if the Reds are cheap or what, [but] they only sent you with one jersey.' So, I have to wear this during the game.

"I go in in the fifth inning for [Mark] McGwire, I'm like, 'Oh man I hope no one sees this jersey.' Meanwhile, it's so big this signature. So I go on deck…[Fox announcer Tim McCarver says], 'Did he sign his own jersey?' So, they zoom in…Nobody knows the real story, I only have one jersey. I signed it yesterday…I was mortified."

During the telecast of the game, Reds star Barry Larkin told Keith Olbermann that other players also signed jerseys that they wore in the game, claiming Reds pitcher Scott Williamson and Rockies outfielder Larry Walker had done the same thing. We have yet to find evidence of these players wearing their signed jerseys in this game like Casey did.

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Late 1990s Prototype Road Vest/Possible 1960s TBTC

The Reds have a long history of sleeveless jerseys, which have come and gone from their lineup over the years. This particular jersey, with Russell tagging that dates it to between 1996-1999, appears to have been made for the team as they were considering a return to a road vest, after adopting a home vest in 1993. The team experimented with "capped" sleeves on their 1997 road uniform, so this may have stemmed from that year's set. Ultimately, the road vest returned to the field in 1999, but in a slightly different form.

This sample, with the telltale "Player 5" stitched on back, differs from the 1999 version in that all lettering is red/black, rather than red/white/black 3D drop shadow, as the team adopted on home and road jerseys in 1999.

It is also possible that this may have been a sample of a proposed Turn Back the Clock jersey, representing the team's 1962-1966 road uniforms, which was never used. If that were the case, however, it would not have been a very accurate representation, as those featured blue-trimmed lettering with no name on back in 1962-1963, and the unusual name below the back number from 1964-1966. Turn Back the Clock uniforms are usually ordered by the home team, meaning that another club may have ordered this up, and perhaps it was scrapped because it was inaccurate. We may never know!

Left: A 1961-1962 Reds road vest, which is very similar (though not exact) in appearance to the prototype above.

Right: A 1999 Reds road vest as it appeared on the field, with a different look to the front and back lettering than was represented on the sample above.

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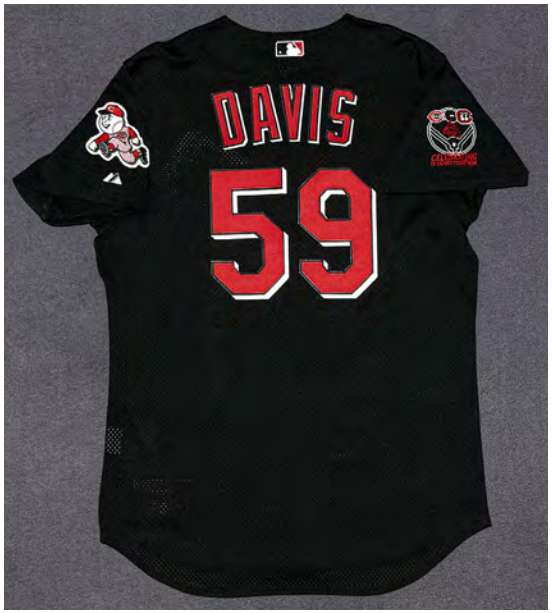
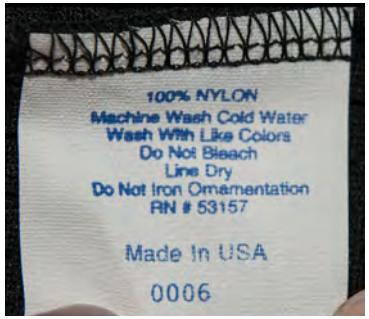
March 29, 2002 Chattanooga Game





The Reds visited two of their minor league affiliates' ballparks at the end of Spring Training 2002. The final spring stop was at the home of their Triple-A team in Louisville, KY on March 30 for a game against the Orioles. The day prior, they visited Chattanooga, TN, home of their Double-A affiliate the Chattanooga Lookouts, for a game against the Twins.

This jersey appears to be from that March 29 game, as the embroidery (not a patch) on the right sleeve celebrates the 15 years of affiliation between the Reds and Lookouts, which began in 1988. This example was made up for pitcher Lance Davis, who had spent 2001 with the big club in his only year of Major League service. It is unlikely that Davis wore this jersey, as he was put on the disabled list on March 21, 2002, and spent that whole season in the minors between Louisville and Chattanooga.

We have not seen if a similar jersey exists for the March 30 game in Louisville, however, the Reds had just started their affiliation with that Triple-A club two years prior, so this may not have warranted any kind of special recognition. More research required.

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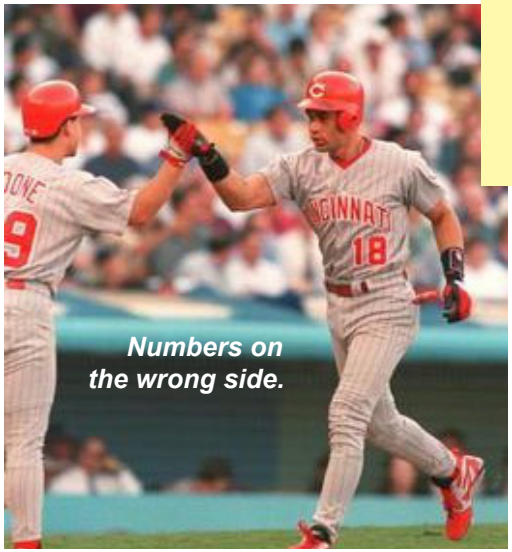
Sewing Shop Oddballs

The guy in front is correct!

QUALITY CONTROL DEPARTMENT

Here are game photos of mid-1990s Reds road jerseys with the numbers on the wrong side for that style …

In the years that have passed since I first noticed the first 1999-tagged road vests with the front numbers sewn on the right-chest side, I have come across more than a half-dozen others offered by dealers or at auction. I have no confirmation from the team, but I suspect that a whole set was sewn this way, perhaps on purpose because they were ordered that way, and then the team changed its mind as to which side they wanted the front numbers sewn, and a new set was made. If this had happened, say, in 1970, surely the numbers would have been stripped off and resewn. But by 1999, the cost of labor to manually remove numbers, and the newly lower cost of automation to simply sew up a whole new set, may have made this an easy decision. Be on the lookout for these "wrong side" jerseys for sale online.



Numbers on the wrong side.

A further reminder that MLB uniforms are lettered by real people who sometimes make mistakes.

… and above and below are photos of 2000s Reds jerseys with the numbers on the on the wrong side for that style.

Over the years I have collected enough different images of 1999-tagged jerseys like the ones at right to conclude that an entire set must have been made this way. Perhaps the team changed its mind? That's not so strange. The part that is odd is that we have game photos showing players wearing them that way.

Pete Rose Jr., a late 1997 call-up, has his numbers on the wrong side of his jersey too.

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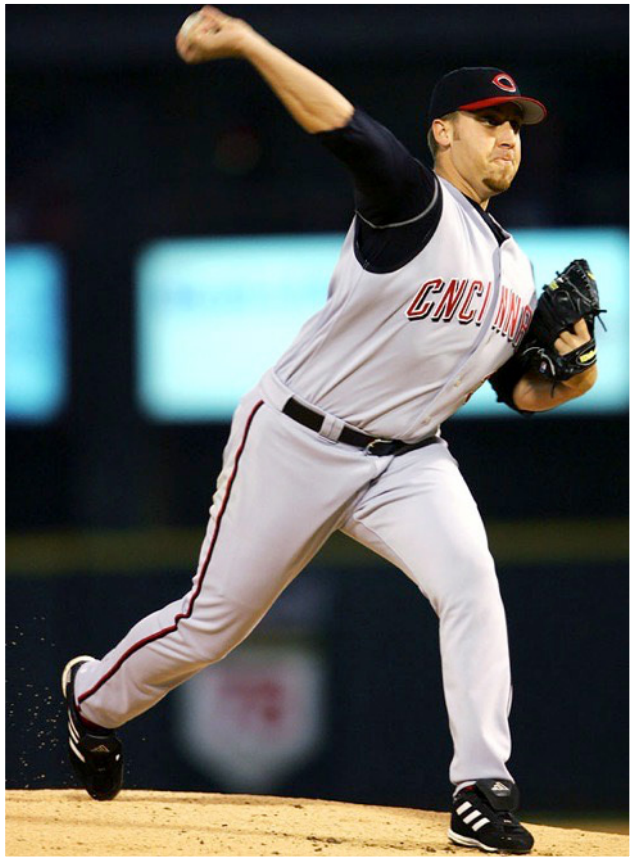

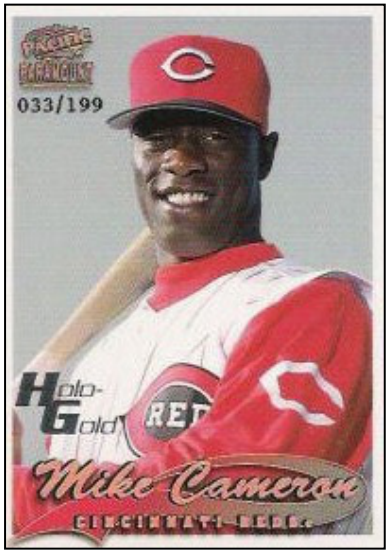

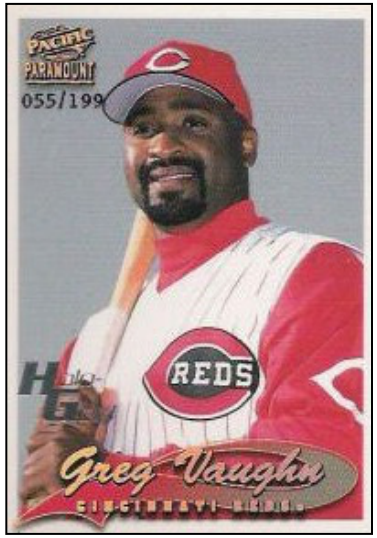

I will be the first to admit I can never remember how many “Ns” and “Ts” there are in Cincinnati, but I never get mixed-up about how many “I’s” there are. Does anyone notice a problem here?

1999: When the Reds showed up for Spring Training Photo Day, their new-for-1999 jerseys were waiting, but so were old 1998 undershirts with the large wishbone-C on them. The correct undershirts for 1999 have Mr. Red on the sleeve.

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Retail St. Patrick's Day

I believe that this 2000-2002 style Reds St. Patrick's jersey was only sold at retail and not used by the team on the field, regardless of the Authentic Collection tagging. I welcome photo evidence that proves otherwise.

Huh?

Advertised for sale on eBay as game worn, I wonder which game this came from, and whether the other players were laughing.

Who?

Reds 2019 Wyatt Stahan in the game with no name or number

Wow!

The caption to this photo reads: *FEBRUARY 25. 2011: Brandon Phillips relaxes outside as he tweets away. He has a diamond encrusted bit of bling created that features his last name and number on a jersey-shaped form.*

Phillips' mini-jersey isn't 100% accurate, but kudos to his jeweler for making it recognizable as a Reds jersey!

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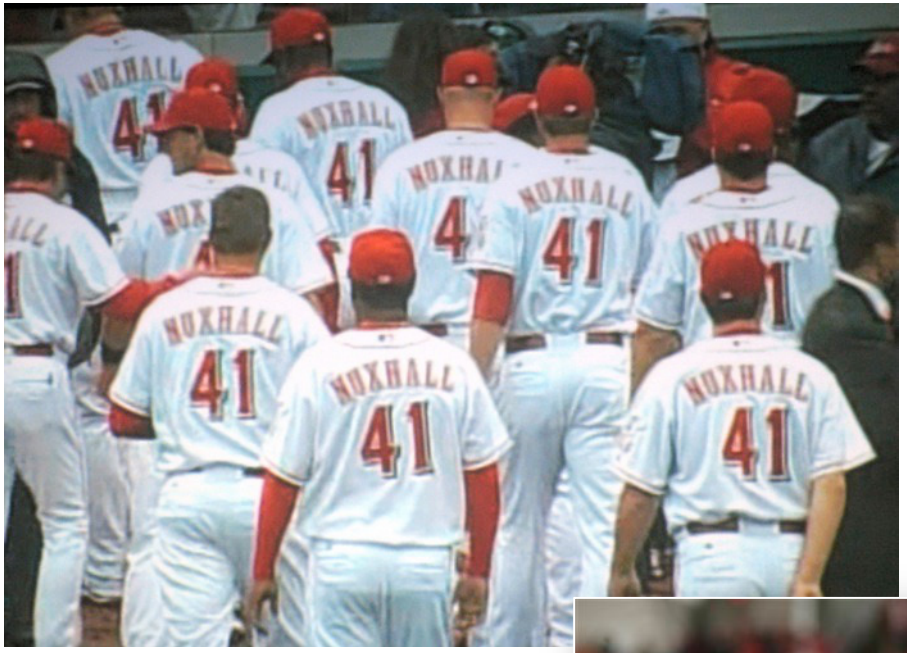
2008 Opening Day Joe Nuxhall Tribute

- **March 31, 2008:** To honor the passing of Joe Nuxhall, longtime Reds' player and broadcaster, the entire team donned jerseys with #41 Nuxhall in pregame ceremonies. Oddly, the front of each jersey carried the player's normal number. Reds starter Aaron Harang wore a Nuxhall jersey number 41 (front and back) for the game.
- The team wore a commemorative patch on the right sleeve of all game uniforms and batting practice jerseys during the 2008 season.



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2014 Prototype Digital Camouflage

Above: *Tell-tale signs in the tagging that show this is a prototype.*

Below: *The jersey as it appeared on-field in 2014.*

The Reds went all-in on camo in 2014, but before they did, they wanted to see a sample to make sure it was right for them. Here, we have one of the samples, and since it is identical to the camo jerseys they wore from 2014-2017, it clearly made the grade.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the "PLAYER" and "14" on back is standard for a sample, where "14" represents the year for which the sample was made.

Next, the "0630" code on the laundry tag indicates that it is a team-issue Cool Base jersey. Further, it carries interior tagging with the tell-tale sample coding "RED-AJ-DIGICAM-D1-2-2014" indicating it is version 1 and sample 2 (D1-2) of a Reds (RED) alternate jersey (AJ) in digital camo (DIGICAM) for 2014. It is possible other such samples were made for different takes on a camo jersey, but no such examples have yet to turn up.

2014

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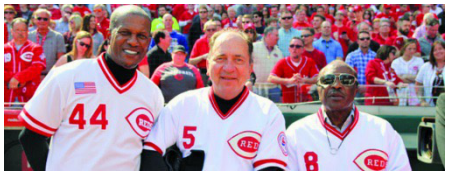
2019 Oddball Opening Day Throwbacks



For Opening Day, March 29, 2019, the Reds kicked off their year-long sesquicentennial celebration by inviting three team legends for a pregame ceremony. Johnny Bench, Joe Morgan, and Eric Davis all appeared and wore throwback jerseys – Bench and Morgan from 1976 and Davis from 1990. Contrary to recent throwbacks, they were not made by Majestic or Mitchell and Ness. Instead, all three were created by Rawlings. Rawlings was the Reds' home uniform supplier for the years in question, but this is where the logic stops. The 1990 Davis jersey has a rarely seen 1987 Rawlings tag variant with a sleeve logo from 2000-2002, when Rawlings was no longer making Reds jerseys. Meanwhile, the two 1976 jerseys have tags from 1988-1990. Though most of the other details on the jerseys are accurate to the originals (aside from a slightly different NOB font on the Davis jersey), there seems to be no rhyme or reason to the choices Rawlings made on these jerseys – or, in fact, the choice to have Rawlings make them in the first place when BOTH of these styles were reproduced by Majestic for throwback games the very same year.

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2019 Prototype Turn Back the Clock to 1995

These photos show one of the sample jerseys created for the Reds for their season-long series of throwbacks in 2019. This example is the 1995 home vest reproduction, as indicated by the “Player” name on back and “95” uniform number. The interior team tagging is not visible in photos, which would provide more info about this sample, but the fact that the jersey is size 46 - a typical size for Majestic samples - reinforces its status as a prototype. It is possible, though not confirmed, that this was the jersey that was displayed when the team unveiled all of its throwbacks for 2019, as seen in the two photos at right.

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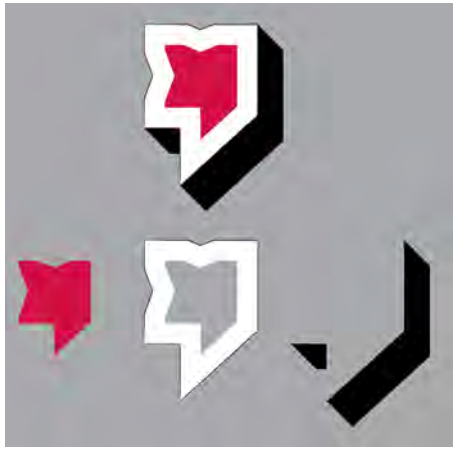
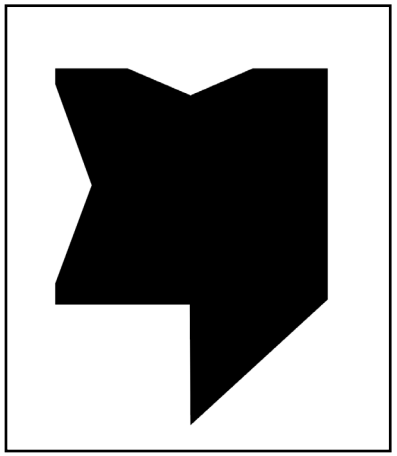
Apostrophe Catastrophe*

**Credit to Paul Lukas for coining this term, which we borrow to use in a different context.*

In their very long and storied history, the Reds have had only one dozen players whose last name contained an apostrophe. Only two of those, Brian O'Grady and Riley O'Brien have played between 2007-2025, the period during which the teams uses its fancy "gaslight" font for player names and numbers. Like most teams, the Reds have some special characters available in their player lettering font. This usually includes hyphens, tildes, and yes, apostrophes. An apostrophe is a very small and usually simple mark, but the team's ornate presentation of it makes it quite complicated, even if the complications aren't visible from afar. They stand out much more when the mark is stripped down to one color, as it is on the teams former St. Patrick's Day jerseys and military appreciation jerseys.

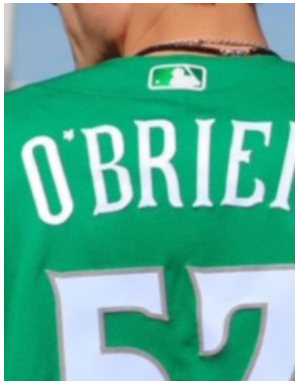
When changing to one color, the team had to make a choice about which part of the mark to represent. It seems clear that they chose the top layer, arguably the most detailed of them all and certainly the smallest. The result is less an apostrophe than it is a blob that looks a little like a leaf or even a misshapen comic book speech bubble. For St. Patrick's Day, maybe they can get away with saying it is a shamrock or four-leaf clover. But in reality, it is an example of when over-zealous design doesn't account for legibility in all applications.





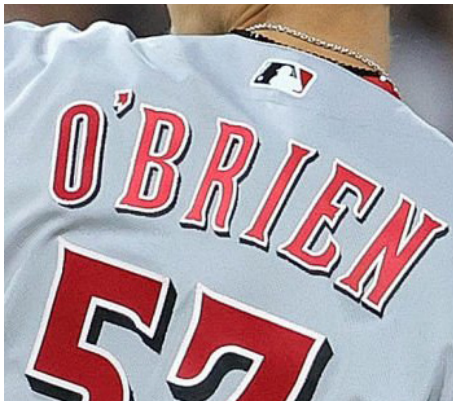
Above left: *A closer look at the three-color version of the apostrophe from the MLB Style Guide, showing its full form as well as its three component parts.*

Above right: *Also from the MLB Style Guide, the official one-color version of the mark used on the team's 2018-2021 alternate military appreciation jersey. Side-by-side, these images show that the one-color version is simply the top layer of the three-color version, which does not readily read as an apostrophe.*



Above: *Details from Riley O'Brien's 2021 (left) and 2022 (center, right) St. Patrick's Say jerseys, showing the odd one-color treatment of the apostrophe in his name.*

Below: *Other examples of the apostrophe that read better in three-color format as the mark was designed on O'Brien's 2021 road jersey and Brian O'Grady's 2019 home jersey. Through 2024, they are the only two players with last-name apostrophes to play for the Reds since the team adopted this lettering style in 2007.*



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2024 Mr. Red Head(ed) in the Wrong Direction

Early 2024 (well, much of 2024 really) was a trying time for Nike and Fanatics with the mishandling of the switch to Vapor Premier Elite. Without question, there were some very big mistakes. There were small ones too... and at the risk of piling on to Nike and Fanatics again, the Reds and their ad patches are partly to blame for this particular error too.

With the Reds new ad patch in 2023, team patches varied sleeves based on player handedness. Because two of the team's patches were "directional" characters, intended to be looking/facing forward, two versions of the Running Mr. Red patch and the Mr. Red Head patch had to be made.

Early in 2024, Reds Pitcher Alexis Garcia had a Mr. Red Head patch looking back instead of looking ahead. From photo evidence we've seen, it appeared in a couple of games early that season and was fixed soon after. We have yet to see that version of his 2024 red alternate become available to the hobby. Given the error, however small, perhaps we never will.

March 30, 2024

April 6, 2024

September 5, 2024

2024

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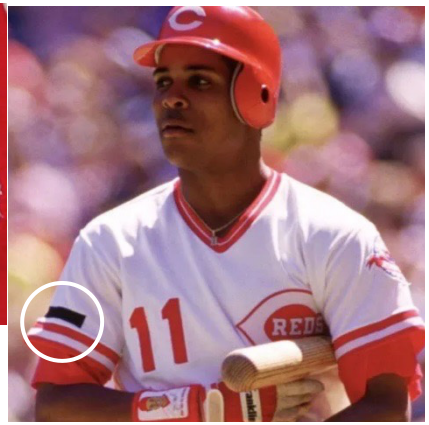
Commemorative Patches

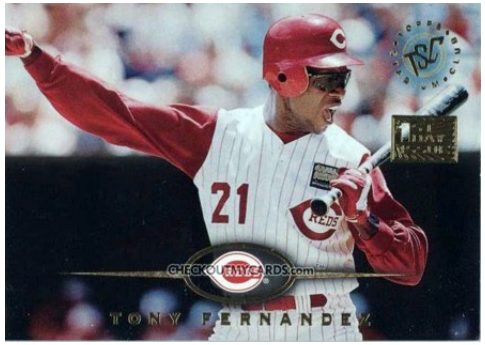
Reds Patches

For the first homestand (only) in 1988, the Reds wore a black memorial band (more of a strip) sewn on the right sleeve. It was only about eight inches long, and did not go all the way around the arm. It was worn for the passing of Ted Kluszewski on March 29, 1988. The Reds wore it April 4 and 7 against the Cardinals, and April 8-9-10 against the Astros. When they returned from a road trip on April 18, the black stripe was gone from the uniforms.



Previous editions of this book stated that the stripe was put there to memorialize both Kluszewski and also Reds 1930s Hall of Fame outfielder Edd Roush, who died a week before Klu. I have since researched period articles that say that this was not the case, and that Roush was (probably unintentionally) snubbed by the Reds; the memorial was for Kluszewski only. I wonder if this embarrassment had anything to do with the fact that the memorial was removed after being used for a single week?

1994



(Above) I recall seeing this patch on TV on Reds jerseys in 1994, and I wondered what that black blotch was on their chests. This detailed photo (above) makes a difficult transition to a cloth patch.

1990 World Series American Flag patch – home and away.

- 1988: All Star Game, right sleeve.
- 1988: Ted Kluszewski memorial armband (one week).
- 1990 World Series: Reds wore American flag on their right chest in support of Operation Desert Shield in the Middle East.
- 1994: Special Reds-only MLB 125th patch (Cincinnati Red Stockings). Left chest above team logo on home vest, right sleeve on road jersey.

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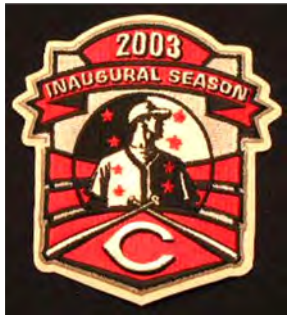
2000

2002

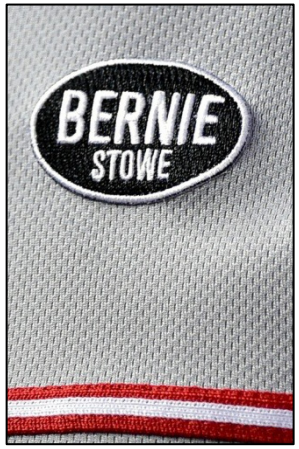


2003

2008

2011

2015



2016

June 25, 2016

June 26, 2016

- 2000: 25/10 Patch (commemorating the 25th and 10th anniversaries of their 1975 and 1990 World Series wins.
- 2002: Farewell Riverfront Stadium.
- 2003: Inaugural Patch -- new stadium.
- 2008: “Nuxy” memorial for former player and broadcaster Joe Nuxhall; worn on right sleeve.
- 2011: Sparky Anderson memorial, right sleeve.
- 2015: All-Star Game (all season).
- 2016: Bernie Stowe patch on right sleeve, all season on home, road, and alt. red only for former clubhouse attendant who died in February.
- 2016, June 25-26: “14” patch for Pete Rose on left chest on home white (June 25) and red alternate (June 26) jerseys.

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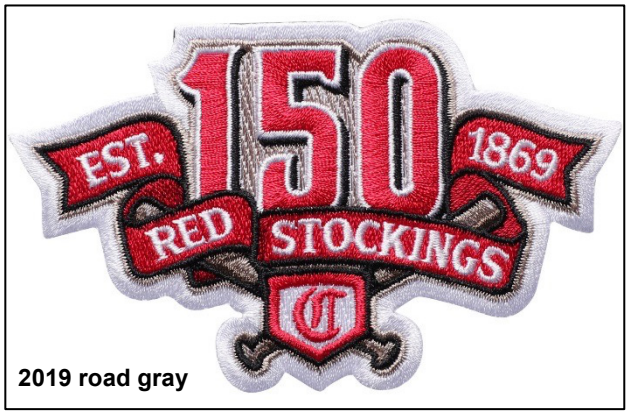
June 17, 2017

2019

2019 home and alt red



2019 road gray

2019

- 2017, June 17: Pete Rose statue dedication patch, right sleeve
- 2019: Frank Robinson “20” memorial patch on left chest of all jerseys.
- 2019: Reds 150 patch, two versions. Ballpark façade version on home white and alternate red, plain version on road gray. Right sleeve all jerseys.
- 2021: Joe Morgan “8” memorial patch
- 2025: “14” memorial patch for Pete Rose

2021

2025

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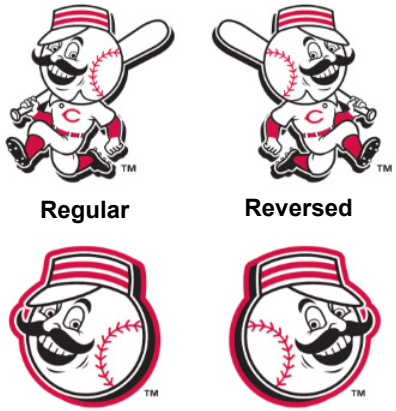
2023-2024 Reds Advertising Patches



Both of the team's Mr. Red patches now come in two versions based on which sleeve the ad patch takes. The "reversed" Running Mr. Red (which is worn on the right sleeve of the home jersey) has his wishbone-C logo on the wrong side of the jersey as a result of the change.

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Reds struck a sponsor patch deal with Kroger, a grocery chain. The patches first appeared in Spring Training 2023.

The patch is white with the Kroger logo in blue on all jerseys except the City Connect, where the patch is black with the logo in white.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch. This required creating two versions of each Mr. Red patch the team uses - running Mr. Red on the home jersey and Mr. Red head on the red alternate jersey. The normal and reversed logos ensure that the character always faces forward regardless of which sleeve he is on.

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Reds Postseason Patches

1990 World Series (left sleeve)

2013 NL Wild Card (right sleeve)

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Tony Cloninger 1971 Cincinnati Reds Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 7, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1107J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description/As Received: Rawlings cream-colored flannel seven-button size 46 (marked and measured) Cincinnati Reds jersey originally issued to pitcher Tony Cloninger, who at 6' 0" and 210 lbs would have been the appropriate size for this jersey. Plain jersey body without trim, four-gusseted hole diamond-shaped vent panels sewn into the underarms. Sewn on white chain-stitched REDS on red twill team crest patch stitched to the left chest. As received, it wore the name/number KING 37. It was reported to me and is highly probable that this jersey had been repurposed for use in an old timers' game, as pitcher Clyde King had worn #37 for the 1953 Reds.

In 1971, Tony Cloninger appeared in 28 games for the Reds, mostly as a middle-reliever, starting eight games and compiling a 3-6 record with a 3.88 ERA. Cloninger enjoyed a 12 year career, mostly with the Braves and Reds, finishing in 1972 with the Cardinals. A power pitcher, Cloninger compiled a MLB 113–97 record with 1,120 strikeouts and a 4.07 ERA in 1,7672/3 innings pitched. He enjoyed his best year for the 1965 Braves, with career highs in wins (24), strikeouts (211), ERA (3.29), complete games (16), innings (279) and games started (40). Regarded as a tough fireball pitcher, Cloninger also was an occasional power hitter. He compiled a career batting average of .192, with 67 RBIs and 11 home runs, including five in the 1966 season. After retiring, Cloninger served as a bullpen coach for the New York Yankees (1992–2001) and the Boston Red Sox in 2002. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Restoration Performed: Stripping off the KING 37 lettering, the ghosts of CLONINGER 40 were readily apparent beneath when viewed on the light table. Removal of the replacement lettering was uneventful, except that the "3" on the back left a minor darker colored glue stain beneath it that is still slightly visible after restoration, even after cleaning. New lettering was cut using the ghosts matched to team patterns for 1971 and was stitched directly over the original ghosts.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red "Action Tailored" tag noting the size as 46 in the correct tag style for 1971; sewn inside the button flap on the front shirt tail. Beneath it is the familiar six line white washing instructions tag, with red writing and a patterned blue border, Pinch-sewn under its right border is a small white flag tab that reads SET 1 #8P 1971

Wear & Repairs: The jersey body is in very good original condition showing normal wear that would have been attributed to a pitcher for a single season's use. It is free of damage or repairs. Puckering of the flannel fabric beneath the front team crest shows evidence of repeated washings, as the twill emblem typically shrinks more aggressively than the flannel fabric it is stitched to. This example shows no red color bleed as is often seen Reds jerseys of this vintage. Notably, in 1972 the MLB Reds switched to new double-knit uniforms, so after spring training, these old flannels became mostly obsolete. I would judge that this jersey was spared a trip to the minor leagues for reuse, as was common with larger sized jerseys like this one that were less useful for younger players in the minors anyway.

Continued, overleaf

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On this page, top left as received prior to restoration. After removing the replacement lettering, the ghosts of the original name and numbers were apparent and nicely matched my patterns for the 1971 team fonts. New lettering was cut from University Red tackle twill and restitched in place.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: The front crest is original and it is properly player name/number restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Tony Cloninger of the 1971 Cincinnati Reds.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tom Seaver 1982 Game Worn Cincinnati Reds Home Jersey

Examination Date: December 29, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1229J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1982 Cincinnati Reds, Tom Seaver #41 size 46 "Rawlings" pullover white double knit jersey. 1" Red/white/red V-Neck trim, 1 3/4" red/white knit sewn-in sleeve end trim. The Reds team crest sewn on the left chest is made of red twill and white chain-stitch embroidery. Seaver's number 41 is stitched in the Reds' "University Red" shade of twill, to the right chest and the back, "SEAVER" in the Reds' distinctive large , 4" tall letters arched above. All lettering is exact to Reds team specs, in size, style and color. The size is correct for Seaver, compared to other exemplars.

In 1982, Seaver played in his 17th season of Major League Baseball, and was in his sixth and final season with the Reds. That year he went 5 and 13 in 21 starts.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings red tag in the style that first appeared in 1972 and was used through 1984 is sewn inside the front right tail. A white flag tab designates SET 1 1982. Team tagging is correct for 1982 Reds game jerseys, which were not tagged with player name or numbers.

Provenance: The jersey is accompanied by an undated and un-notarized letter on Lelands' Auctions letterhead hand-signed by Priscilla Stowe, widow of longtime Reds clubhouse manager Bernie Stowe (employed by the Reds 1947-2013; died in 2016) claiming that her husband had brought it home with him and had owned it for many years.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in good condition with definite signs of wash and wear. All stitching remains tight, and the front team crest that usually is the part of period Reds' jerseys that shows the hardest use is still in very good condition with no discernible puckering of the cloth beneath. The tails are just slightly cleaner than the jersey body indicating on-field use. The nylon sleeve end trim has evenly, slightly yellowed with age to a light cream-color. There are some abrasions on the jersey tails, especially on the bottom center of the rear tail where there is a slice almost 1" long. The red Rawlings tag is puckered from wash. A light table examination shows that all lettering is original without alteration. Compared to other Reds jersey we have examined of this vintage, this was clearly pulled from service after the season ended and was spared the fate of most period Reds jersey that went on to be beaten to death in multiple years of Spring Training, regular season reissue, or use in the minor leagues.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Tom Seaver of the Cincinnati Reds in 1982.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dave Parker 1984 Game Worn Cincinnati Reds Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1101J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1984 Cincinnati Reds, Dave Parker #39 size 48 with three inches extra length "Rawlings" pullover white double knit jersey. 1" Red/white/red V-Neck trim, 1 3/4" red/white knit sewn-in sleeve end trim. The Reds team crest sewn on the left chest is made of red twill with white chain-stitch embroidery. Parker's number 39 is stitched in the Reds' "University Red" shade of twill, to the right chest and the back, "PARKER" in the Reds' distinctive large , 4" tall letters arched above. All lettering is exact to Reds team specs, in size, style and color. The size and special tailoring is correct for Parker, compared to other exemplars. The jersey is signed "Dave Parker 39" on the outer left front tail. I have no opinion on the authenticity of autographs.

After rising to true stardom in Pittsburgh as a Pirate 1973-1983, Parker became a free agent after the 1983 season and signed with his hometown Cincinnati Reds 1984-1987. There, he regained much of the the form that made him a star with the Pirates. In 1984 he played in 156 games and batted .285 with 16 home runs. *Wikipedia:* "In 1985, he enjoyed his best season since he won the 1978 MVP with a .312 batting average, 34 home runs, and 125 RBI. Parker finished second in 1985 MVP voting to Willie McGee. Parker was also the winner of the League's first-ever Home Run Derby in 1985."

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings red tag in the style that first appeared in 1972 and was used through 1984 is sewn properly inside the front right tail. A white flag tab designates SET 1 1984. A secondary tag is sewn above the set flag, "3 inches extra length". Measuring the jersey confirms the size is correct and special tailoring is present. Team tagging is correct for 1984 Reds game jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in very good condition with definite signs of wash and wear. The red twill lettering has been burnished from washing and has lost some of its original sheen. The stitching remains generally tight with a few loose threads, and the embroidered front team crest that is usually the part of period Reds' jerseys that shows the hardest use is still in very good condition, without the commonly seen color-runs, and with some twill puckering of the emblem yet without discernible puckering of the cloth beneath. The long back tail is just slightly cleaner than the jersey body indicating on-field use. There are some dirt marks on the front tail. The nylon sleeve end trim is in excellent, unfaded and unstained condition. The red Rawlings tag is puckered from wash. A light table examination shows that all lettering is original without alteration. Compared to other Reds jersey we have examined of this vintage, its condition suggests that it was pulled from service after the season ended and was spared the fate of most period Reds jersey that went on to be abused in multiple years of Spring Training, regular season reissue, or use in the minor leagues.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It is specially tailored and has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Dave Parker of the Cincinnati Reds in 1984.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

1985 or 1986 Pete Rose Autographed Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: May 9, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0509J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: white pullover-style home Cincinnati Reds jersey of #14 Pete Rose. Size 43 tagged, measures as a size 44. The jersey was made by Goodman and Sons of Los Angeles California. The Reds two-layer (red over white) tackle twill team crest is on the front left chest. (Prior to 1985, team crests had been chain stitched) 2" Red/white sewn-in knit trim is at the end of each sleeve, and the V-neck is banded by red/white/red knit trim. The player number "14" is on front and back in the proper font and size, red outlined with white, the white outlining was a change for 1985, as perviously all lettering was one color; red. Player name on back "ROSE" is in the correct, tall 4 1/4" red over white twill. The jersey is autographed boldly "Pete Rose" on the front of the jersey below the Reds crest. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph. As received this jersey had a JSA certification sticker on the front which is almost certainly for the autograph. Unfortunately it was applied directly over the size marking and I needed to remove the label so I could evaluate the jersey. Pictures are provided before and after removing this tag.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The W.A. Goodman manufacturer's tag is sewn to the outside left tail, including washing instructions and the unusual size designation of "43". No other team or player tagging is present, as is correct. Goodman made the Reds' home jerseys (only) in 1985 and 1986, and Pete Rose, now late in his career and the holder of many MLB records, was well aware of the value of his game worn jerseys in the burgeoning collector hobby. Because in this time period there were no holograms or barcoded labels on jerseys or MLB authentication program, we are aware that Rose devised his own method to profit from his game worn gear. He ordered the manufacturer to tag only jerseys issued to him for game use with the odd size of "43". Unverified, but we are told by those close to the organization that Rose would order his own jerseys, then after wearing them for a number of games, he would autograph them and sell them himself as game worn. The odd size designation on any autographed jersey was said to be his own sort of control that any such item in the collector domain that had actually been purchased from him. I can recall hearing that for a number of years during his career, Rose refused to sign fans' jerseys presented to him at signing events to preserve the value of his own actual game-worn jerseys that he was offering, and I recall seeing notification of a signing event where this stipulation was noted. As is typical of most signed jerseys offered as team issued or game worn from this period, there is no provenance accompanying the item. For perspective, consider

Continued on next page

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the original buyer, satisfied that he was purchasing the item from the star or his reputable agent, paid a fair price for it and the deal was done. There was little or no consideration by either buyer or seller to provide provenance useful at the future sale of such an item. Whenever I authenticate an item like this, I flatbed-scan all of the lettering and match it exactly to my team templates for the fonts. This one matches exactly, without any exceptions, Reds Goodman and Sons fonts for 1985 and 1986.

Wear and Repairs: This jersey is clean and shows signs of good use, mostly in the puckering of the manufacturer tagging, the softening of the lettering, and fraying along the edges of some sewn elements. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance.

Additional Observation: While it is difficult to photomatch Reds jerseys of this vintage because they are so plain-colored and unadorned, this one has a small characteristic which may make it possible to do so if someone wanted to get detailed enough. There is a trapped stray red thread on the front #4 that might be visible in period photos (that element pictured in this document). I do not do photo matching, and my cursory evaluation of photos available through the major news services 1985-1986 did not disclose any photos that showed this detail, but I surely did not look at every source and every available photo. Because of his pursuit of the major league hit record, Rose was extensively photographed, during 1985 especially. There are surely hundreds of photos of him in various photo archives, starting with the Cincinnati news media, that might be searched.

At left- JSA tag covering the tagging, removed for the purposes of this evaluation. At right, the from number "4" showing the captive red thread that might be useful in further photo identification. Below, the very large autograph on front.

Conclusion: This jersey has all the proper hallmarks of a Cincinnati Reds Pete Rose team-issued home game jersey of 1985-1986. It displays strong wear from use and washing. It is properly lettered and lacks contrivance. In my professional opinion it is an authentic game-used jersey.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Johnny Bench 1983 Cincinnati Reds (Final Season) Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 23, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0823J02

This letter will serve as the opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1983 size 44 Wilson gray pullover Cincinnati Reds road jersey, #5 Johnny Bench. Size is correct for the player at this stage of his career. White/red 1 ½" sewn-in knit trim on the sleeve ends, 1" red/white/red v-neck trim. Red "CINCINNATI" vertically-arched across the front in the team template font. Player number 5 is sewn on the left chest and on the back, "BENCH" arched on the back, all in red. All fonts are correct for the 1983 Reds.

1983 was the final year of Johnny Bench's Hall-of-Fame career, 1967-1983, all spent with the Reds. In 1983 Bench played in 110 games and had 310 at-bats, hitting .255 with 12 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag appropriate for 1983 is stitched to the outside front left tail. To its left is a rectangle of knit fabric with "83 1" hand chain-stitched on it in the familiar style of the Wilson factory stitcher. Wilson was the exclusive maker of Reds road jerseys in 1983. All tagging matches exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original without contrivance. The jersey is in very good condition, but shows definite signs of repeated use. All stitching is tight. There are some stains on it; on the sleeve tops and including a long brownish stain (possibly tobacco) on the front center below the player number. The typical shoulder-top abrasion from the use catcher's gear is not present on this example, reasonable because Bench played that position only five games in 1983, starting all the other games at first and third bases.

Conclusion: This jersey is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash-wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was worn by Johnny Bench of the Cincinnati Reds during the 1983 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tom Seaver 1980 Cincinnati Reds Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: August 14, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0814J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Cincinnati Reds Wilson gray pullover-style size 46 jersey issued to #41 Tom Seaver. "Cincinnati" is vertically arched in red tackle twill across the chest. 2" red/white sewn-in red and white knit trim is at the end of each sleeve, and the V-neck is banded by red/white/red knit trim with the proper team-specification 1/8" thick white line on the neck trim. The player's number "41" is on front left and back in the proper red color, font, and size. Player name on back "SEAVER" is in the correct, tall 4" red twill, properly radially arched. Size 46 is appropriate for Seaver to have worn in 1980, matching other credibly authenticated examples. I pay special attention to the unique number and alphabet lettering used by the Reds, as well as the specifications of the neck and sleeve end trim, as, unfortunately, inauthentic examples abound.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer tag is the proper style for 1980 and is sewn outside the front left tail, in the correct location matching other exemplars. "80 1" (which represents the 1980 season and set 1) is hand-embroidered in red chain stitch, in the familiar writing style of the Wilson stitcher, onto a rectangle of same gray knit fabric, and is then zig zag sewn directly above the Wilson tag. Wilson was the sole contracted maker of Reds road jerseys in 1980.

Wear & Repairs: Unlike so many Reds jersey of this era, all lettering on this one is original and un-tampered with. The Reds were a frugal organization and frequently reissued used jerseys to call-up players and to invitees in spring training. Yet, this one was spared that fate, as a light table examinations shows that it wears its original lettering. This jersey shows evidence of much repeated wash and wear, with all twill burnished, all lettering has slightly shrunk (the NOB is 3 7/8" instead of the original 4") and lacking sheen. The zig zag stitching is failing especially on the back numbers and the centermost letters of the player name on back, the most typical places for thread to fail from much wearing and washing, where the inside of the garment rubs repeatedly on the wearer's back. The thread is also coming loose in spots on the front numbers. It remains tight on the CINCINNATI on the chest. Someone has done an amateur (somewhat careless and unauthentic) job of reinforcing the stitching of the back numbers which were clearly starting to get rather loose by applying a very tight straight stitch around the edges in dark red thread, unlike any MLB repair that would have been made. Through this, the jersey body itself does not show extensive game wear/abuse. I would offer the opinion that this jersey was worn by Seaver, and then likely enjoyed by whomever acquired it— worn frequently and washed as needed over the years. While its appearance remains quite good, the wash-wear it shows is in excess that would be expected by a pitcher's jersey, even if that jersey was used as an emergency backup for a second season in the majors, which it probably was not. Reds players were issued two sets of home and road jerseys each year.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good to very good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and other than the non-MLB reinforcing stitching to the back numbers has no alterations of any kind. It has accurate team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was worn by Tom Seaver of the 1980 Cincinnati Reds.

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Letter of Authenticity

Dave Concepcion 1982 Cincinnati Reds Road Gray Game Jersey

Examination Date: June 4, 2019 **Certification Number** 06042019-1

This letter will serve as the opinion of The Dream Shop LLC regarding the item in review.

Dave Concepcion was the star shortstop of the legendary "Big Red Machine", a Cincinnati squad that dominated the National League and also won the World Series two consecutive years in 1975-1976. Concepcion played his entire nineteen-year career with the Reds, from 1970 through 1988. He finished his career with 2326 hits, and an impressive .972 fielding percentage. He was a nine-time All-Star, and appeared in four World Series. In 1982, he appeared in 147 games and hit .287 in 572 at-bats.

Description: Pullover Wilson gray full-weight knit jersey in size 40, the correct size for the player. All lettering is red. "Cincinnati" is vertically arched across the chest. The player number "13" is sewn on front left and on the back, and Concepcion's very long name is squeezed in using the Reds' signature 4" tall player name lettering. Red/white/Red knit V-Neck trim with red/write 1" sewn in knit sleeve end trim. Concepcion's number "13" is sewn on the left front and on the back in the correct size and font as used by the 1982 Reds.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Wilson made the Reds road jerseys exclusively, while Rawlings made their home ones 1970-1984. The Wilson manufacturer tag sewn on the outside left tail is of the correct era, the style that they used on on-field jerseys 1978-1985. The jersey size "40" is included on that tag. Directly above the Wilson tag is sewn a rectangle of gray warp-knit fabric, the same fabric that the jersey is made from. On this tag is hand-chain-stitched in pinkish-red thread "82 1" indicating 1982, set 1. The "handwriting" style of this chain-stitch writing is identical to other Reds team issued jerseys of 1982.

Wear & Repairs: A sewing examination shows that the team tag "82 1" embroidery thread is pinkish in color. I suspect it is red cotton thread that was bleached in washing. The rest of the red thread on the jersey attaching names. Wordmark and numbers is bright and unbleached. All of the lettering on the jersey has its thread intact, and the stitching signature is the same on elements, leading me to conclude it was all sewn at the same time, at the Wilson factory. The Wilson size tag is puckered and loose, and this is the place where the degree of wash-wear is most easily seen. The tag is original and is held in place with a straight-stitch (not zig zag) and on this one it remains attached on only three sides. This indicates significant use and many washings to me.

Conclusion: I can conclude that this is a worn and washed, team-issued, game-ready jersey made for Dave Concepcion of the Cincinnati Reds in 1982. jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits significant use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It was certainly made at the Wilson shop. Its wear could be attributed to game use, though this fact may be further cemented by an attempt to photo-match the jersey to game photos from the 1982 season. In particular, observing the intersection of the letters of the long player name and the various seams of the jersey may make it identifiable in game action.

Bill Henderson
Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Pete Rose 1988 Cincinnati Reds Home (Manager) Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: August 29, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0829J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White pullover-style Rawlings-made home Cincinnati Reds jersey of manager Pete Rose. Size 44 tagged; measures as a 46. The Reds two-layer (red over white) tackle twill team crest is on the front left chest. 1 3/4" Red/white/red sewn-in knit trim is at the end of each sleeve, and the V-neck is banded by red/white/red knit trim. 1988 All-Star patch is stitched to the left sleeve, as worn by all Reds in 1988. The player number "14" is on front and back in the in red outlined with white, in the proper font as used by the Reds. Player name on back "ROSE" is in the correct, tall 4 1/8" red over white twill. Size 44 is what Rose wore through most of the second half of his career, the fact that the jersey is tagged a 44 when it is actually bigger was sometimes done with a wink as a "courtesy" for older players. The numbers on back are autographed by Rose, and inscribed "Charlie Hustle" and "4256 Hit King". I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings manufacturer's tag in the proper style for 1988 is sewn to the inside of the left tail, including the size designation and washing instructions. Pinch sewn under the right side of the tag is a flag tab marked SET 1 1988. The Rawlings manufacturer script logo is direct embroidered in red at the end of the right sleeve, just above the knit trim, correct for 1988.

Wear and Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance. The jersey shows heavy wear not totally consistent with game use; it has clusters of light bluish stains inside the garment, and a number of small holes and pulls on the front. There is a torn round hole about 1/4" in diameter under the manufacturer tag, as well as a few dots of black marker. Probably 75% of the thread holding the sewn elements to the jersey has failed, especially the vertical lines of the stitched numbers and letters. As manager, this wear is excessive and not consistent with would be expected from a single season of use. However, that wear is explained in an (un-notarized) letter that accompanies the item, signed by Don Breen, former VP of Business & Marketing for the Reds (1986-1988) that Pete Rose gave this jersey to Breen's son, who wore and washed it often, The item is also accompanied by a ticket stub for a 2018 signing event by Rose, which is assumedly where the autographs were obtained, most certainly after the heavy wear to the jersey had occurred.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rick Mahler 1989 Cincinnati Reds Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 19, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1019J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: White pullover-style Rawlings-made home Cincinnati Reds jersey of pitcher Rick Mahler. Size 44 tagged and measured. The Reds two-layer (red over white) tackle twill team crest is on the front left chest. 1 3/4" Red/white/red sewn-in knit trim is at the end of each sleeve, and the V-neck is banded by red/white/red knit trim. The player number "42" is on front and back in the in red outlined with white, in the proper font as used by the Reds in 1990. Player name on back "MAHLER" is in the correct, tall 4 1/4" red over white twill. Size 44 is reasonable for the player, at 6' 1" and 202 lbs.

In a thirteen-year MLB career spent mostly with the Braves, Mahler played for the Reds in 1989-1990. In 1990 he appeared in 40 games for the Reds, going 7-6 with a 3.83 ERA.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings manufacturer's tag is sewn to the inside of the left tail, including washing instructions and the in-between size designation of "44". Pinch sewn on the right side of the tag is a tab marked SET 1 1989. The Rawlings manufacturer script logo is direct embroidered in red at the end of the right sleeve, just above the knit trim, correct for 1989.

Wear and Repairs: This jersey is clean and crisp and shows signs of light use, mostly in the slight puckering of the manufacturer tag and the slight softening of the edges of the sewn twill lettering. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Rick Mahler of the Cincinnati Reds during the 1989 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Glenn Braggs 1990 Cincinnati Reds Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 19, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1019J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: white pullover-style Rawlings-made home Cincinnati Reds jersey of outfielder #15 Glenn Braggs. Size 50 tagged but measured as a 52. The Reds two-layer (red over white) tackle twill team crest is on the front left chest. 1 3/4" Red/white sewn-in knit trim is at the end of each sleeve, and the V-neck is banded by red/white/red knit trim. The player number "15" is on front and back in the in red outlined with white, in the proper font as used by the Reds in 1990. Player name on back "BRAGGS" is in the correct, tall 4 1/4" red over white twill. Size 50 with extra length is a reasonable size for the player, at 6' 3" and 210 lbs.

In a seven year MLB career, Braggs played for the Reds 1990-1992. In 1990 he appeared in 92 games and hit .237 with 8 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings manufacturer's tag is sewn to the inside of the left tail, including washing instructions and the in-between size designation of "50". Pinch sewn on the right side of the tag are two tabs- one marked SET 1 1990, the other sewn on all 4 sides marked '2" extra length'. The Rawlings manufacturer script logo is direct embroidered in red at the end of the right sleeve, just above the knit trim, correct for 1990.

Wear and Repairs: This jersey is clean and crisp but does show signs of light use, mostly in the slight puckering of the manufacturer tag and a few small stains. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use and wash wear. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Glenn Braggs of the Cincinnati Reds during the 1990 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Jack Armstrong 1990 Cincinnati Reds Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 19, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1019J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray pullover-style Rawlings-made home Cincinnati Reds jersey of pitcher #40 Jack Armstrong. Size 44 tagged and measured. "CINCINNATI" tackle twill team crest in red over white arched across the chest. 1 3/4" Red/white sewn-in knit trim is at the end of each sleeve, and the V-neck is banded by red/white/red knit trim. The player number "15" is on front and back in the in red outlined with white, in the proper font as used by the Reds in 1990. Player name on back "ARMSTRONG" is in the correct, tall 4 1/4" red over white twill. While the style is consistent with other 1990 Reds jerseys in our archives, no other examples of Armstrong game jerseys are present in our database. Typically a player this tall would have a jersey with extra length added, and while it is not marked as having extra length, it is 35" collar to tail, two inches longer than normal. It is therefore reasonable for the player, at 6' 5" and 215 lbs.

In a seven year MLB career spent with the Reds, Indians, Marlins and Rangers, Armstrong played for the Reds in 1988-1991. In 1990 he appeared in 29 games for the Reds, going 12-9 with a 3.42 ERA. A torn rotator cuff helped end his career at the age of 27. Armstrong was also a member of the inaugural Florida Marlins team in 1993.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings manufacturer's tag is sewn to the inside of the left tail, including washing instructions and the in-between size designation of "44". Pinch sewn on the right side of the tag is a tab marked SET 2 1990. The Rawlings manufacturer script logo is direct embroidered in red at the end of the right sleeve, just above the knit trim, correct for 1990.

Wear and Repairs: This jersey is clean and crisp and shows light signs of use. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly lettered, tagged, and specially tailored. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to Jack Armstrong of the Cincinnati Reds during the 1990 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mariano Duncan 1991 Cincinnati Reds Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1023J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray pullover-style Rawlings-made home Cincinnati Reds jersey of infielder #7 Mariano Duncan. Size 42 tagged and measured. "CINCINNATI" tackle twill team crest in red over white arched across the chest. 1 3/4" Red/white/red sewn-in knit trim is at the end of each sleeve, and the V-neck is banded by red/white/red knit trim. The player number "7" is on front and back in the in red outlined with white, in the proper font as used by the Reds in 1991. Player name on back "DUNCAN" is in the correct, tall 4 1/4" red over white twill. Duncan is listed as 6' 0" and 185 lbs; examples of his jerseys that have appeared on other auction sites show that his jersey size increased from size 40-46 throughout his career; I believe that size 42 is reasonable for 1991, in the middle of his career.

During his twelve year career in MLB, 1985-1997 Duncan played for five teams, including the Reds, Phillies and Yankees. In 1991 with the Reds he appeared in 100 games and hit .258 with 12 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings manufacturer's tag is sewn to the inside of the left tail, including washing instructions and the in-between size designation of "42". Pinch sewn on the right side of the tag is a tab marked SET 1 1991. The Rawlings manufacturer script logo is direct-embroidered in red at the end of the right sleeve, just above the knit trim, correct for 1991.

Wear and Repairs: This jersey is clean and shows signs of moderate use. The fabric and lettering are softened from repeated washings and the edges of the twill lettering are slightly frayed in spots. Some slight puckering off the lettering is noted. A light table evaluation shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, sized and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate evidence of use. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was issued to Mariano Duncan of the Cincinnati Reds during the 1991 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Deion Sanders 1997 Autographed Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: August 3, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-08-3J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Russell size 44 (marked and measured) pro model six-button vest, white with red pinstripes. Two-color sewn twill Reds crest on the left chest, red over white. Player number 21 on front and back in the proper unique team font and correct placement, player name "D. Sanders" arched above on back, in the same red over white. The Jackie Robinson commemorative patch is properly stitched above the Reds crest the left chest, as worn only during the 1997 season. Sanders has signed the jersey on the back left, "**Deion Sanders 21**" in black marker. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph. Sanders wore size 44 jerseys during this period.

During Sanders' first stint with the Reds 1994-1995, the team also had Reggie Sanders on its roster. In those years, the two players' jerseys were distinguished by adding their unique first initial to the jersey back. Notable is the wide white outline (likely hand cut) around the period following the first initial that is present on this jersey and other ones viewed in news photos. However- in 1997, even though both men were again on the roster, available reliably dated news photos as well as baseball cards show that Deion Sanders' jerseys that year simply said "Sanders" on back. I cannot claim conclusively that no "D. Sanders" jerseys were issued or worn in 1997, to do so would require an exhaustive search of local newspaper photos and archived game video footage.

Nicknamed "Prime Time" and "Neon Deion", he played in the National Football League (NFL) for 14 seasons with the Atlanta Falcons, San Francisco 49ers, Dallas Cowboys, Washington Redskins, and Baltimore Ravens. Sanders was also a baseball outfielder for nine seasons in Major League Baseball (MLB) with the New York Yankees, Atlanta Braves, Cincinnati Reds, and San Francisco Giants. He won two Super Bowl titles and made one World Series appearance in 1992, making him the only athlete to play in both a Super Bowl and a World Series (Wikipedia). In 1997 Sanders hit .273 in 465 at bats, playing in 115 games. (Baseball Almanac)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection locker tag in the correct style for 1997 is stitched to the outer left tail. There is no size tag in the neck, and pinched beneath on the bottom edge is a "100% Polyester" flag tab, both characteristic of team-issued jerseys. Also sewn and overlapped by the Russell tail tag is a rectangular, edge stitched "Property of the Cincinnati Reds 1997" mylar fabric tag with computer-printed black lettering. The Russell "R" logo mark is direct embroidered in red to the center of the back collar.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows very little use. The tagging is still crisp. All twill lettering is flat, crisp and unsoftened from washing, as is the Jackie patch on the chest. A light table examination shows that all stitched elements of this jersey are original and untampered with.

Conclusion: In my professional opinion, this is an authentic game jersey prepared by the Cincinnati Reds for the use of Deion Sanders. It is free of contrivance and has all of the proper characteristics of a team issued jersey.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Corey Lidle Game Worn 2004 Cincinnati Reds Home Jersey

Examination Date: December 8, 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J13

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2004 Cincinnati Reds, size 48 six-button red pinstriped white vest-style jersey of pitcher Corey Lidle #15. Reds crest is sewn on the left chest in three color layered tackle twill, white, red, and black. All player lettering is sewn in the same three colors, red outline with white with a black 3-D drop shadow. #15 on the right front chest and on the back; LIDLE radially arched above, direct sewn. MLB Silhouetted batter patch sewn on the back of the neck, also in red-white-black. While the jersey is undated by the team, Lidle pitched for the Reds only in 2004, going 7-10 in 24 starts. Size 48 is reasonable for Lidle to have worn.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Russell locker tag on the tail is correct for 2004. There is no neck size tag, as correct with team-issue jerseys, instead there is a flag tag pinched and sewn underneath the locker tag on the front tail- "48 100% Polyester", Centered below the locker tag is a mylar fabric tag on which is printed "Property of Cincinnati Reds". There is no identifying Russell "R" embroidered on the jersey as is correct for 2004. That mark typically appeared on Russell-supplied undershirts instead.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows evidence of a full season's wear and wash, notably in the graying of the white twill elements, wash-puckering of the numbers, wrinkling/discoloration of the team inventory tag and major curling to the size flag tag. The outline edges of the twill lettering show signs of softening/fraying from washing.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Cory Lidle of the 2004 Cincinnati Reds.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

2012 Joey Votto Cincinnati Reds Road Game Jersey, Autographed

Examination Date: December 18, 2021 **Certification Number**: 211218J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic six-button size 52 gray road-model Cincinnati Reds road jersey customized for Reds' first baseman Joey Votto. Gray jersey body with red/white/red 3/8" knit trim banding the sleeve ends. All lettering is three-color, layered red over white over a black drop shadow. "CINCINNATI" arched in the stylized team font on front; the player number 19 is below it on the left chest. On back, player name VOTTO is arched above the large number 19. The three-color embroidered Reds wishbone team patch is sewn to the left sleeve. The black/white/red MLB Silhouetted Batter patch is stitched to the center of the back of the neck. An exemplar survey of other authenticated game-used jerseys shows that size 52 was Votto's preference early in his career.

The numeral "1" on the back is signed in black Sharpie by the player, with the hand-written inscription "Game Used 2012". While I have no professional opinion on the autograph, it bears a serialized PSA/DNA sticker with the code AB66905 referencing the signature. There is no MLB hologram on this jersey, so it is not included in the MLB Authentication Program database.

The 2010 NL MVP, Votto was selected by fans to be a National League team starter for the 2012 All Star Game. At the time of his selection, he was hitting .350 with 14 HR and 47 RBI (Baseball Almanac) and leading the NL in walks, doubles, OBP and extra base hits. However, on July 16 he left went on the injured list, requiring knee surgery and missed the next seven weeks. He still finished the season with good stats, batting .337 in 111 games, though still with only 14 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic "M" logo is direct-embroidered to the end of the left sleeve. Majestic's locker tag correct for 2012 is stitched to the outside of the front left tail. A small flag tab is pinch-sewn below the center of the locker tag showing the size as 52. Stitched beneath the locker tag is a white Mylar fabric 1 1/2 x 2 1/2" square printed in black "Property of the Cincinnati Reds 2012". On the inside side seam of the jersey is another mylar-fabric flag tag that lists various style numbers and codes, and it shows that this jersey is made as style "0620" which is the designation for jerseys made to team specification and the ones that are issued to players on the field.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows signs of very light use, appearing to have been worn and washed perhaps once or twice. The tagging is mildly wrinkled and still presents as nearly new. A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are untampered with and are properly stitched without contrivance.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Its player inscription says it to be game worn. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and issued to Joey Votto of the Cincinnati Reds during the 2012 season.

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Chapter 34

Colorado Rockies

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Rockies Uniform History Notes

- Added as an expansion team to the National League in 1993, the Rockies wanted a traditional look that could withstand the test of time.
- Using the Yankees as their model, the Rockies' first uniforms are simple. Home uniforms have classic pinstripes, albeit in a dark purple that looks almost navy or black from a distance. Road uniforms are gray with simple purple knit trim. Home uniforms have plain numbers on the back only, with no player names for a highly traditional look. Road uniforms have block numbers on the back only and add player names in deference to the National League gentleman's agreement requiring names on the back of road uniforms, enacted for the 1979 season.
- Black Sunday alternate jerseys are made up for the 1993 season as well, but were disliked by Don Baylor, the team's manager. These were rarely worn, then discontinued entirely after the first year.
- In its first year, the team uses a metallic-silver inlay in all its front wordmark lettering. This is removed from road jerseys after only one year but has remained on home jerseys and batting practice jerseys ever since.
- Names on back are added to home jerseys after the team's first year in 1993, after fans complained that they could not tell who the players were from the seats.
- By 2000, the team starts messing with everything except their home jersey and team colors, adding purple alternate jerseys, alternate pinstripe jerseys, gray pinstriped road jerseys, a pinstriped alternate vest, and then a black alternate vest a couple of years later. Nameplates are not used on pinstriped jerseys.
- For 2012, the Rockies drop their gray pinstriped road uniform replacing it with a solid gray design with purple knit trim.
- The Rockies are the very last team to host a "Turn Back the Clock" game, which occurs in April 2013. It remains the only TBTC game in franchise history.
- Surprisingly and perhaps admirably, even though they have made changes to details of their uniforms and tried a whole series of alternate ones, the Rockies have not changed their team identity (logos, colors) since their inception, a healthy span of 33 seasons through 2025. And aside from the addition of front numbers and player names, their home uniform is still the same as is was on day one. This is rather uncommon, but especially so for an expansion team.
- The Rockies change their shade of purple for 2017: adding more red and less blue for 2017 on their alternate jersey and batting practice jerseys, lightening it to appear less like blue and more bright purple in print and on television.
- In 2022, the Rockies unveil their first City Connect jersey. The design drew from Colorado's green-and-white license plates, featuring an evergreen jersey body, white lettering with purple accents, and a mountain motif on the sleeves. Black diamond skiing symbols and geographic coordinates of Coors Field added regional flavor, while the font used was sleek and contemporary. The uniform was worn for three seasons before being retired after the 2024 campaign.
- Their second City Connect uniform premiered in 2025, and embraced bold, modern aesthetics. The pullover is built on the Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, and features a split-color base of baby blue and lavender, with gradient mountains printed across the front and red-to-yellow sleeve accents representing the state's famous sunsets. Numbers included subtle printed rip-stop (i.e., grid) texture referencing mountaineering gear. The bold look is easily the most radical in franchise history, and quite a contrast when juxtaposed with the team's sedate standard uniform set.
- From 1993-2025, the Rockies, to their credit, have maintained one of baseball's most consistent visual identities. Despite numerous alternate experiments and two dramatically different City Connect uniforms, the core look—purple and silver on home pinstripes and solid gray with purple trim road jerseys—has endured for more than three decades. Their steady design and unchanged logos have helped establish them as one of the more visually stable franchises in the recent era.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1993

1993-1999

Style continues onward

1994-1999

Rockies Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front #	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1993	Home White	No	Block 2 color	No	-	Rockies Team Patch	Inaugural Year	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Rockies Team Patch	Inaugural Year	Russell
	Alt Black	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color**	Yes	Rockies Team Patch	Inaugural Year	Russell
1994	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Rockies Team Patch	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	Coors Field Patch	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
1996	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	MDM Memorial	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Rockies Team Patch	MDM Memorial	Russell
1997	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	All Star Game	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	All Star Game	Russell
1999	Home White	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	CHS Memorial	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	CHS Memorial	Russell

The Rockies have worn ten basic different game jersey styles over their short history, but they have kept their team identity consistent. Their pinstriped home jersey is identical in 2025 as it was on the team's first day, save for the addition of player names on back in 1994 and player numbers to the front in 2000.

* Worn after 4/20/99

** I have been told by a couple of Rockies collectors that the set of black alternate jerseys made for 1993 at first had no names on back, as they were intended to be used at home only. The team then decided they might be worn on the road as well, so player names were added. I do not have verification of any of this, and would comment that if names were added to the first set, all the numbers would have had to have been stripped off and moved lower for the names to fit. Evidence-wise, I have only ever turned up one photo of a team issued style (game used not proven) black jersey without a player NOB. In fact, these jerseys were worn very rarely and then dropped after 1993. The *very few* game photos I have showing the team wearing the black jerseys in 1993 all have evidence of player names on back.

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2000-2020

2000-2011

2000—2016**

2001-2004

2005-2011

2005-2020

Rockies Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2000	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
2001	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Alternate Home “CR”	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
2002	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	10th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	10th Anniversary	Russell
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	10th Anniversary	Russell
	Alternate Home “CR”	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	10th Anniversary	Russell
2003	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Alternate Home “CR”	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
2004	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
	Alternate Home “CR”	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Russell
2005	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home “CR” Vest	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home “CR” Vest	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home “CR” Vest	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home “CR” Vest	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home “CR” Vest	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	KSM memorial***	Majestic
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	KSM memorial***	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	KSM memorial***	Majestic
	Alt Home “CR” Vest	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	KSM memorial (left chest)***	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	KSM memorial ***	Majestic
2011	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Pinstripe	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home “CR” Vest	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic

An alternate black vest with purple under-sleeves was listed in the 2004 MLB Style Guide, but was never worn by the team in 2004. See “oddballs” section.

** Alternate Purple jersey listed as an official choice for team but not seen on-field 2008-2010.

*** Worn after April 21, 2010

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Rockies Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2012	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	20th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	20th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	20th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
Change to Flex Base 2016	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2017	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alternate Purple*	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2018	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	25th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	25th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	25th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	25th Anniv (right chest)	Majestic
2019	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	MLB 150th	Majestic
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	MLB 150th (right chest)	Majestic
2020	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Nike
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Nike

* It appears the black vest was not worn in 2013, though it is unclear if a set was issued to players. **New shade of purple for 2017

2000-2020

2012-2020

2000—2016

2005-2023

2017-2025
(new shade of purple)

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These four styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Rockies Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	2021 All-Star Game*	Nike
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	2021 All-Star Game*	Nike
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	2021 All-Star Game*	Nike
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	2021 All-Star Game* (left chest)	-	Nike
2022	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Nike
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Recolored CR patch	5280 patch	Nike
2023	Home White	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	30th Anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Solid Gray	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 2 color	No	30th Anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Purple	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	30th Anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Black Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	-	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 2 color	Block 1 color	No	30th Anniversary patch‡	-	Nike
2024	Home White	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Solid Gray	Nike Block 3 color (no perf)	Nike Block 3 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Purple	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	5280 patch‡		
2025	Home White	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Solid Gray	Nike Standard Block 3 color	Nike Standard Block 3 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alternate Purple	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	Nike Standard Block 2 color	No	Rockies Team Patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	Block 1 color	No	“CO” Disc	-	Nike

* Starting April 23, 2021 after All-Star Game moved from Atlanta to Colorado.

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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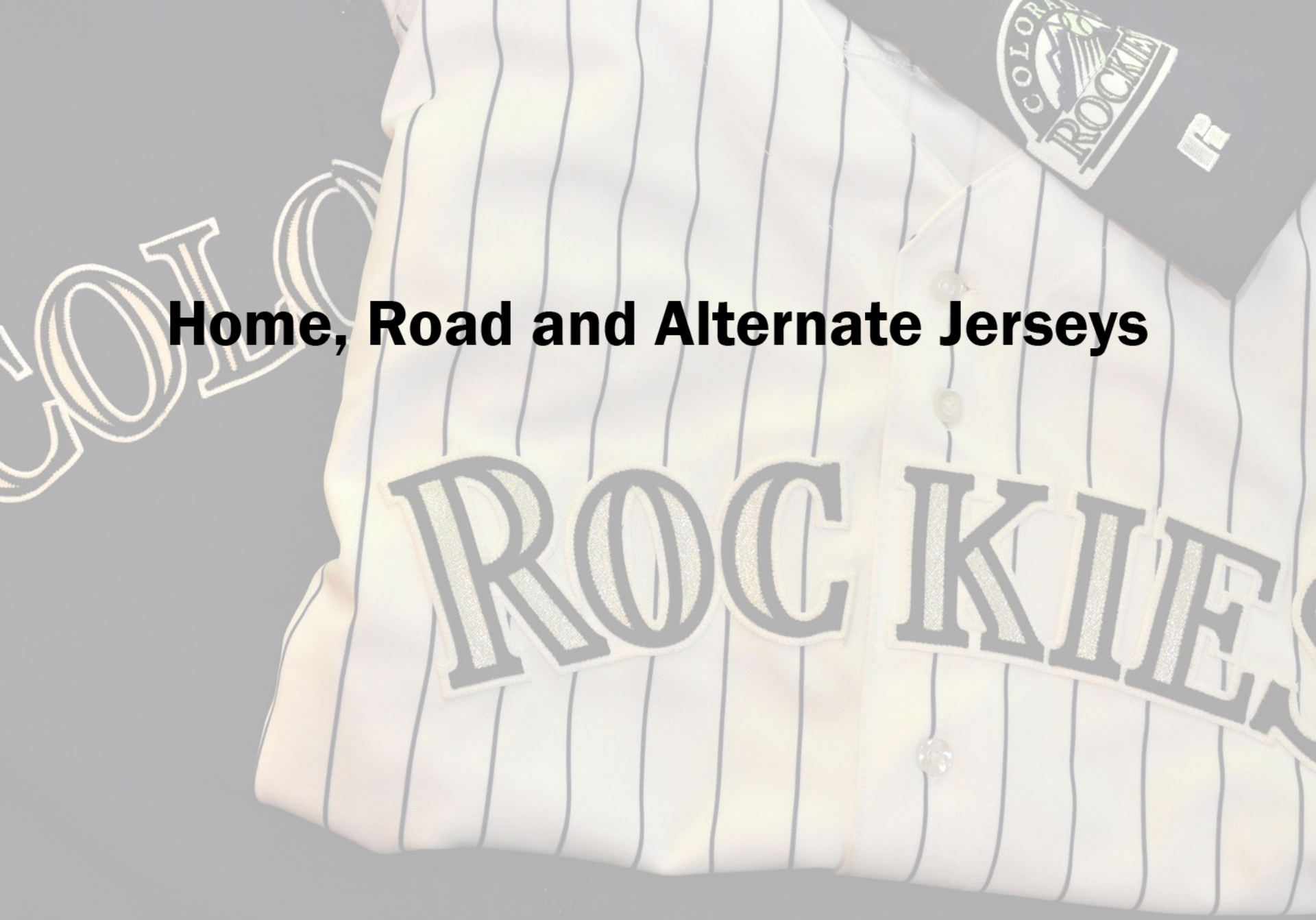
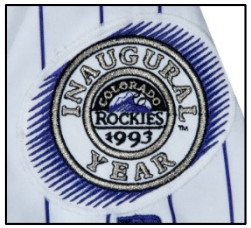
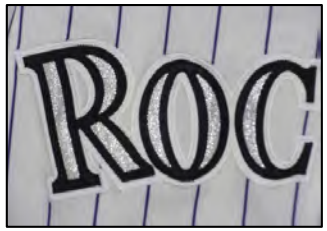
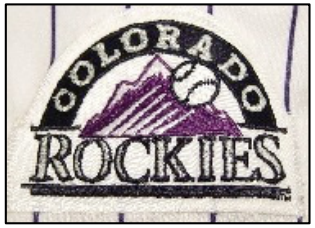
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

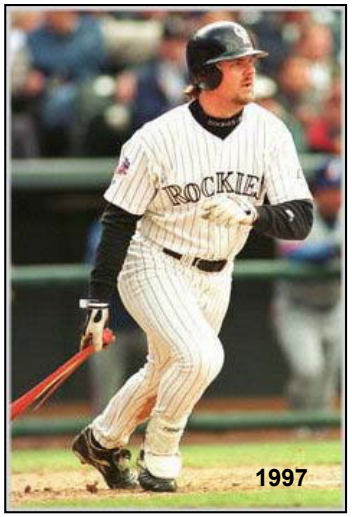


1993-2023 Home









Almost unheard of in this age of change for change's sake, the Rockies have kept the same style home jersey since their inception in 1993. Jerseys have dark purple pinstripes. The Rockies wordmark is a black outline font, outlined by white and with subtle metallic silver inserts in each letter. The Rockies wanted to create a classic look akin to the Yankees and started in 1993 without player names on back. But they acquiesced to popular demand of both players and fans and added names to the backs of all jerseys in 1994. They avoided the use of nameplates on their home pinstriped jerseys because they thought it looked bad to have white plates on pinstriped jerseys. Shown on this page are 1993-1999 series of home jerseys, all made by Russell, before the addition of front numbers in 2000. Name and numbers are two-color Block; black outlined with gray.

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1993-2023 Home, continued

Front numbers are added in 2000, the same year the small Silhouetted Batter patch is added to the back of the neck. Jerseys are full weight Russell knit 1993-2004, Majestic knit 2005-2007, Cool Base 2008-2015, Flex Base 2016-19, and Nike Flex Base 20020-2023. Note the change in style code from Majestic's DNHW to Nike's DN1W.

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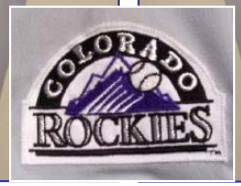
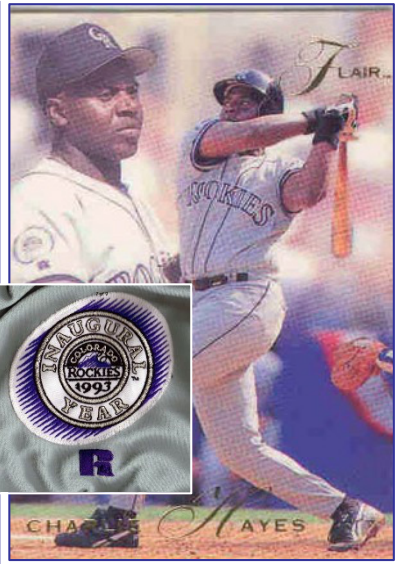
1993 Road



Bill Henderson Collection



The first-year gray road jersey has open-outlined Rockies lettering with silver twill in the middle. Because it is a one-year-only style, all game worn examples should have the Inaugural Year patch on the sleeve, or have evidence that it had been there.

Purple knit trim on the placket. Knit three-striped trim on sleeve ends.

No numbers on front; two-color names and numbers on back all in Block style purple/white, nameplates used.

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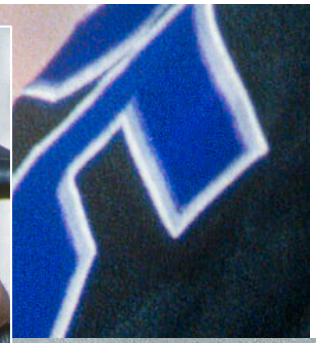
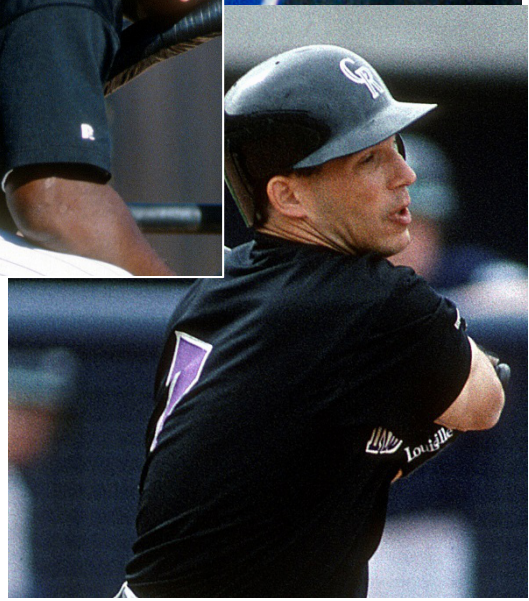
1993 Alternate

Bill Henderson Collection





Button-front solid black fabric, nearly identical to the team's batting practice jersey at the time (which is a black mesh pullover with identical lettering). No numbers on front, all Block style lettering two-color, purple/gray (not white!). Names on nameplates.

It is reported that manager Don Baylor hated these alternate jerseys, and as a result, they were seldom worn. All game worn jerseys should have the Inaugural Year patch on the sleeve, or evidence that it had been there. These jerseys were worn very infrequently and then dropped after 1993. Black jerseys would not return until an alternate black vest was introduced in 2005.

Inconclusive, but noted here as an "FYI": I have been told by a couple of Rockies collectors that the set of black alternate jerseys made for 1993 at first had no names on back, as they were intended to be used at home only. The team then decided they might be worn on the road as well, so player names were added. Of the very few photos available online, we know that as early as April 25, the team is wearing these jerseys with two color Block numbers and names on back. At top, these 1993 photos show solid fabric Russell black jerseys (sleeve logo visible) ***without Inaugural patches and without NOB.*** The top one of Joe Girardi shows him wearing road pants, while Don Baylor in the bottom photo is identified as wearing his during spring training. Note that the numbers are Varsity font, not Block, and are three colors- Purple, gray, white! These may have been worn this way only in Spring Training.

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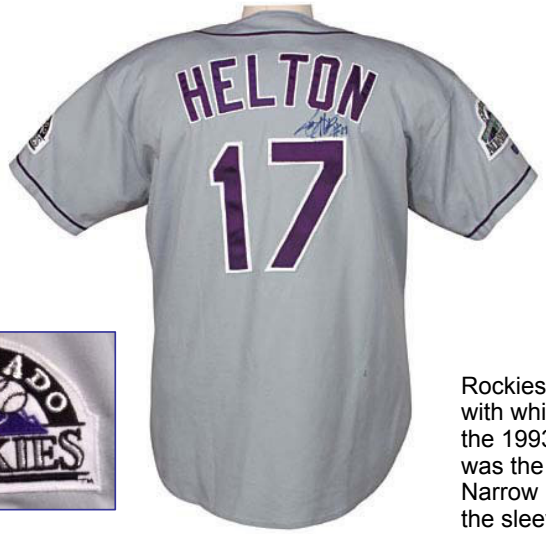
1994-1999 Road



Rockies lettering on the front changes to a bolder purple, outlined with white, knit sleeve ends removed. Maybe the team thought the 1993 road jersey was too flashy with metallic silver inserts, or was the lettering too hard to see on TV or from the cheap seats? Narrow purple knit trim remains on the placket and is now added to the sleeve ends. No numbers on the front, two-color purple white Block name and number on back, nameplates used 1994-1996, not used 1997-1999.

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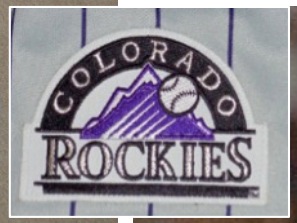
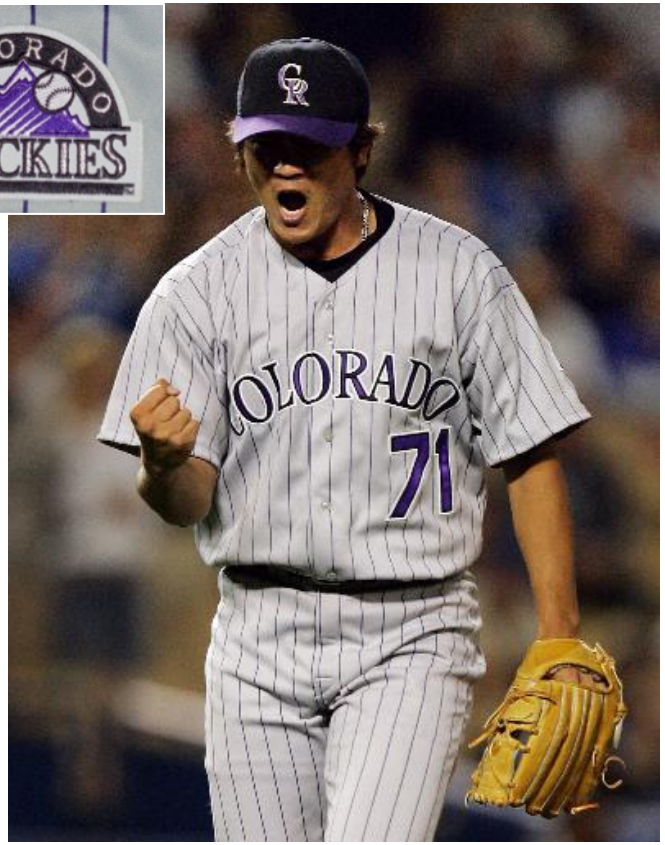
2000-2011 Road

Jersey changes to gray pinstripe fabric with Colorado on the front. Pinstripes are dark purple. On front and back, number is three-color, purple/black/white. The black is very hard to see unless you are very close. Name is two-color, purple/white. No nameplates used.

Made by Russell 2000-2004, Majestic 2005-2011.





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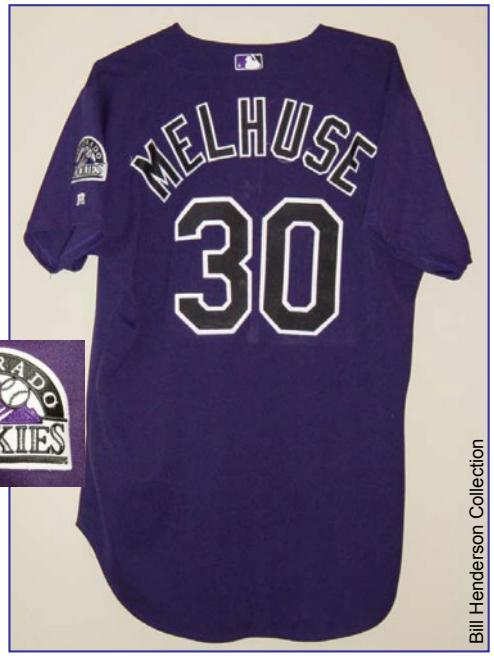
2000-2016 Alternate Purple



Bill Henderson Collection

Numbers used on the front, two-color black/white. Name and numbers on back are also two-color, black and white. No nameplate used. Rockies patch left sleeve.

The “official” MLB team style guide shows the purple alternate jersey as an official uniform choice for every year from 2000 through to 2025. However the team did not wear them on the field during 2008-2010.They made a surprise reappearance on the field in 2011, then have since remained in the rotation. I doubt that any were made for the team in those three years.

Made by Russell 2000-2004, Majestic 2005-2016.

In 2017, the team changed the shade of purple of this jersey, which is covered in more detail on the next page.

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2017-2023 Alternate Purple (New Shade)

The Rockies change the color of the cloth on their purple jerseys in 2017. They believed the old color looked like blue on TV, and wanted something more distinctive. Here you can see old compared to new. The night shot of the new purple ***(top right)*** probably reflects the desired look, but some have said that in the bright sun it looks pinkish ***(bottom left).*** All three action shots on this page are of the new shade, showing how different it can appear in varied light.

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2017-2023 Alternate Purple (New Shade), continued

2019

2022

Majestic makes these from 2017-2019, Nike takes over 2020-2023. Note the change in style code from Majestic's DNAP to Nike's DN3P.

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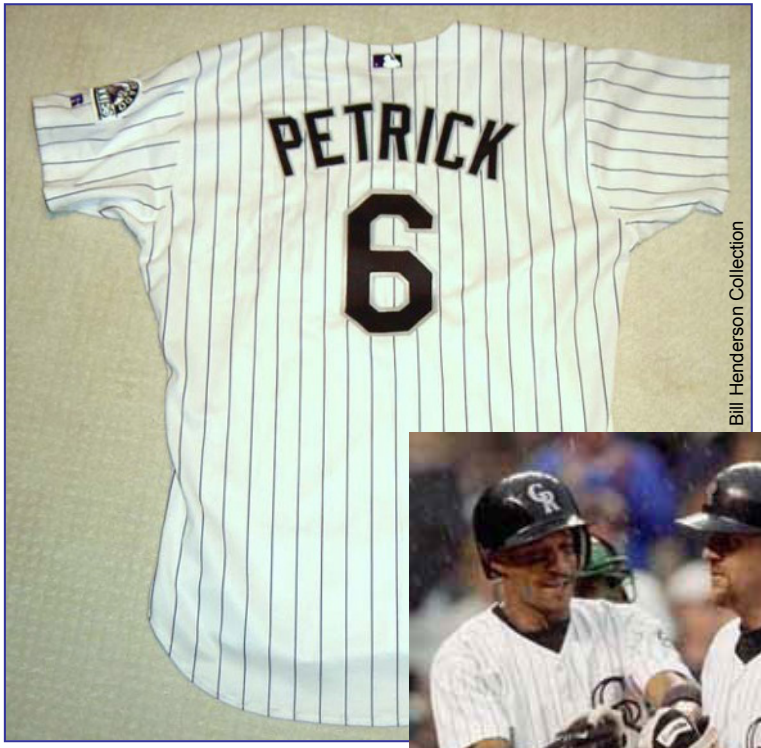
2000-2004 Alternate Home “CR”



Bill Henderson Collection

Introduced and used as a Sunday-home alternate exclusively, at least during its first year. Purple pinstriped knit fabric, numbers on the front left. Note the (correct) low placement of the front numbers on this style jersey and in these years only. Names are on the back of all home jerseys, sewn on with no nameplates used. Name and numbers are two-color, black outlined with gray.

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2005-2011 Alternate Home Vest

Bill Henderson Collection

- The vest replaces the alternate home “CR” sleeved jersey shown on the preceding page. Purple pinstripes.
- Note the change in the front number placement. It is now much higher up, centered on the CR logo on the left chest.
- The jersey is worn with a plain black undershirt. Notice there are no team patches on sleeves.
- Lettering is identical to the other white pinstriped jerseys: two-color name and numbers, black/gray. No nameplates used

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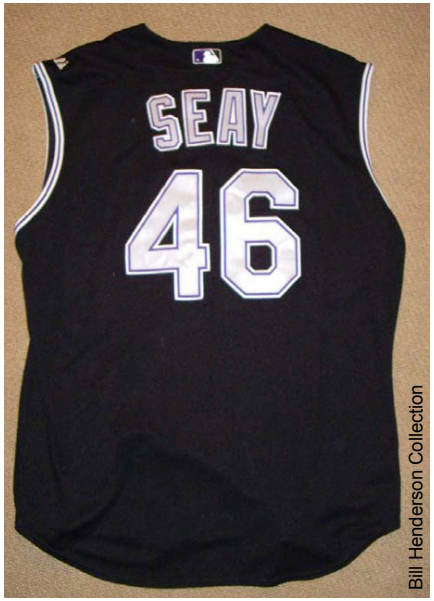
2005-2023* Alternate Black Vest

2008



Bill Henderson Collection

The MLB Style Guide shows these worn with purple undershirts through 2016, but the team ended up wearing black undershirts after just a few uses of purple. White/purple/white knit trim around the armholes.

Front says “Colorado,” Majestic logo is sewn on the top of the left sleeve near the edge of the arm hole through 2019. Front and back numbers are Block style, three-color gray/purple/white. Name on back is also three-color, gray/purple/white.

Notice, no patches used on sleeves of the undershirt.

It appears that this style was not worn by the team in 2013, it is unclear if any were issued to players that year. Majestic makes these from 2005-2019. Nike takes over manufacture in 2020, and their logo appears on front right chest. The style is “unofficially retired” and not worn on-field after 2021, though it still appears as an official alternate in the MLB Style Guide through 2023 after which, it is officially discontinued. During its lifespan it is worn both at home and on the road.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2023* Alternate Black Vest, continued

2019

2020

Majestic makes these from 2017-2019, Nike takes over 2020-2023. Note the change in style code from Majestic's DNVB to Nike's DN3B.

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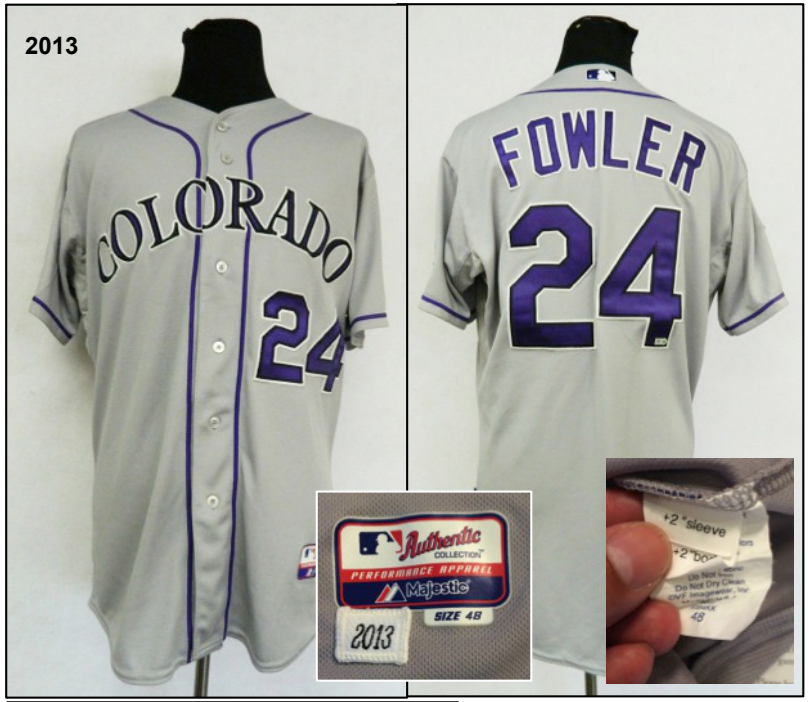
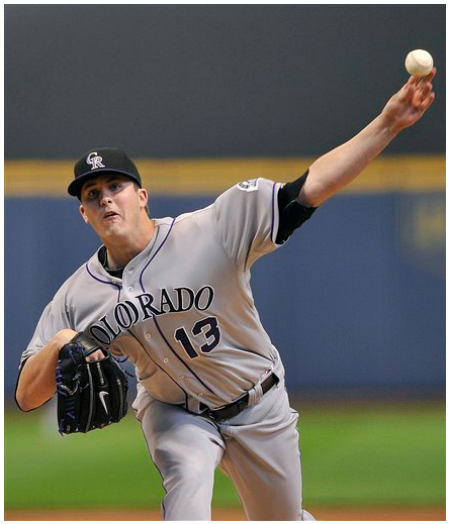
2012-2023 Road



For 2012, the road jersey loses its unique purple pinstripes, a feature since 2000. Pinstriped gray uniforms have always been a subject of debate among purists, the reasoning being that “gray” is used by the road team to fade into the background when playing in the home team’s park, and conversely pinstripes are an embellishment meant to make a uniform stand out.

The fact that the Rockies’ pinstripes were anti-traditional purple probably increased the emotion of the discussion in some quarters. The Rockies inaugural road jerseys had originally been solid gray with purple knit trim like this,1993-1999, but at that time, the front wordmark said “Rockies” instead of “Colorado."



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2012-2023 Road, continued

Majestic makes these from 2012-2019, Nike takes over 2020-2023. Note the change in style code from Majestic's s to Nike's DN2G.

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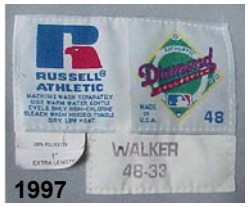
Rockies Team Tagging



Jerseys tagged with simple size numbers like this are usually extras ordered for eventual mid- season use.

Rockies game jerseys sometimes lack any tagging at all, even in years when other players' jersey are tagged. I have come to this conclusion after looking at dozens of Rockies jerseys, and noting that many common player jerseys are completely untagged, though clearly "team issued" (IE- they have all the other little characteristics that are usually not found on jerseys for retail sale, such as the lack of a size tag in the neck and the small fabric tags sewn just beneath the jock tag on the front tail). This could also mean that "name" player jerseys have been tagged to make them look authentic when they are not. I note that there are a disproportionate number of tagged Todd Helton and Larry Walker jerseys from the 1990s in my photo archives. Does that make them "fakes?" No, but as always, buyer beware.

Oddly, the Rockies record player names, uniform numbers and jersey size as part of their typical jersey tagging system, but there are frequently no year designations on tags between 1994 and 2010.

(Jackie Robinson Day)

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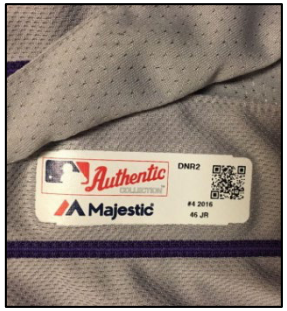
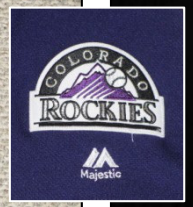
2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.



In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of prior years.



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2022-2023 City Connect

2022

The Rockies entry into City Connect represents the team's home state more than its home city. However, aside from omitting note of the team's "CR" logo in green/white on the left sleeve, the team very meticulously described their uniform as follows: "The jersey's design reflects a classic green-mountain Colorado license plate—snow-capped mountains and evergreen trees. The sleeves and pants are adorned with purple trim, as are the numbers on the back of the jersey, representing the row of purple seats at the club's stadium designating exactly one mile above sea level. The jersey's right sleeve salutes Denver's mile-high nickname with 5280 emblazoned on a yellow 'sticker'. Above lie two black diamonds, noting Double Black Diamond ski runs as a nod to Colorado's vibrant ski and snowboard community. Below are the coordinates of Coors Field, our home in the city of Denver. Above the jock tag, 'Welcome to Colorful Colorado' was inspired by an iconic sign welcoming visitors to the Centennial State." In 2023, the "CR" patch was replaced with the team's 30th anniversary patch and the yellow patch was removed. The style code on the jersey also changes from DNCC to 04CA.

2023

Above: *The team's 30th anniversary patch replaced the "CR" patch in 2023, while the yellow patch was deleted, possibly in preparation for an ad patch that never materialized.*

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

Matthew Fast Collection

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rockies longstanding home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the letters still split between the "C" and "K". The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rockies road jersey, introduced back in 2012. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the knit trim around the neck and down the placket is closer together than before, and the second "O" in "COLORADO" now splits at a slightly different place. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in rather than sewn on, and the purple portion appears wider. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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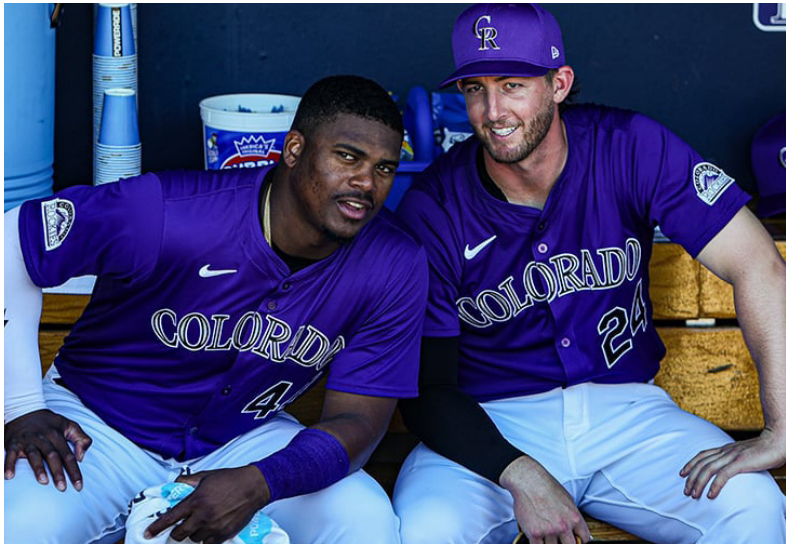
2024 Alternate

Matthew Fast Collection



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rockies purple alternate. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the second "O" in "COLORADO" now splits at a slightly different place. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Rockies license-plate inspired City Connect entry, introduced just two years prior. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the second "O" in "COLORADO" now splits at a slightly different place. The yellow ski-inspired sleeve patch returns for 2024, replacing the team's 2023 anniversary patch. It alternates sleeves depending on player handedness, while the opposite sleeve is left blank (the CR patch from 2022 never returns). Two more other small update that is not visible on the field, the "Welcome to Colorful Colorado" text above the tag is now heat-pressed rather than embroidered, and the style code changes for the third time in three years, now appearing as DNC1. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. It is retired at the end of the season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The jersey also features the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag used on a handful of jerseys around MLB. The team adds an ad patch starting on July 1.

© GameWornGuides.com

2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. The redundant, jersey-colored band of trim around the neck opening is also deleted. Back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. VPE’s placket remains narrow, so the “Colorado” lettering breaks in the same place as in 2024. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team adds an ad patch starting on July 1.

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2025 Alternate

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. The team adds an ad patch starting on July 1.

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2025 City Connect 2.0

The Rockies enter City Connect 2.0 territory with another homage to their city, this time, its purple mountain majesty and not its green license plates. The main colors are baby blue, purple, red, and yellow, which the team says evokes mountains and sunset. This is the first City Connect pullover, and it is built on the VPE template. Like their last version, it is two-toned, with baby blue on top and purple on bottom. The team name appears in purple, rising from the purple portion of the jersey, overlaid by patch featuring a recolored version of the team's mountain and baseball logo. Sleeve trim is red, and neck trim is red/yellow/purple, and it follows the odd notch in the v-neck of the VPE pullover jersey. Front and back player numbers appear in yellow/pink, and have a printed "rip stop" pattern (essentially a grid) to represent the ruggedness of mountain climbing gear. Player names are in purple. The sleeve bears a circle patch, with a the same mountain graphic as the jersey front, this time in blue and purple, on a yellow sky with a red border. The state abbreviation "CO" appears in red/purple, with a yellow/purple baseball in the opening of the "O". Like other City Connect, it also features a few items that are visible only at retail, including a "DEN" patch above the jock tag (with the mountain graphic again) and a fabric flag sewn in to the right lower side hem of the jersey that reads: Baseball @Altitude in Denver Colorado 5,280'. The bright uniform set is a stark contrast to the team's sedate regular uniform set, and though their City Connect 1.0 was bold, it pales in comparison to this new version. The "Welcome to Colorful Colorado" message on the 1.0 would be more at home here than it was on that jersey. The team adds an ad patch starting on July 1.

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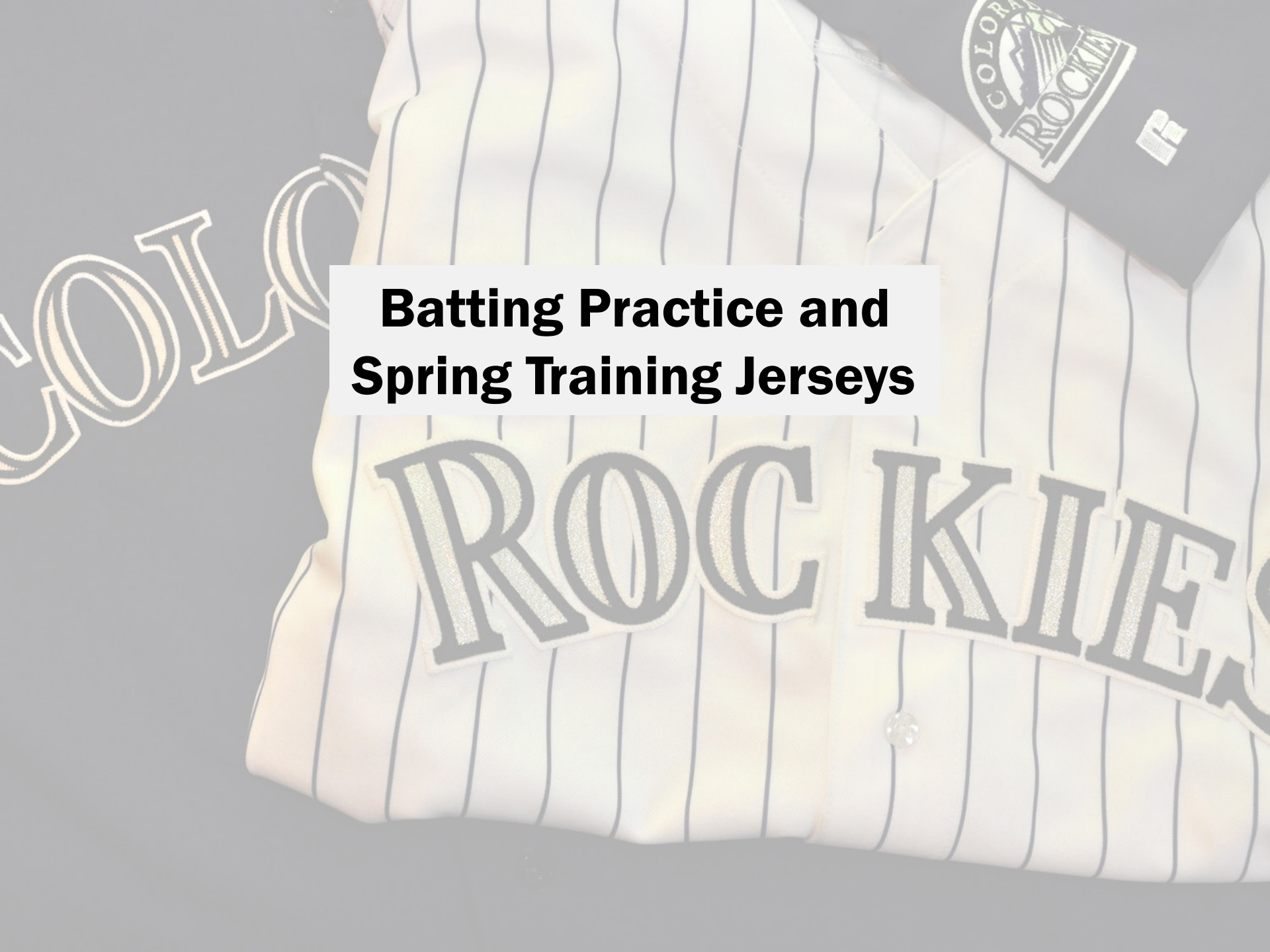
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



1993-2002 Batting Practice

1994

1995-
1996

2000

1993 Spring Training

Majestic-made 1993-2000 mesh batting practice jersey has purple/gray Majestic Varsity Bold numbers on back, Russell-made ones have Block numbers.

Font changes to Block on all, 2000-2002.

No names on back at first, they appear in the late 1990s. However, the Rockies usually leave names off batting practice jerseys used in Spring Training, adding them to players' jerseys after the beginning of the regular season.

These look remarkably similar to the 1993 one-year alternate black game jersey, with the exception that these are mesh and pullovers.

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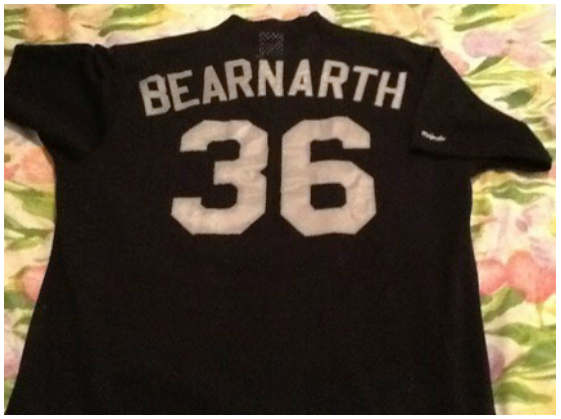
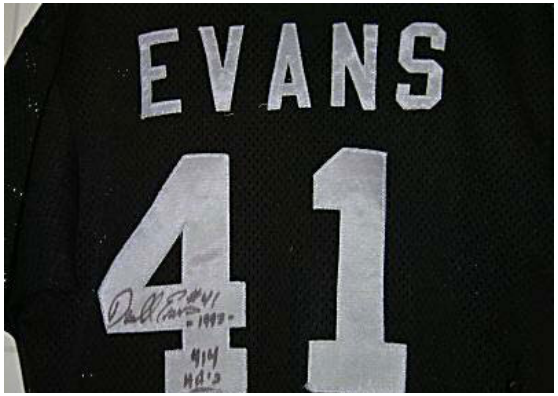
1993 Alternate Batting Practice/Spring Training





- Seldom worn – or at least seldom seen in photographs. The “CR” style was probably used in Spring Training 1993 and may have been sparingly used after that.
- Purple/silver “CR” cap logo sewn on front.
- One-color gray Varsity numbers and block style names on back. Baseball cards suggest that player versions of these jerseys lacked player names on back (as #30 above). Both Evans and Bearnarth were coaches, possibly explaining the presence of NOB on their jerseys.

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1993 Alternate Zip-Neck Batting Practice

Shown here are two styles of the Majestic *Gamewarmer* pullover with the zipper neck. These were likely issued in 1993 to players who wanted them. They did not see wide use, and photographs of players wearing them are practically non-existent. The “CR” version of the jersey features the Majestic rendition of the logo; taller and missing the bottom serif on the “C” as found on Russell’s version of the same logo.

These examples are unnumbered, as many teams issued them without any lettering on the back, as they would a team jacket. I would welcome any reader photographs of game used examples with back numbers/names.

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

2004 Spring Training

Made of softer, non-mesh, early Cool Base-type tech fabric. Jersey has purple bands around the shoulders.

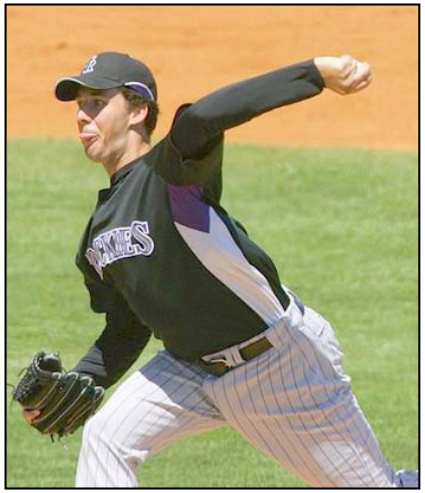
Two-color lettering, purple with white outline, sewn on. These game worn examples shown have names on back...inset photo shows 2004 Spring Training, where no names are used on back. Batting practice jerseys in this style without names on back are likely Spring Training issue; those with names on back are from the regular season.

This was Majestic's first attempt at a breathable polyester fabric, and it did not hold up well in use. They were highly susceptible to fabric pulls and significant fading in the sun.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007-2010 Batting Practice

- The Rockies' 2007 version of the new Cool Base batting practice jersey has a one-button neck, and the same lettering style that has been used on the front since the team's inception in 1993.
- Side inserts are two-toned white and purple.
- Back numbers are gray outlined with purple.
- No player names on back, even during the regular season.
- All lettering and numbers are heat-applied designs, not sewn-on tackle twill any longer.
- Sleeve patch is eliminated.



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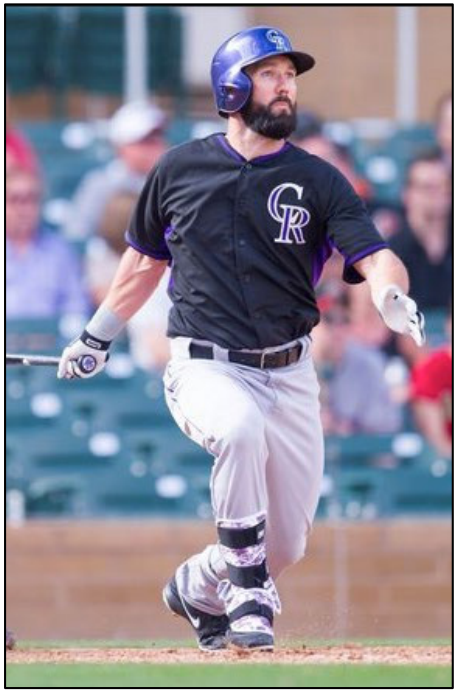
2011-2013 Batting Practice

- All teams in MLB change to button-front batting practice jerseys for 2011, and the Rockies change includes an unusual two-toning treatment which features a purple yoke across the shoulders and the top of the back, similar in design to the Seattle Mariners' batting practice jersey.
- Solid purple side panels replace the earlier silver/purple design from 20072010.
- No player names on back, numbers are two-color gray/purple, returning to sewn twill numbers.
- No sleeve patch is used.
- Worn in a regular season game on June 22, 2013 vs. Washington

© GameWornGuides.com

2014-2016 Batting Practice



All teams in MLB receive new batting practice jerseys for 2014, and the Rockies make a major change, reverting to the team's alternate "CR" logo (as used on their caps) for the left chest in purple outlined with silver, last used by the team on BP jerseys in 1993.

No names on back, two-color silver/black block numbers on a solid purple jersey back. Side panels are purple as well.

© GameWornGuides.com

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Rockies use their regular season purple alternate, here without name on back as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are black patterned twill/white. Front numbers are the standard black/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Rockies spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Rockies again use their regular season purple alternate, in the team’s new brighter shade of purple for 2017, and used here without name on back, as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The back numbers are white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard black/white, as is used in the regular season. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Rockies spend Spring Training.

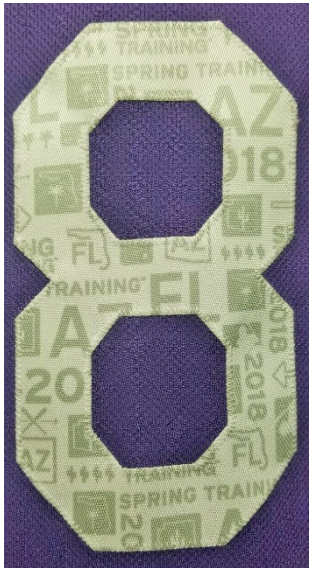
© GameWornGuides.com

2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Rockies jersey is black with purple back and underarm gussets. The "CR" ligature from the team's caps appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in silver/purple/white on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Spring Training



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts, in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Rockies use their regular-season purple alternate, here without name on back, as their base. The back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. Front numbers are the standard black/white, as is used in the regular season. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns.

The Rockies use their regular-season purple alternate, here without name on back, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The front and back numbers are black/ white twill.

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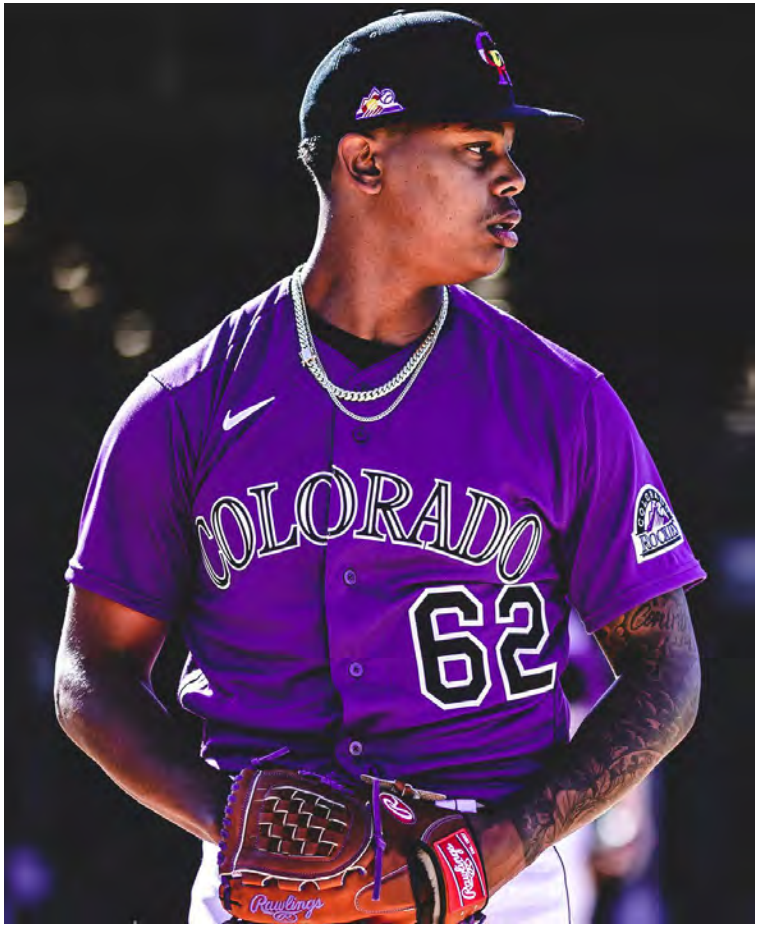
2020-2023 Spring Training



Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Rockies use their regular-season purple alternate, with black/white front and back numbers and player name (names added for the first time on a BP or Spring Training jersey since 2006).

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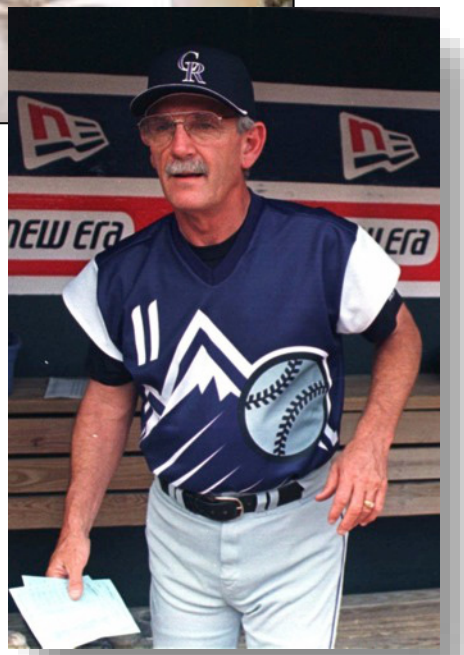
Special Events Jerseys

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock (Road)



- Game was played at St. Louis, July 30, 1999.
- Odd three-color lettering on back, metallic silver, black, white. Note one-color white number on the front. This gamer at right is missing the first letter “R” from the player name for some reason. Lettering is tackle twill.
- Interestingly, two versions of the jersey were created and worn on the field. One with a black sky and purple sleeves (next page), one with a purple sky and white sleeves (this one). It is funny to me that the Rockies went to the trouble of designing and making two different sets of jerseys for this promotion.

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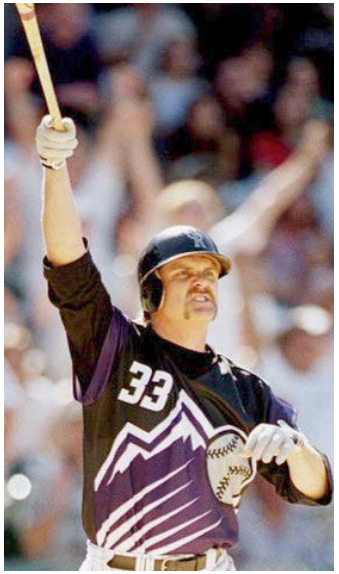
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock (Home)



Game was played against Atlanta, August 18, 1999.This is the home version of the Turn Ahead the Clock jersey, featuring purple sleeves and a black “sky” on the front.

Odd three-color lettering on back, metallic silver/purple/ white. Note one-color white number on the front, and the MLB logo on the undershirt’s left sleeve.

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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1993

April 16, 2013: The Rockies hosted a Turn Back the Clock game to celebrate their very first game, 20 years prior, April 5, 1993, at Shea Stadium in New York against the Mets. Notable in that this the very first nostalgia game for the Rockies.

Despite the Rockies being the home team and the Mets the road team, they reversed uniforms so that the home Rockies wore their 1993 road grays and the road Mets wore their 1993 home pinstripe throwbacks, simulating what the teams actually wore for that 1993 game. The Rockies throwbacks were flawlessly executed by Majestic, down to the inaugural patch on the right sleeve and nameplates used on the back. To this day, the game remains as the only Turn Back the Clock game in franchise history.

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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013 Memorial Day

May 27, 2013 vs. Astros at Houston, gray road jerseys with a barely noticeable camo-centered "Colorado" wordmark, player numbers in hard-to-see camo/purple/white, player names in virtually impossible-to-see camo/white.

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2014-2015 Memorial Day/Military Appreciation Day

2014

2015

These uniforms saw double duty in 2014 and 2015. In 2014, they were worn first on the road at Philadelphia for 2014 Memorial Day on May 26, and then again at home on July 6, the Rockies' Military Appreciation Day. The same goes for the 2015 entries, first on Memorial Day, May 25, then Military Appreciation Day on July 11. Both years' jerseys are identical in design, except for the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the collar, which is changed to dark green/khaki/white in 2015 rather than its typical team colors from 2014. The choice of the purple alternate uniform is perfect for the application of desert camouflage wordmark and player name/number, because the combination is actually visible to fans in the seats, unlike the uniforms worn by many other road teams, who on Memorial Day had the unfortunate and invisible combination of camouflage lettering on gray jerseys. It is likely different, authenticated sets of jerseys for were worn on each date each year, but certainly in 2015 that was the case.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Rockies wear their road gray jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars taking the place of the purple inner-layer of their front wordmark, surrounded by red. Front and back numbers are in the blue-background starred twill outlined in red. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Rockies wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally purple, becomes dark gray.

Right: *Game worn jersey has pink ribbon patch on the chest.*

Top left: *#24 Lyles jersey lacks the ribbon and hologram so is likely a team pro-shop authentic.*

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2016 Memorial Day/Military Appreciation Day

Like the two years prior, the Rockies wear their camouflage--style jerseys twice in 2016, first for Memorial Day on May 30, then on Military Appreciation Day on July 10. The 2016 jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold, as it does for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The three-color front lettering is reduced to two-color camo/black, front and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black. Similar to 2014-2015 Memorial Day and Military Appreciation Day, there were likely separate sets of jerseys issued for each game.

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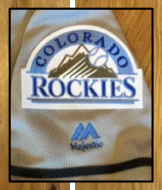
Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Father's Day



For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Rockies wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally purple, becomes dark gray.

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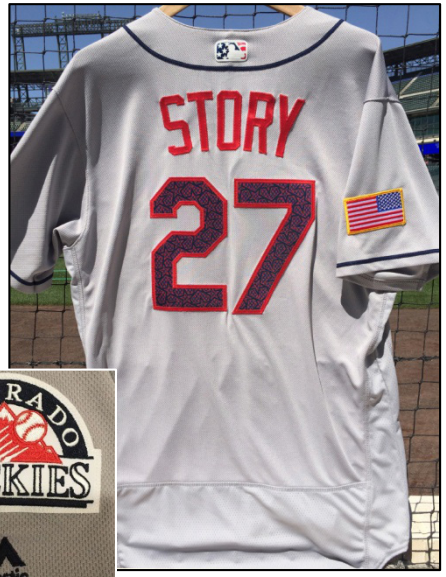
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Rockies are at home and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Rockies select the blue twill version with red outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with a red player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim, normally purple, becomes single-color blue.

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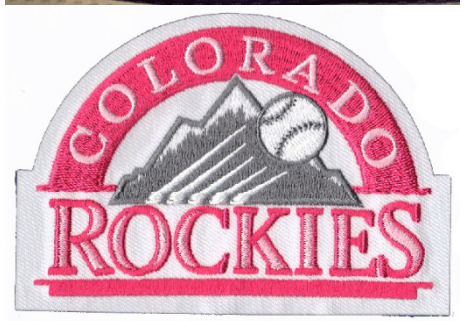
2017 Mother's Day



Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13-14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Rockies wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white.

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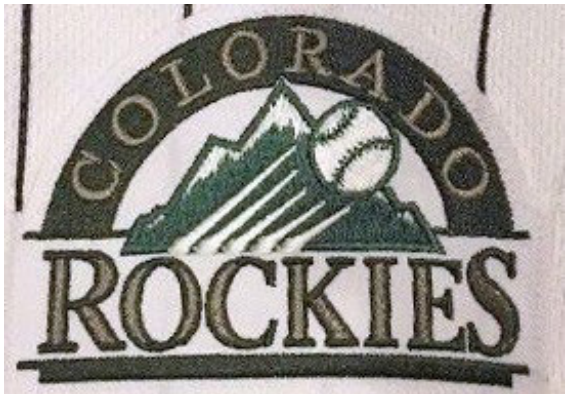
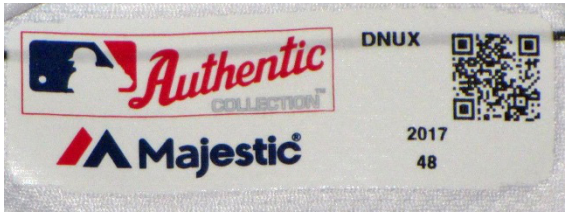
2017-2018 Memorial Day/Military Appreciation Day





The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve. The Rockies apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27-29, 2017 and May 26-28, 2018. The Rockies also wore this same style on July 9, 2017 and July 15, 2018 for Military Appreciation games.

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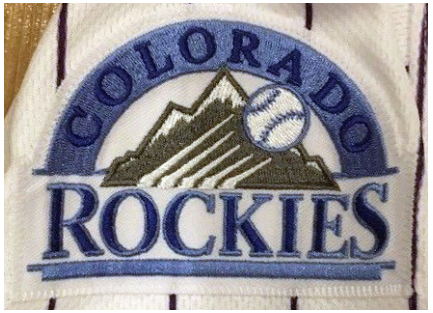
2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17-18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Rockies wear home white with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white.



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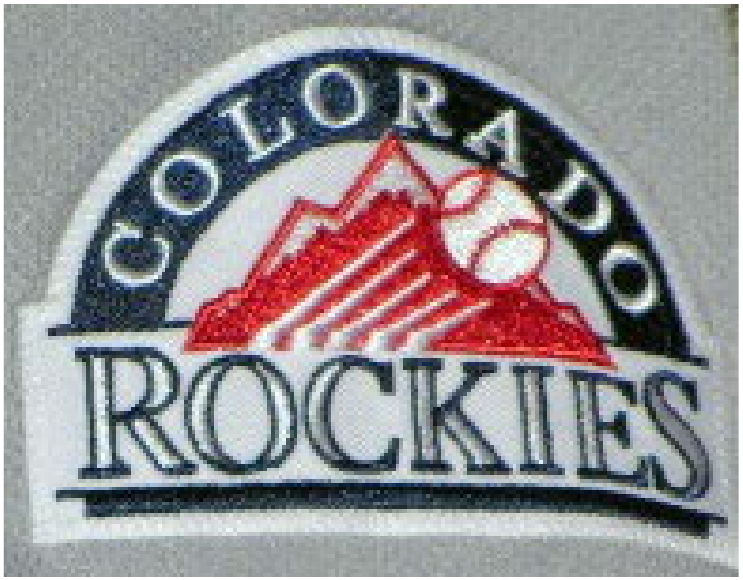
2017 Independence Day (Road)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1-2, 2017, the Rockies wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill –appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3-4, 2017, the Rockies wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017, the Rockies wear jerseys with gray bodies and purple sleeves with white nicknames and purple numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide purple/white/purple trim. The front features a straight-across version of their normally arched home lettering, here rendered in purple/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the lettering red/blue or blue/red, and the Rockies switch up their colors for 2018. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2-4, 2018, the Rockies wear their home white jerseys with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24-26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Rockies wear jerseys with black bodies and purple sleeves with white nicknames and purple numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide purple/white/purple trim. The front features a straight-across version of their normally arched home lettering, here rendered in purple/white kiss-cut twill.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019.

Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Rockies wear a black version of their road jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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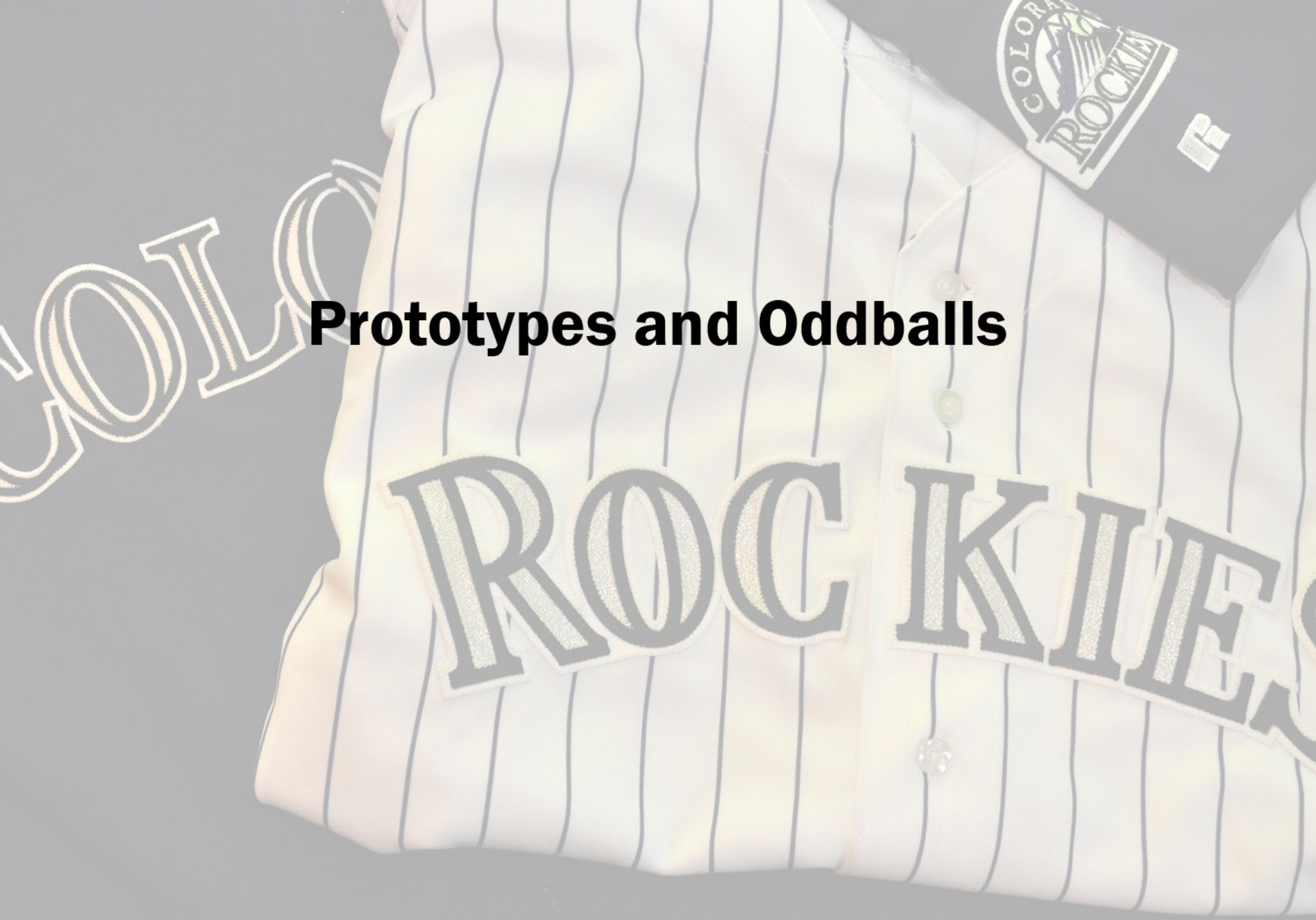
Prototypes and Oddballs



2004 Unused Alternate Black Vest

This jersey design was included in the official *2004 MLB Style Guide* but *was never worn by the team.* It is a black vest worn with a purple undershirt, or a black jersey with purple sleeves. Front says Colorado, no number on front.

It is highly probable that these jerseys were never actually made for the team, but a prototype example has indeed surfaced prior to the Ninth Edition. It is shown here.

It differs from the 2005-2023 alternate black vest only slightly in that there is no trim on the arm hole openings on the 2004 design, and there are no numbers on the front. Back number is Block style, three-color metallic silver/purple/white. Name on back is three-color, metallic silver/purple/white.

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Rockies Script Buttons

Bill Henderson Collection

How is this for an obsessive team detail? A collector friend asked me “Have you ever seen Rockies jerseys with branded buttons?” I told him he must be dreaming because I had never heard of such a thing. But unable to resist, I went through my own collection of Rockies game worn jerseys and -- lo and behold -- found one with these buttons sewn on it! When I say the writing is tiny you must believe me. It took me six tries to get a photo legible enough for print. These buttons have four holes, and would likely be found only on jerseys actually made for the team.

This particular jersey is from 2002. Matt Spector, friend and Rockies collector tells us, “When Russell Athletic was making the jerseys for the Rockies 1993-2004 all *(team issued)* home jerseys had these buttons. When the Rockies switched to Majestic in 2005, they did not use the fancy buttons any longer” (we have since found some team issued Russell jerseys without the special buttons, so we will amend Matt’s statement).

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1993-1994 Road Batting Practice/Spring Training

Bill Henderson Collection

This gray mesh uniform jersey was worn in 1993 and possibly 1994 during Spring Training, and was probably designated for use in split-squad games where the Rockies needed two colors of mesh jerseys to wear on the field simultaneously. Names on nameplates, numbers and names in purple over white twill. Front wordmark has a metallic silver center. Team sleeve patch is sewn on the left sleeve. These are heavy mesh, high quality jerseys that so far as we know were not sold as a retail item.

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2012 Aurora Tragedy Memorial

The Rockies hung this jersey in their dugout and sent this posting on Twitter following the mass shooting inside an Aurora, Colorado movie theater on July 20, 2012, which killed 12 and injured 70 others. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2012_Aurora_theater_shooting

This is not the first time the Rockies have made note of a tragic shooting, having worn a sleeve patch all season in 1999 memorializing the Columbine High School shooting massacre. Related to this event, the team decided against wearing a memorial patch for the rest of the season.

2015 Unworn Coors Field 20 Years Patch

The Rockies were supposed to wear this patch on April 26, 2015, on the right sleeve of their home uniforms. The game was rained out, and the patch was not worn. They seem to be as rare as the proverbial hen's teeth.

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St. Patrick's Day Phantoms

Here we have two Rockies St. Patrick's Day jerseys that never saw the field.

Left: a green version of a Rockies batting practice jersey dating from 2007-2010, which despite "Authentic Collection" tagging, was not worn by the team.

Above: Though we see it on a player in the photo, the jersey in this image from 2018 St. Patrick's Day was a creation of the Rockies' art department, shared on Twitter as a fun way to celebrate the day. Despite what's shown here, the Rockies did wear green caps in the game.

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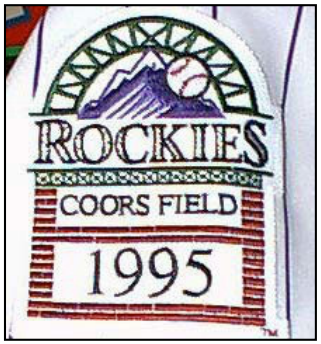
Commemorative Patches

Rockies Patches

1993



1995

1996

1998

1999, after April 20

2002

2010, after April 20

May 14, 2012

2013

- 1993: Inaugural Patch, worn on home, road and alternate jerseys
- 1995: Coors Field Inaugural patch, worn on home jersey only
- 1996: MDM Memorial, all season (for Michael D. McMorris, son of owner Jerry McMorris)
- 1998: All-Star Game
- 1999, after April 20: Columbine High School Memorial Patch, a small 1 ½" diameter borderless disk with CHS in the middle, worn on home and road uniforms
- 2002: 10 Year Anniversary Season patch
- 2010, after April 20: Following the death of Colorado Rockies' president, Keli McGregor, the team started wearing a patch with his initials ("KSM") in silver on a black disc on their road gray and black uniforms, and on a purple disc on the white jerseys
- 2012, May 14: Red AIDS ribbon for "Until There's a Cure" Day at San Francisco
- 2013: 20th Anniversary patch

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Rockies Patches Continued

2018

- 2018: Rockies 25 years patch, right sleeve on white, gray, and purple jerseys, right chest on black vest.
- 2021, starting April 23: 2021 All-Star Game patch, added when the game was moved to Colorado from Atlanta in reaction to Georgia legislature passing an election law that opponents said disproportionately disenfranchised people of color. Patch worn left sleeve on white, gray, and purple jerseys, left chest on black vest.
- 2023: 30th Anniversary Patch, replacing the standard team logo patch on each jersey
- 2024, April 27-28: Heat-pressed T Mobile sponsor patch (left sleeve) and embroidered MLB World Tour Mexico City Series patch (right sleeve) for games in Mexico vs. Rockies

Starting April 23, 2021

2023

April 27-28, 2024

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2025 Rockies Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Rockies struck a sponsor patch deal with York Space Systems, an aerospace company. The patches first appeared on July 1, 2025. The patch is a black rectangle with the York Space Systems logo in white for Rockies jerseys. The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

In 2023, the location of the team's 30th Anniversary patch (which replaced the team logo patch for the season) varied depending on the handedness of each player, as did the team patch on its return in 2024, perhaps in preparation for a sponsor that did not materialize until halfway through 2025.

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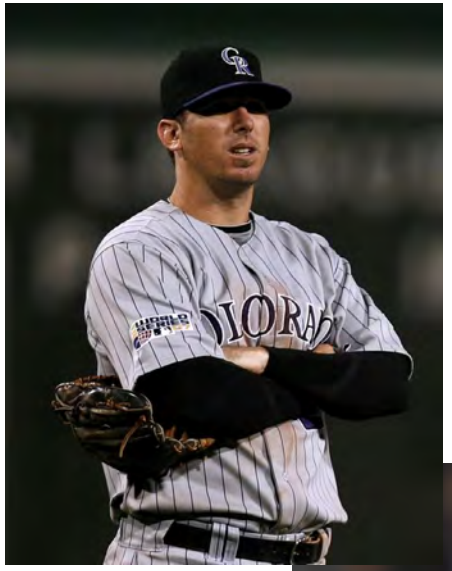
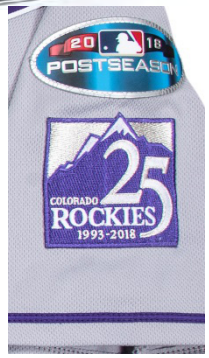
Rockies Postseason Patches

2007 World Series
(right sleeve, left chest on vest)



2017 NL Wild Card
(right sleeve)



2018 NL Wild Card
2018 NL Division Series
(right sleeve, above anniversary patch)

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Andres Galarraga Colorado Rockies Autographed 1995 Road Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: December 29, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1229J01

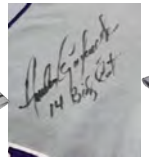
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray six-button-front size 50 (marked and measured) Colorado Rockies jersey lettered for #14 Andres Galarraga. ROCKIES in purple outlined by white arched across both panels of the front. Narrow purple knit trim rings the placket and both sleeve ends about an inch from the sleeve ends. Four-hole gray pearl buttons. Team sleeve patch sewn on the left sleeve. There is no patch on the right sleeve. Name and back and player number are both in two-color layered twill, purple over white. The name is stitched to a perfectly matching knit plate that has a single-needle serged edge. The player name font is the slightly condensed version used for players with long names. Size 50 matches other jerseys worn by the player at their stage of his career in our exemplar database. The jersey is autographed on the upper front left in black marker with the player's name and the inscription "14 Big Cat". I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

In 1995, Galarraga played in 143 games for the Rockies and hit .280 with 31 home runs. He enjoyed a 19 year career with seven teams, and was the NL batting champion in 1993 with the Rockies. (*Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is stitched to the outside left tail in the style most often seen in 1995-1997. There is a small white tag stitched pinch-sewn under the bottom seam of the locker tag noting "100% Polyester" The presence of this tag and the lack of a size tag in the neck are the only indications that this is a team issued jersey; the Rockies did not team tag jerseys in this style/years of use. Size 50 is an in-between size generally made for the team only and not made for retail sale. The locker tag style and the fact that the jersey has a sewn nameplate and no memorial sleeve patch on its right sleeve isolate its possible year of issue/use to 1995. In all years that this style of jersey was used, with a nameplate (1994-1996) 1995 was the only year without a memorial patch on the sleeve.

Wear & Repairs: Jersey: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering, and stitching on the jersey is unaltered and free of contrivance. There is a notable snag in the jersey fabric on the back to the left of the bottom of the player number. Otherwise, it shows very light wear, with little to no puckering of the twill lettering, There are no signs of any repairs.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is the correct size and is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits light use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue to Andreas Galarraga of the Colorado Rockies during the 1995 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Livan Hernandez 2008 Colorado Rockies Black Vest Game Jersey

Examination Date: December 6, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1206J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Colorado Rockies six-button black vest jersey, size 56 marked and measured. While he is listed at 6; 2" and 245 lbs, Hernandez preferred a very large jersey and the size matches others that have been offered at auction attributed to him. Black Cook-Base jersey body with three color COLORADO logo arched on front in purple/sparkle silver and white. Player number 61 beneath and on the back, name on back HERNANDEZ arched above, all in three colored layered twill, Pro Silver over purple over white. White/purple/white knit trim bands the armhole openings. This jersey was presented without provenance.

In a 17 year career that started spectacularly in 1996 with the Marlins, Hernandez bounced to many teams after his first three years of service. He split time in 2008 between the Twins and Rockies after the Twins released him mid-season and Rockies claimed him off of waivers in August. He appeared in just eight games for the Rockies in 2008.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rockies jersey from this period were not tagged in any way by the team. Heat-pressed Majestic Authentic Collection label is applied to the lower left outer tail, indicating the size as 56. On the inside side seam there is a white paper style tag that designates the jersey as style number #0063, a code reserved for jerseys made for team issue vs. retail sale. Additionally, size 56 jerseys were not generally offered as a retail item; they were reserved for team-issue. Majestic triple peaks logo is direct embroidered in white on top of the left shoulder. MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in purple/white/black is stitched to the back of the neck.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey shows wash wear, with wrinkled tags inside and puckering and minor edge fraying to the three-color lettering on back. The Rockies had a choice of five game jerseys to wear in 2008, and with Hernandez joining the team in the final two months of the season, it is reasonable that any given jersey in his set would show light use. There is no damage to the jersey nor signs of repairs. The player lettering is original and unaltered.

Conclusion: The jersey in review matches exemplars for a game worn 2008 Rockies jersey, shows evidence of use and is a reasonable size for the player. There are no apparent alterations or contrivances. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is a genuine game jersey prepared for and used by Livian Hernandez during the 2008 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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Chapter 35

Kansas City Royals

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970- 2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Royals Uniform History Notes

- When the Kansas City Athletics left town for Oakland following the 1967 season, Kansas City was once again left without an MLB franchise. Happily and quickly, they were awarded an expansion franchise for the 1969 season.
- The Royals adopted a classically simple "Dodgers-like" home jersey script in royal blue with an absolute minimum of trim and ornamentation. The Royals crown and shield logo was designed by locally headquartered Hallmark Cards, notable because this logo was used through 2002 without alteration, and the current version is still very close to the original.
- Royals' inaugural road uniforms featured a script "Kansas City" that closely resembled the 1961 road uniforms of the departed Kansas City Athletics. They are still made of gray flannel but changed their wordmark design in 1971-1972, replacing the "Kansas City" script with the same words in new arched block lettering.
- Coinciding with the opening of their brand new stadium, double knits are introduced for the 1973 season, a year later than most teams. Both home and road uniforms become pullovers. Both jerseys gain wide blue and white striped knit sleeve-end trim, and thinner trim around the V-neck. Road jerseys keep the arched "Kansas City" in block writing, but change from old fashioned gray fabric to 1970s trendy powder blue.
- Pullovers continue to be used through 1982. For 1983, button fronts return. Numbers are added on the fronts of both home and away jerseys. The home jersey does not change its appearance, but the road jersey adopts the "Royals" script, just like the home jersey. The team becomes the last road powder blue holdout in baseball, wearing it through the 1991 season, before returning to gray roads in 1992 for the first time since 1972.
- 1992 sees the return of gray for the road jersey color. 1994 introduces an alternate royal blue jersey.
- For 1995, the road jersey switches back to "Kansas City" in arched lettering similar to 1972 and the trim on all three jerseys is simplified greatly. These styles continue through 2001.
- In 2002, unfortunate fiddling begins with a vengeance. The home jersey lettering picks up a black drop shadow (the new thing among many teams for the 2000s), as does the road jersey, which also loses its sleeves to become a vest. Following a sweeping trend, the Royals introduce an alternate black home jersey to go with the alternate blue one.
- After only one year, in 2003, the home jersey also loses it sleeves. Both home and road jerseys are now vests and remain so through 2005.
- Everything is changed in 2006. Sleeves are back on all jerseys, the road jersey says "Kansas City" in very 1970-like script, and the black alternate jersey is announced as a road jersey with the same "Kansas City" script. That black jersey is worn only one series early in the season, and then disappears forever.
- A retro-like Columbia blue alternate jersey takes the place of the departed black jersey in 2008.
- For 2012, the script on the road jersey changes yet again, and the lettering on the light blue jersey changes from blue to white. The color of this jersey changes slightly too, now called "Atlantic blue."
- A "Los Reales" Hispanic Heritage jersey is added officially in 2016, and a home alternate incorporated metallic gold twill arrives in 2017, based on the popularity of a similar gold-trimmed jersey the team wore to celebrate their 2015 World Series victory.
- In 2022, the Royals update both their primary road and alternate road jerseys, evoking the design of their original 1971–1972 gray set, including a faithful recreation of the front block vertically arched "Kansas City" lettering on both. The gray road jersey includes wide royal blue sleeve-end trim and matching single-color blue lettering and numbers, while the dark blue alternate version reverses the palette with white lettering and trim.
- In 2022, City Connect uniforms make their appearance. Jerseys are navy blue with powder blue accents, inspired by the city's nickname, "City of Fountains." The design incorporates elements like a stylized "KC" logo resembling cascading water, reminiscent of the city's iconic fountains, and triple braiding on the sleeves, a nod to the team's 1980s uniforms. The new number styling on the jersey is a reference to the city's art deco architecture. Jerseys are paired with white pants, forgoing the mono look.
- The Royals have participated in an impressive 37 Negro Leagues tribute games—more than any other MLB team—honoring the Kansas City Monarchs. Fittingly, they played in the very first tribute game in 1994, a nod to the city's deep connection to Black baseball history and the presence of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, which has been based in Kansas City since its founding in 1991.
- Player names are usually sewn in vertical arch style during the 1980s through 1992; while dated news photos indicate that vertical arch is the standard, a few slipped in using radial arch, Block-style names.
- While this sounds like a lot of change, truly the design theme of this club has remained almost unnoticeably changed since the team's birth. The home jersey, the team script and the team colors are still the same as on day one.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Style continues

Royals Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1969	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	MLB Centennial	-	Wilson/Rawlings
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	MLB Centennial	-	Wilson/Rawlings
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson/Rawlings
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson/Rawlings
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1972	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1973	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1974	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1977	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1978	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1979	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1980	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1981	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1982	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	No	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1983	Home White	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1984	Home White	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1985	Home White	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1986	Home White	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Wilson
1987	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Wilson Special vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	10 Howser Memorial	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	10 Howser Memorial	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
	Road Lt Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block Bold w/ serifs 1 color	Rawlings Block Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	-	Rawlings

*After July 3, 1987

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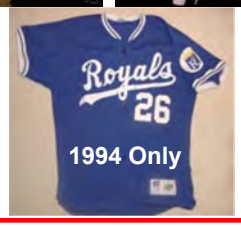

All three of these jerseys worn 1995-2001

Royals Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1992	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Std. Vertical Arch 1 color	No	Team Disc	JRB Memorial	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block Std. Vertical Arch 2 color	No	Team Disc	JRB Memorial	Russell
1993	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Disc/EMK Mem	Royals 25th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Bock 2 color	No	Team Disc/EMK Mem	Royals 25th Anniv	Russell
1994	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Disc	MLB 125th Anniv	Russell
1995	Home White	Front Block w/Serifs bold 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	MIK Memorial	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	MIK Memorial	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	MIK Memorial	Russell
1996	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1997	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1999	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2000	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2001	Home White	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	AL 100th Ann.	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block w/Serifs 2 color	Block 2 color	Yes	Team Disc	AL 100th Ann.	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Front Block/Serifs 1 color	Block w/Serifs Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell

a JRB Memorial added after May 12, 1992

b EMK Memorial added after August 1, 1993

* I have seen 1987 jerseys lettered with Varsity Bold and others with the special Royals front bold number font.

** There many Royals jerseys in the hobby pre-1993 lettered with radial arched block names, Vertical Arch was the standard, and SOME mid-season call-ups were originally lettered with Block Standard. However, the Royals routinely stripped player names from jerseys after their service in the Majors was done. Most of these jerseys that today wear Standard Block names are improperly restored. Additionally, the Royals routinely re-used jerseys. A home jersey tagged "1981" may have a name and number, while another tagged 1981 has no name, nor any space for one. Quite possibly, the 1981 jersey with name and number was stripped after 1981, then re-lettered and reused in a later year. However, the year tag still says 1981.

*** This may have been a changeover year from Wilson to Rawlings, both brands may have been used in that year as old stock was used up. The Royals are a frugal organization that wastes nothing.

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2002 only

2003-2005

2006 only

2008-2011

This style continues onward

This style continues onward

Royals Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2002	Home White	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Road Gray vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Alternate Black	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Russell
2003	Home White vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Road Gray vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Alternate Black	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Russell
2004	Home White vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Road Gray vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Russell
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Russell
	Alternate Black	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Russell
2005	Home White Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray Vest	Front Block #2, 3 color	Block 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alternate Black	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Disc (New Style)	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield*	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Shield*	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield*	-	Majestic
	Alt Black Road	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Shield*	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield*	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Shield*	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield*	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	40 Years	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	40 Years	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	40 Years	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	40 Years	Majestic
2010	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	Yes	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2011	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	Splittorff mem. **	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	Splittorff mem. **	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	Splittorff mem. **	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	Splittorff mem. **	Majestic

* The sleeve patch in these years has a 1/4" white border. After this the patch loses its white border.
** Worn starting May 25

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Royals Game Jerseys

2006-2020

2006-2013

2012-2020

2012-2020

Change to Flex Base

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2012	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	All-Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray (changed)	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	All-Star Game	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	All-Star Game	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue (changed)	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	All-Star Game	Majestic
2013	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue	Dodgers Font 1 color	Block XBold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2014	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue/ Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2015	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alternate Blue/Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Majestic
2016	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	2015 WS Champs	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	2015 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alternate Blue/Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	2015 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	2015 WS Champs	Majestic
	Alt Home Hispanic	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	2015 WS Champs	Majestic
2017	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	"ACE 30" Patch for Ventura	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	"ACE 30" Patch for Ventura	Majestic
	Alternate White/Gold	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	"ACE 30" Patch for Ventura	Majestic
	Alternate Blue/Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	"ACE 30" Patch for Ventura	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	"ACE 30" Patch for Ventura	Majestic
	Alt Home Hispanic	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	"ACE 30" Patch for Ventura	Majestic
2018	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	50th Season	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	50th Season	Majestic
	Alternate White/Gold	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	50th Season	Majestic
	Alternate Blue/Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	50th Season	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	50th Season	Majestic
	Alt Home Hispanic	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	50th Season	Majestic
2019	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield***	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield***	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate White/Gold	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield***	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alternate Blue/Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield***	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield***	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Home Hispanic	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield***	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	David Glass memorial	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	David Glass memorial	Nike
	Alternate White/Gold	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	David Glass memorial	Nike
	Alternate Blue/Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	David Glass memorial	Nike
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	David Glass memorial	Nike
	Alt Home Hispanic	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	David Glass memorial	Nike

2014-2020

2016-2020

2017-2020

***In 2019, the black drop shadow on the "KC" logo of the sleeve patch disappears.

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These six styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Royals Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Nike
	Alternate White/Gold	Front Block #2, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Nike
	Alternate Blue/Road KC	-	Block 2 color	Block Cond 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Nike
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	-	Nike
	Alt Home Hispanic	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	-	Nike
2022	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield	Art Stewart memorial	Nike
	Road Gray "Kansas City" Block	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	Team Shield	Art Stewart memorial	Nike
	Alt Blue/Road "Kansas City"	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	Team Shield	Art Stewart memorial	Nike
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #1, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 2 color	No	Team Shield	Art Stewart memorial	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	No	-	"R" Crown patch	Nike
2023	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray "Kansas City" Block	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	-	Nike
	Alt Blue/Road "Kansas City"	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	-	Nike
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	Custom 1 color	No	"R" Crown patch‡	-	Nike
2024	Home White	Nike Block 1 color (no perf)	Nike Block 1 color (no perf)	Nike Block 1 color^	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray "Kansas City" Block	Nike Block 1 color (no perf)	Nike Block 1 color (no perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue/Road "Kansas City"	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color^	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Light Blue	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color^	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 1 color	No	"R" Crown patch‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
2025	Home White	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Road Gray "Kansas City" Block	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Blue/Road "Kansas City"	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block Cond 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	Alt Light Blue	Front Block #2, 1 color	Block Bold 1 color	Block 1 color	No	Team Shield‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 1 color (perf)	Custom 1 color	No	"R" Crown patch‡	QT Ad patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

^ In 2024 Spring Training only, these jerseys retained the larger NOB size. By the start of the season, it was changed to the smaller Nike Block.

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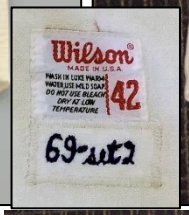
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1969-1972 Home



As an expansion team in 1969, the Royals' inaugural home flannel uniforms are the model of classic simplicity. Button-front cream-colored flannel with a Dodgers-inspired front script in royal blue, Varsity style single-color numbers on the back only, and blue knit trim at the neck and sleeve ends.

This classic home jersey design has survived with only minor modifications through the next 56 years! Left sleeve has MLB 100th Anniversary patch in 1969, is blank in 1970, then adds the classic Royals disk patch for 1971, a logo patch unchanged through 2001.

The Royals are one of the few teams that were still using flannels in 1972, as most MLB teams had switched to knits by this time.

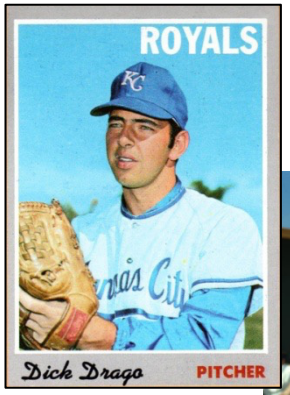
© GameWornGuides.com

1969-1970 Road

The 1969-1970 gray flannel road jersey was the Royals' first; 1969 was the first year for the expansion Royals in the American League. Classic simplicity: gray fabric, one-color (blue) city name script with underline, simple sleeve end and neck trim, one-color Varsity numbers on back only, and the classic Royals sleeve patch that remained in use until 2001, 31 years later.

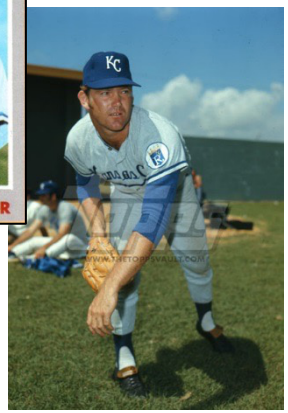
Both Wilson and Rawlings supply the team in 1969-1970.

In 1969, the left sleeve had the MLB 100th Anniversary patch. While I have found photos of the 1970 being worn without a sleeve patch and the Hall of Fame "Dressed to the Nines" database shows the 1970 jersey with a bare left sleeve, I have concluded that the patch was not worn in Spring Training and then added for the regular season.



***Above**: Plain-sleeved photo on this 1970 Topps card is from 1969 Spring Training*

***Below:** This photo is probably from 1971 Spring Training, wearing a 1970 jersey, as was the custom then.*



***Below:** The Royals' jersey looks very similar to the 1961 Kansas City Athletics road uniform, shown for comparison*

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1971-1972 Road

Ryan Magathan Collection

After only two years of the "Kansas City" script that had closely resembled the 1961 Athletics road jerseys, the Royals switch to this understated, vertically arched wordmark for 1971. Jersey fabric remains a light-blue hued gray flannel.

Varsity numbers in one-color royal blue remain on back. Very simple trim continues as before, as does the Royals' disc patch on the left sleeve. Flannels continue through 1972, a year longer than most MLB teams.

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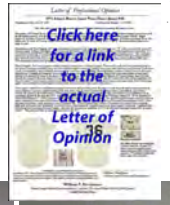
1973-1982 Home

1983



Wilson makes these jerseys through the 10-year run of the style. White knit pullover with blue Royals script, wide knit elastic sleeve end trim. There are no numbers on the front of the pullover jerseys. The back numbers are Varsity Standard. No player names on back 1973-1977. Player names appear in 1978, sewn directly to the jersey. Hand drawn bold vertical arch is standard, but many are seen today with non-vertical-arched names. The Royals routinely stripped player names off, letter by letter, before sending them to the minor leagues. While some may have been this way originally, as in mid-season call-ups or trade acquisitions, most of these jerseys have today been incorrectly restored with non-vertical arch NOB.

1974

1982

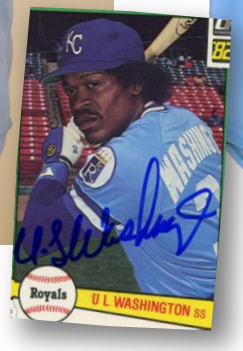
Ryan Magathan Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

1973-1982 Road

1975

Ryan Magathan Collection



1975

Wilson-made; arched white Kansas City on light blue pullover jersey. No names on back 1973-1977, player names appear on back in 1978. Vertical arch was the standard style, in a special Royals variant shown here, each name hand drawn by a Wilson artist on a drafting board. Some originals *may* have been sewn with non-vertical-arched names, but most have been restored that way incorrectly.

1981

Below: *Note extra-wide NOB.*

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1983-1985 Home

Jersey style changes to a white seven-button front, with royal blue Royals script. 1983-1985 jersey has wide knit sleeve trim ***(top left, red circle).*** One-color, royal blue Varsity numbers added on front left in 1983. Names on back are used on all button-front white jerseys. Painstakingly hand-drafted vertical arched names are standard; though a non-vertical arch sneaks in now and again on a mid-season call-up or trade acquisition, and because the Royals religiously stripped player names from jerseys before sending them to the minors or selling them off, many have been incorrectly restored with non-vertical-arched names. ***Left:*** It is very likely that the Leibrandt example is an accurate restoration.

Left: *This unrestored #32 jersey is missing its NOB, common with Royals gamers. Notice the low placement of the number since name was above. Very few of this series of jerseys escaped having their names on back stripped, one letter at a time, before being sent to the minors.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1983-1985 Road

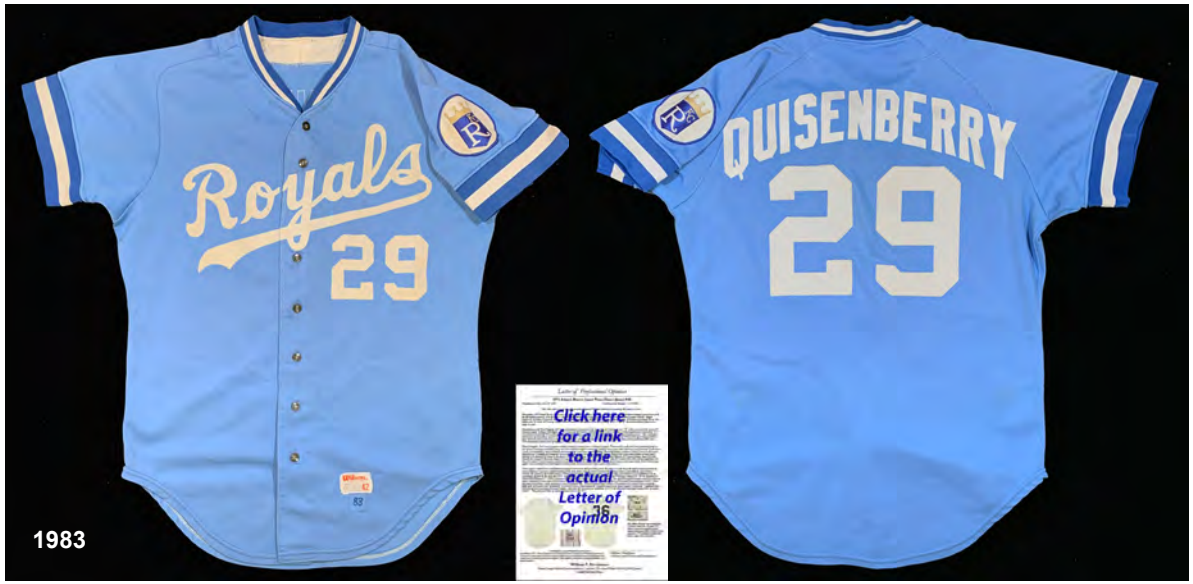
1984

1983

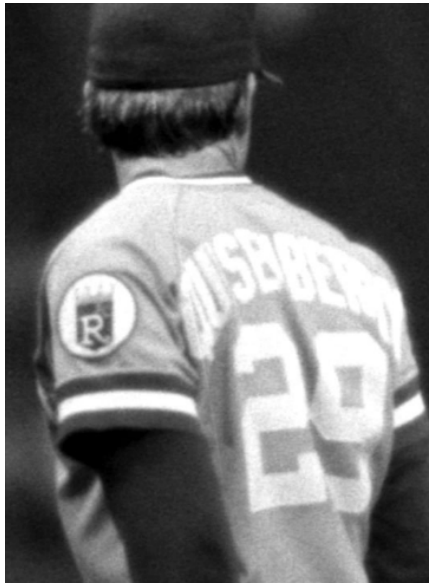
(7-button, wide sleeve trim)

Brian Bates Collection

Light blue seven-button front, white Royals script. Wilson-made. White Royals' front Varsity numbers on front left, and on the back. 1983-1985 knit sleeve end trim is thick and wide. One-color, white Varsity numbers added on front left in 1983. Painstakingly hand-drafted vertical arched names are standard. Names are stripped of nearly all jerseys after MLB use by the team, and many have been restored incorrectly with non-vertical arch names over the years.



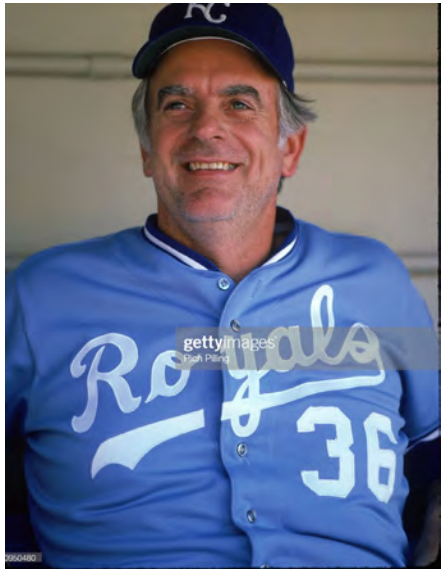
1983



© GameWornGuides.com

1983-1985 Road, continued

1983

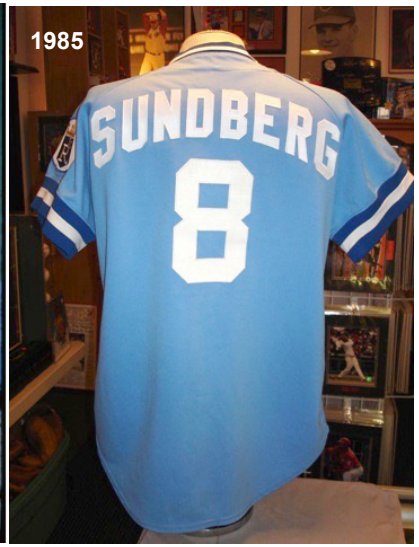


This sloppily lettered jersey with a crooked and non-vertical-arched NOB for a Hall of Fame player must be a fake... right? Not so fast! Read the letter linked above for the real story...

1984

Jason Gudvi Collection

1985



© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Home

In 1986, the Royals made a small refinement to their home jersey: the sleeve-end trim was reduced to half its previous width. The jersey featured seven front placket buttons for the final time. The familiar Wilson Varsity number font was used on both the front and back, while player names remained in the same vertically arched bold, hand-drawn style introduced in 1978. The team disc logo continued to appear on the left sleeve, a consistent detail since 1971.

From our experience, all jerseys were stripped of their player names at the end of the season and sent to the minor leagues. ***Top left:*** The jersey is likely a correct restoration, as the name appears to be a slightly different color than the numbers. ***Bottom left:*** The jersey is tempting to be called an incorrect restoration since the name on the back is not vertically arched, But a little research shows that David Cone's first year in the majors was 1986 when he made a brief June appearance on the Royals roster and then returned again in September. What generally happened with mid-season call ups or acquisitions was that their jerseys were lettered locally in Kansas City instead of at the Wilson factory. It's very likely that Cone's name was added in the clubhouse from a bin of stock letters.

© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Road

For 1986 the sleeve end trim narrows to half the previous size. Jerseys have seven buttons for the last time. Wilson continues as the team's supplier in 1986. Jerseys continue using the Wilson number fonts and the Wilson name on back in hand-drawn vertical arch format. No nameplates are used. ***Bottom left:*** Typical of how these were used in the minors with NOB removed.

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1994 Home

Uncommon style Rawlings tag is rarely seen, only on 1987 Rawlings issues.

1987

1987 sees Rawlings named as the official uniform supplier to MLB, and the Royals make the switch; Rawlings becomes the team uniform supplier 1987-1991. The Rawlings brand script appears on the right sleeve of Royals jerseys starting in 1987, and close inspection shows that Rawlings substitutes their own name and number fonts. Switch to six buttons. The Royals now use their own variant of the Block with Serifs (Full Block) font, and also use their own version of the vertical arch player names on back, including making some names either extra narrow and extra wide as seen here.

1988

Six buttons, Narrower sleeve trim new for 1986

1987

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1994 Home, continued

1990

Eric Rosekranz collection

1992

1993

1994

Russell replaces Rawlings as MLB's official uniform supplier for the 1992 season, and the Royals make the switch. The only visible effect of the 1992 change is that the Russell "R" logo replaces the Rawlings script on the right sleeve. Russell continues to use the same name and number fonts as Rawlings had. Unique to the Royals, vertical arched names are sometimes made extra wide or even wide and bolder to suit shorter names. Names are always direct-sewn without nameplates. Starting 1993, player names are no longer vertical arched. In 1993 the team's 25th Anniversary patch is added to the right sleeve. All else remains constant 1993-1994.

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-1991 Road

1991

Michael Getman Collection

1990

1990

Rawlings takes over for 1987-1991, substituting their fonts for player name and number. Change to six buttons. Names are still vertical arched but they use the Rawlings template that has taller, narrower lettering. When this style jersey disappeared after the close of the 1991 season, the very last of the baby blue jerseys was gone from the double-knit era.

© GameWornGuides.com

1973-1991 Royals Team Tagging

Early-style Wilson tagging found in the collar, moves to the shirt tail by the mid 1980s. Wilson tagging is embroidered on jersey fabric squares and sewn on.

Rawlings uses their own style of white flag tagging, found on the shirt tail.

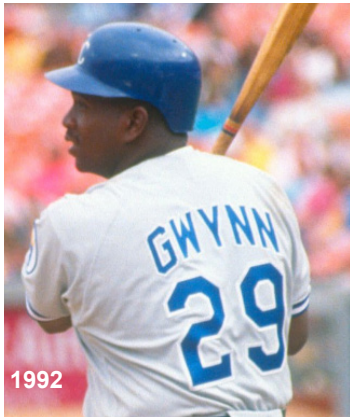
Above left: *Rawlings tag is the common one.* ***Above right:*** *Seen quite sparingly, on 1987 jerseys only.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-1994 Road

Russell takes over making the Royals uniforms for the 1992 season. The road jersey body color changes from powder blue to traditional gray. Knit sleeve trim is blue/white/blue. Royals script is two-color, blue with white outline. Player name and numbers follow suit. Block with Serifs number font is now used on the back. Front Block with Serifs is used on the front. Names continue to be sewn directly to the jersey.

Above and below: *Vertical arched player names are used in 1992 only. The only images we could find of these were screen grabs off YouTube, so thoroughly did the Royals strip names from jerseys after the season ended. All examples in our files are without NOBs.*



Vertical arch NOB is used one final year in 1992, and then Standard radial-arched names begin for 1993. 25th Anniversary Royals patch is on the right sleeve for the 1993 season.

© GameWornGuides.com

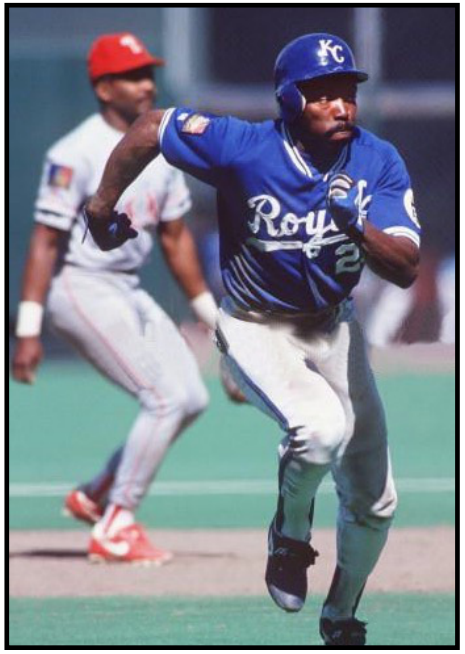
Royals 1978-1992: Mid Season Call-ups vs. Incorrectly Restored Names on Back

Because the Royals routinely stripped their team jerseys of player names at the end of each season to prepare them to be sent to the minors, we have learned that a great percentage of the ones in the hobby with names intact have had their NOBs restored, many incorrectly with non-vertically arched lettering. But there were exceptions! Mid-season call-ups or acquisitions often got jerseys lettered from a local shop without the benefit of the fancy arched names that were created by draftsmen at Wilson and Rawlings. For example, both of these Bo Jackson jerseys have been photo matched to game photos from his September 1986 call-up. The blue jersey is shown when it had been on display at Kaufman Stadium.

Bottom left, below: These jerseys have had their names restored using “stock fonts” replacing what was surely a vertical arch name. ***Right:*** Close examination of this unrestored jersey clearly shows the outline of the removed PRYOR vertically arched NOB.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994 Alternate



In 1994, the team introduces a royal blue alternate jersey. Notice the white/blue/white sleeve-end and collar trim. This style with the trim would only last one year before it is changed for 1995.

This jersey, like many others we have observed of this style, is missing its front numbers. They may have been sent to the minor leagues where they were used without front numbers.

One-color white Royals script lettering, name, and numbers. Name directly sewn with no vertical arch. Back numbers are Block Bold with Serifs, on front, Front Block with Serifs Bold. As this particular style was worn only in 1994, all game worn jerseys should have the one-year MLB 125th patch sewn on the right sleeve (or evidence that it was there at one time). Oddly, many of these found for sale are without front numbers. Were they worn part of the season without them? Or is this perhaps an artifact of use in the minors after their big-league service was through?

© GameWornGuides.com

1995-2001 Home

Ryan Magathan Collection

2001

1996

2001

2001

White button front, blue Royals script. 1995-2001 jersey has no collar trim and very simple knit sleeve trim. Royals team disc patch remains unchanged - it is the same one used since 1969.

1997

Numbers are **Block Bold with Serifs** on the back. On the front they use **Front Block with Serifs.** Name on back sewn on nameplates; Team uses Block Condensed and Block Extra Condensed lettering for names, seemingly on home jerseys only. Road jerseys use same font no matter the name length.

© GameWornGuides.com

1995-2001 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

1996

2001

After a 12-year absence, the 1971-1982 *Kansas City* wordmark returns to the road jersey front. It is vertically arched in two-colors, royal blue outlined with white. All lettering follows the theme of the wordmark, royal blue over white. Block with Serifs number font is used as had been since the 1992 season. Trim is limited to thin blue knit trim ¾" from the end of the sleeve ends.

Name on back uses Block condensed typeface, regardless of name length, and is sewn on a nameplate.

1999

2001

© GameWornGuides.com

1995-2001 Alternate

1999

1996

Similar to the 1994 jersey it replaces, but sleeve trim is simplified and striped neck trim is removed. Identify by the relatively bold wordmark compared to later years.

Block Condensed name on a plate, one-color white Block Bold with Serifs numbers on back, front uses similar but not identical Front Block Bold with Serifs, also white.

1999

1995

© GameWornGuides.com

2002 Home

This is a one-year design. The style of the Royals script lettering is changed, it becomes taller and thinner. The small upstroke disappears from the bottom of the "O."

All lettering is now three-color, royal blue/white/black 3D drop shadow. Name on plate. The thickness of the outline and drop shadow on the front numbers are carefully made to match the Royals script. Sleeve patch loses the disc and is now just a shield. Crown color changes to black from gold.

2002-2005 are the years of the **black drop shadows** on everything for the Royals. A design used by many teams during the era. They eventually phased out the look as the trend faded.

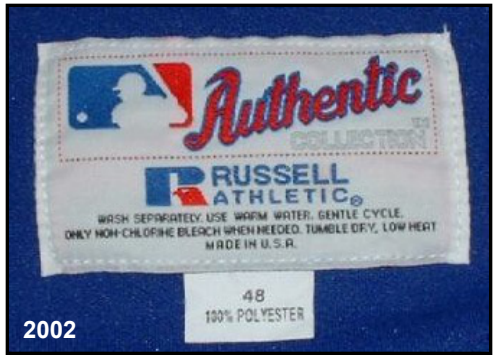
© GameWornGuides.com

2002-2005 Alternate Home

Royals script lettering is changed, becoming taller and thinner. The small upstroke disappears from the bottom of the "O." In 2002, the thin white sleeve end trim disappears completely and now the jersey is simply plain blue.

Numbers are Block Bold on back, Dodgers front number font is borrowed for the front of these jerseys. Name is Block Condensed style, one-color white, sewn on a name-plate.

Team sleeve patch has a black top to the crown and a wide white border.



2002

2005

© GameWornGuides.com

2002-2005 Alternate Road

Ryan Magathan Collection

2004

2005

Bill Henderson Collection

Black button-front design with royal blue knit trim on jersey front and around collar and at sleeve ends

Two-color numbers and name, (no drop shadow), royal blue outlined with white.

Name on a plate, Block Condensed lettering used. New-style disc logo patch sewn on left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002-2005 Road Vest

Ryan Magathan Collection

2005

2004

Gray button front, three-color Kansas City arched on front.

Three-color lettering for name and number, royal blue/white/black 3D drop shadow. Name goes on a plate.

The thickness of the outline and drop shadow on the front number matches the Kansas City script.

New-style Royals disk patch goes on left sleeve of undershirt.

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2003-2005 Home Vest

Ryan Magathan Collection

For 2003, the home jersey loses its sleeves and becomes a vest, worn with an accompanying royal blue undershirt. Royals logo patch moves to the royal blue undershirt, the shield has a black crown on top.

Name/number lettering identical to 2002 home jersey. The thickness of the outline and drop shadow on the front numbers match the Royals script.

Below: *Mike Sweeney wears a captain's C on his jersey front. It is three-color with 3D drop shadow, just like the rest of the lettering on the shirt. This photo is from the 2003 All-Star Game, explaining the sleeve patches.*

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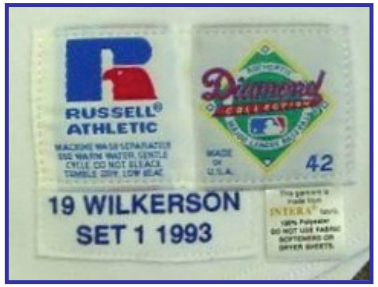
1992-2005 Royals Team Tagging



- Rawlings set and year flag tags continue through 1991. Russell takes over manufacture of Royals uniforms in 1992, and tagging is similar to many other teams who used Russell in those years (Brewers, Yankees, for example).
- Russell year tagging disappears by the late 1990s, and Royals stopped using year tagging during Majestic's contract up until the time that bar-code tagging started.

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2006-2021 Home

2006-2007 style patch with wide white border.

2008-2017 style patch with jersey fabric-color border.

2018 50th Anniversary patch replaces the team shield on the left sleeve for one season only.

2019-2021, the black drop shadow on the "KC" is removed, a change that is almost invisible.

The home jersey for 2006 loses all outlining and drop shadows, as well as all knit trim except for at the end of each sleeve. Numbers on the front, player names on the back. All lettering is one-color royal blue. The Royals script is a little thinner with a shorter tail under the name, looking more like the early 1970s version of the uniform. Nameplates are not used after 2007. Majestic makes these from 2006-2019, Nike from 2020-2021.

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2006-2021 Home, continued

2009

2019

2021

Note the change in style code from ROH1 for Majestic to ROH1 for Nike.

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2006-2011 Road

In 2006, the Royals altered their road uniforms, returning to a retro Kansas City script resembling the team's road uniforms last used in 1970.

In 2006-2007, the team shield sleeve patch has a ¼" white border. The top of the crown is gold again. Starting in 2008, the sleeve patch is slightly changed with a very thin white embroidered outline around the shield, and with the patch background is color keyed to the jersey fabric. Nameplates are no longer used after 2007.

1970 road flannel is shown ***(inset, below left)*** for comparison.

Left: *2006-2007 style patch with wide white border.* ***Right:*** *2008-2011 style patch with jersey fabric color border. Same patch pattern is followed with the other colored jerseys.*

Original 1970

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Alternate Home/2007 Alternate Blue/ 2008-2013 Alternate Road

Ryan Magathan Collection

Above: *2008-2013 sleeve patch gains jersey-colored background; loses thick white border, compared to 2006-2007 style* ***(right)****.*

White knit trim at sleeve end returns, last seen on blue alternate jerseys in 2001. Number font is Dodgers' Block on the front, Block Extra Bold on the back.

Like the home jersey, the team lettering script is altered, growing bigger with a slightly lighter stroke (similar to the early 1970s style).

Team logo shield used on the left sleeve of all 2006-2013 jerseys. In 2006-2007, the team shield sleeve patch has a ¼" white border. The top of the crown is gold again, as the black is gone.

Worn as a home alternate in 2006, and used both home and road in 2007. With the introduction of the light (Columbia) blue home alternate jersey in 2008, this jersey is redesignated for road use only.

Starting in 2008, the sleeve patch is slightly different with a very thin white embroidered outline around the shield, and with the patch background is color keyed to the jersey fabric.

Nameplates are no longer used after 2007.

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2006 Alternate Road

Bill Henderson Collection

This jersey could nearly be put in the "oddball" category. Announced as the Royals' road alternate jersey for 2006 replacing the 2002-2005 version, it was rarely worn. It was used for the first time for the Royals road opener against the Yankees on April 11, and then just a couple more times on the same road trip. Then, as far as I can determine, it was never worn again. After this year, the color black was banished from the Royals uniform palate.

This style was officially discontinued from use by the team after 2006. Can we assume someone did not like them?

Notice that this jersey has blue sleeve end knit trim, but none around the collar and on the placket like the previous 2002-2005 black jersey had.

The MLB Silhouetted batter on this neck back is blue/gold, but is blue/silver on the previous black jersey.

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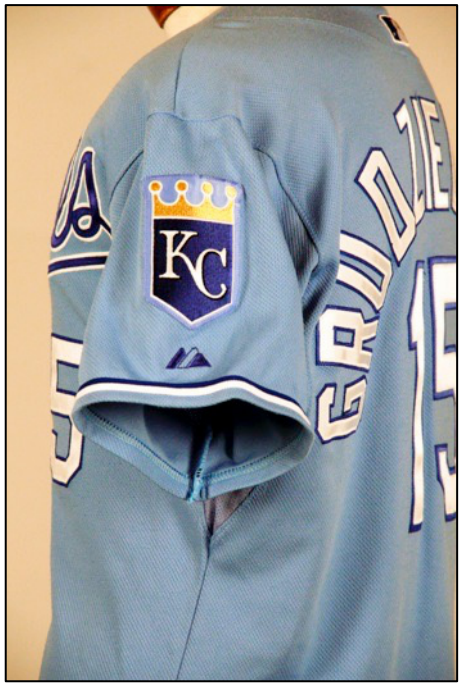
2008-2011 Alternate Home

Ryan Magathan Collection

2008



This jersey is designed to look “retro” without being an exact copy of an earlier style. Its color is called Columbia blue. The Royals were the very last team in MLB to abandon powder blue road jerseys (after 1991) and the first to re-adopt them, 17 years later.

Logo script is royal/white, numbers and NOB are white/royal. No nameplates used.

The sleeve patch has a very thin white embroidered outline around the shield, and the patch background is (somewhat) color keyed in blue to match the jersey fabric.

2008

2008

© GameWornGuides.com

2012-2021 Road

Ryan Magathan Collection

*2006-2011 wordmark **(above)** compared to 2012 version **(below)***

2012-2017 style patch with jersey fabric color border.

2018 50th Anniversary patch replaces the team shield on the left sleeve for one season only.

2019-2021, the black drop shadow on the "KC" is removed, a change that is almost invisible.

The road jersey script is "tweaked" slightly for 2012. The changes are subtle, so I have shown both the old and new side by side.

First, the front wordmark is altered. It is now more proportional and appears less vertically stretched and tall.

Second, the sleeve end trim changes from the former blue knit trim to new blue and white narrow knit trim that is also used on the team pants.

Third, the gray uniform cloth is slightly darker tinted than before. It appears from photographs to now be the same color as the Dodgers road uniforms.

The version of Block font used for front numbers is the same as used on the road and light blue jerseys in the prior couple of years. It is thinner in stroke and the letters are wider and seem more square than used by other teams.

All lettering is blue outlined with white. No nameplates are used. Majestic is manufacturer from 2012-2019, Nike from 2020-2021.

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2012-2021 Road, continued

2009

2019

2020

Note the change in style code from ROR2 for Majestic to RO22 for Nike.

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2012-2015 Alternate Home/ 2016-2021 Alternate Home Light Blue

Ryan Magathan Collection

The light blue (former Columbia blue) jersey changes a bit for 2012.

First, the fabric color changes to a slightly deeper shade, called "Atlantic Blue" (dare we say almost periwinkle?). The front script reverses colors, from its previous blue outlined with white to now white outlined with blue.

Front numbers are just like those on the new-for-2012 road jersey: a variation of the old familiar Athletic Block font, thinner in stroke but with numerals that are wider and squarer.

Numbers are blue/white on front, also the reverse of the prior years' style. Back name and numbers are white outlined with blue. Majestic is manufacturer from 2012-2019, Nike for 2020-2021.

2012-2017 style patch with jersey fabric color border.

2018 50th Anniversary patch replaces the team shield on the left sleeve for one season only.

2019-2021, the black drop shadow on the "KC" is removed, a change that is almost invisible.

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2012-2015 Alternate Home/2016-2021 Alternate Home Light Blue, continued

2015

2017

Note the change in style code from ROAC for Majestic to RO3C for Nike.

2020

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2014-2021 Alternate Road

Press Release 11/25/2013: The Royals rolled out a new look Monday morning by unveiling an updated alternate road uniform that offers a "royal blue" jersey with traditional road gray pants. It also includes the classic KC script logo over the heart. It is the logo that appears on the club's caps, but this marks the first time it will appear on their regular season uniforms.
"The KC logo continued to be extremely popular with our fan base and is synonymous with Kansas City," said Kevin Uhlich, the club's senior vice president for business operations. "With that in mind, the Royals are excited to incorporate the logo into our uniform collection for the 2014 season."
A club release said the new look "includes several design elements featured in the club's various blue 'batting practice' jerseys worn from the 1980s into the early 2000s."
The jersey is trimmed in white and powder-blue piping. The numeral and player name will be white with a powder-blue outline.

2018 left sleeve 50th Anniv patch

Patch without drop shadow on "KC" starts 2019.

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2014-2021 Alternate Road, continued

Note the change in style code from ROA3 for Majestic to RO33 for Nike.

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2016-2021 Alternate Home "Los Reales"

2016-2017

2019-2021

After premiering a "Los Reales" jersey in 2015 for a single game, the Royals bring the jersey into their rotation as an official alternate in 2016, now in Flex Base. Aside from the update to the wordmark, this is identical to their home jersey. However, the sleeve patches change yearly from 2016-20, including the team's "KC" logo patch on the left sleeve, which has drop shadows on the "KC" for the 2016-2017 seasons, but not on the 2019-2021 version. Other patch variations include:

- June 25, 2016: World Series Champs patch right sleeve
- Jun 24, 2017: ACE 30 memorial patch on right sleeve
- September 1, 2018: 50th Anniversary patch on left sleeve and gold pediatric cancer ribbon on left chest
- June 21, 2019: MLB150 patch right sleeve (and new left-sleeve patch with no drop shadow on "KC" as worn on all of their jerseys starting in 2019)
- September 12, 2020: DG memorial patch right sleeve
- September 17, 2021: No additional patches

Nike takes over manufacture in 2020, and their logo appears on the right chest. The jersey is removed from the team's official lineup after 2021.

2018

2018

2020

2019

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2016-2021 Alternate Home “Los Reales”, continued

2018

2020

Note the change in style code from RORL for Majestic to RO3L for Nike.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2017-2021 Alternate Home Gold Trimmed

Note the change in style code from ROAW for Majestic to RO3W for Nike.

2017 drop shadow on "KC"

2018 50th Anniversary patch replaces team shield

2019-2021, drop shadow on "KC" removed

After winning the 2015 World Series, the Royals introduced a gold-trimmed home jersey to celebrate for a single game, the following April of 2016. Apparently, the team and fans liked it so much, that management asked MLB for license to use the gold-accented jersey as an alternate all year long, which was approved. With some minor modifications, the jersey intended for a one-time World Series celebration became part of the official rotation in 2017. In this version the Royals wordmark and player names appear in royal blue/metallic gold, while both front and back numbers are metallic gold/royal blue Block. Majestic is the manufacturer from 2017-2019, Nike takes over for 2020-2021. It is discontinued after the 2021 season.

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2022-2023 Home

The Royals make very subtle updates to their home jerseys for 2022, focused mainly on their sleeve-end braid, which is now considerably wider than before. Otherwise, status quo for this consistent and classic style. The 2022 version has the Art Stewart memorial patch on the right sleeve.

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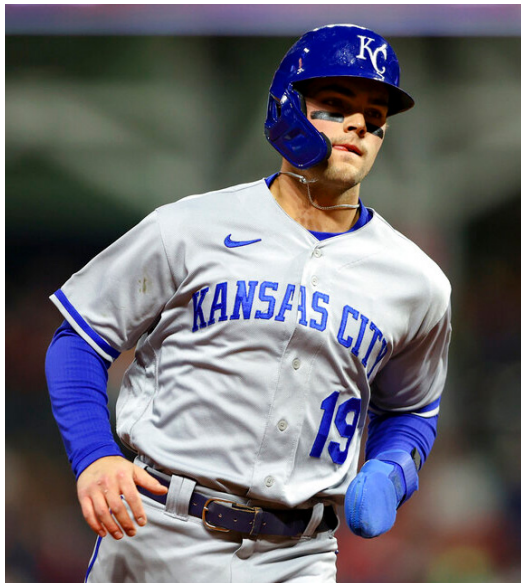
2022-2023 Road

The Royals look back to look forward, updating their road jerseys to resemble their 1971-1972 set, including the quirky front lettering. The blue sleeve-end trim is now considerably wider than the previous set as well. All lettering is single-color blue, while front and back numbers and player names have been updated to match style of the home jersey. The 2022 version has the Art Stewart memorial patch on the right sleeve.

*The new front lettering is a direct reference to the team's 1971-1972 road jersey **(above),** including the unique, likely hand-drawn quirks of the original.*



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2022-2023 Alternate Home

Powder blue is nothing new for the Royals, so this version of the team's home alternate continues team tradition, but simplifies the previous generation of this style. Wide white sleeve-end trim replaces the previous two-color braid. All lettering is now single-color white, while front and back numbers and player names have been updated to match font of the home jersey. The 2022 version has the Art Stewart memorial patch on the right sleeve. In 2022, these are paired with white plants and matching wide, power blue braid down the leg. For 2023, new powder blue pants are unveiled to complete the look for certain games.

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2022-2023 Alternate Road

The Royals update their road alternate jersey to match the rest of their new set, essentially reproducing their road jersey (including the quirky front lettering) in different colors. Here, Nike makes this dark blue jersey with wide, white sleeve-end trim. All lettering, front and back, is single-color white, The 2022 version has the Art Stewart memorial patch on the right sleeve.

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2022-2023 City Connect

The Royals use their City Connect entry to honor Kansas City baseball history, local landmarks, and throw in a reference to the Beatles as well. The Royals check in with a dark blue jersey that honors colors worn by KC baseball teams of the past ("the Monarchs, Blues, Bluestockings, Packers, and Athletics," according to the team), while the powder blue elements tie in the Royals' own history. The KC logo on front, "R" patch on the sleeve, and embroidery over the jock tag pay tribute to the many fountains across the city (and Kauffman Stadium). Wide white/powder blue/white sleeve-end trim directly refers to similar adornments on Royals jerseys of the past. Front numbers and player names on back appear in powder blue, while the back number is in white, all in a font that echoes the art deco elements of the city's architecture. Finally, "HEY HEY HEY HEY" is embroidered inside the collar of the jersey (an element, like the tail embroidery, never seen on the field, but very visible at retail), which comes from the team's victory song, "Kansas City/Hey Hey Hey Hey" by Carl Perkins (and later The Beatles).

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Royals classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. In Spring Training, the team used jerseys with the 2023-size back lettering, but were forced to change to start the season. See the page in the oddball section for more info. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Royals" script now breaks across the "y" instead of between the "o" and "y" as it once had. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it. This makes most teams' trim seem wider, but the Royals already used wide trim on sleeve ends, so the change is negligible. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The ad patch appears opposite the team patch starting this season.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Royals recently updated road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. In Spring Training, the team used jerseys with the 2023-size back lettering, but were forced to change to start the season. See the page in the oddball section for more info. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "KANSAS CITY" lettering breaks in about the same place, across the second "A," as it once had. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it. This makes most teams' trim seem wider, but the Royals already used wide trim on sleeve ends, so the change is negligible. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The ad patch appears opposite the team patch starting this season.

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2024 Alternate Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Royals popular powder blue jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. In Spring Training, the team used jerseys with the 2023-size back lettering, but were forced to change to start the season. See the page in the oddball section for more info. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Royals" script now breaks across the "y" instead of between the "o" and "y" as it once had. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it. This makes most teams' trim seem wider, but the Royals already used wide trim on sleeve ends, so the change is negligible. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The ad patch appears opposite the team patch starting this season.

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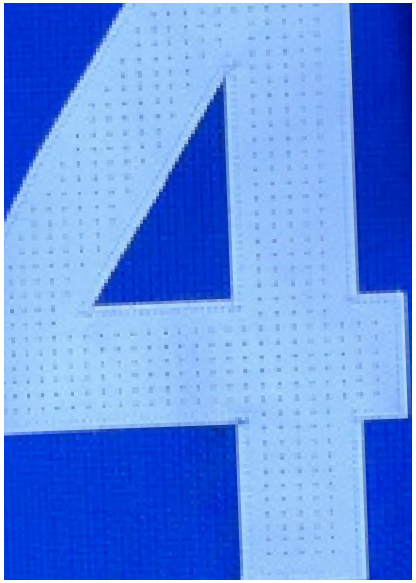
2024 Alternate Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Royals recently updated royal alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. In Spring Training, the team used jerseys with the 2023-size back lettering, but were forced to change to start the season. See the page in the oddball section for more info. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "KANSAS CITY" lettering breaks in about the same place, across the second "A," as it once had. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the jersey rather than on to it. This makes most teams' trim seem wider, but the Royals already used wide trim on sleeve ends, so the change is negligible. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The ad patch appears opposite the team patch starting this season.



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2024-2025 City Connect

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Royals recently unveiled City Connect jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller (much smaller, in this case), and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is still sewn on to the jersey rather than in to it like most VPE jerseys, likely because of the extreme width of the trim used. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. The team's ad patch, introduced prior to the 2024 season, is now included opposite the "R" patch, which varies location depending on player handedness. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

For the Royals iconic home jersey, those changes mainly mean that back and front numbers are enlarged to their former size. Aside from the VPE changes, the team's ad patch also changes shape for 2025. Otherwise, these remain the same as in 2024.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of neck trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. Like other 2025 jerseys, gray jerseys also have back name and numbers enlarged, in most cases back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, like the Royals with their bold front and back numbers, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025 here as well. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, like the Royals did with their bold front and back numbers, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Road

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, like the Royals did with their bold front and back numbers, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1982-1994 Batting Practice

Near left: *This photo of Bo Jackson from 1988 shows sleeve numbers and no name on back.*
Far left: *This 1992-1994 Russell jersey has low number placement which is a good clue that a NOB was once present. The Royals almost always remove NOBs before releasing their jerseys into the hobby.*

Bottom right: *This jersey, said to be from 1991, has numbers on the sleeves and no name on back.*

Right: **Tom Poquette late 1980's Rawlings BP jersey features extra-wide Block lettering.**

Pullover, mesh fabric, identify by the multi-colored knit sleeve end and neck trim. Varsity numbers on the left sleeve 1982-1991. No sleeve numbers 1992-1994.

Block Bold numbers used on the back.

No names on back through 1990. NOB appears in about 1991. Nameplates are used.

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1983 Alternate Batting Practice

Made by Wilson, this is a peculiar style jersey, and we've seen two of them offered at auction in the past couple of years. One was year tagged 1983, the other had no team tagging. They feature an abundance of wide tri-colored elastic trim at the neck, sleeve ends and waist that one would imagine would have made them very restrictive and uncomfortable to wear. Clunky-stylized KC logo on the front left chest, Varsity numbers on back, and an odd Varsity variant for the sleeve numbers. I am always wary of including examples of star player jerseys that do not have a solid authentication, but I share the #5 (George Brett) example below simply to show the style in use.

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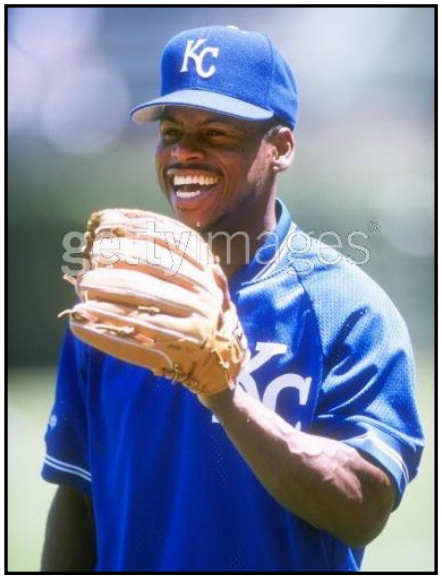
Early 1990s Alternate Zip-Neck Batting Practice

Shown are two variants the Royals' version of the Majestic *Gamewarmer* zip-neck pullover batting practice jersey style supplied to many MLB teams in the early 1990s. All have a short zipper at the neck with wide knit neck trim. The sleeve trim is more complicated than the other style of BP jerseys, and is again common to this style of Majestic jersey.

Left: 1994 with the 125th MLB patch on the sleeve. Sleeve and neck trim is royal/white and gray. ***Top right:*** Photo from 1993 and is the same style. ***Bottom right:*** Notice the different neck and sleeve trim with thinner stripes, in this undated photo from later in the 1990s.



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1995-2000 Batting Practice

Blue mesh fabric with stylized KC logo on the left chest. Identify by the thin white knit trim on the sleeve ends.

Numbers are white, Block Bold with Serifs on the back only. Sometimes names are sewn in Block Bold (as in the Crawford example, ***bottom center***).

Names sewn on nameplates are used on this style of BP jersey.

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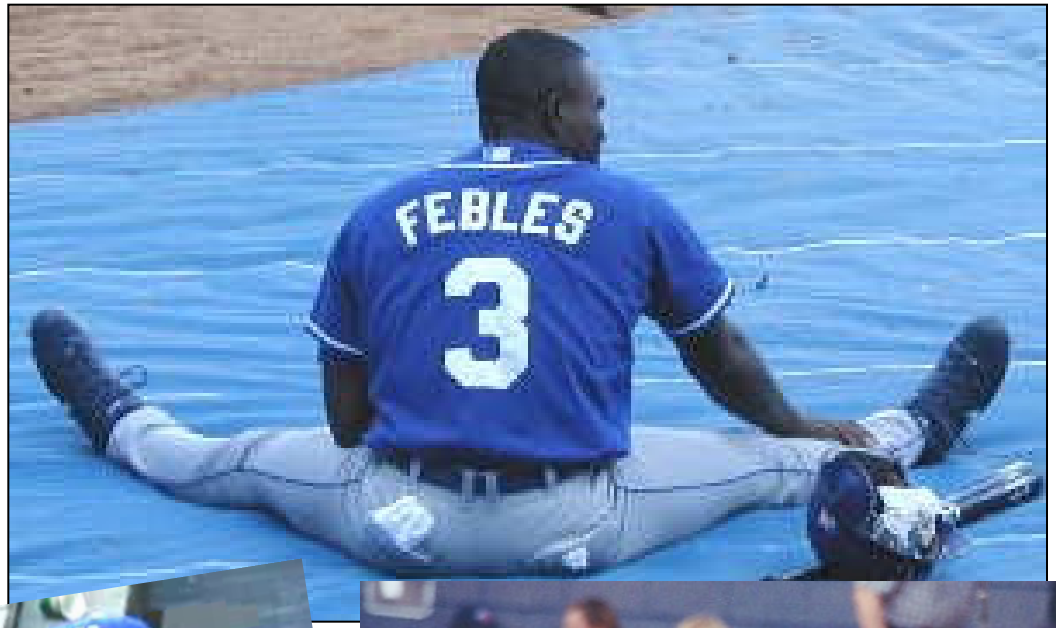
2001 Batting Practice

Unnumbered jersey



One-year batting practice jersey style is blue mesh with plain white lettering. White knit trim on shirt front, around the back of collar and at sleeve ends.

Bold Majestic Varsity Numbers on front and back, name on back in Block sewn on a mesh nameplate.

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2002 Batting Practice

- 2002 batting practice jersey is also a one-year model, solid blue mesh with black drop shadow added to Royals lettering script.
- One-color white numbers in Majestic Varsity Bold on front and back.
- Names on back, all one-color. Names sewn on nameplates.

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2003-2005 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

- Softer, non-mesh “tech” fabric, Royals white script lettering with black 3D drop shadow, jersey has black sleeve inserts.
- Extra bold Majestic Varsity numbers two-color, white with black 3D drop shadow on both back and front, very hard to see.
- One-color white name on a plate.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Batting Practice

The Royals' uniform overhaul in 2006 reaches to their batting practice jersey as well, where the black 3D drop shadows of previous years are also removed here. Otherwise, the BP jersey has the same specs as 2003-2005 version. This is a one-year style, which was be updated with MLB's league-wide template change in 2007.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007-2010 Batting Practice

In 2007, all MLB teams change to a one-button Cool Base batting practice jersey. Contrasting side panels are white and royal blue.

All lettering, names, and numbers are heat-applied appliqués; no longer sewn-on tackle-twill.

Numbers are white Block Bold, player names are block standard.

Top right: Notice Mike Sweeney's captain's C on the right chest – also a heat applied decal.

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2011-2013 Batting Practice

Ryan Magathan Collection

MLB redesigns all team batting practice jerseys for 2011. New design features a full button front, contrasting white side panels.

Tackle twill returns for wordmarks and player names/numbers.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

With the 2014 all-team redesign of batting practice jerseys in Major League Baseball, the Royals took the opportunity to change the appearance of their batting practice jersey. They reverted back to the interlocking KC logo used on their caps, their new-for-2014 alternate road game jersey and last seen on their batting practice jerseys 14 seasons prior, in 2000.

Cool Base fabric with white side panels, all white twill lettering, Bold block numbers on back only, knit royal/white trim at sleeve ends and around neck. Player names used on back.

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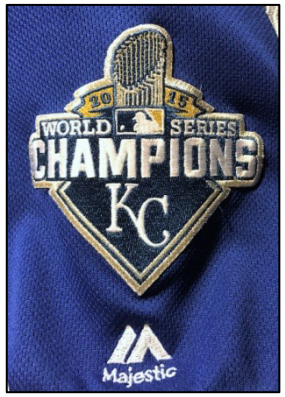
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

Ryan Magathan Collection



For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Royals use their regular season blue alternate road, with a World Series champs patch on the left sleeve as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill/powder blue. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the Royals spend Spring Training.

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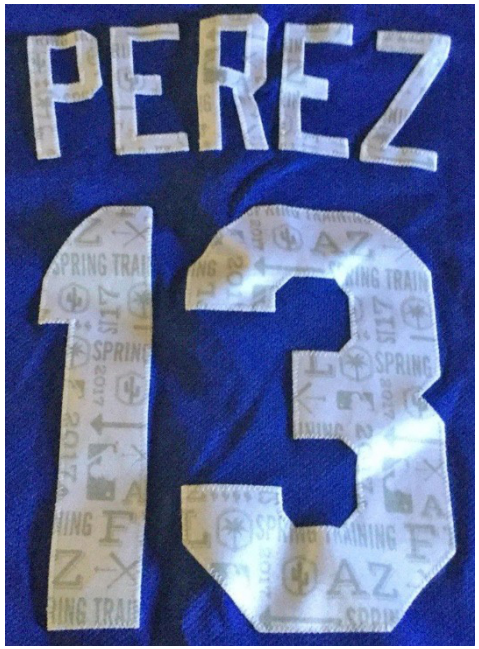
2017 Spring Training



Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, a single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The Royals again use their regular season blue alternate road as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the Royals spend Spring Training. The 2017 model also has the “ACE 30” memorial patch for pitcher Yordano Ventura on right chest.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Royals jersey is royal blue with white back and underarm gussets. The "KC" logo appears on the front left chest in white. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white Block on the left sleeve. The 2017 model also has the “ACE 30” memorial patch for pitcher Yordano Ventura on right sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns.

The Royals use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, featuring a script "R" on front from their home wordmark in white/powder blue. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns.

The Royals use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, introduced the prior year, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and back numbers are white/powder blue twill.

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2020-2021 Spring Training

2021

Spring Training jerseys are simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill. For 2020-2021, the Royals use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, introduced two years prior, with white/powder blue name and back numbers. For 2020, the DG memorial patch for former owner David Glass is on the right sleeve. In 2021, the Royals also tested out a new jersey template during Spring Training, described later in this chapter, though only some players were issued the test style while others continued on with the Nike version of Flex Base that spring.

2020

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2022-2023 Spring Training Home

The Royals update their Spring Training jerseys when they refresh their regular season look. Now, though they wear two different jerseys in Spring Training, both are exactly the same as their regular season counterparts. Here, their home alternate jersey also stands in as their home jersey for spring, This jersey is Nike's version of the Flex Base template in powder blue with wide white sleeve-end trim, and all front and back lettering in white. The 2022 version has the Art Stewart memorial patch on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2022-2023 Spring Training Road

The Royals update their Spring Training jerseys when they refresh their regular season look. Now, though they wear two different jerseys in Spring Training, both are exactly the same as their regular season counterparts. Here, their road alternate jersey also stands in as their road jersey for spring, This jersey is Nike's version of the Flex Base template in blue with wide white sleeve-end trim, and all front and back lettering in white. The 2022 version has the Art Stewart memorial patch on the right sleeve.

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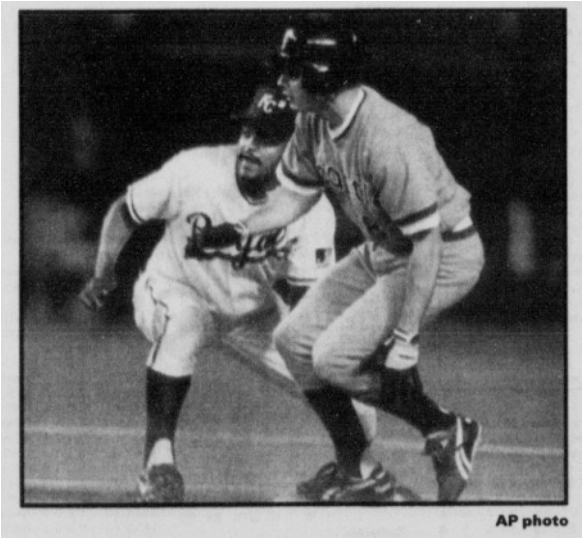
Special Events Jerseys

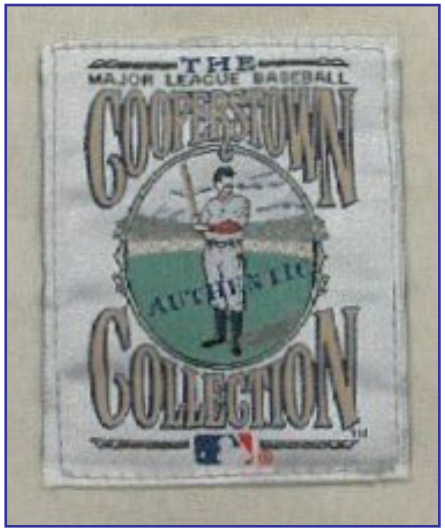
1993 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

May 22, 1993: The Royals first Turn Back the Clock game saw them appear in replicas of their 1969 flannels, courtesy of Mitchell & Ness (which in foresight look nearly identical to their future 2007 knit uniforms!). They wore these to honor the induction of team founder and owner Ewing Kauffman into the Royals Hall of Fame.

Former Mitchell & Ness historian Moriah Levin recalls that with these uniforms, Kansas City in was the first MLB team to take the field in all flannel uniforms since MLB dropped them in 1973 (ironically the Royals, along with the Yankees and Expos, were also the last team to drop them).



AP photo



For more info, including video of players in this uniform, visit https://www.mlb.com/video/royals-hall-of-fame-kauffman-c20296693.

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1994 “Salute to the Negro Leagues” (1924 KC Monarchs) The First MLB Negro Leagues Tribute Game

The blog “Royal Heritage” is a wonderful site http://kcbbh.blogspot.com that contains quite a bit of Royals’ history. It is authored by Royals’ fan Aaron Stilley. Of this 1994 contest, Aaron says:

The first Salute to the Negro Leagues at Kauffman Stadium, on August 3, 1994, came during heady times for Negro Leagues appreciation. The grand opening of the Negro Leagues Museum's current location was held just two days later. Ken Burns' Baseball documentary, which thrust Buck O'Neil and the Negro Leagues into a new level of notoriety, would debut in September.

Buck O'Neil discusses the night in his autobiography:

“In 1994, when the Kansas City Royals held a special Negro Leagues Night at Kauffman Stadium, they asked me what uniform the Royals should wear that night. I could have chosen the one worn by the '42 Monarchs, the best team I ever played on, or by the '55 Monarchs, the last Monarchs team I managed. But I selected the 1924 Monarchs' uniform. When I looked at Tom Gordon and Brian McRae and Jose Lind in those beautiful white pinstripes—just like the Yankees' uniforms—I saw Joe Rogan and Newt Allen and Jose Mendez. That's one of the great things about baseball, if you think about it. Yesterday comes so easy.”

The Royals’ Monarchs uniforms were made of navy-pinstriped cream-colored flannel by Ebbets Field Flannels. All lettering is navy felt The visiting Athletics dressed in their normal road uniforms.

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1995 Negro Leagues Tribute (1925 Kansas City Monarchs)

The Kansas City Royals were the first team to salute the Negro Leagues. Their 1994 "Salute" game began a tradition that has continued now for decades. The Royals note that they use the "stylings" of period Monarchs uniforms when designing their tribute, meaning that they may not be completely accurate reproductions of any single year, and in fact the reader will notice that there are several contests representing the same year that use different-looking uniforms.

The second annual Negro leagues tribute game was held in Kansas City on July 8, 1995, pitting the 1925 Kansas City Monarchs against the 1920 Detroit Stars (Detroit Tigers). These gray-bodied uniforms with navy placket and red raglan sleeves were made by Russell, which also made the Tigers' uniforms for the game. Bold varsity numbers on back are red outlined with navy. Heart-shaped "KC" patch is sewn to left sleeve, the 1995 MLB Negro Leagues patch (offered to all teams but only worn by a couple) is on the right sleeve. The Russell "R" logo is embroidered on the right sleeve end.

© GameWornGuides.com

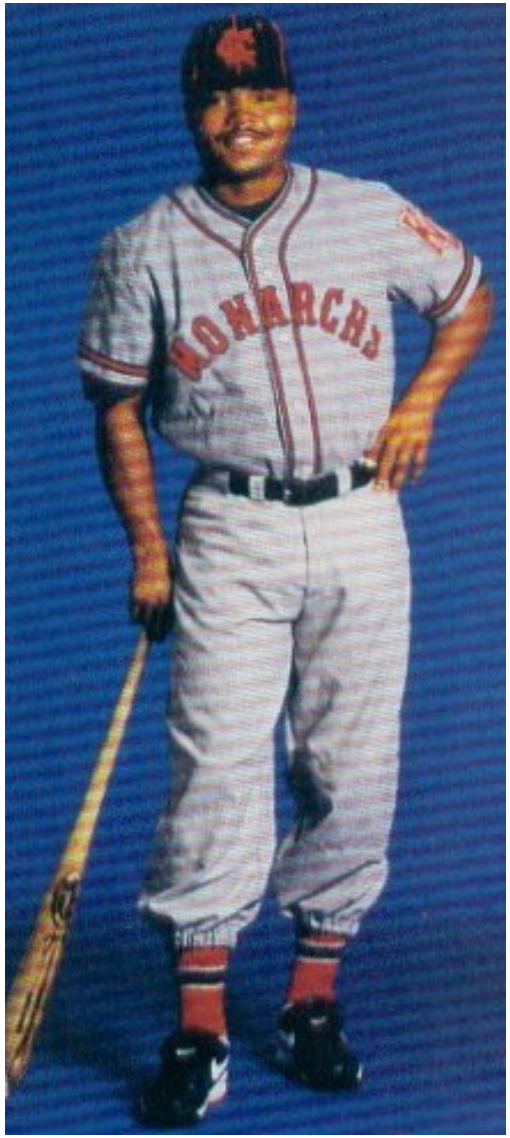
1995 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Kansas City Monarchs)

Above: *The jersey is an autographed one from the game.*
Below: *Also made by Ebbets Field Flannels, appears slightly different in letter spacing and in the font used for the player numbers. It is possibly a replica.*

Ryan Magathan Collection

The Royals take their Negro Leagues tribute on the road to Seattle. These old-style wool-flannel uniforms were made by Ebbets Field Flannels. Jerseys are flannel with red/navy felt lettering.

In this particular game on September 9, 1995, the Mariners dressed as the Seattle Steelheads.



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1996 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Kansas City Monarchs)

The Royals welcomed the Tigers for a Negro Leagues Tribute night on August 24, 1996, with the Tigers wearing white Detroit Stars uniforms and the Royals in gray Kansas City Monarchs uniforms. The Tigers appear to have worn the same jerseys in Detroit earlier in the year, and the home Royals were in gray - possibly the same jerseys as worn the year prior. Aside from these video stills, we have been unable to find more detailed photos to compare this 1996 game's uniforms vs. the versions mentioned above. However, the specifications for the Royals set seems to follow the 1995 jerseys, with all lettering in red over dark blue, with blue/red/blue braid near each sleeve end, around the neck opening, and around collar and placket. A large "KC" patch is displayed on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

The flier pictured above was used by the home-team Mariners to advertise the availability of the game worn the jerseys after the contest.

July 19, 1997: Game was played in Seattle turning back the clock to the Mariners' first year in Seattle, 1977.

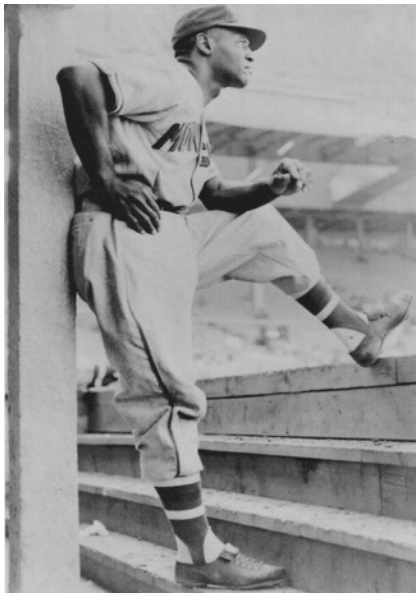
The Royals played along, wearing knit replicas of their 1977 pullover road powder blues, made especially for the game by Ebbets Field Flannels.

The reproductions were fairly accurate, properly lettered with no player names on back and using correct player number type style. The knit sleeve ends are slightly too wide, and "Kansas City" wordmark on jersey front is a bit too tall and thin (compare to original, inset at left). We'll give this effort a solid "B."

© GameWornGuides.com

1998 Negro Leagues Tribute (1949 Kansas City Monarchs)

Ryan Magathan Collection



Buck O'Neil

June 13, 1998: Royals announcements of the day called these reproductions of the Kansas City Monarchs' 1949 uniforms. Their opponents that day were the Detroit Tigers who dressed as the 1935 Detroit Cubs.

Knit uniforms by Ebbets Field Flannels. All lettering is felt: red outlined with black.

Right: *Team photo of the actual 1949 Kansas City Monarchs*

Photo Courtesy Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

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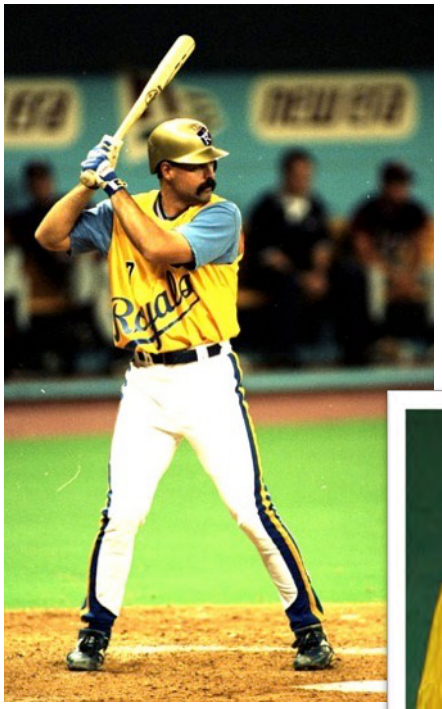
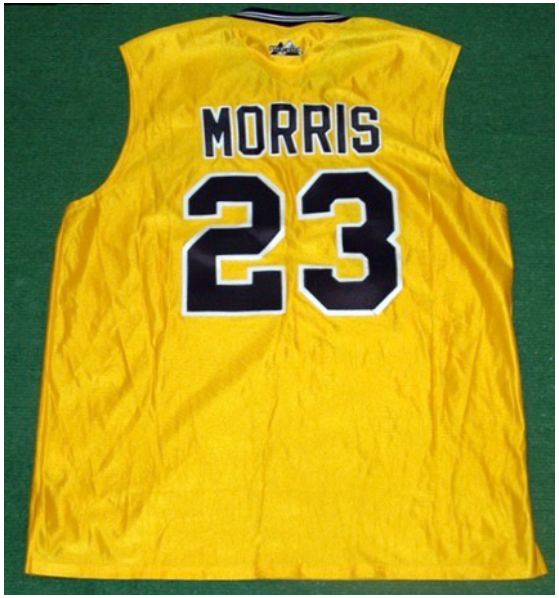
1998 Turn Ahead the Clock



The Royals and the Mariners held the first ever Turn Ahead the Clock Game at Seattle on July 18, 1998. Both teams donned very silly looking uniforms that were supposed to predict what players would be wearing 25 years in the future (that would be 2023).

The Royals' 1998 jerseys are bright yellow, pants featured wide side stripes that went all the way down to the players' shoes. Back names and numbers looked very traditional in design, and are in Majestic Block on the back, though an odd mismatched number font is used on the front.



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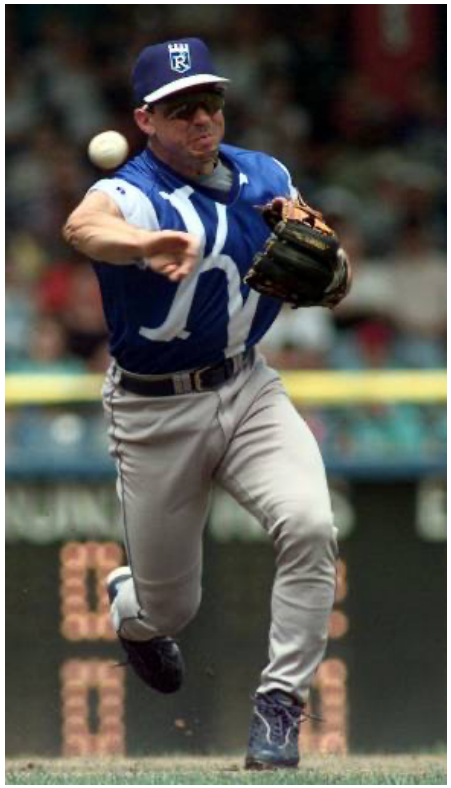
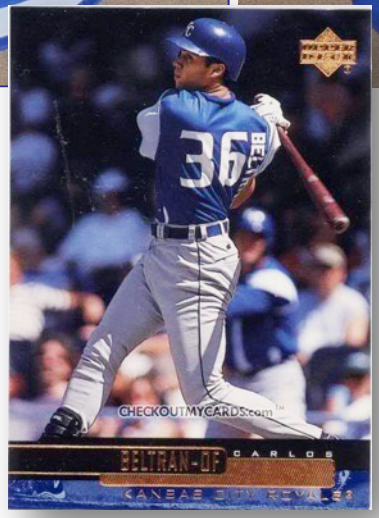
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

Bill Henderson Collection



Replica lettered by bigtimejerseys.com



- The Royals and the Mariners had played the first Turn Ahead the Clock game in 1998. MLB picked up on the idea and offered it as a promotion to the rest of baseball in 1999. The Royals' 1999 jersey is royal blue with a huge KC logo printed into the fabric of the front. The Royals' 1999 games took place against the Tigers in Detroit on July 22, and at home against Tampa Bay on August 14.
- White lettering on the back is in the same font used by the A's, Mets, Phillies and Mariners, in white twill.

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1999 Negro Leagues Tribute (1924 Kansas City Monarchs)

- **June 26, 1999:** Ebbets Field Flannels made Kansas City Monarchs jerseys of the Negro National League.
- Reproduction of the 1924 home jersey in navy pinstriped poly blend. Their opponent was the Indians, who dressed as the 1946 Cleveland Buckeyes.
- No player names on the back.
- Worn by the Monarchs as "World's Colored Champions."

© GameWornGuides.com

2000 Negro Leagues Tribute (1945 Kansas City Monarchs Home)

Ryan Magathan Collection

The Royals played the Pirates at home on June 10. The visiting Pirates dressed as the 1945 Homestead Grays. Knit uniforms were made by AIS, all lettering is navy/yellow twill.

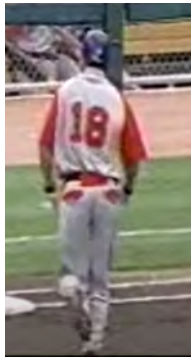
Right: The AIS logo on this signed jersey's sleeve indicates that it was not game worn. AIS would not have been permitted to display its company branding on game worn items; in 2000 only Russell and Rawlings had that privilege.

© GameWornGuides.com

2000 Negro Leagues Tribute (1945 Kansas City Monarchs Road)

Ryan Magathan Collection

July 22, 2000: Visiting the Tigers in Detroit, the Royals dressed as the 1945 Monarchs in these knit uniforms by AIS. It was the first game of a doubleheader. The Tigers dressed as the Negro Leagues' Detroit Stars.



Steve Kraljic Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

2001 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Kansas City Monarchs Home)

Ryan Magathan Collection

June 23, 2001 vs. the Cleveland Indians, who dressed as the 1946 Buckeyes.

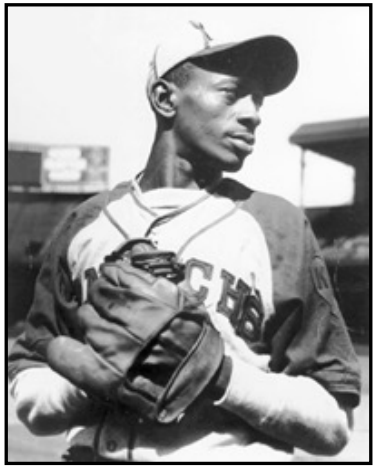
Knit uniforms are made by AIS. All lettering is red over navy twill.

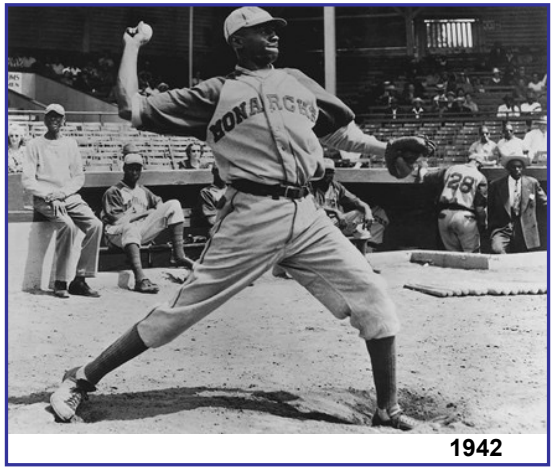
The annual Negro Leagues Tribute tradition began in 1994, and has been repeated each year since then. In 1997, 2002, and 2011, Negro Leagues nights were held, but Monarchs uniforms weren't a part of the games.

© GameWornGuides.com

2001 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Kansas City Monarchs Road)

Ryan Magathan Collection





1942

This game was played July 14, 2001 in Pittsburgh. The host Pirates dressed as the 1935 Homestead Grays. These gray knit uniforms with navy raglan sleeves were made by AIS. All adornments are in navy/red twill.

Far left, middle left: *Satchel Paige as a member of the 1942 Monarchs team.*

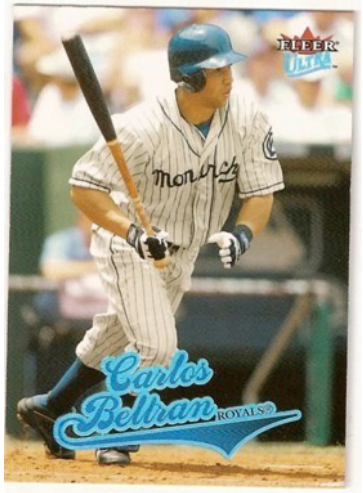
© GameWornGuides.com

2003 Negro Leagues Tribute (1924 Kansas City Monarchs)

Steve Kraljic Collection

These reproduction double knits of the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Leagues were made by AIS.

The game was played on June 29, 2003 and the opponents were the St. Louis Cardinals who dressed as the 1928 St. Louis Stars.



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2003 Negro Leagues Tribute (1945 Kansas City Monarchs)

The game was played on July 26, 2003 in Detroit vs. the Tigers, who dressed as the 1920 Detroit Stars

These re-production double knits of the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Leagues were made by AIS.

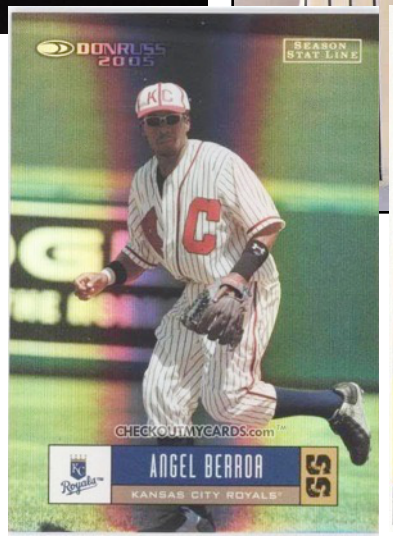
© GameWornGuides.com

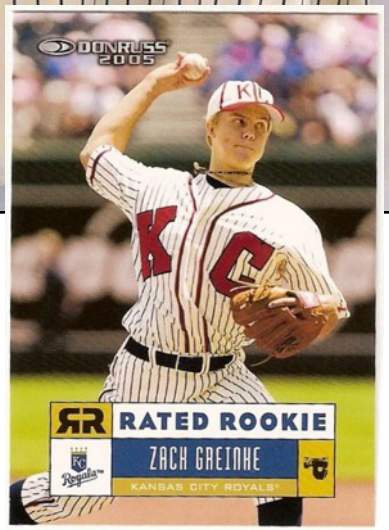
2004 Negro Leagues Tribute (1945 Kansas City Monarchs)

June 13, 2004: Game played vs. the Mets who appeared as the 1944 New York Cubans.

AIS made these 2004 reproductions of the 1945 Monarchs uniforms in double knit.

Top left: Jackie Robinson above left as a member of the original club in 1945.





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2005 Negro Leagues Tribute (1948 Kansas City Monarchs)

Ryan Magathan Collection

July 10, 2005: Kansas City Monarchs vs. Minnesota Twins as St. Paul Gophers, game played in Kansas City.

Uniforms made by AIS, all lettering is sewn felt.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1949 Kansas City Monarchs)

- In 2006, the Royals appeared twice as the Negro League Kansas City Monarchs, in both home and road uniforms. AIS is their manufacturer
- This game was played on June 25, 2006 vs. the Brewers, who appeared as the 1923 Milwaukee Bears.
- Back numbers are Varsity, single-color red on the home jersey.

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2006 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Kansas City Monarchs)

July 15, 2006 vs. the Tigers dressed as the 1920 Detroit Stars. The Royals appeared as the Negro League Kansas City Monarchs, in road uniforms. AIS is the manufacturer.

Back numbers are Varsity, red/navy on the road jersey.

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2007 Negro Leagues Tribute (1940s Kansas City Monarchs

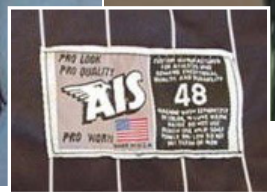
July 1, 2007: in Kansas City vs. White Sox, again the Royals dressed as the Monarchs. They played the White Sox who dressed as Chicago American Giants.

While these jerseys were supposed to represent a 1945 version of the Monarchs' uniform, the reliable *Royal Heritage* blog says that they are not accurate to any one specific year, but that they were inspired by features of both the 1942 and 1949 uniforms.

All Royals jerseys had a "42" patch for Jackie Robinson. Caps had a 22 patch for Buck O'Neil, all coaches wore #22 that day for O'Neil.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007 Negro Leagues Tribute (1924 Kansas City Monarchs)



- Game played on June 23, 2007 in Milwaukee vs. the Brewers dressed as the 1923 1923 Negro League Milwaukee Bears.
- The Royals dressed as the Negro League Kansas City Monarchs as they often do in throwback games.
- Double knit uniforms are made by AIS.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007 Negro League Tribute (1948 Kansas City Monarchs)

Nick DiSalvo photos

Game played July 21, 2007 vs. the Tigers in Detroit. Rather plain uniforms made of gray double knit by AIS. All lettering is red twill. Varsity numbers on back, red/gray/red knit trim at sleeve ends and on the tops of the sleeves right up to the neck opening.

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2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1951-1952 Kansas City Monarchs)

The June 22, 2008 contest pitted the Royals dressed as the 1951-1952 Kansas City Monarchs vs. the San Francisco Giants, who dressed as the New York Royal Giants.

Uniforms were red pinstriped double knit with several unique trim elements and made by AIS. Front and back lettering is navy outlined with red.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1924 Kansas City Monarchs)

Ryan Magathan Collection

Steve Kraljic Collection

Game played in Kansas City May 30, 2009 vs. Chicago White Sox, who dressed as the 1926 Chicago American Giants.

Uniforms made of double knit by AIS. All lettering is navy blue twill.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1949 Kansas City Monarchs)

- Two consecutive games played in Pittsburgh, June 26 and June 27, 2009. The Pirates dressed as the 1935 Homestead Grays.
- These appear to be the identical style uniforms as used for the 2007 road contest vs. the Tigers, all made by AIS. Red twill lettering, Varsity numbers on the back.

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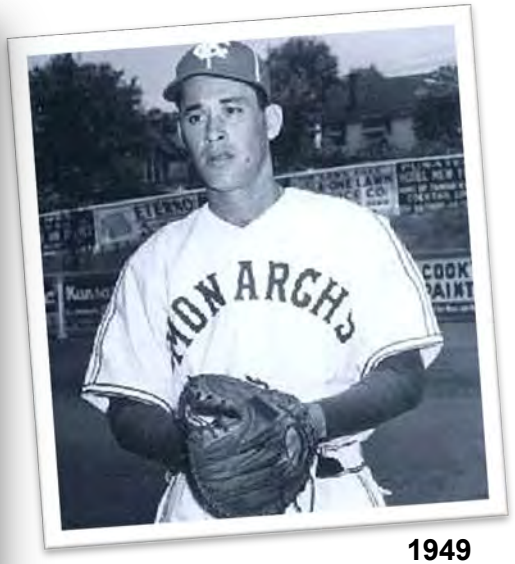
2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1949 Kansas City Monarchs)

Ryan Magathan Collection

- Game played in Kansas City July 31, 2010 vs. the Baltimore Orioles who dressed as the Baltimore Elite Giants.
- Uniforms made in double knit by AIS. All lettering in red over dark blue. Back number font is Block with Serifs, same as used on the Royals' normal game road uniforms 1992-1994.

2011's Missing Monarchs: For unknown reasons, the Royals decided to skip dressing in throwback uniforms in 2011. The cost of making a set of throwback uniforms was speculated as a possible cause.



1949

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Negro Leagues Tribute (1949 Kansas City Monarchs)

June 9, 2012: Kansas City at Pittsburgh (Grays). These knit jerseys by AIS are visually identical to ones worn in road games in both 2007 and 2009.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Negro Leagues Tribute (1941 Kansas City Monarchs)

July 21, 2012: Minnesota at Kansas City. The Twins played as the 1908 St. Paul Colored Gophers, though the word "Colored" was dropped from nearly every mention. AIS cream-colored knit jerseys. All lettering is dark navy.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1951 AA Kansas City Blues

Ryan Magathan Collection

June 30, 2012: Kansas City at Minnesota (1951 minor league throwbacks), game two of a doubleheader. Gray knit uniforms were made by Majestic for the occasion.

Left: *Mickey Mantle spent 40 games as a member of the Blues (a AAA class minor league team in the American Association) in 1951 during an early-career slump.*

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Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013 Memorial Day

Ryan Magathan Collection

All of MLB wore camouflaged-lettered uniforms May 27 for Memorial Day. The Royals played the Cardinals at home, and modified their standard home uniforms for the event. Desert camouflage on white is difficult to see, but these were passable in execution.

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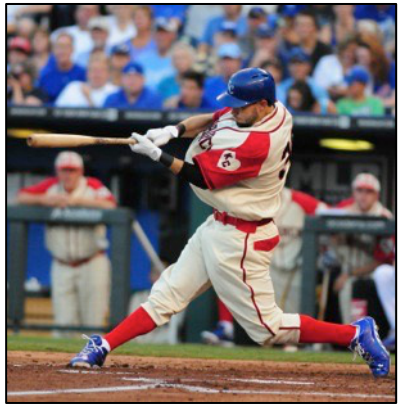
2013 Negro Leagues Tribute (1942 Kansas City Monarchs)

Ryan Magathan Collection

August 24, 2013: Washington at Kansas City, knit uniforms made by AIS. AIS had made uniforms for the 1942 Monarchs before, (for the 2001 game) and while they are similar to these, they are not identical. The coloring of all lettering is reversed from these earlier examples.



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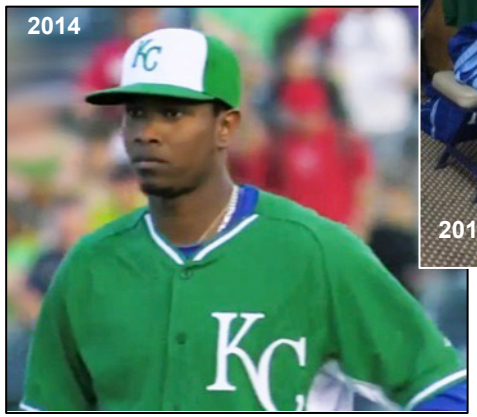
2014-2015 St. Patrick's Day

Ryan Magathan Collection

While they have usually been St. Patrick's Day nonobservant, the Royals donned special green and white variants of their new-for-2014 batting practice jerseys for their Spring Training game on March 17...



...topping the uniform off with green and white hats. All lettering is white twill. The same style jerseys were worn in 2015 (but with different cap).

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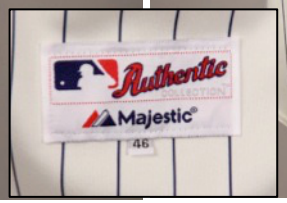
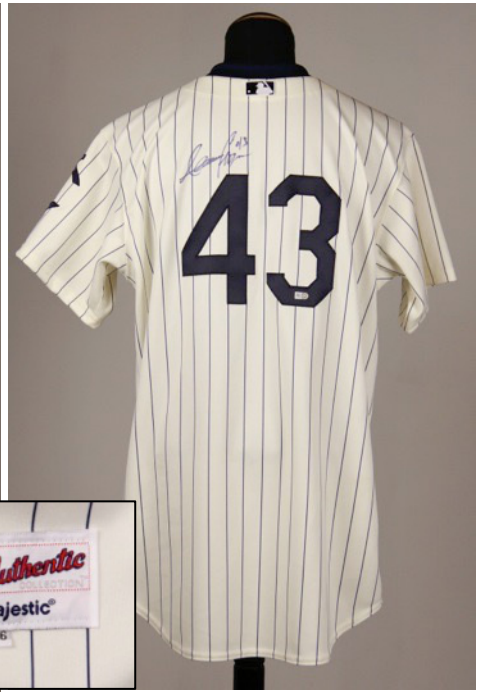
2014 Negro Leagues Tribute (1924 Kansas City Monarchs)





May 18, 2014: Baltimore at Kansas City. The Orioles dress as the Baltimore Black Sox, the Royals as the 1924 Monarchs. These cream-colored knit navy-pinstriped uniforms are made for the Royals by Majestic, not AIS, significant in that AIS had exclusively been making the Negro League tribute Monarch uniforms since 2001 up until this game. All lettering in navy twill.

Hard to reconcile the appearance of these 1924 replica Monarchs jersey with the ones worn in 2009, 2003 and 1994 that look completely different.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Memorial Day

Ryan Magathan Collection

May 26, 2014: This year, the Royals chose to modify their light blue home alternate jerseys for the all-MLB observance. Military Desert Camouflage twill outlined with royal blue is a reasonably good combination and is actually even somewhat visible from the seats, unlike the uniforms of many other teams on this day. The front number is camo outlined with white, same sleeve patch as on normal game jersey. All jerseys marketed to fans after the contest.

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2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1974

August 30, 2014: The Royals hosted the Indians for a Turn Back the Clock to 1974 game. The Royals wore near-exact copies of their 1974 pullover uniforms by Majestic. All trim and lettering is correctly proportioned, the right font is used for player numbers, and player names are omitted as they were in 1974. The visiting Indians wore equally well-crafted versions of their wild-for-1974 red jerseys. Uniforms for both teams were auctioned after the game on MLB.com.

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2015 Negro Leagues Tribute (1953 Kansas City Monarchs)

Derek Damian Collection

Continuing their long tradition of wearing throwbacks for “Salute to the Negro Leagues” games, the Royals recall the 1953 Monarchs home uniforms for a May 17 contest against the Yankees, who do not play along and wear their regular road uniforms. The cream-colored, blue pinstriped jerseys, made in full knit by Majestic, feature “Monarchs” in a tall, vertically arched font on front with blue Block with Serif numbers on back and left pant leg. Blue knit trim adorns the placket and sleeve ends. The uniforms also honored the late Cubs’ player Ernie Banks, who played for the Monarchs from 1950-1953, with a patch on the left sleeve that pays tribute to him. The Yankees wear a similar (but not identical) tribute patch on their jerseys as well.

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2015 Memorial Day

For Memorial Day 2015, on May 25, the Royals apply the camo treatment to their road blue alternate jersey. The top layer of white twill is replaced with desert camo, while all other elements, (save for the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo, which gets the camo recoloring), remain the same. Overall, this is one of the better jerseys from this promotion, as it is fairly easy to see the front and back lettering on the dark jersey background. Some teams' lettering, especially those using plain camouflage lettering on white or gray jerseys is nearly invisible from the seats.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1915 Federal League KC Packers

Ryan Magathan Collection

The Royals throw back to the 1915 Federal League Kansas City Packers in a May 31 road game against the Cubs, who wear 1915 Federal League Chicago Whales uniforms. These gray pinstriped knit jerseys by Majestic feature the red "Kansas City" sewn on front in a fancy display font, and red back numbers in a similar style. Numbers, of course, were not worn in 1915, nor was the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo, which appears on the back of the collar. Note also sun collar on the jersey, a period-appropriate touch.

In 2014, the Diamondbacks, who were visiting Wrigley for its centennial celebration on April 23, wore 1914 road uniforms of the KC Packers to commemorate the matchup from the ballpark's first game. Thus, in consecutive years, two different ball clubs combined to wear every KC Packers road uniform ever – all two of them.

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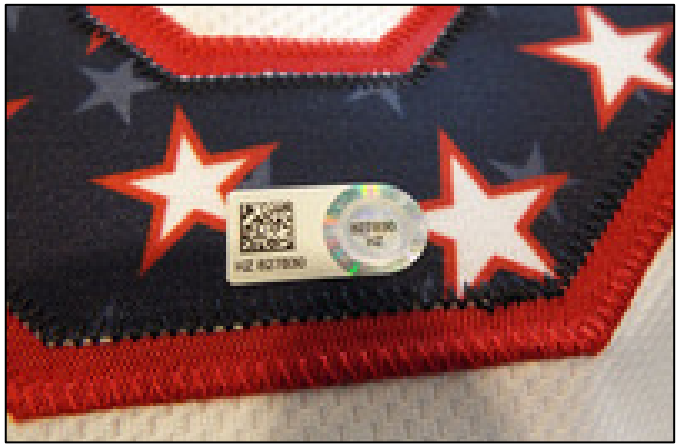
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

Ryan Magathan Collection

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys.



All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Royals wear their home white jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. The Royals are one of four teams (with the Dodgers, Yankees, and Tigers) whose lettering goes from one layer to two for this special promotion. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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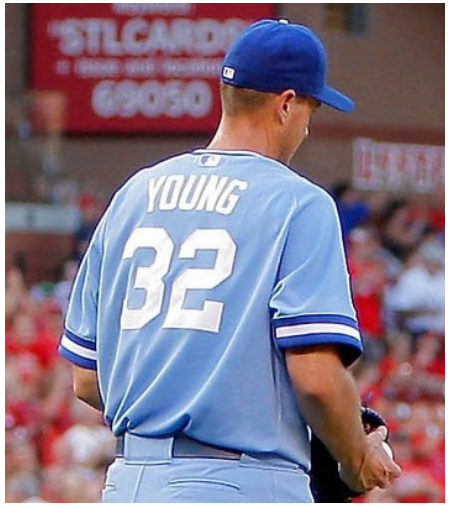
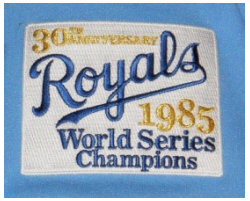
2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1985 World Series





July 23, 2015: 30 years after the original event, the Cardinals and Royals relive their matchup in the “I-70” 1985 World Series, and both teams wear throwbacks to honor the occasion. The full-weight Majestic knit jersey is, overall, a decent recreation, including the blue-tinted buttons and team disc patch. However, the originals used vertically arched Wilson hand-drafted names on back; here they are standard block in radial arch. Contrary to the originals, this jersey also features a 1985 World Series Champs anniversary patch on the right sleeve, the Majestic logo on the left sleeve, and an MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back of the collar.

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2015 Hispanic Heritage

As part of their *"Viva Los Reales"* game against the Astros on July 25, the Royals wear their first Hispanic Heritage jersey. Aside form the wordmark, which changes from "Royals" to "Los Reales," the rest of the jersey is the same as their standard home uniforms. These were made in both Majestic Cool Base and knit versions, depending on specific player preferences. The Astros counter with their own orange "Los Astros" jerseys.

Looking for the 2016 Los Reales jersey? It became an official Royals alternate home jersey selection in 2016 and so was moved to the front section of this chapter.

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2016 St. Patrick's Day

Repeating a team tradition started only two years prior, the Royals again go green for St. Patrick's Day 2016 in a Spring Training game on March 17. This Flex Base jersey is in solid green, with front logo and back numbers in white/gray and player name in white. The layer of gray is narrow and pale enough that it disappears from a distance. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by several other teams for the 2016 St. Patrick's Day promotion. The Royals' team sleeve patch appears on the left side, reduced to shades of gray and white, while white knit trim encircles both sleeves.

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2016 Ring Day/Friday Alternate Jersey

Like a number of teams in the last decade, the Royals celebrate their World Series championship with a gold-trimmed jersey to start the following season, in this case twice, on April 3 and 5. Based on the team's home jersey, this Flex Base entry by Majestic features the Royals' typically one-color wordmark and back numbers in metallic gold/royal blue, The front number and player names remained their usual royal blue. The left sleeve sports the team's usual patch, while the right bears one honoring the previous year's World Series victory. Not long into the season, the team asked MLB for permission to wear this jersey as a Friday home alternate, which they did for the remainder of the year.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Mother's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carry-over from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Royals wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Negro Leagues Tribute (1948 Kansas City Monarchs)

The Royals' annual "Salute to the Negro Leagues" continues May 15, 2016, with another Kansas City Monarchs entry. Though no specific date was given, these closely resemble the Monarchs' 1948 home uniforms. The cream-colored Majestic knit jerseys have "Monarchs" in a navy, serifed, vertically arched font on front, with "KC" on the left sleeve in navy Block, and back numbers in navy Block Bold with Serifs. Navy knit trim adorns the neck opening, placket, and sleeve ends. The visiting Braves wore 1948 Atlanta Black Crackers uniforms.

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2016 Memorial Day

The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Royals apply the camouflage trimmings to their home white jerseys for the game on May 30. All lettering and numbering, front and back, is rendered in woodland camo, devoid of black outlines or black player names that other teams use. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also changed to single-color black from their usual royal blue.

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2016 Turn Back the Clock to 1976

On June 4 in Cleveland, the Royals dust off their 1976 powder blue road uniforms, while the Indians throw back to their 1976 blue jerseys. The Royals' full knit Majestic pullovers are good copies of the originals, though the shape of the V-neck is off, though that may be more an element of the players wearing uniforms much baggier than in the 1970s and 80s. Front lettering is vertically arched while the Varsity back numbers are appropriate for the era, as is the lack of a name on back, though the back numbers on the originals were sewn higher than these. The team's disc patch correctly appears on the left sleeve, and refreshingly, the anachronistic MLB Silhouetted Batter logo does not appear on the back of the collar.

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Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Father's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white.

The Royals wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering, player names on back, and front and back numbers are light blue. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally royal blue, becomes light blue. Like the Dodgers Father's Day jersey, the Royals jersey looks very similar to what they normally wear on the field at home.

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2016 Independence Day

Ryan Magathan Collection

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Royals are on the road and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Royals select the blue twill version with red outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with a red player name on back. The Royals are one of only three teams (with the Dodgers and Padres) to have additional layers of twill added to their typically single-layer jerseys. Several other teams, in contrast, have their multi-layer designs simplified to two colors. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, and all jersey trim, normally blue/white, becomes single-color blue.

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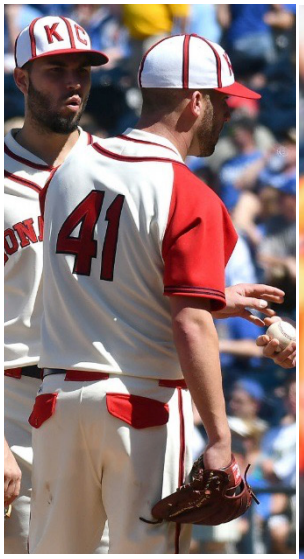
2017 Negro Leagues Tribute (1941 Kansas City Monarchs)



The Royals once again throw back to the 1941 Kansas City Monarchs on May 7, 2017, though this is the first time the uniform is made by Majestic. These cream, full-knit jerseys have the same general appearance as earlier AIS versions, but the details differ all around. The red/blue front wordmark is gently radially arched in a compact serif face, contrary to earlier vertically arched versions with much taller lettering. Red/blue back numbers are now in block rather than Varsity of years past.

The jersey also features a sun collar, and blue/red/blue braid near the end of the red raglan sleeves. Red/blue/red braid adorns the base of the sun collar and around the neck and placket. A red twill “KC” on a blue heart patch adorns the left sleeve. Blue/red player numbers were also worn on the pants.

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2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13-14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Royals wear their home white jerseys with lettering in pink. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray. The "ACE 30" patch is on the right sleeve.

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2017-2018 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black.

The Royals apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27-28, 2017 and May 26-27, 2018. The 2017 version has the “ACE 30” patch on the right chest.

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2017 Memorial Day (Home)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Royals apply this style to their home white jerseys, with all lettering in olive green, as worn on May 29, 2017, with the “ACE 30” patch on the right chest.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17-18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch.

The Royals wear road gray with the front logo lettering in light blue/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally white/royal blue, becomes gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. The "ACE 30" patch is on the right sleeve.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 1 (day game of a doubleheader) and July 2, 2017 and July 2-4, 2018, the Royals wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill lettering throughout. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue. In 2017, the "ACE 30" patch is on the right chest.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 3-4, 2017, the Royals wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue. The "ACE 30" patch is on the right chest.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

2017

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with hand-written black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017 and August 24-26, 2018, the Royals wear jerseys with royal blue bodies and powder blue sleeves with white nicknames and powder blue numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide powder blue/white/powder blue trim. The front features their home jersey script, here rendered in white kiss-cut lightweight twill. The 2017 version includes the "ACE" memorial patch for Yordano Ventura on the left sleeve.

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2018 St. Patrick's Day

The Royals bring back green for St. Patrick's Day in 2018, here on a white Flex Base jersey. The effect replicates their standard home jersey with all royal blue lettering swapped with green on front script, front and back numbers, and player name. The left-sleeve team patch is reduced to shades of gray, a green shamrock patch adorns the right sleeve, while royal blue knit trim is replaced with green near the sleeve ends.

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2018 Negro Leagues Tribute (1921 Kansas City Monarchs)

The Royals return to the 1921 Kansas City Monarchs for their Negro League tribute on May 6, 2018, the second time this style has appeared for the event. Now made by Majestic in cream full knit, this entry differs somewhat from the 2012 version made by AIS, especially in the shape and size of the front logo. Front “KC” ligature and Varsity back numbers in navy blue, while navy knit trim encircles both sleeves near the ends. The look is finished with a navy sun collar.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

The Royals celebrate their 50th season in 2018 and throw back to their original 1969 home uniforms on May 19. Echoing the relative simplicity of their current uniforms, these throwbacks capture the spirit of the 1969 jerseys, if not the details. Made by Majestic in full knit, the white jerseys are adorned with royal blue in every element, including front team script (looks more like their current script than the original), knit trim on neck opening and near sleeve ends (thinner than the original), and Varsity numbers on back (nailed it!). The 1969 MLB 100th Anniversary patch properly appears on the left sleeve. Though the throwback may not be accurate, the Royals are to be lauded for their consistency – this look is so similar to their current look, five decades later, that it may not have even been noticed as a throwback by many fans on TV or in the ballpark.

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2018 Memorial Day (Home)

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve.

The Royals apply this style to their powder blue alternate jerseys on May 28, 2018, creating a very strange amalgam of colors that are not usually represented together, and for good reason.

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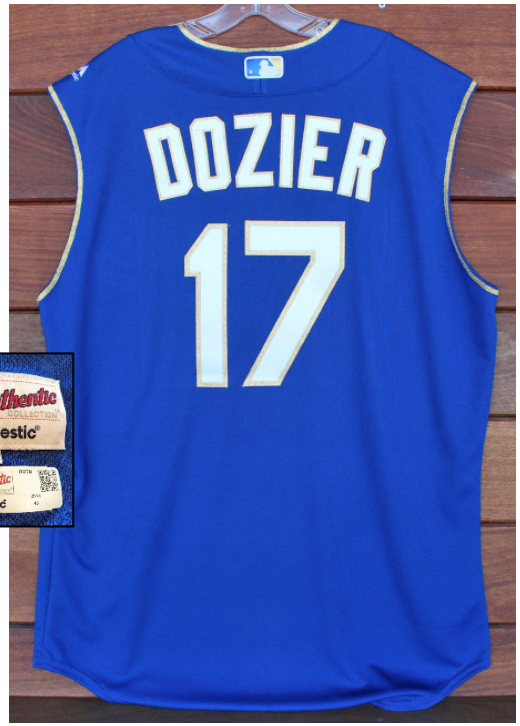
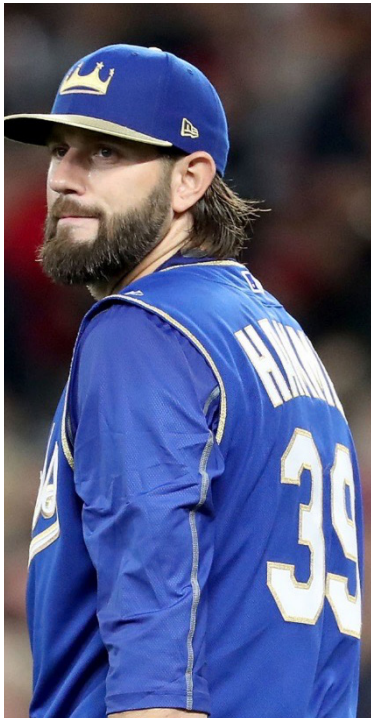
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1998 Turn Ahead The Clock





The Royals had the distinction (misfortune?) to take on the Mariners for the first Turn Ahead the Clock game in 1998, and the Mariners welcome them back to do it all again on June 30, 2018. The Royals, however, decided to rewrite history rather than relive it, by creating a whole new futuristic jersey for the follow-up. Again a vest, this time in royal blue, the two-button Majestic Cool Base jersey features metallic gold knit trim around the neck and sleeve openings. Back numbers are white/metallic gold in Block. The front logo is also white/gold, but the gold layer is best described as a thick outline that doesn't quite line up, giving the appearance of a shadow above and below the script. It combines twill and embroidery as part of the effect, and it crowned with…well, a metallic gold on blue crown patch. The Royals updated their caps and helmets to match (the helmet design is particularly inspired) so kudos to them for playing along, and updating a throwback to the future.

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2019, 2021 St. Patrick's Day

After a year in white with green trim for St. Patrick's Day, the Royals return to full-out green for 2019. Now based on their Spring Training jersey, all adornment on the Majestic Flex Base jersey is white, from the "R" script logo on front left to the back name and number (in Block Bold). The team patch on left sleeve appears in shades of gray, while the white shamrock appears on the right. White knit trim runs around the neck and placket, as well as around the sleeves just above the ends. Jerseys were made by Nike for the 2020 season, but were not worn because the game was canceled during the COVID pandemic. The jerseys returned to the field in 2021, again made by Nike with their logo on front right chest.

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2019 Negro Leagues Tribute (1941 Kansas City Monarchs)

Strikingly similar to the 2017 Monarchs throwback, also made by Majestic, the June 23, 2019 entry appears to have two differences. First, the "MONARCHS" lettering is spaced differently here on the jersey front than it was before, with the "A" now on the placket vs. to the right of it. Second, these jerseys now look to be white rather than cream. Otherwise, the rest of the details on this full-knit jersey remain. Front red/blue wordmark and block back numbers. The jersey also features a sun collar, and blue/red/blue braid near the end of the red raglan sleeves. Red/blue/red braid adorns the base of the sun collar and around the neck and placket. A red twill "KC" on a blue heart patch adorns the left sleeve. Blue/red player numbers were also worn on the pants.

Now you see it, now you don't.

At some point during the game, Alex Gordon's "S" fell off the front of his jersey, despite having appeared before the game. When the jersey was auctioned online, the winning bidder had the option of having the "S" restored, or leaving "Monarch" singular.

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2019 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

After wearing their 1969 home throwback in 2018, the Royals take the show on the road, wearing replicas of their 1969 inaugural season road jerseys on July 6, 2019 against the 1969 Expos-clad Nationals who wore powder blue road uniforms, making this a road-on-road matchup. Amazingly, these jerseys, provided by the Nationals, are more accurate than the home ones the Royals made for themselves the year before. All adornment on these Majestic Cool Base gray jerseys is royal blue, including a very accurate rendition of the "Kansas City" script on front, knit trim around neck opening and at the sleeve ends (a little narrower than the original's), and Varsity numbers on back. The 1969 MLB 100th Anniversary patch properly adorns the left sleeve. Overall, a wonderfully rendered throwback of a classically-styled late-60's flannel jersey.

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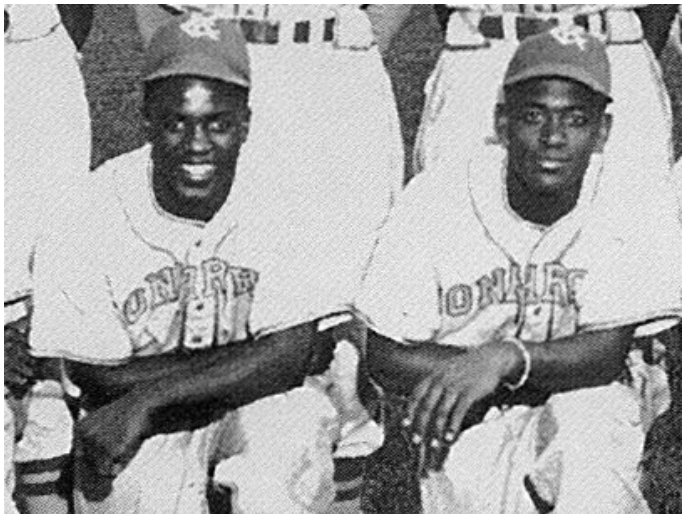
2019 Negro Leagues Tribute (1945 Kansas City Monarchs)

Steve Kraljic Collection

For a second time, the Royals throw back to these 1945 KC Monarchs road jerseys, this time, on August 10, 2019. Made here in Majestic Cool Base fabric, where the last version was made by AIS, and there are many differences throughout. The "MONARCHS" wordmark is radially arched in a yellow/blue serif font (the AIS was vertically arched and taller), while yellow/blue Block numbers adorn the back (Varsity for the AIS version). Blue/yellow/blue braid surrounds the neck opening, collar and placket area, and close to sleeve ends, similar to the 2003 AIS reproduction, but the pattern of the braid around the neck is different. This version also lacks the left-sleeve patch of the 2003 issue.



Above: Jackie Robinson and Satchel Paige on the 1945 Monarchs…imagine that.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Royals wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2020, 2022-2023 Negro Leagues Tributes (1945 KC Monarchs)

For their annual Negro Leagues Tribute games in 2020 (September 22), 2022 (August 13), and 2023 (September 16), the Royals return to a 1945 Kansas City Monarchs home uniform they last wore in 2004. Now made by Nike, this version is a very accurate representation of what the Monarchs wore, save for the Nike logo on the right chest (though the Royals have had very different interpretations of the Monarchs' 1945 uniforms over the years, as seen in previous pages). Here, a white Cool Base material jersey with blue pinstripes features huge "KC" lettering in red/blue on front, with red/blue player numbers on back and left pant leg in a distinctive font that looks like a cross between Varsity and McAuliffe. Blue/red/blue braid appears close to sleeve openings, around the neck and placket, and around the period-appropriate, but slightly inaccurate white sun collar (the original collars were striped). Red buttons complete the look. Note that the Royals paired this jersey with red caps in 2020 and white caps with braid matching the jerseys in 2022 and 2023.

Side-by-side, Hilton Smith (above left) and Nicky Lopez (above right) show how well these throwbacks represent the original uniforms.

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2021 Negro Leagues Tribute (1949 Kansas City Monarchs)

For their annual Negro Leagues Tribute game in 2021 on May 23, the Royals throwback to the 1949 Monarchs home look. They last wore this style in 2006. Now made by Nike, these white jerseys in full knit material have “Monarchs” spelled out in red on front in a fancy Tuscan font similar to the Red Sox and 1976-1981 White Sox. Varsity numbers reside on back in red, with red/white/red knit trim at sleeve ends and on the tops of the sleeves from the sleeve-end braid to the neck opening.

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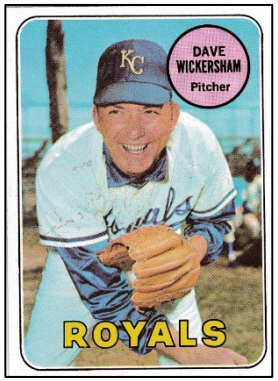
Prototypes and Oddballs

1969 Spring Training Road?

You'll recall that Royals flannel road jerseys of 1969-1972 say "Kansas City" on the front. This road gray jersey at left was offered at auction. Its description was described as showing "light use" with the 1969 MLB sleeve patch "resewn." It was made by Spalding (the only Spalding-made Royals jersey in all my photo research), with 1969 tagging, and Spalding-style numbers on back. I wondered if it was a prototype, and this one may have been. I started to look for more, and over time I found these Wilson examples below. They have neither year tagging nor sleeve patches. I suspect that as the team started Spring Training in 1969, the road jersey may not have been finalized, and these were issued to players before the start of the regular season.

Photos of the Royals inaugural Spring Training from the major news services are practically non-existent. Baseball cards are a good source to find spring training uniforms, and it looks to me that several players may be wearing these gray uniforms, but it difficult to be certain given the color shifting and the poor printed quality of the cards. Notably, other players in the set are shown wearing the "Kansas City" script. jerseys.



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1972 Prototype Home

Found for sale on eBay, this jersey caught my eye because it was a pullover without numbers on front, making it one of the early Royals double knit jerseys which are uncommon enough anyway.

But further investigation showed differences from the team's actual game uniforms. The sleeve trim is an applied wide knit trim, sewn on top of the sleeve, unlike the elastic sewn-in sleeve-end trim used on early knit game jerseys. Further, the V-neck trim is solid royal blue, not blue and white striped as it was on game uniforms.

But sealing the deal, the Wilson collar tag has the vertical line between the size and the wash instructions, which was last used in 1972. The Royals did not switch to knit uniforms until 1973, and all photo examples we have of early game worn jerseys in the files show the later tag without the vertical line.

Our educated assumption is that this is a prototype jersey that pre-dated the production jerseys used by the team. It is blank on back and the thread holding on the front script is well bleached from many washings.

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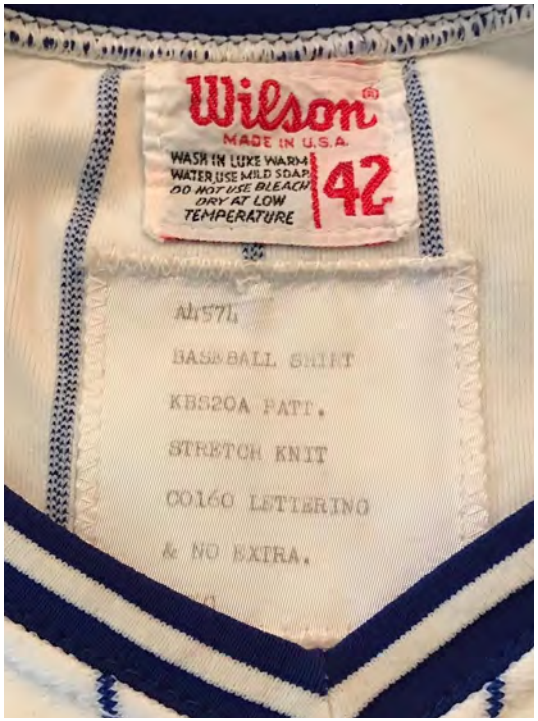
1972 Prototype Home



Another likely prototype submitted for the club's consideration by Wilson, this pinstriped pullover has the 1973 team script, sewn in wide knit sleeve-end trim and V-Neck in blue/white/blue. The Wilson manufacturer tag in the neck is in the style last used in 1972. And as is typical of prototypes, a white twill tag printed with the manufacturing specifics of the design. Wilson produced a similar style pinstriped V-neck pullover with similar trim elements as this one, but in red instead of blue, for the White Sox - no doubt another prototype.

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Mid-1970s Prototype Road

This Wilson jersey was likely a sample of a new road jersey for the Royals. It has sewn on lettering front and back, and save for the blue outline around the lettering looks almost identical to the road jersey used 1973-1982. Notice that the number font is Wilson Varsity.

The Wilson size tag is the style used by that company 1974-1977. Therefore it is reasonable to assume that this prototype was developed *after* the team had already put the one-color lettered pullover knit jerseys into use in 1973. The white sample tag, with Wilson's internal codes for various manufacturing specifications, appears in the neck under the size tag.

Over the years, we have come across another example of this jersey, adding to the mystery.

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Late 1970s/Early 1980s Prototypes: Road Oddballs

We have no absolute confirmation on these jerseys' origin, but based on our experience, the presence of the squared white tag sewn inside the back collar is a common trait of Wilson prototypes. That tag is present on all three of these examples, though readability is impacted by varying degrees of wash wear.

The jersey has a silk screened front script and player numbers, which though unusual, may have been done for speed of creating the mockup. Notice also that the sleeve end striped trim is sewn on over top of the jersey sleeve ends; again looking very much like a rush job perhaps to quickly preview the appearance.

The white tag sewn in the collar is very faded on some examples, but the one at top right is very clear in the internal specs for the jersey. If not for the presence of this tag we would have discounted this jersey as a beer league issue. These jerseys have different codes than the "Kansas City" prototype of this era with sewn letters shown on an earlier page. It is possible that this was a lower-quality jersey, again, because time may not have allowed a better production, and this was used to judge the look rather than construction of the jersey. Of note, the Wilson size tag with size "M" we see on two of the three is atypical for pro issues as well, but again, it may have been a rush job. The style of the "Wilson" logo on the tag, however, was seen starting in the late 1970s, so we use that as a guide to dating these.

But now, the real mystery. Are these really three different jerseys? We believe they are. Note the different stitching patterns around each of the white sample tags. Moreover, close inspection of the back numbers shows that the spacing between the white and blue layers of silk screen is different on each version, indicating that they are all slightly different

copies of the same jersey. Plus, two of them were for sale on eBay at the same time at one point, one in Michigan, and one in Pennsylvania.

Often, these are listed as Danny Jackson jerseys. Jackson, who played in the majors for 15 years, including the first five of his career in KC, was a good pitcher but one unlikely to have received the honor of this many replica, or even sample jerseys, made up for him. Thus, the use of the 25 on all of these is a mystery, unless the misprinting of two of the three versions is a clue to why at least this many versions of this identical jersey exist.

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1973 Prototype Road

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Here is another mysterious Royals jersey from the mid-1970s, likely dating from the team's 1973 switch to knit jerseys, and the introduction to powder blue on the road. Made by Sand-Knit, who also made Brewers and Braves jerseys at this time, this powder blue V-neck pullover has blue/white/blue trim at next and close to the sleeve-ends. "Royals" is spelled our in vertically arched letters on front, and player number "5" is on front and back, with all lettering in blue/white. Note the unusual treatment of the front number, centered beneath the team name. Though it is unusual for baseball, the Cubs did have a road jersey with this number placement in 1972, so it was not entirely unheard of. Sand-Knit tags can be inconsistent, but the tag featured here matches up well with other 1972 styles, which would likely have been the time this sample was being considered for use in 1973. In the end, neither Sand-Knit nor this style were adopted by the team.

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Spring Training Batting Practice Oddballs

White mesh Royals BP Jerseys show up occasionally in the hobby, advertised as game worn.

Here are three variants. These are almost certainly Spring Training jerseys used in practice, but probably not in games.

Bill Henderson Collection

© GameWornGuides.com

Oddballs

Hallmark Designer Shannon Manning proudly displays his finished art for the new Royals emblem. The three somewhat similar designs directly below show the evolutions of his design before the final choice, while other Hallmark artists' suggestions are below.

ROYALS called on Hallmark artists to pinch-hit in designing of emblem

Psychedelic steers and lantern-jawed sluggers vied with royal symbols In friendly competition to select a logo for Kansas City's new team.

Page 34 American League Scorebook

(Left) This full-page ad by Kansas City's own Hallmark Card Company trumpets that one of their own artists created the simple but long-lasting Royals emblem, which was still in use until 2001, unchanged after over three decades.

(Right) Story of how the Royals' road jerseys were stolen from the Brewers' clubhouse in 1977. The last paragraph strikes us as funny, showing that MLB jerseys were not commonly seen as collectibles at that time. Certainly these stolen jerseys are still floating around in the hobby today.

Royals Ripped Off Of Shirts, Gloves

MILWAUKEE (AP) — "You can't tell the players without a scorecard—or with one," said pitcher Jim Colborn of the Kansas City Royals.

Or was it Kansas City Brewers?

A thief—or thieves—broke into the visitors' clubhouse at County Stadium and made off with 53 Royals' uniform shirts, 20 gloves, 10 pairs of baseball shoes and 15 warmup jackets.

Thus all but seven of the Royals' crew of 25 players, four coaches and Manager Whitey Herzog had to wear Brewer road uniform tops for Sunday's game. Each Royal has two sets of road uniforms for a total of 60; now all but seven are missing.

Manager's Uniform

Those wearing complete Royals' uniforms included Colborn and catcher Darrell Porter, both of whom were traded by the Brewers to Kansas City last winter. Also having complete Kansas City uniforms were infielders George Brett, John Mayberry, Fred Patek and Pete LaCock and outfielder Tom Poquette.

"Hey, who wears this uniform for Milwaukee?" asked Royals' outfielder Amos Otis as he pulled a Brewers jersey bearing No. 2 over his head.

When told No. 2 belongs to Brewers Manager Alex Grammas, Otis asked whether Grammas had been a good hitter as a player.

Informed that Grammas had a .247 batting average for 10 major league seasons, Otis said, "Well, I'll get some hits today and make him look good."

"No, on second thought, I want No. 44, Hank Aaron's uniform that's on display in the window outside," Otis said.

The missing items included Otis' glove, only the second he has owned in his 13-year career.

"The first one my brother gave me in 1965," he said. "Galen Cisco Royals' pitching coach gave me the other one in 1973. If they really have to steal it, they can have it, but it did have sentimental value."

A Neat Job

Jim Csicinski, manager of the visitors' clubhouse at the stadium, said he discovered the burglary when he arrived at the locker room at 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

"I put my key in the lock and it wouldn't turn," he said. "Then I pushed the door, it was open, and I saw right away there were no jerseys. It was a very neat job. Every chair was in front of every locker, the same as we left them yesterday.

"Colborn's was the only shirt that wasn't stolen," he said. "It was kind of hidden. The other six I took home last night and washed."

Csicinski said there apparently is a market for "hot" major league uniforms. He said Royals' pitcher Andy Hassler told him that a young fan in Detroit had approached him and asked him to autograph a California Angels' jersey.

The *Hartford Courant,* June 13, 1977 Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner

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1986 (for 1987) Prototype Road

The inset photo shows Saberhagen pitching in 1986, and his jersey is clearly a Wilson one with the Wilson numerals and styled bold NOB.

We don't know for sure, but it is a good bet that this Rawlings road jersey is a 1987 prototype. Rawlings did not make the team uniforms in 1986; Wilson did. It is tagged 1986, but uses the odd-ball Rawlings tag seen on very few 1987-only Rawlings jerseys. It seems to lack the 1987 Rawlings sleeve embroidery that began in 1987. And while Rawlings did not have the team's business in 1986, Rawlings did indeed end up taking over making their uniforms in 1987. Oddly, the player number font is not the Rawlings font that was adopted for 1987, it is close (but not exactly) like the Wilson version then in use in 1986. But the player name font is Rawlings' own house vertical arch font that would come into use in 1987. And why Bret Saberhagen? The pitcher had been on the team for several years and was a popular player-- his long name also lent itself well to showing off the Rawlings' NOB font.

Like I said, this is guesswork, but it is very educated guesswork.

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1991 (for 1992) Prototype Road

This 1991 year-tagged Rawlings jersey is probably a prototype, prepared for the 1992 season, though it is odd to see a prototype with special player tailoring as this one has. Note that Rawlings never made this style jersey for the team: Russell was the maker when this style was adopted in 1992. .

Also notice the blue/white/ blue sleeve end and neck trim, details not present on the 1992 gray jersey that was eventually adopted for use.

Player NOB is a special vertically arched Rawlings Wide Block, as had been used up to this point for some Royals jerseys.

Special player tailoring, Velcro closures are odd to see on a prototype jersey, as these are generally made to show the team what the proposed style will look like "in the cloth."

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2001-2002 Prototype Alternate Vest

Stephen Kraljic Collection

Vests became popular in baseball again in the late 1990s into the early 2000s, and from 2002-2005, the Royals incorporated vests into their lineup despite having no previous history with them. They used vests on the road 2002-2005, and at home 2003-2005. Here we have a prototype alternate vest, and based on the history and tagging, it was likely considered as an option to join the two other vest styles of the time. The telltale “Player” “5” is used here as name (with nameplate) and number, with “5” being a common sample number and likely not representative of the year in this case. Russell tagging dates from 2000-2003. Oddly, there is no Russell logo on the jersey - prior to the addition of the MLB logo on the back of the collar it was usually in that spot, but it moved to above the armhole after 2000. Perhaps given the relative new addition of the MLB logo around the time this sample was made, the manufacturer logo had not yet found a new home. Ultimately, the Royals retained their sleeved blue alternates and did not add this style.

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2006 Prototype Road

The Royals updated their uniform set in 2006, removing the black 3D drop shadows from the lettering on all their jerseys. Here is a prototype of their 2006 road jersey. All the usual prototype signals are here, the size 46 jersey, the use of “Player” and the year (6 for 2006) on back, and the sample tagging, here reading ROY-GRY-RD-J-06 for Royals gray road jersey 2006. Note that the sample has no sleeve patch, but the eventual on-field jersey did, as is the Royals’ tradition.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Prototype Alternate

The Royals updated their uniform set in 2006, removing the black 3D drop shadows from the lettering on all their jerseys. Here is a prototype of a 2006 alternate jersey. All the usual prototype signals are here, the size 46 jersey, the use of “Player” and the year (6 for 2006) on back, and the sample tagging, here reading ROY-RYL-ALT-J-06 for Royals royal alternate jersey 2006. The “RYL-ALT” distinguished it from the team’s black alternate that was also adopted (and hardly ever worn) in 2006. Note that the sample has no sleeve patch, but the eventual on-field jersey did, as is the Royals’ tradition.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Prototype Batting Practice

The Royals updated their uniform set in 2006, removing the black 3D drop shadows from the lettering on all their jerseys. Here is a prototype of a 2006 batting practice jersey, identical in construction to what they wore 2003-2005, but without shadows on team name or player numbers. This style was approved and worn in 2006 before the team joined all others in MLB to update their BP template in 2007.

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2012 Prototypes: Trying to Decide What Shade of Blue to Use

When the process of selecting new styles for the team to wear on field gets down to the final contenders, the maker creates prototypes “in the cloth” for the team to consider. These two jerseys are identical except for the shade of blue of the fabric.

While neither of these very attractive samples were picked for the team to wear, It looks like the jersey color on the left was the 2012 winner!

© GameWornGuides.com

Honorable Mentions

Kansas City Royals Prank Prospect Kyle Zimmer With 'Old Guy' Uniforms/Friday, February 21, 2014 3:09 *(text borrowed from Yahoo News article)*

This is probably not how Kyle Zimmer wanted to start his career with the Royals.

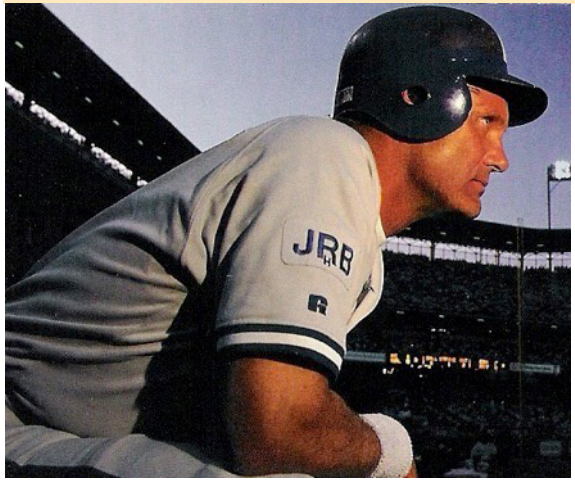
The 22-year-old pitching phenom, who was the fifth overall pick of the 2012 draft, is attending his first Spring Training with the big league club.

When asked about his experience in Arizona, Zimmer let slip a phrase that some Kansas City players were not too happy with.

"So I'm still relatively new to it, but it's great just being around some of these old guys and picking up tidbits here and there as I can," he told MLB.com. "Just being around in the atmosphere of getting going is fun."

Old guys, eh? Kansas City's veterans took offense to those words, and as payback they got jerseys with "Old Guy" and "Real Old Guy" printed on the back.

"You've got to be careful around here what you say in the newspaper," said Kansas City 'old guy' James Shields. "You never know who's reading."



Left: *In 1992, George Brett modified his JRB patches that year with a small, black "H" to honor his father Jack H. Brett, who also died in 1992.*

Right: *Aren't there two "A's" in "Kansas?"*

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2007 Mike Sweeney Captain's "C"

Captain's patches are a more familiar element of hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, but there have been occasions where they've been worn by baseball players too.

Mike Sweeney served as Royals captain from 2003-2007 and wore a captain's "C" during those years. The letter appeared on the front right chest of his jersey, and followed the came color pattern as the rest of each jersey's lettering.

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2020 Unworn St. Patrick's Day

The Royals made up a set of 2020 St. Patrick's Day green jerseys that were never worn because of the COVID shutdown. Made by Nike, they were identical in style to the 2019 Majestic versions that came before, and the 2021 Nike versions of the year after. Even though the jerseys were not used on the field, they were signed by players and sold by the team online with MLB authentications noting that they were team issued and autographed.

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2020 and 2025: Alex Gordon Pine Tar Tributes

Gordon in 2019

2020 Tribute, all photos at left: Royals legend Alex Gordon retired at the end of the 2020 season. On September 26, 2020, his Royals teammates honored him by taking the field in jerseys that mimicked his trademark pine tar stain on the back. The pine tar was applied in the clubhouse before the game to each player and coach, while Gordon's jersey was left clean so he could "apply" the mark himself (see above). Several of Gordon's former teammates also paid tribute to him in the same way during the season's final weekend, including Mike Moustakas (Reds), Drew Butera (Rockies), as well as Matt Strahm, Eric Hosmer, and Tim Hill (Padres). The Royals jerseys were auctioned off, complete with stains, after the game.

2025 Tribute: At the suggestion of Royals star Bobby Witt, Jr., who occupies the locker once held by Gordon, the Royals again all donned Gordon's trademark pine tar for a game on June 14, 2025. This time, the tribute was to recognize Gordon's election to the Royals Hall of Fame, which was celebrated at a pregame ceremony that day.

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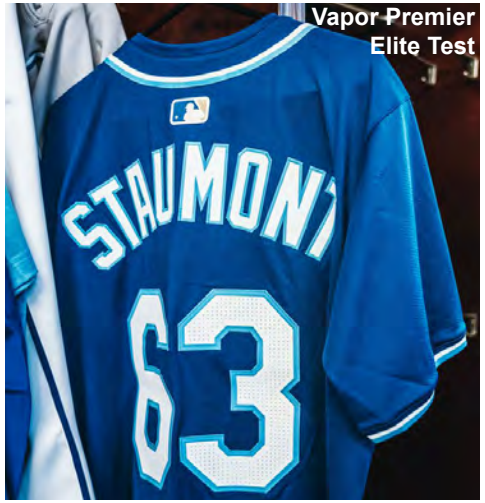
2021 Prototype Nike Vapor Premier Elite



During Spring Training in 2021, several Royals players tested out Nike's Vapor Premier Elite jersey template, in advance of its league-wide adoption in 2024. For most fans, the mix of jersey types was likely unnoticeable, but the appearance of Nike's long-rumored template for MLB made news among jersey aficionados.

There are several differences between the Flex Base and Vapor Premier Elite jerseys that can be seen in the photos here. The Vapor Premier Elite jerseys have small collar and sleeve trim inserts. For the Royals, the neck trim matched the jersey and blended in, and the sleeve trim was thin stripes of powder blue/white/royal blue. Its position at the very sleeve end, and the color difference with the team's Flex Base sleeve braid in white/powder blue was one giveaway of the new jerseys.

It is very hard to see on the Vapor Premier Elite jerseys, especially on a solid color vs. pinstripes, but Vapor Premier Elite has no underarm or side vents like Flex Base.

In addition, the back numbers on Vapor Premier Elite jerseys are perforated twill, similar to what the NBA has used on game jerseys for several years. It is very hard to see from the stands, but locker room photos make it more obvious.

Finally, the collar and button placket on Vapor Premier Elite jerseys are narrower than on Flex Base, which means that knit trim or braid in these areas appears closer together than on Flex Base jerseys. It also makes one other change much more noticeable - the MLB logo, which resides on the back of the collar of Flex Base jerseys, is much lower on Vapor Premier Elite. In fact, for teams with braid around the neck placket, like the Royals, it forces the logo below the trim.

Top row: *The 2021 Vapor Premier Elite template* ***(left)*** *next to the traditional Flex Base* ***(right)****. Note the difference in collar/sleeve end trim, perforated back numbers, and placement of MLB logo patch.*

Above left: *A closer view of a Vapor Premier's collar and cuff trim.*

Above right: *The perforated back numbers are much harder to see on-field, though they can still be visible in the right light. Vapor Premier Elite also lacks the underarm and side venting of Flex Base.*

Bottom right*: A sighting of both styles of jerseys next to each other on field.*

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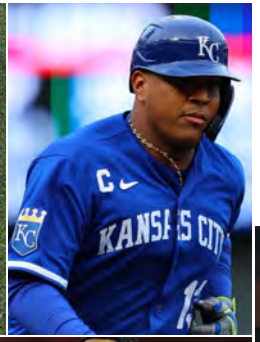
2023-2025 Salvador Pérez Captain's "C"



Captain's patches are a more familiar element of hockey and football jerseys in U.S. sports, but there have been occasions where they've been worn by baseball players too.

Catcher Salvador Pérez was named the Royals fourth captain (and second to wear a captain's "C") in a clubhouse ceremony before the team's Opening Day game on March 30, 2023. The three previous Royals captains, George Brett, Frank White, and Mike Sweeney, were on hand to present Pérez with a jersey emblazoned with the "C" on front right chest. The letter appeared on his home, road, alternate powder blue, alternate royal blue, and City Connect jerseys.

Left: *All four Royals captains (l-r) Mike Sweeney, George Brett, Salvador Pérez, and Frank White during a ceremony awarding Pérez with his captain's "C" on March 30, 2023.*

"It's an honor to be the captain of the Kansas City Royals," Pérez said. "...it's a special day. George Brett, Frank White, Mike Sweeney, the way they played the game, the way they taught us to play the game, have passion for the game, it's something I want to follow."

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2024 Spring Training “Large” Names

One of the most visible and controversial changes that Nike’s Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template imposed for the 2024 season was the radical shrinking and arching of player names on jerseys. Across the league, name lettering changed to 2” letters, down from 2.8” to 3.6” according to MLB.

Above: *A 2024 jersey with small name lettering for comparison.*

The Royals, however, were unhappy with the look, and demanded that they keep their larger name lettering, which appeared on-field on three styles of their jerseys in Spring Training 2024 (including team photo day). Fans and the media took notice, the Royals shared the story of wanting the large letters, and like clockwork, MLB made them fall in line with the rest of the league in time for the start of the season.

Shown here are examples of the three styles that they used in spring with the larger letters and some photos of them in action. They are a symbol of a brief moment when a team pushed back and won when it came to resisting Nike’s drive toward standardization. In the end, the controversy from 2024 was so great, teams were allowed to return to 2023-size lettering for 2025, making these jerseys seem normal, despite being outliers in 2024.

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2024 Prototypes: Road/Road Alternate

In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the two shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. These Royals road and dark blue alternate versions are two such examples. In many ways they replicate the team's similar jerseys introduced a few years prior, just carried over to VPE, which meant that things like the original sleeve-end trim was now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it, and the team's sleeve patch was much lighter embroidery than before. The back numbers on these samples are also perforated, which was not an element of the earlier version. However, when appearing on-field in 2024, the perforations were included on the blue jersey, but not the gray one.

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tags, which read "ROYALS ROAD JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" and "ROYALS ALT2 JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples that were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the "DO9307-074" and "DO9307-495" text on the front tags mean. They are likely internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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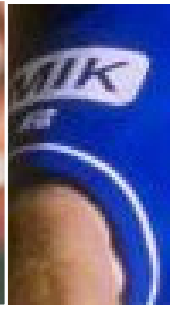
Commemorative Patches

Royals Patches

1987, after July 3

- 1987, after July 3: Dick Howser Memorial.
- 1992, after May 12: JRB memorial on right sleeve for team president Joe Burke
- 1993, after August 1: EMK Ewing Kaufman memorial, team owner. As these are in the spot normally taken by the team disc patch, we wonder if these patches replace the team patch or simply cover it.
- 1993: right sleeve, 25 years
- 1995: MIK Muriel I. Kaufmann, wife of former owner, white or gray patch on right sleeve (all season).

1995



1992, after May12

1993, after August 1

1993

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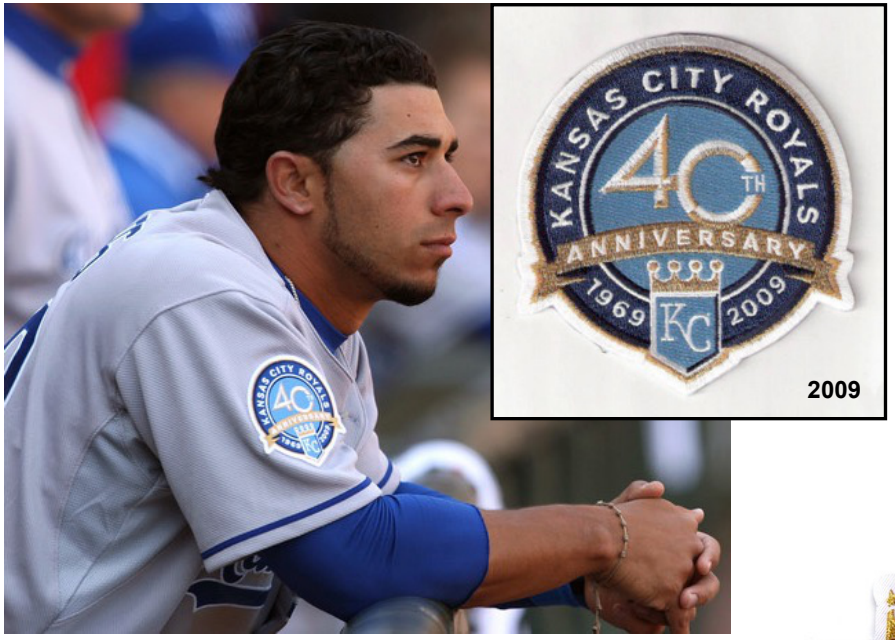
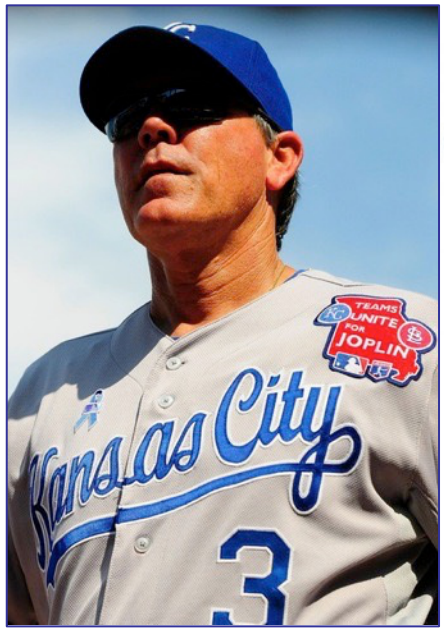


2009

- 2009: Royals 40th Anniversary .
- 2011, June 17-19: Joplin memorial patch. Both the Royals and Cardinals wore patch during their interleague series that remembered the May 22 tornado that struck Joplin, Missouri killing more than 150 people. The patches featured an outline of the state of Missouri, both teams' logos and the words "TEAMS UNITE FOR JOPLIN." As the Royals already have patches on both sleeves, the Joplin patch was affixed to the left chest above the team, wordmark. ***Below left:*** notice also the right chest blue ribbon worn on Father's Day only, for cancer awareness).
- 2011, starting May 26: Following the death of Paul Splittorff, the all-time winningest pitcher in the history of the Kansas City Royals, as well as one of their color commentators, the team started wearing a black circular patch with "SPLITT" in white lettering.
- 2012: All Star game on right sleeve, white and gray backgrounds
- 2013, April 20: Royals wore Red Sox's "B Strong" patch during game at Boston following the Boston Marathon bombing.



June 17-19, 2011

2012 - home and road versions

April 20, 2013

2011, starting May 26

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- 2015, May 24: 1985 World series champions patch worn on right sleeve of light blue home jerseys.
- 2016: 2015 World Series Champions patch on all jerseys.
- 2017: ACE 30 patch for pitcher Yordano Ventura, killed in an off-season automobile accident in his home Dominican Republic.
- 2018: Royals 50th patch, left sleeve of all jerseys, replacing the team "KC" shield patch - four versions, one for each color of jersey.

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- 2019, July 1: Canadian flag patch on right chest of dark blue alternate for Canada Day in Toronto
- 2020: DG memorial patch for former owner David Glass, right sleeve of all jerseys
- 2022: Memorial patch for longtime Royals front-office staffer Art Stewart, blue version for white and gray jerseys, white version for powder blue and royal blue jerseys
- 2024, May 24-26: Green mental health awareness ribbon for series in Tampa against the Rays, who wore the patch all month

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2024-2025 Royals Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Royals did not have an ad patch in 2023, but before the 2024 season, they struck a sponsor patch deal with QuickTrip, a convenience store chain. The patches first appeared in Spring Training 2024.

The patch is red with “QT” lettering in white/black 3D drop shadow on all of the team’s uniforms.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team’s typical sleeve patch takes residence on the opposite sleeve.

In 2023, the location of the team’s typical sleeve patches still varied depending on the handedness of each player, even though a sponsor patch did not appear until the following year.

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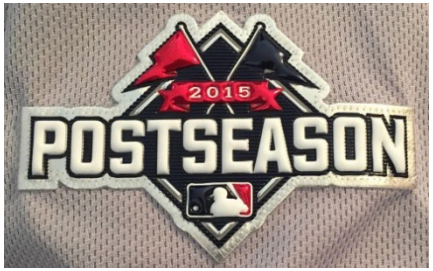
Royals Postseason Patches

2014 AL Wild Card
2014 AL Division Series
2014 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve)



2015 AL Division Series
2015 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

2014 World Series
(right sleeve)

2015 World Series
(right sleeve)

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Ken Wright 1973 Kansas City Royals Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: July 6, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0706J08

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson tagged size 48 marked and measured home pullover jersey most recently #51; originally numbered #28. White jersey body, "Royals" scripted at an angle across the front with an underline in Royal Blue. 2" knit blue/white/blue sewn in sleeve end trim, 1" in the same colors for its knit V-neck. 1972 was the Royals first year in knit jerseys, and the team recirculated all its MLB uniforms through spring training and its minor league clubs throughout the 1970s and beyond. In 1974, the year following this jersey's MLB service, the Royals had seven farm teams, of which five were named Royals. #51 was not issued by the Royals during the season for several years after 1973, so subsequent use was not deemed to be MLB regular season.

Ken Wright enjoyed a five year MLB career, playing four years for the Royals 1970-1973, and then briefly for the Yankees in 1974. In 1973 he appeared in 25 games, half as a starter, and compiled a 6-5 record with a 4.91 ERA, arguably the best year of his career.

Restoration Performed: As received, the numbers 51 had been stripped from the back by its owner, leaving behind a great deal of glue and ground in dirt. The sleeve patch was also detached, and the thread holding the Royals wordmark on front been stripped as it had been bleached white. The light table clearly revealed the presence of the outlines of the original numbers, 28. That number was issued to pitcher Ken Wright in 1973, and at 6' 2" 201 lbs this would have been a reasonable size for him to have worn. I recreated the back numbers from the Royals team patterns from my archives, and these exactly matched the ghosts on the jersey back. I media blasted the new number to make it match the sheen of the older, aged elements. I restitched the original front wordmark without removing it, and reapplied the same team patch on the sleeve directly over the original spot.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturers tag showing the size as 48 is attached in the center of the inside back of the neck. Beneath this is a 1" x 2" rectangle of jersey fabric with "73 Set 2" hand chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher. Embroidered originally in blue thread, washing in bleach and detergents has turned the chain stitching a characteristically light pink.

Continued, overleaf

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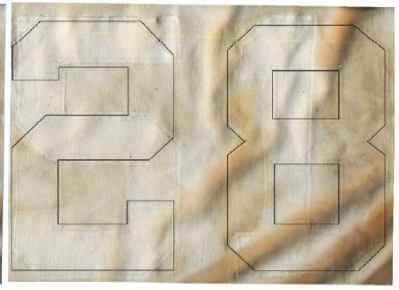
Wear & Repairs: The jersey as received was in fair condition, aggressively cleaning the glue and ground in dirt, plus hand scrubbing and laundering brightened it considerably. It is in good original condition without rips or repairs; the trim is surprisingly unfaded by the sun. I have found that larger sized jerseys like this one often were spared the worst of minor league use because often they were too large to fit the average young player!



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good lightly restored condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Ken Wright of the 1973 Kansas City Royals.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Jamie Quirk 1975 Kansas City Royals "Pre-Rookie" Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 21, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0721J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, Wilson-made Kansas City Royals road Columbia Blue pullover jersey in size 46 (both marked and measured). Stretchy knit Royal/white/Royal sleeve ends and V-neck. "Kansas City" team wordmark vertically arched across the front in white. On back was a non-original single numeral "3" in white twill notably taller and less bold than the team template. Glue outlines of an earlier numeral "9" are visible, roughly 1/2" higher than the number on it as received, indicating a less-than-accurate restoration. Catcher Jaimie Quirk, 6' 3" and 200 lbs wore #9 for the 1975 Royals. (Harmon Killebrew wore #3 for the 1975 Royals. This is not his jersey.)

Quirk was a 1975 late season, September call-up for the Royals, and his scant 39 at-bats in 14 games did not qualify him for "rookie" status. He hit .256 with one home run in that short period. A versatile utility player, in an 18-year career he played for seven different teams, and notably he played for the Royals in three separate stints in ten different seasons. And while primarily a catcher, he played innings at every position during his career at every position except pitcher and center field.

Restoration Performed: Removal of the number from the back and subsequent examination on the light table confirm that this jersey was originally numbered with the the proper size and style "9". The Royals were a frugal organization and recycled nearly everything for reuse. Most likely after its use in 1975 spring training, likely again by Quirk, this jersey was stripped to prepare it for player future issue- spring training or emergency use. It does not appear that it was re-numbered to be used again, as it never received a new number on back prior to the incorrect number 3. This is unsurprising as larger sized jerseys often were spared reissue because they didn't fit the young players called to spring training. (I do not believe that the #3 on it when I received it was from the 1980s, no other player who had been issued #3 by the Royals would have been large enough to have worn a size 46 from 1975 until the end of use of this style jersey in spring training 1983.)

I recreated the number for the back from team patterns to exactly match the ghost of the original digit, aging/dyeing it mildly to match the patina of the rest of the jersey. I stitched it precisely to cover the original marks, sewing with appropriately colored off-white thread. While I steamed the jersey, a light table evaluation will still show scant traces of the presence of that incorrect number 3 from the earlier re-numbering.

Continued, overleaf

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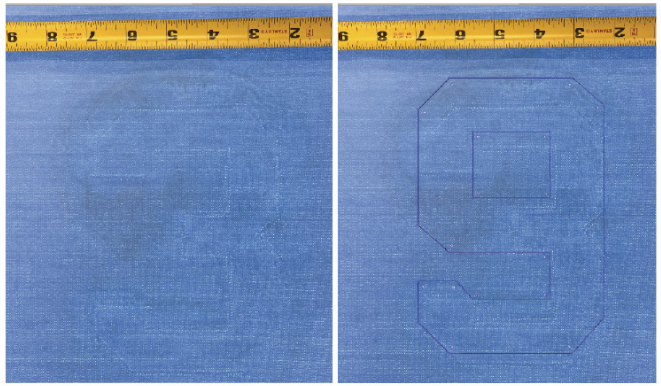
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson size 46 tag, correct style for 1975, is stitched into the back of the neck, showing some wear/fraying to its edges from abrasion with the player's neck. Less than an inch below it is a jersey-fabric color tag about 2 inches long and 3/4" high, slightly trapezoidal in shape (angled ends) with "75 46" hand chain-stitch embroidered in blue thread in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. The tag is zig-zag stitched to the back, center of the neck above the number and just below the Wilson tag. While nearly all 1975 jerseys had a simple square with "75" hand chain stitched on it, I have seen at least one other example of a 1975 Royals road jersey (notably, also a large size) with a longer-style strip tag like this one in the neck.



Top, as received with a replacement number on back. Below, the number removed and a light table view of the shadow highlights showing the original number.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Jaimie Quirk of the 1975 Royals.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

John Wathan 1981 Kansas City Royals Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 13, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0813J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, Wilson-made Kansas City Royals road Columbia Blue pullover jersey in size 44 (both marked and measured). Stretchy wide knit Royal/white/Royal sleeve ends and V-neck. "Kansas City" team wordmark vertically arched across the front in white. Royals disk patch sewn to the left sleeve. On back is the original numbers "12" in white twill matching the team template. On the light table, the outlines of the original name on back of catcher John Wathan are clearly visible, rendered in the Royals' unique hand-drawn vertical arch font on the 1980s.

John Wathan spent his entire baseball career with the Royals, starting with ten-years as catcher with the Royals 1976-1985. In 1981 he appeared in 89 games batting .252, missing most of two months of that season with injury. After retirement as a player following the 1985 season, Wathan coached for the Royals in 1986 before becoming the manager of Kansas City's AAA Omaha Royals farm club. He was promoted to manager for the big-league Royals on August 28, 1987. He managed five seasons in Kansas City, having two winning seasons in 1988 and 1989 and finishing second in the American League West both times. (Wikipedia)

Restoration Performed: I recreated the name for the back from team lettering patterns and then tuned it to exactly match the ghost of the original name on back, aging/dyeing it to match the patina of the rest of the jersey. I stitched it precisely to cover the original marks, sewing with appropriately colored off-white thread. The original front wordmark was re-sewn in bleached thread as was nearly detached in many places.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson size 44 tag, correct style for 1981, is stitched into the back of the neck, showing some wear/fraying to its edges from abrasion with the player's neck. A simple jersey-fabric knit square with "81" hand chain stitched on it is stitched to the outer front left tail, matching exemplars. No other player or set tagging was generally used in 1981.

Wear & Repairs: As received this jersey was very dirty from use, with ground in reddish dirt on the stomach and chest. I was able to brighten it considerably with pre-soaking, scrubbing and washing. The white twill lettering is stained to a shade of ivory from wash water. The name on back had been roughly removed leaving a few extraneous holes. The Royals routinely stripped player names from team jerseys at the end of the season so that the prior year equipment could be re-issued to new players in spring training if needed. Many were sent to the minors leagues for additional use. This jersey has been clearly well-used with a life that extended beyond its original year of issue in 1981.

Continued, overleaf

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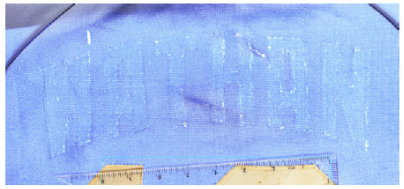

As received , the jersey was missing its name on back and was very dirty. Several rips were repaired in the fabric where the original name had been roughly removed. Here, the light table reveals the jersey's history.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front and the back numbers are all original, and the back is properly restored with player NOB lettering identical to original and exactly coving the original ghosts. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by catcher John Wathan of the 1981 Kansas City Royals.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Document of Restoration

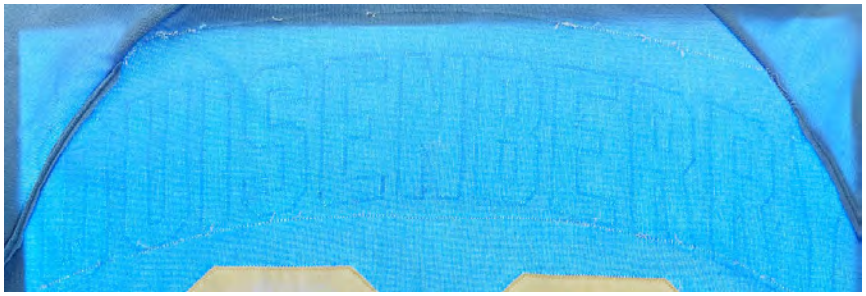
Examination Date: September 4, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0904J01

This is not an opinion of authentication; it is simply a documentation of a restoration performed.

Description: Columbia Blue Wilson seven-button Kansas City Royals pro model road jersey, size 42. Back and front numbers 29 intact, name on back had been removed leaving a very clear ghost stitching image. Year tagged "83".

Restoration Performed: Replaced removed name on back exactly covering the original ghosts. The Royals regularly stripped player names from player jerseys at the end of the season in preparation for sending the used jerseys to the minor leagues for the next year, or perhaps to be re-used in spring training. Besides having its NOB removed, this one showed evidence of having had a nameplate sewn over top of that spot on the back. Threads from its removal remained, and the fabric beneath that nameplate shows slightly darker from less exposure to sunlight.

The new NOB fabric was media blasted to remove the sheen and lightly dyed to make it better match the numbers, then sewn with matching ivory thread for an authentic restoration.



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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Gaylord Perry 1993 KC Royals Game Worn- "Final MLB Season" Road Jersey

Examination Date: February 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0223J08

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Kansas City Royals Wilson-made year tagged 1983, size 46 Kansas City Royals Columbia Blue six-button road jersey. 2" wide knit sewn-in sleeve end trim, Royal/white/Royal. Similarly striped 1" trim around the neck. Royals disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Perry's number 36 is stitched on the left chest and centered on the back, with his name arched above. Player name and number are clearly hand-cut from off-white twill and are stitched somewhat sloppily to the jersey with stitches that are far too close together to match standard team issue. The lettering is inexact in shape, the name on back is standard radial arch style instead of the team-standard vertical arch, and the thread used to stitch it in place is tan instead of off-white. Normally I would consider this to be a poor attempt at an amateur customization and would close the book and move along. *However:*

Perry was in the 22nd (and final) year of his career at the start of the 1983 season, and had been signed by the Seattle Mariners. After a 3-10 start, on June 26 the Mariners designated him for assignment, and the Kansas City Royals picked him on a waiver claim ten days later. Therefore he joined the Royals' mid-season, and was pitching for the Royals just a few days after he was signed. It is reasonable that rather than waiting for Wilson to stitch uniforms for him at the factory and send them, a set of first jerseys were created from extra stock in the clubhouse. Clubhouse-lettered jerseys are often much less professional in appearance than those lettered by the contracted maker. My supposition is backed up by very clear photos of Perry wearing arguably this same jersey, with its inexact front lettering, too-tight-spaced stitching and inconsistent style of name on back. The close-up photos also shows several stray threads on the lettering and one coming from the buttonhole that match the jersey in review. While I do not provide photo matching, I can reference Getty Images 50950480, 115272610, 1073501732 and 115272646 that show the relevant details. I have shown here photos that can be compared to these exemplars.

During a 22-year career, with most of its second half spent with losing teams, Perry compiled 314 wins; upon his retirement, he ranked third in major league history with 3,534 strikeouts. with his 690 games started placing him behind only Cy Young's 815. His 5,350 innings pitched ranked fourth; he had been the first right-handed pitcher since the 1920s to surpass 5,000 innings. He was the last pitcher to throw 300 complete games, and was then the eighth-oldest pitcher ever to start a major league game. Perry was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1991 in his third year of eligibility, a delay widely regarded as resulting from his career-long controversies. (*Wikipedia*)

Continued, overleaf

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Matching exemplars for the 1983 season, the Wilson tag correct for that year is stitched on the outer left front shirt tail. A 1" square of jersey fabric is zig-zag stitched below it, with the two-digit year "83" hand chain stitched in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good original condition. It is free of rips or repairs, and the lettering has been burnished to a matte finish from many uses on the field and trips through the washing machine. It has its original six buttons. The lettering is somewhat puckered from washing and probably also from improper application.

Note that I am not a provider of photo-matching services, and this should not be considered as such. But aspects of this jersey, especially the shape and placement of the front numbers, the stitching frequency and the visibility of threads, as well as the non-standard radial arched NOB can all likely be photo-matched to licensable photos of Perry pitching in 1983.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good original condition. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was game worn by Gaylord Perry of the 1983 Kansas City Royals.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bo Jackson Autographed 1990 Kansas City Royals Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: August 25, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0825J02

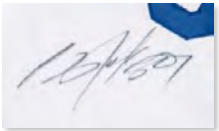
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings six button Bo Jackson #16 white Kansas City Royals home jersey. Tagging sewn inside the left front tail shows the size as 48 with special tapered tailoring. Royals with underline in Royal Blue across both panels of the chest. 1" Royal/white/Royal knit trim sewn in at the ends of the sleeves and ringing the collar opening. On front left and on back is Jackson's #16. Name on back in the correct vertical arched font for the year. A critical evaluation of the player name and number lettering shows that it follows the team template exactly. Sewn on the left sleeve is the Royals' disk patch. The jersey is autographed by Jackson in black Sharpie on the left front, below the front number. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: As the official supplier of uniforms to MLB, Rawlings was entitled to have its logo script branding showing on team jerseys, embroidered in blue at the end of the right sleeve. The white Rawlings locker tag with red/white/blue embroidery and three lines of wash instructions appropriate for use in 1990 . It is stitched on all four sides to the inside of the left front tail. A flag tab reading "SET 1 1990" is pinch-sewn under the right side, and directly above it is a small satin rectangle of fabric with the letter "T" machine embroidered on it. The jersey is 24" wide under the arms, and narrows to 22"at the waist, which is correct for the tailoring designation. All tagging is still crisp and unpuckered from much washing. Team tagging matches exemplars, and the jersey size is reasonable for Jackson to have worn, again matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in excellent original condition. It is free of rips or repairs, and the lettering is still crisp and unfurnished or faded from much use. It has its original six buttons. All of the thread holding the front script and numbers on place is tight and unfaded. There are a few small dirt marks, a set of small marks that could be pine tar on the top of the right shoulder and a few small fabric scuffs. There is dirt rubbed into the elastic trim at the end of the left sleeve below the Royals disk patch.

Bo Jackson was a media sensation and his game worn jerseys have always been in great demand by collectors. While this jersey exhibits some signs that it could have been worn in a few games, it is important to note that Jackson also was represented by Score Board Inc. which produced team issue-style jerseys for him to autograph, including his special "T" tapered tail tagging. Score Board was an innovator: a first-of-its-kind venture designed to provide team-issue specification jerseys to meet collector demand. There was no attempt made then to distinguish between Score Board issued jerseys and ones actually team issued and worn by players.



Conclusion: The autographed jersey in review is in excellent lightly used condition showing marks typical of game use. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging and reflects player-specific tailoring. It is offered without provenance, it is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Bo Jackson of the 1990 Kansas City Royals.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Kirk Gibson Game Worn Autographed 1991 KC Royals Home Jersey

Examination Date: December 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1227J01

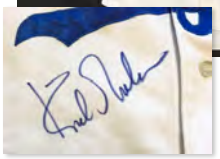
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is Kirk Gibson's 1991 Kansas City Royals set 1 home jersey. Rawlings tail tagging, size 46. White, six-button jersey body with Royals and underline in Royal Blue across both panels of the chest. 1" Royal/white/Royal knit trim sewn in at the ends of the sleeves and ringing the collar opening. On front left and on back is Gibson's #30. His name on back has been restored in the correct vertical arched font for the year. Sewn on the left sleeve is the Royals' disk patch. Notably on this jersey the back numbers are only 7" from the edge of the collar, normally they are 8" to make room for the name above, but this one is spaced unusually closely. The jersey is autographed by Gibson in blue Sharpie on the right front, below the team script. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

In his 17-year playing career, Gibson was a member of the Royals a single season. He was best remembered for twelve seasons with the Tigers and three with the Dodgers, including his memorable game winning post season home run in the 1988 World Series.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey was missing its player name on back, typical of the Royals jerseys of this period who routinely stripped player names from the backs of all team jerseys at the end of the season, typically sending them to the minor leagues for another year or two of use.

Using team templates as a starting point, then the light table scanned images, replacement lettering identical in both shape and placement to Gibson's original 1987 issue were cut from the proper shade of Royal Blue tackle twill and then the lettering was mildly media blasted and organically dyed to harmonize its appearance to the rest of the jersey. The lettering was placed with aid of the light table exactly covering the original ghosts, and stitched with matching bleached thread. The shadow outlines from the



Continued, overleaf

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original Gibson player name lettering, as well as the ghost stitched outline of a removed nameplate, remain beneath the restored lettering and can be seen in the photos on this page.

While not offered as a positive photo match, Gibson in 1991 is wearing a home jersey indistinguishable from this one in Getty Images photo 536611160. Note the identical size and spacing of the name on back, as well the higher than usual placement of the back numbers. It is possible that the jersey in the photo is this one.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: As the official supplier of uniforms to MLB, Rawlings was entitled to have its logo script branding showing on team jerseys, embroidered at the end of the right sleeve. The white Rawlings locker tag with red/white/blue embroidery and in the correct style for 1991 is stitched on all four sides to the outside of the left front tail. A flag tab reading "SET 1 1991" is pinch-sewn under the right side, and directly below is a small satin rectangle of fabric with "2 inch extra length" printed on it in blue. The jersey is 36" in length, which is correct for the tailoring designation. All tagging is slightly faded and puckered from washing. Team tagging matches exemplars, and the jersey size is reasonable for Gibson to have worn.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in good to very good original condition. It is free of rips or repairs, and the lettering has been burnished to a matte finish from many uses on the field and trips through the washing machine. It has its original six buttons. Some of the thread holding the front script and numbers on place has failed and there are some loose threads and slight fraying in the places where the fabric experiences the most wear, in daily use. The name on back of the jersey has been accurately restored as described prior. I would suggest that this jersey was used in the minor leagues or in spring training for another year or so after its major league service had ended.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front is all original, and the name on back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and was game worn by Kirk Gibson of the 1991 Kansas City Royals.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

George Brett 1993 Kansas City Royals Autographed Road Professional Model Jersey

Examination Date: February 7, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J18

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Russell gray, full-weight knit, six button road jersey, 1993 tagged and lettered for #5, George Brett. Sewn-in Royal/white/ Royal Blue 1-1/4" knit sleeve end trim. All lettering is Royal Blue tackle twill outlined with white , "Royals" scripted across the front and underlined. The Royals team disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve; on the right sleeve is the 1993-only Royals 25th patch. The number 5 is sewn on the left panel below the team crest and also is sewn centered on the back. Player name "BRETT" radially-arched on back above the number. 1993 was the first year for Royals road jerseys to switch from vertical arched to radially arched player names. The jersey is autographed by Brett on the back, to the right of the number, in black marker. I have no opinion of the authenticity of the autograph. Notably, this jersey does not have the EMK memorial disk replacing the team disk on the left sleeve, a change that was made for all on-field jerseys after the first week in August 1993. 1993 was Brett's 21st and final season in a Hall of Fame career spent entirely with the Kansas City Royals.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell "R" logo is embroidered in blue at the end of the right sleeve. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is stitched to the bottom outside of the front left tail, showing the size as 44. There is no flag-size tag in the collar, and instead there is a small flag tab on which is printed 100% Polyester pinch-sewn under the bottom of the locker tag. These last two characteristics designate jerseys made to team specification rather than those made for retail sale. Finally, pinch sewn around its perimeter below and on the left side of the locker tag is a white double knit tag with black plastisol ink screened on it, "5 BRETT SET 4 1993". I will observe this about the tagging: The style of Russell Diamond Collection tag is one that went into use very late in the 1993 season, maybe even after the season ended, and wasn't commonly seen until 1994. All game-used Royals 1993 jerseys in my library use the earlier tag, as well as being made of Intera Fabric, also noted with a separate identifying flag tag. Intera Fabric was used exclusively in 1992-1993, 1994 jerseys switched to 100% polyester. The "Set 4" tagging designation is unusual, as all the other examples save one in my library are tagged set 1 or 2.

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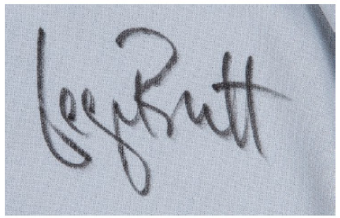
Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitched elements are original and uncontrived. The jersey does not show obvious signs of wash or wear. All stitching, twill and tags are tight, crisp, unfaded and unblemished. There is a small fabric pull near the locker tag at the side seam.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is correctly team lettered and prepared with team-issue style tagging. It is clear that it was stitched by Russell in the same manner and place as other team jerseys. The fact that it displays several variances from 1993 game worn: the Russell tag usually seen on post-1993 jerseys, the uncommon Set 4 tagging, the 100% Polyester tag/jersey construction vs. the Intera Fabric one, and the lack of the EMK memorial patch, coupled with its lack of wear suggest to me that this is a team-specification/issue, pro-model jersey made for a post-1993 season/player post-retirement signing event.



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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Frank White 1983 Kansas City Royals Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 20, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0620J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: As received, Wilson-made Kansas City Royals road Columbia Blue button-front jersey in size 42 (both marked and measured). Stretchy wide knit Royal/white/Royal sleeve ends and V-neck. Linen lines the placket as is correct in period-correct Wilson professional issues. Royals-script team wordmark in white slanted across the front with an underline. Royals disk patch sewn to the left sleeve. On back is the original numbers "20" in white twill matching the team template. On the light table, the outlines of the original name on back of infielder Frank White are clearly visible, rendered in the Royals' unique hand-drawn vertical arch font on the 1980s. Also visible is the stitching ghost of a removed nameplate that went from shoulder to shoulder. There is notable wear inside the back of the collar with some minor separation of the cloth, someone has written "Frank White" in very tiny letters in blue pen inside the collar, this is almost certainly not a team marking. There are a couple of small holes in the sides of the jersey under the left arm that look like they may have been made with a blade or sharp instrument. The knit sleeve end trim and collar trim has faded slightly.

At 5' 11" and 170 lbs., Frank White wore size 42 jerseys throughout his career, and the size is reasonable for a man of his stature. In 1983, White appeared in 146 games for the Royals batting .260 with 11 home runs. In an 18-year career, all with the Royals, A five-time All-Star player, White was considered one of the best defensive second basemen of his era, winning eight Gold Glove Awards between 1977 and 1987.He was the first American League (AL) second baseman to win the award eight times.Although he was recognized more for his solid defensive play, he posted a .545 batting average during the 1980 American League Championship Series to be named the Most Valuable Player of the series.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson size 42 tag, correct style for 1983, is stitched onto the lower outside left tail, A simple jersey-fabric knit square with "83" hand chain stitched on it is stitched to the outer front left tail, matching exemplars on file. No other player identification or set tagging was generally used in 1983.

Continued, overleaf

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As received , the jersey was missing its name on back and was very dirty. A small slice is visible in the fabric above the letter "E" in the fabric where the original name had been roughly removed. Here, the light table reveals the jersey's history. The left image is a negative, the dark outlines are actually lighter areas where the light can pass through the stitching holes. The ghost outline of a wide and long nameplate is also visible.

Wear & Repairs: As received this jersey was in very good condition, without undue wear or staining. As is typical, the white twill lettering is stained to a shade of ivory from wash water. The name on back had been roughly removed leaving a few extraneous holes. The Royals routinely stripped player names from team jerseys at the end of the season so that the prior year equipment could be re-issued to new players in spring training if needed. Many were sent to the minors leagues for additional use. This jersey has been clearly used with a life that extended beyond its original year of issue in 1983.

Restoration Performed: Using the light table to discover the original name on back, I recreated the name for the back from team lettering patterns and then tuned it to exactly match the ghost of the original name on back, aging/dyeing it to match the patina of the rest of the jersey. I stitched it precisely to cover the original marks, sewing with appropriately colored off-white thread. I touched up the stitching on the vertical center strokes of the back numbers, the usual place that they show wear in game use and start to become detached.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front and the back numbers are all original, and the back is properly restored with player NOB lettering identical to original and exactly coving the original ghosts. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Frank White of the 1983 Kansas City Royals.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

George Brett 1984 Kansas City Royals Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 21, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0621J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Kansas City Royals Wilson-made, year tagged 1984, size 42 Kansas City Royals Columbia Blue six-button road jersey. 2" wide knit sewn-in sleeve end trim, Royal/white/Royal. Similarly striped 1" trim around the neck. Royals disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve. The inside of the placket is fully lined with linen as is typical of Wilson professional model button front jerseys of the 1980s. Brett's number 5 is stitched on the left chest and centered on the back, with his name hand-crafted by the Wilson artist, vertically-arched above. Player name and number are cut from white twill and stitched in place with a tight, neat zig-sag stitch. The number fonts used are exactly correct in the variant of the Wilson Varsity font unique to the Royals. Brett wore exclusively size 42 jerseys until near the very end of his career.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Matching exemplars for the 1984 season, the Wilson tag correct for that year is stitched inside the back of the neck: on other game examples the tag is on the left front tail, but this placement is an reasonably acceptable variant for Wilson jerseys of this time. That Wilson tag is correctly stitched in place without its stitching showing through to the outside back neck of the jersey. This means it was secured in place before the placket was sewn closed. A small 1" square of jersey fabric is zig-zag stitched below it, with the two-digit year "84" hand chain stitched in blue. Notice that the "84" tag is slightly different from 1984 Royals exemplars in our photo collection, the "8" on this one is chain stitched in a figure-eight, compared to other examples where the "8" is constructed of two circles on top of each other. I surely have not seen every example of 1984 Royals tagging—but I can attest to this same formation of the "8" on other 1984 Wilson jerseys in my exemplar library, and I have provided some examples of these. Keep in mind that these tags were embroidered by hand by a person (or persons), done freehand. In my experience, when multiple extra jerseys were made for a star player in a year for the purpose of auctioning them or giving them as gifts, they are usually not made as part of the run for the team jerseys created for all players at the start of the season. Rather they are managed separately and may have unique characteristics like this one shows.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all of the stitched elements on this jersey are original and without contrivance. This jersey is in very good original condition. It is free from damage or repairs, and the lettering has been lightly burnished and is very slightly puckered from hot water washing. It has its matching set of six original gray buttons. The linen lining inside the back of the collar and the placket is slightly dirty and puckered from use and wash. This jersey definitely does not show a full season worth of use. And that is not surprising, even though the collectible jersey hobby was not very mature in 1984, Brett was a local hero— and from the number of reasonably authenticated game jerseys attributed to him in the early 80s, he likely was issued multiple jerseys that he wore for a short period of time before they intentionally were cycled out to became collectibles like this one. Typically, Royals jerseys from this period of time were used for the full season by the player and then had their names stripped off and they were cycled to the minor leagues. This one clearly avoided that process.

Continued, overleaf

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Steve Crawford 1991 Kansas City Royals Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 10, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0710J01

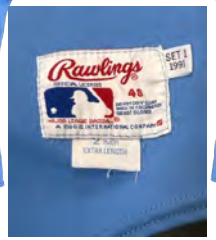
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings-made Kansas City Royals road Columbia Blue button-front jersey in size 48 (marked but measured as a tapered size 46. 36" length reflects extra length tailoring). Stretchy narrow-style 1" knit Royal/white/Royal sleeve ends and V-neck. Royals-script team wordmark in white slanted across the front with an underline. Small supplemental Velcro closure is added on the front beneath the "Y" in Royals. Royals disk patch sewn to the left sleeve. On back and on left front are the original numbers "28" in white twill matching the team template. On the light table, the outlines of the original name on back of pitcher Steve Crawford are clearly visible, rendered in the Royals' vertical arch font of the 1990s. The knit sleeve end trim and collar trim has faded very slightly and is minimally puckered from hot water washing and use.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings size 48 tag, correct style for 1991, is stitched onto the lower outside left tail, a flag tab, "SET 1 1991" is pinch sewn under the top right edge of the tag. Pinch sewn along the bottom edge is a with tab that says "2 inch extra length". This tagging matches exemplars of Royals jersey of 1991. No additional player designated tagging was used. Rawlings script is embroidered in white on the right sleeve end, a practice that began in 1987.

Wear & Repairs: As received this jersey was in very good condition, without damage, undue wear or staining. As is typical, the white twill lettering is stained to a shade of ivory from wash water. The name on back had been carefully removed leaving no significant holes. The Royals routinely stripped player names from team jerseys at the end of the season so that the prior year equipment could be re-issued to new players in spring training if needed. Many were sent to the minors leagues for additional use. This jersey has been clearly used with a life that extended beyond its original year of issue in 1983. There is fabric pilling that has occurred beneath the "O" in Royals on front, this was caused by the velcro closure abrading the adjoining fabric in the wash.

Restoration Performed: Using the light table to discover the original name on back, I recreated it from team lettering patterns and then tuned it to exactly match the ghost of the original, aging/dyeing it to match the patina of the rest of the jersey. I stitched it precisely to cover the original marks, sewing with appropriately colored off-white thread. I touched up the stitching on the vertical center strokes of the back numbers, the usual place that they show wear in game use and start to become detached.



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Chapter 36
Washington Senators
Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Senators Uniform History Notes

- The Washington team had been officially known as ”Senators” since 1956, and “The Nationals” prior to then dating back to 1901. However, they were nicknamed “Senators” in 1905 and that name was used interchangeably to refer to them throughout their history.
- The history of baseball in Washington D.C. is complicated and even confusing. The “original” Washington Nationals/Senators (1901-1960) moved to Minneapolis/St. Paul to become the Minnesota Twins for the 1961 season. The 1961 Senators were an all-new expansion team that started play immediately after the departure of the original team to Minnesota, and played 11 seasons, through 1971. For 1972, this team moved to Arlington, Texas to become the Texas Rangers.
- So, by 1970, the beginning date of this volume, the American League Senators were nearing the end of their life. This chapter details the 1970-1971 uniforms of the “expansion” Washington Senators franchise.
- The Senators were not a successful or well-run team, by most accounts. Quoting Wikipedia: “For most of their existence, the new Senators were the definition of futility, losing an average of 90 games a season. The team's struggles led to a twist on a joke about the old Senators - ‘Washington: first in war, first in peace and *still* last in the American League.’” Frank Howard, known for his towering home runs, was the team's most accomplished player, winning two home run titles.
- The Senators final uniforms featured on the following pages were a handsome model of tradition and simplicity. The Senators never played a game in double knit uniforms, the changeover to knits happened concurrent with the move to become the Texas Rangers. However, prototypes exist of what were to be the team’s possible knit 1972 uniforms had they stayed. These are presented in this chapter. There were never any Senators batting practice jerseys either.
- After the team’s demise, the Twins, Rangers, and Nationals all resurrected the Senators’ memory in several Turn Back the Clock games. These games’ uniforms are included in this chapter as well.
- After a 33 season absence, Major League Baseball returned to Washington D.C., as the 2005 National League Washington Nationals, the re-named Montreal Expos who departed Montreal after the 2004 season.
- The Nationals adopted the Senators’ “curly W” logo for their cap insignia, and later would adopt the same logo as their primary mark to go on the left chest of nearly all their jerseys. Strong management and good trades established the Nationals as a perennial contender in the National League, and in 2019, the team brought Washington its first World Series title since 1924.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com.. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Senators Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home flannel	No	2 color Senators-specific Varsity	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road flannel	No	2 color Senators-specific Varsity	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1971	Home flannel	No	2 color Senators-specific Varsity	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road flannel	No	2 color Senators-specific Varsity	No	-	-	-	Wilson

1968-1971 (1969 shown)

1963-1971

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Of Note: The 2005-2025 Washington Nationals

From their first year in 2005, the Washington Nationals increasingly have adopted uniform elements of the old Washington Senators. In their first several seasons, 2005-2010, they used the Senators' "curly W" as their cap logo. It became the wordmark on team batting practice jerseys starting in 2007. In 2009, the team added a red alternate game jersey with the W as the front chest wordmark. In 2011, the "W" became the team's official primary wordmark, and the W was added to the team's sleeve patch, replacing the interlocked "DC" that had been used since the team's first season. That same year, the team's new white home jersey and alternate blue jersey also adopted the curly W as the front wordmark.

As of this 2025 printing, while the curly W has been somewhat deemphasized in recent years in favor of a script "Nationals" wordmark, it is still the team's official wordmark and remains a prominent feature on almost all the team's on-field looks, as either a chest logo or cap/patch insignia.

2011-2023 2011-2021 2011-2019

2025

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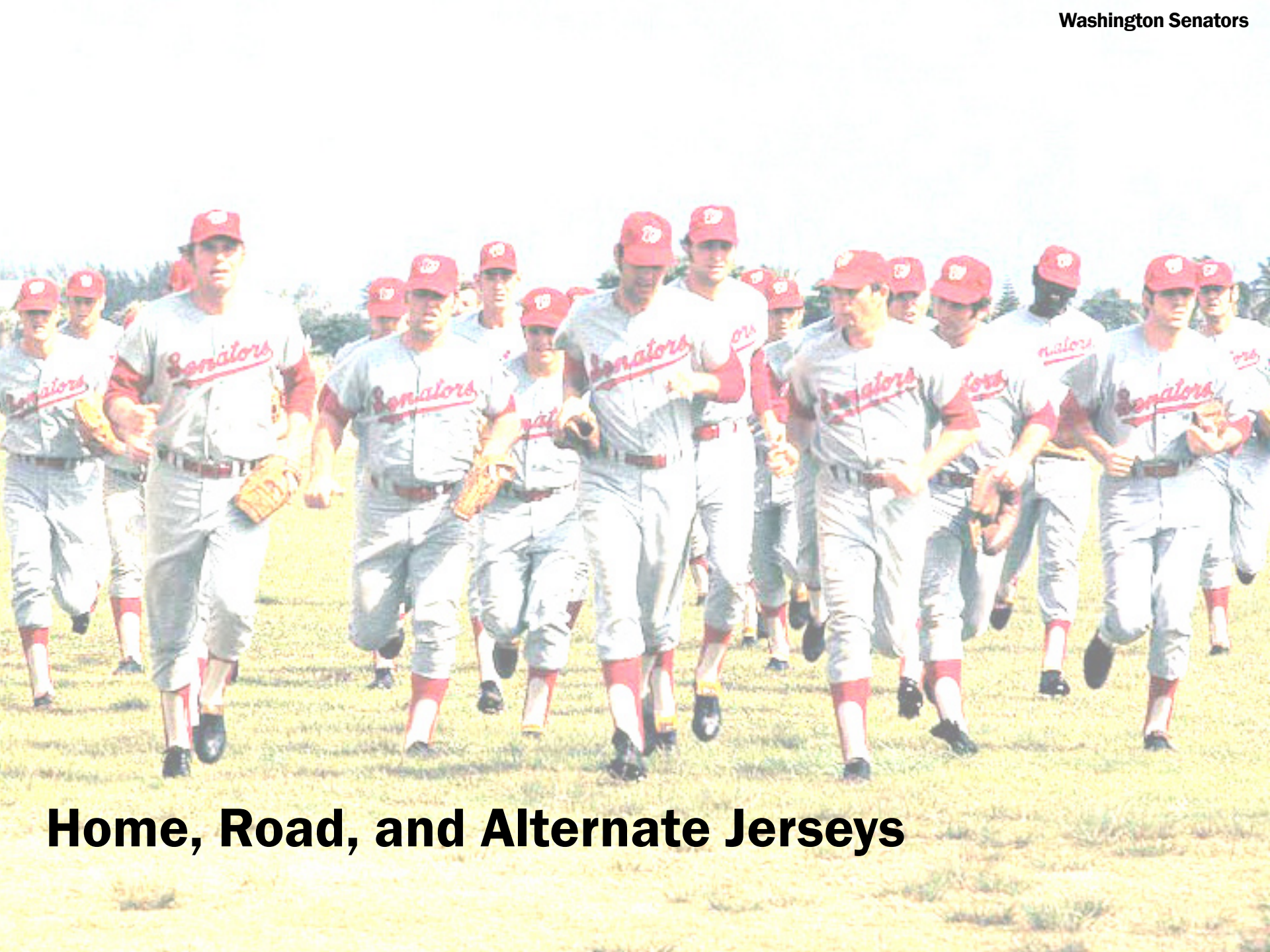


Home, Road, and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home

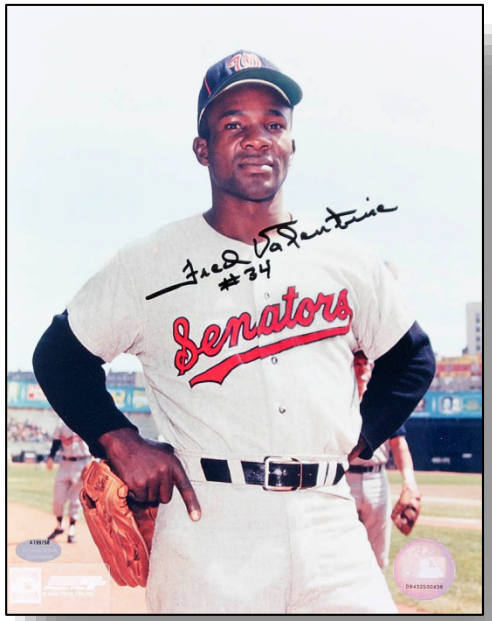
The Washington Senators' 1970-1971 home jersey was cream colored flannel, made by Wilson. The first year of this specific jersey style's use was 1968. The prior 1963-1967 home jersey had the same team wordmark on front, but the fabric was a cream with a navy blue chalk mark pinstripe.

All lettering is sewn two-color tackle twill. These uniforms are very plain and unadorned, without sleeve or neck trim, and without sleeve patches.

The back of the jersey features player numbers only, no names. The font used for player numbers is a Senators specific version of Block, a variant that followed the team to Texas when the team became the Rangers in 1972.

Surviving Senators jerseys are very rare, as the frugal team took the final sets of uniforms with them and stripped them of lettering to create the first Texas Rangers Spring Training uniforms, as noted later in this chapter.

1971



1971

David Parlet Collection

1970

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1970-1971 Road

The Senators' road uniforms for 1970-1971 are identical to the home jersey, save for the gray color of the fabric. The road jersey is a heavy gray flannel. All lettering is sewn two-color twill. This specific style of road jersey was introduced for the 1963 season.

Left: *All team accessories (caps, helmets, socks, undersleeves) are changed to red for the 1968 season.*

Right: *In the prior era (1963-1967), while the uniform jersey and pants were the same, all accessories were navy blue (manager Gil Hodges circa 1966).*

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Special Events Jerseys

Other Teams Appearing as the Senators in Turn Back The Clock Games

The Senators, of course, never held a Turn Back the Clock game, but three other MLB Teams have appeared in the Washington Senators uniforms (or the Washington Nationals as they were officially known prior to 1956) a total of eight times between 1994 and 2016.

Recall the original Washington Senators moved to Minnesota to become the Twins for the 1961 season. The Minnesota Twins have appeared as the Washington Nationals Senators once, in a 2001 game.

The Texas Rangers, the second team to have stolen the Senators from Washington, have appeared as the Senators three times, most recently as 2008. The first time, in 1994, deserves an asterisk, as the TBTC uniforms worn by the Rangers were “Senators Inspired” in an odd mashup that you’ll see on the next page.

The reborn Washington Nationals returned to the nation’s capital in 2005, and have appeared as the Senators four times since then, most recently in 2012.

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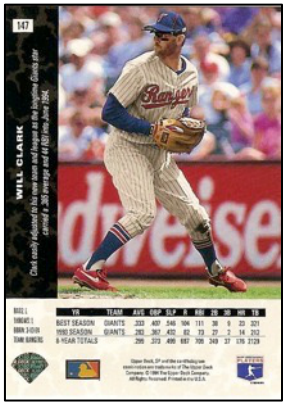
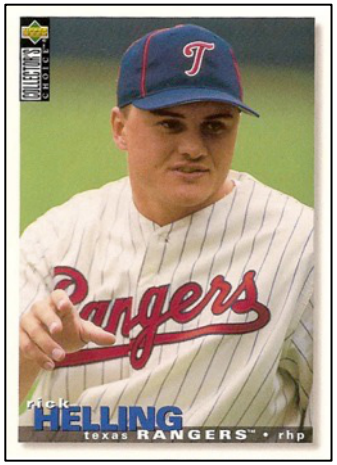
Rangers: 1994 Turn Back the Clock to the 1960s

- The Rangers hosted the Twins on May 8, 1994.These navy blue chalk-pinstripe flannels look very much like 1961 expansion Washington Senators jerseys, fitting because the Rangers were born from the Senators when that team deserted Washington after the 1971 season.
- To meet the Rangers' wishes, Mitchell & Ness designed jerseys that said "Rangers" on the front, but looking like the last Senators uniforms, even though the Rangers never wore jerseys that looked like these.
- The Twins wore 1965 gray flannels by Mitchell & Ness.
- Script and numbers are sewn in two-color, red with navy blue outlining.



Left: 1966 Washington Senators Uniform. Note that the Senators used the same unusual number font was used on the early Rangers home uniforms,with the odd-ly-shaped #1! It is very likely that the team continued to use the same lettering house even after the team moved to Texas from Washington.



This page also appears in the Texas Rangers chapter and team edition.

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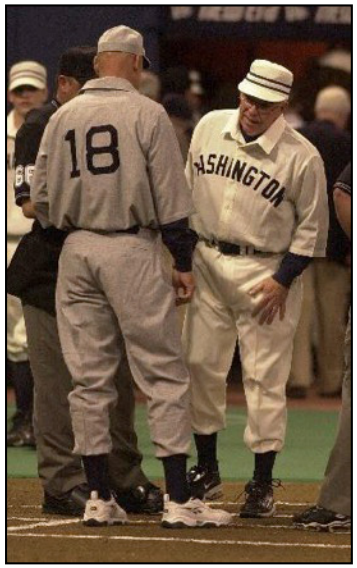
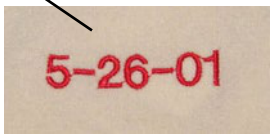
Twins: 2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1901 Washington Senators



(Left) *The managers exchange line-ups at home plate and look just like it is 100 years ago, ummm– except for the shoes…*

(Right) *Notice cut off sleeves of this jersey; probably outfielder Matt Lawton could not stand wearing these, and choose a scissors over originality.*



The Twins were the "original" Washington Senators/Nationals, who picked up and moved to Minneapolis and became the Twins for the 1961 season. Therefore, it is legitimate for the 2001 Twins to have appeared as the 1901 Senators in a TBTC contest, where they played the 1901 Athletics who also wore flannel.

Game held May 26, 2001. Mitchell & Ness flannels with all felt lettering. Note the Red Sox style numbers used on the back - though in reality, players did not wear numbers in 1901.

This page also appears in the Minnesota Twins chapter and team edition.

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Rangers: 2002 Turn Back the Clock to 1961 Washington Senators

Bill Henderson Collection

- Billed as "The Triumphant Glory Series*," the Rangers played the A's July 27 and 28, 2002. The Rangers dressed as the expansion 1961 Washington Senators (the ancestral forebearers of the modern Texas Rangers).
- Rawlings made these poly knit jerseys with tackle twill lettering.
- Numbers on back are Block with Serifs.
- Original 1961 Senators uniform is shown below. Note the use of the variant version of Block (pointy tipped "1") that carried over and was used by the Rangers 1972-1979.

This page also appears in the Texas Rangers chapter and team edition.

Original 1961 Senators Uniform

* "Triumphant Glory?" I wonder who came up with that? The 1961 Senators finished the season 41 ½ games out… tied for 10th (and last) place with--- the 1961 Kansas City A's!

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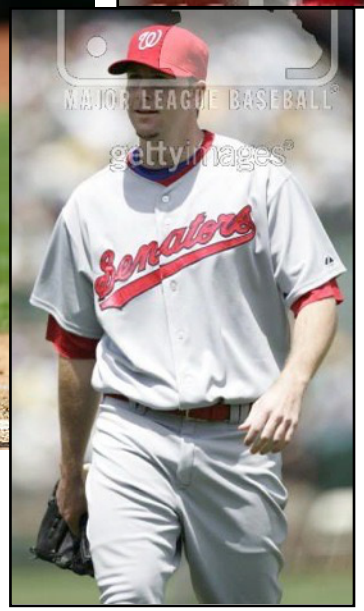
Rangers: 2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1968 Washington Senators



1968 Original
(with 1969 patch)

The Rangers appear as the 1968 Washington Senators on May 4, 2008, vs. the 1968 Oakland A's. Majestic uniforms are a reasonably good copy, but team script is a bit thicker and more slanted than the original ***(left)***.

Red cap is nearly identical to the one adopted by the current Washington Nationals and worn by them in 2008.

This page also appears in the Texas Rangers chapter and team edition.

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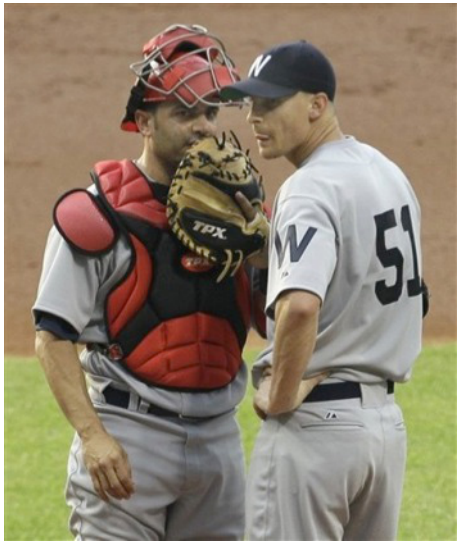
Nationals: 2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1920 Washington Senators

The Washington Nationals and Cleveland Indians wore throwback uniforms on June 12, 2010 to commemorate each city's first World Series wins in 1920 and 1924. The Nationals' uniforms were stark in their plainness. The front of the jersey is completely blank, and the only ornamentation was a navy "W" on the left sleeve. Varsity numbers used on back, which is a modern addition, as player numbers were not yet used in 1920.



This page also appears in the Washington Nationals chapter and team edition.

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Nationals: 2010 Turn Back the Clock to 1970 Washington Senators

Bill Henderson Collection

June 26. 2010: the Baltimore Orioles celebrated the 40th Anniversary of their 1970 World Series triumph wearing replicas of those uniforms, as the Nationals donned Washington Senators uniforms from that season as well. These uniforms looked familiar to me, and I recalled that the Texas Rangers had worn the same style in 2008 in a Turn Back the Clock game of their own. A photo of the uniform from that game is below. Interestingly, the wordmark is not identical, the "S" is different and the overall script is fatter.

Texas Rangers May 4, 2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1968 - the Senators' script is not identical to the Nationals' 2010 version

This page also appears in the Washington Nationals chapter and team edition.

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Nationals: 2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1936 Washington Senators

The Nationals visited the Padres on June 11, 2011, and both teams wore 1936-style uniforms. The Nationals wore the uniforms of the 1936 American League Washington Senators, and the Padres the 1936 Pacific Coast League Padres.

The Nationals/Senators uniforms have nothing on the front at all, featuring only a red “W” outlined with navy on the left sleeve. Back numbers are in Varsity Bold in the same color combination. Knit uniforms are made by Majestic.

This page also appears in the Washington Nationals chapter and team edition.

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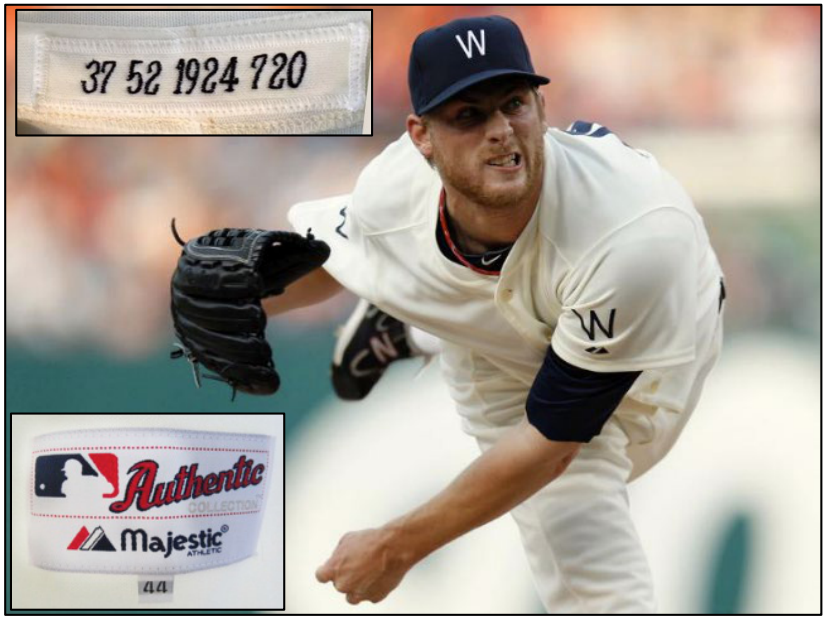
Nationals: 2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1924 Washington Senators



July 5, 2012: The San Francisco Giants visited Washington and the Nationals wore these replica ivory-colored knit 1924 throwbacks made by Majestic. A small, thin "W" adorns each sleeve, and the Red Sox-style numbers added to the back are a modern touch, as teams did not wear numbers in 1924. In the history of MLB, the team was officially known as the Senators only from 1901 to 1904. Then they officially became the "Washington Nationals" until the Senators nickname was restored in 1956. However, through their entire existence, the team continued to be mainly referred to as the Senators by fans and media.

This page also appears in the Washington Nationals chapter and team edition.

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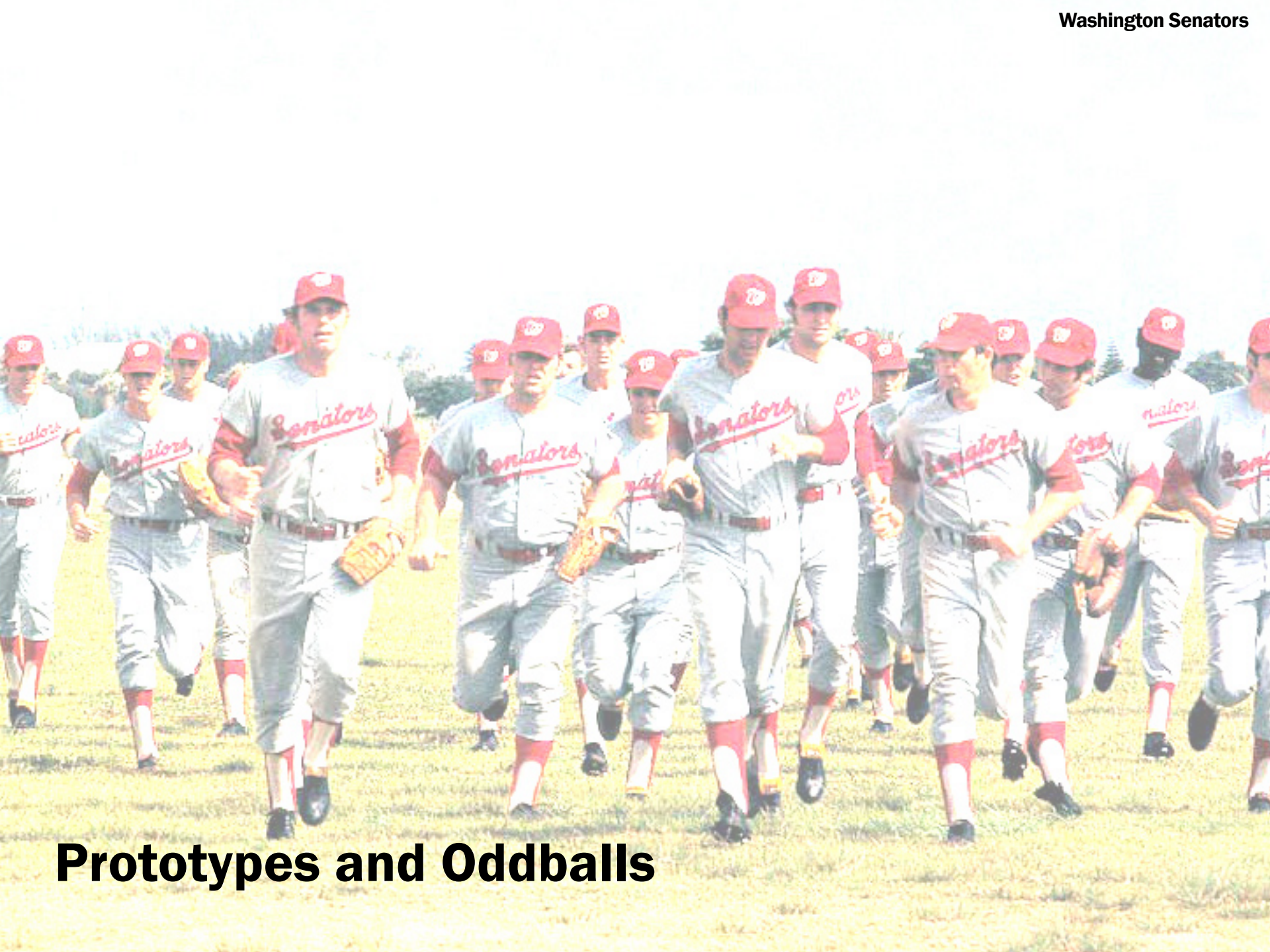


Prototypes and Oddballs

1972 Home Spring Training

This page also appears in the Texas Rangers chapter and team edition.

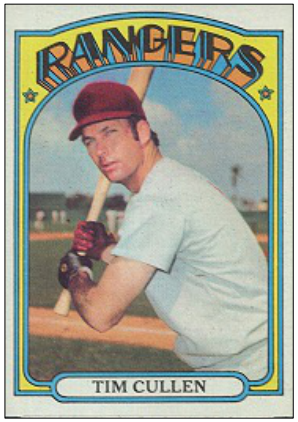
(Far Left) A surviving Senators' final-style flannel that was spared the indignity of conversion. Next to it, a converted Senators/Rangers flannel still featuring the original "1971 Set 1" shirt tail tagging of the Senators.

1971

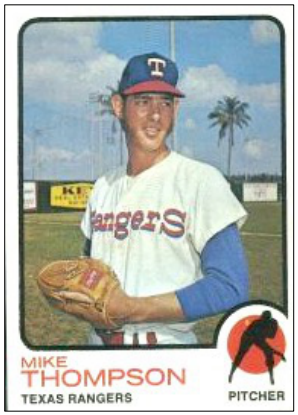
This…

…Became that!

1972 Spring Training



Airbrushed 1971 Senators photo on 1972 card



Card shows flannel jersey from 1972 Spring Training

The first Texas Rangers team took the field for the 1972 season wearing new double knits. One could easily surmise that the Rangers, therefore, have no history in flannel. But, that is not so. When the Senators packed up and left Washington, DC to become the Rangers after the 1971 season, they brought all of their equipment with them, including all remaining 1971 uniforms. Then, unbelievably, these jerseys were converted into Rangers jerseys by painstakingly removing all of the Senators scripts from the fronts, then re-sewing Rangers lettering on. This amount of work would be unthinkable today. Today, the final set of Senators' uniforms could certainly be auctioned off as highly sought-after collectibles. But back in 1971, they were nothing more than obsolete baggage.

The new Rangers team appeared on 1972 baseball cards, with most players shown from the neck up, and wearing red caps. Clearly 1971 Senators' player photos, they were primitively airbrushed by Topps' artists to remove any trace of the Senators' logos. Note too, that the 1972 Rangers wore blue, not red hats.

The flannel jerseys might have been gone forever as soon as the season-issue double knits arrived. But frugally, the converted Senators flannels lived on in Spring Training for another year, best seen on baseball cards.

The "ghosts" of the removed Senators wordmark are still clearly visible

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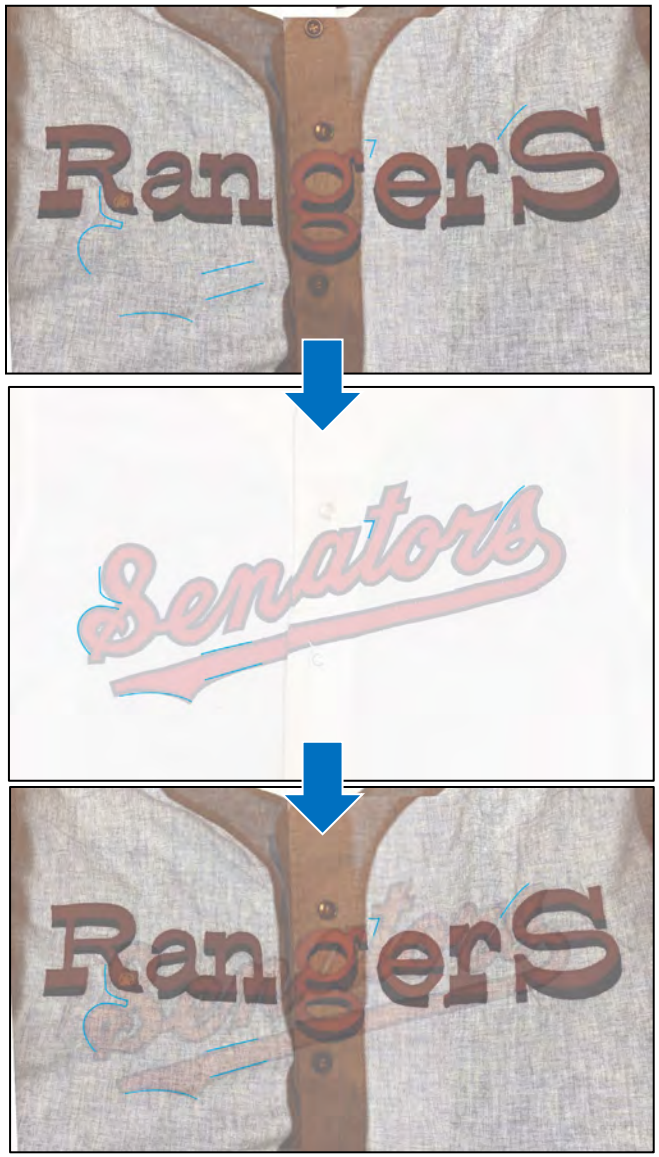
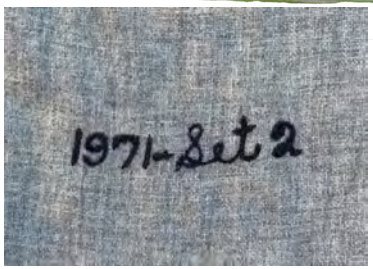
1972 Road Spring Training

This page also appears in the Texas Rangers chapter and team edition.





I had the opportunity to examine this jersey on the light table. Tagged as a 1971 Set 2 and with Ted Williams' Senators-style #9 on the back (original) I was able to look for evidence of the Senators wordmark on front. It was faint, but it was there. The top photo shows the jersey on the light table with the clearest points of the ghosts highlighted in blue. I've then overlaid a 1970 Senators wordmark from a jersey I had in the shop and was able to confirm the points of intersection. The button spacing and placement helps with alignment. The bottom photo shows the Senators wordmark superimposed where it would have appeared on Williams' 1971 Senators jersey, converted to Rangers for 1972 Spring Training by a very, very frugal team.

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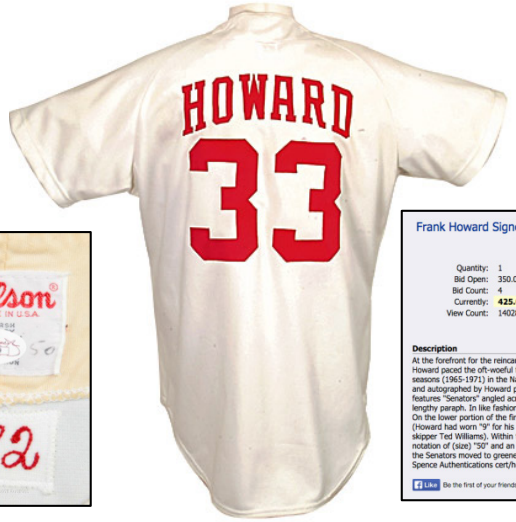
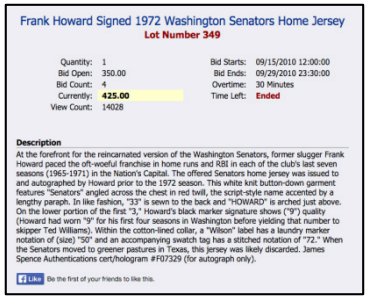
1972 Prototypes





Frank Howard Signed 1972 Washington Senators Home Jersey

Lot Number 349

Quantity:	1	Bid Starts:	09/15/2010 12:00:00
Bid Open:	350.00	Bid Ends:	09/29/2010 23:30:00
Bid Count:	4	Overtime:	30 Minutes
Currently:	**425.00**	Time Left:	**Ended**
View Count:	14028		

Description

At the forefront for the reincarnated version of the Washington Senators, former slugger Frank Howard paced the oft-woeful franchise in home runs and RBI in each of the club's last seven seasons (1965-1971) in the Nation's Capital. The offered Senators home jersey was issued to and autographed by Howard prior to the 1972 season. This white knit button-down garment features "Senators" angled across the chest in red twill, the script-style name accented by a lengthy paraph. In like fashion, "33" is sewn to the back and "HOWARD" is arched just above. On the lower portion of the first "3," Howard's black marker signature shows ("9") quality (Howard had worn "9" for his first four seasons in Washington before yielding that number to skipper Ted Williams). Within the cotton-lined collar, a "Wilson" label has a laundry marker notation of (size) "50" and an accompanying swatch tag has a stitched notation of "72." When the Senators moved to greener pastures in Texas, this jersey was likely discarded. James Spence Authentications cert/hologram #F07329 (for autograph only).

Like Be the first of your friends to like this.

1970 saw MLB's first double knit uniforms, and by 1972 nearly all teams were set to begin the season wearing them. It seems reasonable that the Senators might have asked Wilson, their sole vendor, to mock up 1972 knit uniforms for them. These examples are painfully plain, with single color red Varsity lettering and devoid of any trim. Names on back appear for the first time on a Senators uniform, and they are a variant of Varsity, unusual to be found on a MLB uniform. Perhaps not coincidentally a similar unusual font was adopted by the 1972-1978 Rangers for their home uniforms .

All of these jerseys have appeared at different times in auction catalogs of Huggins & Scott, Leland's, and Goldin Auction houses.

Richard Nixon 1972 Senators Jersey

Leland's Auctions

Historical piece that traverses multiple collecting categories: baseball, political and pure 1970s Americana. Custom made by Wilson this jersey was made to be presented to President Richard Milhouse Nixon to showcase the new KNIT uniform design. Unforgivably, the Senators instead moved to Texas in one of the great baseball tragedies up there with the defection of the Brooklyn Dodgers to Los Angeles. A true fan of the game, Richard Nixon attended many Washington Senators games, was a key figure at the 1969 Centennial of Baseball, and pursued his love of the game even after his resignation and disgrace. Classic Washington Senators sports the ultimate number "1" on the verso. "Senators" is on front, Wilson size 44 with "72" year tag, NM. Ironically, in 1972 (the year of the Watergate Break In), Nixon and the Senators began a similar fall. Eventually, both would move on, one fell from grace and the White House and the other to Arlington, Texas. Originally from Ray Kolas, long-time representative to major league baseball for Wilson Sporting Goods. According to Kolas who gave this to our consignor in 1975, it was to be rolled out at the White House in a special ceremony. They even made up an Agnew "2" (unfortunately long gone from our consignor) so the VP would not feel left out.

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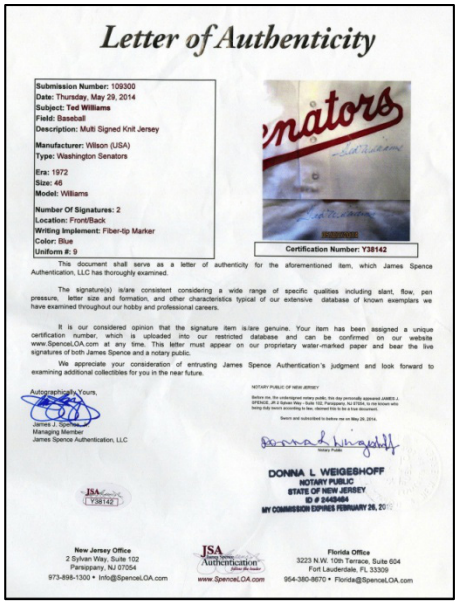
1972 Prototypes, continued

From the auction listing: *"In late 1971, prior to the Senators fleeing to Texas, jersey maker Wilson was preparing to introduce the first knit uniforms to the Washington franchise, and produced only a handful in preparation for a 1972 Senators season which ultimately went south - literally. This rare jersey is one of only four known to exist, and worn in photo-ops and publicity to generate season tickets sales: one was made for then-President Richard Nixon, VP Spiro Agnew, All-Star slugger Frank Thomas, and this one... for manager Ted Williams, who served the club from 1969-1971, and then as the Rangers inaugural season manager in '72. This is undoubtedly the rarest of all Williams post-career jerseys. The beautiful Spartan white knit shell features scripted "Senators" sewn across chest in solid red single-tackle twill, with the correct "Wilson [size] 46" tag sewn in collar and white "(19)72" strip tag sewn below. Back displays arched "WILLIAMS" sewn across shoulders, again in solid red, and Williams' number "9" sewn below in same format. The Hall of Famer signed both back and front, directly below the scripted underscore on front, and again on back, below the "9". This utterly unique piece of Williams, Senators and Rangers history includes a full photo-LOA from James Spence, JSA cert number Y38142."*



Letter of Authenticity

Submission Number: 109300
Date: Thursday, May 29, 2014
Subject: Ted Williams
Field: Baseball
Description: Multi Signed Knit Jersey

Manufacturer: Wilson (USA)
Type: Washington Senators

Era: 1972
Size: 46
Model: Williams

Number Of Signatures: 2
Location: Front/Back
Writing Implement: Fiber-tip Marker
Color: Blue
Uniform #: 9

Certification Number: Y38142

This document shall serve as a letter of authenticity for the aforementioned item, which James Spence Authentication, LLC has thoroughly examined.

The signature(s) is/are consistent considering a wide range of specific qualities including slant, flow, pen pressure, letter size and formation, and other characteristics typical of our extensive database of known exemplars we have examined throughout our hobby and professional careers.

It is our considered opinion that the signature item is/are genuine. Your item has been assigned a unique certification number, which is uploaded into our restricted database and can be confirmed on our website www.SpenceLOA.com at any time. This letter must appear on our proprietary water-marked paper and bear the live signatures of both James Spence and a notary public.

We appreciate your consideration of entrusting James Spence Authentication's judgment and look forward to examining additional collectibles for you in the near future.

Autographically Yours,

James J. Spence
Managing Member
James Spence Authentication, LLC

NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY

Sworn and subscribed to before me on May 29, 2014.

Notary Public

DONNA L. WEIGESHOFF
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
ID # 2443484
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES FEBRUARY 26, 20

JSA Y38142

New Jersey Office
2 Sylvan Way, Suite 102
Parsippany, NJ 07054
973-898-1300 • Info@SpenceLOA.com

JSA James Spence Authentication Gilder the Leader
www.SpenceLOA.com

Florida Office
3223 N.W. 10th Terrace, Suite 604
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
954-360-8670 • Florida@SpenceLOA.com

The auction description claims that only four of these prototype jerseys are known to exist, *one each* for Williams, Howard, Nixon and Agnew, however these Williams jerseys appear to be two different jerseys, if one examines the signatures.

The odd part about all of these "1972" jerseys is the Wilson tagging. The Howard jersey has 1974-1977 tagging, and the rest have the 1978-1985 version of the Wilson tag, all far later than the year tags would indicate that these were made. None of the auction listings mention this, but it makes these suspect, if still very interesting.

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Chapter 37

Detroit Tigers

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970 2025-Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Tigers Uniform History Notes

- No one would ever claim the Detroit Tigers follow the latest fashion trends. This is a team that is rivaled only by the New York Yankees in its grip on tradition. The Tigers' home jersey has not changed much in more than 60 years. The *Olde English "D"* dates back to 1904, and though its design changed ever so slightly over the years, and though there were some short diversions to other styles, the Tigers always quickly returned to it.
- The Tigers expressed their willingness to change with the times on their road gray jerseys only, which have displayed different (but still traditional) designs and variations of trim over the years.
- The Tigers are one of the early adopters of player names on back (1970) and one of the most consistent users of them through the decades.
- The dawning of the double knit era went largely unnoticed as regards to the home jersey. The 1972 knit is visually identical to the 1971 flannel.
- However, the road jersey for 1972 showed some flash, especially when compared to the dour road grays the Tigers had used for so many years. The new-for-1972 road jersey is a pullover knit shirt, featuring navy/white/orange sleeve-end and neck trim. "Detroit" is arched across the front in blue outlined with orange. Varsity player numbers on back are also blue outlined with orange. Player names are solid navy blue, no nameplates.
- After 13 years of use, the pullover road jersey is replaced by a button-front model of the same basic design in 1985, as baseball starts to move back from pullovers and elastic waistband pants to the more traditional look of the 1960s and before. This style is worn for eight more years, 1985-1993.
- While most teams were exiting the era of gaudy design by 1994, that is precisely when the Tigers decided to give it a try. For a single year, an uncharacteristically flashy road jersey makes its appearance. It features "Detroit" in three-color script across the front (navy/orange/white) borrowing the script design last used in 1959. But perhaps shocking for the Tigers were the addition of extra wide, five-banded "racing stripes" that started up the sides of the pants, then up both up both sides of the jersey and across the tops of the shoulders, very much like those used by the New York Mets in the 1980s, but that had been banished by them for good after 1992.
- The 1994 jersey's shoulder stripe was wide enough to swallow up the MLB 125th Anniversary patch that was sewn right in the middle of it. Recall that 1994 was a strike-shortened season, and the 1994 jerseys (with the 125th Anniversary patches removed) made a final appearance in 1995 Spring Training before being permanently retired.
- Did we mention that the home jersey still looked exactly the same in 1995 as it did in 1970?
- 1995's road jersey went to the other extreme from 1994's, perhaps. While retaining the "Detroit" three-color lettering and script, for the next three years, the gray jersey was completely devoid of any trim at all.
- 1995 also introduces an attractive Sunday alternate jersey in navy blue, featuring navy/white/orange sleeve-end trim, white/orange Varsity numbers both front and back, no player names, and on the left chest, the team's alternate logo of a tiger jumping though the Olde English "D." The team owner decided after he had seen them just once that he did not like them, partly because they lacked player names. They were banished after the 1995 season having been worn just one time. In my opinion, a shame, as these were very nice alternate jerseys.
- For 1998, the road jersey adds the same restrained navy blue knit trim as used on the home jerseys, otherwise staying the same through 2025.
- 2018 sees an update to the Olde English "D" on the home jersey, copying the cap logo, the first real change to the home jersey in decades.
- The Tigers have used an array of batting practice jerseys through the years starting in 1979, including using different designs for home and road uniforms starting in 1985. This is ironic only in that the Tigers are one of the few teams who rarely wore their batting practice jerseys in Spring Training when these are mostly often showcased, choosing instead to wear their regular season uniforms throughout the spring, a practice they continued until 2016.
- City Connect jersey's are introduced in 2024, blending Detroit's automotive legacy with modern visuals. The base is matte black, with a bold electric blue gradient running vertically down the front in a repeating tire tread pattern—symbolizing forward motion and the city's road-based heritage. The chest reads "Motor City" in industrial-style block lettering, set in bright white for maximum contrast; numbers in matching stylized font adorn the back. Wide, slanted blue racing stripes are featured on both sleeves, reinforcing the motor sports theme.
- The Tigers have maintained one of the most consistent and traditional looks in baseball, anchored by the iconic Old English "D," classic home whites, and simple road grays. While subtle tweaks occurred over the years—such as numeric font changes and alternate caps—the core aesthetic remained largely untouched.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

1970-1971

1972-2017

1972-1984

1985-1993

Continues onward

Tigers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Block Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	Player #- Block variant	Rawlings
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Block Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	Player #- Block variant	Rawlings
1972	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1973	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1974	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	Detroit 1776-1976	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	Detroit 1776-1976	-	Wilson
1977	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson/Rawlings
1979	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1980	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1981	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1982	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1985	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1986	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1987	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1990	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1991	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1992	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Russell
1993	Home White	No	Varsity Bold 1 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 color	Extra Tall Block 1 color	No	-	-	Russell

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Tigers Game Jerseys

1972-2017

1994

1995 One Game Only

1995-1997

1998-2025

Tigers home jersey design remains the same, 1972-2017

* The Tigers use Block Light Condensed for names on road jerseys starting 1994, with navy as the top color. This technique allows three colors in the name without having names become too blocky. Regular names are in Block Condensed, and longer names use Extra Condensed. See the Typestyles section for more detail.

** Ernie Harwell memorial worn starting May 4.

Change to Flex Base

2018-2025

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1994	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	MLB 125th	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color *	No	-	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color *	No	-	-	Russell
	Alt Navy Blue	Front Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	No	-	-	Russell
1996	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color *	No	-	-	Russell
1997	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color *	No	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color *	No	-	-	Russell
1999	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	Tiger Stadium mem	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color *	No	-	-	Russell
2000	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	Tigers 2000 (new ballpark)	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color *	No	Tigers 2000 (new ballpark)	-	Russell
2001	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	Detroit 300	AL 100th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Detroit 300	AL 100th Anniv	Russell
2002	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Russell
2003	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Russell
2004	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Russell
2005	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	All Star Game	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	All Star Game	-	Majestic
2006	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2008	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2009	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2010	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	"EH" Ernie Harwell mem**	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	"EH" Ernie Harwell mem**	Majestic
2011	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No		Sparky Anderson mem	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No		Sparky Anderson mem	Majestic
2012	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No			Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No			Majestic
2014	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	-		Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	-		Majestic
2015	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No			Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No			Majestic
2016	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No			Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No			Majestic
2017	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No		"Mr. I" white border	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No		"Mr. I" orange border	Majestic
2018	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No			Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No			Majestic
2019	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No		MLB150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No		MLB150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No		Kaline mem. (white border)	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No		Kaline mem (orange border)	Nike

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These two styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Tigers Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No			Nike
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No			Nike
2022	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No		Kimera Bartee memorial (white border)	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No		Kimera Bartee memorial (orange border)	Nike
2023	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡*		Nike
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡*		Nike
2024	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color (no perf)	Nike Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color (no perf)	Varsity 3 color (no perf)	Nike Block 3 color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	Alt Blue Home**	No	Varsity 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	Alt Blue Road**	No	Varsity 1 color (perf(	Nike Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡	313 patch‡	Nike
2025	Home White	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	Road Gray	Front Varsity 3 color	Varsity 3 color	Block Cond 3 color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	Alt Blue Home**	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	Alt Blue Road**	No	Varsity 1 color	Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡		Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 1 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 Color	No	Meijer Ad patch‡	313 patch‡	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

* Starting May 25, 2023

** The Tigers added their Spring Training/BP jerseys as official alternates in the MLB Style Guide for the 2024 season.

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home

1970

While the jersey is flannel, the lettering is navy cotton twill, sewn with a zig-zag stitch. The number font is Wilson Varsity; player names are in a tall, narrow and lightweight black font.

1970 or 1971

1971

1970

The Detroit Tigers' "Olde English D" first appeared on the left chest of the team's home jersey in 1905. Between then and 1933, it was usually present, though there were a couple of years when the jersey was without it . But by 1934, it was here to stay,. The home jersey was basically unchanged for the next 83 years, until a minor "freshening" in 2018 altered its shape a bit, changing it to match the logo on the team cap. Simple Navy knit trim rings the placket; Varsity style numbers on back. Player names on back appear for the first time in 1970 on both home and road jerseys. 1970-1971 are the final two years of flannel jerseys.

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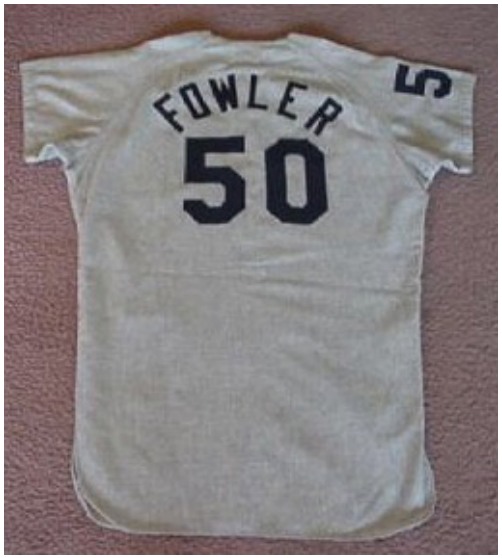
1970-1971 Road



The Tigers' road uniform for 1970-1971 is the model of understatement. It says "we are the visiting team and we know it." Plain gray flannel fabric, Block "Detroit" arched on the front, Block Bold numbers on back and on the right sleeve (sure, Varsity was used on the home jersey… but those are made by Wilson. Rawlings uses a different font. Who's going to notice anyway?)

In these examples, notice all the variations in the number fonts. Some may have been re-lettered, but looking carefully at period photos, players on the field at the same time are seen wearing jerseys with different number fonts, some even with a different font on the back than their sleeve! This was a relic of the time.

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1972-2017 Home

Wilson 1972-1991

1972

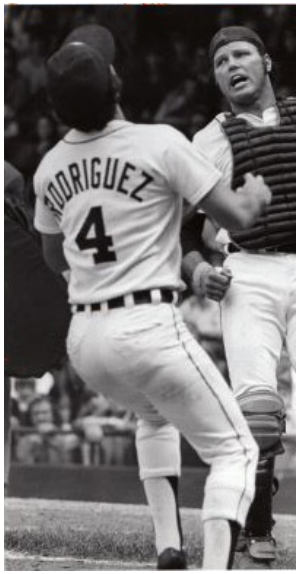
1974

1975, re-used in 1976 with 1976 patch on sleeve

1972 signals the switch to double knits. Their uniform is exactly as it had been the prior year, only the type of cloth is different. Player names remain on back through entire double knit era.

One thing I have learned through the years is that very few Tigers' uniforms pre-1990s survived in their original configuration. It does not matter who the player was - star or not - jerseys were unceremoniously stripped of player names at end of each season, and sometimes of numbers too, and the uniforms were sent to be used in either spring training or at one of the club's minor league franchises. Finding an original, unrestored jersey through the late 1980s at least, is a rarity. Many that have been restored have been done so incorrectly.

Player number and name fonts varied: until the age of computer graphics it seems there was no firm standard for numbers and names; several variants were used and it seems most lettering was hand-cut.



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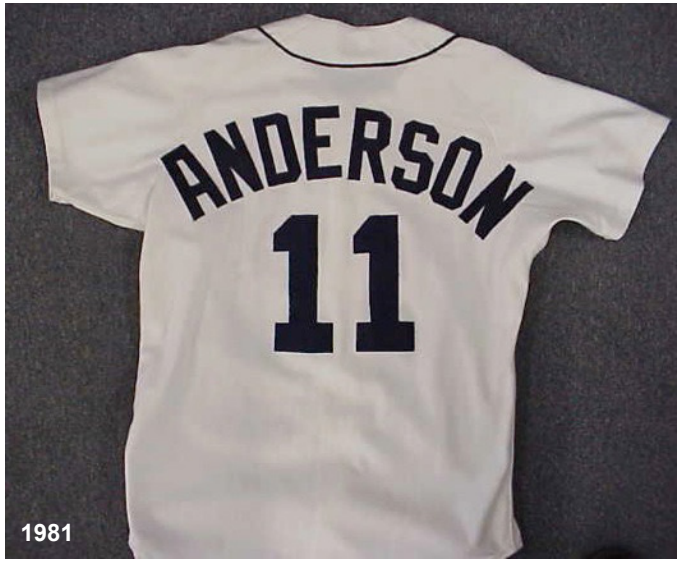
1972-2017 Home, continued: Wilson 1972-1991

1979



1981

1982

1983

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1972-2017 Home, continued: Wilson 1972-1991

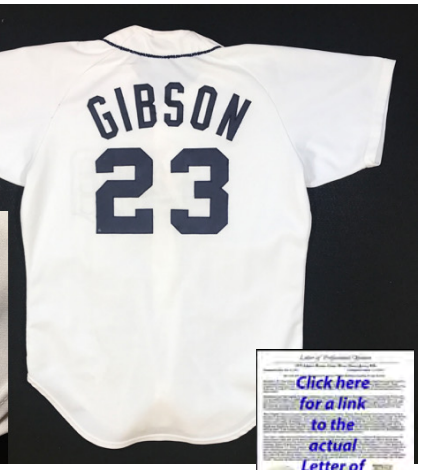
1983

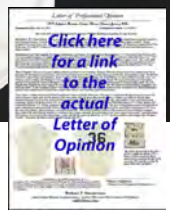
1984

1985

1986

1987





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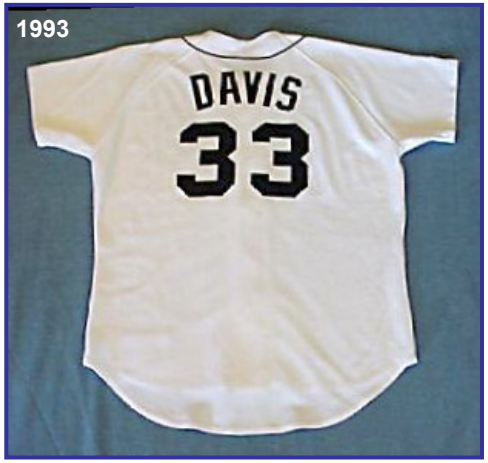
1972-2017 Home, continued: Wilson 1972-1991



Numbers on back grow from 7 ½" between 1972-1993 to 8" in 1994. NOB 3 ½" tall starting in 1992 (had previously been an extra tall 4", sometimes even 4 ½").

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1972-2017 Home, continued: Russell 1992-2004/Majestic 2005-2017

1994

1995

Numbers on back grow from 7 ½" between 1972-1993 to 8" in 1994. NOB 3 ½" tall starting in 1992 (had previously been an extra tall 4", sometimes even 4 ½").

1999

2003

2005

2010

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1972-2017 Home, continued: Majestic 2005-2017

2012 World Series

2013

2016

2017

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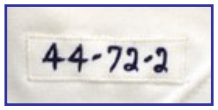
Tigers Home Tagging Examples



Left: *I like this photo because it shows us that on that day Mark Fidrych was wearing his 1977 set 2 jersey. We can see the tag.*

If you collect Tigers game jerseys you may have noticed these letters scrawled on the locker tag of many jerseys in the hobby. These are the initials of Jim Schmakel, the Tigers equipment manager since 1978. The "G" indicates that he knows that the item was game used. One other odd thing about Tigers tagging is the presence of a seemingly random number at the end of the tag string, something that seems to have started on Russell jerseys around 1992. This appears to be an inventory number of some kind used by the team to account for the number of jerseys made in a year.

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1972-1984 Road

Oops: "8" is sewn on upside down. A common authentic mistake.

1972

1973: *Willie Horton's road V-neck with his characteristically ripped open neck seam. He altered his jerseys this way throughout his career.*

1973

As the double-knit era begins, the Tigers adopt a somewhat "mod" pullover road jersey with wide elastic knit sleeve trim and knit collar trim.

Two-color navy/orange 7 ½" Varsity numbers on back

One-color navy names, in Block font, an extra tall 4" sometimes even 4 ½".

1973

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1972-1984 Road, continued

1974

1976

1978 Wilson

1978 Rawlings

The Tigers used road jerseys made by both Wilson and Rawlings in 1978; some of the variations between the manufacturers are visible in the examples above. As was so typical of Tigers jerseys of this era, the Corcoran jersey ***(above right)*** has had its name on back stripped and replaced, and clearly has endured a number change as well, as visible in the restored "2". The "55" on the small tag is most likely a Tigers inventory number.

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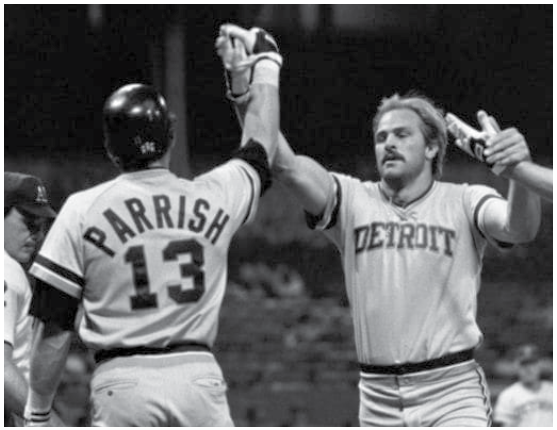
1972-1984 Road, continued

1983

1983

You're not seeing double - these are two 1983 Lance Parrish road jerseys, with the subtle difference in tagging showing the top jersey as set 1 and the bottom as set 2. In this era, teams typically issued two of each uniform to players to help balance out wear and tear. I have been fortunate to authenticate both of these jerseys, and thought it would be fun to reunite them here, as they once likely hung together in Parrish's locker in clubhouses across Major League Baseball some four decades ago.



Parrish and Kirk Gibson in action, September 5, 1983. Almost certainly Parrish is wearing one of these two jerseys in the photo.

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Road Jersey Lettering Variations

Three photos of the same player, Mark Fidrych who had a remarkable but injury-shortened five season career, 1976-1980. He is pictured here wearing road uniforms with three different variants of the front DETROIT lettering. Look mostly at the orange outline, and the negative space around the top of the “T” and the spacing, or lack thereof, between the letters. This sort of inconsistency was fairly typical in the days before computer graphics. Often, the outline color was hand-cut with a pair of scissors after the top layer had been pressed on. It all depended on who was doing the cutting, layout and sewing how the uniforms looked in the end.

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1985-1993 Road

Wilson 1985-1986

1985

Jordan Simmermaker collection

1986

Identical to 1972-1984 style, but changes to a button-front design, 1985-1993. Wide orange/white/navy knit sleeve end trim, with narrower trim in the same colors encircling the neck.

Wilson is manufacturer in 1985-1986, Rawlings takes over 1987-1991, then Russell for 1992-1993. 1987 is the first year with the Rawlings script embroidered on the right sleeve end trim.

Two-color varsity numbers on back only, navy/orange, still slightly smaller than most other teams use, at 7 ½".

One-color navy names, in block font, extra tall at 4".

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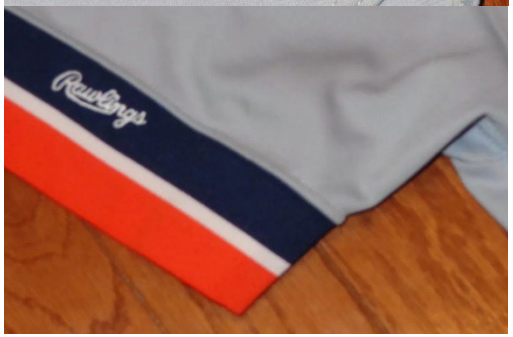
1985-1993 Road, continued: Rawlings 1987-1991

1987



1990

Bill Henderson Collection

1990

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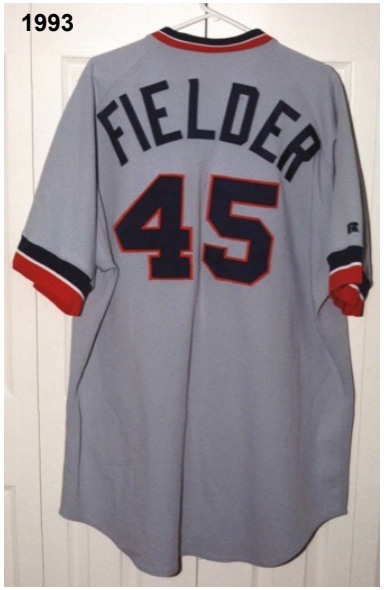
1985-1993 Road, continued: Russell 1992-1993

1992

1993

1993



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1994 Road

Bill Henderson Collection

Left: *Period photo shows the Tigers wearing these 1994 one-year style jerseys in Spring Training 1995, they removed the MLB 125th Anniversary patch worn during 1994 from their sleeves. This explains why one seldom comes across a 1994 jersey with the patch still affixed!*

New Detroit script closely resembles the wordmark first used on 1930 road uniforms. Now with wide, knit racing stripes on shoulders and down sleeves, sewn on top of knit fabric. Three-color front and back Varsity numbers, navy/orange/white.

Name on back is also three-color navy/orange/white, usually in Block Light Condensed.

The Tigers are late to join the “wild trim” party, and this design lasts only one year. These are the last MLB jerseys to feature racing stripe trim.

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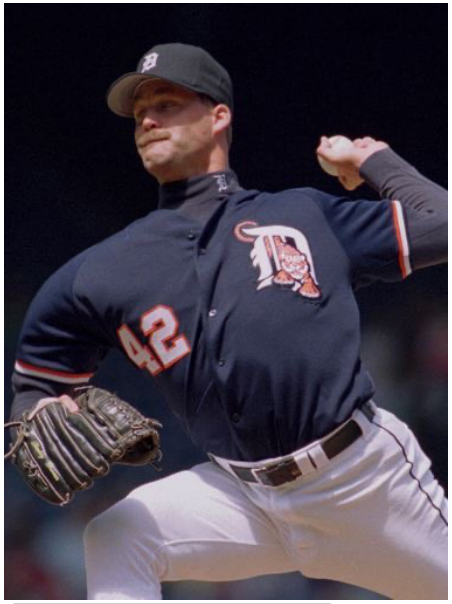
1995 Alternate

Bill Henderson Collection



These jerseys were intended to be worn during Sunday home games. Team ownership did not like the idea of jerseys without player names on back, and so these nice-looking jerseys were eliminated after only a single game, Sunday, May 7, 1995. Initially intended to be paired with pinstriped pants (see photo at right), according to an inside source, immediately before game time the team was ordered by team president John McHale to "take off those clown pants" and wear their regular white pants instead. Lettering is Varsity two-color numbers, white/orange. Note proper placement of front numbers. No names on the back. This article by Jason Beck of MLB.com offers more detail.

Hard to see, but MLB's 1995 internal style guide shows this jersey with its pinstriped pants. Note the narrow orange and white outlines around the logo, and the sleeve numbers that did not make the cut, though I doubt the jersey was intended to have three sets of numbers on it.

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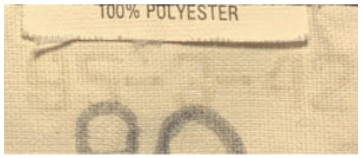
Solved! The Mysterious Disappearance of the Tigers 1995 Alternate Blue Jerseys....



Top Left: *The jersey as purchased by a collector, presented (accurately) as a Lakeland Tigers minor league jersey...but there's much more to the story!*

Above: *The faded printing reading "95-3-42" on the front tag, identifying this as an original Detroit Tigers 1995 alternate issued to Alan Trammell.*

Collector Stephen K. was perusing jerseys for sale online when he stumbled on this Lakeland Tigers late 1990s jersey. It was generally the same style as the Tigers' one-game 1995 alternate, except it had the Lakeland Tigers' logo on the chest and smaller numbers on the back, along with a minor league baseball anniversary patch on the sleeve. But a faded tag, barely legible, was on the front below the Russell tag— which said it was a "Diamond Collection" jersey… Russell's branding for authentic on-field MLB wear in the mid to late 90s. And while it's true that a few minor league clubs wore jerseys with Diamond Collection tagging, most of these were re-purposed MLB jerseys. He decided to take a gamble and bought it without asking too many questions. He figured that if it turned out to be a "nothing", he could easily resell it the same way as he had purchased it. He wondered— could it be??

The Tigers were a team that wasted nothing, and at the start of 1990s they were still sending their used jerseys and pants to the minors to be used and used until they were worn out and discarded.

Besides being the Spring Training home of the MLB club, Lakeland Florida is home to the Class A Lakeland Tigers (since 2007 known as the Flying Tigers). The Lakeland Tigers wore uniforms in the 1990s that had a stylized variant of the big club's Gothic logo, except theirs was a Gothic "L" instead of the Detroit D. Tigers' home jerseys were often re-purposed in this way for them to use.

When Stephen got the jersey, he could see that the well-worn MLB tag had some printing on it, but it was so faded it was nearly impossible to make out. He sent it to me and asked me to take a look at it. The first thing I did was to take a high resolution scan of the tagging and apply my Photoshop filters to it… and when I did, the writing popped right out. 95-3-42. That's 1995, #3, size 42. As in #3 Alan Trammell… 20 years with the Tigers, 2017 Hall of Fame-Inductee Alan Trammell… are you kidding me?

The next step was to look for evidence that this had indeed been a 1995 Tigers jersey that had been converted to minor league use. I put it on the light table and I could see a few marks where the front crest had been sewn, but I could not see any evidence of old numbers being there. And, that

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The Mysterious Disappearance of 1995 Alternate Blue Jerseys, continued

didn't really surprise me. Fabric ghosts and shadows come to exist mostly from repeated washings and uniform wear in the sun, left behind adhesive, plus the addition of years of time. In this case, we knew that if this had indeed been a Tigers jersey it was only ever worn and washed once in its original configuration. And things sewn on then nearly immediately removed 25 years ago were not bound to have left a lot of marks. The current logo and numbers had been on there for a quarter century and the jerseys showed evidence of being worn and washed perhaps hundreds of times. This was going to take some sleuthing.

The first thing we needed to do after taking exacting photos of the jersey in its minor league configuration was to strip it completely, then photograph it again on the light table, superimposing images of the proposed original numbers and team crest onto it, and see if we could find any points of intersection: holes, pulls and fading that matched what once may have been there a quarter century ago.

I carefully removed the numbers, the crest, and the sleeve patch and went back to the light table. Taking a series of photographs with different exposures and applying my Photoshop filters I was indeed able to clearly see edges of where the original (smaller) Tigers crest had been sewn on the left front. I've highlighted the two outlines here in pink and blue. Stephen found a retail version of this jersey and sacrificed it for the restoration. I carefully removed the front "D" from the donor noting how tightly was stitched in place, the edge bound with a satin embroidery stitch. This method of attachment left ample pinholes to show where it came off. It neatly covered the original outline on the Lakeland jersey like the missing piece of a jigsaw puzzle.

The numbers were much more difficult to see, looking straight on I could see nothing clearly, but I found if I tipped the light table at a very sharp angle, I could see faint lines of where fabric threads had been compressed closer together with sewing machine stitching. I used a black-light pen to lightly mark those lines in the spots where I saw them, and behold— a pattern began to emerge. The number 3, centered on the jersey back, and in the proper size to match the team template! I did the same on the front, and there had been a 3 there as well, too. We had a positive match!

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The Mysterious Disappearance of 1995 Alternate Blue Jerseys, continued

Using my own game-worn jersey from this game as a positive match for the sizes of the numbers back and front, I cut new ones. I stitched everything onto the historic jersey using the light table for precise placement.

I fully documented the restoration and wrote up the authentication so that they next person looking at this on a light table would understand why there were ghosts of a 47 and a different team crest on the front. Without this step, the value of this historic jersey would possibly be lost. After all, who would believe that this wasn't simply a Lakeland Tigers jersey converted to look like one belonging to a Hall of Fame player?

Here it is completed- restored back to original. Stephen is justifiably pleased with his barn-find prize. And I am satisfied to have been able to help answer a question about "what happened to these Tigers jerseys after all?" So, keep your eyes open for diamonds in the rough like this one. Many minor league jerseys from the 1990s and before started life as MLB jerseys.

Follow this link to see the post on my Facebook blog.

Letter of Professional Opinion and Document of Restoration

Alan Trammell Detroit Tigers Game Worn 1995 Blue Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: December 4 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-120001

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Navy blue no-button Russell jersey issued to #3 Alan Trammell. Size 42, with Tigers alternate crest on the left chest, a large embroidered applique patch showing a growling tiger in orange and black, climbing through a white Gothic D. Navy/white/orange sewn-on first term rings each sleeve end. Player number "3" on the right chest and centered on the back in the proper size and font for the 1995 Tigers, in white, outlined with orange. There is no player name on back.

This is one of the most notorious (if all MLB) jerseys. They were intended to be worn (at) season for Sunday home games. But ownership, unaccustomed seeing them not prior to them being used on the field for the first time, disapproved of the look, and did they like the idea of jerseys without player names on back. As a result, these jerseys were eliminated after only a single game's use, on Sunday, May 7, 1995. Initially intended to be paired with pinstriped pants (according to an inside source) immediately before game time the team was reportedly ordered by team president John McHale to, "take off those pinstripe pants" and then their regular white pants matched. Under normal circumstances, before Tigers' game jerseys leave the premises for the Sand Lot, each is hand initialed on the front tag by long-time equipment manager Jim Schmakel, a signal that they have been game used. Not so with this set. They disappeared from Tiger Stadium with no record. Over the years, a very few original examples have turned up at auction, while others were sent to Lakeland to be used by a Minor League squad. This jersey was in that last group.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell locker tag sewn to the outside right tail, at the certain quality semi-used not later than 1994. No-name tag and small fabric 100% polyester flag tag under the Russell tag both proper with Russell team issued jerseys. An extremely well-defined rectangular in the fabric tag is outlined beneath the tail locker tag, on it is the standard size matrix printed code 95-1-42-1995, player number 3, size 42. Someone has written "95" in black marker on that tag, probably with some relation to its minor league service.

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authenticator / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
MilesTheDream.Shop

Allowed as natural prior to restoration. Blue highlighted photos on the page show the light table enhancements of the original front crest and the back number.

Wear & Repairs, Documentation of Professional Restoration: As received for review, this jersey was in its second life, labeled for the Lakeland Tigers and had number 47 stitched to the front and back. It shows signs of moderately heavy wear, with pockmarking of all elements and graying, fraying and pockmarking of white tagging. The numbers and front crest were sloppily stitched in place, typical of Minor League form.

A light table examination revealed that the Tigers crest had once been on the left chest, and had been removed and replaced by the Lakeland crest. Noting the base tagging tabs on that this jersey had been originally issued as "95", and we were able to see faint evidence that the numeral 3 had indeed been on the back, centered beneath the two replacement numbers, as well as on the right front. A red, white and blue Minor League Baseball commemorative patch was stitched to the left sleeve.

Satisfied that this had indeed been a MLB Tigers jersey repurposed to the Minor Leagues, I stripped all the MLB elements from the jersey and again examined it on the light table. The former smaller MLB Tigers crest outline was clearly evident, as if had been stitched on with a light embroidery stitch having close tools. The numbers "95" on front and back were very faint, so would be expected because they probably were on this shirt very briefly some 25 years ago, and likely only washed once with them in place. The evidence of the old numbers was evident mostly as the edges from stitching fabric compression, and under ultraviolet light where slight discoloring of the areas that they occupied from the adhesive with which they had been tacked in place.

Replacement numbers in the team font were made in Tigers orange and white, and they perfectly covered the old ghosts. A crest was harvested from a dense jersey and sewn over the original marks. The Minor League Baseball patch was removed from the left sleeve. It left behind faced on hot-melt glue that was mostly removed with solvent.

Conclusion: The jersey in review shows wear that mostly occurred in its second life in the Minor leagues. It has been restored to original specifications, and is again properly labeled, and numbered. It has original authentic team issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by Alan Trammell of the 1995 Detroit Tigers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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1994-Specific Road Script

Compared below side by side, 1994 at left, and 1997. The team road script was unique in 1994, and was tweaked slightly for 1995 and after. It is more italic in 1994, *leaning forward* more than in subsequent years. I have highlighted some of the most notable points of difference, mostly seen in the shapes of the insides of letters and the change in “white space” between the two versions. The easiest place to see it is in the cut-out centers of the loops in the “D” and the “E” that disappear in 1995, as well as the white space between the “R” and the “O” that is opened for 1995. On the earlier design, the dot over the I is separate, but on the later variant the white layer is connected. Notably these sorts of changes often happen when manufacturer switches from one company to another, but in this case, both are Russell jerseys.

Ron Sodano Photo

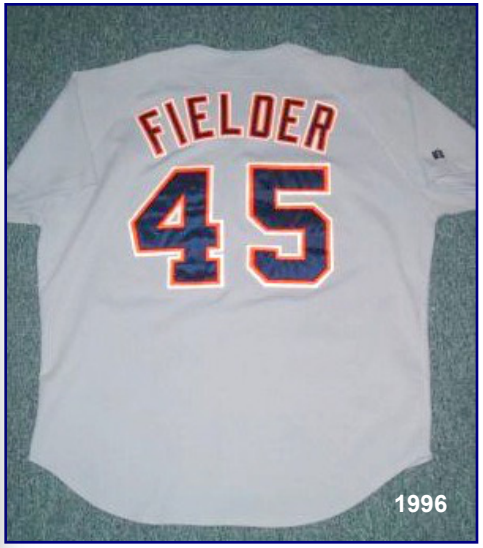
© GameWornGuides.com

1995-1997 Road

The wide racing stripes of 1994 were removed to leave an ultra-plain gray jersey. The “Detroit” script was also slightly tweaked to appear less slanted and more upright.

Numbers on front and back are Varsity, three-color, navy/orange/white. Names on back are 3” three-color Block Condensed, just like those in 1994.

(Inset left) *Note the switch to Block Extra Condensed for the name font for the 8-letter name.*



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1998-2023 Road

Russell 1998-2004

2000

2002

2001

Navy blue knit trim is added to the front and collar to dress up the plain, earlier design. Everything else remains the same as before. This style is made by Russell from 1998-2004, Majestic from 2005-2019, and Nike from 2020-2023. Varsity style, three-color names and numbers in navy/orange/white.

Left: *Original 1954 road uniform, clearly the inspiration for the 1998 redesign.*

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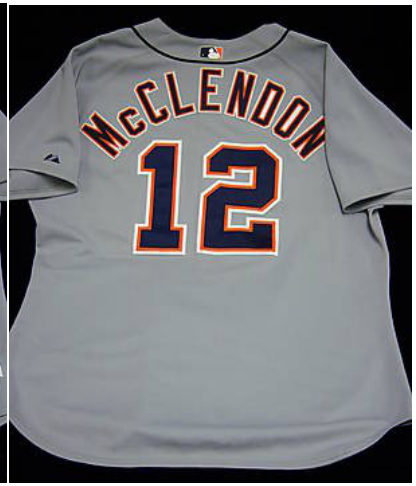
1998-2023 Road, continued: Majestic 2005-2019

2006



2007

2009

2010

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1998-2023 Road, continued: Majestic 2005-2019

2012

2014

Above: *Pitcher Al Alburquerque's jersey was a challenge for the stitcher, for sure.*

2013

Left: *As worn in the 2013 All-Star Game, with All-Star sleeve patch and collar-back stars.*

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1998-2023 Road, continued: Majestic 2005-2019/Nike 2020-2023

Top left: *2016 brings the change to Majestic Flex Base template*

Bottom left: *Nike takes over manufacturing, carrying over Majestic's Flex Base template 2020-2023. Tag code changes from DGRR to DG2R. Ad patch begins 2023.*

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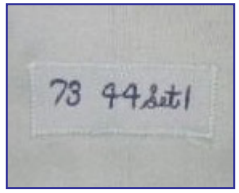
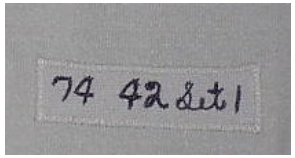
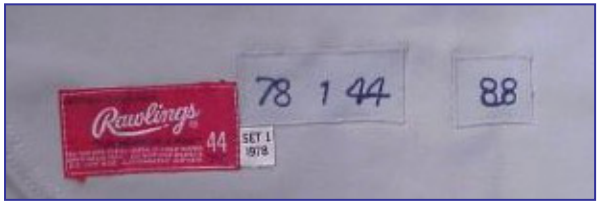
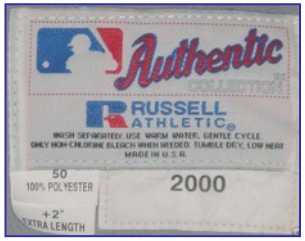
Tigers Road Tagging Examples







Tigers' tagging varies by year and by jersey manufacturer. 1995-1999 jerseys seem not to have any year or set tagging as the 1995 example shows.



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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." Multi-color lettered jerseys also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of previous years.

Left: *Jackie Robinson Day jersey intentionally omits player names.*

With the switch, the Tigers home jersey returns to equally-spaced buttons on front rather than matching the uneven spacing of the road jerseys.

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2018: Update to Olde English "D" Logo

The Tigers adopted the Olde English "D" as a logo way back in 1904. Though it has changed at times, the style of the "D" on Tigers' jerseys had been steadfast since 1934. Until 2018, when the team updated the jersey logo to match the one on the cap. (It had already been changed on BP and Spring Training jerseys in 2017.) With it, Majestic's style code for the jersey updated from DGHH to DGH1, as seen on the tags below.

Yes, the two logos had been mismatched for years, a leftover from evolutions in manufacturing and design. The new "D" from the cap is somewhat simpler, which works better in a modern context of logos being reproduced in smaller applications on phone screens and online. Many other teams have gone through similar primary logo changes in recent years for the same reason. And though this change made the Tigers home uniform more "uniform," many traditionalists mourned the lost charm of the mismatch, a product of a simpler time less concerned with mass merchandising and marketing.

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2018-2023 Home

The updated “D” logo on the front of the Tigers jersey continues through Majestic’s last year of manufacture in 2019, and over to the new Nike version of the Flex Base template starting in 2020. With the change to Nike, its logo appears on the front right chest starting in 2020 as well. Otherwise, the jersey remains the same, though the code on the laundry tag updates again, this time from DGH1 with Majestic to DG11 with Nike.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020-2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Tigers classic home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the knit trim around the neck and down the placket appears closer together than it once had. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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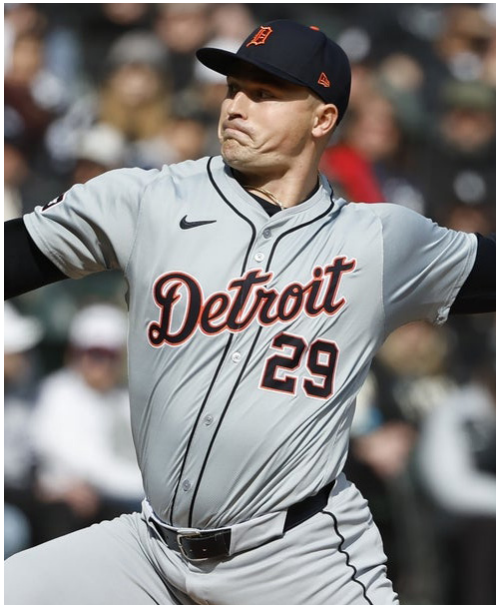
2024 Road



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2024 Alternate Home/Spring Training Home

For 2024, the Tigers include both of their blue alternate jerseys, which they only wear in Spring Training or batting practice, in the MLB Style Guide. Given that the team has no other alternates, this may have been forced on them as a way to keep these two outlier jerseys in their rotation. We document them here because they are made available for the team to use in 2024.

That said, the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in almost no visible changes to this style. The most prominent change for most teams is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Perhaps because these are used in Spring Training only, the team was permitted to keep their 2023-size player names on these jerseys. They opt for perforated numbers, which don't appear on their regular home and road jerseys, perhaps as an antidote to the Florida heat.

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2024 Alternate Road/Spring Training Road

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2024-2025 City Connect

Corey Magee Collection

Detroit is the Motor City, so it makes sense for the Tigers' City Connect to pay homage to that legacy. According to the MLB press release, several elements of the city's motor history are embedded in the design.

- TIRE TREADS: Down the middle of the jersey is shaded in electric blue, tire treads represent the wheels keeping the Motor City and the Tigers accelerating toward the future.
- M-1 – 313 PATCH: The 313 patch stitched on the left sleeve of the jersey takes you on a ride to M-1 – known to Detroiters as Woodward Avenue, America's first paved road in 1909. The baseball diamond-shaped patch features Detroit's "313" area code, with the number 1 bolded and emphasized to emulate the classic M-1 road signs.
- SLEEVE TAPE: The addition of racing stripes at the bottom of each sleeve of the jersey is nod to Detroit's central role in the racing industry.
- VIN TAG: Much like every vehicle has its own unique VIN (Vehicle Identification Number), Detroit's City Connect uniforms feature a VIN tag heat pressed in the collar with 190135456884, which represent the first year of the club's charter membership in the American League (1901), alongside 35, 45, 68, and 84, which celebrate Detroit's four World Series Championships.
- TIGER EYES: "Tiger Eyes" above the jock tag symbolize the passion, energy, and tenacity of Detroiters and its baseball team.

This style premiered in 2024, so it originated on Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template. Sleeve trim is sewn on, however, given its width. Back numbers are perforated. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Note the jersey now has the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag, which has been used on a handful of jerseys around the league.

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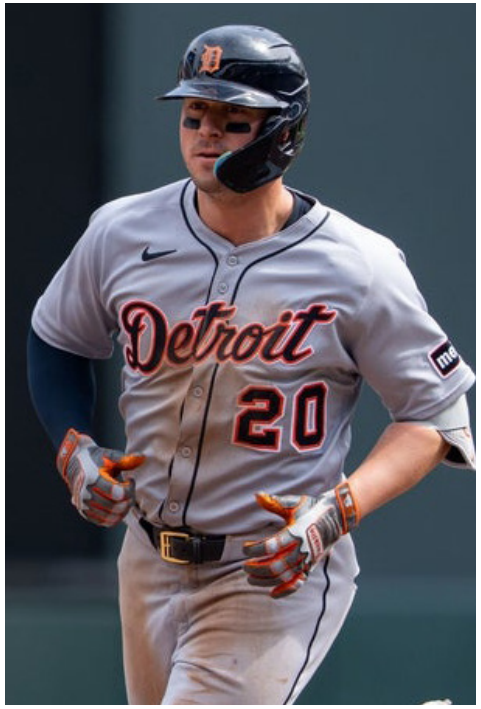
2025 Road



The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of time (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. Like other 2025 jerseys, gray jerseys also have back name and numbers enlarged, in most cases back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home/Spring Training Home

Once again in 2025, the Tigers include both of their blue alternate jerseys, which they only wear in Spring Training or BP, in the MLB Style Guide. Given that the team has no other alternates, this may have been forced on them as a way to keep these two outlier jerseys in their rotation. We document them here because they are made available for the team to use in 2025. The changes from the 2024 version are few. The jersey itself appears the same, though with the official return to pre-2024 lettering, the arc of the player names on back is less steep, which appears to allow for even bigger NOB letters than in 2024. As noted in a previous page, the team did not use the tiny 2" letters on the 2024 version of this jersey, so the change is less apparent as it would be for other teams. Back numbers are no longer perforated for 2025.

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2025 Alternate Road/Spring Training Road

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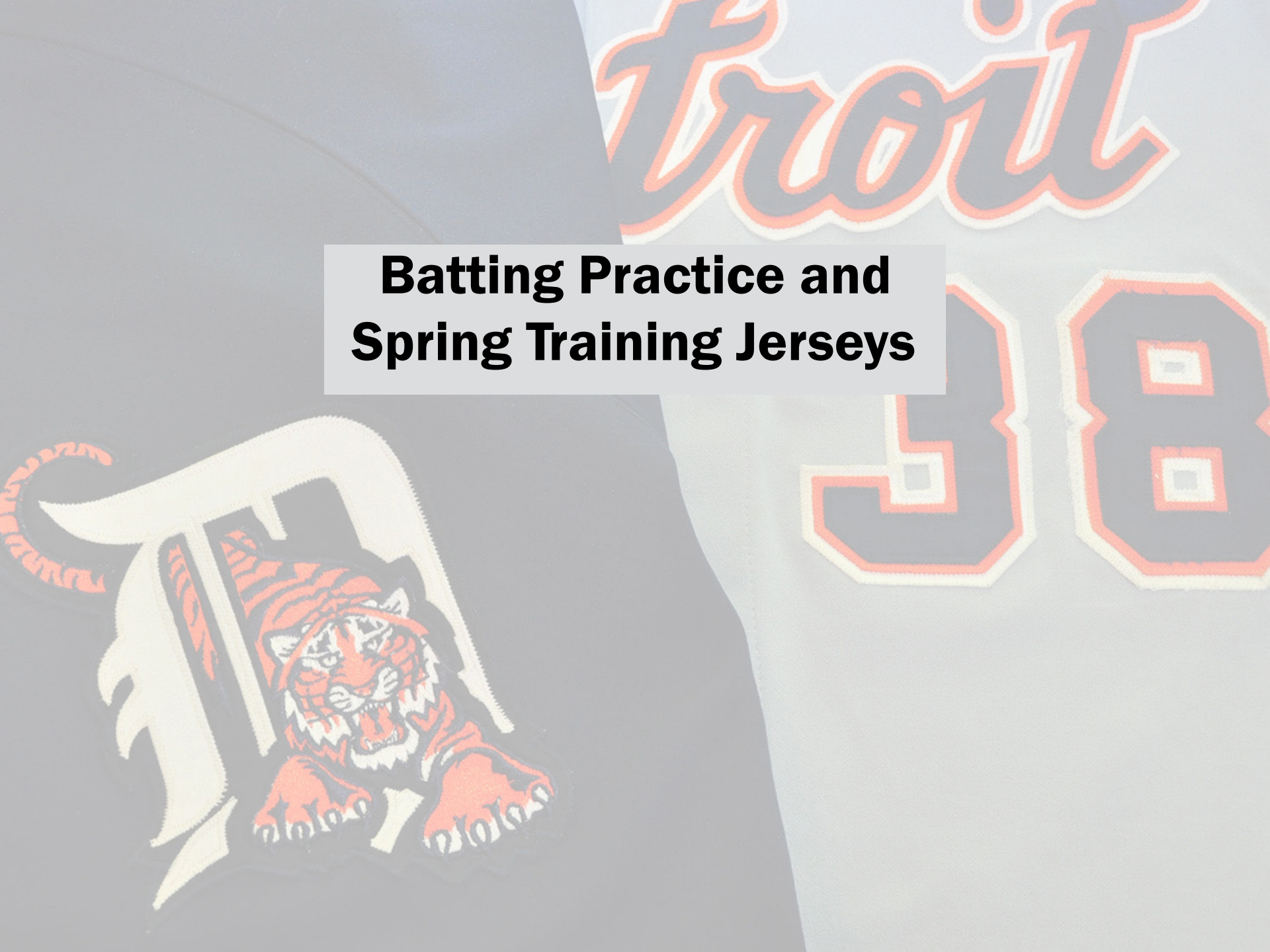
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



1979-1985 Batting Practice

Above: *Wilson year tagged 1983*

Top Right: *Majestic jersey not year tagged.*

Navy blue mesh pullover, orange/white/navy trim on sleeve ends and V-neck collar. It is tough to pin a specific period of use on Tigers' BP jerseys as the team rarely is photographed in anything other than white or gray game uniforms.

Two-color, 9" Bold Varsity numbers on back. No names on back used.

© GameWornGuides.com

1985-1991 Road Batting Practice

1987

1985

1990

Gray mesh fabric, modeled to look like the button-front Tiger road jerseys of the era, worn 1985-1991.

Two-color navy/ orange, 9” Varsity numbers on the back, no names.

© GameWornGuides.com

1986-1993 Home Batting Practice

This batting practice jersey style was used at home from the mid to late 1980s through around 1992 or 1993. Notice two collar trim variants are shown here. Exact years of use are not yet confirmed.

Top left: This jersey is made by Majestic, and the large-hole mesh fabric identifies it as an early issue, perhaps even 1985. It has white/blue/white trim at the collar and on the sleeve ends.

Bottom left: This jersey is made by Russell but appears to be the same as the Majestic jersey at top left. Its tagging dates it from 1992 or 1993.

Bottom center: Majestic jersey has a button front and white/blue/white trim at the collar. Its manufacturer label in the tail identifies it as being from around 1986 to 1992.

Bottom right: Russell jersey is also from 1992 or 1993, identified by its manufacturer tag on the tail. Notice that this variation has a plain collar without the striped white trim.

I have been unable to locate photos of Tigers players wearing this style jersey. Of all MLB teams, the Tigers seem to wear their BP jerseys the least. They play most Spring Training games in *regular season uniforms.*

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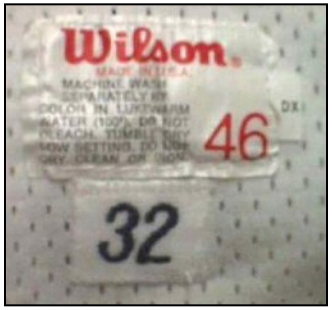
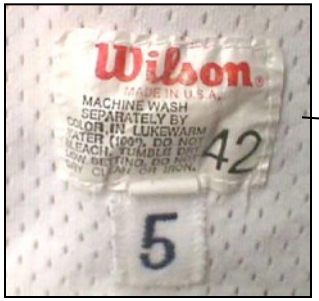
1989-1991 Home Batting Practice





These are the home batting practice jerseys that were worn during most of the same years that the Tigers wore the gray “Detroit” batting practice jersey on the road, the one seen a couple of pages prior.

In earlier editions, we opined that these were worn in Spring Training only, but readers have written to advise that this is not so.

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Late 1980s-Early 1990s Alternate Zip-Neck Batting Practice

These zip-neck mesh jersey variations are made by Majestic. All feature elastic waistbands though the earlier version's trim is more ornate. Most likely, in use, these all had Wilson Varsity numbers on back in the same colors as the "D" on the front, as seen in a few of these examples.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993 Road Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

Due to their unpopularity with players and management, these bright jerseys last only one season. All team-issued ones are tagged with orange Plastisol ink on a white tag, with year, player number, and a Tigers' sequence code that remains a mystery to outsiders. To date I have never come across one made for retail sale. These are extremely rare.

A little too flashy perhaps for the conservative Tigers, this bright button-front style didn't last long before orange returned to its role as a trim color alone. All lettering is blue outlined with white.

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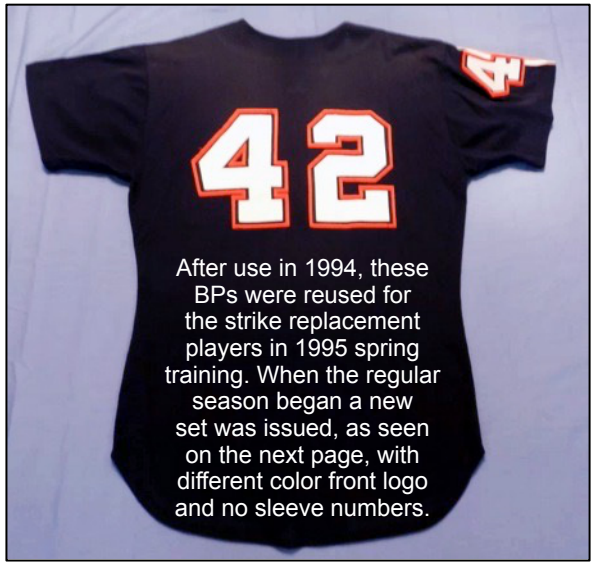
1994 Batting Practice/ 1995 Spring Training (replacement players)

1994 with year tagging


After use in 1994, these BPs were reused for the strike replacement players in 1995 spring training. When the regular season began a new set was issued, as seen on the next page, with different color front logo and no sleeve numbers.

Navy blue mesh fabric with the new-for-1994 logo on the chest, wide racing stripes on the sleeve tops. Identify by the navy blue “D” on the front. Three-color, (white/ navy/orange) numbers on right sleeve and back. No NOB.

1995 Spring Training used

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1995-1997 Batting Practice

Subtle changes made for 1995. The large jumping tiger “D” on the front is changed to white and logo’s white background/outline becomes navy. Numbers on the sleeves disappear. These warmups are supplied by both Russell and Majestic. Russell jerseys are tagged with year/player number, Majestic ones appear untagged.

© GameWornGuides.com

1995-1998 Alternate Zip-Neck Batting Practice (style #1)

This Majestic “Gamewarmer” alternate style is from photographs dated 1998. It is a navy zipper-neck with thin orange and navy blue knit trim bands on sleeve ends and collar. Numbers are one-color white Varsity on back only.

© GameWornGuides.com

1995-2000 Alternate Zip-Neck Batting Practice (style #2)

This Majestic *Game-warmer* alternate batting practice jersey features the same front logo as appears on the short-lived 1995 alternate home jersey and on the 1995-1997 regular batting practice jersey. Slash pockets, fancy multi-striped trim at collar and sleeve ends, elastic at waist.

On these, there is no team tagging apparent.

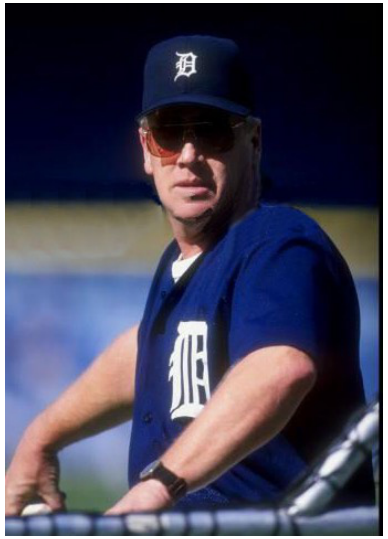
© GameWornGuides.com

1998-1999 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

This button-front batting practice jersey is plain, solid navy blue mesh style and is devoid of trim. It is numbered with one-color white Varsity numbers on back only.

During the regular season, the Tigers usually wear their team's commemorative patches on their batting practice jerseys as well.



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2000-2002 Home Batting Practice

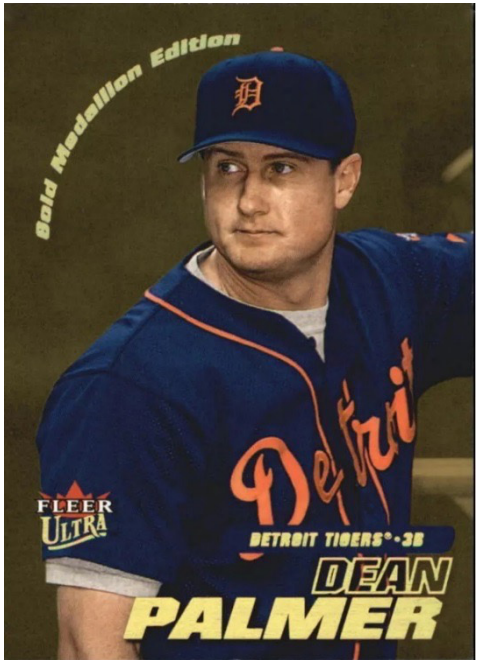
Steve Kraljic Collection

Navy blue mesh fabric with white knit trim on jersey front and collar. No names on the back. One-color white Varsity numbers.

Right: *Jerseys made for team use have an embroidered Majestic logo on the sleeve. Retail versions use a heat-transferred Majestic logo.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2002 Road Batting Practice



The 2000 version of the Tigers' road BP jersey is heavy navy blue mesh, and features orange knit trim on the placket, and one-color orange varsity numbers on back. The "Detroit" script on front is actually two-color, orange outlined with navy blue. The player numbers are solid orange, no outline.

The Tigers seldom wear this jersey during Spring Training, and therefore finding photos of players with them on is always a challenge.

Above: *Team-issued jerseys have an embroidered Majestic logo on the sleeve like this one. Retail versions for sale have a heat-transfer decal.*

Right: *The example shown here in close-up is a store bought, not a team issued jersey. The two-hole buttons give it away! Team spec jerseys have buttons with four holes.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Home Batting Practice

Made of softer, non-mesh tech fabric. Notice the underarm bands of different fabric where the sleeves meet the jersey body.

Identify by the thin white piping sewn into the seams on the tops of the sleeves.

Varsity one-color white numbers on back. No player names used. Finding action shots of the Tigers wearing these jerseys is difficult, as the team typically wears its regular home or road jerseys during Spring Training where most press photos originate.

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2003-2006 Road Batting Practice

Made of soft, non-mesh moisture-wicking fabric. Identify by the orange piping on the tops of the sleeves. This fabric was highly prone to snags and fading. Player-used ones often look very ratty. Single-color orange Varsity number on back. No player names are used.

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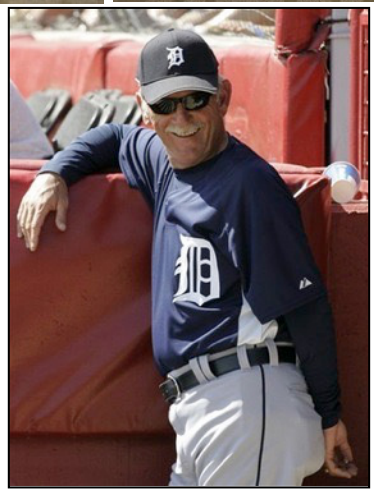
2007-2010 Home Batting Practice

The Tigers have consistently worn home and road styles of batting practice jerseys since the mid 1980s. They continue this trend with the all-MLB redesign of batting practice jerseys in 2007.

Home jersey is navy blue with the *Olde English* "D" on the left chest. The side has a white and navy-blue panel insert.

No names are used on back, single-color numbers only, in white. All numbers and front design are heat-applied appliqués for jerseys in this style.



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2007-2010 Road Batting Practice

With the switch to pullover Cool Base batting practice jerseys for 2007, the Detroit Tigers continue their custom of having different jerseys for use at home and on the road.

The road model features the *Olde English* “D” in orange outlined with white on the left chest. Spandex mesh side panels are orange at the bottom and white under the arms. All numbers and front design are heat-applied appliqués for jerseys in this style.

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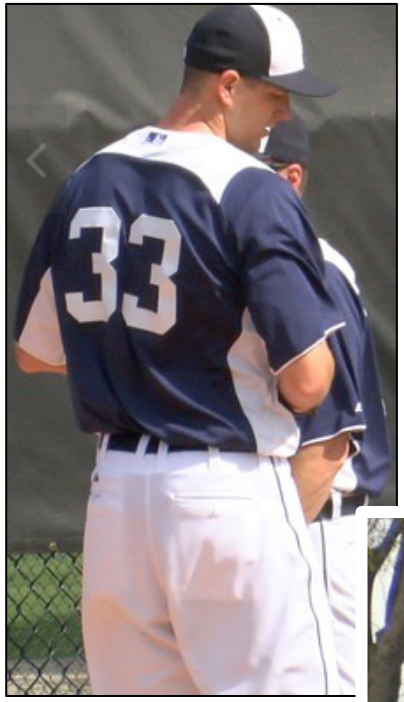
2011-2013 Home Batting Practice



For 2011, all of Major League Baseball changes to button-front Cool Base batting practice jerseys.

The Tigers continue their practice of having separate home and road batting practice jerseys.

The home model is navy with plain white side panels and has a white panel above the back numbers. Numbers on back are white Varsity. No names on back.

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2011-2013 Road Batting Practice

The road version of the batting practice jersey for 2011 is a button-front design, orange Varsity numbers on back.

Navy jersey body, with orange mesh side panels and above the numbers on the back. Numbers on back are twill.

Olde English "D" on front is orange outlined with white.

Finding photos in the press of the Tigers wearing their batting practice jerseys is difficult. They do not wear them in the spring for games like most teams do, choosing to wear their regular season uniforms instead.

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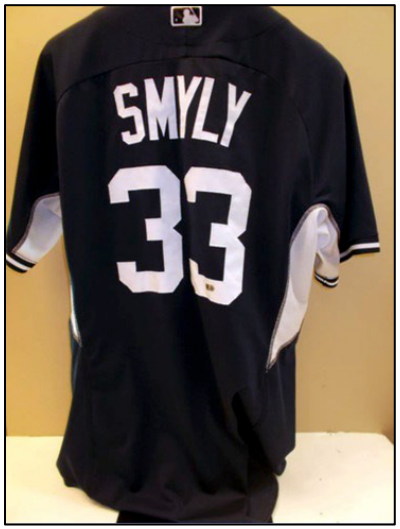
2014-2016 Home Batting Practice

MLB and Majestic redesigned all teams' batting practice jerseys for 2014. For the Tigers' home BP, knit navy and white trim is added to neck and sleeve openings. White side panels are shorter than on the 2013 version, now stopping before the garment's tail. The white shoulder-top yoke of the previous version is removed, and that panel is now solid blue. Player names in white Block Condensed, player numbers in white single-color Varsity.



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2014-2016 Road Batting Practice

The road BP for 2014 mimics the new 2014 home jersey, replacing all white elements with orange. Sleeve end and neck trim is navy and orange, all adornment is orange twill; side panels are orange mesh.

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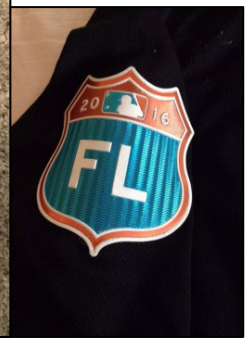
2016 Spring Training Home

Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Tigers use a design separate from their regular season standard set, reminiscent of their regular season BP jerseys as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are also white patterned twill. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Tigers spend Spring Training. In keeping with their tradition, the Tigers also continue to wear their home uniforms throughout Spring Training home games as well.



Notice the subtle difference between the 2016 and 2017 versions of the Tigers' Spring Training jerseys. The 2016 uses the "flat" game jersey wordmark. The 2017 versions a few pages ahead use the curvy "cap logo" Olde English "D."

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2016 Spring Training Road

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2017 Spring Training Home

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. The Tigers only use one-color white twill for their jersey, so this change is moot in 2017.

The Tigers again use a design separate from their regular season standard set, reminiscent of their regular season BP jerseys as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. But, for the first time in 2017, the curvy “cap version” of the Tigers‘ *Olde English* "D" appears on the front left chest in white, rather than the version that typically appears on the home uniform. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Tigers spend Spring Training.

All jerseys have a blue-bordered “Mr. I” patch on the left sleeve, a memorial to owner Mike Ilitch who died in February.

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2017 Spring Training Road

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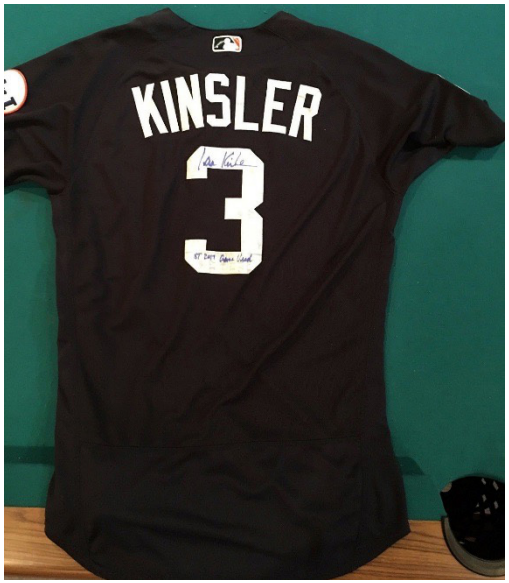

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2017-2019 Home Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Tigers jersey is blue with gray back and underarm gussets. The curvy “cap version” of the Tigers' old English "D" appears on the front left chest in white. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white Varsity on the left sleeve.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice Jersey, Road

As is their frequent custom dating back to the mid 1980s, the Tigers have a separate set of home and road batting practice jerseys that they issue to players. The road version of the new-for-2017 3/4-sleeve BP jersey has an orange front with sewn navy "Detroit" script. The back of the jersey is navy blue. Player numbers are sewn at the mid-point of the left sleeve, and backs are blank.

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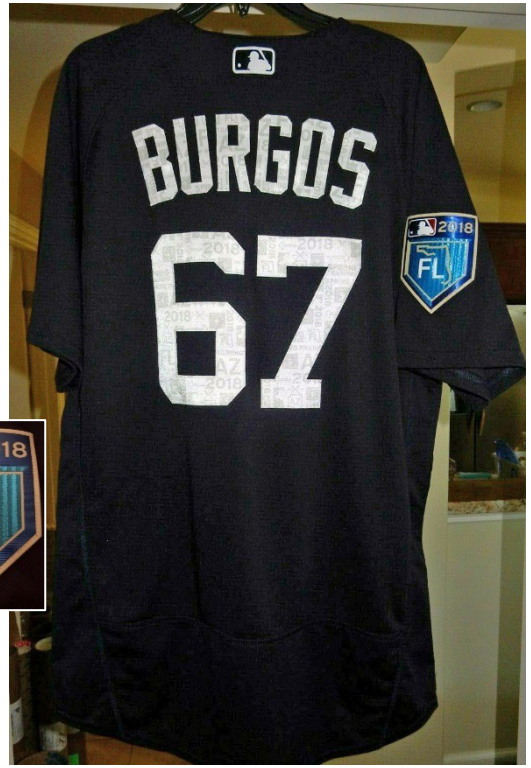
2018 Spring Training Home



The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Tigers use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, reminiscent of their regular-season BP jerseys, as their basis. The front logo is white on the home version, while name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2018 Spring Training Road

The Tigers are one of a handful of teams that use different spring jerseys for home and road games. Their road jersey substitutes an orange team crest on the front but is otherwise identical to the home one. The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Tigers use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, reminiscent of their regular-season BP jerseys as their base. The front logo is orange on the road version, while name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training Home

The 2019 Spring Training jersey template evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Tigers use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, reminiscent of their regular-season BP jerseys, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. On the home version, the front logo, name, and back numbers are white twill.

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2019 Spring Training Road

The Tigers continue their practice of using different spring jerseys for home and road games. For 2019, their road jersey substitutes orange lettering front and back but is otherwise identical to the home one. 2019's jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Tigers use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, reminiscent of their regular-season BP jerseys, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. On the road version, the front logo, name, and back numbers are orange twill.

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2020-2023 Spring Training Home

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020, the Tigers use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, a blue jersey with a white Olde English D on left front, with white name and back numbers.

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Special Events Jerseys

1980s St. Patrick's Day

The Tigers also participated in the Spring Training St. Patrick's Day fun of wearing green trimmed uniforms. This one is from the 1980s, but the specific year it was used is unknown. This jersey is signed by then-Tigers' owner and Domino's Pizza tycoon Tom Monaghan, who bought the team in 1983. He said buying the team "fulfilled a childhood dream."

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1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1932

Warren Waterman Collection

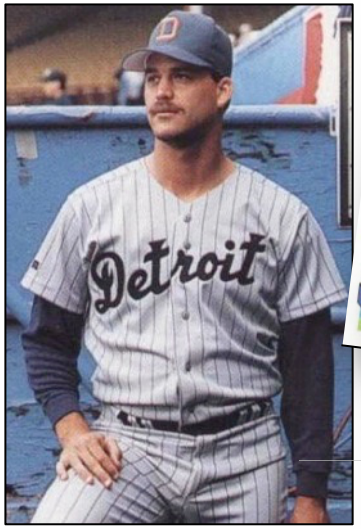
The 1992 Turn Back the Clock to 1932 game jersey is interesting in that it is knit but with navy felt lettering, made by Russell.

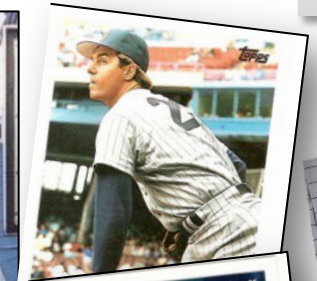
Both the Tigers and the home Indians teams wore the 1932 uniforms of their teams on this July 31, 1992 contest, 60 years to the day of the Indians first game at that stadium.

The baseball card photographer was busy that day, and there are many cards from this game.

Thanks to Warren Waterman, Tigers collecting fanatic who tell us, "I purchased a 1992 Tigers Turn Back the Clock to 1932 jersey, from the team, at Comerica Park, at last night's game. About three years ago, I had noticed it among the racks in their 'authentics' inventory room. There was only one. Nobody knew what it was, or from when, but they didn't want to sell it either. Then there it was, in your 2012 Edition… I have a good relationship with the team's charity foundation, and before last night's game, their authentics director and I went into the Tigers' inventory room, and we found it after a lengthy search. It is a Russell, size 42. The word ***Detroit*** *and number(s) are in felt. Very, very cool.*

Above: *1932 photo of Mickey Cochrane shows that the replica uniforms are very accurate.*





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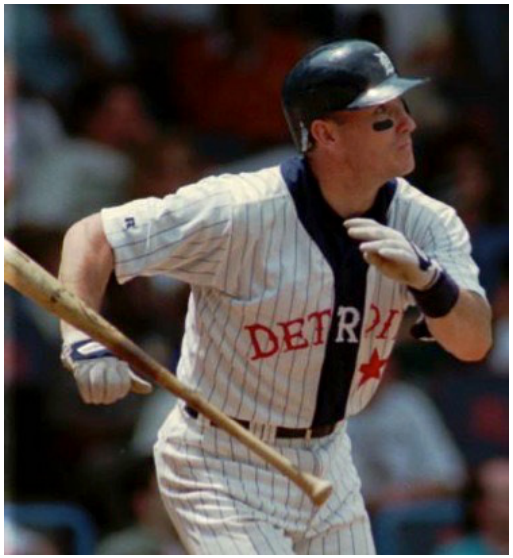
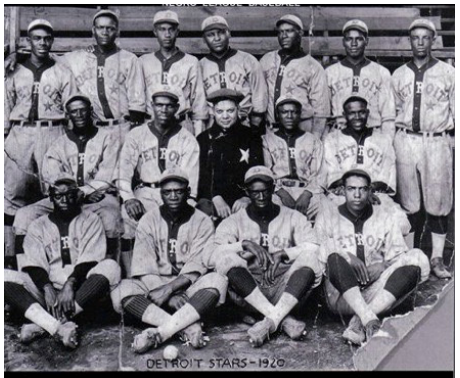
1995-1996 Negro Leagues Tributes (1920 Detroit Stars)



1996 jersey has slightly bolder back numbers, lacks the 1995 sleeve patch.



1920 DETROIT STARS

On July 8, 1995, the Detroit Tigers began a tradition that has continued now for decades. This was the year of their first Negro Leagues Turn Back the Clock game.

Stars pinstriped knit uniforms for 1995 were made by Russell, and feature the Negro Leagues 75th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve.

The team also wore this style twice in 1996: June 8 at home against the Yankees, and August 24 visiting the Royals, who wore gray Monarchs uniforms at home. Russell uniforms were again worn, though it is unclear if the Tigers wore the same set for both games that season.

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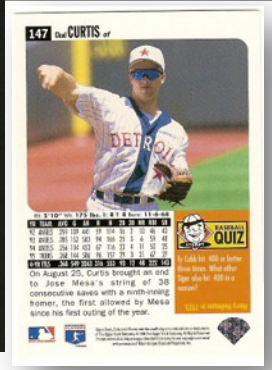
1997-1999 Negro Leagues Tributes (1920 Detroit Stars)



- The 1997-1999 Tigers' Detroit Stars uniforms were made by AIS and are identical or nearly so in appearance to each other in every year. The jerseys from these years feature the black AIS tag on front that the company used through the 1999 season.
- While I have many photos of these game worn jerseys in my archives, often the owners of the jerseys (or the sellers in the case of auction houses) do not know the year of use for their particular item. I have grouped this subset of Turn Back the Clock Stars jerseys by their identifying jock tag style.
- Back numbers use an old timey variant of the White Sox font from the late 70s and early 80s. Player uniforms in 1920 would not have used player numbers, so these are a modern convention.

Game Dates and Details

Orioles	v. Tigers	7/5/97	1949 Baltimore Elite Giants Road
Reds	v. Tigers	6/27/98	1942 Cincinnati Buckeyes Road
White Sox	v. Tigers	5/29/99	Chicago American Giants Road

© GameWornGuides.com

1998 Negro Leagues Tribute (1931 Detroit Cubs)

On June 13, 1998, the Tigers were the guests of the Royals for a Turn Back The Clock game.

The Royals dressed as the 1934 Kansas City Monarchs, and the Tigers wore the road uniforms of the independent league 1931 Detroit Cubs, rendered in wool flannel by Ebbets Field Flannels, player numbers on back and inside the body of the bear on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Ahead The Clock

John Swain Collection

Below: *Russell logo re-embroidered on bobbed sleeve.*

Uniforms unveil glimpse of future
Lynn Henning/The Detroit News. Detroit News. Detroit, Mich.: Jul 23, ***1999. pg. F.5 [Final Edition] Abstract (Summary)***

Wearing new uniforms Thursday, the Tigers were supposed to offer a peek at styles we'll see in the 21st century. Ouch. Fans --and players --seemed to agree the new millennium ought to spur more imagination than Detroit's apparel showed during a game against Kansas City.

"I think ours stunk," said Bobby Higginson, the Tigers right fielder who wore one of the so-called "futuristic" ensembles, which pretty much resembled Detroit's current wardrobe, except for sleeveless shirts, and a different look to the letters and numbers on the players' shirts."

The highly tradition-conscious Detroit Tigers agreed to participate in two of these games, dressed as ballplayers might 25 years in the future. The home game was on July 22, 1999. The road game was held but with regular uniforms (see "Oddballs" section).

Unlike the other teams who participated in the odd promotion and who wore totally bizarre custom styles, the Tigers took their regular button-front jerseys and simply re-tailored them with bobbed sleeves. A special font is used for names and numbers, and the Russell "R" is re-embroidered on the top of the cut-off right sleeve.

To me, the whole scheme was perfectly clever: the Tigers haven't changed uniforms in almost 90 years… so naturally the team projected they'd still look the same 25 years in the future. A fitting response to this kooky promotion.

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Tiger Stadium Finale: “No Name” Jerseys

For the final game ever at Tiger Stadium, September 27, 1999, players wore uniforms with the numbers of famous Tiger players of the past, each with no player name on back. The Tiger Stadium memorial patch was on the left sleeve. Ceremonies were held both before and after that final game. The game was capped by a dramatic grand slam off the roof by Robert Fick, wearing Norm Cash’s number 25. It was the final hit, home run and RBI at the stadium, the 11,111th one recorded there. Outfielder Gabe Kapler (far left in photo above) wore no number on his back in honor of Ty Cobb, who played before the era of players wearing numbers.

"Ladies and gentlemen, less than six months ago, we began a warm season of farewells, and with each passing day we came a little bit closer to this historic occasion.

"The Lions, Joe Louis and Nelson Mandela. Six-thousand eight-hundred and seventy-three regular season games, 35 postseason contests and a trio of spectacular All-Star Games, Tiger Stadium has been home to this great game of baseball. But more than anything, it has been a cherished home to our memories.

"Will you remember that last base hit? The last out? How about that last pitch? Or maybe it's the first time as a child when you saw that green, green grass that will forever be etched into your mind and soul.

"Tonight, we say good-bye. But we will not forget. Open your eyes, look around and take a mental picture. Moments like this shall live on forever.

"It's been 88 moving years at Michigan and Trumbull. The tradition built here shall endure along with the permanence of the Olde English "D.” But tonight we must say good-bye.

"Farewell, old friend Tiger Stadium. We will remember.”

Tigers’ announcer Ernie Harwell's farewell [edit, from Wikipedia]

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2001, 2005-2009 Negro Leagues Tributes (1920 Detroit Stars)

AIS continues as maker of this style of the Tigers' Negro Leagues tribute game uniforms in 2000-2001 and 2005-2009.

The uniforms in these seven years again are all made from the same patterns, and are probably indistinguishable from each other. They have no year or set tags on them as far as we know.

They are grouped together here because they feature the black/white/gray AIS jock tag used by that company starting in 2000.

Game Dates and Details

Royals	**v.**	**Tigers**	**7/22/00**	**1945 Kansas City Monarchs Road**
Brewers	v.	Tigers	6/9/01	1923 Milwaukee Bears Road
Indians	v.	Tigers	8/6/05	Cleveland Buckeyes Road
Royals	v.	Tigers	7/15/06	1942 Kansas City Monarchs Road
Royals	v.	Tigers	7/21/07	1948 Kansas City Monarchs Road
White Sox	v.	Tigers	7/26/08	1920 Chicago American Giants Road

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2001, 2005-2009 Negro Leagues Tributes (1920 Detroit Stars), continued

July 11, 2009 marked the 15th consecutive year that the Tigers held a Negro Leagues tribute game at home, again dressing as the 1920 Detroit Stars in uniforms by AIS. They played the Indians who were attired as the 1948 Cleveland Buckeyes.

© GameWornGuides.com

2002-2004 Negro Leagues Tributes (1930 Detroit Stars)

For three consecutive years, the Tigers dressed as the 1930 Detroit Stars for their home Negro Leagues tribute game.

These cream-colored AIS knits have a red star outlined with navy on the left chest and Varsity numbers in the same colors on the back.

The three dates/ opponents were:

- Pirates, June 29, 2002 as the 1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords
- Royals, July 26, 2003 vs. 1945 Kansas City Monarchs
- White Sox, July 31, 2004 as the Chicago American Giants

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2006 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

Above: *Tigers are wearing their 2006 current-issue road pants. The 1969 uniform pants had no knit trim on the sides.*

- On July 9, 2006, the Tigers turned back the clock to 1969 vs. Seattle Mariners, who dressed as the 1969 Seattle Pilots.
- While original uniforms from 1969 were made of flannel, these reproductions are rendered in modern double knit.
- At far left and center, an original 1969 road jersey and a similar-era player photo.
- The replicas are pretty good copies by Majestic, though the numbers on the sleeves are a bit too tall and are not quite bold enough compared to the originals. Front wordmark is slightly taller than the original.

© GameWornGuides.com

2007 Turn Back the Clock to 1977

These AIS knits were made to replicate the pullover-style uniforms worn between 1972 and 1984. Notice the appropriately small back numbers and tall names. The game was played on June 2 against the 1977-attired Indians in Cleveland.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1909

On June 14, the Tigers and Pirates wore throwback uniforms to commemorate the 100th anniversary of both Forbes Field and the 1909 World Series between the two teams.

Block bold numbers used on back even though numbers were not used back then. Very oddly, both teams wore home white uniforms in this contest, though the Tigers' were slightly off-white.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1939 Detroit Stars)

Steve Kraljic Collection

On August 1, 2009, the Tigers visited the Indians for a Negro Leagues tribute road game. The Tigers dressed as the 1939 Detroit Stars in road gray, the Indians as the 1946 Cleveland Buckeyes in home whites. The Tigers uniforms are made by AIS, with navy "Detroit" on front with underline, the "I" in Detroit dotted with a star. Numbers on back in single-color navy Varsity font sewn in tackle twill. .

Jersey knit trim is red, on sleeve ends, placket, and across the shoulder tops.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1920 Detroit Stars)

June 12, 2010: The Tigers host the Pirates for a Negro Leagues tribute game.

The Tigers wore one of their “usual” uniforms: that of the 1920 Detroit Stars; the Pirates wore 1931 Pittsburgh Crawfords road gray uniforms.

The Detroit Stars uniforms are identical to the ones the Tigers have worn on many earlier occasions, with the exception that the 2010 edition has the “EH” Ernie Harwell memorial patch on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011-2013 St. Patrick's Day

After a long break from participating in St. Patrick's Day greenery (they wore only green caps in recent years), the Tigers wore these identical green batting practice jerseys in 2011, 2012, and 2013. All white lettering, jersey features white side and shoulder panels.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Turn Back the Clock to 1944

1944
Original

June 22, 2011: The Tigers visited Los Angeles in an interleague game with the Dodgers. The Dodgers were wearing their 1944 throwback uniforms for that day's game, and the Tigers obliged by wearing Majestic replicas of their 1944 suits.

An original 1944 jersey is shown ***(inset, left).*** These 2011 copies were fairly good, though not exact, with the exception of the back numbers being the wrong font (they were Block with Serifs/Bold, and should have been a variation of the Red Sox font).

1944's wartime stars and stripes shield is correctly on the left sleeve, the Tigers 2011 Sparky Anderson memorial patch is on the right.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Negro Leagues Tribute (1930 Detroit Stars)

Steve Kraljic Collection

July 16, 2011: For the 17th consecutive year, the Tigers held a Negro Leagues tribute game at home. They dressed this year as the 1930 Detroit stars, in uniforms made by AIS. These uniforms are identical to ones worn by the team in tribute games 2002-2004.

The Tigers' 2011 opponents were the White Sox, who dressed as the 1920 Chicago American Giants.

The Tigers' jerseys featured the 2011 Sparky Anderson memorial patch on the right sleeve. Red/navy Varsity numbers on back.

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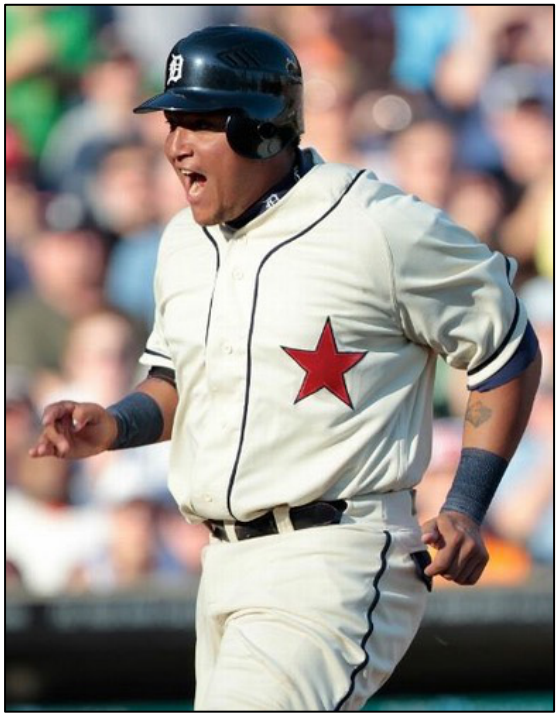
2012 Negro Leagues Tribute (1930 Detroit Stars)



05/19/12 5:12 PM ET

Tigers pay tribute to Negro Leagues

By Anthony Odoardi and Jason Beck/MLB.com

DETROIT -- To celebrate the 18th Annual Negro Leagues Tribute Game and Tenth Annual Negro Leagues Weekend, the Tigers invited several former players from different teams to be honored at Comerica Park. On Saturday, as both the Tigers and Pirates donned the throwback uniforms of the Detroit Stars and Pittsburgh Crawfords, nine former players held a question and answer session on the concourse for fans prior to an on-field tribute.

They relived the days of their baseball careers, covering everything from how much their paychecks were -- most averaged $300 a month -- to the speed of their fastballs -- none of the pitchers said under 100 mph -- to their experiences with Jackie Robinson and Satchel Paige.

Minnie Forbes once played third base for the Kansas City Monarchs and Grand Rapids Black Sox before she took over the Stars and became the third female owner in Negro Leagues' history. Forbes, who has been part of the festivities before, was excited Saturday.

"I'm just honored to be here today and to be able to be recognized with the Detroit Stars," said Forbes on stage in front of crowd of fans gathered before the game in Comerica Park. "The organization was founded in 1919 and to be represented in their honor, thank you."

Other players included Jake Sanders, Pedro Sierra, Bill Hill, Joe Douse, Ron Teasley, Alton King and Melvin Duncan. All shared their stories before taking turns throwing out the ceremonial first pitch.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Steve Kraljic Collection

On June 30, 2012, Detroit visited Tampa bay for a Turn Back the Clock to 1979 game. The Tigers pullover uniforms were made by Majestic and were very accurate, though as is my common complaint, they were tailored to fit quite a bit looser than any player would have worn them in 1979. Back numbers and player NOB are the correct size for a 1979 jersey. Team tagging below the jock tag shows the year “1979.”

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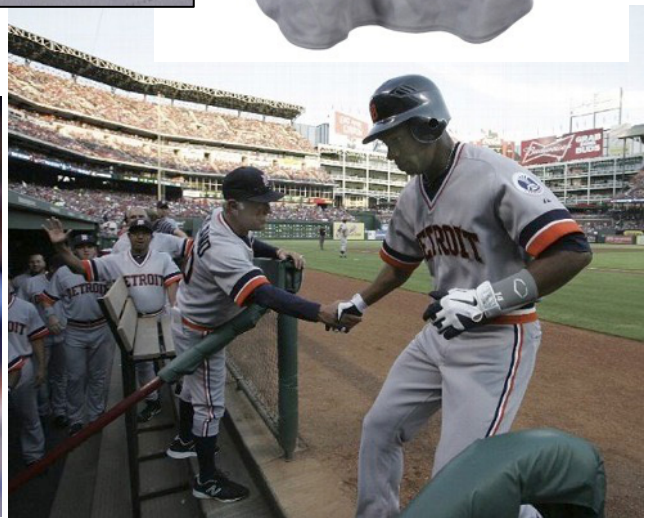
2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1976



On August 11, just six weeks after their Turn Back the Clock to 1979 game at Tampa, the Tigers participated in a Turn Back the Clock to 1976 game at Texas. The Tigers had worn the same style uniform in both 1979 and 1976, so it would be reasonable to assume that they could simply wear the same set of uniforms as they had worn in Tampa Bay on June 30, right?

Wrong. The home team is usually responsible for ordering (and paying for) both teams' uniforms for Turn Back the Clock games, and the Rangers opted to order a new set of uniforms rather than try to arrange for the reuse of the uniforms from the Rays' game. True also, the home team gets to sell the uniforms to fans after the game, and perhaps the Rays were more interested in that option.

These uniforms are close in appearance to the June 30 set, except the back numbers are incorrectly larger, and they add the Tigers' 1976 Bicentennial patch to the left sleeve, which depicts a stylized version of the fountain in Hart Plaza in downtown Detroit. Team tagging below the jock tag shows the year "1976."

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2013 Negro Leagues Tribute (1930 Detroit Stars)

The 2013 game on April 27 pitted the Braves dressed as the Atlanta Black Crackers against the Tigers as the 1930 Detroit Stars. Virtually identical to the versions worn in other years and most recently in 2012, these AIS uniforms do not have manufacturer tagging sewn on the outside of the tail as has been the practice in other years (in 2001, the tags were inside the back hem). Bold varsity numbers in red outlined with navy are the only customization for the players. No names are used.

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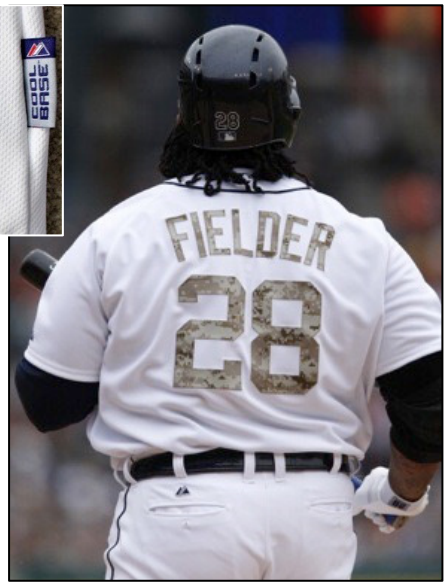
Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2013 Memorial Day



All teams in the majors wore military-desert-camouflage-lettered uniforms for their May 27 games. The Tigers hosted the visiting Braves and wore these special home jerseys with the front wordmark, back numbers and player name on back sewn in tan-shaded camo twill, making the writing very hard to see.

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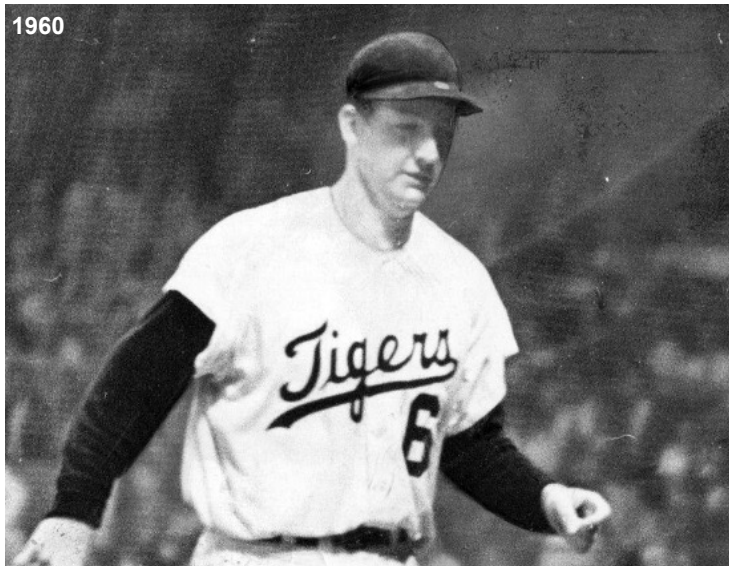
2013-2015 Hispanic Heritage

On August 3, 2013, the Tigers wear special uniforms for first time, on this, their 8th annual Hispanic Pride day in 2013. They spelled out the word *"Tigres"* across the front with an underline, adding a front number, looking very much like the short-lived, 1960-only home uniform ***(below).*** Jersey backs are lettered identically to regular home uniforms. On August 2, 2014 and August 8, 2015 , the same jersey style as had been debuted in 2013 was revisited each year. All navy lettering on Cool Base white jerseys; 2014 year tagging on the tail, as shown top left. 2015 has Majestic QR code tagging.



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2014-2015 St. Patrick's Day

The 2014 and 2015 editions of the Tigers' St. Patrick's Day jersey is made from the same patterns as their new-for-2014 home batting practice jersey, simply substituting kelly green for all that is normally navy blue. Team worn jerseys are year tagged as shown. The 2015 version has the Joker Marchant Stadium patch.

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2014-2015 Negro Leagues Tributes (1920 Detroit Stars)

These May 24, 2014 and April 25, 2015 games mark the 14th and 15th times the Tigers have worn the home uniforms of the 1920 Stars, including during the team's first such tribute game in 1995, and last worn in 2010. AIS uniforms now have the jock tag sewn inside the tail instead of on the outside.

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2014 Memorial Day

On the road for Memorial Day 2014, May 26 in Oakland vs. the Athletics. The Tigers uniforms, featuring camo outlined with orange and white on light gray fabric, made the lettering very hard to see from the seats.

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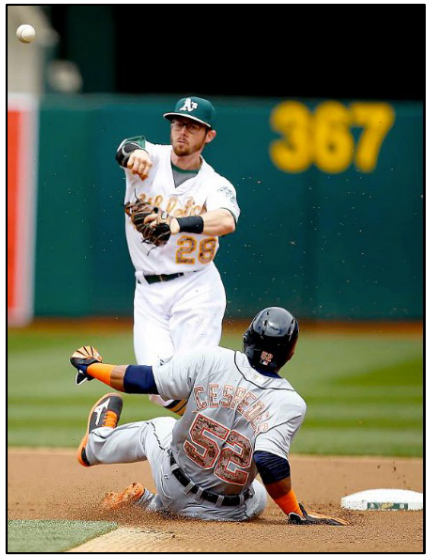
2015 Memorial Day



The Tigers' May 25, 2015 Memorial Day camo jerseys are identical to the prior year, and again, camo/orange/white twill on light gray fabric makes the lettering very hard to see from a distance. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/ white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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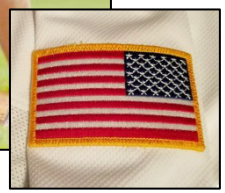
Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys, making the royal blue trim look a little strange in contrast with the navy in the lettering, but certainly not as bad of a clash as other teams. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Tigers modify their home white jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as back numbers. The Tigers are one of four teams (with the Royals, Yankees, and Dodgers) whose lettering goes from one layer to two for this special promotion. Player names on back are in red. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.



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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1945

In an August 19 game, the Tigers visit the Cubs and both teams wear 1945 uniforms to replicate that year's World Series matchup. The Tigers' Majestic knits feature single-color blue lettering for the front scripts and back numbers, which are in the Red Sox/ McAuliffe font. Aside from the modern tailoring, these throwbacks are very faithful to the originals, from the sizing and position of the wordmark to the proper player numbers fonts on back. The 1943-1945 "Stars and Bars" patch correctly adorns the left sleeve.

1945 Original

© GameWornGuides.com

2016-2017 St. Patrick's Day

The Tigers go green for St. Patrick's Day in 2016 and 2017. This Flex Base jersey is in solid green, with front logo, back numbers, and player name in white. The home jersey version of the Old English "D" is used both years, despite the team moving to the cap version for BP and Spring Training jerseys in 2017. The right sleeve sports a white shamrock, a feature shared by many teams for the 2016-2017 St. Patrick's Day promotion. White knit trim encircles both sleeves. The 2017 version has the white background/blue border version of the Mr. I memorial patch on the left sleeve.

2017

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2016 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Tigers wear their home white jerseys with the front logo, player names, and back numbers in pink. All jersey trim, normally blue, also becomes pink.

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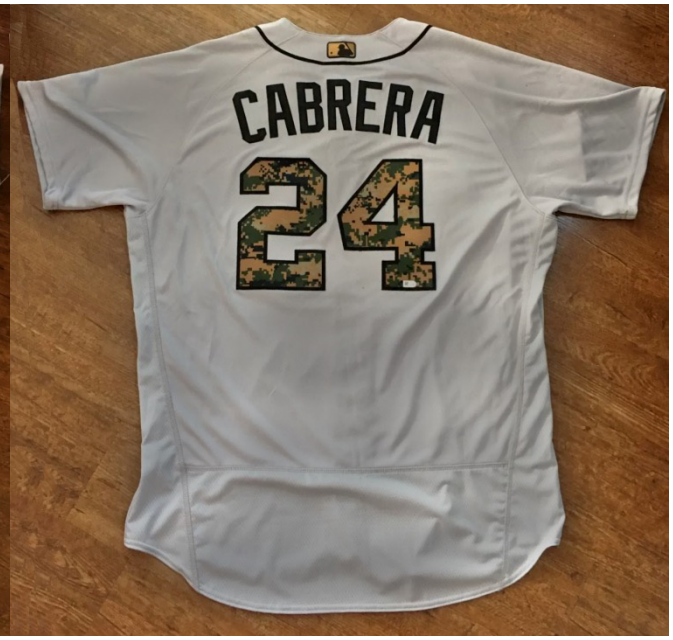
2016 Memorial Day



The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Tigers apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in two-color woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their trim elements are also changed to single-color black from the usual blue.

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2016 Negro Leagues Tribute (1920 Detroit Stars)

Steve Kraljic Collection

For the 16th time, the Tigers bring out their 1920 Detroit Stars home uniforms for their annual Negro Leagues Tribute Game on June 4. The 2016 entry is the first made by Majestic and is constructed of full weight knit. There are slight variations in the lettering; for instance, the back numbers are slightly bolder. But otherwise, they remain almost identical to the long-running AIS version of this look.

Derrick Damian Collection

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Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016 Father's Day

For the first time in 2016, all teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Tigers wear their road gray jerseys with the typically three-color lettering in the front logo and front and back numbers reduced to light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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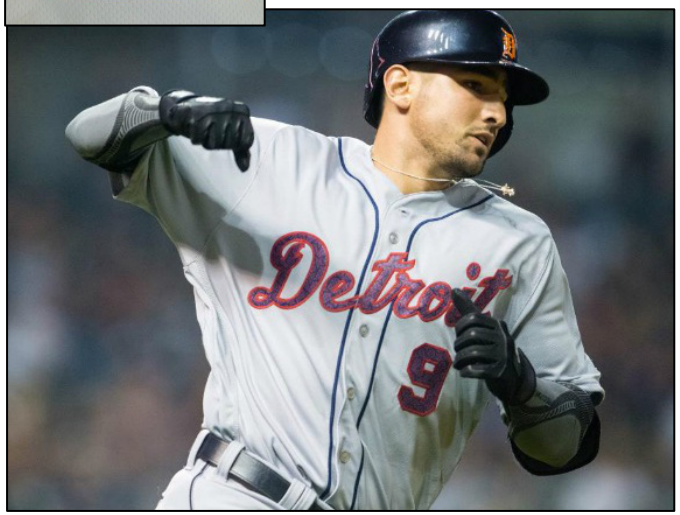
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Tigers are on the road and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Tigers select the blue twill version with red outlines to replace their normally three-color front lettering and front and back numbers, with a red player name on back. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

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2016-2019, 2022-2023 Hispanic Heritage

2016

The Tigers continue on with their "Tigres" jerseys in Majestic Flex Base from 2016-2019, and after a two season hiatus, again on Nike's version of Flex Base in 2022-2023. The design remains the same from previous years, with "Tigres" script and underline across the front with a front number. The back is identical to their usual home jerseys. Worn on August 6, 2016; August 12, 2017 (with "Mr. I" memorial on right sleeve); August 11, 2018; June 15, 2019 (with no MLB150 patch on right sleeve); August 19, 2022 (with KB memorial patch, right sleeve); and August 5, 2023.

Steve Kraljic Collection

2017

© GameWornGuides.com

2017 Mother's Day

Pink-trimmed Mother's Day jerseys return on May 13-14, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic heat applied vinyl locker tag and team inventory tag inside the bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon glued on left chest; the pink Majestic sleeve logo; and the dark pink/light pink/white ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter applique stitched on the back of the collar. All multi-colored lettering is done in the lightweight-twill style. The Tigers wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink/dark gray. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. All jersey trim, normally blue, becomes dark gray.

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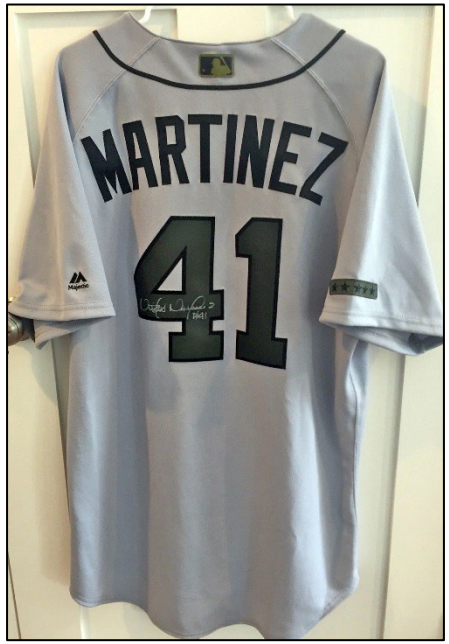
2017 Memorial Day



The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Tigers apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 27-29, 2017.

Top left: Note that Flex Base jerseys are the standard for these promotions, but Victor Martinez apparently asked for a set to be made for him in knit.

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2017 Father's Day

Light blue-lettered and trimmed Father's Day jerseys return on June 17-18, 2017. Once again, the Flex Base jerseys have the usual front left tail Majestic tagging and set tagging at the inside bottom of the placket. Returning as well is the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon glued on left chest, the light blue Majestic embroidered sleeve logo, and the dark royal blue/light blue/white back collar ChromaFlex MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The Tigers wear home white with all lettering rendered in single-color light blue, while all jersey trim, normally dark blue, also turns light blue. The 2017 jersey also includes the "Mr. I" memorial patch for Mike Ilitch, the Tigers owner who passed away in February 2017.

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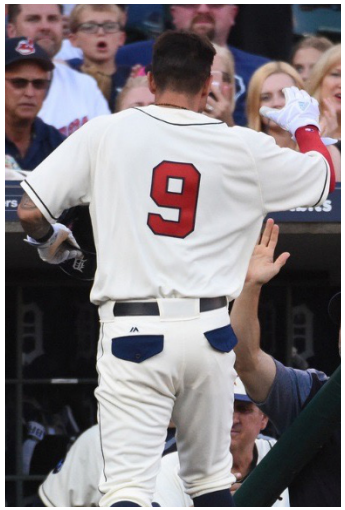
2017-2018 Negro Leagues Tributes (1930 Detroit Stars)



The Tigers bring back their 1930 Detroit Stars uniforms on July 1, 2017 (night game of a doubleheader) and June 9, 2018, both made in Cool Base material by Majestic, after several seasons by AIS. The style is much the same, cream jerseys with red/blue star on front left, blue knit trim around the collar and placket and near the ends of both sleeves, and red/blue Varsity Bold numbers on back. The look is completed with contrasting dark blue buttons. In 2018, the jersey also features the white-bordered “Mr. I” memorial patch on the right sleeve.

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2017 Independence Day

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red or blue. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1 (day game of a doubleheader) and 2-4, 2017, the Tigers wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill for all front and back lettering. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim is single-color blue. The 2017 jersey also includes the "Mr. I" memorial patch for Mike Ilitch, the Tigers owner who passed away in February 2017.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25-27, 2017, the Tigers wear jerseys with gray bodies and orange sleeves with white nicknames and orange numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/white/orange trim. The front features a script "Tigers" logo, taken from the team's wordmark logo, here rendered in navy/orange/white kiss-cut lightweight twill. The 2017 jersey also includes the "Mr. I" memorial patch for Mike Ilitch, the Tigers owner who passed away in February 2017.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018-2019, 2021 St. Patrick's Day

Steve Kraljic Collection

The 2018 St. Patrick's Day jersey, in all its green glory, is identical to the 2017 model save for one very important element – the Tigers' legendary "D" logo. As the logo is updated across the Tigers' identity in 2018, so too, it is updated on their St. Patrick's Day jersey. Oddly, though, the new "D" was present on Spring Training and BP jerseys the year prior, just not for this event. Perhaps they had some old stock to use up first. The jersey was used again in 2019 and 2021. A set was made for the team in 2020, but it was not used due to the COVID pandemic shutdown of Spring Training.

Similarly, a set was made in 2022, but Spring Training was delayed by labor negotiations, and the Tigers started their spring slate of games on March 18, one day to late to wear them.

Note that the Majestic style code for this jersey changed from DCGO to DGC8 with the updated logo.

2017

2018

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2018 Negro Leagues Tribute (1921 Detroit Stars)

The Tigers sport a Negro Leagues tribute uniform every year, but on May 6, 2018 on the road against the Royals, they break out a style they've never tried before: the 1921 Stars road uniform. These gray Majestic full-knits with navy pinstripes sport a navy sun collar, navy "DETROIT" on front and player numbers on back in the same "WIld West" font as the 1976-1981 White Sox "leisure suit" jerseys and a red twill star on the left sleeve. And judging from the photo of the original team, they look pretty good. A nice tribute, and a nice touch to break out a new uniform to honor a team of the past.

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2018 Memorial Day

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green lettering and numbers. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Tigers apply this style to their home white jerseys on May 26-28, 2018, using single-color olive green on all lettering and numbers.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the lettering, red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 2-4, 2018, the Tigers wear their road gray jerseys with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24-26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Tigers wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and orange sleeves with white nicknames and orange numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide orange/white/orange trim. The front features a script "Tigers" taken from the team's wordmark logo, here rendered in navy/orange/white kiss-cut twill.

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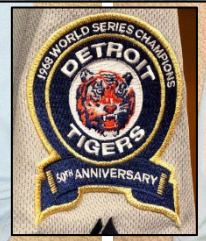
2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1968 Road



The Tigers honor the 50th anniversary of their 1968 World Series victory with a throwback to that year's road uniform, at home, on September 8, 2018. The Majestic Cool Base jerseys aren't exact - the "DETROIT" on front is a little less bold than in 1968 originals. The anniversary patch on the left sleeve is, of course, a modern addition. In the 1968 World Series, there was quite a bit of variation between left and right sleeve numbers, and number fonts ***(see photos at left)***, likely as a result of older uniforms being mixed in, or the use of multiple manufacturers. The version represented here settles on what was likely the most common variation of the day.

1968

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2019, 2022-2023 Negro Leagues Tributes (1920 Detroit Stars)

These are the 17th, 18th, and 19th times the Tigers have worn their 1920 Detroit Stars uniforms for their annual Negro Leagues Tribute games. For the August 10, 2019 game, the second (and final) version by Majestic changed to Cool Base fabric from the full-knit of the last incarnation, in 2016. Otherwise, they are identical to those last used in 2016. When they return for June 18, 2022 and July 22, 2023, they are the same as the 2019, with the addition of the Nike logo and tagging. Of note, Detroit's 2020 Negro Leagues throwback game was canceled with the shortened season, and the Tigers wore a sleeve patch to commemorate the Stars in 2021 at home, rather than throwback uniforms. They did not wear Negro League uniforms in 2024.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23-25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Tigers wear a black version of their road jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2021 Negro Leagues Tribute (1920 Detroit Stars)

The Tigers visit Kansas City to take on the Monarchs-clad Royals for a Negro Leagues tribute game on May 23. Detroit throws back to the 1920 Stars, a familiar and oft-used tribute for them, but this time, in road gray. These gray Nike full-knits with navy pinstripes sport a navy placket, navy “DETROIT” on front (with a white “R” to contrast on the placket) and red player numbers on back in a similar “Wild West” font as the 1976-1981 White Sox “leisure suit” jerseys. A red twill star with a white, kiss-cut outline completes the look under the front lettering. Though quite similar to the home version the team wears frequently, the front lettering is much bolder than the home jersey, while the back numbers appear to be somewhat less bold - a curious variation.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1976-1978 Prototype Home?

Here we have what looks to be a pro-spec Tigers jersey from the mid-to-late-70s, made by Rawlings, who was not the team's manufacturer at the time. We surmise this date from the Rawlings tag, which was used from around 1972-1984, and from the use of Mark Fidrych's name and number. Fidrych played for Detroit from 1976-1980 and was a phenom in his rookie year. Rawlings made Tigers road jerseys for several years in the flannel era, in 1978, and in the late 1980s. It is possible that they made this up for consideration to take over the home jerseys from longstanding manufacturer Wilson, but they were not successful. Note the unusual "2" used here, in a hybrid Varsity similar to what Rawlings used for the Padres, and what Wilson used for the Astros at this time. The Tigers did not use this style, and ultimately, they did not contract Rawlings for home jerseys.

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1985 Oddball: Lou Whitaker's All-Star Game Jersey

If someone showed you a gift shop Tigers jersey with its number drawn on in magic marker and told you it was game worn from the 1985 All-Star Game, you might consider believing him.

In that game, Tigers star Lou Whitaker reportedly left his uniform in his car back at the airport, and was forced to improvise just before the game. From a Metrodome concession stand, he obtained an adjustable mesh hat and a blank souvenir jersey, borrowed a pair of white pants, shoes, an Indians batting helmet from American League teammates, and found a pair of Twins stirrups from the host team (the bottom of the T-C logo is visible in the full-body photo). He finished off his outfit by scrawling his number on the back in Magic Marker. He did not attempt to write his name on the back, though his real jersey would have had one.

The AL lost the game, 6-1. The Smithsonian requested the jersey, it was given to them by Mr. Whitaker, and it remains a part of their collection to this day. ***Above right:*** Even this grainy shot from television reveals that the gift shop jersey isn't even of authentic grade, it is the cheaper, thin knit "fan style."

(Sources: ESPN.com's Uni Watch, TheBaseballPage.com and Wikipedia.)

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1970s Spring Training?

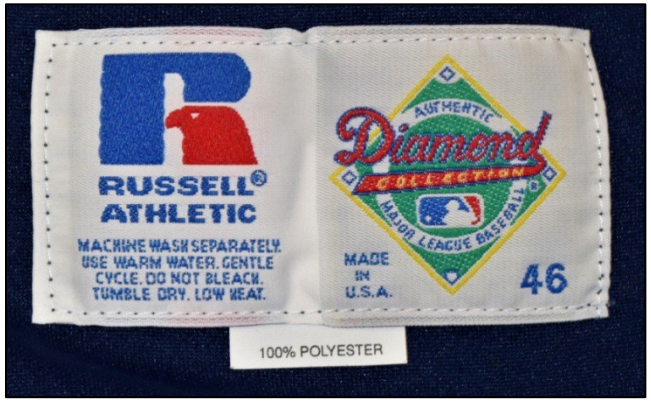
Steve Kraljic Collection

I have come across a few of these over the years. They are pullover jerseys, identical in fabric and trim to the Tigers' 1972-1984 road jerseys, with a D on the front similar to the team's home jersey. My research suggests that they may have been Spring Training jerseys used in Lakeland, FL in the 1970s and early 1980s, or they could have been strictly minor league jerseys made for a Tigers minor league club. However, Tigers collectors say that the team's minor league affiliates did not wear the Gothic-D which was exclusively the mark of the MLB Tigers, who wore gray jerseys with the word "Tigers" in script (as shown below). Notice also that the minor league jerseys below use a different back number font then the jersey in question,Which uses the Tigers' major-league style number font. I've not been able to find photos of this jersey in use, so our jury is still undecided.

© GameWornGuides.com

1992-1993 Prototype Alternate

1995 –as worn for a single game



Here's an unusual prototype that was offered at auction from the Detroit Tigers website. Made by Russell in full knit, it appears to be a prototype for what would have been an alternate jersey, with tagging from 1992-1993. The Tigers ultimately adopted a similar jersey for one game in 1995, but that one has many differences as shown from the photos above. This earlier prototype reverses the colors of the back numbers and adds a name on back in orange, as well as orange knit trim around the neck and placket. In addition, it has a white outline around the front logo, which the 1995 jersey lacks. When the 1995 alternate debuted, new team president John McHale, Jr. was unaware of its existence. "I was in our office, and I remember somebody came up to me and told me we were working out in [something] other than our home uniforms," he said in an article on mlb.com "This was completely the first word I had heard about this, so I went down to the clubhouse to see what was going on." Clearly, someone on the team's staff had been working on the concept for a while, even if they didn't let the new president in on it. Considering how the alternate went over, one wonders how long that staffer remained with the team.

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1994 Prototype Batting Practice

This variant on the 1994-1995 batting practice jersey featured orange outlining around the blue “D”. The version adopted had a white outline instead. This is most likely a design prototype prepared by Russell for team consideration ***(Inset, right: as adopted)***

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock Road Game That Never Was

?

Bill Henderson Collection

- According to the MLB promotional events schedule, the Tigers and the Red Sox were scheduled to play the final 1999 Turn Ahead the Clock contest on Sept. 18, 1999 in Boston.
- However, we are told that the uniforms' sewing was delayed because of Hurricane Floyd. The game went on without the special uniforms, and the on-field costume party was never rescheduled.
- Perhaps it is just as well. This bizarre navy blue jersey with the tiger tail wrapped around the back might have been the one planned to be worn for the Tigers' second TATC game, but never saw action.
- The artist's rendering at far left was the jersey that was originally planned for the event. Perhaps the navy one shown above "in the cloth" was a prototype? So far we have not been able to find any more information on this game that was never played, and we have never found an actual jersey resembling the one drawn at left.
- I have, however, seen a couple of these orange and navy Tiger-tail jerseys, but never one that was team lettered. The one above was lettered in what we believe is the correct style by Patsy Elmer of Big Time Jerseys. (www.bigtimejerseys.com)
- I do not know how many were made for retail sale, but they are likely to be as scarce as the proverbial hens' teeth.

© GameWornGuides.com

2000-2002 Oddball Road

This gray-bodied jersey with the Tigers “D” on the front would probably not have garnered a second look from me if not for a combination of factors. The first is its Rawlings “Authentic Collection” tail tag, seen 2000-2002 when Rawlings briefly re-entered the market as a provider of on-field uniforms to MLB teams. The Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck was affixed to on-field authentics only starting in 2000, though it is in standard red/white/blue and not the Tigers’ blue/white/blue combination.

The Tigers never wore a gray “D” jersey, but perhaps Rawlings was making a design proposal? We’ve now found two of them, both shown here. Several teams abandoned Russell for Rawlings in 2000, and it is possible that Rawlings supplied prototypes to try to win the Tigers’ business. Odd, however is the red sleeve-end Rawlings logo that would normally have been color keyed to the team’s logo.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2012 Mystery Turn Back the Clock (to 1988?)

Here we have two mysterious examples of a Tigers Turn Back the Clock jersey. How do we know? The interior wash tagging for both jerseys has a “62TBH” code used on team-issued throwbacks. Otherwise, it looks just like what the Tigers have worn for years, and without seeing that code, we might never know that these were supposed to be throwbacks.

The Majestic tag places this between about 2000-2012, and during that time, Majestic made jerseys for the Tigers from 2005-2012. Both are lettered and numbered for former Tigers players Steve Searcy (49) and Luis Salazar (12). Given the former player names and numbers, it is possible these were made for a ceremony we have not discovered. Searcy played for Detroit from 1988-1991, and Salazar only in 1988. As such, our first thought was that the team was celebrating the 1988 Tigers, a team that had a good season but faded late, so that seems unlikely. Perhaps there was another reunion for which these were made that we have not uncovered. Either way, given the Tigers consistency of uniform style over the years, it is funny to think of these needed to be labeled as “62TBH” throwbacks, since any Tigers jersey of the 2005-2012 era would have looked exactly the same!

If any readers have more info about these jerseys, please send it our way!

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2007-2010(?) Prototype Long-Sleeved Batting Practice

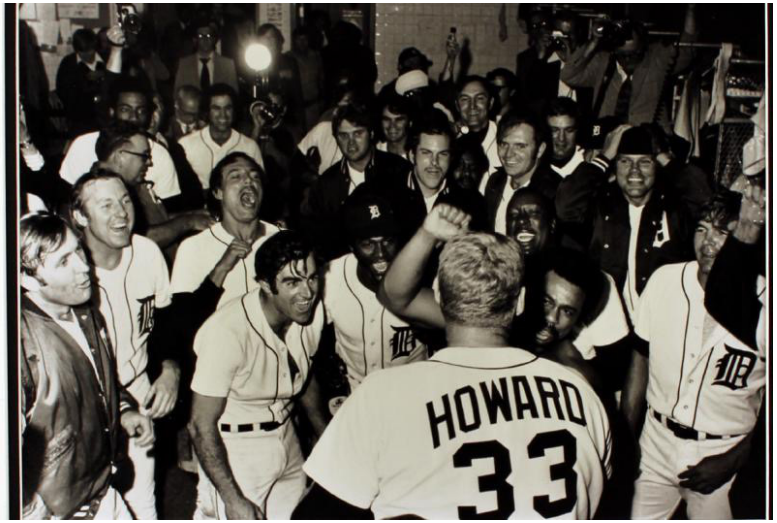
I came across these for sale on eBay in early 2009, and wonder if these are possible prototype long-sleeved batting practice jerseys.

Both are made of the 2007-2010 Cool Base batting practice jersey material with a heat-applied “D” logo on the front chest, similar to 2007-2010 BP jerseys. Note the two different styles of side/underarm panels shown here. The one with orange/white panel mimics the short-sleeved BP jerseys the Tigers wore that year. Also, on the all-blue jersey, note the small flag tag on the seam of the jersey, which is similar to numerical size tags used only on team issued batting practice jerseys from this era.

© GameWornGuides.com

Minor Oddities…

1972: This locker room photo shows #33 Frank Howard with a vertically arched name on back. Also pictured, this gray jersey appeared at auction with the same vertical arch name font.



2010: The "t"'s are crossed… but the "i" is not dotted.

1972 Frank Howard Detroit Tigers Game Worn Jersey

Road jersey is all original. Frank Howard was 6'7" and 225 pounds when he played outfield in the Majors for 16 years, mostly for the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Washington Senators. Howard was formerly a basketball star for Ohio State University. He was the 1960 National League Rookie of the Year, played in four All-Star Games, and hit 382 home runs. Later he managed the San Diego Padres and the New York Mets. This jersey was from the next to last season of his career, when he played the end of the 1972 season for the Detroit Tigers. Big jersey, it has Wilson tag in the collar written in size that has faded, but the jersey measures as a 54 - Howard was a very big man. "DETROIT" across the front and "HOWARD" and "33" sewn on the back - the name is sewn directly on the back. Strip tag on front tail is "54 72 Set 2". The 54 is the size and 72 the year. Shows moderate use. Again, this is all original and a beautiful jersey.

Sold for: $3,037.20

© GameWornGuides.com

2011-2013 Prototype Road Batting Practice

While doubtlessly dozens of prototypes are made for teams' consideration each year, we only ever get to see a few of them that make it to the outside. This jersey is made in the 2011-2013 style (button front and full-length mesh side panels) but it lacks a Majestic jock tag on the tail as would normally be found, yet it has a Majestic store paper hang tag as if it had been made for retail sale. I checked with my contacts at Majestic's retail sale group, who did not recognize it as theirs, but in my view this is too perfect in its details to be a fake.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Prototype Flex Base

The Cool Base-tagged jersey is similar to the regular issue until one looks closely. It is actually a prototype of the Flex Base jersey template adopted in 2016, with a few changes. The main difference is that the numbers and letters are not tackle twill and sewn on. They are heat pressed and appear like mesh (lower left). However, it has vented mesh side panels and the back tail of the jersey is a sewn-on, thinner mesh fabric like current Flex Base jerseys. The wash code tag in the inside tail reads "063T." There is a strip tag on the tail that reads “24 52 ‘12 Test A” stitched on.

That would decode to “player #24, size 52, 2012 Test A.” The photos of Miguel Cabrera are from Spring Training 2012, where he was wearing a similar jersey, if not the same one shown here. Majestic claimed to work with more than 50 players when developing the Flex Base jerseys, and we have seen a few other “Test A” jerseys like this out there. It is very possible there are even more.

© GameWornGuides.com

2016 Prototype Spring Training Home/Road

This matched set of home and road #16 PLAYER lettered Spring Training jerseys was offered for sale by the Tigers on the MLB.com auction site. The patterned twill used in 2016 is used for the back lettering. For sample jerseys, it is common for the manufacturer to use the issue-year as the jersey number, and the name on back “PLAYER”.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Opening Day Home

Presented here is what looks like any other Tigers home jersey from 2018 onward. However, noted on the team tagging is that this is a Tigers "Opening Day" home jersey. This is the first we've seen of this type of tagging, and it was likely included to enhance the jersey's resale value after the game. We assume a whole set that was created for the team this way. Given the controversial change to the Tigers' Olde English "D" logo that happened with the team's home jerseys that year, this tagging would denote the first time this style of Tigers jersey took the field.

The MLB authentication for this jersey shows it as team issued, which makes sense, as the player for whom it was made, Derek Norris, was released by the club at the end of Spring Training in 2018.

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2020 Oddball Nike Home Sample

Like every other MLB team, the Tigers switched from Majestic to Nike for the 2020 season. This unusual example lines up to similar (strange) samples we've seen for other teams around the same time.

This jersey's possible pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, the player number "20" represents the year for which the sample was made. The use of "Nike" as the player name, rather than "Player" is unusual for MLB samples, however, Nike has done this for samples made in other sports in the past, and we have seen other examples in baseball as well, though not frequently.

Since the Tigers were not changing their uniform design for 2020, this sample was likely made just so the team could see their jersey with the new Nike branding. Most of those had "0730" coded wash tags and heat-pressed neck tags, indicating that they were likely made before the final decisions on Nike branding were completed. We do not have an image of the wash tag for this one, so we can't be sure what code was there. However, on the other "Nike" name on back sample we have seen (for the Rangers) the tag code was 0890, Nike's eventual number for their version of this style of jersey. Thus, it is possible that this is a later version of a 2020 sample, though it lacks some typical prototype tagging that would support this. Without closer inspection or more detailed photos, it is hard to know for sure, but we offer it here for reference nonetheless.

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2020, 2022 Unworn St. Patrick's Day

2020

2022

In both 2020 and 2022, the Tigers made up sets of St. Patrick's Day green jerseys that were never worn. The 2020 version was scrapped because of the COVID shutdown. The 2022 jerseys were victims of a labor dispute that delayed Spring Training, forcing the Tigers to start their slate of spring games on March 18, one day too late for the wearing of the green.

Even though the jerseys were not used on the field, they were sold by the team online with MLB authentications noting that they were team issued.

© GameWornGuides.com

2024 Prototype City Connect

The Tigers City Connect jersey premiered in 2024, so it has been built on the Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template from its unveiling. Here is a prototype or sample of that jersey, that matches what the team eventually wore on the field. Of note, the back numbers are perforated, which is accurate to the final jersey. Also, despite the VPE template, which usually has sleeve-end trim sewn in, this style has sewn-on trim because of its width, which also matches the final version

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tag, which reads "TIGERS CC JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with "CC" meaning City Connect, and 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples, which were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the "FQ4072-462" text on the front tag means. It is likely they it is an internal production code, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered. Most start with a "D" so this one is something of an outlier with the "F" as the leading letter.

Below: *A closeup of a tag used in photos released by the team with the announcement of the City Connect jerseys. Note the same style code and information as the tag on the prototype shown here* ***(above)****, but the "2" in the bottom corner is in a different handwriting, and the QR codes point to different information as well. Clearly, at least two "copies" of this specific prototype exist, and others could be out there as well.*

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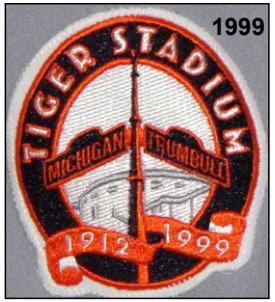
Commemorative Patches

Tigers Patches

2010, after May 4

1976



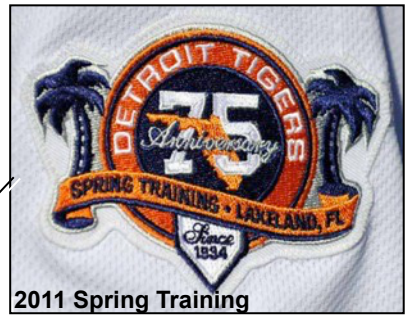
1999

2000

2001

2005

2011 Spring Training



2011 Spring Training

2011

2015 Spring Training

- 1976: 1776-1976 Detroit patch (USA Bicentennial).
- 1999: Tiger Stadium final year, left sleeve home jersey only.
- 2000: Opening of new Comerica Park; the timing of the patch's issue precluded including the name of the new park's sponsor, Comerica Bank..
- 2001: Detroit 300 – Tricentennial.
- 2005: MLB All-Star Game.
- 2010, after May 4: "EH" memorial for broadcaster Ernie Harwell.
- 2011, Spring Training: 75th Anniversary of Spring Training in Lakeland, FL.
- 2011: Sparky Anderson #11 Memorial.
- 2015, Spring Training: 50th anniversary of Joker Marchant Stadium, on all jerseys - white, blue and gray.

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2017**:** "Mr. I" patch to honor Mike Ilitch, Tigers owner who passed away in February 2017. Worn all season including Spring Training.

Spring Training version has navy lettering on white background (blue border for home, orange for road), regular season is reversed to have navy background and white lettering. (white border for home, orange border for road).

***Above*: Spring Training 2017; *Below:* Regular season.**

***Above:* Home jersey patch has white border.**

***Far right:* Road patch has orange border.**

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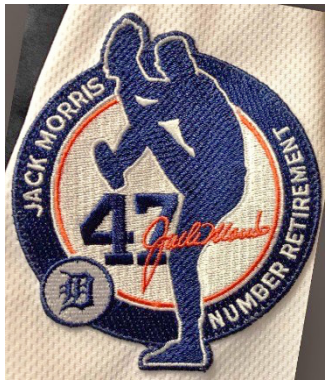
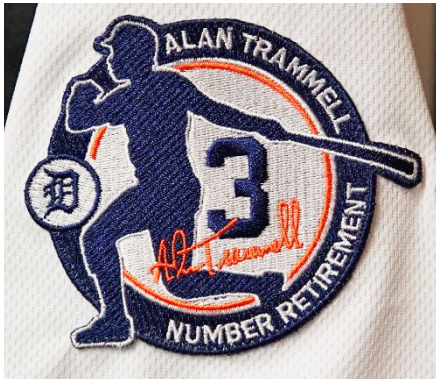
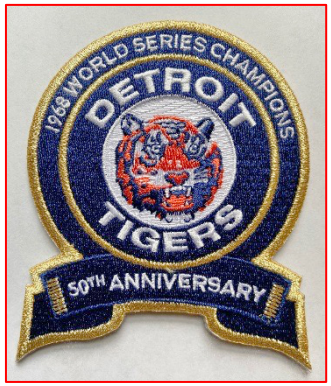


August 12, 2018



August 26, 2018



September 8, 2018

- 2018, August 12: Jack Morris number retirement, right sleeve of home jersey.
- 2018, August 26: Alan Trammell number retirement, right sleeve of home jersey.
- 2018, September 8: World Series anniversary worn only on the 1968 Turn Back the Clock jersey.
- 2020: “6” disc for Al Kaline, white border for home jersey, orange border for road jersey. Worn on right sleeve.
- 2021, July 31: Detroit Stars patch to honor 100th anniversary of Negro Leagues. The Tigers did not wear a Negro Leagues throwback uniform at home this season, so this patch stood in its place. Worn on left sleeve of home uniform.
- 2022: “KB” disc for coach Kimera Bartee, who passed away in December 2021. White border for home jersey, orange border for road jersey. Worn on right sleeve.
- 2022, August 6: Lou Whitaker Number Retirement patch, left sleeve of home jersey.

2020

July 31, 2021

2022

August 6, 2022

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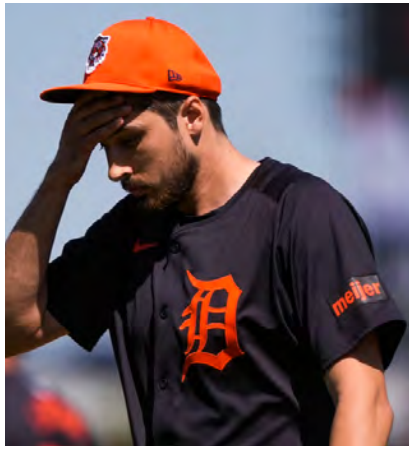
2023-2025 Tigers Advertising Patches



With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Tigers struck a sponsor patch deal with Meijer, a retail chain. The patches first appeared on May 25, 2023.

The patch is white with the Meijer logo in blue on the home jersey, and blue with an orange/white border with the Meijer logo in white on the road jersey. The team also wears two different patches for its blue Spring Training jerseys in 2023-2025, and because these jerseys are listed in the MLB Style Guide as possible alternates, we list them here as well, even though they are only used in spring. Both have a blue rectangle, the home version has the sponsor name in white, while the road version has it in orange.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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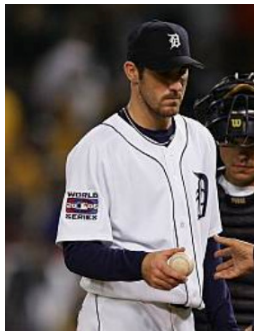
Tigers Postseason Patches



2006 World Series
(right sleeve)

2013 AL Division Series
2013 AL Championship Series
(right sleeve)

2012 World Series
(right sleeve)

2014 AL Division Series
(right sleeve)

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Letter of Professional Opinion

John Hiller 1970 Game Worn Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 2, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1102J02

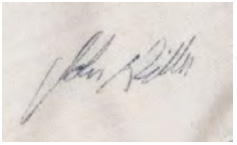
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1970 Detroit Tigers Wilson seven-button cream colored flannel home jersey of pitcher John Hiller. Wilson tail tagging denotes size 42, though it generously measures 44 around the chest, reasonable to have been worn by the 195 lb. player. Classic Tigers gothic "D" stitched in Navy-Blue cotton twill (not polyester tackle twill) to the left chest. A single corse of Navy soutache rings the placket. On back, in the same Navy cotton twill, Hiller's name in the correct 3 1/8" tall font for the year, above a single color Navy #18 in the Tigers' variant of Wilson Varsity. The jersey is signed on the upper right chest in ballpoint pen and again on the numeral "8" on the back. I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of autographs. A JSA hologram sticker (for the autograph(s)) is affixed to the back 8 with the serial number of 5591945.

Mostly used as a reliever throughout his career, Hiller pitched in 47 games in 1970, only 5 as a starter. He compiled a 6 - 6 record in 104 innings pitched with a respectable 3.03 ERA. He is perhaps best known for, as a 27 year old, suffering and then recovering from a heart attack following that 1970 season, an attack that doctors told him would certainly end his career. After missing the 1971 season, he mounted a comeback in 1972 and worked his way through the Tigers minor leagues, being called up to the big leagues July 7, 1972. In the last half of the 1972 season, Hiller helped the Tigers to the American League East pennant. He appeared in 23 games and posted a strong 2.03 ERA. He also pitched in three games in the 1972 American League Championship Series against the Oakland Athletics, and was the winner of Game 4.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's small rectangular tag noting the size of the jersey as 42 is stitched into the lining on the back of the collar. It is the proper style tag as was used 1969-1973. Both its right and left edges are badly frayed as is typical with well-washed examples. On the left outside front tail is a 2 1/4" x 1" rectangle of cream colored felt, with the hand chain stitched "70 Set 1" in the familiar style of the long-time factory Wilson stitcher. While it is still attached firmly around the edges, shrinkage has caused the the tag to split across its middle, its poor condition matching other well-used exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good, game used condition. The cream colored flannel remains thick and supple. Aside from streaks of rust colored stain (which could be tobacco) on the middle of the front, it is unblemished. The twill lettering is still dark, though the thread holding it all on place has bleached to a dark violet, indicative of a season's worth of washing. Cotton twill required a very dense stitch to hold it in place to prevent fraying. An examination of the stitching on the inside of the jersey shows that all is original. My judgement is that this jersey was removed from use after 1970 and was spared repeated duty in spring training/minor leagues which was the fate of so many other Tigers jerseys. Notably, with the team's 1972 switch to double knit jerseys the old flannel uniforms of 1970-71 were quickly rendered obsolete.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition and appears all original. The jersey has no contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by John Hiller of the 1970 Detroit Tigers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

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Letter of Professional Opinion

John Wockenfuss Game Worn 1975 Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 16, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1116J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Detroit Tigers home jersey, team tagged 1975. White, seven button Wilson button front jersey in size 42. Tigers' Gothic "D" on the left chest, player numbers and name arched above on back in Navy blue. The placket is lined with white linen for player comfort, a characteristic of Wilson pro-model jerseys. A single corse of thick blue soutache rings the placket. The 1976 Detroit commemorative patch is stitched to the left sleeve. The patch itself appears to be an original one, but its stitching tells me it is not original to this jersey. It may well be covering the mark from an original patch that had been there, we cannot know without removing it. "WOCKENFUSS" name on back is crudely rendered in a condensed font that was almost surely hand drawn; some of the letters are different sizes from each other. Listed at 6'0" and 190 lbs, the jersey size is reasonable for the player, especially if worn early in his career.

John Wockenfuss enjoyed a twelve year MLB career with the Tigers and Phillies mostly in the role of backup catcher. 1975 was his second season in baseball, and he appeared in 35 games for the Tigers, hitting .229 with 4 home runs in 118 at bats.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's small rectangular tag noting the size of the jersey as 42 is stitched into the lining on the back of the collar. It is the proper style as was used 1974-1977. On the left outside front tail is a 2" x 1" rectangle of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, hand chain-stitch embroidered "75 set 2" in the familiar embroidery-handwriting of the long-time Wilson factory stitcher. Tagging matches exemplars of other 1975 Tigers jerseys in our photo library. On the neck tag, someone has written a "4" in black marker; I do not know the meaning of that mark.

Wear & Repairs/Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey wore #14 on the back with Wockenfuss' rather long name arched above. A light table examination showed that number had been preceded by an earlier "45". Checking the Tigers' roster, the catcher wore #45 1974-1976 and then wore #14 in 1977. As presented, the number 14 on back showed less fading of the number than the name on back, telling me that it was added later. I deem the name on back to be original, and no other name was ever on this jersey. The Tigers were a notoriously frugal organization, and especially in the 1970s, reissuing jerseys as backups or for spring training to players year after year. But for this jersey to have been used with two different numbers on back over the course of three seasons is exceedingly cheap, even for the Tigers. I would judge the number change to have been made by the team, and if it was worn in these three seasons it likely did at one point have the 1976 patch on the sleeve. This style patch would have been removed by the team when the jersey's use was carried into 1977.

Continues on reverse

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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This jersey shows very heavy wear, and as received was very stained and dirty-gray. The lining in the back of the collar has been restitched in in a few places at it had been coming detached. All of the lettering, front and back, originally Navy Blue was detergent-bleached to a dull medium purple. All including the team crest on the front, showed shape distortion from repeated hot water washing. The jersey's owner wanted it to return its configuration to the original 1975 player number and wanted it to present well. We elected to remove and replace all lettering, back and front, so that it would all match.

After stripping the jersey, I worked with am appropriate solvent to remove much of the thick glue that had been used to apply the later-issue number 14. I then hand-washed the garment and mildly bleached it to get it clean. The results were very good, it is now a consistent off-white color, and while the fabric is thin from use, there are no holes or serious damage apparent. Using the light table as my guide, I recreated the name on back to exactly match the original hand-drawn letters in all their imperfection. The ghosts of the back numbers exactly matched my template for the team numbers as used in 1975. I stitched all lettering is it would have been done originally. On the light table, the ghost of the later-added #45 on back is still easily visible.

Above, jersey as received, showing later-season replacement numbers that are darker than the other lettering on the jersey which is original. At left, a scan of the front "D" at left shows the distortion that occurred compared to the original pattern after dozens of washings. When replacing the element, I cut it properly shaped, and then hand-puckered the fabric underneath to make the ghost outlines fit the appliqué.

Conclusion: This jersey in is in fair to good professional restored condition. It has a team-issue tagging from 1975, but evidence suggests it was used again in both 1976 and 1977. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to 1975 team specifications and worn by catcher John Wockenfuss of the Detroit Tigers. The fact that the name on back was original tells me that throughout its life it was worn by the catcher, and it avoided a tour of duty in the minor leagues which was the fate of s many Tigers' jerseys of the time.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Ron LeFlore Game Worn "Rookie" 1974 Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 28, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0529J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is Ron LeFlore's Detroit Tigers 1974 rookie home jersey. Wilson neck tagging, denotes size 44, correct for the player at the start of his career. White, seven-button jersey body with the classic Tigers gothic "D" stitched in Navy-Blue twill to the left chest. A single corse of navy soutache rings the placket. On back, LeFlore's name in the correct font for the year, above a single color Navy #8 (sewn upside down) in the Tigers' variant of Wilson Varsity. The inside of the placket is lined with white linen for player comfort. A light table examination clearly shows that the number 42 had been on this jersey previously; the name is untouched. LeFlore was an August 1974 call-up by the Tigers, when he wore #42 in his rookie season. He batted .260 in 59 games. In 1975 his number was changed to 8. I would surmise that this jersey was re-used in Spring Training 1975 with his new number, and might have been kept as a backup jersey during the 1975 season. LeFlore's signing by the Tigers out of Jackson State Penitentiary following his troubled youth is well documented, and was the subject of both a book and a Hollywood movie. He was promoted quickly to the majors after excelling in the minor leagues, and enjoyed an eight-year MLB career with three teams. He was an American League All-Star in 1976.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's small rectangular tag noting the size of the jersey as 44 is stitched into the lining on the back of the collar. It is the proper style as was used 1974-1977. On the left outside front tail is a 2" x 1" rectangle of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "74 44"(1974 size 44) hand chain-stitch embroidered on it in the familiar embroidery-handwriting of the long-time Wilson factory stitcher. While normally the tail tag would include a third number, 1 or 2, referring to its set number, this is missing that element, which is reasonable as it was likely stitched as an extra jersey at the start of the season and was supplied probably blank-backed to the clubhouse manager specifically to be used for mid-season player additions. "49" is written in black marker on the neck tag.We have concluded that the Tigers' equipment manager specified a unique and seemingly random inventory code number sewn on every jersey issued, which certainly must have correlated back to an inventory spreadsheet that we have no access to.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examinations shows that the number "8" that is now in place had been preceded by an earlier "42" that appears to have been roughly removed, tearing a small hole in the jersey fabric near the top of the numbers. The number 8 that is now sewn centered on the jersey is affixed upside down, the stitching pattern shows it was done on a different machine than the name on back sewn above it. The hole in the jersey is crudely stitched closed underneath the 8. These careless sewing characteristics are all typical of the way jerseys were modified and repaired in the Tigers' clubhouse for quick re-use, as opposed to the neater, more professional work done by Wilson at the factory. There is evidence of the removal of a round sleeve patch that was likely the 1976 Bicentennial one, suggesting use in a third season. All is judged to be original and without contrivance. The jersey body has grayed from its original bright white, and this jersey retains its original front Tigers crest and Navy soutache trim, as well as all its original tagging. The Navy soutache trim is in better than normal condition for Tigers jerseys of this vintage, as on most examples it usually becomes fuzzy and puckered from too many hot water washings. All seven of the buttons are intact and appear to be the originals. All stitching is tight and somewhat bleached; there is characteristic softening of the edges of the twill lettering from wash and wear. My judgement is that this jersey was removed from use after 1975 and was spared a third tour of duty in spring training/minor leagues which was the fate of so many other Tigers jerseys of this time.

Continues on reverse

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Light table image showing ghosts of original call-up number #42 on back, and ghost of removed 1976 sleeve patch.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition and appears all original. The jersey has no contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Lance Parrish Game Worn 1979 Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 26, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0526J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is Lance Parrish's 1979 Detroit Tigers set 1 home jersey. Wilson neck tagging, denotes size 44, correct for the player at the start of his career. Pure white, seven-button jersey body with the classic Tigers gothic "D" stitched in Navy-Blue twill to the left chest. A single corse of navy soutache rings the placket. On back, Parrish's name in the correct font for the year, above a single color Navy #13 in the Tigers' variant of Wilson Varsity. The inside of the placket is lined with white linen for player comfort. The jersey is autographed in blue Sharpie on front left below the team crest, and on the center of the back between the numbers with a different pen. I have no professional opinion on the autographs. 1979 was the year that Parrish took over as the team's number one catcher, replacing Milt May. He played in 143 games batting .276 with 19 home runs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's small rectangular locker tag noting the size of the jersey as 44 is stitched into the lining on the back of the collar. It is the proper style as was used 1978-1985. On the left outside front tail is a 1 3/4" x 1" rectangle of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "79 1" hand chain-stitch embroidered on it in the familiar embroidery-handwriting of the long-time Wilson factory stitcher. Centered below this is a small square tag, with the number "17" hand chain stitched in the same size and style. We have concluded that the Tigers' equipment manager specified a unique and seemingly random inventory code number sewn on every jersey issued, which certainly must have correlated back to an inventory spreadsheet that we have no access to.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examinations shows that all lettering is original and without contrivance. The jersey body has yellowed slightly to a shade of ivory from its original bright white, and this jersey retains its original front Tigers crest and Navy soutache trim, as well as all its original tagging. The Navy soutache trim is in better than normal condition for Tigers jerseys of this vintage, as on most examples it usually becomes fuzzy and puckered from too many hot water washings. All seven of the buttons are intact and appear to be the originals. All stitching is tight and unbleached; there is characteristic softening of the edges of the twill lettering from wash and wear. While it exhibits some fabric pulls, it notably does not show the piling that is typical from catchers' equipment straps on the shoulders or around the waist. The linen placket lining is intact and even relatively clean, with a few dots of rusty stains. There are no team repairs, and jersey is in very good, as-worn condition.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition and appears all original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Lance Parrish of the 1979 Detroit Tigers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Letter of Restoration

Lance Parrish Game Worn 1984 Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 15, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1115J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Detroit Tigers 1984 set 1 home jersey, Wilson tail tagging, denotes size 46, Pure white, seven-button jersey body with the classic Tigers gothic "D" stitched in Navy-Blue twill to the left chest. A single corse of navy soutache rings the placket. Typical of Wilson professional model jerseys, the inside of the placket is lined with white linen for player comfort.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's small rectangular locker tag noting the size of the jersey as 46 is stitched into the outer left front tail, though the stitching holding in place is coming loose. It is the proper style as was used 1978-1985. Below it is stitched a rectangle of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "84 1" hand chain-stitch embroidered on it in the familiar embroidery-handwriting of the long-time Wilson factory stitcher. Centered below this is a another small square white knit fabric tag, with the number "13" hand chain stitched in the same size and style. We have concluded that the Tigers' equipment manager specified a unique and seemingly random inventory code number sewn on every jersey issued, which certainly must have correlated back to an inventory spreadsheet that we have no access to. It may be purely coincidence that the "13" used here was also Parrish's uniform number.

As Received/Restoration Performed: As received, the jersey was very dirty and had the number "19" on the back. The light table revealed that the numbers were not original, as ghosts showed beneath each. Above the numbers there is clear evidence of the name removed "GLEATON" leaving behind both stitching outlines and glue/dye staining. Also evident is the fainter (earlier) outline of the name PARRISH. There is also evidence that a nameplate had once been on this jersey. Notably the Tigers do not use nameplates except in rush/emergency situations or in spring training. It is clear that this jersey had been reissued at least twice in its life of use. I removed the numbers 19, and after doing so, I could see clearly that the number 13 had once been there, Parrish's number in 1984. Size 46 is reasonable for Parrish to have worn. Other credibly authenticated examples show him wearing size 44 1977-79, and size 46 in 1983.

In 1984, Lance Parrish was in his eighth season with the Tigers; he was their primary catcher and played in 147 games. He hit .237 and with 33 home runs. Parrish helped lead the Tigers to the 1984 World Series championship, was selected as an All-Star eight times (1980, 1982–1986, 1988, 1990), and won six Silver Slugger Awards (1980, 1982–1984, 1986, 1990) and three Gold Glove Awards (1983–1985). Over his 19 MLB seasons, he compiled a .252 batting average with 324 home runs, and 1,070 runs batted in (RBIs). At the time of his retirement, he ranked fourth in major-league history in home runs by a catcher and seventh in games played at the position. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Continued, overleaf

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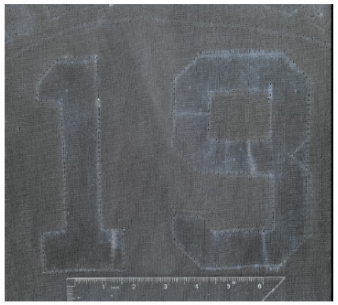
Jerry Gleaton wore #19 and pitched for the Tigers as a reliever 1990-1991, in 1990 he appeared in 57 games with a 1-3 record and had 13 saves, with a 2.94 ERA. *(Baseball Almanac)* Gleaton could have worn this jersey in the regular season, or it could have been issued to him only for use in spring training. The Tigers were a notoriously frugal organization that saved and reissued team jerseys regularly; it is not at all unreasonable that a jersey originally issued in 1984 was still hanging around the clubhouse to be reissued in spring training 1990, especially one that was a larger size like this one. The fact that Gleaton's name was stripped from the jersey and signs that a nameplate had once been on it all bolster the thought that this jersey was reissued multiple times.

Restoration Performed: The ghosts on the back of the jersey for both the names PARRISH and GLEATON and the ghost of the original number 13 exactly match my templates for the Tigers in this period. With appropriate solvents, I aggressively cleaned the dried glue that was underneath the replacement number 19, and then laundered the jersey. I cut exact replacements for Parrish's name and number, and using the light table placed them exactly over the original ghosts and stitched them in place. The light table will still reveal the outlines of the replacement 19 as well as the outline of Gleaton's name (see attached photos).

Wear & Repairs: Notably, even though it shows signs of all these name and number changes, it is still in very good condition. It is not badly worn at all. After washing, it is remarkably clean with some minor stains. While it exhibits some fabric pulls, it notably does not show the piling that is typical from catchers' equipment straps on the shoulders or around the waist. The linen placket lining is intact and even relatively clean. This jersey retains its original front Tigers crest and Navy soutache trim, as well as all its original tagging. The Navy soutache trim is in better than normal condition for Tigers jerseys of this vintage; only slightly fuzzy. On most heavily used examples it usually becomes very fuzzy and puckered from too many hot water washings. All seven of the buttons are intact and appear to be the originals. All stitching is tight and unbleached; there is characteristic softening of the edges of the twill lettering from wash and wear. I would judge that all told, it shows about a season's worth of wear.



Above, light table images show the competing ghosts of both the numbers 13 and 19, as well as the outlines of the names Parrish and Gleaton, also showing evidence of the outline of a nameplate that had once been on this jersey in its multiple lives.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good as-restored condition without contrivance. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and originally issued to and worn by Lance Parrish of the 1984 Detroit Tigers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Kirk Gibson #23 Game Worn 1987 Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0301J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is Kirk Gibson's 1987 Detroit Tigers set 1 home jersey. Wilson "Prestige Teams" tail tagging, size 44. Pure white, seven-button jersey body with the classic Tigers gothic "D" stitched in Navy-Blue twill to the left chest. A single corse of navy soutache rings the placket. On back Gibson's name in the correct font for the year, above a single color Navy #23 in Wilson Varsity. The inside of the placket is lined with white linen for player comfort. Gibson spent 12 of his 17 years in Major League Baseball with the Detroit Tigers. In 1987, mainly as the team's starting left fielder, Gibson batted .277 in 128 games played and hit 24 home runs.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey was one of a massive collection of approximately 400 worn jerseys that had been warehoused in Tiger Stadium. Typical of MLB practice at the time, these jerseys had been used in the majors, then in Spring Training and/or the minor leagues. Just prior to the Tigers' move to their new ballpark in 2000, they were sold to a wholesaler in a large lot. They then sat in storage for more than twenty years.

When received, this particular jersey retained its front "D" and the original Navy soutache, but had been stripped of Gibson's name and number. A smaller plate had been sewn over the spot where the name had been , and light table evaluation showed that besides Gibson's 23, the number 59 had once been sewn on it as well. As received, it was very dirty and it had been completely stripped of its back lettering though their ghost outlines were very clearly visible on the light table.

Using team templates as a starting point, replacement lettering identical in both shape and placement to Gibson's original 1987 issue were cut from navy tackle twill and then the lettering was mildly media blasted and/or organically dyed to harmonize its appearance to the rest of the jersey. The lettering was placed with aid of the light table completely covering the original ghosts, and the jersey was thoroughly washed and remaining traces of glue and dye staining from the second set of numbers applied after Gibson's MLB use were carefully, professional erased, only in the spots necessary. The glue outlines from the original Gibson player lettering remains beneath the restored lettering and can be seen in the photos on the next page.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: In 1987, Rawlings took over as the "Official Supplier" of uniforms to MLB. However, teams who had existing contracts in place with other makers were allowed to continue these relationships if they desired, but only Rawlings had the right to sell on-field spec jerseys to the public, and only Rawlings was entitled to stitch its makers-mark on the jersey sleeve. The Tigers had a long standing relationship with Wilson and elected to continue it for 1987.

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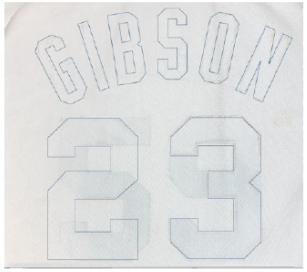
The Wilson tag is 2 x 3 and made of a shiny satin-like polyester material, sewn around its perimeter onto the outside front left tail of the jersey and is embroidered in red and black with the words "Tailored Exclusively for Prestige Teams by Wilson", followed by four lines of embroidered detailed wash instructions. The bright red Wilson wordmark logo was embroidered in the center, superimposed floating over a smaller embroidered pink Wilson "W" in a circle. A white flag tab noting the size (44) is pinch sewn under the right edge. Beneath the Wilson locker tag is a smaller rectangle of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "87 1" hand chain-stitch embroidered on it in the familiar embroidery-handwriting of the long-time Wilson factory stitcher. Finally centered below this is a third square tag, with the number "29" hand chain stitched in the same size and style. We have concluded that the Tigers' equipment manager specified a unique and seemingly random inventory code number sewn on every jersey issued, which certainly must have correlated back to an inventory spreadsheet that we have no access to.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original front Tigers crest and navy soutache trim, as well as all its original tagging. Characteristically, the trim has shrunk from repeated washing, and it as has become fuzzy and puckered. All seven of the buttons are intact and appear to be the originals. There are no team repairs, and jersey is in very good condition especially considering that it has served at least two tours of duty in its lifetime. The linen placket lining is intact and even relatively clean. The back of the jersey has been accurately restored as described prior.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Kirk Gibson of the 1987 Detroit Tigers.



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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Dave Bergman #14 Game Worn 1990 Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0301J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is infielder Dave Bergman's Detroit Tigers set 1 1990 home jersey. Bergman hit .278 in 1990 with 205 at bats. Wilson "Prestige Teams" tail tagging, no size tag but measures as a size 44; Pure white, seven-button jersey body with the classic Tigers gothic "D" stitched in Navy-Blue twill to the left chest. A single corse of navy soutache rings the placket. On back Bergman's name in the correct font for the year, above a single color Navy #14 in Wilson Varsity. The inside of the placket is lined with white linen for player comfort.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey was one of a massive collection of approximately 400 worn jerseys that had been warehoused in Tiger Stadium. Typical of MLB practice at the time, these jerseys had been used in the majors, then in Spring Training and/or the minor leagues. Just prior to the Tigers' move to their new ballpark in 2000, they were sold to a wholesaler in a large lot. They then sat in storage for more than twenty years.

When received, this particular jersey retained its front "D" and the original Navy soutache, but had been stripped of Bergman's name and number, still clearly visible on thyme light table. It was very dirty and it had been completely stripped of its back lettering yet never re-lettered for another player.

Using team templates as a starting point, replacement lettering identical in both shape and placement to the original 1990 issue were cut from navy tackle twill and then the lettering was mildly media blasted and/or organically dyed to harmonize its appearance to the rest of the jersey. The lettering was placed with aid of the light table completely covering the original ghosts, and the jersey was thoroughly washed. The shadow outlines from the original Bergman player lettering remains beneath the restored lettering and can be seen in the photos on the next page.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: In 1987, Rawlings had taken over as the "Official Supplier" of uniforms to MLB. However, teams who had existing contracts in place with other makers were allowed to continue these relationships if they desired, but only

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Rawlings had the right to sell on-field spec jerseys to the public, and only Rawlings was entitled to stitch its makers-mark on the jersey sleeve. The Tigers had a long standing relationship with Wilson and elected to continue it for 1987 and beyond.

The Wilson tag is 2 x 3 and made of a shiny satin-like polyester material, sewn around its perimeter onto the outside front left tail of the jersey and is embroidered in red and black with the words "Tailored Exclusively for Prestige Teams by Wilson", followed by four lines of embroidered detailed wash instructions. The bright red Wilson wordmark logo was embroidered in the center, superimposed floating over a smaller embroidered pink Wilson "W" in a circle. Beneath the Wilson locker tag is a smaller rectangle of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "90 1" machine embroidered on it, matching exemplars. Finally centered below this is a third square tag, with the number "17" machine embroidered in the same size and style. We have concluded that the Tigers' equipment manager specified a unique and seemingly random inventory code number sewn on every jersey issued, which certainly must have correlated back to an inventory spreadsheet that we have no access to.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original front Tigers crest and navy soutache trim, as well as all its original tagging. Characteristically, the trim has shrunk from repeated washing, and it as has become fuzzy and slightly puckered. All seven of the buttons are intact and appear to be the originals. There are no team repairs, and jersey is in very good condition especially considering that it has served at least two tours of duty in its lifetime. The linen placket lining is intact and even relatively clean. The back of the jersey has been accurately restored as described prior.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Dave Bergman of the 1990 Detroit Tigers.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Al Kaline #6 Game Worn 1973 Detroit Tigers Road (Set 2) Jersey

Examination Date: February 23, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0223J01

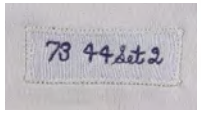
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray pullover Wilson double knit jersey set 2 1973 road jersey. Wilson neck tag notes the size as 44. (marked and measured) Sewn in knit 3/4" blue/white orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim at the end of the sleeves. "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. On back, Kaline's name and number are original and correct for the year, name on back is Navy Blue above a Navy outlined with orange #6 in the Tiger's own variant of Wilson Varsity. Kaline wore a size 42 jersey for much of his later career. I have previously authenticated a matching 1973 "Set 1" road jersey in size 42. It is perfectly reasonable to assume that Kaline, who was accustomed to a size 42 jersey, had jerseys of each size made for his use in 1973, in the next to last year of his career. Notably, the size 44 shows more wear than the 42.

Staring with the Tigers in 1953, Kaline played all 22 years of his MLB career with the team, well earning the nickname "Mr. Tiger". 1973 was his next-to final season. He was selected to 18 All-Star Games, including selections every year between 1955 and 1967. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1980, his first time on the ballot. He retired soon after reaching the 3,000 hit milestone near the end of the 1974 season. (*Wikipedia*). In 1973 he played in 91 games, splitting his time between designated hitter, right field and first base.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson size 44 neck tag shows wear and is attached only at the top and bottom, the thread on either side has failed. It is the correct style for 1973, and includes four lines of embroidered detailed wash instructions. "18" has been written in black marker on the tag. On the lower left of the front tail is a strip of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with *73 44 set 2* hand chain-stitch embroidered in Navy thread, in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher, matching exemplars. The embroidery and stitching thread is faded and bleached slightly purple showing wash/wear.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original front DETROIT crest, as well as all its original tagging. The knit trim colors are still bright and unfaded; the white is slightly yellowed. The lettering shows evidence of many washings, as the twill has turned purplish from detergent and the sheen has been burnished off. All attaching thread is slightly bleached, and there is characteristic jersey fabric puckering beneath the lettering indicating it is original and undisturbed. There are some stray dirt scuff marks on the front lower left tail. There are no team repairs, all stitching is intact and tight, and jersey is in very good condition and clearly was pulled and spared being used in the minor leagues or spring training in later years, likely owing to respect for Kaline's star-status.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good, used condition: It is all original, showing appropriate use. The jersey has has team-issue tagging, and no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Al Kaline of the 1973 Detroit Tigers.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Mickey Lolich 1974 Detroit Tigers Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 29, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0729J03

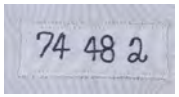
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

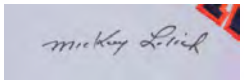
Description: This is pitcher Mickey Lolich's Detroit Tigers set 2 road jersey. Gray Wilson size 48 V-Neck pullover jersey with sewn in knit 3/4" blue/white orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim at the end of the sleeves. "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. On back, tall Tigers 3 14" Navy Blue name on back arched above a Navy outlined with orange #29 in the Tigers' own variant of Wilson Varsity. Size 48 matches other jerseys worn by Lolich in the 1970s.
The jersey is autographed on front chest by the player in bold black marker. I have no professional opinion on the autograph, but it has been professionally authenticated by Beckett.

Lolich enjoyed a 16 year MLB career, thirteen of them with the Tigers, 1962-1975. Lolich pitched in 41 games for the 1974 Tigers and posted a record of 16-21 with an ERA of 4.15 with 202 strikeouts. (Baseball Almanac) In a 16-year major league career, Lolich played in 586 games, accumulating a 217–191 win–loss record along with a 3.44 earned run average. He struck out 200 or more batters in a season seven times in his career. His 2,832 career strikeouts were the most by a left-handed pitcher in Major League Baseball history until he was surpassed by Steve Carlton in 1981 and, he held the American League record for strikeouts by a left-handed pitcher until being surpassed by CC Sabathia in 2017. His 2,832 strikeouts ranks 20th all-time and fourth among left-handed pitchers behind Randy Johnson, Carlton and Sabathia. Lolich threw 41 shutouts and 195 complete games during his career, completing nearly 40 percent of his starts. He holds Detroit Tigers team records in single-season strikeouts (308), career strikeouts (2,679), shutouts (39), games started (459) and home runs allowed (329). (Wikipedia)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer locker tag is the correct style as used 1974-1977 and is stitched on the back of the neck, and denotes the size as 48. Sewn on the outside front left tail is a 1x3" rectangle of gray double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "74 48 2" hand chain-stitched embroidered on it in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher, matching exemplars.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all lettering and tagging is original and without contrivance. The orange/blue neck and sleeve knit trim has not faded from exposure to the sun and repeated washing as is so common on these jerseys. There is evidence of light to moderate use, with characteristic puckering of the twill and the fabric beneath the lettering from hot water washing. It was clearly spared post-1974 relegation to Spring Training and /or the minor leagues, and the associated abuse typical of Tigers' jerseys of the 1970s.





Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good all-original condition. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Mickey Lolich of the 1974 Detroit Tigers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mark Fidrych 1976-1977 Detroit Tigers Autographed Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: December 29, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-1229J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Detroit Tigers Wilson-made pullover road jersey. Gray V-Neck pullover jersey with sewn in knit 3/4" blue/white orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim at the end of the sleeves. Pullover V-Neck body with "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. On back, Fidrych's name and number are in the correct fonts and sizes for 1976-1977. name on back is Navy Blue above a Navy outlined-with-orange #20 in the Tigers' own variant of Wilson Varsity. The jersey is autographed on the very edge of the back shirt tail, 'Mark Fidrych "The Bird"' in black Sharpie. I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Enjoying a short but famous career, Fidrych was a rookie phenom for the 1976 Tigers and started the 1976 All Star game for the American League. He finished the 1976 season 19- 9 with a 2.39 ERA, the lowest among starters in MLB. and he appeared headed for sure stardom. yet his career spanned only five years, 1976-1980 all for the Tigers, he was injured during spring training in 1977 and over the next four seasons he won only ten more games in total. He retired after the 1980 season and left baseball.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: There is a small rectangular Wilson tag in the neck of the jersey noting it as a size 42, reasonable for the player. The specific style of the Wilson tag is one used only 1974-1977, and since Fidrych's career began in 1976, it could only be from these two years. This jersey lacks Tigers team tagging, significant because among all the teams in MLB, the Tigers have been the most consistent in tagging all of their game-worn uniforms. Normally, a strip of knit fabric would have been zig zag stitched to the bottom of the outside left tail with the year and set number on it (see next page for an example). This jersey lacks such a tag or any evidence that one had been there before. Also, the Tigers wore a special team Bicentennial sleeve patch disk in 1976 — there is no sign that this jersey even had such a patch on its sleeve. There is a faint ghost of a small rectangular stitch pattern near the bottom of the same tail, showing that something had been sewn there and removed, but it is at such a haphazard diagonal angle and odd location I would not judge it to have been a team inventory tag because of its inconsistent shape and placement.

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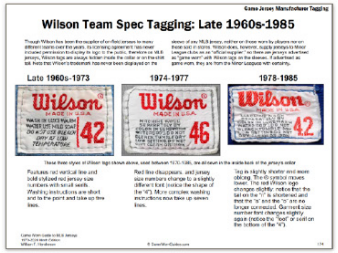
A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original and lack contrivance. A careful comparison of the fonts matching this jersey to known team-prepared ones shows it is quite exact, however, without team tagging, it is difficult to assert that this jersey is Fidrych game worn, yet given the total accuracy of all the sewn elements (fonts, sizes, colors) I would judge that it was stitched by Wilson at the same shop as team jerseys. Consider the circumstances- Fidrych quickly became a cultural pop sensation in 1976, even appearing on the cover of The Rolling Stone magazine. Yet baseball was still a full decade away from offering on-field specification MLB jerseys to the public, and was even further away from large-scale sponsored player signing events. It is very probable that this jersey was stitched by Wilson at the factory as a spare jersey for the player to wear, or probably one to be signed and auctioned or given as a gift to a special team associate (sponsor, business partner). We have no insight into how it came to be autographed, but I will note the location of the autograph on the very bottom of the back tail is rather unusual.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in excellent condition, and might be considered to have signs of light use as seen as some burnishing of the lettering and graying of the white stripes in the sleeve end and neck trim, indicating it was worn and washed before it was autographed. This jersey retains its original arched front two-color DETROIT crest. The orange/blue neck and sleeve knit trim has not faded from exposure to the sun and repeated washing as is so common on these jerseys.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent condition: it is properly team-prepared with lettering that matches specifications. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It lacks team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Mark Fidrych of the 1976-1977 Detroit Tigers.



*Above left, Henderson's 9th Edition MLB Game Worn Guide reference page showing the style of Wilson tag found on this jersey as used only 1974-1977. **Above right**, the neck tag from the jersey being examined. **Below, left** an example of typical 1976 Tigers team-issue road jersey team tagging that is NOT present on this exemplar.*

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Lance Parrish 1983 Detroit Tigers Set 1 Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 26, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0526J03

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is catcher Lance Parrish's Detroit Tigers road jersey, set 1, 1983. Gray V-Neck pullover jersey with sewn in knit 3/4" blue/white orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim at the end of the sleeves. Pullover V-Neck design "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. On back, Parrish's name and number are in the correct fonts and sizes for 1983. name on back is Navy Blue above a Navy outlined with orange #13 in the Tigers' own variant of Wilson Varsity. Size 46 as is correct for the player at this stage of his career. The jersey is autographed somewhat lightly in silver fine tip pen on back numeral 3 by the player. It is autographed again in black Sharpie on the left lower front tail. I have no professional opinion on the autographs.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer locker tag is the correct style as used 1978-1985, is stitched on the back of the neck, and denotes the size as 46. Sewn on the outside front left tail is a 1x3" rectangle of gray double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "83 1" (1983 set 1) hand chain-stitched embroidered on it in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher, matching exemplars. Below this is another smaller square of the same fabric with the number "1" hand chain stitched on it. Tigers jerseys often have these secondary numeric tags on them which likely relate to internal inventory codes.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original arched front two-color DETROIT crest, as well as its original tagging. Surprisingly, the orange/blue neck and sleeve knit trim has not faded from exposure to the sun and repeated washing as is so common on these jerseys. There is evidence of fabric pulls and notable piling on the back of the shoulders and sides of the shirt, at the waist, as well as around the edges of the back numbers expected and caused by the abrasion from the catchers' equipment Parrish wore on the field. The lettering shows evidence of use and washing, with some burnishing and puckering of the fabric. There is a small hard glue-like stain below the "P" in Parrish on back, about the size of two grains of rice. There are no team repairs; all stitching is intact and tight, and jersey is in very good condition. It appears to have escaped the repeated spring training and minor

Continued, overleaf

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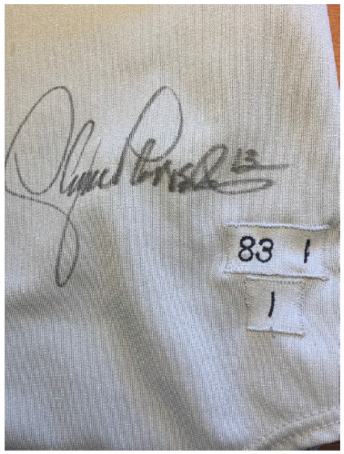
league reuse and abuse typical of Tigers' jerseys of the 1970s. This jersey shows slightly more use than the near-identical "set 2" Parrish road jersey of 1983 that we examined at this same time.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: the lettering front and back is all original, and the jersey is properly team-prepared with lettering that matches specifications. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Lance Parrish of the 1983 Detroit Tigers.



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Letter of Professional Opinion

Lance Parrish 1983 Detroit Tigers Set 2 Road Jersey

Examination Date: May 26, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0526J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is catcher Lance Parrish's Detroit Tigers road jersey, set 2, 1983. Gray V-Neck pullover jersey with sewn in knit 3/4" blue/white orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim at the end of the sleeves. Pullover V-Neck design "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. On back, Parrish's name and number are in the correct fonts and sizes for 1983. name on back is Navy Blue above a Navy outlined with orange #13 in the Tigers' own variant of Wilson Varsity. Size 46 as is correct for the player at this stage of his career. The jersey is autographed somewhat lightly on back numeral 3 by the player in silver pen, and inscribed "1983 Game Used". I have no professional opinion on the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer locker tag is the correct style as used 1978-1985, is stitched on the back of the neck, and denotes the size as 46. Sewn on the outside front left tail is a 1x3" rectangle of gray double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "83 2" (1983 set 2) hand chain-stitched embroidered on it in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher, matching exemplars. Below this is another smaller square of the same fabric with the number "2" hand chain stitched on it. Tigers jerseys often have these secondary numeric tags on them which likely relate to internal inventory codes.

Continued, overleaf

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Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original arched front two-color DETROIT crest, as well as its original tagging. Surprisingly, the orange/blue neck and sleeve knit trim has not faded from exposure to the sun and repeated washing as is so common on these jerseys. There is evidence of fabric pulls and piling on the back of the shoulders and sides of the shirt, expected and caused by the catchers' equipment Parrish wore on the field. The lettering shows evidence of use and washing, with some burnishing and puckering of the fabric. There are no team repairs; all stitching is intact and tight, and jersey is in very good condition. It appears to have escaped the repeated spring training and minor league reuse and abuse typical of Tigers' jerseys of the 1970s.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: the lettering front and back is all original, and the jersey is properly team-prepared with lettering that matches specifications. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Lance Parrish of the 1983 Detroit Tigers.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bárbaro Garbey Game Worn 1985 Detroit Tigers Road Jersey

Examination Date: April 20, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0420J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is Bárbaro Garbey's Detroit Tigers set 1 1985 road jersey, marked and measured as a size 38. At 5' 10" and 170 lbs this is a reasonable sized jersey for the player to have worn. Gray double-knit Wilson-made seven-button jersey body with "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. The inside of the placket is lined with white linen for player comfort. Sewn-in knit 3/4" blue/white/orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim at the end of the sleeves. On back, Garbey's name and number in the correct fonts for the year, name on back is Navy Blue above the number 27, in Navy outlined with orange in the Tiger's variant of Wilson Varsity.

As a rookie in 1984, Garbey played in 110 games, including appearances at first base, second base, third base, designated hitter, and each of the outfield positions. He earned team Rookie of the Year honors within the Tigers organization in 1984 (Wikipedia). In 1985 Garbey returned to the roster, but was not as effective as he had been in during 1984. He appeared in 86 games with 237 at bats hitting 6 home runs and finishing with a .257 average. He was traded to the Texas Rangers after the 1985 season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson small rectangular white tag manufacturer tail tagging sewn on the outside left tail, in the correct style for 1985, and matching exemplars for 1985 Tigers' road jerseys. Eight lines of tiny black wash instructions and the size (38) and Wilson script embroidered in red thread. Beneath the manufacturer's tag, two hand-chain stitched knit fabric tags are stacked. The top one says 85 1 (1985 set 1) and the one centered below has the number "27" on it, all embroidered in the familiar had ion the Wilson factory stitcher. While it is temping to assume that the "27" refers to the player's roster number on the back of the jersey, our research shows that the match is simple happenstance: exemplars show that the bottom tag is an inventory index tag that surely relates back to a team equipment manager's master inventory sheet where every jersey made at the start of the season was tagged with a sequential number. The Tigers employed this tagging system for many years.

Restoration Performed: When received, this particular jersey retained its original front lettering, but the back had undergone a series of changes. The "7" on the back was autographed "Barbaro Garbey 27" (I have no professional opinion on the authenticity of autographs) Without removing the current back lettering, the light table revealed several facts: The back numbers were off center, and the ghost images of GARBEY and 27 could be seen, both slightly offset from how the current lettering had been sewn. This is typical of an amateur, inexact restoration: a replacement name and number set are stitched on to make the jersey "correct" without regard to making the replacement lettering exactly match the ghosts in terms of font shape or placement. In this case, the numbers appeared correct while the NOB lettering was not exactly faithful to team patterns; the back numbers were stitched off-center.

Continued, overleaf

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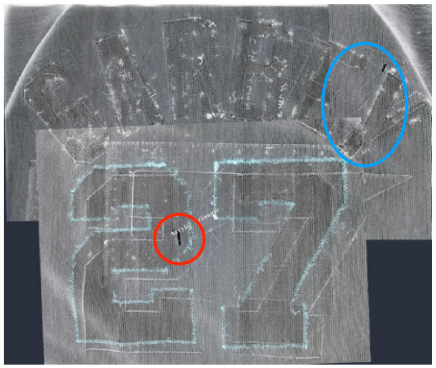
At the request of the owner, I removed all of the inexact back lettering. With the back stripped clean, and on the light table, it became visible that this jersey was also once #18. There is a vertical tear in the fabric where the "1" had been, when it was removed. Who could have worn it as #18?

1. That number in 1985 was assigned to Bob Melvin at 6' 4" and 205 he would not have fit into this.
2. Sometimes a jersey is numbered when it was readied for a player from the prior year who then gets cut or traded after spring training. But no one was 18 on the 1984 Tigers, so that is unlikely.
3. In 1986, infielder Scotti Madison wore #18. Garbey had since been traded. Madison could have been assigned this used jersey and wore it in Spring Training 1986. At 5' 11" and 195, a size 38 would have likely been a tight fit but not impossible
4. This jersey had a name on back associated with its original #18. I cannot make it out, but it seems like it was 5 (or 6) letters and ended in 'EZ'. The first letter looks like it was a C or a G. There is no one on the roster who fits that description, perhaps someone cut after Spring Training? (Perez? Chavez? Guarez?)

The removed numbers revealed that they were not a matched-sewn set. The layer stitching was different on both, though they were both the proper font and size for the 1985 Tigers, and when moved, fit exactly over the original set of ghosts that were revealed. I stripped the sloppy layer stitching on the #2, and resewed it to match team spec and the autographed #7 next to it.

I replaced the original numbers exactly over the other (original) set of ghosts visible, and they matched perfectly and were now again properly centered on the back. Using the 1985 Tigers alpha font, I matched a new player name and it fix exactly over the original set of ghosts. On the light table, the other competing ghosts are still visible, but I believe that my restoration covers the ghosts of the original lettering as had been sewn on this jersey in 1985.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original front DETROIT crest, as well as all its original tagging. The knit trim has not faded faded much from exposure to the sun and repeated washing. Six of the seven buttons are intact (the top one is missing) and appear to be the originals. There are no team repairs, all stitching is intact and tight, and jersey is in good condition. I will note that vert small sized jerseys like this one are often spared the ravages of overuse because they simply don't fit many players! The back of the jersey has been accurately restored as described prior.



Above the jersey as received. Note how the back numbers are off-center compared to "as-restored". At right, the confusing array of ghosts, showing how GARBEY 27 was applied to their jersey in two different configurations. The ghost of the number 18 is hidden in this image too. The (red circle) highlights the vertical strike of the "1" where the jersey fabric was ripped. Another indecipherable player NOB had been on this as well, the final letter "Z" is slightly visible in this photo (blue circle)

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. While it had clearly been reissued to another player after Garbey's use in 1985, It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bárbaro Garbey during the Detroit Tigers' 1985 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Darrell Evans #41 Game Worn 1986 Detroit Tigers Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0301J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: This is infielder Darrell Evans' Detroit Tigers set 1 1986 road jersey. Evans played in 151 games in 1986, hitting .241 in 507 at bats with 29 home runs. He enjoyed a 21 year MLB career, five of those with the Tigers. Wilson "Prestige Teams" tail tagging, Gray jersey with sewn in knit 3/4" blue/white orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim at the end of the sleeves. seven-button jersey body with "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. On back, Evans' name and number have been restored in the correct fonts for the year, name on back is Navy Blue above a Navy outlined with orange #41 in Wilson Varsity. The inside of the placket is lined with white linen for player comfort.

Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey was one of a massive collection of approximately 400 worn jerseys that had been warehoused in Tiger Stadium. Typical of MLB practice at the time, these jerseys had been used in the majors, then in Spring Training and/or the minor leagues. Just prior to the Tigers' move to their new ballpark in 2000, they were sold to a wholesaler in a large lot. They then sat in storage for more than twenty years.

When received, this particular jersey retained its original front lettering, but had been stripped of Evans' name and number, both still clearly visible on the light table. It was very dirty, and had a weathered and frayed blue/orange "3" centered on the back and evidence that two different sized nameplates had been sewn and removed. The number appeared to be one taken off another jersey and was sloppily stitched in place, a hallmark of Minor League/Spring Training reuse. When removed, the "3" left behind a slightly visible darker ghost on the cloth indicating it had been worn /washed many times with this number in place.

Using team templates as a starting point, replacement lettering identical in both shape and placement to the original issue were cut from navy and orange tackle twill and then the lettering was mildly media blasted and/or organically dyed to harmonize its appearance to the rest of the jersey. The lettering was placed with aid of the light table completely covering the original ghosts, and the jersey was thoroughly cleaned. The shadow outlines from the original player lettering remains beneath the restored lettering and can be seen in the photos on the next page.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer locker tag is 2 x 3 and made of a shiny satin-like polyester material, sewn around its perimeter onto the outside front left tail of the jersey and is embroidered in red and black with the words "Tailored

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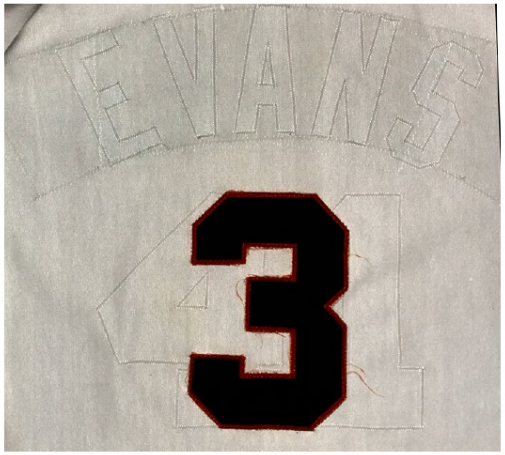
Exclusively for Prestige Teams by Wilson", followed by four lines of embroidered detailed wash instructions. The bright red Wilson wordmark logo was embroidered in the center, superimposed floating over a smaller embroidered pink Wilson "W" in a circle. Beneath the Wilson locker tag is a smaller rectangle of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with the numbers "86 1" hand chain-stitched embroidered on it in the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher, matching exemplars. Finally centered below this is a third square tag, with the number "47" also hand chain stitched in the same size and style. We have concluded that the Tigers' equipment manager specified a unique and seemingly random inventory code number sewn on every jersey issued, which certainly must have correlated back to an inventory spreadsheet that we have no access to.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original front DETROIT crest, as well as all its original tagging. Characteristically, the knit trim has faded from exposure to the sun and repeated washing. Notably, it is still bright on the undersides of the sleeves where it was not exposed to sunlight. All seven of the buttons are intact and appear to be the originals. There are no team repairs, all stitching is intact and tight, and jersey is in good condition especially considering that it has served at least two tours of duty in its lifetime. The linen placket lining is intact and even relatively clean. The back of the jersey has been accurately restored as described prior.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition: the front is all original, and the back is properly restored with lettering near-identical to original. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Darrell Evans of the 1986 Detroit Tigers.



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Letter of Professional Opinion and Document of Restoration

Alan Trammell Detroit Tigers Game Worn 1995 Blue Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: December 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1204J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Navy blue six-button Russell jersey issued to #3, Alan Trammell. Size 42, with Tigers alternate crest on the left chest, a large embroidered appliqué patch showing a growling tiger in orange and back, climbing through a white Gothic D. Navy/white/orange sewn-in knit trim rings each sleeve end. Player number "3" on the right chest and centered on the back in the proper size and font for the 1995 Tigers, in white outlined with orange. There is no player name on back.

This is one of the most notorious of all MLB jerseys: They were intended to be worn all season for Sunday home games. But ownership, surprised seeing them just prior to them being used on the field for the first time, disapproved of the look, and did they like the idea of jerseys without player names on back. As a result, these jerseys were eliminated after only a single game's use, on Sunday, May 7, 1995. Initially intended to be paired with pinstriped pants (according to an inside source) immediately before game time the team was reportedly ordered by team president John McHale to, "take off those clown pants" and wear their regular white pants instead. Under normal circumstances, before Tigers' game jerseys leave the premises for the final time. Each is hand initialed on the front tag by long-time equipment manager Jim Schmakel, a signal that they have been game used. Not so with this set. They disappeared from Tiger Stadium with no record. Over the years, a very few original examples have turned up at auction, while others were sent to Lakeland to be used by a Minor League squad. This jersey was in that later group.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell locker tag sewn to the outside right tail, in the variant usually seen used not later than 1994. No neck tag and small fabric 100% polyester flag tag under the Russell tail tag both proper with Russell team issued jerseys. An extremely wash-faded rectangular mylar fabric tag is stitched beneath the tail locker tag, on it is the washed out matrix printed code 95-3-42 (1995, player number 3, size 42). Someone has written "90" in black marker on that tag, probably with some relation to its minor league reissue.

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(Above) as received prior to restoration. Blue highlighted photos on this page show the light table enhanced evidence of the original front crest and the back number.

Wear & Repairs, Documentation of Professional Restoration: As received for review, this jersey was in its second life, lettered for the Lakeland Tigers and had number 47 stitched to the front and back. It shows signs of moderately heavy wear, with puckering of all elements and graying, fraying and puckering of white tagging. The numbers and front crest were sloppily stitched in place, typical of Minor League issue.

A light table examination revealed that the Tigers crest had once been on the left chest, and had been removed and replaced by the Lakeland crest. Noting the team tagging told us that this jersey had been originally issued as "#3", and we were able to see faint evidence that the numeral 3 had indeed been on the back, centered beneath the two replacement numbers, as well as on the right front. A red, white and Navy Blue Minor League Baseball commemorative patch was stitched to the left sleeve.

Satisfied that this had indeed been a MLB Tigers jersey repurposed to the Minor Leagues, I stripped all the MiLB elements from the jersey and again examined it on the light table. The former smaller MLB Tigers crest outline was clearly evident, as it had been stitched on with a tight embroidery stitch leaving clear marks. The numbers "3" on front and back were very faint, as would be expected because they probably were on this shirt very briefly some 25 years ago, and likely only washed once with them in place. The evidence of the old numbers was evident mostly on the edges from stitching fabric compression, and under ultraviolet light where slight darkening of the areas that they occupied, from the adhesive with which they had been tacked in place.

Replacement numbers in the team font were made in Tigers orange and white, and they perfectly covered the old ghosts. A crest was harvested from a donor jersey and sewn over the original marks. The Minor League Baseball patch was removed from the left sleeve. It left behind fused on hot-melt glue that was mostly removed with solvent.

Conclusion: The jersey in review shows wear that mostly occurred in its second life in the Minor leagues. It has been restored to original specifications, and is again properly lettered, and numbered, It has original authentic team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by Allen Trammell of the 1995 Detroit Tigers.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Ed Farmer Game Worn 1973 Detroit Tigers Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 7, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1007J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

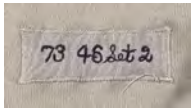
Description: Gray pullover Wilson double knit 1973 road jersey. Wilson neck tag notes the size as 46. (marked and measured) Sewn in knit 3/4" blue/white orange knit trim around the neck and wide 2 1/2" trim bands at the end of the sleeves. "DETROIT" vertically arched across the chest in Navy outlined with orange. On back, as received, jersey sported "MORRIS" #47", which was obviously a replacement.

As Received/Restoration: At the request of the jersey's owner, I stripped the jersey to try to learn who originally wore it. In true Tigers fashion, this jersey had been reissued several times, probably finally being left with a 47 on the back with no name above it— and used in spring training. My summation is that someone added Jack Morris' name to the back to match the 47— though Morris would not join the team until 1977, and it is extremely unlikely that he was issued this ancient jersey to wear. After thoroughly cleaning the glue and staining, the light table reveals that the original number was 28, and it had also worn #88 somewhere along the way— most likely in spring training as such a high number would not have been issued on a regular season jersey then. The top edges of the number outlines were perforated to the point of creating voids in the fabric. Ghosts and scars of multiple name changes were on the back, and I could not decipher them until I put them under the high intensity black light, and the name "Farmer" suddenly became clearly visible. While comparative exemplars of Ed Farmer game jerseys at auction elude me, at 6' 5" and 210 lbs, this size is reasonable for the player .

Using the ghosts I matched the outlines to the original font patterns for the name and numbers. The largest holes in the jersey back were darned closed first (in the fashion of period's "team repairs"), the new lettering was media blasted and dyed to help it match the patina of the rest of the garment, then stitched in place using the same size/frequency of stitch to match the front wordmark and in matching faded thread.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson size 46 neck tag shows wear and yet is still firmly attached. It is the correct style for 1973, and includes five lines of embroidered detailed wash instructions. On the lower left of the front tail is a strip of double knit-cloth the same as the jersey's fabric, with *73 46 set 2* hand chain-stitch embroidered in Navy thread, in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher, matching exemplars. The embroidery and stitching thread is faded and bleached slightly purple showing wash/wear.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey retains its original two-color sewn front DETROIT crest, as well as all its original tagging. The knit trim colors are still bright and unfaded; the white is slightly grayed. The front lettering shows evidence of many washings, as the thread has turned purplish from detergent and the sheen on the lettering has been burnished. The front of the jersey is in much better condition than the back, owing to the multiple name/number changes. All front stitching is intact and tight. There were no team repairs done before I repaired the many holes in the back.



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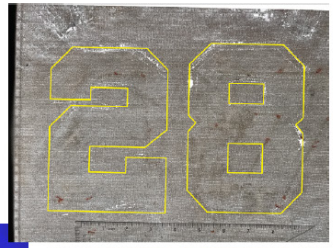
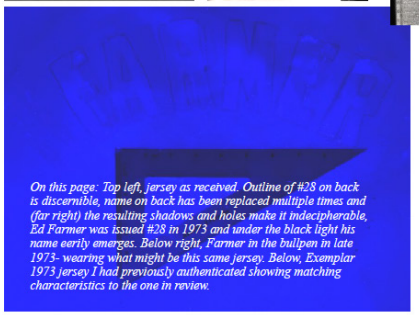
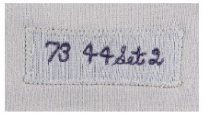




On this page: Top left, jersey as received. Outline of #28 on back is discernible, name on back has been replaced multiple times and (far right) the resulting shadows and holes make it indecipherable, Ed Farmer was issued #28 in 1973 and under the black light his name eerily emerges. Below right, Farmer in the bullpen in late 1973- wearing what might be this same jersey. Below, Exemplar 1973 jersey I had previously authenticated showing matching characteristics to the one in review.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in fair, heavily used condition: The front is all original, showing multiple seasons of use. The back has been restored to original after multiple reissues. The jersey has has team-issue tagging, and no alterations or contrivances of any kind. It It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by pitcher Ed Farmer of the 1973 Detroit Tigers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

Letter of Professional Opinion/Letter of Restoration

Mickey Stanley 1970-1971 Game Worn Detroit Tigers Home Jersey

Examination Date: March 7, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0307J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Either 1970 or 1971 Detroit Tigers Wilson seven-button cream colored flannel home jersey of outfielder Mickey Stanley. Wilson tail tagging denotes size 40, though it generously measures 46 around the chest. This characteristic is oddly consistent with Tigers flannels of 1970-1971 from my experience. It is a reasonable size to have been worn by the 6' 1" 195 lb. player. Classic Tigers gothic "D" stitched in Navy-Blue cotton twill (not polyester tackle twill) to the left chest. A single corse of Navy piping rings the placket, sewn into the seams, not "on top" of the seams as is soutache. The year/set tag in both 1970-1971 was made of felt, zig-zag stitched below the Wilson tag on the front left tail, and it is common that these tags fail after repeated washings and the tag centers fall out. Both years were tagged identically and the jerseys themselves were indistinguishable between this two seasons, including the use of the pencil-thin 3" tall name on back lettering, different from other years which was traditionally much larger.

Mickey Stanley played for the Detroit Tigers from 1964 to 1978. Primarily an outfielder and shortstop, Stanley was known for his versatility and strong defense. He was a key contributor to the Tigers' 1968 World Series championship team, playing a crucial role as an outfielder during the series. Over his 14-year career, Stanley posted a .242 batting average, with 93 home runs and 486 RBIs. While his offensive numbers were modest, his defensive skills, particularly his ability to play multiple positions, made him an invaluable member of the team. He retired after the 1978 season and is remembered as a solid, dependable player for the Tigers during his career. In 1970 and 1971, Mickey Stanley had notable contributions to the Detroit Tigers: 1970: Stanley played primarily in the outfield and had a solid year offensively, finishing with a career-high .267 batting average. He also posted 10 home runs and 50 RBIs, helping the Tigers in their pursuit of a competitive season. His defensive versatility, playing multiple positions, continued to be a valuable asset for the team. 1971: In 1971, Stanley's performance dipped slightly in terms of batting average, finishing at .234. However, his contributions remained critical in the field, and he was again used across various positions, including shortstop and the outfield. His flexibility allowed the Tigers to keep their lineup balanced despite injuries and other roster changes.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's small rectangular tag noting the size of the jersey as 40 is stitched onto the outer left shirt tail. It is the proper style tag as was used 1969-1973. Its left edge is badly frayed as is typical with well-washed examples. On the left outside front tail are the remains of a 1 ¾"" x 1" rectangle of cream colored felt, its center missing leaving shards of the felt and the zig-zagged stitching holding the edges in place. Its poor condition matches other well-used exemplars.

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As Received/Wear & Repairs: As received, the jersey was very dirty with assorted ground in dirt stains on the sleeves and tail and it wore the number 59 (in a non-standard MLB Tigers font) and the name FIFE sewn above. Research shows that Danny Fife was drafted by both the Tigers and the NBA Milwaukee Bucks in 1971. Fife signed with the Tigers, though he never made their MLB roster and was traded to the Twins in 1973 where he made his MLB debut. Given that the jersey has a high number and his name on back, it is my guess that Fife was invited to Tigers spring training in either 1971 or 1972 where he wore this jersey. Once stripped of the Fife lettering and the attaching glue cleaned with solvent, the jersey was soaked, hand laundered, steamed and pressed, showing that overall it remains in very good, game used condition. The cream colored flannel remains thick and supple, and the dirt and stains were removed. The twill Tigers gothic D on front has faded slightly from its original dark Navy and the thread holding it in place has bleached to a dark violet, indicative of a season or two's worth of washing. Cotton twill as used required a very dense stitch to hold it in place to prevent fraying. An examination of the stitching on the inside of the jersey shows that it is original. Notably, with the team's 1972 switch to double knit jerseys the old flannel uniforms of 1970-71 were quickly rendered obsolete for re-use.

Restoration Performed: Once stripped, the light table revealed the ghosts of the original name and number on back, Mickey Stanley's #24. The ghosts were compared to my archived font for the team in 1970-1971, and it matched well with only slight (expected) distortion evident from the flannel fabric. I cut and placed the replacement lettering, created from the same vintage cotton based Navy twill, and stitched it with suitably faded thread to match the front emblem. I note that the leading "S" in Stanley's name was originally sewn upside down compared to the template, a typical period stitching error. I replicated this error in my restoration.

At left: The jersey as received. Above the dark ghosts of Fife's removed number and name can still be seen, and the outline of the ghosts of Stanley's original name and number are visible. The jersey fabric has stretched with age, and the NOB font from the original template is overlaid on the ghosts in Navy. Notice the upside down "S". At right, an exemplar Tigers' tail tag showing felt fabric failure somewhat less than than on the jersey in review.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition and has been professionally and accurately restore to its appearance as originally worn. The jersey has no contrivances of of any kind. It has the vestiges of original team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Mickey Stanley of the 1970/1971 Detroit Tigers.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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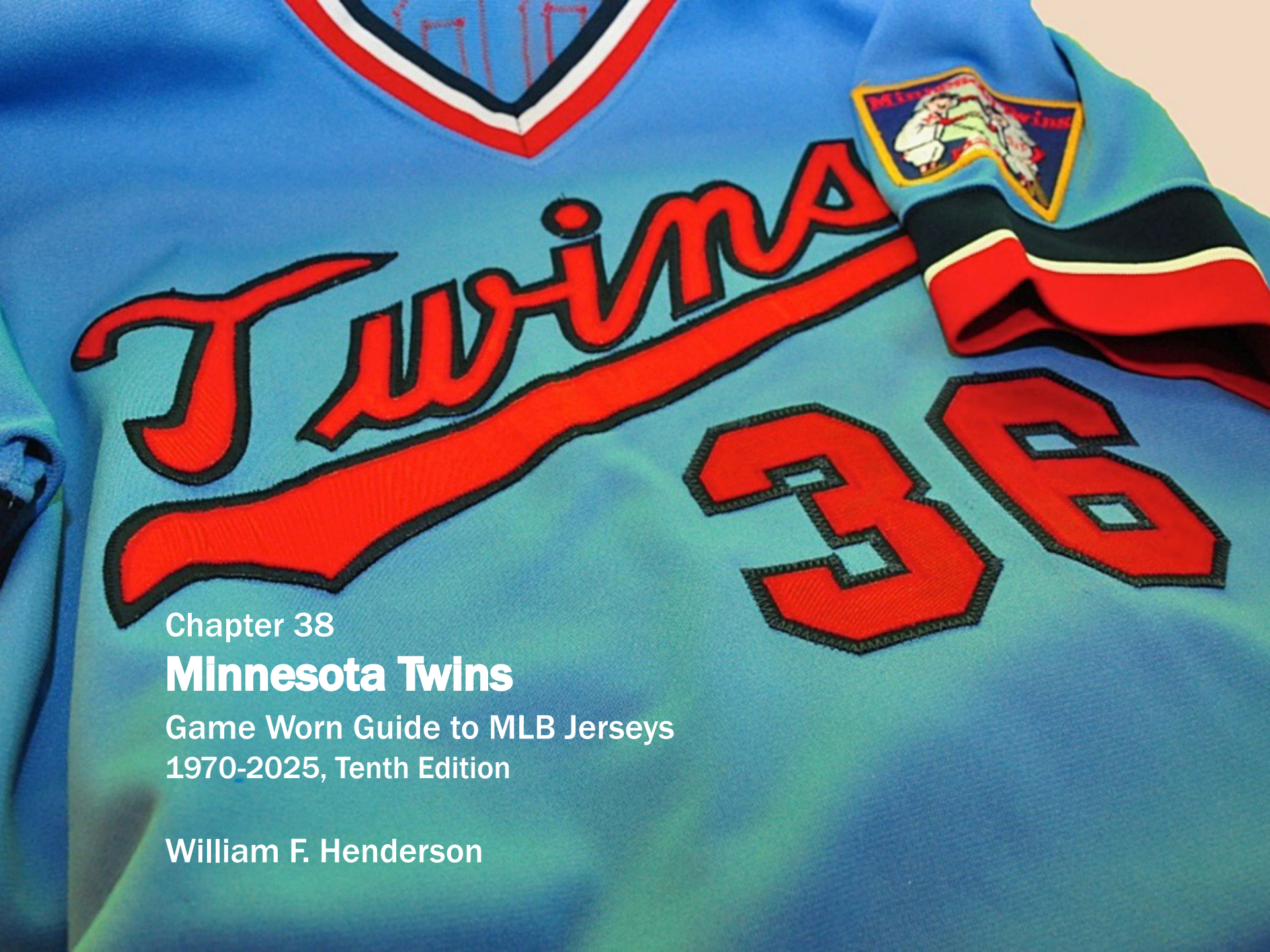

Chapter 38

Minnesota Twins

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Twins Uniform History Notes

- When the Washington Senators relocated to Minnesota in 1961, the newly minted Minnesota Twins debuted in classic flannel uniforms. The home set featured cream-colored fabric with navy pinstripes and a slanted “Twins” script in navy with red outline. Road jerseys were plain gray. Both sets used two-color block or Varsity-style numbers depending on manufacturer.
- The only spot of color on the road jersey is the Twins’ keystone shaped patch (which also appeared on the home jersey) featuring their two cartoonish mascots, Minnie and Paul, shaking hands as they reach across the Mississippi River. These uniforms remained unchanged through 1971, the team’s final year of flannels.
- In 1972, the team transitioned to double-knit polyester uniforms. That season, lettering colors were reversed—now red outlined in navy—and tri-color knit trim was added at the collar and sleeve ends. The home jersey, now just white as the pinstripes were removed, retains a button-front design. In 1973, the road jersey switches to a V-neck pullover and joins the powder blue trend with a new look in that color.
- In 1974, the home jersey becomes a V-neck pullover, like the road.
- Names on back introduced in 1977, appearing on both home and road jerseys. From 1981-1996, they were worn only on the road, returning to both sets in 1997. The NOB font from 1977-1986 was a bespoke tall, thin vertical arch, usually directly sewn without nameplates. From 1985-1986, nameplates began to be used more frequently.
- A major redesign arrived in 1987 alongside the team’s move back to button-front jerseys. Home jerseys featured navy pinstripes and a red-outlined “Twins” script; road jerseys carried vertically arched “Minnesota” in block letters across gray pinstripes. Number fonts changed from Varsity to Block with Serifs, and front numbers were introduced. NOBs were removed from home jerseys but continued on the road.
- 1997: Fiddling begins. NOBs returned to all jerseys. That year also saw the debut of two alternate jerseys: 1) a short-lived red home alternate, derided by television announcers as the “Dairy Queen” jersey for its color combination, which was retired after two games; and 2) a navy blue road alternate with white “Minnesota” lettering. The navy alternate remained in the rotation through 2008.
- In 2000, a navy home alternate was introduced. It featured “Twins” script on the chest with mismatched front and back number colors.
- The team added an alternate white pinstriped home vest in 2006, worn with navy undershirts. It was seldom worn and officially vanishes after 2010.
- To commemorate the final season at the Metrodome in 2009, a retro-style alternate was introduced. Though not an exact replica of any single past uniform, it borrowed elements from the 1970s and early ’80s—including script, sleeve patch, and narrow tri-color trim—with modern Block with Serifs numbers. It is only worn in 2009.
- A modernized road jersey debuted in 2010, replacing the gray pinstripes used since 1987. The new version featured a flowing cursive “Minnesota” script with navy and red trim. The home jersey also received a subtle update that year, with slightly rounded corners on the wordmark letters to improve spacing. Names now direct-sewn, phasing out nameplates.
- Additional alternate styles emerged in the 2010s: a cream-colored home alternate based on the original 1961 uniform with keystone patch and no NOBs; a red alternate jersey with the “TC” logo beginning in 2016; and in 2019, a navy home alternate with “Twins” script outlined in gold. A full powder blue alternate was introduced in 2020, designed as a modernized throwback to the 1973-1986 road jerseys, complete with red/navy script and tri-color trim.
- The myriad of changes make the Twins’ uniform identity during the 2010-2022 period very inconsistent across the six jersey options – a mishmash of different logo lettering and scripts, trim placement and colors, and outline and drop shadow styles.
- In 2023, the Twins unveiled a full rebrand with four new uniform styles, all built around a consistent custom font. The new set included a minimalist white home jersey with red “Twins” script and a navy front number; a gray pinstriped road set with block “Minnesota” lettering; a cream “Twin Cities” alternate with crossed-flag patch; and a navy “Minnesota” alternate.
- In 2024, the Twins debut their first City Connect uniform. The aquatic blue pullover was inspired by the state’s lakes and featured a ripple-textured pattern, a wave-formed “MN” chest logo, and a loon patch on the sleeve. Details included a “10,000 Lakes” jock tag, a hidden “home” state mark inside the collar, and bold, perforated block-style numbers.
- Spanning the 1970s flannel-to-poly era to the modern overhaul of the 2020s, the Twins’ uniforms reflected a balance of tradition and innovation. Despite some inconsistency during the alternate-heavy 2000s, the team established a more cohesive identity by 2023—rooted in both state pride and historical legacy.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gamewornguides@gmail.com . Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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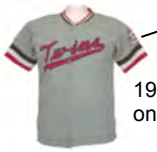
Year by Year Summary

1970-1971

1972-1973



1972 only

1974-1986

1973-1986

- While most names are in vertical arch font, some uniforms are seen lettered with tall, block-style names instead. These are often mid-season adds or restorations.

** When names on back are used, back numbers are smaller (close to 7 or 7 1/2"). With no NOB, numbers are closer to 8" or almost 8 1/2".

1987-2009

Style Continues onward

Twins Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Block 2 color	No	-	Team Shield	-	Rawlings/Spalding
1971	Home White Flannel	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road Gray Flannel	No	Block 2 color	No	-	Team Shield	-	Rawlings/Spalding
1972	Home	No	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	No	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Disc	-	Spalding
1973	Home	No	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	No		Team Shield	-	Wilson
1974	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1975	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1976	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1977	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1978	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1979	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1980	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch*	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1981	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity**	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1982	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity**	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1983	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity**	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1984	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity**	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1985	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity**	No	-	Team Shield	-	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch	No	Team Shield	-	Wilson
1986	Home	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity**	No	-	Team Shield	25th Anniversary	Wilson
	Road	Front Varsity 2 color	2 color Varsity	Tall Vertical Arch	Yes	Team Shield	25th Anniversary	Wilson
1987	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Rawlings
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1988	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Rawlings
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1989	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Rawlings
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1990	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Rawlings
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Rawlings
1991	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	Twins 30th Anniv	Rawlings
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	Twins 30th Anniv	Rawlings
1992	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1993	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1994	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	MLB 125th	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1996	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	No	-	Team "TC"	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell

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1997 only

1987-2009

1987-2009

1997-2008

2000-2009

2006-2010

2009 only

Twins Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1997	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team “TC”	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Home Red Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team “TC”	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team “TC”	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
1999	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team “TC”	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2000	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team “TC”/ CRG Mem	Twins 40th Anniv	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc/CRG Mem	Twins 40th Anniv	Russell
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team “TC”/ CRG Mem	Twins 40th Anniv	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc/CRG Mem	Twins 40th Anniv	Russell
2001	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team “TC”	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team “TC”	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	AL 100th Anniversary	Russell
2002	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2003	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Russell
2004	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	“Eloise” Memorial	Russell
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	“Eloise” Memorial	Russell
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	“Eloise” Memorial	Russell
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	“Eloise” Memorial	Russell
2005	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	40th Anniv of 1965 Champs	Majestic
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	40th Anniv of 1965 Champs	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	40th Anniv of 1965 Champs	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	40th Anniv of 1965 Champs	Majestic
2006	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	“34” Puckett Memorial	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	-	“34” Mem (rt chest)	Majestic
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	“34” Puckett Memorial	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	“34” Puckett Memorial	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	“34” Puckett Memorial	Majestic
2007	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	Herb Carneal Memorial***	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	-	Smaller Carneal Mem (rt chest)	Majestic
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	Herb Carneal Memorial***	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	Herb Carneal Memorial***	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	Herb Carneal Memorial***	Majestic
2008	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	-	-	Majestic
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Disc	-	Majestic
2009	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	Metrodome / Carl patches	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	smaller Carl patch on lft chest	-	Majestic
	Road Pinstripe	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	Yes	Team Disc	Metrodome / Carl patches	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	Yes	Team Minnesota Patch	Metrodome / Carl patches	Majestic
	Retro Home Alt (1970s)	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch	Metrodome / Carl patches	Majestic

*** Broadcaster Herb Carneal died on April 1, 2007. Team wore black armbands April 2-8, then memorial patch April 9 for the rest of the season.

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2010-2014

2010 – Listed, but was it worn?

2010-2013

Change to Flex Base

2010-2020

2010-2018

2011-2020

2015-2020

Twins Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2010	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Revised Team Minnesota Patch	Target Field Inaugural	Majestic
	Alt Home Vest	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	left chest: Smaller Target Field Inaug	-	Majestic
	Road Gray (new style)	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Disc	50 Seasons	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	Target Field Inaugural	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Revised Team Minnesota Patch	50 Seasons	Majestic
	Retro Home Alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch	50 Seasons	Majestic
2011	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	"3" Killebrew memorial	Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Disc	"3" Killebrew memorial	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	"3" Killebrew memorial	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	"3" Killebrew memorial	Majestic
	Retro Home alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch	"3" Killebrew memorial	Majestic
2012	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Home Blue Alt	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	-	Majestic
	Retro Home Alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch	-	Majestic
2013	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Home Blue Alt "Twins"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Retro Home alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch		Majestic
2014	Home	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	2014 All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Disc	2014 All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	2014 All Star Game	Majestic
	Retro Home Alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch	2014 All Star Game	Majestic
2015	Home white (new)	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	1 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Retro Home alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch		Majestic
2016	Home white	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Retro Home alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch		Majestic
	Home Red TC	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
2017	Home white	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Retro Home alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch		Majestic
	Home Red TC	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
2018	Home white	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc		Majestic
	Retro Home alt (1960s)	-	2 color Block w/serifs	-	-	Old style Twins patch		Majestic
	Home Red TC	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch		Majestic
2019	Home white	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Home Blue Twins script	-	3 color Block w/serifs	3 color block	-	TC patch	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Home Red TC	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home white	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	60th Anniversary	Nike
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	60th Anniversary	Nike
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	60th Anniversary	Nike
	Home Blue Twins script	-	3 color Block w/serifs	3 color block	-	TC patch	60th Anniversary	Nike
	Alternate Powder Blue Nostalgia	2 color Varsity	2 color Varsity	2 color block	-	Old style Twins patch	60th Anniversary	Nike
	Home Red TC	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	60th Anniversary	Nike

2016-2020

2019-2020

2020

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These six styles continue from previous years

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Twins Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home white	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	Mike Bell memorial	Nike
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	Mike Bell memorial	Nike
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	Mike Bell memorial	Nike
	Home Blue Twins script	-	3 color Block w/serifs	3 color block	-	TC patch	Mike Bell memorial	Nike
	Alternate Powder Blue Nostalgia	2 color Varsity	2 color Varsity	2 color block	-	Old style Twins patch	Mike Bell memorial	Nike
	Home Red TC	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	Mike Bell memorial	Nike
2022	Home white	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Nike
	Road Gray	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Road Blue Alt "Minnesota"	2 color Front Block w/Serifs	2 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Disc	-	Nike
	Home Blue Twins script	-	3 color Block w/serifs	3 color block	-	TC patch	-	Nike
	Alternate Powder Blue Nostalgia	2 color Varsity	2 color Varsity	2 color block	-	Old style Twins patch	-	Nike
	Home Red TC	-	3 color Block w/serifs	2 color block	No	Team Minnesota Patch	-	Nike
2023	Home white	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Minnesota silhouette	-	Nike
	Road gray pinstripe	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Minnesota silhouette	-	Nike
	Cream Alternate "Twin Cities"	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Crossed flags	-	Nike
	Blue Alt "Minnesota"	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Red/white TC	-	Nike
2024	Home white	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Minnesota silhouette‡	-	Nike
	Road gray pinstripe	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Minnesota silhouette‡	-	Nike
	Cream Alternate "Twin Cities"	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Crossed flags‡	-	Nike
	Blue Alt "Minnesota"	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Red/white TC‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 3 color	No	Loon patch‡	-	Nike
2025	Home white	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Minnesota silhouette‡	-	Nike
	Road gray pinstripe	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Minnesota silhouette‡	-	Nike
	Cream Alternate "Twin Cities"	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Crossed flags‡	-	Nike
	Blue Alt "Minnesota"	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	Twins font 1 color	No	Red/white TC‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	No	Custom 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 3 color	No	Loon patch‡	-	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

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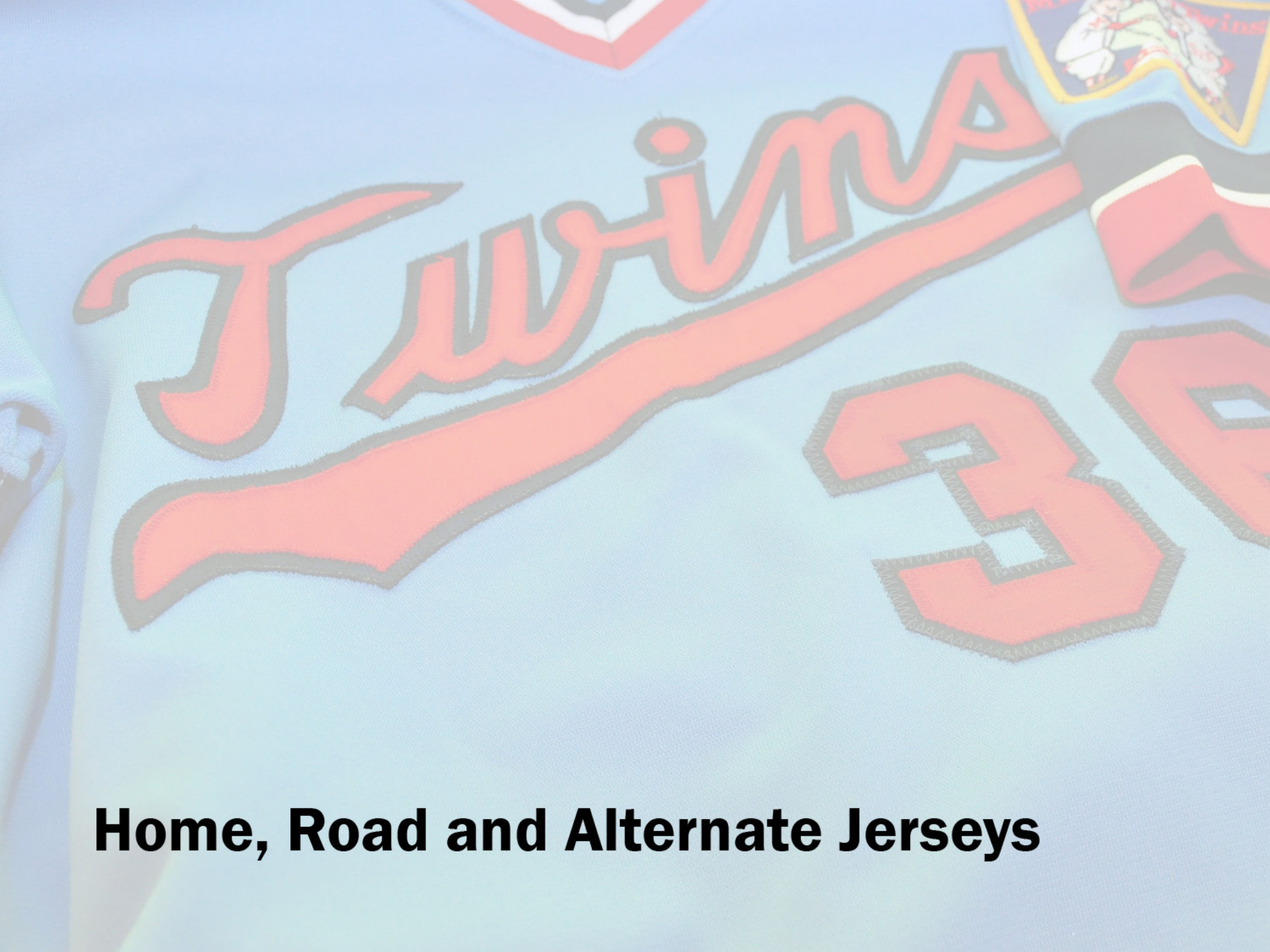
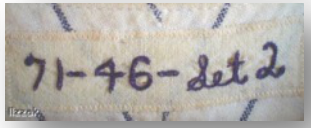


Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970-1971 Home



- The 1961–1971 flannel home uniform is very traditional: navy pinstripes "*a la* New York Yankees" with bold navy outlined with red Varsity numbers on the back. Varsity is used by Wilson as its standard team font, and it is interesting that the road jerseys of the same vintage use a different number font because they are made by Rawlings and Spalding.
- "Twins" script appears on the front with an underline tail, also rendered in navy with a red outline.
- The classic left sleeve patch is in the shape of a shield and features the team's mascots, "Minnie and Paul" shaking hands across the Mississippi River.

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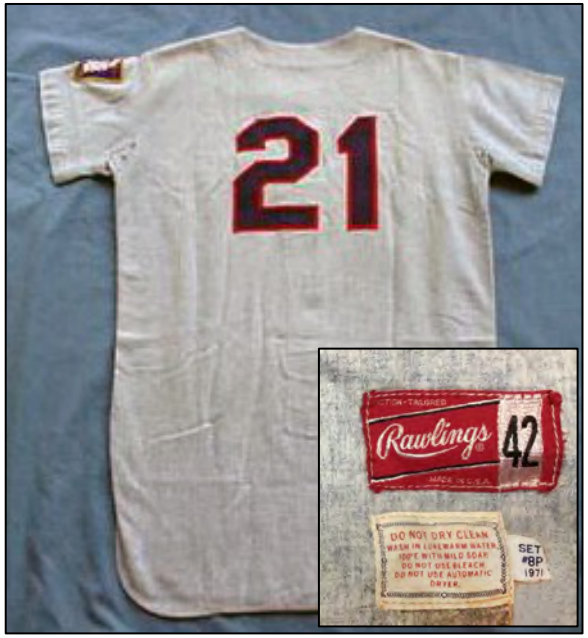
1970-1971 Road



- The Twins flannel road uniforms of 1961–1971 mirrored the home pin-striped versions, aside from fabric color.
- The button-front gray flannel design exemplified simplicity. It had no trim or ornamentation, apart from the team patch on the left sleeve.
- The back numbers used Block font, in contrast to the Wilson-made home jerseys, which featured the company's standard Varsity font. For example, notice the lack of "feet" (or serifs) on the numeral "1" ***(top center).***

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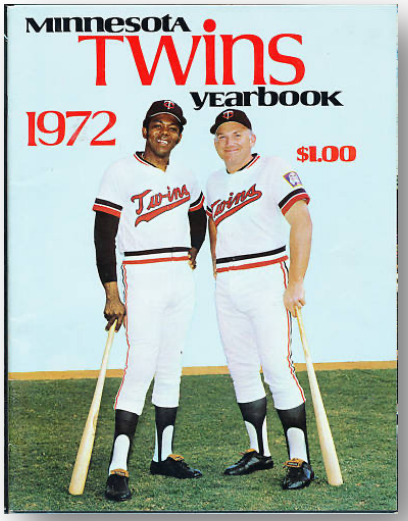
1972-1973 Home

1972

1972 marked the debut of the Twins' first knit jersey. It is a button-front white double knit with wide knit sleeve trim. The lettering colors were reversed from 1971—now red with a navy outline. There are no numbers on the front and no player names on back.

1972

Old photos show that these jerseys lived on to be used and abused in Spring Training at least a couple more years. Examples that survive today typically exhibit heavy wear.



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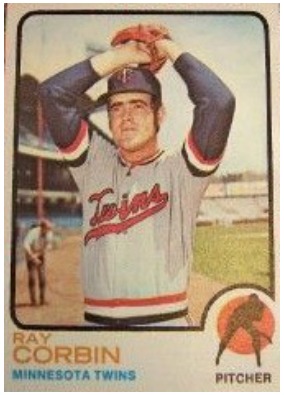
1972 Road



The Twins' double-knit era has begun! This one-year-only style is a button-front design in medium/dark gray, with wide red/white/blue knit sleeve-end trim.

Road jerseys are made by Spalding—note the wide sleeve-end trim (different from the Wilson home jerseys) and flat-hemmed shirt tail, characteristic of Spalding. There are no numbers on the front, no names on back. Back numbers used a two-color Varsity style—red outlined in navy—matching the home jersey for the first time. The sleeve featured what might be baseball's ugliest patch ever (apologies for the editorial). Old photos show that these jerseys lived on in Spring Training for several more years.

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1974-1986 Home

1974

For 1974, the 1972–1973 button-down home jersey is transferred to a pullover format, now with a front number added. Numbers are two-color, red/navy blue in Varsity style.

No names on back 1974–1976. Names on back added 1977–1980. Extra-tall vertical arch font (4 ¼") for the one-color, red names, with no nameplate used. No name on back again from 1981–1986.

Notice that the height of the numbers changes with the addition of player names. With names they are 7½" tall, without names they are slightly more than 8" tall.

1976

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1974-1986 Home, continued

1980

Bill Henderson Collection

1986

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1973-1986 Road

1973

Bill Henderson Collection

1983

Steve Kraljic Collection

1986

For 1973, the road jersey changes to a powder blue pullover. Numbers are two-color, red/navy blue in Varsity style. Numbers on back and on front left. Back numbers 7 ½" tall, front numbers 4 ¼" tall. Without NOB, back numbers are 8–8 ½" tall.

No name on back 1973–1976. Player names first appear in 1977. Names on back are in an extra tall, thin vertical arch font (4¼") in single-color red. Some, like in the example shown ***(top right)***, featured names in a non-vertical arch font—likely mid-season acquisitions or incorrect restorations. Nameplates were not used until approximately 1985, and were definitively added by 1986.

All Twins jerseys from 1972–1986 were heavily recycled in the minor leagues. The Twins typically covered the name with a blank nameplate rather than removing it. Game-worn examples often reveal this practice by showing less sun-fading beneath the blank nameplate.

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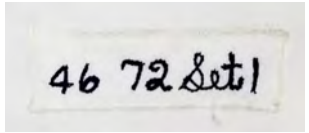
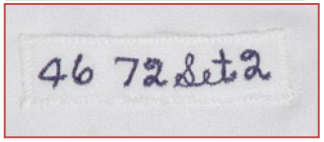
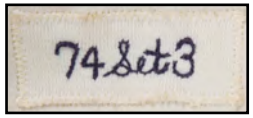
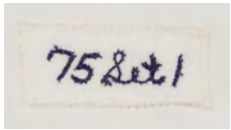
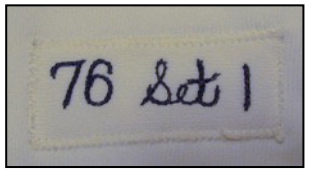
1972-1986 Twins Team Tagging

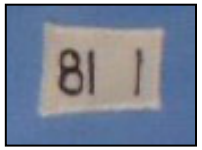


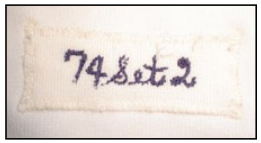


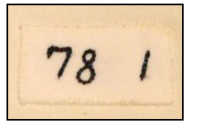


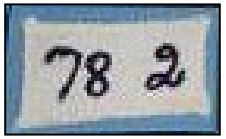


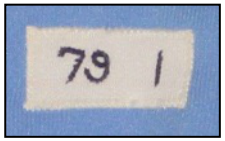


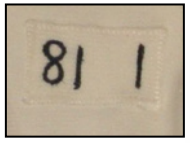


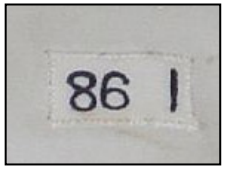


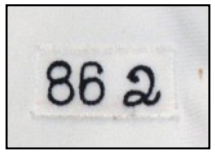


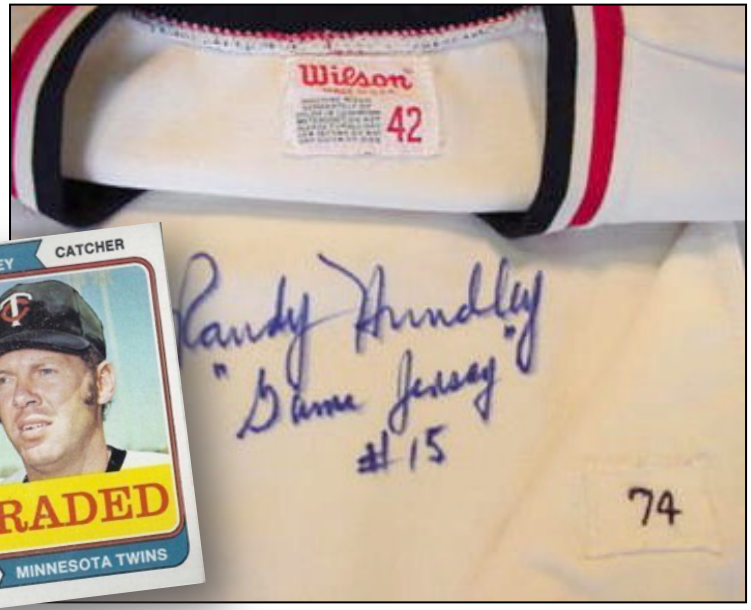


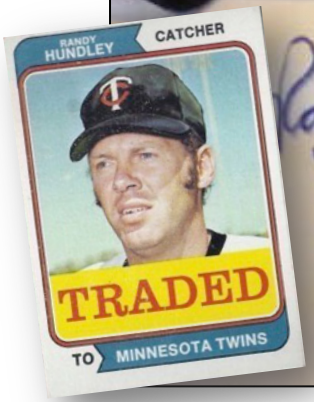












Note that a couple of these set tags confirm the existence of an annual 'Set 3' for Twins uniforms—an uncommon practice, particularly for a low-budget team like the Twins. Most teams typically issued only two uniform sets per season. Wilson jerseys used exclusively 1973–1986.

The two larger photographs illustrate differences in year tagging between a pair of 1974 home jerseys. ***Right:*** *This one without the set number or name in collar may have been a spare from the start of the season, issued to the player after the season began. This is highly likely, given that Randy Hundley played only 32 games for the Twins in 1974 coming off of injuries with the Cubs the prior year (see his 1974 Topps Traded card here, with bad cap airbrushing).*

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1987-2009 Home

1987

Button-front returns after a 13-year absence, now featuring navy pin-stripes, and an updated Twins script wordmark.

Two-color numbers on back and on left front, red/navy blue. Numbers are now Block with Serifs, replacing the Varsity style previously used. Front numbers are “Front Block w/Serifs Variant”. No names on back 1987-1996. Names added in 1997–2009, one-color navy blue. Nameplates used, even though they look odd on pinstriped jerseys.

Twins team “TC” patch on sleeve 1987–2001, then Minnesota-shaped team patch used 2002–2009.

1987–2001

2002–2009

1992

© GameWornGuides.com

1987-2009 Home, continued

Bill Henderson Collection

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1987-2009 Home, continued

Kent Hrbek (L) and Tom Brunansky model the Twins' new uniforms.

Left: From the Twins' 1987 yearbook: two star players model the new uniforms, illustrating how styles have changed since then. Uniforms today have evolved from super-tight cuts to looser, baggier silhouettes.

Below: impressive retrospective display of Twins uniforms since the beginning at "Twins Fest 2007."

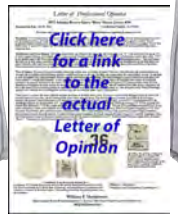
© GameWornGuides.com

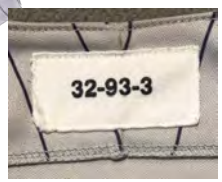
1987-2009 Road

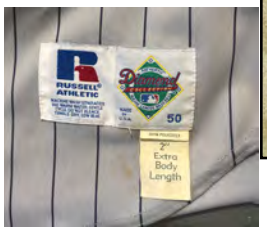
1987

- Road jersey returns to a button-front design, now gray with navy pinstripes. 'Minnesota' vertically arched across the chest in block letters
- Two-color numbers on back and left front, red/navy/blue. Numbers are now "Block with Serifs" a change from the Varsity numbers used through 1986. Front numbers are Front Block w/Serifs Variant.
- One-color navy blue NOBs used consistently throughout this era, on nameplates.
- Twins team disc patch on sleeve in all years.

1993







1991 game worn example with World Series patch

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1987-2009 Road, continued

1998

2000

2006

2008

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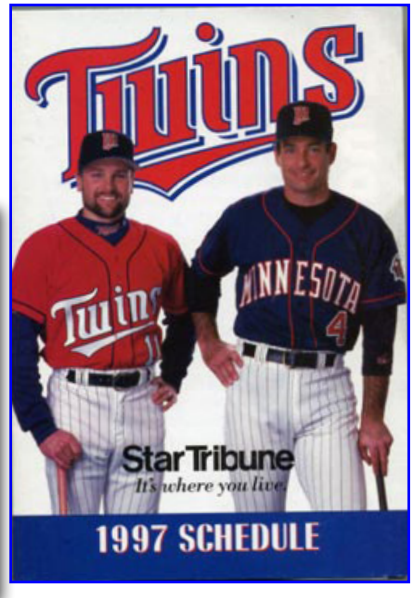
1997 Alternate Home

An eagle eye might notice errors on the Klingenbeck ***(left)*** and Durant jersey ***(bottom right)***: the "S" in Twins is sewn upside down compared to the correct Meares example ***(top right).***



This jersey was derisively nicknamed the 'Dairy Queen' jersey by ESPN announcers due to its resemblance to the red-and-white advertising signs behind home plate. It was worn only twice—on April 6 and 27—before being retired. Two-color name and numbers, white/navy. Name on a plate. Because it was used in 1997 only, this jersey should always have the Jackie Robinson "Breaking Barriers" patch on the right sleeve.

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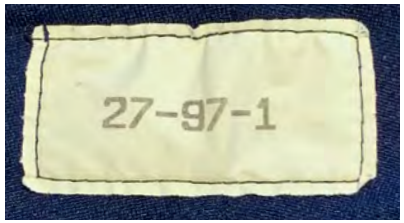
1997-2008 Alternate Road

1997



- Navy blue jersey with two-color "Minnesota" vertically arched on front.
- The two-color front numbers were red over white—reversed from the later home blue alternate. The back numbers used the same red/white combination..
- Name on back is two-color, white/red. Nameplate is used.
- Twins disc logo patch used on left sleeve.
- This style was the Twins' first Cool Base style jersey introduced in 2006. It is retired after the 2008 season.

2000

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1997-2008 Alternate Road, continued

2004

2006

2006

2008

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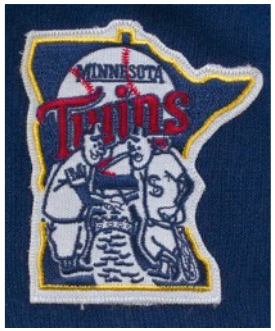
2000-2005 Alternate Home/2006-2009 Alternate Home Blue

Left: 'TC' sleeve patch (2000–2001)

Right: Minnesota state sleeve patch (2002–2009)



- Navy blue jersey featuring the 'Twins' script with an underline tail across the front.
- Note that two-color number on front (white/red) is different from the back (red/white), and different from the 1997–2008 alternate road jersey.
- Two-color number on back—red/white, two-color name—white/red. Nameplates used.

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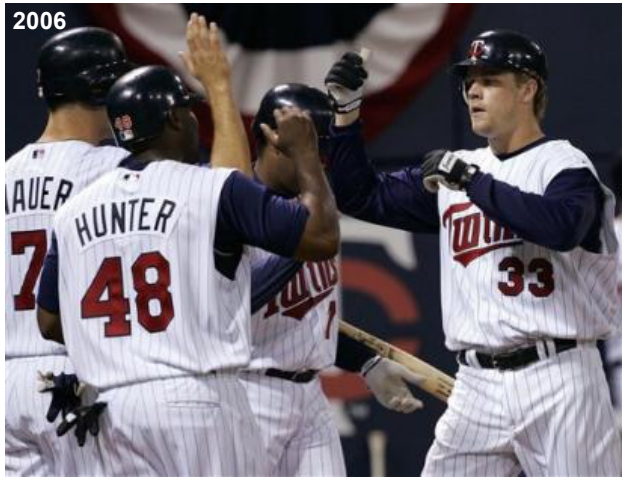
2006-2009 Alternate Home Vest



The white pinstripe alternate vest is introduced in 2006 and worn at home. It is lettered identically to the home jersey. Plain white nameplates are used with one-color, navy blue Block-style names. Numbers are two-color Block with Serifs.

Players wear a plain navy blue undershirt with the sleeveless vest. No team patches are sewn onto the undershirt.

Each year of this style has a different chest patch treatment. The 2006 “34” Kirby Puckett memorial patch is worn on the upper right chest that year. The 2007 ‘Herb’ patch is also worn on the upper right chest, though the vest patch version is slightly smaller than the version used on other jerseys. There is no patch in 2008. In 2009, the “Carl” patch is used, but on the upper left chest, opposite the 2006 and 2007 patch placement

The vest was worn four times in 2006—all of them losses—and was branded ‘unlucky’ by the team. It was then worn only once in 2007 in the first game of a double header on August 31. In 2008, when Livan Hernandez joined the team, he preferred it and the team wore it several times when he pitched. Under Hernandez’s influence, Francisco Liriano also chose the vest for the team to wear during several of his starts. It was worn for a handful of games in the first half of the 2009 season, and seems to have disappeared after.

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2006-2009 Alternate Home Vest, continued

2008

2008

2009

2009

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2009 Alternate Home Retro

4ALS awareness chest patch worn league-wide on July 4, 2009

The 2009 Alternate #3 (as it is called by the Twins) is meant to recall 1982, the team's first year in the Metrodome, which closed after the 2009 season.

It is not an exact copy of any prior year's jersey. It features a button-front design similar to the 1972–1973 home model, with the 1972–1986 style script and sleeve patch, but it incorporates the Block with Serifs player numbers used from 1987–2009. The sleeve end and collar trim are narrower than that used 1972–1986

These retro-style alternate 'mashup' jerseys did not include names on the back.

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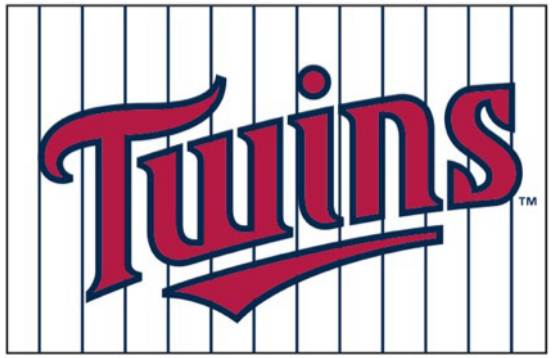
2010-2014 Home

For 2010, the Twins tweaked their home wordmark so subtly that it likely would have gone unnoticed without announcement.. The old and new logo are shown side by side below. Corners are rounded off, and this allows the letters to be spaced more closely.

Player names are now direct sewn, eliminating the nameplates. Pinstripes and nameplates are a bad combination making this a long-overdue and welcome aesthetic improvement. Yellow-bordered state of Minnesota patch continues on the left sleeve.

1987–2009

2010–2014



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2010-2022 Road

2016: Player name on back adds a red outline.

After a 23-year run, the gray pinstriped 'Minnesota' road jersey was retired for the 2010 season. It was replaced with a solid gray road jersey featuring a more flowing, cursive 'Minnesota' script—similar to the retro-style script used on the team's alternate uniform. All lettering is navy and red in combination, except the direct-sewn NOB which is solid navy. A new team sleeve patch disc is introduced for road uniforms, worn on the left sleeve. It is the team's new primary logo. Navy/red/navy knit trim on the very ends of the sleeves and around the neck.

For 2016: The team adds a red outline to the player name on back.

Photos: Jeff Barak/Minnesota Twins

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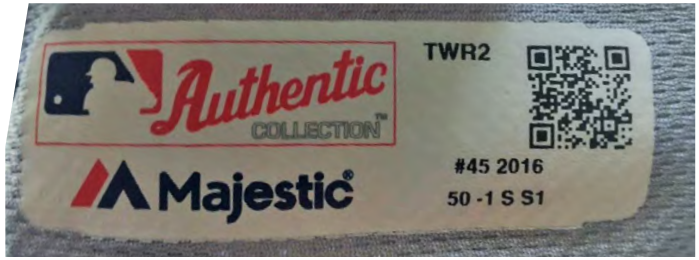
2010-2022 Road, continued

2016



2020

Note the style code change from TWR2 on the Majestic jersey to MT22 on the Nike version of the same jersey.

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2010-2018 Alternate Home 1960s Style

2011

2010

Jeff Barak/Minnesota Twins photo

- To mark the first year in their new stadium, Target Field, the Twins roll out a throwback button-front alternate based on their 1961 uniform, to be worn on opening day and then for every Saturday home game.
- It is made of a convincing cream-colored, full weight knit pinstriped fabric designed to mimic the old flannels. It is, in every way, a Turn Back the Clock replica of the original 1960s Minnesota Twins home uniform, down to the keystone-shaped sleeve patch featuring Minnie and Paul shaking hands across the Mississippi River. By 2014, the jerseys transitioned to Cool Base, followed by Flex Base in 2016.
- All lettering in navy over red, Block with Serifs numbers on back, no player NOB used. No one asked for my rating, but I give this one an A+.
- **May 16, 2011**: When former slugger and Twins hero Harmon Killebrew entered hospice care and was near death, the Twins announced that they would wear this uniform for all remaining 2011 home games in his honor. Note that this meant that neither the standard home whites nor the home blue alternates would be worn on-field with the #3 Killebrew patch, though it was still added to those sets as a precaution.

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2010-2018 Alternate Home 1960s Style, continued

2013

2016

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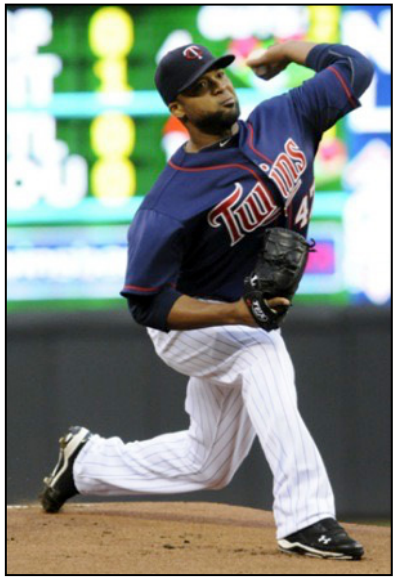
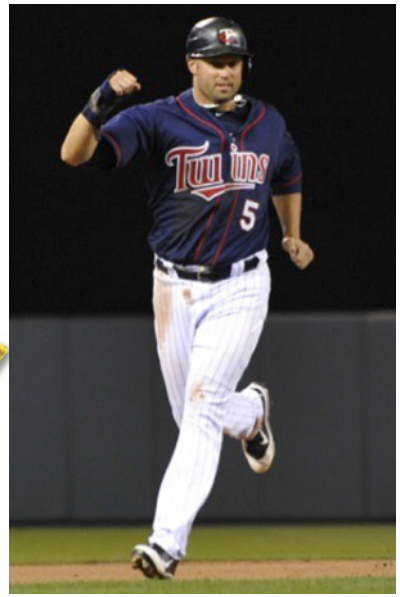
2010-2013 Alternate Home Blue

2010





The subtle revision to the front wordmark was carried over to the home alternate jersey as well. No nameplates were used. All other elements remained unchanged from 2009. Front numbers and player name on back remain white outlined with red; back numbers are red outlined with white. This jersey style is retired after the 2013 season.

Example of representative tagging (not from the jersey pictured)

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2011-2013, 2016-2022 Alternate Road/2014-2015 Alternate Blue

Bill Henderson Collection

The 2011 alternate road jersey combined the new-for-2010 road wordmark style (rendered here in red and white) with the blue body of the home alternate jersey, including its narrow red knit trim on the sleeve ends and placket. It also featured the road jersey's Twins disc patch on the left sleeve.

Just like the home alternate jersey, front numbers are Front Block with Serifs white over red, back numbers are Block with Serifs red over white, names are direct sewn white over red.

After the retirement of the alternate home blue jersey following 2013, this jersey served as both a home and road alternate during the 2014–2015 seasons. In 2016, it reverted to exclusive road alternate use with the debut of a new red home alternate.

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2011-2013, 2016-2022 Alternate Road/2014-2015 Alternate Blue, continued

2018

2022

Note the style code change from TWAB on the Majestic jersey to MT3B on the Nike version of the same jersey.

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2015-2022 Home

Just weeks after the end of the 2014 season, the Twins showcased a new primary home uniform for 2015. The Twins' prior home pinstriped jersey was one of the longest-running designs in MLB, having been introduced in 1987 and lasting 28 seasons with minimal changes.

The new jersey retained the same basic wordmark as the old, but with red and navy reversed, making navy the primary color as it had been prior to 1972. A gold drop shadow is added to the front wordmark and Varsity back numbers; Block player NOB is two-color navy/red without the shadow. There is no number on the front of the new design.

The state of Minnesota patch continues on the left sleeve, and navy/gold/red knit trim adorns the very edges of the collar and sleeves.

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2015-2022 Home, continued

2017

2020

Note the style code change from TWHH on the Majestic jersey to MT1H on the Nike version of the same jersey.

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2016-2022 Alternate Home Red

Almost two decades after the "Dairy Queen" red jerseys that were retired after only two games, the Twins introduce a new red alternate into their rotation. The Majestic Flex Base jersey has the team's "TC" logo on front, with a white "T" and blue "C," all outlined in gold. Player names in blue/white Block. Block with Serifs numbers in blue/white/gold drop shadow. The team's Minnesota-shaped patch resides on the left sleeve, while blue/gold/red braid encircles the neck and sleeve openings. The 2019 style has the MLB150 patch on the right sleeve, while the 2020 version had the team's 60th anniversary patch there. Majestic made these jerseys through 2019 with MTAA as the inventory tag code, Nike took over in 2020 and used MT3A as the code.

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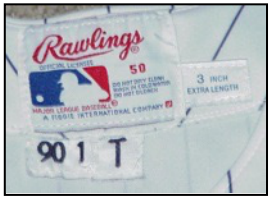
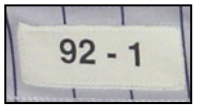
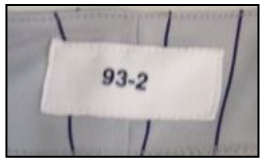
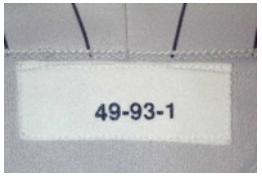
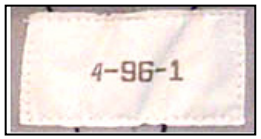
1987-2010 Twins Team Tagging

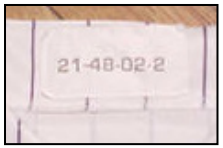












During this period, the Twins used three uniform manufacturers. Through 1999, team tags were placed inside the collar. Beginning 2000, they were typically sewn outside of the shirt tail.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of prior years.

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2019-2022 Alternate Home Blue

The Twins replace their retro-inspired home alternates with this navy jersey that prominently features gold for 2019. This entry has the team's retro script on front, and Block back names and Block with Serifs back numbers in red/blue/gold. Unlike the home and red alternate jerseys—where gold appears as a drop shadow—on this jersey gold is used as a standard outline. Blue/gold/red trim encircles the neck and sleeve openings. The team's "TC" patch is on the left sleeve, also now outlined in gold, while for 2019, the MLB150 patch is on the right.

Top left: Example shown includes the Joe Mauer retirement patch, which was worn only on June 15, 2019.

The 2019 version was made by Majestic, Nike took over as manufacturer from 2020–2022.

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2020-2022 Alternate Home Powder Blue

Like many teams that wore powder blue road jerseys in the past—the Twins last did so in 1986—they reintroduced the color in 2020 as a new alternate home jersey. This version leans toward a lightly updated throwback rather than a completely new design, as seen with some other teams. Very similar to their 1973–1986 road jersey but now a button-front, not a pullover, this jersey, made by Nike in their version of Majestic's Flex Base, features red/navy throwback team script and front and back numbers, which replicate the Giants' bold, wide Varsity used from 2000–2012. Player names appear on back in red. A team shield patch, like the one used up until 1986, adorns the left sleeve. Red/white/blue knit trim is sewn into the sleeve ends, while braid in the same colors surrounds the neck opening. The 2020 version has the team's 60 Seasons patch on the right sleeve. The 2021 issue has the "MB" memorial on the right sleeve. This jersey was worn once for a road game, April 16, 2021.

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2023 Home

After many years of wearing a mismatched collection of uniform designs, the Twins began fresh in 2023 with a clean slate. Made by Nike, the home jersey borders on minimalist: a white design featuring the familiar “Twins” script—with a separate underline beneath “WIN”—in red, above a custom-font blue front number. The number font repeats on back in red, under a blue player name in the same type style. Sleeve ends are adorned with wide red/white/blue trim, and the left sleeve sports a navy blue patch in the shape of Minnesota with a red star where the Twin Cities are located.

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2023 Road

The Twins' 2023 road set, made by Nike, is a gray base jersey with darker gray pinstripes. "Minnesota" is arched across the front blue in the team's new custom block font, just above a red player number on front left in the same font. The number font repeats on back in red, under a blue player name in the same type style. Like the home jersey, the sleeve ends are adorned with wide red/white/blue trim, and the left sleeve sports a navy blue patch in the shape of Minnesota with a red star where the Twin Cities are located.

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2023 Alternate Home

If the Twins' new 2023 set is simple, then the home alternate is the plainest of the bunch. This cream-colored Nike jersey features "Twin Cities" spelled out in blue script across the front, evoking more of a City Connect feel than a traditional alternate. A detached, blue underline resides under the script, as does a blue player number in the new custom font. On the back, the player name and number—both in the custom font—are rendered in single-color blue. Both sleeves are encircled with a wide white/blue braid (with the white nearly invisible against the cream fabric), while the left sleeve bears a blue and white patch featuring two crossed flags—one with an "M" and the other with "STP," representing Minneapolis and St. Paul.

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2023 Alternate Navy

The Twins' 2023 navy alternate jersey, made by Nike, is designed for use both at home and on the road. The base jersey is a dark blue, with "Minnesota" arched across the front in white in the team's new custom block font, just above a red player number on front left in the same font. The number font repeats on back in white, under a red player name in the same type style. Like the home jersey, sleeve ends are adorned with wide red/white/blue trim. The left sleeve of this jersey sports a new take on the team's classic "TC" ligature.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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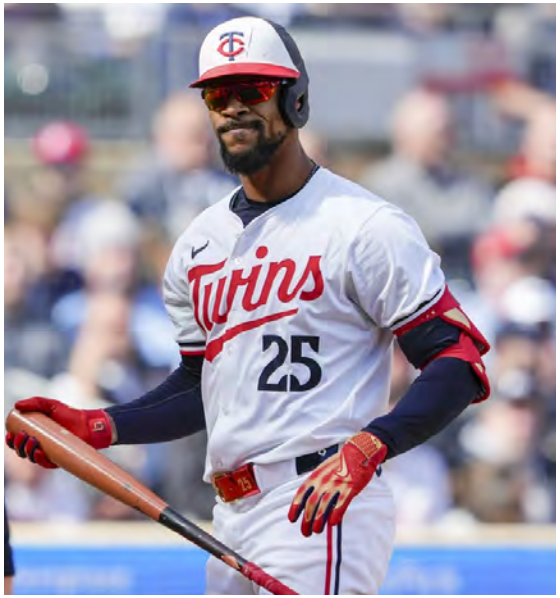
2024 Home



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Twins' year-old home jersey. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Twins already had small player name lettering on this style, so the change is more evident in the new arch than the size. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Twins" script now breaks in a slightly different place, though it looks like the "W" is wider than before to accommodate the change. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the sleeves rather than sewn on to them. This often makes trim appear wider, but this style had fairly wide trim before, so it appears about the same. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Given the relatively minor changes, it is possible the team had the new template in mind when designing the 2023 revision to its jerseys, perhaps with the expectation that VPE would be in use by then. If so, it is likely that a VPE design was actually imposed on a Flex Base template for 2023, rather than the other way around.

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2024 Road

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Twins year-old road jersey. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Twins already had small player name lettering on this style, so the change is more evident in the new arch than the size. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "Minnesota" lettering splits in the same place. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the sleeves rather than sewn on to them. This often makes trim appear wider, but this style had fairly wide trim before, so it appears about the same. It is unclear if the team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024, more research is required. Given the relatively minor changes, it is possible the team had the new template in mind when designing the 2023 revision to its jerseys, perhaps with the expectation that VPE would be in use by then. If so, it is likely that a VPE design was actually imposed on a Flex Base template for 2023, rather than the other way around.

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2024 Alternate Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Twins year-old home alternate jersey. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Twins already had small player name lettering on this style, so the change is more evident in the new arch than the size. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "Twin Cities" script splits in the same place. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the sleeves rather than sewn on to them. This often makes trim appear wider, but this style had fairly wide trim before, so it appears about the same. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Given the relatively minor changes, it is possible the team had the new template in mind when designing the 2023 revision to its jerseys, perhaps with the expectation that VPE would be in use by then. If so, it is likely that a VPE design was actually imposed on a Flex Base template for 2023, rather than the other way around.

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2024 Alternate Navy

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the Twins year-old navy alternate jersey. For most teams, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Twins already had small player name lettering on this style, so the change is more evident in the new arch than the size. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the "Minnesota" lettering splits in the same place. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the sleeves rather than sewn on to them. This often makes trim appear wider, but this style had fairly wide trim before, so it appears about the same. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Given the relatively minor changes, it is possible the team had the new template in mind when designing the 2023 revision to its jerseys, perhaps with the expectation that VPE would be in use by then. If so, it is likely that a VPE design was actually imposed on a Flex Base template for 2023, rather than the other way around.

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2024-2025 City Connect

Minnesota is the land of 10,000 lakes, and the Twins lean into this with their City Connect uniforms, launched in 2024. Other design elements, according to MLB's press release, include:

- The Ripple Pattern: With a fluid pattern that shines and shimmers like reflections off the water, the jersey ripples with every move.
- MN Logo: The curves of each letter flow together like waves, uniting the "MN" just as our lakes and rivers link communities across our state. At the top is a beacon for Minnesota and the Twins: The North Star.
- Sleeve Patch: Upon the sunset waters of our 10,000 lakes flies Minnesota's state bird – the loon. The body, a single raindrop – when it touches down, a ripple. The eyes, the stitches of a baseball. The beak, the North Star.
- Jock Tag: "10,000 Lakes" in the Twins' custom Nike City Connect font mimics the movement of waves.
- Heat-pressed collar mark: The state mark sits upon the inside neckline, a symbol of the Twins' everlasting connection to our home.

This style premiered on Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, and features its hallmarks including sewn-in neck and collar trim, a narrow placket, and perforated numbers. Carryover City Connect jerseys are not updated in 2025, despite the updates to the team's other jerseys for the 2025 season.

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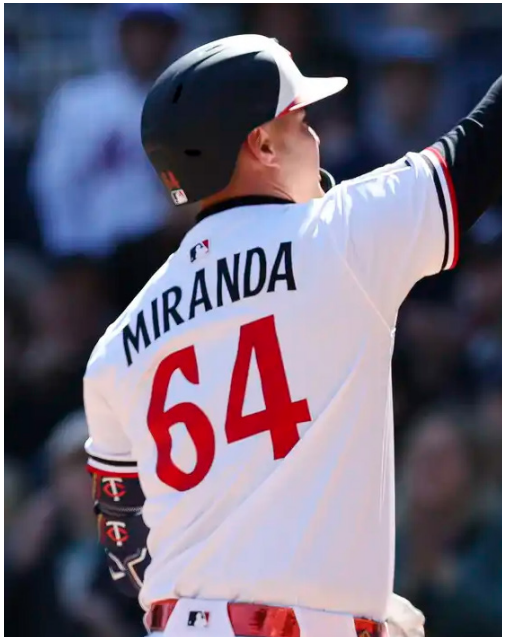
2025 Home



The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Twins player name lettering appears as if it may be larger than it was in 2023, and certainly bigger than 2024. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025, though the Twins kept theirs all along. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Note that this jersey also uses Nike's new-for-2025 white jock tag. A handful of jerseys across the league use this new tag.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of time (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. The Twins road jerseys never had this neck trim to begin with in 2024, as pinstriped jerseys lacked this feature unless the trim was used in a contrasting color. The Twins player name lettering appears as if it may be larger than it was in 2023, and certainly bigger than 2024. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025, though the Twins kept theirs all along. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Twins player name lettering appears as if it may be larger than it was in 2023, and certainly bigger than 2024. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025, though the Twins kept theirs all along. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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2025 Alternate Navy

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Twins player name lettering appears as if it may be larger than it was in 2023, and certainly bigger than 2024. For teams that ditched custom name and number fonts for league-wide standardization, the 2023 team fonts return for 2025, though the Twins kept theirs all along. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches.

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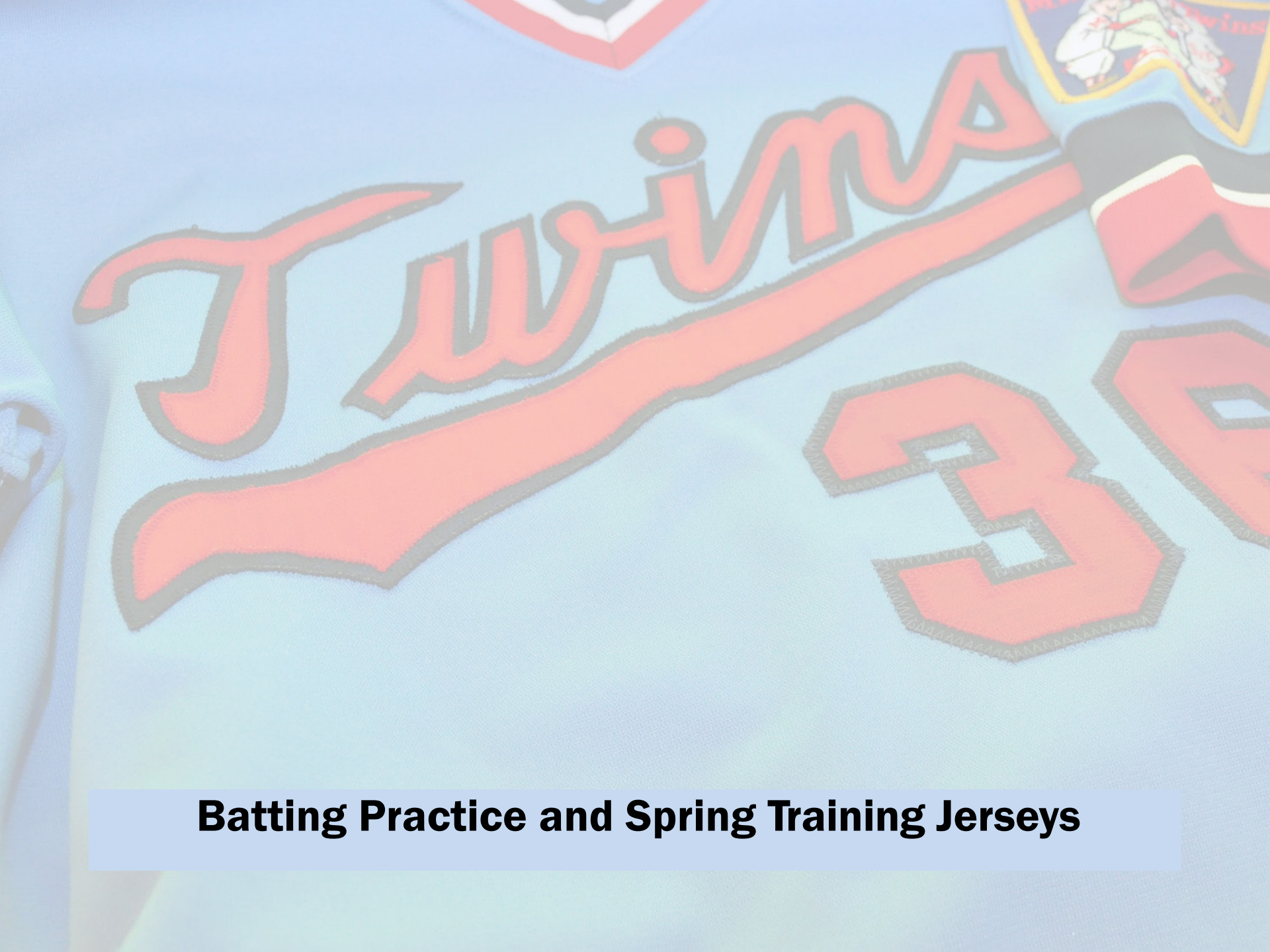
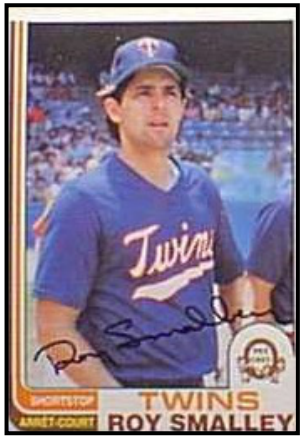


Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1981-1984 Batting Practice



It looks like the wearer hacked the sleeves off of this example for comfort.

- The Twins' first batting practice jersey is a V-neck made of thin, solid (non-mesh) navy blue fabric. There is no trim on the sleeves or neck, and it has an elastic waist band.
- The Twins lettering has a wide tail, and all lettering and numbers are heat-pressed on (not sewn). This jersey is made by Sand-Knit, and not surprisingly uses Sand-Knit-style Varsity numbers.

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Early 1980s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Made by Majestic. We'll call this a jersey rather than a jacket, as these early Twins warm-up jerseys were made of solid fabric, like those shown on the prior page. The presence of a player number on the back is the main criterion we use to classify it as a "jersey." It features sewn-on twill team script on the front. Yes, the "tail" under the word "Twins" is a little long, but this was the early 80s, and details like that seemed to matter little, especially on warm-up equipment. One example here even includes a sleeve number. It is very difficult to determine whether these jerseys are original or modified.

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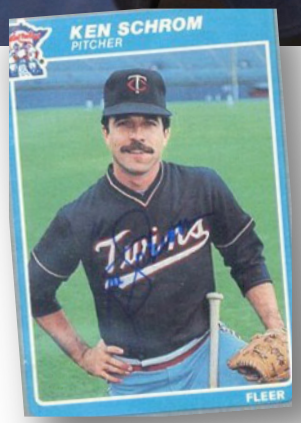
1985-1986 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection



This style used navy blue mesh, thin red/white knit trim at neck and on the sleeve ends, narrow tail under the wordmark, with all sewn-on lettering.

The photo on the left is from a 1985 card, and the style of the jersey is the same as the Majestic example above with sewn-on lettering.

Majestic Varsity numbers on back only, two-color white/red.

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1987-2002 Batting Practice (Two-Color Wordmark)

Identify by two-color Twins lettering, red/white. Two-color numbers on the back only, red/white. No names used. “TC” logo added to sleeve in later years. 1987–1991 made by Rawlings, 1992–2002 made by Russell and Majestic.

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1987-2002 Batting Practice (Three-Color Wordmark)

- This style has three-color “Twins” wordmark red/blue/white.
- Two- and sometimes three-color numbers are used on the back only. Numbers are Block with Serifs similar to the game jersey, in either red/blue/white or simply in red/white.
- No player NOB used.
- Note the team “TC” patch on the 2001 example ***(left)***.
- This variation seems to be less common than the version shown on the previous page. They may have been used in different years, but we have examples of both styles with common year tagging, suggesting they were used concurrently.

Top row: *The 2001 example has three-color front lettering but two-color numbers on the back.* ***Bottom row:*** *The 1994 example has three-color back numbers that match the three-color script on the front.*

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2003-2005 Batting Practice

- Softer, non-mesh “tech” fabric.
- Button-front design, two-color Twins script on front. There is a very thin blue outline sandwiched between the red and white.
- No names on back.
- Red and white TC logo on the left sleeve.
- These jerseys are seen in two configurations: ***Left:*** two-color numbers; ***Above:*** three-color numbers. I have been told that the three-color numbered jerseys are from the second half of 2005 only, but I have not been able to confirm that definitively.
- The Twins wore these in a game on July 6, 2005 vs. Anaheim, likely because of the very hot weather. The Twins would not wear a batting practice jersey in a regular season game again until 2014.

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2006 Batting Practice

- For 2006, the Twins put the “TC” cap logo on the front of batting practice jerseys, replacing the basic Twins script design that had been used without much alteration for the past 35 years. This is a one-year style.
- The “TC” patch was simultaneously removed from the sleeve.
- The 2006 jersey is made by Majestic and is a soft performance fabric said to wick moisture away from players’ skin. This fabric pulls easily and fades quickly as well. Red piping is part of the shoulder top seams. Numbers on back in two-color Block with Serifs, red/white.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

Cool Base fabric is used to construct this batting practice jersey. It is very lightweight and sheer.

All logos and numbers are heat-pressed onto the jersey, and are no longer the sewn, layered tackle twill that had been used in the past.

Numbers are Block with Serifs, two-color red/white.

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2011-2013 Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection

The 2011, the Twins Cool Base batting practice jersey changes to a button-front style from the previous pullover design. Twill lettering returns.

The same “TC” logo appears on the front left chest.

Block with serifs two-color (red/white) numbers on back only.

Solid red side panels replaced the navy/red panels used in the previous style.

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2014-2016 Home Batting Practice

All MLB teams had their batting practice jerseys redesigned by Majestic for the 2014 season as part of what was intended to be an ongoing three-year cycle. The Twins' new BP jersey returns to the team script on the front, in white outlined with red. A strip of red trim is used on sleeve ends and around the collar, and the jersey is solid navy, eliminating the contrasting red side panels that had been used going back to 2007.

Block with Serifs numbers in the same colors are sewn on both back and left front; the first time front numbers are used on Twins BP jerseys. No player NOB is used.

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2014-2016 Road Batting Practice

For the first time, the Twins introduce a road batting practice jersey to their uniform collection. Red-bodied jerseys feature contrasting navy underarm panels, and the team “Minnesota” script with underline on the front in navy outlined with white. A strip of navy trim is used around the collar and on the sleeve ends. Block with Serif numbers are used front and back in the same colors as the front script, and no player NOB is used.

These were worn a few times as regular season game jerseys as well, including August 1, 2014 and August 7–8, 2015 (all road games).

Bill Henderson Collection

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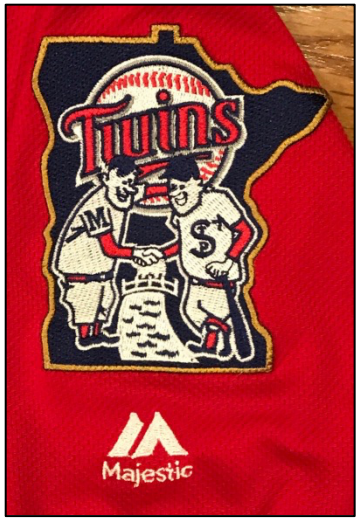
Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training Home

Rick Ogata Collection



For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, forming the main twill layer used by every team. The Twins use their new red alternate from the regular season as a basis for their Spring Training home jersey. The back numbers are blue patterned twill/white/gold drop shadow. The name on back is blue patterned twill/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Twins spend Spring Training.

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2016 Spring Training Road

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, forming the main twill layer for every team. The Twins use their regular season blue alternate road jersey as the basis for their Spring Training road version. The back numbers are red patterned twill/white. The name on back is white patterned twill/red. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve styled like an Interstate highway sign and reading "2016" and "FL" to represent the Twins' Spring Training location.

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2017 Spring Training Home

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with minor design updates. As in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game template and uses special printed twill, now decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. Unlike the prior year’s team-specific versions, all clubs now use a standard twill: white with gray printing.

The Twins again wear red jerseys for home games. Names and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey also features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve, styled like an Interstate highway sign and reading “2017” and “FL” to represent the Twins’ Spring Training location.

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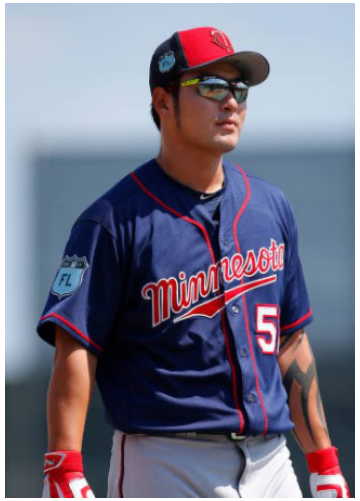
2017 Spring Training Road



The Twins are one of the few teams with both home and road Spring Training jerseys. In 2016, they adopt blue jerseys for road games. Name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey includes a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve, styled like an Interstate highway sign and reading “2017” and “FL” to represent the Twins’ Spring Training location.

As in 2016, the jersey uses the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, now decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. Starting this year, all MLB teams adopt the same twill — white with gray printing — replacing the prior year’s team-specific versions.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail.

The Twins jersey is blue with blue back with red underarm gussets. The interlocking "TC" logo from their caps appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white/red Block with serifs on left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2018 Spring Training Home

MLB's 2018 Spring Training jerseys follow the same general design template as the previous year, again using each team's standard fonts for player names and numbers, rendered in a single layer of twill printed with 2018-specific Spring Training patterns.

The Twins use their regular-season red alternate jersey as the base. Name and back numbers are sewn in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch—shaped like home plate—is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" to represent the team's Spring Training home.

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2018 Spring Training Road

The Twins' 2018 road BP jerseys match the home version in design, featuring standard team fonts for player names and numbers rendered in one layer of twill printed with 2018-specific Spring Training patterns.

The team uses its regular-season blue alternate road jersey as the base. Name and back numbers are sewn in white patterned twill, with front numbers in two-color white/red. A new CFX patch—shaped like home plate—is stitched to the right sleeve, displaying "2018" and "FL" to indicate the Twins' Spring Training location.

© GameWornGuides.com

2019 Spring Training Home

The 2019 Spring Training jersey introduces another variation on the themes of the previous three years. This version abandons the single-color printed twill on the back and returns to the regular-season multi-layered team-color twill seen in 2016—though without the sublimated patterns from that year.

The Twins use their regular-season red alternate as the base for this design. A new CFX patch appears on the right sleeve, featuring “2019” and “FLA,” to represent the team’s Spring Training location. Back numbers are blue/white/gold drop shadow. The name on back is blue/white.

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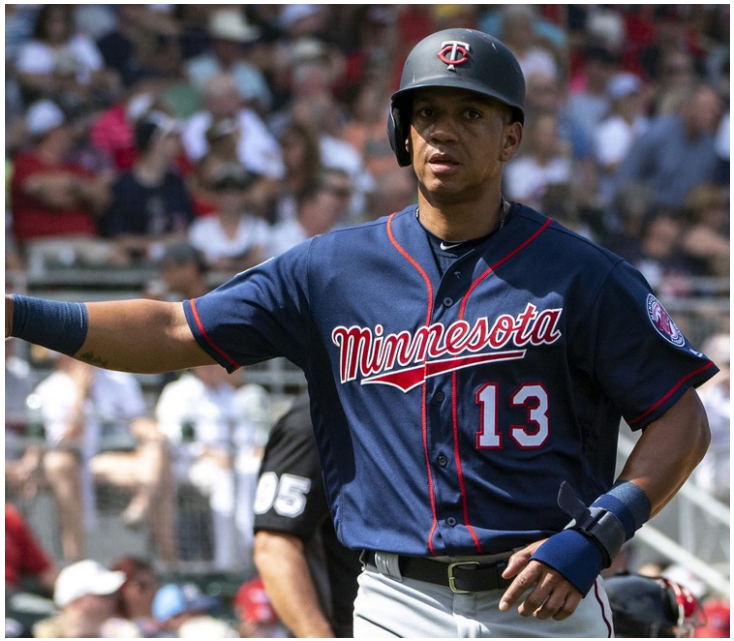
2019 Spring Training Road



The Twins continue their approach of issuing separate Spring Training jerseys for home and road use. The 2019 road jersey drops the single-color printed twill treatment in favor of multi-layered, regular-season-style team-color twill—similar to 2016 but without sublimated patterns.

The base design uses the Twins' regular-season blue alternate road jersey with "Minnesota" across the front. A new CFX patch is stitched to the right sleeve, displaying "2019" and "FLA" to represent their Spring Training location. The name on back and front numbers are white/red, while the back numbers are red/white.

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2020-2022 Spring Training

MLB simplifies Spring Training uniforms for the 2020 season league-wide. For the first time since 2016, teams eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of their Spring Training home. Lettering now uses the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill found on regular-season uniforms, making many Spring Training jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020–2022, the Twins use their regular-season blue alternate road jersey as a base, with red/white back numbers. The name on back and front numbers are white/red.

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2023 Spring Training White

With the introduction of their new uniform set for 2023, the Twins use two of their regular-season uniforms in Spring Training, including their white home jerseys. Made by Nike, the white home jersey has the “Twins” script (with the separate underline under “WIN”) in red above a custom-font blue front number. The number font repeats on back in red, below a blue player name in the same font style. Sleeve ends are adorned with wide red/white/blue trim, and the left sleeve sports a navy blue patch in the shape of Minnesota with a red star where the Twin Cities are located.

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2023 Spring Training Blue

With the introduction of their new uniform set for 2023, the Twins use two of their regular-season uniforms in Spring Training, including their blue alternate jerseys. Made by Nike, the jersey features “Minnesota” arched across the chest in white, using the team’s new custom block font, positioned above a red player number on the lower left in the same font. The number font repeats on back in white, below a red player name in the same type style. Like the home jersey, sleeve ends are adorned with wide red/white/blue trim. The left sleeve of this jersey sports a new take on the team’s classic “TC” ligature,

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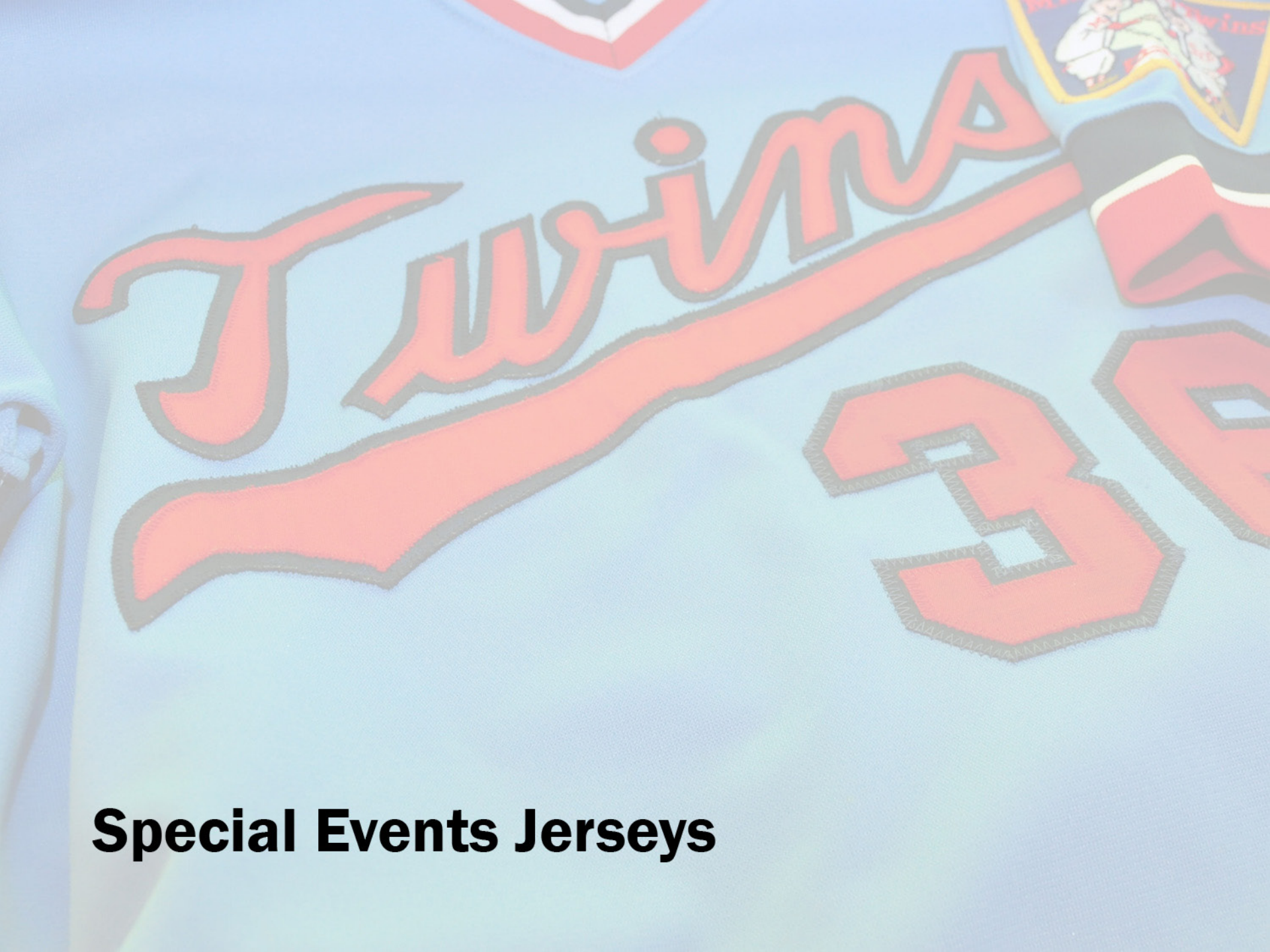


Special Events Jerseys

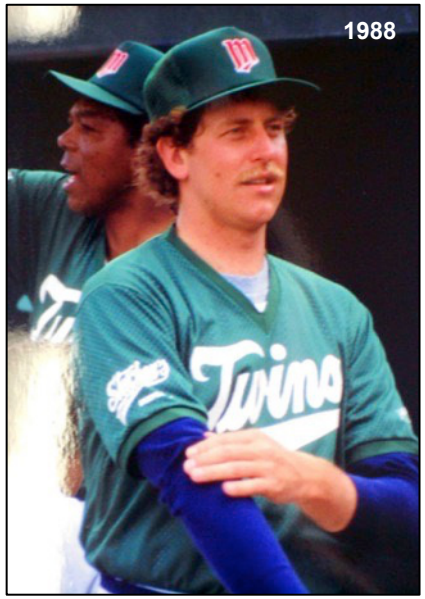
1987-1991 St. Patrick's Day

The Twins occasionally celebrate St. Patrick's Day with green jerseys.

Their early St. Patrick's Day jerseys are made by a St. Paul-based company called Steichen's, which also handled the Twins' game uniform lettering for many years before Majestic took over the job. The logo on the sleeve of the 1991 jersey belongs to Steichen's; the shirt brand is also theirs (though I have photos of another jersey claimed to be from 1991 without a sleeve logo).

These screen-printed mesh jerseys do not look terribly professional, with lettering not even close to official team specifications.

All of the jerseys shown are made of mesh fabric, likely from different years. All lettering is screen-printed..



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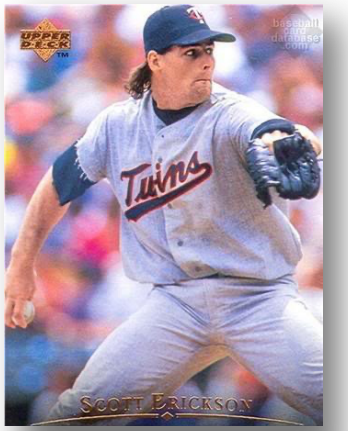
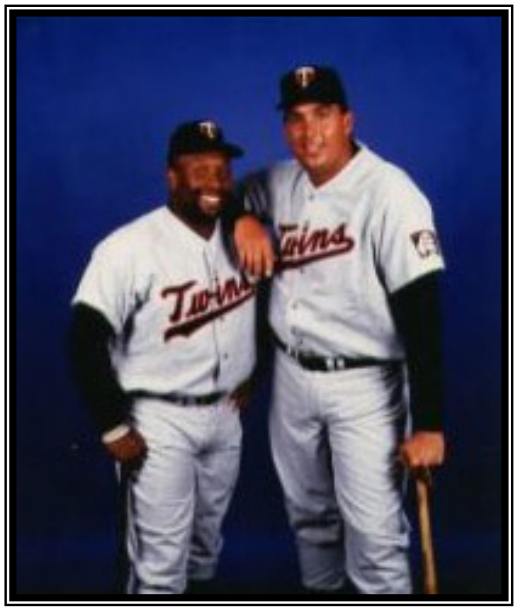
1994 Turn Back the Clock to 1965

Steve Kraljic Collection

The Twins wear 1965-style throwback road uniforms made of real flannel, produced by Mitchell & Ness. The game is on May 8, 1994 vs. the Texas Rangers. The jersey is made of flannel; the "Twins" wordmark on the front and the numbers on the back are applied in tackle twill. The Rangers wear a "fauxback"-style" jersey—red pinstripe with a red and navy "Rangers" script on the front—that mimics a 1963 Washington Senators home uniform, although the actual team never wore this design. Every one of these in our photo archives is autographed on the front, leading us to believe that this set was auctioned off after the game





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Mid-1990s St. Patrick's Day

The Russell tag style on the front of this jersey along with the lack of a MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck places it between 1995 and 1999. The Twins may have participated in St. Patrick's Day dress-up during multiple Spring Training seasons, though photos and records are scarce. The team wore these Russell mesh fabric green jerseys with two-color lettering, no names on the back, and no sleeve patches.

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1997 Negro Leagues Tribute (1909 St. Paul Gophers)

Steve Kraljic Collection

On July 13, 1997, the Twins wear uniforms honoring the St. Paul "Colored Gophers" of the Negro Leagues for the first time. These uniforms were produced by Ebbets Field Flannels. The Twins played Cleveland, who also wore throwback uniforms. The jerseys are full button-front double knit with white felt lettering. Identify the 1997 version by the Varsity Bold numbers on back, the white Ebbets Field Flannel tag, and the Jackie Robinson patch on the left sleeve.

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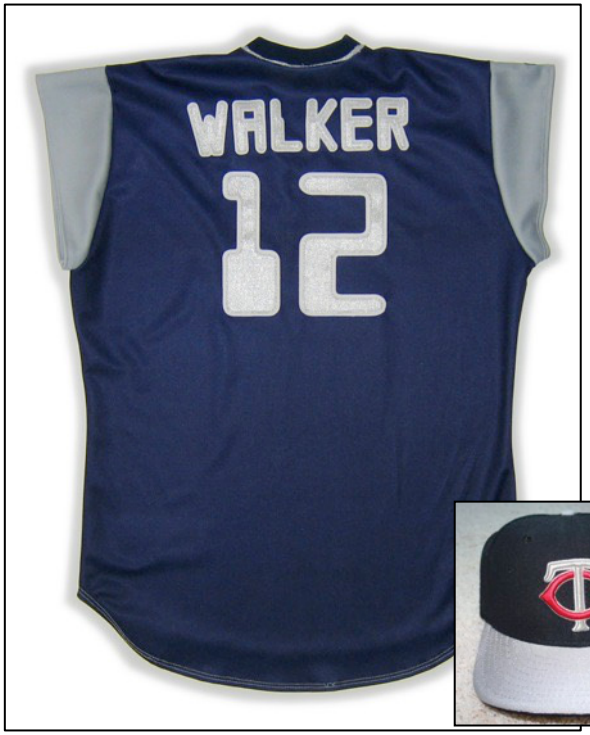
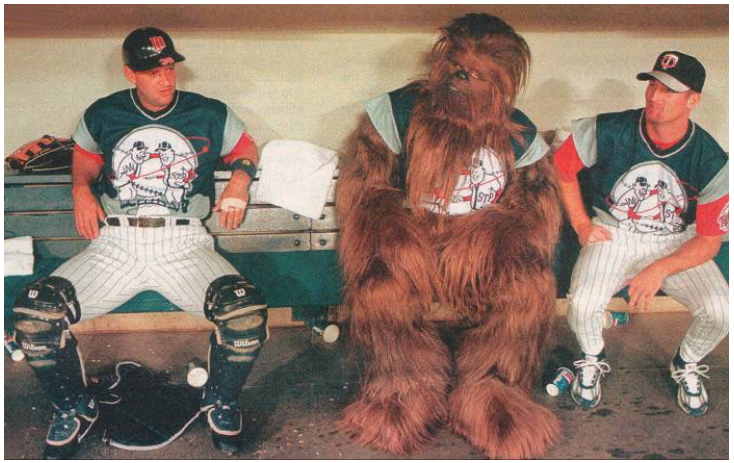
1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

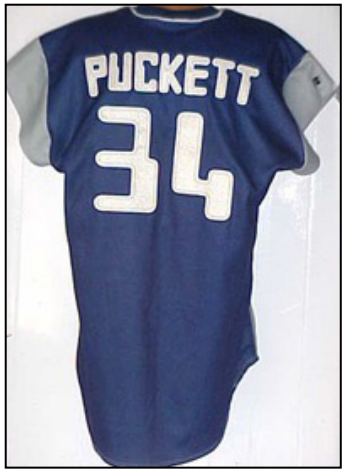


July 24, 1999: The Twins participate in the "Turn Ahead the Clock" promotion, wearing the jersey for only one game. The front design is sublimated into the fabric rather than sewn or heat-applied.

Names and numbers on the back use two-color twill: metallic silver over white, in a decidedly non-futuristic 1970s IBM Magnetic Ink Character Recognition (MICR) font—the same style used for the numbers at the bottom of bank checks, originally developed in the mid-1950s!

Right: *The 60th Anniversary patch (top), originally designed for the sleeve of a red undershirt, is a clever futuristic touch—but the team actually uses the standard team patch (bottom) during the game, sewn onto a red, 3-button Henley undershirt. Team patch in the game sewn on a red, 3-button Henley undershirt.*





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2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1969

June 10, 2000: The Twins took on the Brewers and recreated 1969. The Twins wear beautifully crafted cream pinstriped home uniforms made of wool flannel by Mitchell & Ness. The opposing Brewers wear the Spring Training uniforms of the one-year-only Seattle Pilots, who moved to Milwaukee for 1970 to become the present-day Brewers.

From a Seattle Pilots fan blog comes this headline:

"The Pilots have finally broken their 30-plus year losing streak! On June 10, 2000, the Brewers wore the Pilots' Spring Training uniforms for Turn Back the Clock Night against the Twins in the Metrodome. Not even the mojo supplied by promotional Harmon Killebrew bobbing head dolls could hold back the Pilots, who took a 5-3 win behind the pitching of Jimmy Haynes."

Right: Decades later, only grainy screen caps from a low-res video remain to showcase this throwback. If you have any photos, please get in touch!

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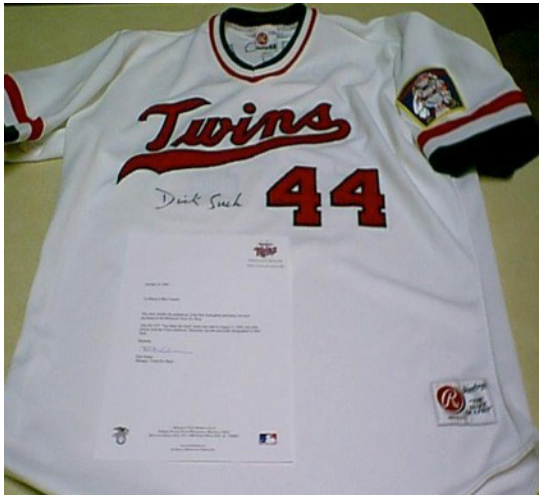
2000 Turn Back the Clock to the 1970s

The Twins' Matt Lawton blasts a 2-run double off Blue Jays pitcher Kelvim Escobar in the fifth inning Friday night at the Metrodome. Associated Press Photo



Rawlings made the uniforms for this game between the Twins and the Blue Jays, played on August 11, 2000 in Minnesota. Toronto wore their powder blue road uniforms from 1977.

These reproductions are fairly accurate, but the number font on the back is incorrect. It should be Varsity, but instead uses Block with Serifs—the same font the Twins were using in 2000 on their current uniforms.

The names on back should appear in one-color red vertical arching, rather than the two-color block font used here. The Twins used player NOB during the 1970s on home jerseys in 1977–1980.

Perhaps 2000 marks the beginning of the trend toward looser fits, as these uniforms are much baggier than the tapered-waist, tight-fitting jerseys of the 1970s they aim to recreate.

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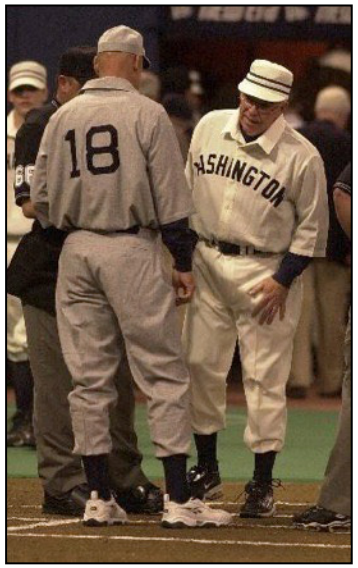
2001 Turn Back the Clock to 1901



Left: *The managers exchange lineups at home plate and look as if it's 100 years ago, ummm–except for the shoes.*

Right: *The cut-off sleeves on this jersey suggest that outfielder Matt Lawton couldn't tolerate wearing it—and chose scissors over historical accuracy.*

5-26-01

- The Twins were the "original" Washington Senators/Nationals, who picked up and moved to Minneapolis and became the Twins for the 1961 season. Therefore, it is legitimate for the 2001 Twins to appear as the 1901 Senators in a TBTC contest, where they played the 1901 Athletics, who also wore flannel.
- Game played on May 26, 2001. The flannels, made by Mitchell & Ness, feature all felt lettering.
- Note the McAuliffe-style numbers on the back—although, in reality, players do not wear numbers in 1901.

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2004 Turn Back the Clock to 1979

Above: *J.C. Romero's jersey shows how he hacked off the excessively long shirttail to make his wearable.*

The Twins played the Orioles in Baltimore on July 24–25, 2004, in a "Turn Back the Clock" series recreating 1979—the year the Orioles win the American League pennant.

I don't know what patterns were used to create these uniforms, but they are incredibly oversized with sleeves that are at least two inches too long. Looks like the baseball card photographers were at the game, because there are many Twins cards that feature photos from this game, and the uniforms appear awkward and oversized. The sleeve-end trim exaggerates the effect, appearing far wider than on the 1979 originals.

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2005, 2008 St. Patrick's Day

The Twins wear green for St. Patrick's Day in 2005 and 2008, according to available references. These mesh, button-front green jerseys feature two-color lettering, no names on the back, and no sleeve patches. Made by Majestic, the jersey includes the Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck.

Note: The Twins release a large lot of these jerseys to the hobby in 2019, with authentication dates from that year. However, evidence suggests the jerseys originate from the 2005–2008 era..

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2005 Negro Leagues Tribute (1909 St. Paul Gophers)

- The Twins again dress as the 1909 St. Paul Gophers of the Negro Leagues on July 10, 2005, facing the Royals, who wear 1948 Kansas City Monarchs throwbacks.
- The 2005 jersey is made by AIS and features only four front buttons rather than a full button front, unlike the 1997 Ebbets Field Flannels version. These jerseys include collars, unlike the collarless 1997 versions. The front wordmark is sewn felt.
- Each example observed appears autographed in white on the back, likely as part of a team auction.

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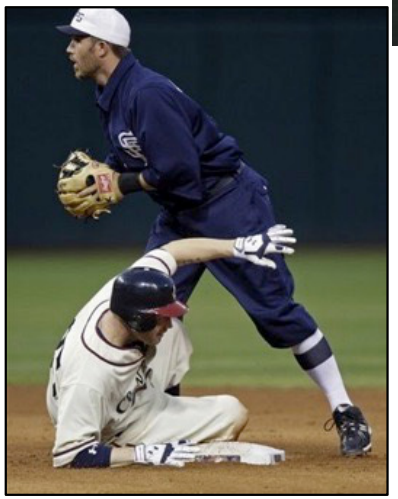
2010 Negro Leagues Tribute (1909 St. Paul Gophers)

Steve Kraljic Collection



- The Twins hosted the Indians for a Negro Leagues tribute game on August 7, 2010. For the third time since 1997, they wear throwbacks honoring the 1909 “Colored Gophers.”.
- The uniforms, again made by AIS, use the same ¼-button pullover design as in 2005, but all lettering and wordmarks are rendered in twill instead of felt.
- Back numbers are Block Bold, one-color (white) no player names.

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1951 AA Minneapolis Millers

Original 1951 Millers Jersey shows the replica was faithfully executed.

From the Twins' Press release: The Minnesota Twins are looking forward to their "Turn Back the Clock" game on Saturday, June 30 at 6:10 p.m. against the Kansas City Royals. During the game, the Twins will celebrate Minnesota baseball history by wearing throwback uniforms of the 1951 Minneapolis Millers …. Named for the city's flour milling heritage, the Minneapolis Millers played in the Mill City from 1884–1960. The Kansas City Royals will be wearing throwback uniforms of the Kansas City Blues.

"While generations of residents may not even be aware of the Minneapolis Millers, or that a 4,000 seat ballpark once stood at 31st and Nicollet, we're proud to celebrate and remember this important time in Minnesota baseball history," said Clyde Doepner, Twins Curator. "The Minneapolis Millers stoked the fires of America's burgeoning new pastime at the turn of the 20th Century and for more than six decades, this area was a hotbed for great baseball featuring many of the greatest players the game has ever known."

Among the baseball greats to don the Millers uniform over the years were **Ted Williams**, who won the American Association's Triple Crown as a 19-year old Miller in the summer of 1938. **Babe Ruth** appeared in a Millers uniform, if only for one day in 1935. **Joe Hauser** set a Professional Baseball record with 69 Home Runs during the 1933 season. During the "Turn Back the Clock" game, the Twins will be remembering 1951, a year that saw **Willie Mays** roam Center Field at Nicollet Park, putting the baseball world on notice by posting a .477 average with 30 RBI and 38 runs scored in his 35 games with the Millers. Occupying Center Field for the Kansas City Blues of the American Association that same year was baseball legend **Mickey Mantle**."

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1994

The Twins visited the Rangers on July 7, 2012, during the Rangers' season-long 50th birthday celebration. Both teams wear 1994-style uniforms.

The Twins' uniforms are exact recreations of the team's gray pinstripes worn from 1987 to 2009—a 23-year run.

Block with Serif numbers in red and navy are used on front and back. Navy player names are sewn on nameplates for uncommon accuracy, though the period need for nameplates to allow jersey recycling clearly does not apply here. The addition of the 1994-only MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve completes the look.

These uniforms are identical in every way to the Twins' everyday road grays, as made by Majestic through 2010, aside from the inclusion of the 1994 MLB 125th Anniversary patch on the sleeve. These are truly a "Turn Back the Clock"...to yesterday.

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2012 Negro Leagues Tribute (1909 St. Paul Gophers)

July 21, 2012: As they had done three times before, the Twins dressed in navy blue uniforms representing the St. Paul Colored Gophers of the Negro Leagues for this tribute game, hosted by the Kansas City Royals. The uniforms are again made by AIS and appear identical to those worn in 2005 and 2010. Back numbers are white Varsity Bold.

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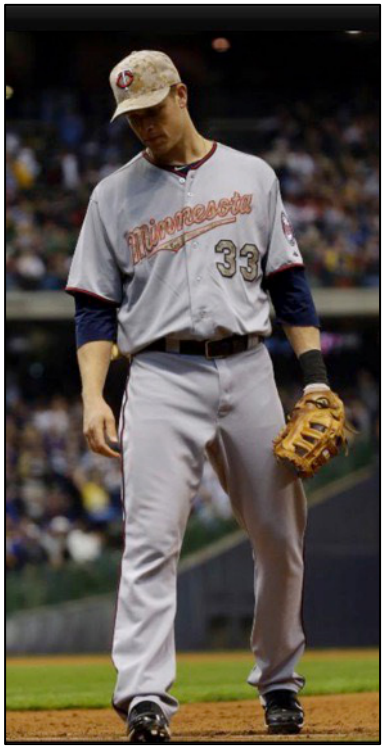
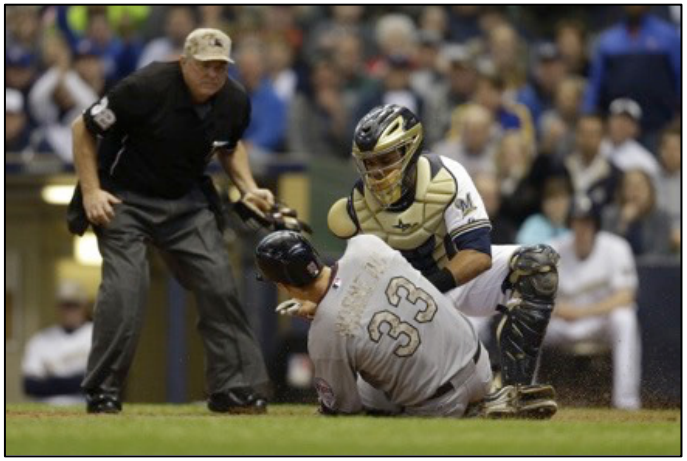
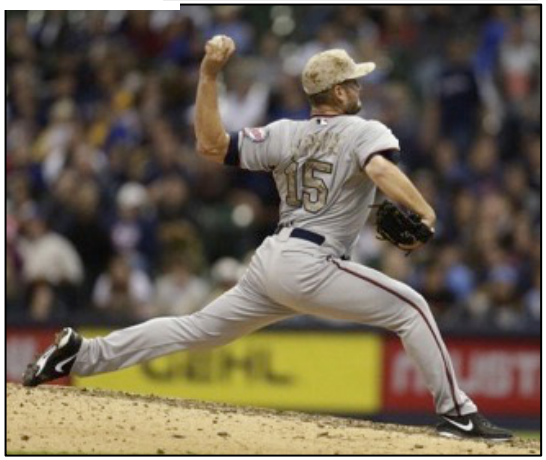
2013 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.





The Twins were the guests on May 27 at Milwaukee, and like all the teams in MLB, wore camouflage-accented jerseys for the day in support of U.S. military personnel. The Twins chose to modify their road gray jersey. On all wordmarks, numbers and player names, the top layer of twill was replaced with desert camouflage twill, and therefore very difficult to read. At least the Twins' lettering was outlined with red or navy making it at least somewhat more visible than other teams.



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2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1948 AA St. Paul Saints

Representative tagging, but not from this jersey

From the Twins' Press Release:

The Minnesota Twins today announced plans for their "Turn Back the Clock" game on Thursday, May 30 at 7:10 p.m. against the Milwaukee Brewers. During the game, the Twins will celebrate Minnesota baseball history by wearing throwback uniforms of the 1948 St. Paul Saints, while the Brewers will play as the 1948 Milwaukee Brewers.

During the "Turn Back the Clock" game, the Twins will be remembering the St. Paul Saints of 1948, a year that saw future Hall of Famer Roy Campanella become the first African American to play in the American Association. During 1948, Manager Walter Alston, who also became a member of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, coached such greats as Eric "The Red" Tipton and Dan Bankhead, the first African American pitcher in Major League Baseball.

For 2013, the Twins had proposed to have "home and road" throwback events together with the Brewers where these sets of uniforms would be worn twice, once at home and once on the road. However, the Brewers decline, citing an already crowded schedule of throwback games, which leaves the Twins to wear the road throwbacks at home. These very plain gray (road) uniforms worn for this game at home by the Minnesota Twins; Block Bold back numbers are the only player customization.

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2014 Memorial Day

The Twins were at home for Memorial Day 2014, Monday May 26, against the visiting Rangers. Again, all teams in MLB wore uniforms with camouflage twill wordmarks and player names/numbers. The Twins home uniforms at least feature navy outlining for wordmark and player numbers, making their attire more readable than most. Names on back are in one-color desert camouflage, rendering them nearly invisible. The All-Star Game patch adorns the right sleeve on all game worn jerseys.

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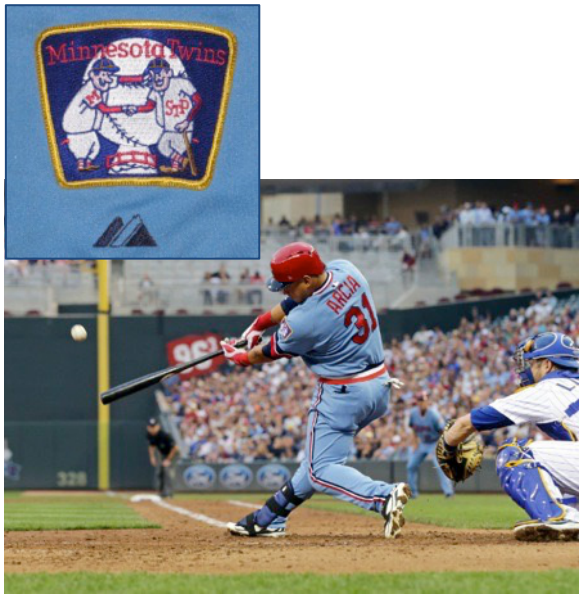
2014 Turn Back the Clock to 1984

With better advance planning this year, the Twins and Brewers were able to schedule companion home and road games with both teams wearing the same sets of 1984 throwback uniforms. The first game was June 3 in Milwaukee, and the next was June 5 in Minneapolis. The Majestic-made uniforms are quite accurate, though players generally wear them much baggier than was typical in 1984, when skintight cuts were the norm. These replicas are far more accurate than the 2004 examples, which had been made by Russell. To be critical, the front wordmark is not sewn at a steep enough angle, the player numbers use the wrong font and are not the correct size (they should be Varsity, but are rendered in Block), and the player names—rather than appearing in the Twins-only tall, skinny font—are done in standard Block.



Actual jersey from the 1984 era, for comparison

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2015 Memorial Day

The Twins are home again for Memorial Day on May 25, 2015, however, with their uniform updates that year, their camo jersey is brand new. Based on their home jersey, this Majestic Cool Base entry features desert camo replacing the top layer of twill throughout. Front wordmark and back number are now camo/red/gold drop shadow, while name on back is camo/red. Remaining jersey elements stay the same, except the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag, which is changed to dark green/khaki/white from its typical colors from 2014.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palette might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar.

The Twins wear their road gray jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Mother's Day

All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day on May 8, 2016 and May 13–14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Twins wear their road gray jerseys and their typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers lose their drop shadow to become pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of pink, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue/red/blue, becomes pink.

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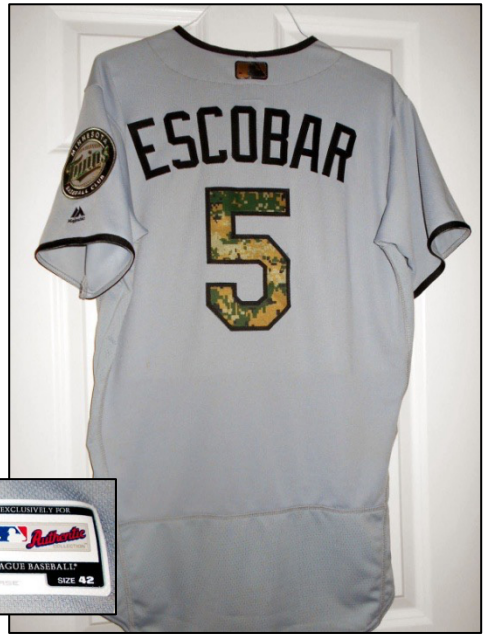
2016 Memorial Day



The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The Twins apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The typically three-color front lettering and back numbers lose their 3D drop shadow and are rendered in two-color woodland camo with a black outline, while player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from blue/gold/red.

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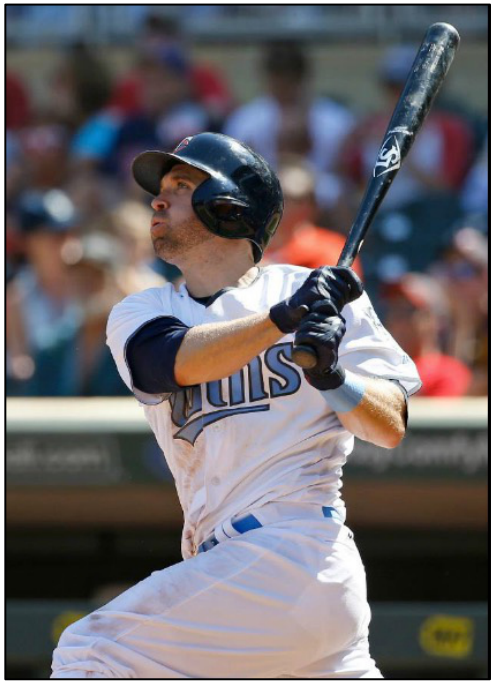
Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016-2017 Father's Day



All teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms for Father's Day on June 19, 2016 and June 17 (day game) and 18, 2017. (For the night game of their June 17 doubleheader against the Indians, the Twins wore their home jerseys instead.) All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Twins wear their home white jerseys and their typically three-color front lettering and front and back numbers lose their drop shadow to become light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally blue/gold/red, becomes dark gray.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Twins are at home and wear their alternate red jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Twins select the blue twill version with gray outlines to replace their front lettering and normally three-color back numbers (with 3D drop shadows removed here), with a gray player name on back. On the front of the jersey, the blue "C" takes the star-pattern blue twill, while the white "T" remains the same, and the usual gold outline becomes gray – some very subtle changes that would not seem much different from the standard jersey when viewed from a distance. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. New for 2016, team sleeve patches are now embroidered in red, white, and blue, replacing team colors, though in this case, it is another very subtle change visible mostly in the replacement of the gold patch border with white. All jersey trim, normally blue/gold, becomes single-color blue.

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2017 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Twins apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1 (day game of a doubleheader) and 2, 2017, the Twins wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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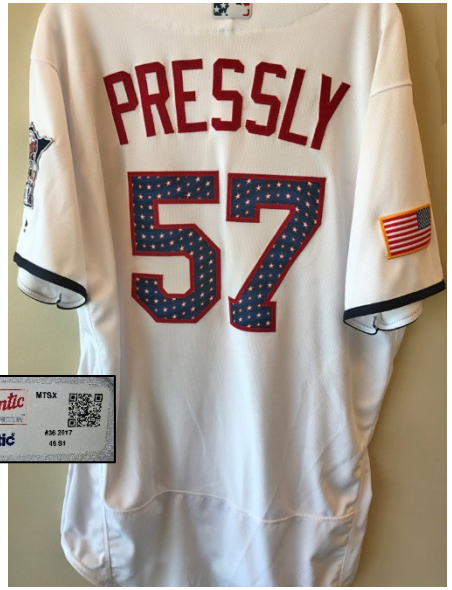
2017 Independence Day (Home)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill–appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3–4, 2017, the Twins wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017, the Twins wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their home jersey lettering, here rendered in red/white kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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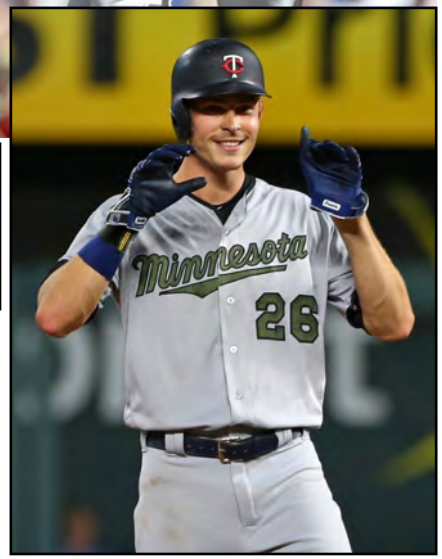
2018 Memorial Day



The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single-color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The Twins apply this style to their road gray jerseys on May 26–28, 2018.

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2018 Independence Day

The 2018 Independence Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017 featuring printed twill with a pattern of stars and stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the lettering—red/blue or blue/red, and the Twins change their color combo for 2018. The jerseys themselves are Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging, and a ChromaFlex rubberized “stars and stripes” pattern MLB patch is sewn on the back of the neck.

On July 2–4, 2018, the Twins wear their road gray jerseys with red patterned twill/blue front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color blue. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color red.

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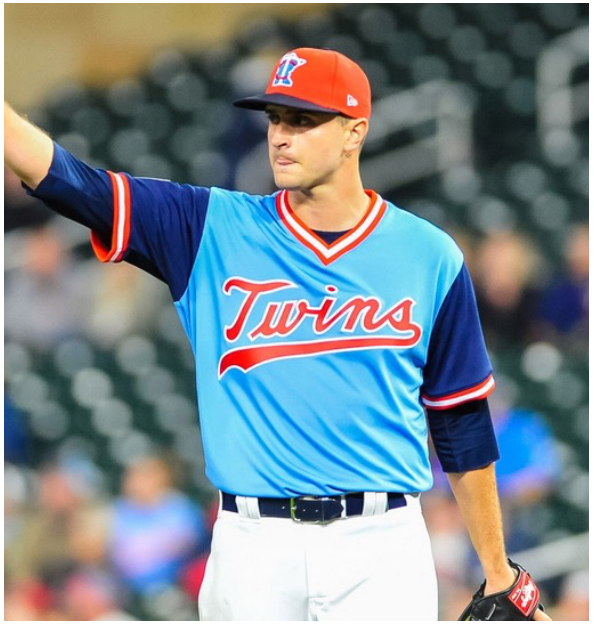
2018 Players Weekend



Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The Twins wear jerseys with powder blue bodies and navy blue sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features their throwback Twins script with underscore, here rendered in red/white kiss-cut twill.

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2019 Negro Leagues Tribute (1909 St. Paul Gophers)

For the fifth time, the Twins wear throwbacks honoring the 1909 St. Paul Colored Gophers on June 23, 2019—this time made by Majestic for the first time. This full-knit jersey includes a few differences from the most recent AIS version: blue buttons instead of white, changes to the front logo, and Block-style numbers instead of Varsity Bold. These details have evolved over the years, as this marks the third different manufacturer used for this throwback style.

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Twins wear a white version of their home jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in white/gray with gray nickname on back.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1971 Spring Training Tryout Jersey

Rawlings gray flannel with all-twill lettering. One wonders if the poor fellow issued this three-digit number ever had any real chance of making the team.

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1971 Prototype Road

The jersey pictured here was offered at auction by Leland's in 2010. The catalog description says:

"This is a super-rare 1971 prototype jersey that is not game used but was used by (Tony) Oliva to model a possible change from flannel to knit jerseys. This road jersey has the number "6" on the back and is a Spalding professional button front knit jersey. There is a "71" label to the left of the tag and a size "42" to the right. The jersey shows great game use. In 1971 Oliva won his third straight batting title with a .337 average. Excellent piece for the Oliva and Twins fan."

Hard to imagine "game use" if it was not used by the team, but overlooking that nit, notice the reversal of most colors. Knit sleeve trim has gray stripe in the middle instead of white, the red and blue stripes are switched between actual game jersey ***(inset, right)*** and prototype.

All lettering on the prototype is identical to the flannel jersey. The actual 1972 jersey as used reversed the colors to make red the main color of both wordmark and back numbers.

Right: *Actual 1972 jersey as used on the field.*

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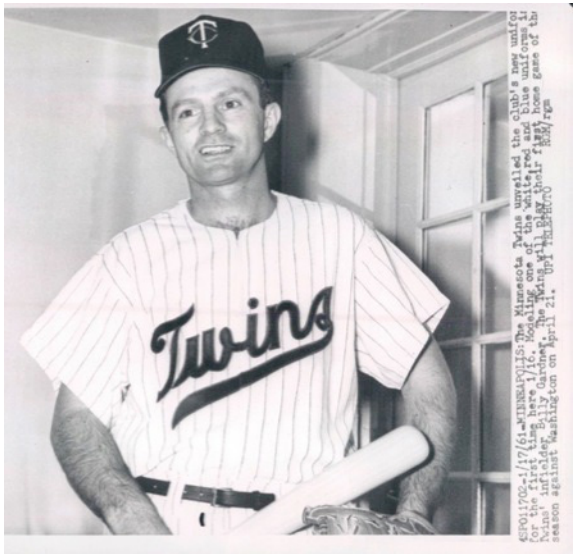
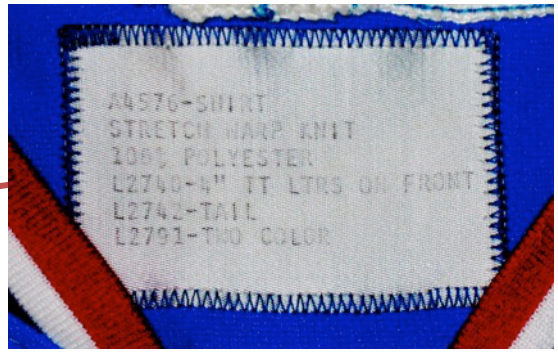
1972 Prototype Road



This jersey appeared in a prior edition of the Guide, explaining that I had wrestled with whether or not to include it. It appears to be a 1972 or 1973 Twins road jersey prototype made by Wilson. The button-front design features wide sleeve-end stripes similar to the team-adopted gray 1972 Spalding road jersey, though the lettering design slightly deviates from specification. This jersey changed hands at auction twice between 2005 and 2008.

A photo has since surfaced showing a Twins player wearing a prototype flannel jersey with the same unusual script (***top right***, dated January 1961), identifying it as the design used for the team's inaugural uniform. In addition, a newly acquired close-up image of the faded neck tag ***(bottom, center)*** supports its authenticity as a prototype. These white tags are commonly found inside Wilson prototype jerseys.

Also note the white cotton lining inside the neck, a typical feature of 1970s pro-model Wilson jerseys designed to improve player comfort.



Tag has several style codes, and likely translates roughly to: "Model #A4576 Stretch knit jersey, 100% Polyester, 4" Tackle Twill lettering on front in two-color, rounded shirt tail"

New information courtesy of Uni Watch (www.uni-watch.com), Mr. Jim Lonetti identified as the owner of the Twins prototype jersey

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1974(?) Prototype Road

This jersey exhibits all the hallmarks of a manufacturer's prototype sample: a white style-data tag stitched into the inside back below the collar, and a number corresponding to a manager or iconic player—in this case, long-time Twin Harmon Killebrew. The design is a powder blue button-front style, which the team never wore. The Wilson tag inside the collar matches a format not introduced until 1974.

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1974 Sample Road

Although this powder blue pullover design was adopted by the Twins for the 1973 season, this particular jersey features a Wilson collar tag that does not appear until 1974. The white data tag inside the neck lists all the specifications used to describe it for manufacturing. The number 22 was not especially significant, as it corresponded at the time to infielder Craig Kusick. This appears to be a salesman's sample jersey, likely used by Wilson to demonstrate manufacturing capabilities when marketing to colleges, semi-pro teams, or minor league organizations.

© GameWornGuides.com

1984 Batting Practice Retail?

This pullover mesh jersey features knit sleeve ends and neck trim and is made by Sand-Knit for the Twins. The front displays the same team script as seen on the Sand-Knit zip-neck jersey featured earlier, though this version has a slightly heavier stroke and a thicker tail. This script differs from that used on Majestic batting practice jerseys and official game uniforms.

This example may be a store-bought retail version or an unissued authentic. It remains in near-perfect original condition and lacks a back number. Twins collectors continue to debate whether this style was ever worn by the team, as it is absent from baseball card photos depicting players in Spring Training and is not documented among game-worn examples in the hobby.

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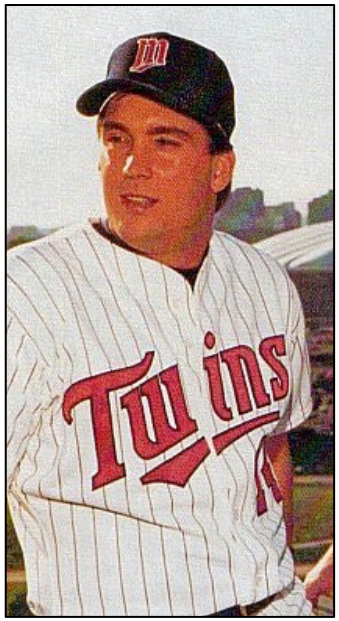
1987 Oddball Retail Authentic — Splitting Up Twins?

This is an amusing example of why it's important to avoid using words like "always" and "never" when publishing research. Earlier in this text, a small catalog illustration of a Twins jersey is shown ***(right)***, along with my paraphrased warning: "Never buy jerseys based on a stock photo. This is clearly an artist's mock-up, as the Twins wordmark does not split in that location."

Reader Brian Isles sent photos of a jersey he found on eBay, showing that some Twins jerseys were, in fact, made with the wordmark split in that very manner. Since the jersey was a "Replica" and not an Authentic, I initially dismissed it and explained to Brian that the guidelines I referenced didn't apply to replica merchandise.



Left: *The Twins jersey at its unveiling in 1987 and modeled by star Kent Hrbek, the accepted word split is clearly visible. The details of this example, including the inside seam tag identifies it with a 2002–2009 date of manufacture.*

A few months later, Brian wrote again with his latest discovery: an Authentic-tagged jersey with the same split wordmark, complete with inside-seam tagging identifying it as a Majestic Authentic (retail-sale) jersey ***(left).***

The replica above features a single-layer appliqué wordmark, while the jersey at left has a two-layer twill wordmark, a sleeve patch introduced in 2002, and the Silhouetted Batter logo on the back of the collar—a detail that began appearing in 2000. Among the thousands of Twins jersey photos we've reviewed, including official unveiling and press day shots, the wordmark consistently splits between the "W" and the "I"—never within the "W." I have no explanation!

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2000-2002 Alternate Batting Practice?

This batting practice jersey stumps us, as it has the team's alternate logo on the chest. The presence of the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch on the back of the neck places it no earlier than 2000, but since the team adopted Cool Base BP jerseys as early as 2003, this jersey stands out as an anomaly. T The neck tag and "XL" sizing suggest a retail-oriented piece rather than a team-issued jersey, and the "CH50" code on the tag is unfamiliar to us.

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2002: A Singular Memorial — Mike Jackson “JW” Patch

Twins pitcher Mike Jackson added the Indians’ “JW” memorial patch to the chest of his jersey in 2002 in honor of Indians trainer Jimmy Warfield, based on their relationship when Jackson was with the team from 1997–1999. Warfield passed away in July 2002, and although Jackson wore the patch on at least two of his jerseys—including during postseason appearances—he did not wear it consistently throughout the season.

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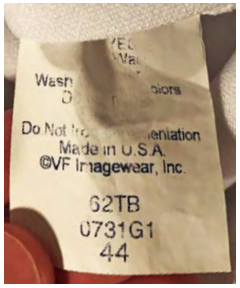
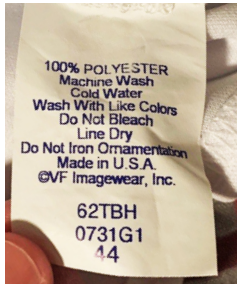
2005-2011 Mystery Turn Back the Clock to 1973-1986





Here we have two mysterious examples of a Twins Turn Back the Clock jersey that is based on their 1973–1986 home design. The team wore similar jerseys—made by Rawlings—for a throwback game in 2000, but no additional TBTC game appearance for this style has been documented. The Majestic tagging dates these jerseys to approximately 2000–2012, a span during which Majestic manufactured jerseys for the Twins from 2005–2012. And while the Twins have worn throwback and fauxback designs in regular season games, this specific style was not among them. It's possible these jerseys were made as samples for potential throwback designs that were ultimately not selected. Oddly, each example has a different code on the wash tag, the #16 jersey with "62TB' and the #8 with "62TBH". Regardless, both tag codes have appeared on team-issued throwbacks, making it unlikely that these are retail jerseys.

Given that team legends Frank Viola (#16) and Gary Gaetti (#8) wore this jersey style between 1982–1986, it's possible these were created for a ceremony or event that has not yet been documented—or perhaps were never used. However, both players are also most closely associated with the team's 1987 World Series championship, by which time the Twins had switched to pinstriped, button-down home jerseys. This makes the 1973–1986 style an unusual choice for any kind of old-timers recognition or commemorative use. Likewise, neither players' number has been retired by the team, so these numbers, though suggestive of both players, are not exclusive to them.

If any readers have more info about these jerseys, please send it our way!

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2006 Prototype Road Vest

The Twins introduced a home vest in 2006, otherwise identical to their standard home jersey. Shown here is a prototype version of that vest. All the typical prototype markers are present: a size 46 jersey, “Player” and the year (6 for 2006) on the back, and sample tagging reading “TWI-HM-ALT-V-06,” indicating “Twins Home Alternate Vest 2006.”

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 *Ooops*

Below: Orlando Hudson's jersey was missing a front number on Opening Day 2010.

The Twins' equipment manager endured some rough moments in 2008.

- ***Top left:*** When the team first wore their home blue alternate jerseys on April 1, the front numbers were sewn in red with white outlines—rather than the correct white with red outlines. Additionally, the player names on the back were solid white instead of the expected white outlined in red.
- ***Bottom left:*** Both of these errors were fixed by April 6, the next time the alternate jerseys were worn. Imagine the fun correcting this massive error.
- ***Top middle:*** A reminder that humans still sew MLB uniforms—and that people make mistakes—note the amusing misspelling of the state name on this player's road jersey.

Above: Joe Nathan at the 2005 All-Star game, "Twins" with no dot over the "i."

Credits: Borrowed shamelessly from Paul Lukas' "Uni Watch" blog, current edition can be found at www.uni-watch.com

© GameWornGuides.com

2007-2010 St. Patrick's Day Retail

This green batting practice jersey is another retail-only Twins item, with tags and style dating it to 2007–2010. The team last wore green on St. Patrick's Day in 2008, but wore a full-button mesh BP jersey rather than this pullover style. The "TC" logo on the front echoes the design used on the team's standard BP jersey of the era, although it appears smaller here. Additionally, the team-issued versions used a flocked, heat-pressed logo, unlike the sewn twill seen on this retail jersey. The front logo appears disproportionately small—closer in size to a sleeve patch than a typical chest insignia. The XL sizing and 6800 style code confirm this as a retail item, not a team-issued piece—making it unlikely that it was a sample of an unused design.

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2010 Prototypes?

Likely created in preparation for the team's 2010 uniform update, these two prototype proposals reached the "in-the-cloth" evaluation stage. Both prototypes feature a gray drop shadow added to the team wordmarks, including a refreshed version of the "Twins" script adopted in 2010. The home version uses Cool Base fabric, while the road version is full-weight knit and lacks the pinstripes that were standard at the time. Neither uses nameplates; both feature sleeve patches. As is often the case with prototypes, they are lettered with the name and number of a popular player. Neither proposal was accepted as-is. However, the updated "Twins" script was adopted without the shadow, and the block "Minnesota" wordmark was replaced by a script variant similar to the "Twins" lettering in the final 2010 design.

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2010 Oddball Alternate Home Vest

- The Twins listed this vest as part of their official 2010 uniform lineup, although it was rarely worn since its introduction in 2006.
- The 2010 on-field version would have featured the updated 2010 wordmark used across the team's other jerseys..
- However, my search through game photos found no evidence that the team ever wore vests in a game during 2010. One must wonder, did a team-issued set of these elusive garments ever actually exist?
- This retail-style 2010 vest, with the revised front wordmark and no nameplate, appears unworn. It retains its paper hanger tags, and the "0062" internal label typically found in team-issued jerseys.
- The vest was ultimately dropped from the Twins' uniform rotation before the 2011 season.

Even among insiders, there is ongoing debate about whether any of these were actually made for the team in 2010. According to Twins chapter editor Jeff Barak, who worked in the team's main retail store (which handled all game-worn and team-issued jerseys), none of these vests were ever offered for sale—casting doubt on whether any were made at all.

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2011 Unused Batting Practice

There are likely dozens of such design exercises for every team and in most years where style changes are considered, but only occasionally do they get out into circulation. This Majestic-tagged prototype batting practice jersey was evaluated for the 2011 season. It features a red back panel—similar to that used by the Indians in 2011—but the Twins ultimately opted for a more conservative design with a solid navy back panel.

***Below:** The actual 2011 batting practice jersey worn by the team.*

Comparing the prototype to the final version highlights the Twins' general tendency to favor conservative, less flashy uniform designs—a consistent theme across many of their team style decisions.

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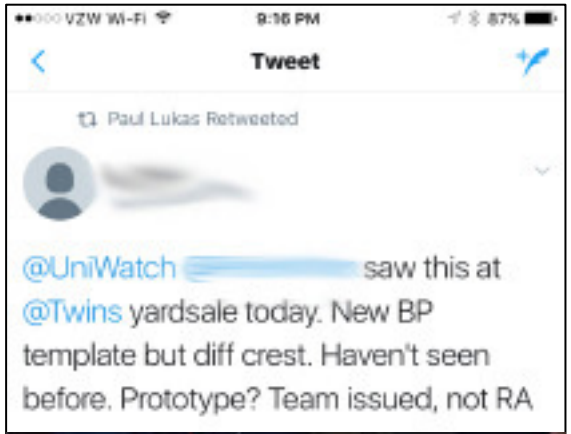
Odds and Ends

Left: In the 1980s, Twins jerseys with names on back were often recycled to the minor leagues. Rather than removing the name, teams typically covered it with a blank nameplate. When that blank plate was later removed, it frequently revealed a darker, non-sun-faded area around the original name — as shown in the example here.



Left: Neck trim applied in reverse order.

Right: Oops. But I'll bet you had to look twice to see it.

That's not how he spells it…

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Commemorative Patches

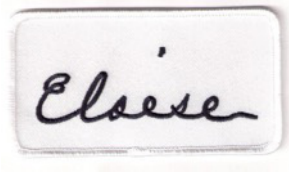
Twins Patches

The Twins opted not to wear the 1985 All-Star Game patch on their jersey sleeves. This is what the patch looked like.

1986

1991

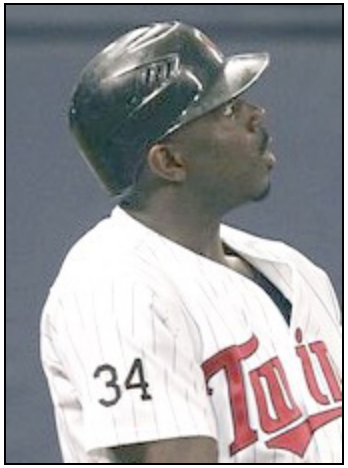
- 1986: 25 Years.
- 1991: 30th Anniversary.
- 2000: 40th Season &"CRG" Calvin Griffith Memorial patch (shown: worn on opposite sleeve from 40th Season patch).
- 2004: Cursive "Eloise" memorial patch worn on the left sleeve in honor of Carl Pohlad's wife. Variants were used to match all three jersey fabric colors..
- 2005: Twins 40th Anniversary of the 1965 AL Championship.
- 2006: Memorial "34" patch for Kirby Puckett. Black with a white outline to ensure visibility on gray and navy jerseys. On vests, the patch was positioned above the "T" in "Twins" on the upper right chest.



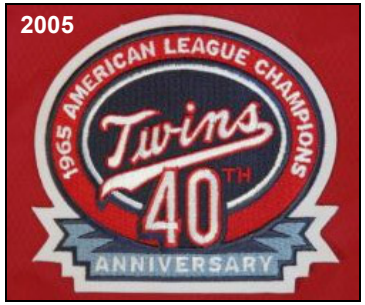
2004

2006

2000



2005



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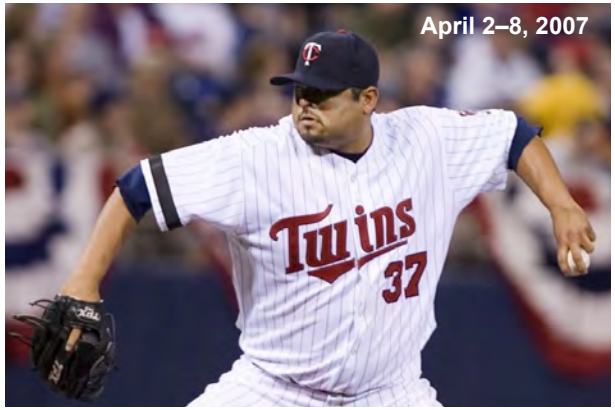
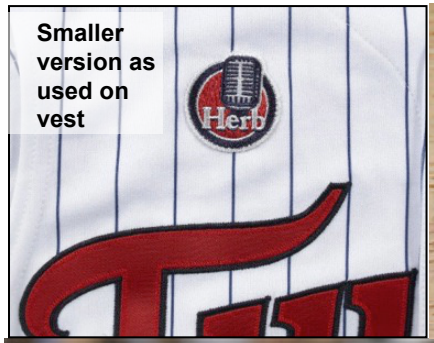


April 2–8, 2007

May 9–11, 2008

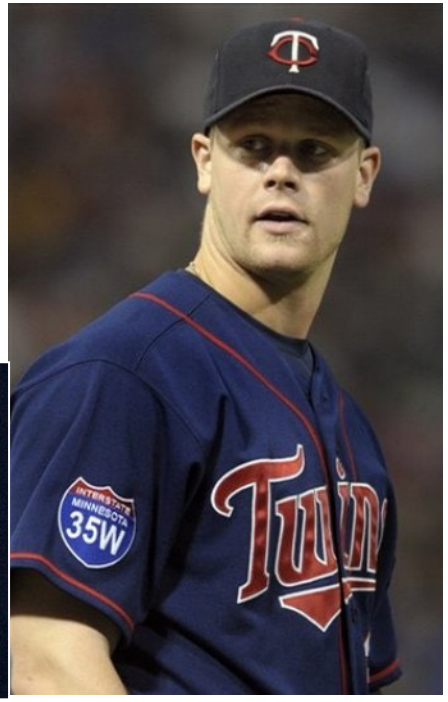
May 11 was also Mother's Day, and the Twins also wore a pink ribbon patch on their jersey fronts that day.



Smaller version as used on vest

2007, starting April 9

August 1, 2008



- 2007, April 2–8 : Armband in memory of broadcaster Herb Carneal, who passed away on April 1.
- 2007, starting April 9: A circular Herb memorial patch for Carneal was worn on the chest of the home vest. This version was only used in a single game—August 31, 2007, during the first game of a doubleheader.
- 2008, May 9–11: 150 Years of Statehood" patch worn on jersey fronts. May 11 (Mother's Day) also featured a pink ribbon variant.
- 2008, August 1: "Interstate 35W" patch worn in remembrance of the tragic bridge collapse that occurred one year earlier.

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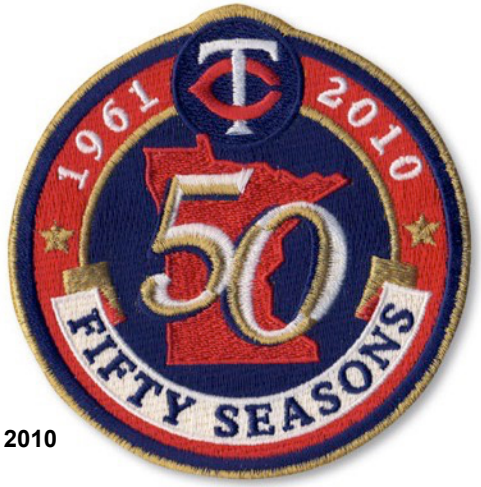
- 2009: Metrodome closing patch.
- 2009: “Carl” black oval memorial patch worn all season for owner Carl Pohlad.
- 2010: Inaugural Season (Target Field) on home white and home alternate blue.
- 2010: “50 Seasons” patch worn on the right sleeve of road gray and retro home alternate jerseys.
- 2011: Black “3” memorial patch honoring Harmon Killebrew added to all uniforms after May 17. Patch on blue jerseys uses a white outline for visibility.



2010

2009

2011

*Before the 2009 season, the Twins announced that all jerseys would feature the Metrodome patch on the right sleeve, with the alternate vest displaying it on the left chest. After owner Carl Pohlad passed away that winter, a **“Carl”** memorial patch was added beneath the Metrodome patch on all jerseys. The vest, however, displayed only the Carl patch on the left chest, omitting the Metrodome patch entirely.*

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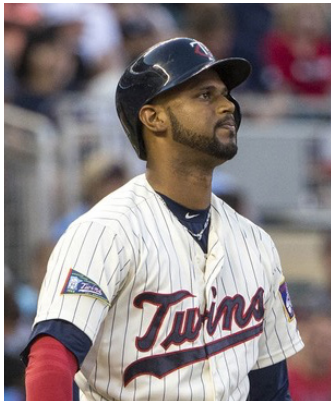
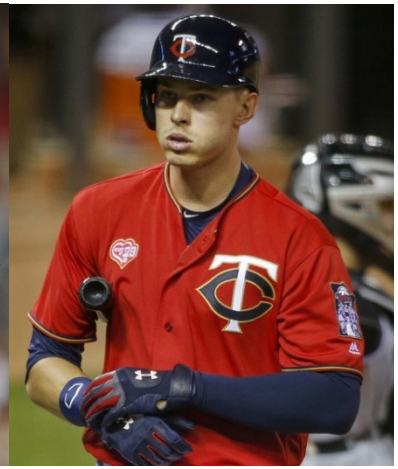
2014

April 7, 2014

August 1, 2015





September 9, 2016

2016: April 13, June 14, July 21

April 3, 2017

- 2014: All-Star Game patch worn all season on the right sleeve of all uniforms..
- 2014, April 7: “Stand Up To Cancer” patch worn by the Twins and Oakland A’s for the Twins home opener, honoring Twins GM Terry Ryan as he battled squamous cell carcinoma. A lump had been found in a lymph node, and Ryan had not yet returned to work at the time.
- 2015, August 1: 50th Anniversary patch commemorating the 1965 AL Champions, worn on the right sleeve of the retro home alternate jersey.
- 2016, April 13, June 14, July 21: “Heart of 29” patch worn in recognition of Rod Carew’s campaign against heart disease. Carew, a heart failure survivor, wore number 29 during his Twins career.
- 2016, September 9: Twins and visiting Indians wore a “11 Jacob” patch in memory of 11-year-old Jacob Wetterling, who disappeared in 1989. Wetterling’s killer confessed in 2016; Jacob had worn number 11 in youth sports.
- 2017, April 3: “YL” patch worn in memory of prospect Yorman Landa, who died in an off-season accident.

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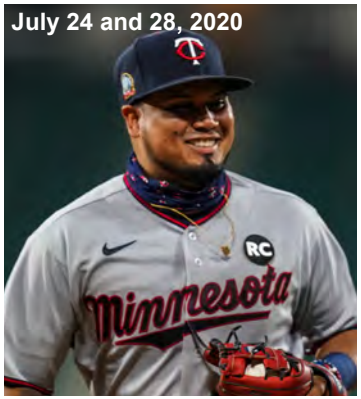
July 22, 2017

June 15, 2019

2020

- 2017, July 22: 330th anniversary of the 1987 World Series championship, worn on the right sleeve of the home jersey.
- 2019 June 15: Joe Mauer number retirement, right sleeve of dark blue alternate jersey
- 2020: Twins 60 season patch, right sleeve of all jerseys.
- 2020, July 24 and 28: "RC" patch for Ryan Costello, a prospect who died November 2019. Worn for first game of the season (road jersey) and home opener (home jersey).
- 2021: “MB” memorial patch for bench coach Mike Bell, who passed away before the season, right sleeve
- 2022, July 16: Jim Kaat Number Retirement, right sleeve home jersey
- 2023, May 20: Green Mental Health Awareness ribbon, left chest, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.
- 2023, July 3: M Rad patch on left chest in memory of Mike Radcliff, longtime Twins scout
- 2024, August 11: Patch commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Washington Senators’ 1924 World Series championship.
- 2025, May 27–28: Green Mental Health Awareness ribbon, left chest, in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.

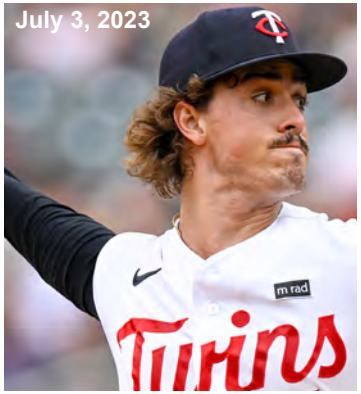
July 24 and 28, 2020



2021

July 16, 2022

July 3, 2023



August 11, 2024

May 20, 2023 and May 27–28, 2025

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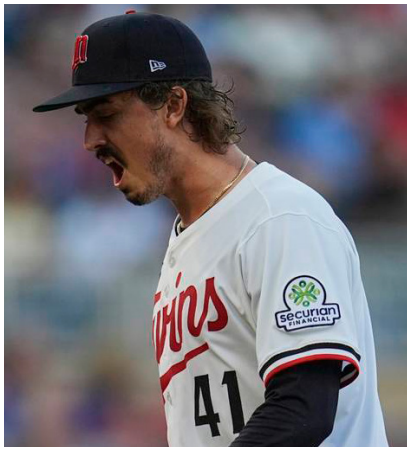
2025 Twins Advertising Patches



Home white, blue alternate, City Connect

Road gray, cream alternate

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Twins struck a sponsor patch deal with Securian Financial, a financial service group. The patches first appeared on July 18, 2025. There are two versions of the patch, a white patch with a blue border and the Securian logo for the home, blue alternate, and City Connect jerseys; and a blue patch with a blue border and the Securian logo for the road gray and cream alternate jerseys.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player. The team's normal logo patches remain on each jersey, on the opposite sleeve from the ad patch.

Unlike many other clubs, the Twins did not adjust sleeve patch placement by player handedness in 2023; instead, patches appeared consistently on the left sleeve for all players. Beginning in 2024, however, patch placement varied by handedness, in preparation for an ad deal that did not materialize until halfway through the following season.

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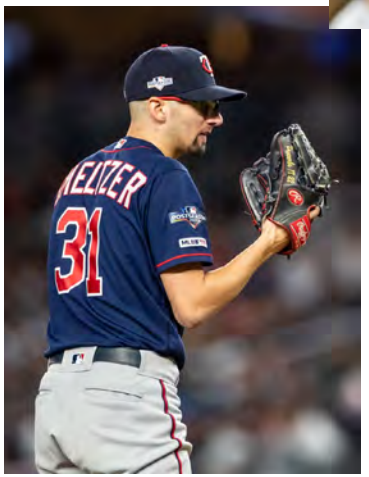
Twins Postseason Patches

1987 World Series *(the Twins did not wear this patch on their sleeves during the 1987 World Series)*

1991 World Series
(right sleeve)

2017 AL Wild Card
(right sleeve)



2019 AL Division Series
(right sleeve, above MLB150 patch)

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

1976 Bert Blyleven Minnesota Twins Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: October 12, 2021 **Certification Number**: 211012J01

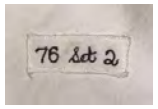
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1976 Minnesota Twins, Wilson size 46 home pullover jersey issued to #28, pitcher Bert Blyleven. 2 1/2" knit, Navy/white/red sleeve end trim, ¾" similar-colored v-neck trim. "Twins" team scripted on a slant with underline on the front, all lettering in red outlined with Navy blue. Wilson Varsity "28" on the left front and centered on the back, no player name on back as is correct for the team and year. The colorful Twins team patch is sewn to the left sleeve.

A 2011 inductee into the Baseball Hall of Fame, in his 22-year career Blyleven's 3701 strikeouts rank as the fifth highest in history. His number 28 is retired by the Twins. Blyleven began his MLB career playing for the Twins 1970-1976. Engaged in contentious contact negotiations with the team in 1976, and after a poor outing May 31, 1976, Blyleven offered an obscene gesture to the crowd after being pulled from a game. He was traded the next day to the Texas Rangers. He had appeared in only 12 games for the Twins so far that year, going 4-5 with a 3.12 ERA.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag correct for 1976 showing the size 46, (reasonable for the player) stitched inside into the back of the neck. "76 Set 2" is hand chain stitched in blue in the Wilson stitcher's familiar handwriting onto a rectangle strip of jersey-type knit fabric zig-zag stitched to the outside left tail.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in excellent original condition, showing signs of light use and having been washed. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original and unaltered. All stitching is original and tight. All lettering elements remain crisp and bright. Given that Blyleven played for the 1976 Twins for just under two months, the condition of this jersey is appropriate, and clearly it was pulled from use, avoiding reissue and multiple Spring Training use/abuse so typical of Twins uniforms of the period.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriately light use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and was worn by Bert Blyleven of the Minnesota Twins during the 1976 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Kirby Puckett 1992 Minnesota Twins Autographed Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: January 13, 2023 **Certification Number**: 22-0113J04

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Full-weight Russell six button front, knit pinstriped Minnesota Twins jersey, #34. Cloudy-clear two-hole buttons as typically used by the Twins. All lettering and numbers stitched in layer-cut red outlined in Navy tackle twill. On the front left and on the back, number "34" in the proper position, fonts and twill colors for the 1992 Twins. There is no name on back, as is correct. It is a size 50, which is a consistent size for Puckett game jerseys at this stage of his career. The Twins team wordmark in their own custom font is sewn across both panels at an angle with an underline. Team's secondary logo "TC" patch is stitched on the left sleeve. There are strips of Velcro closure sewn between the middle three buttonholes, and these strips were sewn there after the front lettering was applied as the stitching is visible going through them. This Velcro was a tailoring feature preferred by Puckett. The jersey is autographed on the right chest below the wordmark without any additional inscription. I have no professional opinion on the autograph, but is has a serialized Beckett sticker on the Russell tag that would refer to the autograph. This jersey was presented to me without the accompanying Beckett certificate.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection locker-style manufacturer size 50 tag on the bottom left outside tail in the appropriate 1992-early 1994 style. The 100% polyester flag tag is pinch-sewn under the bottom right edge of the Russell tail tag, this tag is found on team issued jerseys. The presence of this tag and the lack of a neck size tag distinguishes Russell team-spec jerseys from retail ones. Russell manufacturer logo is embroidered into the end of the right sleeve in red and Navy Blue. A rectangle of double-knit fabric approximately 4" long and 1" high has the numbers 92-2 screened on them in black Plastisol ink, matching exemplars for team issue.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering is original and unaltered. There are no signs of any repairs, and this jersey has been worn and washed, as the tags have softened and curled, and the edges of the twill lettering have softened and frayed slightly. There are a couple of small dirt splatter stains on jersey body. It is clear that the wear on this jersey occurred before it was autographed.

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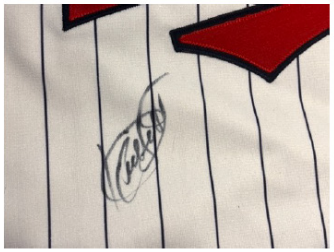
At left, exemplar year tagging and Russell tag from another 1992 reliably authenticated Twins home jersey. At right are the tags from the jersey in our review.



Conclusion: This jersey is in excellent lightly used condition, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It is the proper size, the proper tagging and the wear on it occurred prior to its being autographed. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Kirby Puckett of the 1992 Minnesota Twins.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

David Ortiz 1997 Minnesota Twins Game Worn Road Alternate Jersey

Examination Date: April 14, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0414J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Russell size 48 six-button, Navy blue button-front road alternate Minnesota Twins jersey, lettered for #27 David Ortiz. Solid navy body with red soutache 1" from each sleeve end and ringing the placket. "Minnesota" vertically arched across the front in white outline with red. Beneath on the left side is the player number 27 in the proper font, in red outlined with white, That number repeats on the back in the same colors, and above is the player's name "ORTIZ" Arched in white over red on a serged-edge matching blue nameplate. The Twins team disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve; on the right sleeve is the 1997-only Jackie Robinson commemorative patch. Velcro is added between the middle three button closures. Ortiz wore size 48 jerseys in the minors and up through 1997, and then wore size 50 for several seasons thereafter.

Ortiz was acquired by the Twins before the 1997 season, and was likely expected to be called up at some point in the season, as this jersey was made with the original team sets before the start of the regular season. He was called up in September and played 15 games before the season's end, nine of then on the road when this jersey could have been worn. Because he played in so few games in 1997, his rookie season is officially considered to be 1998, when he started the year on the Twins roster.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell trademark "R" is directly embroidered in white to the right sleeve and, and the Russell Diamond Collection locker tag in the correct style for 1997 is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinch-sewn under the bottom hem of that tag is a small fabric tab that reads "100% Polyester". That tag, plus the absence of a size tab in the neck area hallmarks of team-issue style jerseys from Russell, compared to those made for retail sale. Stitched inside the back of the collar is a rectangular mylar tag with computer-generated printing on it that reads 27-97-1 (player #27, 1997, set 1). Correct for 1997 Twins jerseys, the stitching from this tag is visible from the outside back of the collar. In reviewing exemplars, I will comment that this is the only 1997 Ortiz (claimed game worn) jersey I have found to date that has team specification neck tagging.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows clear signs of honest use. The twill and patches are softened from washing, and the team tagging inside the neck is slightly discolored and somewhat puckered. The small 100% Polyester flag tag on the front left is slightly discolored, curled and frayed from use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good game-used condition, is properly lettered and exhibits no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for and worn by David Ortiz of the 1997 Minnesota Twins.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dave Winfield 1993 Minnesota Twins Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: July 16, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0716J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Russell size 50 with two inches extra length (both marked and measured) six-button, gray with Navy pinstripes button-front road Minnesota Twins jersey, lettered for #32, Hall of Fame outfielder Dave Winfield. "Minnesota" vertically arched across the front in red outlined with Navy Blue. Beneath on the left side is the player number 32 in the proper font, in red outlined with Navy, That number repeats on the back in the same colors, and above is the player's name "WINFIELD" arched in single color navy on a serged-edge gray knit nameplate. The Twins team disk patch is stitched to the left sleeve. Typical of so many Twins on-field game jerseys, Velcro is added between the middle three button closures. Winfield wore size 50 jerseys at this point late in his career, and preferred extra length tailoring. In 1993, Winfield appeared in 143 games for the Twins, mostly as their designated hitter, batting .271 with 21 home runs. On September 16, 1993, at age 41, he collected his 3,000th career hit with a single off Oakland Athletics closer Dennis Eckersley. In his 21 year career, he played for five major league teams most notably the Padres and Yankees. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame on his first ballot in 2001, and was the first Padre so honored. *(Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)*

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell trademark "R" is directly embroidered in red and blue to the right sleeve and, and the Russell Diamond Collection locker tag in the correct style for 1993 ("flat" *Diamond* tag lettering as opposed to the later, more slanted style) is sewn to the outside left tail. Pinch-sewn under the bottom hem of that tag is a small fabric tab that reads "100% Polyester", layered with a longer tag that reads *2" extra body length*. These tags, plus the absence of a size tab in the neck area hallmarks of team-issue style jerseys from Russell, compared to those made for retail sale. Stitched inside the back of the collar is a rectangular mylar tag with screened-on Plastisol style ink on it that reads 32-93-3 (player #32, 1993, set 3). Correct for 1993 Twins jerseys, the stitching from this tag is visible from the outside back of the collar. In reviewing exemplars, I will comment that while other similar jerseys have been offered at auction. this is the only 1993 Winfield (claimed game worn) jersey I have seen to date that has complete team specification neck tagging, including his jersey number on the tag.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows clear signs of honest and extended use. The twill and patches are softened and slightly puckered from washing, and the team tagging inside the neck is slightly discolored and also puckered. The tail special tailoring and 100% Polyester flag tag on the front left are slightly discolored, curled and frayed from use. There are several light dirt stains on the body, small pulls in the fabric, and the lettering edges are slightly frayed and softened from use.

Below: Exemplar tagging from other 1993 Twins jerseys in our exemplar library.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good game-used condition, is properly lettered and exhibits no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for and worn by Dave Winfield of the 1993 Minnesota Twins.

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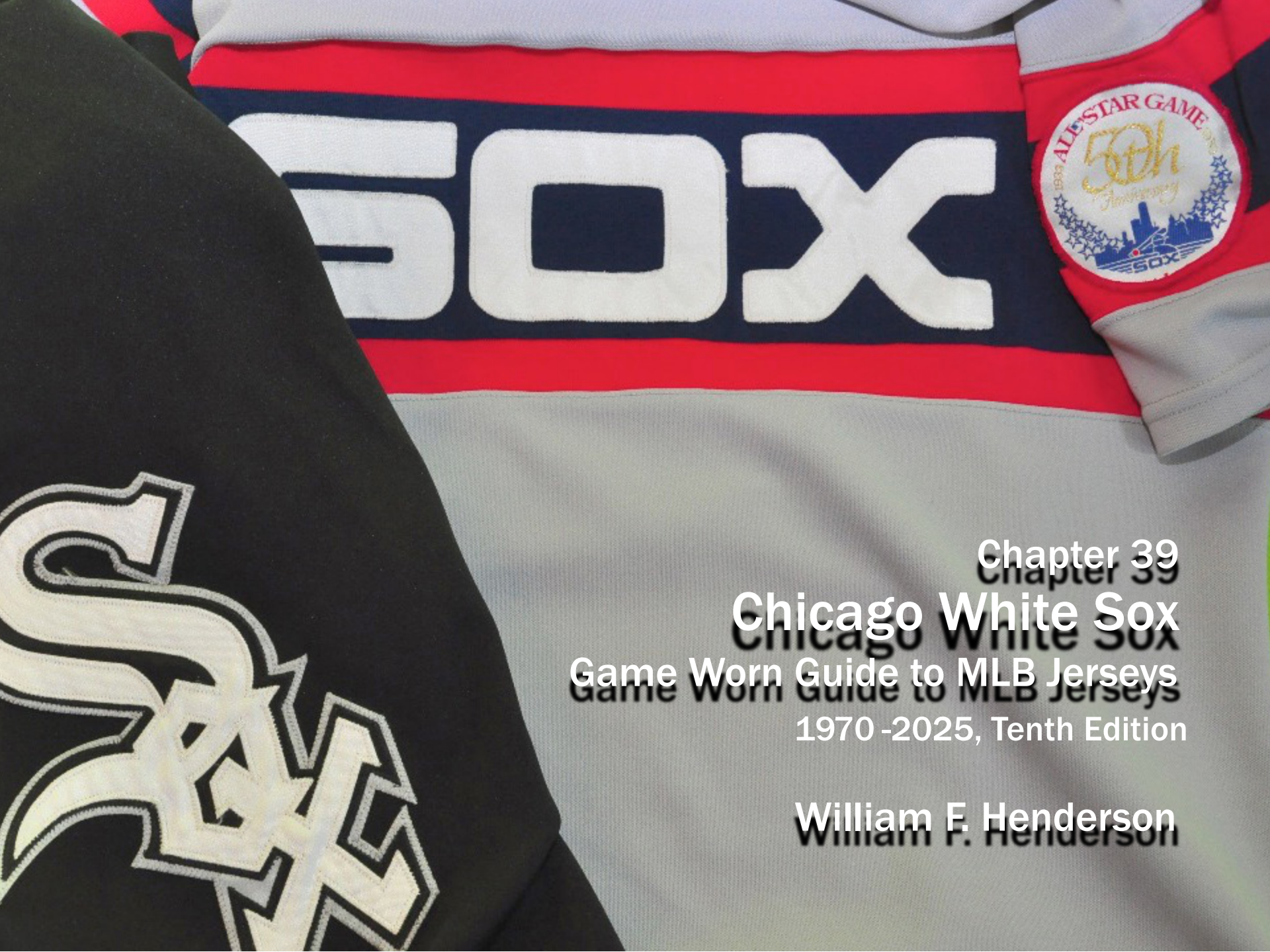

Chapter 39

Chicago White Sox

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970 -2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

White Sox Uniform History Notes

- During the first two decades of the double-knit era (1970–1990), the White Sox were one of the most experimental and unconventional teams in baseball when it came to uniform design. Since 1990, however, they've undergone a striking transformation, adopting a much more traditional and consistent visual identity. This split history—radical early shifts followed by long-term visual stability—makes the White Sox one of the more fascinating case studies in uniform evolution.
- 1970's uniforms marked the final year of conservative designs that had been offered in the 1950s and 1960s. Rather plain in appearance with minimal trim and the old-time traditional "SOX" wordmark logo on the home jersey left chest, while road uniforms featured an understated Chicago script with an underline, in white/blue on a gray background.
- In 1971, the team introduced a major shift in color. While retaining wool flannel, they added bright red pinstripes and logos to the home uniforms and adopted powder blue road uniforms with vivid red accents. Both sets also adopt full zipper fronts. This begins a new phase of bold experimentation that would last through the decade.
- By 1972, the White Sox had entered the double-knit era. Though the design largely mimicked the 1971 set, the fabric switch made the colors appear even more vibrant, and the uniforms took on a tighter, more modern fit, in line with league-wide stylistic trends.
- The 1976 season marked the debut of one of the more infamous uniform sets in baseball history: the untucked "pajama" uniforms—often mocked as "leisure suits," "softball uniforms," and other unflattering names. These navy blue pullovers featured oversized, floppy open-necked collars and were designed to be worn untucked, a radical departure from traditional baseball aesthetics. Player names and numbers were rendered in an ornate "Gaslight" font intended to evoke 1920s nostalgia, but the execution fell flat with fans and critics alike, quickly turning the look into a punchline. The uniforms also offered optional short pants, worn only a few times in 1976, yet vividly remembered for their unconventional appearance. While the design was meant to be a nod to baseball's early decades, the public was not ready to embrace nostalgia through such an eccentric lens.
- After a six-year run, this style was replaced by another groundbreaking design, the "billboard" SOX jerseys of 1982–1986. Supposedly designed via a fan contest (details herein), these uniforms were unique in that they took full advantage of the pullover design of the jerseys, spreading the team nickname in huge letters across the front of both home and road suits, leaving no place for buttons, had there been any.
- For the 1987–1990 seasons, the team shifted to a more traditional and non-controversial aesthetic, perhaps inspired by the Dodgers—white home jerseys and gray road jerseys with script lettering across the chest, paired with button-front tops and belted pants. All traces of the bold 1980s designs were erased. While less adventurous, this design set the stage for the enduring look that would follow.
- In 1990, the White Sox hosted their first "Turn Back the Clock" game, wearing 1917 replica uniforms in a nostalgia-themed promotion. The overwhelming popularity of the throwbacks inspired a full uniform redesign for 1991. The team adopted a new visual identity rooted in classic 1950s and 1960s aesthetics. The new uniforms featured black pinstripes on white at home and conservative gray road uniforms, with a Gothic-script "Sox" logo introduced as the team's new primary mark. These uniforms—simple, bold, and elegant—have become iconic and are still in use today, 35 years later. The team actually jumped the gun and "previewed" the new uniforms during games in the final weeks of the 1990 season.
- A black alternate jersey was introduced in the 1990s and has become the club's most frequently worn style, often used both at home and on the road.
- In 2021, the White Sox debuted their first City Connect uniform. The design featured a black base with dark gray pinstripes and the word "Southside" emblazoned across the chest in bold Gothic script. The aesthetic paid tribute to the team's South Side roots and gritty urban identity. The jersey is so popular that it becomes a permanent alternate in 2025 after its four-year City Connect "cycle" expired at the end of 2024.
- In 2025, the second iteration of the CC jersey appears—a bold red-and-black design blending White Sox heritage with Bulls-inspired visuals. It features a 1930s-style "CHICAGO" wordmark, pinstripes, a winged sock patch, and co-branded crossover details tying together the city's sports legacy.
- The White Sox have embraced the "Turn Back the Clock" concept more than any other MLB franchise, participating in dozens of games since 1990. They've also introduced one-off nostalgic uniforms for weekend home games, including 2001 (1917 throwback), 2006 (1906 throwback), 2012 (1972 throwback), and 2013–2023 (1983 throwback).
- And so, we have come full circle. After adopting nostalgic uniforms for the 1991 season, the White Sox abandoned their penchant for continual change, and have since kept the same home and road designs intact for the past 35 years at this writing.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngnuides@gmail.com. Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

White Sox Game Jerseys

Late 1990

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home Flannel	White Sox Varsity 1 color	Varsity 1 color	4" Block Light 1 color	No	-	-	Wilson
	Road Blue Flannel	White Sox Varsity 1 color	Varsity 2 color	4" Block Light 2 color	No	-	-	Wilson
1971	Home Flannel	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Team "Sox" Disk	-	Wilson
	Road Blue Flannel	No	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Player #, 2 color Varsity	-	Wilson
1972	Home Red PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Team "Sox" Disk	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	(sleeve) Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Player #, 2 color Varsity	-	Wilson
1973	Home Red PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Team "Sox" Disk	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	(sleeve) Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Player #, 2 color Varsity	-	Wilson
1974	Home Red PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Team "Sox" Disk	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	(sleeve) Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Player #, 2 color Varsity	-	Wilson
1975	Home Red PS	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Team "Sox" Disk	-	Wilson
	Road Lt Blue	(sleeve) Varsity 2 color	Varsity 2 color	No	-	Player #, 2 color Varsity	-	Wilson
1976	Home White	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Navy	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1977	Home White	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Navy	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1978	Home White	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Navy	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Rawlings
1979	Home White	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Capital Ace
	Road Navy	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Capital Ace
1980	Home White	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Capital Ace
	Road Navy	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Capital Ace
1981	Home White	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Capital Ace
	Road Navy	No	Fancy 1 color	Fancy 1 color	No	-	-	Capital Ace
1982	Home White	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	-	-	Sand Knit
	Road Gray	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	-	-	Sand Knit
1983	Home White	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	All Star Game	-	Sand Knit
	Road Gray	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	All Star Game	-	Sand Knit
1984	Home White	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	6/46 patch	-	Sand Knit
	Road Gray	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	6/46 patch	-	Sand Knit
1985	Home White	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	Comiskey 75th	-	Sand Knit
	Road Gray	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	Comiskey 75th	-	Sand Knit
1986	Home White	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	-	-	Sand Knit
	Road Gray	Numbers on pants	Sand-Knit Varsity 1 color	Sand-Knit Block 1 color	No	-	-	Sand Knit
1987	Home White	Numbers on pants	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Numbers on pants	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1988	Home White	Numbers on pants	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Numbers on pants	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1989	Home White	No	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1990*	Home White	No	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Home White 1991 style	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	Block 2 color		-	-	Rawlings

* The final homestand of 1990 featured a switch to the new home jersey style used full-time starting in 1991

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1990*-
2020

1990*-
2020

1991 only

1992 only

1993-2020

2001 only

2002-2004

1999-2001
2005-2007

White Sox Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1991	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Comiskey Inaugural	Rawlings
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Comiskey Inaugural	Rawlings
	Alt Black (variant 1)	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Comiskey Inaugural	Rawlings
1992	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Special Black Diamond	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Special Black Diamond	-	Wilson/Russell
	Alt Black (variant 2)	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Special White diamond	-	Russell
1993	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Comiskey Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
1994	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Comiskey Patch	MLB 125th	Wilson/Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	MLB 125th	Wilson/Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	MLB 125th	Wilson/Russell
1995	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Comiskey Patch	95 Years	Wilson/Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	95 Years	Wilson/Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	95 Years	Wilson/Russell
1996	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Comiskey Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
1997	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey Patch	Jackie Robinson	Wilson/Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	Nellie Fox Memorial	Wilson/Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	Nellie Fox Memorial	Wilson/Russell
1998	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson/Russell
1999	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey patch	-	Russell
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Russell
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson
	Alt PS Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey patch	-	Russell / Wilson
2000	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey Patch	-	Russell/Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Russell/Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Wilson
	Alt PS Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey Patch	-	Majestic
2001	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey patch	AL 100 Yrs Charter	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	AL 100 Yrs Charter	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	AL 100 Yrs Charter	Majestic
	Alt PS Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey patch	AL 100 Yrs Charter	Majestic
	1917 Sunday Special	-	Red Sox Style 2 color	No	-	Fancy US Flag	AL 100 Yrs Charter	Majestic
2002	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt "Faux" Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Comiskey Patch	-	Majestic
2003	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	All Star Game	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	All Star Game	Majestic
	Alt "Faux" Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	All Star Game	Majestic
2004	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt "Faux" Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic

* 1990 featured a mid-year switch to the new jersey style used full-time starting in 1991

"Vest patch on sleeve" means patch is sewn on undershirt

** The actual vest with the separate undershirt returns in 2005, replacing the "Faux vest" style that had been worn 2002-2004.

Majestic vests have the manufacturer logo sewn on the very top of the left sleeve hole starting in 2005. Prior to 2005, logo is on sleeve of faux vest, or on undershirt of 1999-2001 vest

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1990-2020

1990-2020

1993-2020

1999-2001
and again
2005-2007

2006 only

Change to Flex Base

2013-2020

White Sox Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2005	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt PS Vest*	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2006	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	2005 WS Champs	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt PS Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Alt 1906 Home Cream	-	Fancy 1 color	-	-	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt PS Vest	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
2008	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
2009	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
2010	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
2011	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
2012	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	"BMS" ** "HIC MAN" ***	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia 1972	Varsity 2 color	Varsity 10" 2 color	No	-	Team "Sox" Disk	"BMS" ** "HIC MAN" ***	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	"BMS" ** "HIC MAN" ***	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	"BMS" ** "HIC MAN" ***	Majestic
2013	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cond. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
2014	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	DJR Memorial****	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cond. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	DJR Memorial****	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	DJR Memorial****	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	DJR Memorial****	Majestic
2015	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	9 patch/19 patch^	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cond. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	9 patch/19 patch^	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	9 patch/19 patch^	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	9 patch/19 patch^	Majestic
2016	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Eddie Einhorn Patch	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cons. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	Eddie Einhorn Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	Eddie Einhorn Patch	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	Eddie Einhorn Patch	Majestic
2017	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cond. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
2018	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cond. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	-	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Majestic
2019	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cond. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	"Farmio" Ed Farmer Mem	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Cond. 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	"Farmio" Ed Farmer Mem	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	"SOX" Patch	"Farmio" Ed Farmer Mem	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	"Farmio" Ed Farmer Mem	Nike

** BMS Patch for Bill "Moose" Skowron added May 5
**Actual vest returns replacing faux-vest of 2002-2004
*** "HIC MAN" patch for coach Kevin Hickey added May 22

**** "DJR" patch for David Reinsdorf son of owner Jerry Reinsdorf, added April 2, after opening day, worn on left sleeve 4/2/14; on the right sleeve the rest of the season.
^ Billy Pierce 19 patch added August 11

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These four styles continue from previous years

White Sox Game Jerseys

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2021	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	Meryl Reinsdorf memorial*	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Condensed 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	Meryl Reinsdorf memorial*	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	“SOX” Patch	Meryl Reinsdorf memorial*	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	Meryl Reinsdorf memorial*	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	Meryl Reinsdorf memorial*	Nike
2022	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Condensed 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	“SOX” Patch	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch	-	Nike
2023	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color	Block Condensed 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	“SOX” Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch‡	-	Nike
2024	Home White PS	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color (no perf)	Nike Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Home Nostalgia Alt 1983	-	Varsity 1 color (perf?)	Nike Block 1 color	No	All Star Game 1983‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Nike Block 2 color (perf?)	Nike Block 2 color (perf?)	Nike Block 2 color	No	“SOX” Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Nike Block 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 3 color (perf)	Nike Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect	Custom 2 color (perf)	Custom 2 color (perf)	Nike Block 1 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch‡	-	Nike
2025	Home White PS	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	Front Block 2 color	Block 2 color	Block 2 color	No	“SOX” Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Black	Front Block 3 color	Block 3 color	Block 3 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch‡	-	Nike
	Alt Black “Southside”	Custom 2 color	Custom 2 color	Block 1 color	No	Diamond/Sock Patch‡	-	Nike
	City Connect 2.0	Bulls Varsity 2 color	Bulls Varsity 2 color	Block bold 1 color	No	Winged sock‡	-	Nike

** BMS Patch for Bill "Moose" Skowron added May 5
**Actual vest returns replacing faux-vest of 2002-2004
*** "HIC MAN" patch for coach Kevin Hickey added May 22

**** "DJR" patch for David Reinsdorf son of owner Jerry Reinsdorf, added April 2, after opening day, worn on left sleeve 4/2/14; on the right sleeve the rest of the season.
^ Billy Pierce 19 patch added August 11

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Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

1970 Home

Tim Stephan Collection

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

The White Sox' 1970 home white flannel design was in its second year of use. This plain white style was introduced in 1969, replacing the pinstriped fabric used in 1968. Thin blue knit trim decorated the collar and placket, with double-striped blue trim on the sleeve ends. The "SOX" logo on front is in blue twill. Player numbers use a font that appears unique to the White Sox. It is a form of Varsity, though very light in stroke on the front numbers. The back numbers are bolder but almost comically tiny, at 5½ inches in height, only a scant inch larger than the front ones. Player names are rendered in a very tall 4" Varsity-light font. Year and set tagging embroidered on the front below the Wilson manufacturer tag. Player name sewn in script on flannel tags inside the collar.

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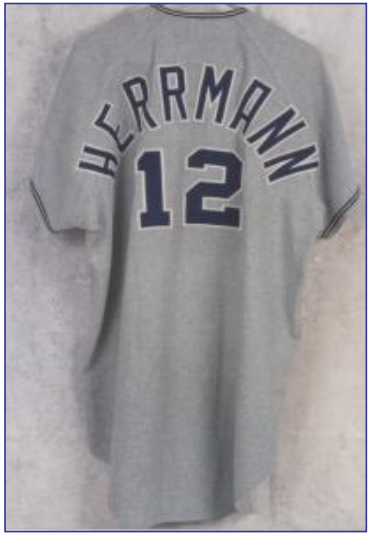
1970 Road

Steve Kraljic Collection

- The White Sox' road jersey for 1970 was only in its second year of use. It is made of blue-gray flannel with an attractive "Chicago" script on the front in understated white outlined in blue. The front numbers use a White Sox–exclusive variant of the Varsity font, rendered in the same colors as the front script.
- The colors of the back numbers and player names are reversed—blue with white outlines. Back numbers are very small—less than six inches tall.
- Year and set tagging are sewn directly onto the front tail below the manufacturer's tag. Player name is sewn inside the back of the collar.



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1971 Home

Tim Stephan Collection

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

The White Sox change uniform designs again in 1971, revising their home colors to red and white. Wilson makes the zippered-front home uniforms in white/red pinstriped flannel, and all trim is eliminated. The “Sox” logo changes to red twill outlined in white, as do the player numbers on both front and back. Player numbers adopt Wilson’s standard Varsity font, used by many other teams. Names on back are eliminated, and back numbers are now 9” tall. The 1971 flannels are a rare one-year style and are seldom found today. Most surviving examples were reused in Spring Training or the minor leagues and often had their numbers—and sometimes team crests—stripped off and replaced..

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1971 Road

The 1971 road jersey is a further evolution of the basic design adopted by the White Sox in 1967, though it had been altered in some way nearly every year since. The fabric is a pale blue flannel, brighter than 1969's hue. Zipper-front, it has red/white/red narrow knit trim around the collar and on the sleeve ends. Twill two-color numbers are now Wilson Varsity and are 9" tall. Player names are eliminated. Front numbers move to the left sleeve. Year and set designations are chain stitched directly to the front tail of the garment. Player name is embroidered on a swatch of matching fabric and sewn inside the collar. 1971 sees the Chicago script rendered in red twill with white outline. "White Sox" is sewn in small twill letters on the tail of the underline. The 1971 road flannels are a rare one-year style and are seldom found today.

Above: *1971 uniform introduction (The Sporting News)*

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1972-1975 Home

1972

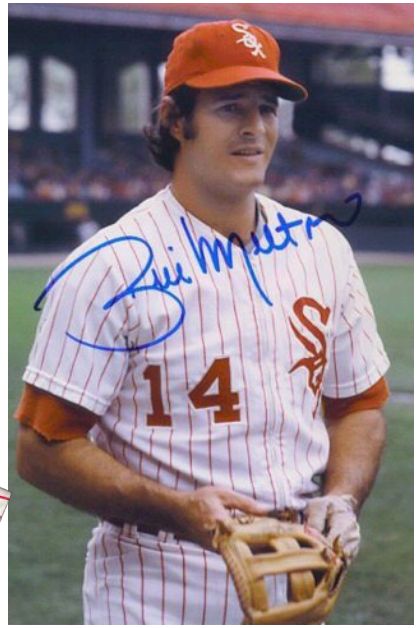
Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

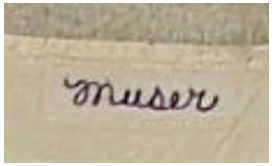
Derek Teets Collection

1973

Click here for a link to the actual Letter of Opinion

1972 marks the first year of double knits for the White Sox. The team may have begun wearing these jerseys late in the 1971 season, making an early switch from the old flannels. Unlike other MLB teams—most of whom used the fabric transition as an opportunity to revise their uniforms—the White Sox's first knits are virtually identical to the flannels they replaced. Two-color red/white numbers on front and back. Back numbers are extra tall. No names on the back. Zipper front.





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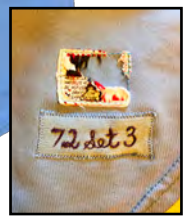
1972-1975 Road

1972



The switch to double knits in 1972 is uneventful, as the flannel uniform design from that year is left unchanged. Zipper-front, two-color large Varsity standard numbers on left sleeve and on back, red/white. Back numbers are extra tall, and no player name is used. Narrow sewn-on knit trim adorns collar and sleeve ends.

Note the chain stitching on the wordmark, a detail typically absent on restored jerseys.

1974

The tiny "White Sox" lettering on the tail of the underline is chain stitched onto the twill.

1973

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1976-1981 Home

Rawlings 1976-1978

Tim Stephan Collection

Game jerseys are made of solid white fabric with old-fashioned blue collars that, to many, resembled a mid-1970s leisure suit. They also featured ornate navy lettering in a style reminiscent of the early 1900s. Sometimes called the first true "throwback" uniform, the design was reportedly inspired and championed by team owner Bill Veeck's wife. Game jerseys are made of solid white fabric with old-fashioned blue collars that, to many, resembled a mid-1970s leisure suit. They also featured ornate navy lettering in a style reminiscent of the early 1900s. Sometimes called the first true "throwback" uniform, the design was reportedly inspired and championed by team owner Bill Veeck's wife. Although originally meant to evoke nostalgia, the jersey has become more associated with the cultural aesthetics of the time in which it was worn. Nicknames include "Softball Style," "Disco Era," "Leisure Suit," and "Pajama Style." This oft-maligned uniform introduced a stylized, pseudo-turn-of-the-century font for both names and numbers. It also marked the first use of a custom font for player names.

In earlier editions of the Guide, we had named Rawlings as the sole supplier of this style 1976–1978 and as a co-supplier along with Capital Ace 1979–1981. We have amended that conclusion with this edition, and have determined that Rawlings jerseys used 1979–1981 were most likely leftovers or re-issues from the earlier period. This is true for the blue road jerseys as well.

1976

These jerseys were issued and reissued by the White Sox at both the major and minor league levels. Many featured changes to the back numbers and names, or had white fabric panels sewn over the original lettering and numerals. Over time, the blue twill lettering often faded or bleached to a purplish-white hue (bottom left). The player name lettering on the back was ornate and wildly inconsistent—appearing almost as if each name had been individually hand-drawn and cut. The numbers, and especially the NOB letters, varied in size, width, weight, and serif style. In all likelihood, several sets of manually created patterns were used, each developed before the advent of modern graphics technology that we have come to accept as "normal" today.

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1976-1981 Home, continued: Capital Ace 1979-1981

Capital Ace of Japan took over as the supplier for 1979-1981. While the design remained unchanged, the fabric was slightly more sheer, and the back lettering fonts became more consistent across the board. The twill used for the lettering had a silkier, satin-like appearance, and the edges were bound to the jersey with a tight satin embroidery stitch—similar to what is often seen in Japan League uniforms.

Over time, nearly all of these jerseys have shrunk significantly from repeated washings, particularly the Capital Ace examples. As a result, surviving specimens are often as much as three sizes smaller than their original labeled size.

1979

Above: *Look closely and you'll notice the Garr jersey is actually a mesh batting practice jersey, visually identical to the solid fabric game version. Some players wore these in hot weather for added comfort. The same applied for the road jersey.*

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1976-1981 Road

Rawlings 1976-1978

1978

The blue road jerseys were made by Rawlings 1976–1978, and by Japanese manufacturer Capital Ace 1979–1981. Designed to be worn untucked, they appeared casual to some, but sloppy-looking to many. The lettering used a silky twill material that differed from standard tackle twill, and was applied to the jersey using a tight satin stitch.

Rawlings versions were a true navy blue, while later Capital Ace examples were sometimes a noticeably brighter shade. In actual use, these jerseys often shrank significantly from repeated washings over the years, with surviving examples sometimes measuring as much as three sizes smaller than their original tagged size. I have owned several.

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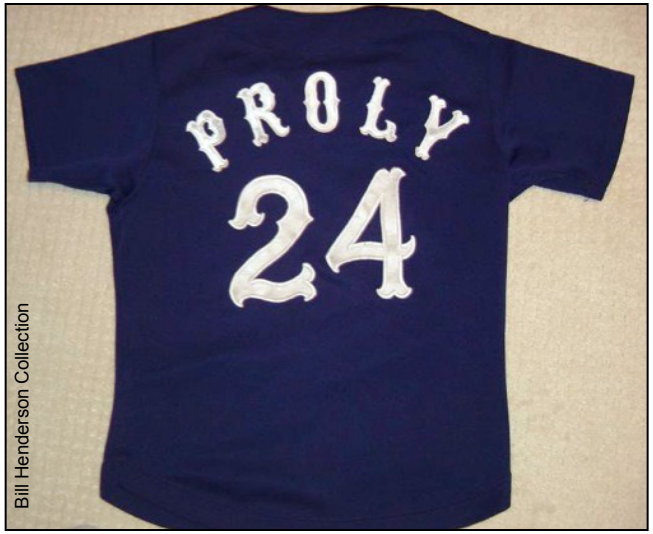
1976-1981 Road, continued: Capital Ace 1979-1981

Note the correct method of sewing on the letters and numbers—these use a satiny-silky twill that are fully bound to the garment by an embroidery "satin stitch." This stitch is commonly seen on Japan League baseball jerseys. Capital Ace jerseys are sewn in Japan.

Capital Ace of Japan became the team's uniform supplier in 1979. Their jerseys featured silky twill lettering applied with a tight machine satin-stitch embroidery. The fonts used were more precise than those on the earlier Rawlings versions, with the Japanese manufacturer developing both standard and condensed NOB styles—examples of which are visible here.

Some jerseys are year-tagged, while others are not. The fabric color varies as well; some appear in a lighter, brighter blue than typical navy. Nearly all surviving examples have shrunk significantly from their original size, suggesting that the material was not made from the standard, durable fabrics typically used in MLB jerseys of the era.



Bill Henderson Collection

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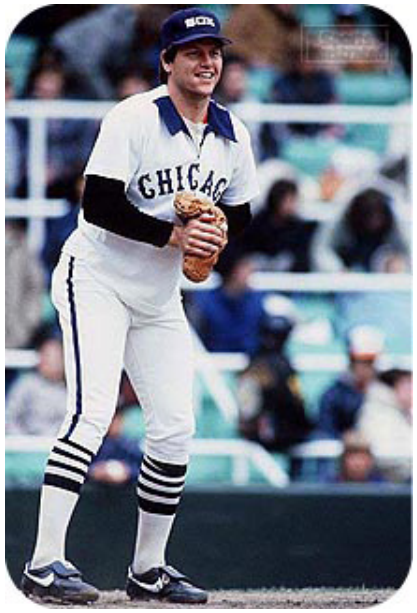
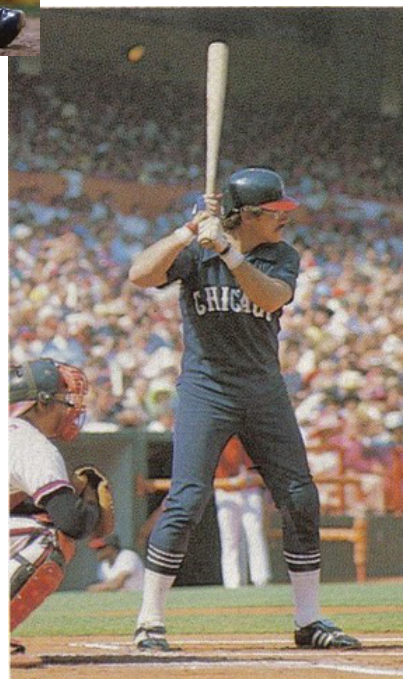
White Sox “Mix and Match” 1976-1981

While fans often credit the 1977 Pirates with introducing “Mix-and-Match” uniform sets, the A’s (1972), Indians (1974), and White Sox (1976), had adopted the concept first. Shown here are the five mix-and-match combinations worn by the White Sox between 1976 and 1981. The infamous short pants were worn only a handful of times, in 1976—but left a lasting impression. Players wore special padded hose to offer minimal protection during slides.





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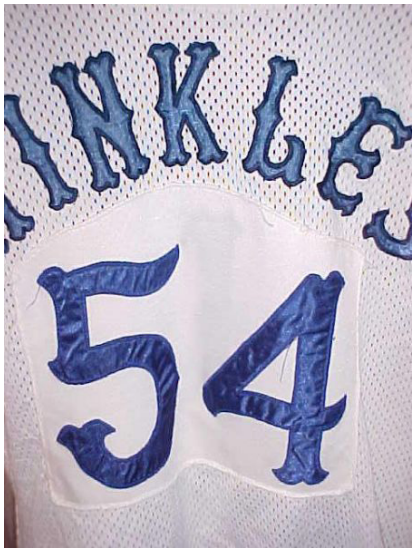
White Sox Jerseys Reused in Spring Training/ Demoted to the Minor Leagues

Like all other teams, the White Sox routinely sent their used uniforms to the minors once their MLB service had ended. When a jersey featured a city name on the front, it was typically stripped of all identifiers—front crest, back number, and name—before reuse. Shown here are several examples of White Sox jerseys that have undergone such alterations, including replacement crests, number cover-ups, and NOB changes. Nearly all of the pre-1990 White Sox jerseys in the hobby have been restored in some way, including the one above ***(top right)*** that is a terrible example of a "restoration"



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Late 1977 Re-Lettered MLB Jersey to Minors

The practice of passing down used uniforms to minor league affiliates is nearly as old as organized baseball itself. Shown here is a 1977 White Sox road jersey that was re-lettered and sent to the Knoxville Sox, the team's Double-A affiliate. A collector later restored the name on the back to match number 32—worn in 1977 by Steve Stone—while leaving the minor league front lettering intact.

Robert Harris Collection

In a happy next chapter to this story, the collector who owns this very jersey sent it to me to restore, and I did. I blasted the screened-on wordmark off the front, revealing a badly damaged jersey body, perforated with holes from the rough removal of the front lettering and overuse. Much, much work later, involving cleaning, cutting and stitching, it is back to the way it was worn by Stone in 1977. Click here to see a video of the action.

I have never seen a Rawlings tag this worn out.

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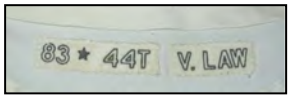
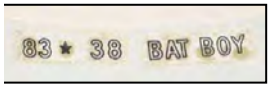
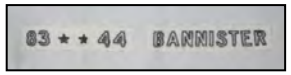
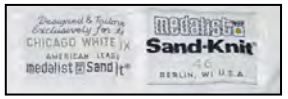
1982-1986 Home

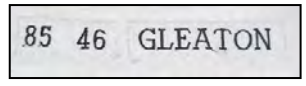
1986

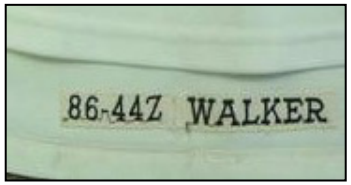




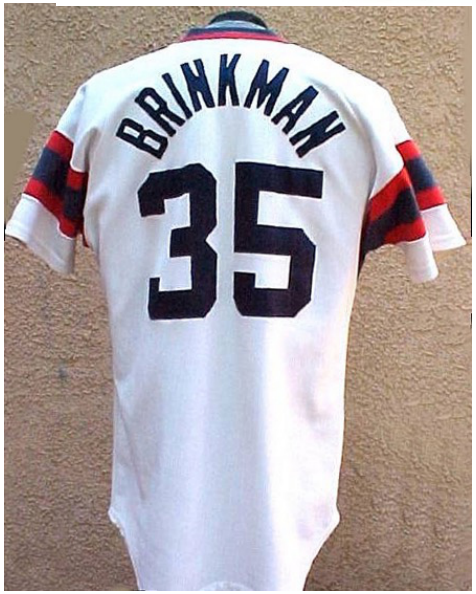








1986



The White Sox debut a bold new look, one that—for the first time in MLB—fully takes advantage of the pullover jersey's uninterrupted solid front, undivided by buttons. Knit stripes are woven directly into the fabric, not sewn on.

Lettering is one-color navy in Sand-Knit's Varsity font. Player names appear in Sand-Knit's Block font, with steep arches and no nameplates used. Strip tagging is located inside the back tail.

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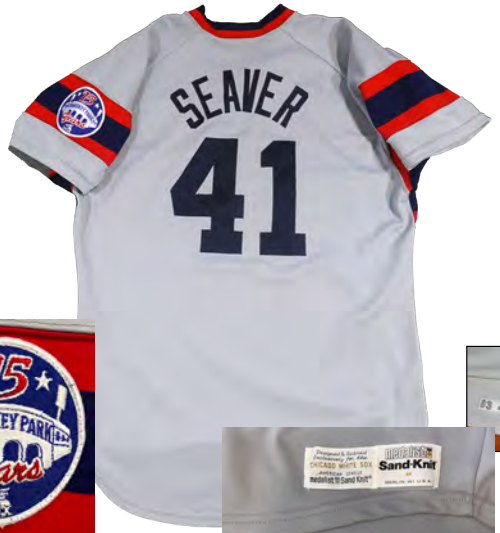
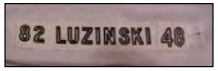
1982-1986 Road

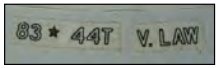
1985

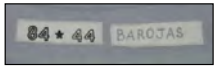
Bill Henderson Collection

1985









1985

Same as the home jersey, but with the body crafted in gray cloth. Knit stripes are sewn in, not sewn on. Lettering is one-color navy in Sand-Knit's Varsity font. Player names are heavily arched, using Sand-Knit's Block font. No nameplates are used.

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1987-1990 Home

A sudden return to a totally traditional look after a decade of wild fashions. Solid white body, traditional button front, White Sox script with underline is navy/red. Numbers only on back, no names. Block style numbers, two-color navy/red. Player numbers also appear on the left pants leg. The Rawlings script logo is present on the right sleeve in all years.

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1987-1990 Road

1989

1990

A classic style returns, featuring “Chicago” in navy cursive script outlined in red across the chest. The jersey has a solid gray button-front body with no trim. There are no front numbers; instead, player numbers appear at the top of the pants.

No names on the back 1987–1989. Block style names added in 1990 only. Block two color numbers, navy/red. The Rawlings script logo is embroidered at the end of the right sleeve in all years.

© GameWornGuides.com

1991-2023 Home

(Previewed On-Field September 1990)

September 1990: No sleeve patches, 1990–1991 jerseys made by Rawlings.

1992 only: diamond-shaped sleeve memorial only. Russell alone makes 1992 jerseys.

1991

1993–2001

Originally intended for debut in 1991, this new (but retro-inspired) jersey was rolled out early for the White Sox's final home series at old Comiskey Park, September 28–30, 1990. The design recalled the "Go-Go Sox" teams of the late 1950s, widely remembered by fans as the club's glory years.

A commemorative Comiskey Park patch is added in 1991 and remains in use through 2002. The patch is removed after the stadium is renamed on January 1, 2003.

No names on back until 1997. Two-color numbers and names, Block Style black/silver gray. 1990–1992 the silver is a darker shade; beginning in 1993, a lighter silver with a bluish tint—known as Webster "Pro Silver"—is introduced. Note the correct placement of the front number. on the lower left chest.

1991

© GameWornGuides.com

1991-2023 Home, continued

1993–1999, both Russell and Wilson make sets of home jerseys for the White Sox each season. When worn on field, Russell-made jerseys have the company's "R" logo on the right sleeve, while Wilson jerseys—due to contractual terms—do not show any manufacturer's logo. Otherwise, the two versions are identical in design and construction. After reviewing hundreds of game photos, it's clear that players regularly wore both brands interchangeably—even within the same game.

Above: *Frank Thomas in 1994 wearing Wilson (left, no sleeve logo) and Russell (right, visible sleeve logo).*

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1991-2023 Home, continued

2001

2003

2004

2005 World Series Issue
The jersey fabric of White Sox pinstriped home jerseys in the early 2000s is a lightweight, wider-weave double knit that differs from those used by other teams. See detail in Frank Thomas LOA ***(left)*** for a closer look.

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1991-2023 Home, continued

2012

2013

2021

With their standard home uniform unchanged since 1991, the White Sox now rank among the most design-stable teams in MLB—an unlikely outcome given their turbulent uniform history prior to that point.

Top left: Full-weight knit jersey.

Top right: Lighter Cool Base model, with underarm panels and updated tagging.

Bottom: Nike 2021 Flex Base jersey.

© GameWornGuides.com

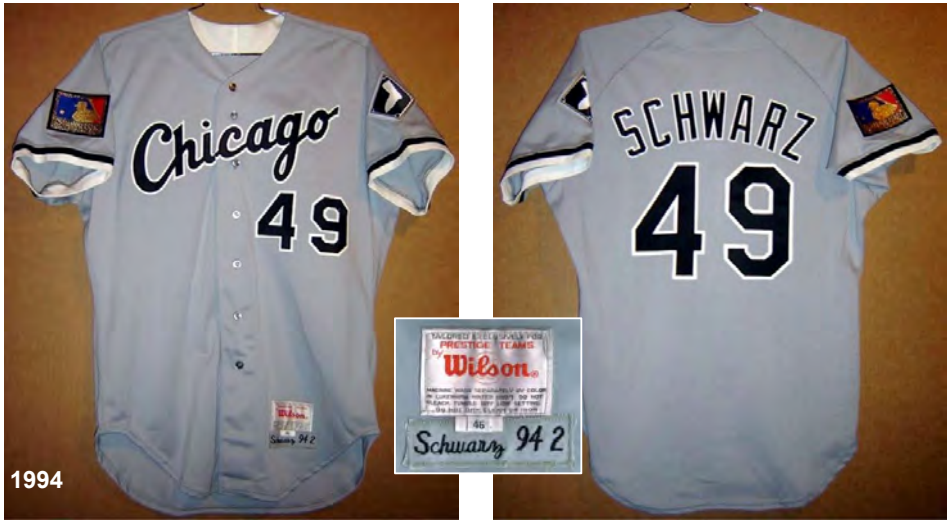
1991-2023 Road

1991

1992

The 1991 road jersey features a restrained “Chicago” script; front and back Block numbers and player name, all in black outlined with white. The only ornamentation is the black and white knit sleeve end trim. Two-color Block numbers – Black/white on front and back. Two-color Block names, no nameplates used. Multiple sets were produced by different manufacturers across several seasons.

1993



1994

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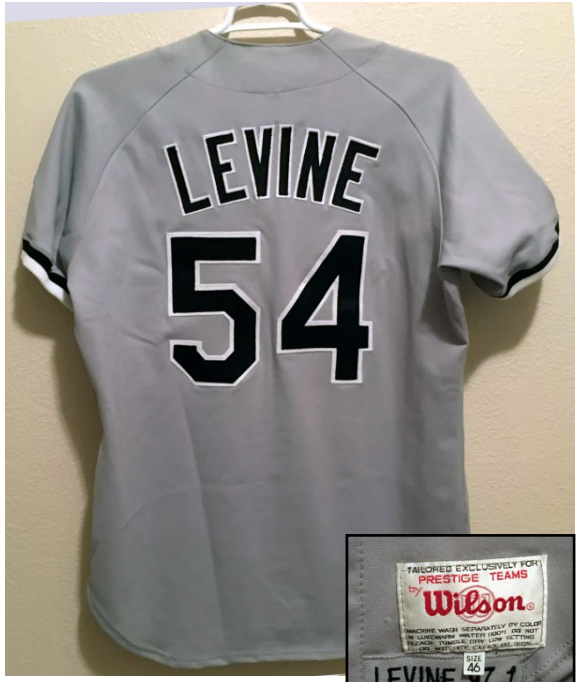
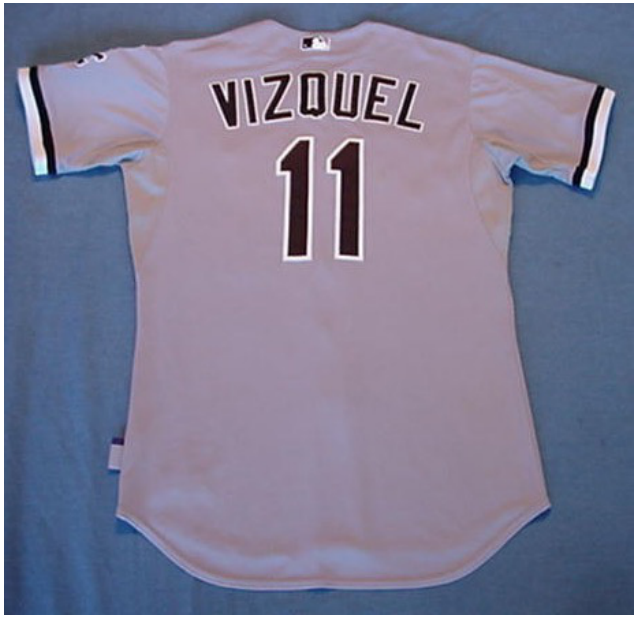
1991-2023 Road, continued

1997



2011



While nearly every other MLB team wore the Jackie Robinson “Breaking Barriers” patch on their 1997 jerseys, the White Sox substituted a Nelly Fox memorial patch instead. It was worn on the right sleeve of both the road gray and alternate black jerseys.

Above: Gray bordered patch worn 1991– 2000. Black edged patch used on Majestic jerseys 2001–2010.

Left: This style sleeve patch used 2011 –2023

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1991-2023 Road, continued

2018

2020

Note the change in style code from RXR2 for Majestic to RX22 for Nike.

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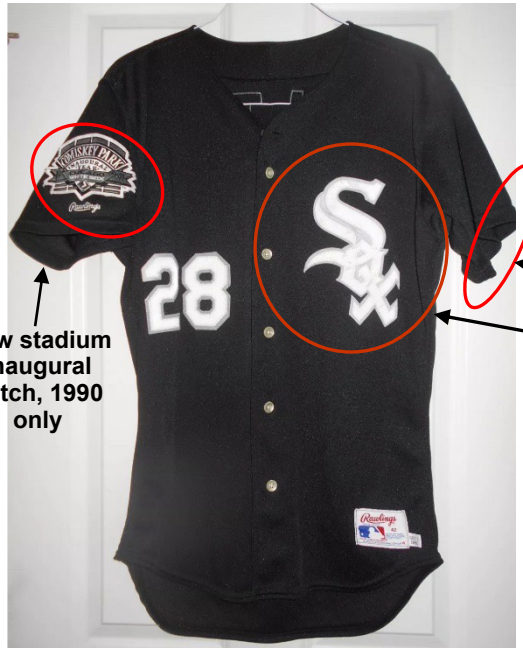
1991 Alternate



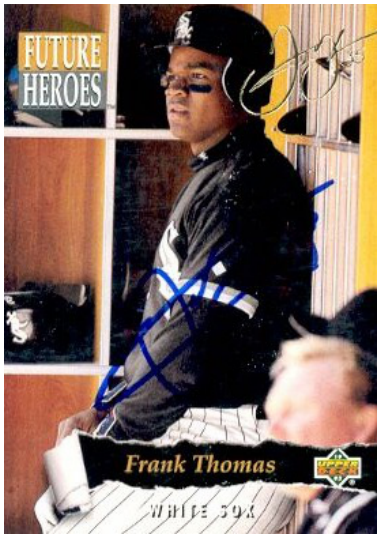
A black button-front alternate jersey with white buttons was introduced in 1991. The first version features plain sleeve ends and two-color (white/gray) for all lettering, names and numbers. This version is used one year only. The gray tone used in 1991 is distinct—darker than in later years—and corresponds to Webster “Silver Gray” #PP22.

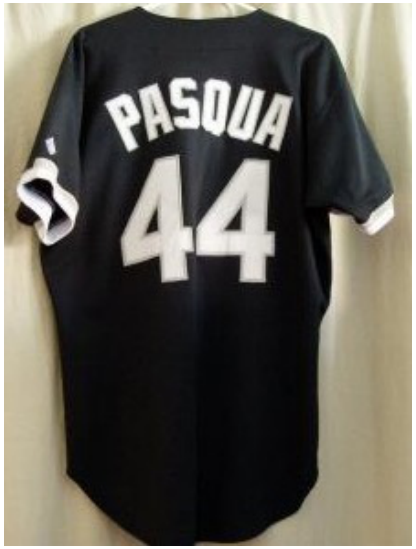
All game-worn versions of this jersey should display the Comiskey Park Inaugural patch on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1992 Alternate

New-for-1992 version uses a two-color "Sox" logo on the front, white/gray outline. This style also lasts only one year before being replaced. The color of the gray fabric changes to a lighter shade (Webster Pro Silver PP32) Names and numbers exactly follow the same rules as the front Sox logo. Numbers on front and back, name on back with no nameplate. Type-style is Rawlings Block. Unlike retail versions, team-issued 1992 jerseys do not feature the diamond-sock patch on the left sleeve. Instead, as a memorial to two White Sox staff members who passed away that year, a small gray embroidered diamond is used ***(see inset).*** At one point in the early 1990s, the retail market was flooded with these jerseys. This may have resulted from the team unexpectedly switching to a new design (see next page) mid-cycle, leaving the manufacturer with a surplus of obsolete inventory.





Above: *Replica lettered 1992 jersey; note this retail, 1992-only wordmark version uses the diamond/sock logo on its sleeve. Card at right shows the game worn version with the tiny gray memorial diamond instead.*

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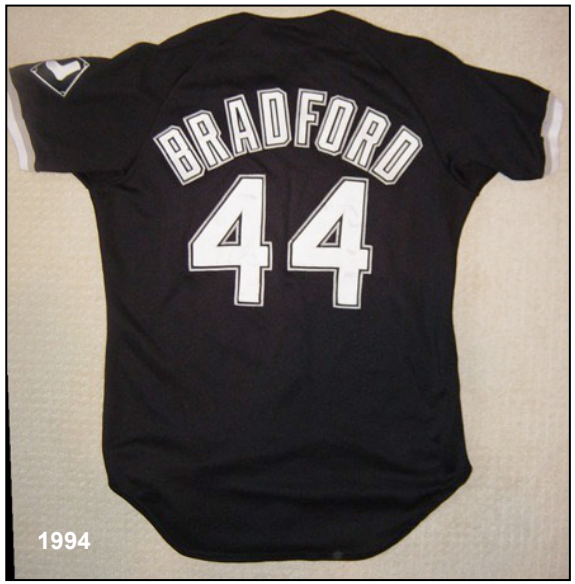
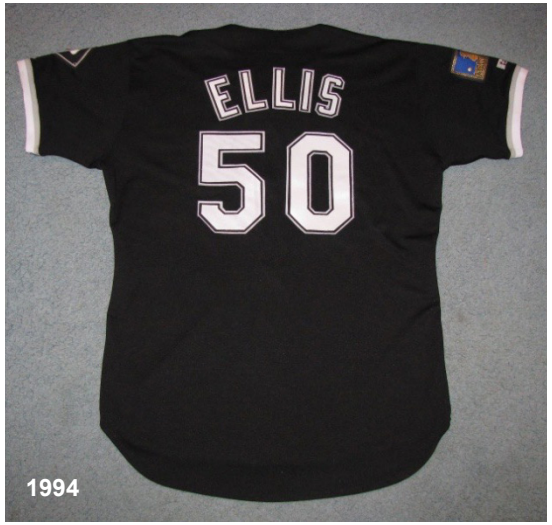
1993-1998, 2008-2011 Alternate/ 1999-2007, 2012-2023 Alternate Black

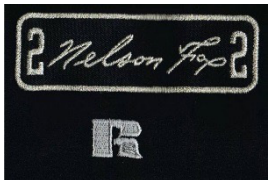
Bill Henderson Collection



By 1993, it seems they finally got it the way they wanted it, and stick with it for the next 30+ years. Notice, now with three-color Sox lettering, white/black/gray. Block names and numbers follow the same rules exactly. Three-color numbers sewn on both front and back. Note the correct placement of the front number: aligned with the bottom of the "SOX" crest. Over the years, the White Sox have favored this jersey more than any other, frequently wearing it at home and on the road



Above: *Both of these jerseys are from 1994, top is made by Wilson, bottom is Russell. By contract, only the Russell jersey can display a manufacturer's sleeve logo.*



Above: *1997 Black Alt jersey features the Nellie Fox Memorial Patch on the right sleeve in place of the Jackie Robinson patch that was worn by most other teams on all jerseys.*

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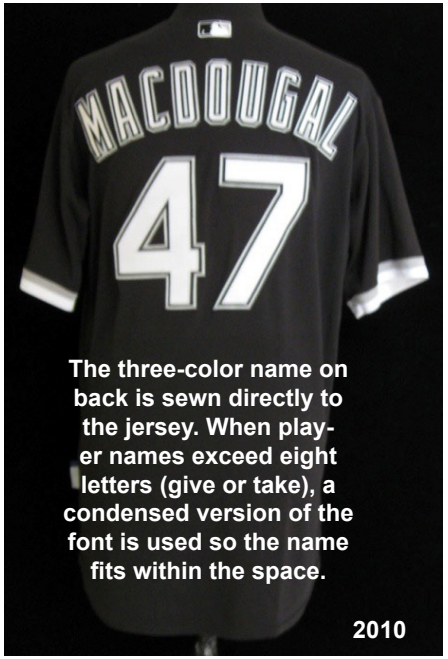
1993-1998, 2008-2011 Alternate/1999-2007, 2012-2023 Alternate Black, continued

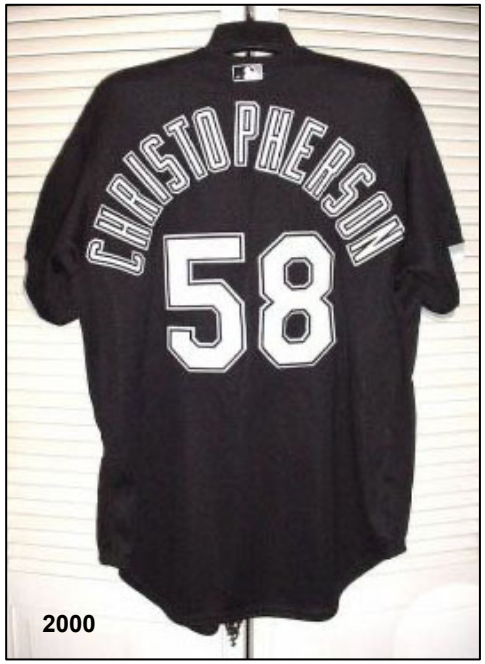
2003

2014



The three-color name on back is sewn directly to the jersey. When player names exceed eight letters (give or take), a condensed version of the font is used so the name fits within the space.

2010



2000

2021

Starting with the 2016 switch to lightweight Flex Base construction, all lettering transitions to a “kiss-cut” application, altering the traditional layering scheme. In this format, the black outline layer is sewn on top, while the white and silver layers are stitched beneath. This technique eliminates a full layer of material, resulting in thinner, more flexible lettering throughout the jersey.

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1999-2001, 2005-2007 Alternate Home Vest

1999 (Wilson)

2000

These tags are all from game worn White Sox vests. The Sox used both Wilson and Russell for their team jerseys, 1993–1999.

1999 (Russell)

From 1999–2001, and then again 2005–2007, the White Sox vest jersey was issued as a true sleeveless jersey worn over a black undershirt. Team patches were sewn onto the undershirt sleeves.

Only the 1999 Russell vests feature the Russell "R" logo embroidered on the back of the neck. From 2001 onward, the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo replaces it. Wilson-made 1999 vests have no visible manufacturer's logo. 2001 and later have the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. Wilson-made 1999 vests have no visible manufacturer's logo. Lettered identically to home jersey, two-color black/gray.

Majestic-made vests from 2001 onward were originally manufactured without any logo—since branding was intended to appear on the undershirt instead. Beginning in 2005, the Majestic logo was embroidered directly onto the vest itself, placed at the top of the left shoulder just above the armhole.

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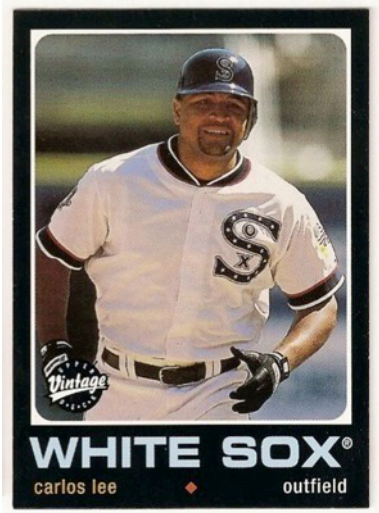
2001 Alternate Home “1917”



The original model for this nostalgia jersey was created specifically for the 1917 World Series—the White Sox did not wear this design during the 1917 regular season! At the time, the team introduced the uniform without league approval, angering many who viewed the move as arrogant.

This modern throwback version was worn only during Sunday home games in the 2001 season. It features numbers on the back only, in Red Sox-style two-color navy/red. No names on the back. (Note: the 1917 originals had no numbers at all.)

The American League 100th Anniversary patch (2001) should always appear on the sleeve of this one-year-only jersey. These Sunday throwbacks were worn at least once after the 9/11 attacks, so it is also correct for them to feature an American flag patch above the back numbers on those occasions.

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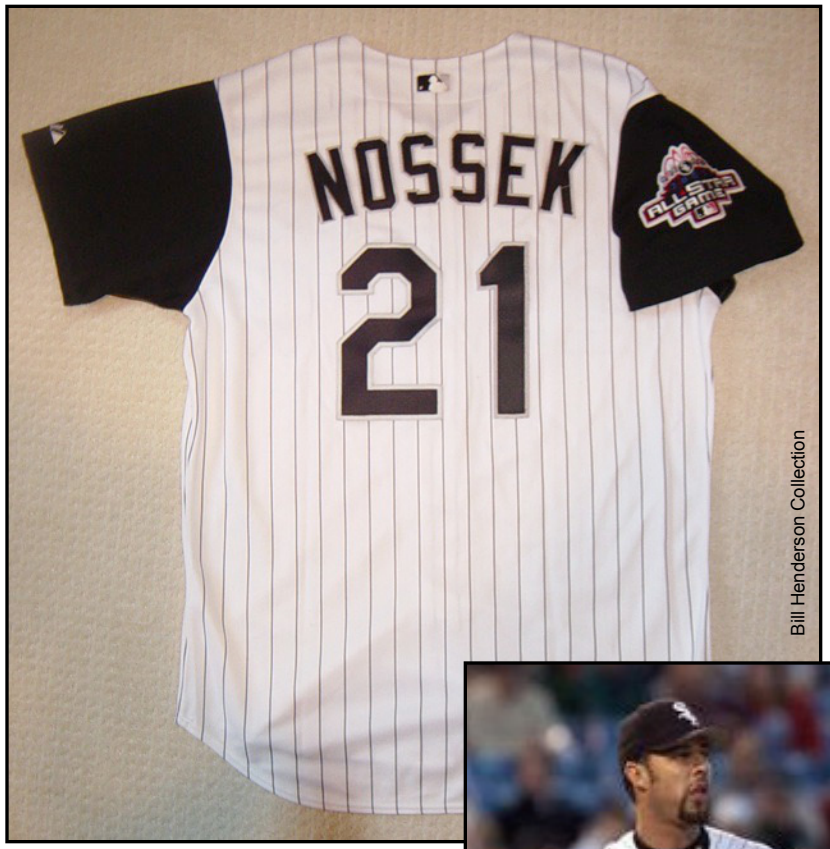
2002-2004 Alternate Home Faux Vest



In 2002, the vest jersey is replaced by a faux vest design. The new version features a white pinstriped body with permanently attached black poly-knit sleeves. This change addresses longstanding clubhouse issues, particularly the difficulty of getting all players to wear matching undershirts—especially when commemorative patches are involved or when manufacturers have paid for branding to appear on sleeve fabric. The faux vest design eliminates these inconsistencies.

Lettered identically to home jersey, two-color Block names and numbers black/gray. No nameplates used. The 2003 version includes the All-Star Game patch on the right sleeve.

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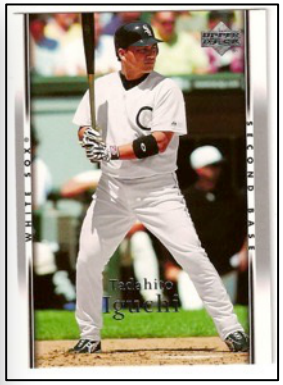
2006 Alternate Home “1906”



This jersey was intended for Sunday home games but was rarely worn. It is a near replica of the White Sox’s 1906 home uniform, created to commemorate its 100th anniversary. The primary difference is the absence of the original wide collar.

While authentic 1906 uniforms did not feature player numbers, the White Sox updated the design for modern use by adding numbers to the back. Uniquely, they chose to use the “Wild West” number font from their 1976–1981 pajama-style uniforms—a nod to their own eccentric uniform history.

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2012 Alternate Home “1972”

Steve Kraljic Collection

The full story behind these uniforms appears in the sidebar at right. The back numbers are noticeably HUGE—possibly even slightly larger than those on the original 1972 uniforms they replicate.

These are beautiful copies of the originals, right down to the sleeve patch detail. Majestic executed the design with great care, producing one of the most faithful nostalgia uniforms in recent years.

White Sox Press Release
01/25/2012 10:28 PM EST

White Sox to Wear 1972 Throwback Uniforms in 2012

Team Will Wear Popular Red Caps and Pinstripe Jerseys During Sunday Home Games

CHICAGO – The Chicago White Sox will wear 1972 throwback uniforms during Sunday home games in 2012. The uniforms will feature the red pinstriped jersey with the iconic “Sox” script over the chest, red numbers (front and back) and a Sox patch on the sleeve, along with the popular red cap with its unique variation of the Sox script. The White Sox will wear the throwback uniforms on 13 Sundays this season, starting with April 15 vs. Detroit. The unique red caps and pinstripe jerseys were worn 40 years ago by a White Sox team led by the late legendary manager Chuck Tanner, and stars such as Dick Allen, Terry Forster, Rich “Goose” Gossage, Carlos May, Bill Melton, Jorge Orta and Wilbur Wood. Along with winning the American League Most Valuable Player Award in 1972, Allen led the league in home runs (37), RBI (113), walks (99), on-base percentage (.420) and slugging percentage (.603). Wood led the league in wins (24), innings pitched (376.2) and games started (49) in 1972.

“Being a part of those early 1970s White Sox teams, with a leader like Chuck Tanner and exciting players such as Dick Allen, Wilbur Wood and a young Goose Gossage, remains one of the fondest times in my career,” said former Sox slugger Bill Melton. “The red pinstripes and red baseball cap will bring back a lot of great memories for Sox fans from that generation.”

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2013-2023 Alternate Home “1983”

Above: *2016-2019 tagging top, 2020-2023 tagging bottom*

Left*: The 2016 version of the jersey (bottom) has slightly tighter spacing between the letters S-O-X.*

The Chicago Tribune noted (1/18/13): *“In another step toward honoring their glory years, the Chicago White Sox will wear replicas of their 1983 uniforms for Sunday home games in 2013.*

This marks the 30th anniversary of the Sox's ‘Winning Ugly’ team that won the American League West title before losing to eventual World Series champion Baltimore in the AL Championship Series.”

The White Sox admit that merchandising is a driver behind their nostalgia uniforms, and say that fan response, and correspondingly sales, have been good. These copies by Majestic are better than excellent—even using the correct and obscure Sand-Knit fonts for Varsity player number and player name on back, that to the detail obsessed, do indeed differ from their modern equivalents. Similar uniforms have been worn in singular Turn Back the Clock games in 2003 and 2008, though those were not as perfectly correct in detail as these are. Not tag code changes from Majestic’s RXA3 to Nike’s RX33 in 2020.

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2016: Flex Base Jersey Construction and Branding

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

In 2016, all teams adopt Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field game jerseys, which are made of Cool Base fabric, but with several new elements designed to make them lighter and more breathable. The new jerseys have mesh side panels that run the length of the jersey, and one on the back tail called the "Air Belt." They also use "Kiss Cut" layering for front decorations, names, and numbers, which Majestic says is 10-20% lighter than traditional layered twill. Finally, the MLB logo on the back neck is now a rubberized patch, called CFX by Majestic, and the heat-pressed tag on the front tail differs from Cool Base jerseys of old.

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2021-2023 City Connect

The White Sox entry in the City Connect series leans heavily into their familiar uniform styles, with some new additions that are meant to evoke Chicago. Though they appear black, the jerseys are described by Nike as “dark gray” and they contain gray pinstripes and a subtle texture pattern that MLB.com said “draws inspiration from Chicago’s well-known Greystone architectural style.” The front of the jersey reads “Southside”—a reference to the part of town in which the White Sox play—in white/gray in the team’s Gothic font. Front and back numbers, also white/gray, are a custom style that also builds on the Gothic lettering style. Player names are in gray on back. The sleeve ends feature gray/white trim, and the left sleeve has the white sock on a black diamond patch, both of which derive from the team’s black alternate jersey. “Chicago” is embroidered above the Nike jock tag in the same font at the team’s road jerseys. In 2021, the Meryl Reinsdorf memorial patch is worn on the right sleeve.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020-2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly - a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the White Sox longstanding home jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and front and back numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but this style has no text that crosses the placket, so there's no apparent change as a result. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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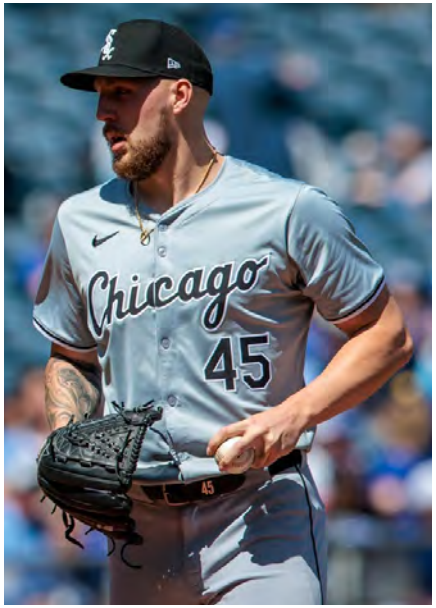
2024 Road



The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the White Sox longstanding road jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and front and back numbers, making them smaller and standardized, and arching the name lettering more prominently. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the "Chicago" script bow breaks across the second "C" rather than between the "I" and "C" as before. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the sleeves rather than sewn on to them, but the White Sox used sewn-in trim on these jerseys already. The switch often makes trim appear wider for other teams, but the trim on this jersey was very wide before, and looks narrower now. It is unclear if the team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024, more research is required. Another perplexing note, the 2024 MLB Style Guide noted another change to this jersey, listed as "Slight manufacturing modification to road lettering." This refers to the "Chicago" script, because the changes to player names and numbers were called out separately. We cannot discern any change in the lettering from before, aside from the new breaking point across the smaller placket. However, this same change occurred for many other teams and was not called out in the Style Guide, so it is unclear what this entry meant, or if the change it describes even happened at all.

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2024 Alternate Home “1983”

The White Sox throwback home alternate jersey was listed in the MLB Style Guide in 2024, which included graphics that showed VPE changes like a notched V-neck, smaller/standardized player name on back, and a lower MLB logo on the back collar. Despite this, the team never wore this style on-field in 2024. It is unclear if any were made for use, but given all of Nike’s challenges with supplying uniforms in 2024, it may have been scrapped by either the team or manufacturer. We list it here for reference because, at least on paper, it was an official alternate for the 2024 season. It is, however, deleted after the 2024 season.

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2024 Alternate Black

The switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the White Sox longstanding black "Sox"alternate jersey. The most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and all numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. Sleeve-end trim is now sewn in to the sleeves rather than sewn on to them, but the White Sox used sewn-in trim on these jerseys already. The switch often makes trim appear wider for other teams, but the trim on this jersey was very wide before, and looks narrower now. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but this style has no text that crosses the placket, so there's no apparent change as a result. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024.

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2024 City Connect/2025 Alternate Black “Southside”

2024

The switch to Nike’s Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in a handful of changes to the White Sox popular “Southside” City Connect jersey. On many jerseys, the most visible change is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and front and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. For this style, the player name lettering does arch more than before, and font itself is slightly different, even if the size seems equivalent to the earlier version. VPE has a narrower placket than Flex Base, but the “Southside” lettering seems to break in about the same place as before. One positive update to this and other pinstriped jerseys is that VPE does not have the mesh side and back tail panels of Flex Base, which would interrupt the pinstripe pattern. With VPE, the pinstripes carry across the entire jersey. The team uses perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. It is moved to a full-time alternate in the MLB Style Guide for 2025.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels. Starting July 11, the team added a memorial patch for Bobby Jenks.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE gray jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Also, unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in. However, the White Sox used sewn-in trim for these jerseys for many years before VPE (and in 2024), but with the new “correction” to road jerseys, the trim appears to switch to sewn-on for the first time. It looks even narrower than in 2024, which itself had been narrower than before VPE. Sleeve patches also revert to full embroidery, back from printed or lightweight embroidered patches. Starting July 11, the team added a memorial patch for Bobby Jenks.

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2025 Alternate Black “Sox”

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams’ non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers revert, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes and font styles, and perforated numbers are gone. Overall, except for the lower MLB logo on the back of the jersey, these look very close to the 2023 version, minus the Flex Base side panels. Starting July 11, the team added a memorial patch for Bobby Jenks.

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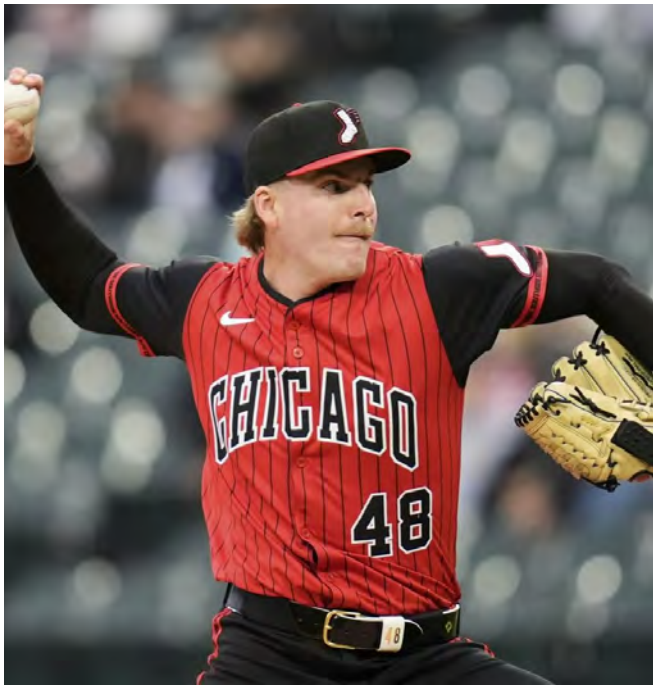
2025 City Connect 2.0



The White Sox City Connect 2.0 entry is less an homage to their town and more a mashup with their NBA brethren ("coincidentally" owned by the same family) the Bulls. Here's how the team described the look when it was released:

- *"CHICAGO" Wordmark: The uniform features the Bulls letters across the chest, echoing the iconic White Sox wordmarks of the 1930s and serving as a powerful declaration of city pride.*
- *Winged Sock: The newly designed winged sock draws inspiration from the iconic White Sox era of the 1950s.*
- *Crossover (Jock) Tag: A crossover uniting the NBA and MLB, this co-branded tag symbolizes the convergence of court and field.*
- *"SOUTHSIDE": As a nod to the initial White Sox City Connect Jersey, "SOUTHSIDE" is etched around the sleeve and down the pant leg.*
- *Neckline Detail: The neckline features the teams' combined nine championships.*

It is certainly a first among City Connect jerseys, and the Bulls did have an amazing run decades before this jersey came to be. However, the timing (long after either team has won a title) and the very spot-on references to the Jordan-era Bulls make this jersey, though attractive, seem like a blatant form of nostalgia-fueled money-grab, an exercise in crossover merch meant to sell at retail above all else. Starting July 11, the team added a memorial patch for Bobby Jenks.

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1992-2003 White Sox Team Tagging

During the 1990s, the White Sox are one of only a few teams that sourced multiple sets of uniforms using multiple vendors. By 2001, they had settled on Majestic as their sole supplier.

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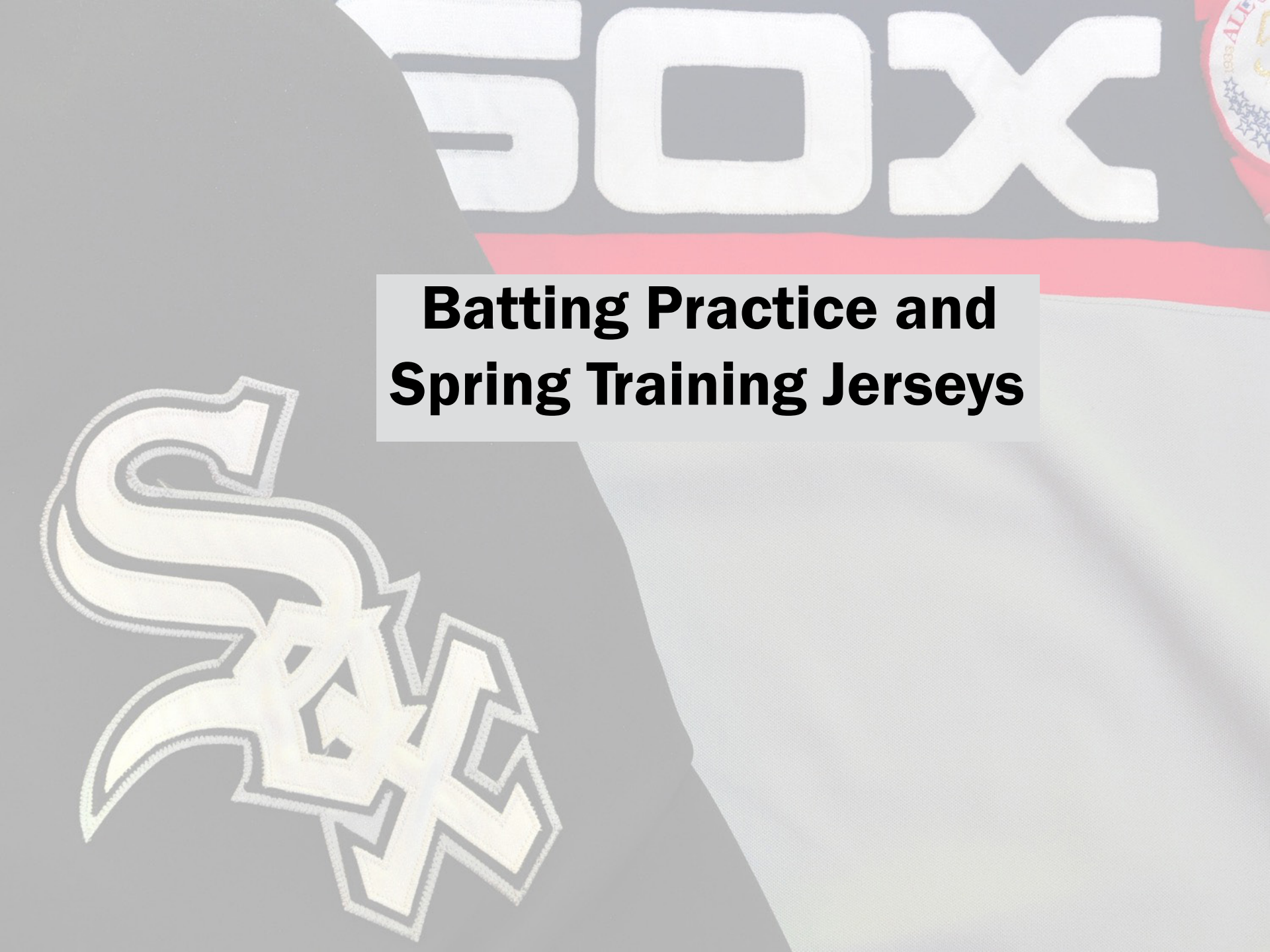
Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys



1971 Spring Training

White mesh jersey with red “SOX” lettering on the left chest, and unusually tall, narrow Varsity-style numbers on the back. No names are used. On the original garments, both the team lettering and back numbers are screen-printed rather than sewn. Remember, in 1971 when these first appeared, the team was still wearing flannels at game time! When Mitchell & Ness later reproduced the design for retail, they chose to sew on the lettering and numbers instead of screen-printing them. The company believed the authentic screened application would appear visually cheap and, ironically, less “authentic” to buyers—making it harder to sell!

Update: Collector Mark Fletcher has offered this information on these unique jerseys: “Here is the story on the first White Sox BP jersey. They were in an auction from either a New York or Philly area auction that was in Sports Collectors Digest (SCD) in the early 1990’s. I did bid on them, but I wasn’t sure if they were really worn by White Sox or another league and team. I ended up buying the Bill Melton jersey which was signed by Bill. Months later, I showed Bill the photo of the jersey and he didn’t recall wearing that jersey though it showed lots of use. I wrote to Ed Herrmann and Chuck Tanner and they both confirmed they did wear them.

Chuck Greenwood’s SCD column from Sept. 20, 1996 with the help of Dave Miedema (we) got the answer from Chuck Tanner who also told me the same thing. The 1971 season the White Sox were changing the team colors to red. They wanted to promote the new colors without breaking out the new uniforms for spring training. Chuck goes on says they hurried up and contacted Russell to make these jersey’s. They were heavier mesh due to they were cheaper. I don’t remember seeing a Russell tag on jersey or screened. I will have to pull it out when I get a chance. So they were worn for Spring Training (games) in 1971 only. ”

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1976-1981 Home Batting Practice/Game Jersey

1976-1978 made by Rawlings, 1979-1981 made by Capital Ace, same as the game jerseys for those years.

Rawlings example, 1976-1978

These jerseys are exact duplicates of the team's home game uniforms from the period, but constructed in mesh fabric. While referred to here as "batting practice jerseys," many White Sox collectors say they were worn by some players during hot-weather games.

They feature the same ornate font for names and numbers, sewn directly onto the back. Nameplates were usually not used, though some examples ***(left)***—do display them. This could be the result of an improper restoration, a repair to cover damage, or, in some cases, an original team-issued variation.

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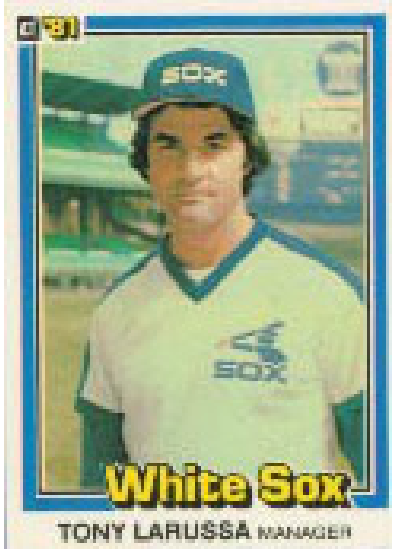
1976-1981 Road Batting Practice/Game Jersey

Exact duplicates of the team's road game jerseys from the era, but made of navy mesh fabric. While referred to here as "batting practice jerseys," many White Sox collectors say they were also intended for use during hot-weather games.

They feature the same ornate font for names and numbers, sewn directly onto the back with no nameplates. ***Top left:*** Game worn example made by Rawlings. ***Bottom left:*** made by Capital Ace of Japan.

© GameWornGuides.com

1980-1981 Batting Practice



White mesh jersey with blue shoulder stripes and sleeve-end trim. The Sox batting man logo on the front is clearly heat-pressed or screen-printed, not sewn, as are the back numbers.

These baseball cards are from 1981 but use images taken during the 1980 season. The Tony La Russa card appears to show a regular season game, as Comiskey Park's seating and scoreboard are visible in the background.

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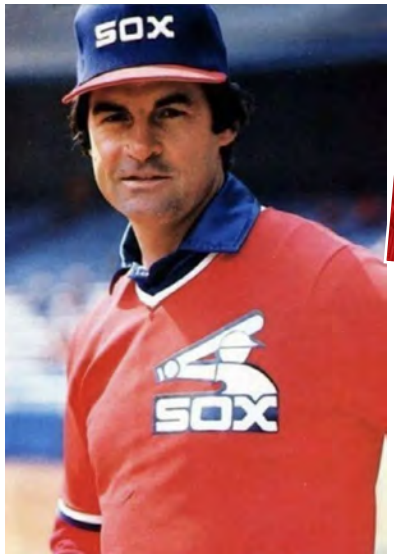
1982 Batting Practice

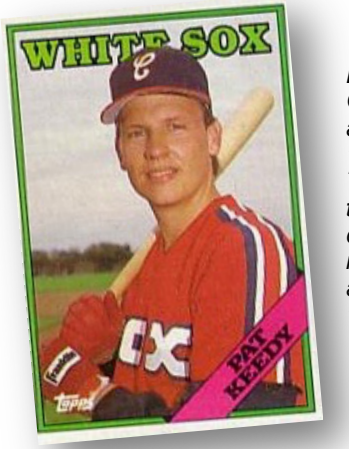
This non-mesh red batting practice jersey was worn in 1982. It is thin, slightly heavier than a t-shirt. Both the front logo and the back numbers are heat-pressed on. The example at left is very likely not game worn, but it is team issue. Recall that very few team-spec items were marketed to the public in 1982 by Major League Baseball. It simply was not done.



Above: *Note the original "Designed and Tailored Exclusively for the Chicago White Sox by Sand-Knit" tag sewn on the outside tail.* ***Right:*** *For comparison, a non-team issued tag on a retail sale model .*

© GameWornGuides.com

1982-1986 Home Batting Practice



Left: *Obviously also worn in 1987 Spring Training. On the Topps card, player is wearing a new-for 1987 cap.*

- The White Sox wore both blue and red batting practice jerseys during this period. These are of mesh construction. I have seen these style jerseys made by Majestic, Sand-Knit and Roman Sport.
- Sand-Knit versions have red/white/blue knit V-neck and sleeve trim. Majestic and Roman Sport versions have shoulder-top red/white/blue racing stripe trim.
- No NOB, Varsity numbers are two-color tackle twill, white/navy.
- Notice the difference in the front lettering between the Sand-Knit (open inside of "o") and Roman Sport and Majestic jerseys (solid blue inside of "O").

Above: *Notice that on this player-worn jersey, the numeral 1 is not Varsity Standard… as the character has a curved line at the top. Looks like yet another variation, one I have not yet cataloged.*

Above: *Majestic..* ***Left:*** *Roman Sport. Both share a similar front wordmark.*

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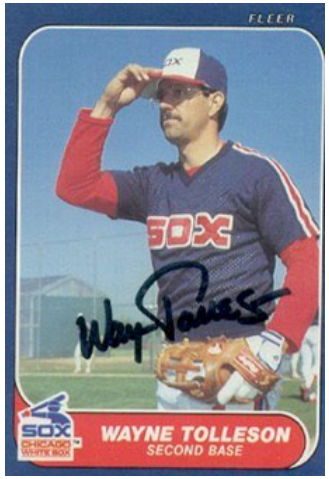
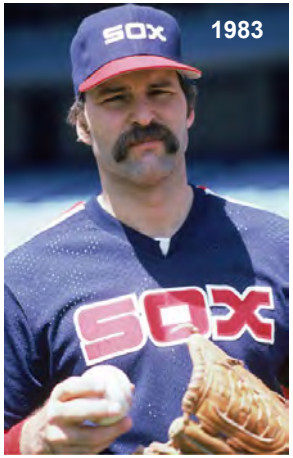
1982-1986 Road Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection





- This is the navy blue version of the Sox batting practice jersey. This example is made by Majestic.
- No NOB, Majestic Varsity numbers are two-color tackle twill, red and white
- Sewn-in white/red/white knit racing stripes adorn the shoulder tops.

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Mid-1980s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck

Bill Henderson Collection

- No names on back, Bold, two-color (red/white) Varsity style numbers. The SOX batting man logo is embroidered on a backing patch, then sewn onto the garment.
- Note the collar and waistband trim variations seen in the examples at top left and left.
- Exact usage years are uncertain, but photographic evidence confirms these jerseys were worn in 1985–1986, and possibly beyond.
- These garments are tightly cut and extremely short. The game-worn example shown is labeled XL but fits closer to a medium. The elastic waistband causes the jersey to ride up noticeably whenever the wearer lifts their arms. While likely uncomfortable for players, the design is unmistakably “80s” in style..

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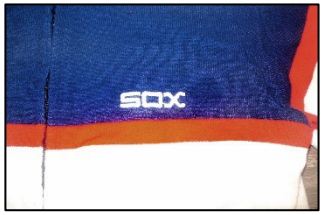
1982-1984 Knit Sweater



This team-issued snap-front sweater might qualify as a jacket rather than a jersey, but since the White Sox also had distinct jackets during this era, it is included here as a separate item.

It features “Exclusive Sand-Knit” tagging and a player name/number strip tag—matching the format used on game jerseys of the period. Notably, the player tag lacks a year designation, unlike jersey tags from the same time. This may suggest the garment was intended for multi-season use rather than issued annually.

The specific style of Sand-Knit tag identifies this garment as being manufactured between 1982 and early 1984.

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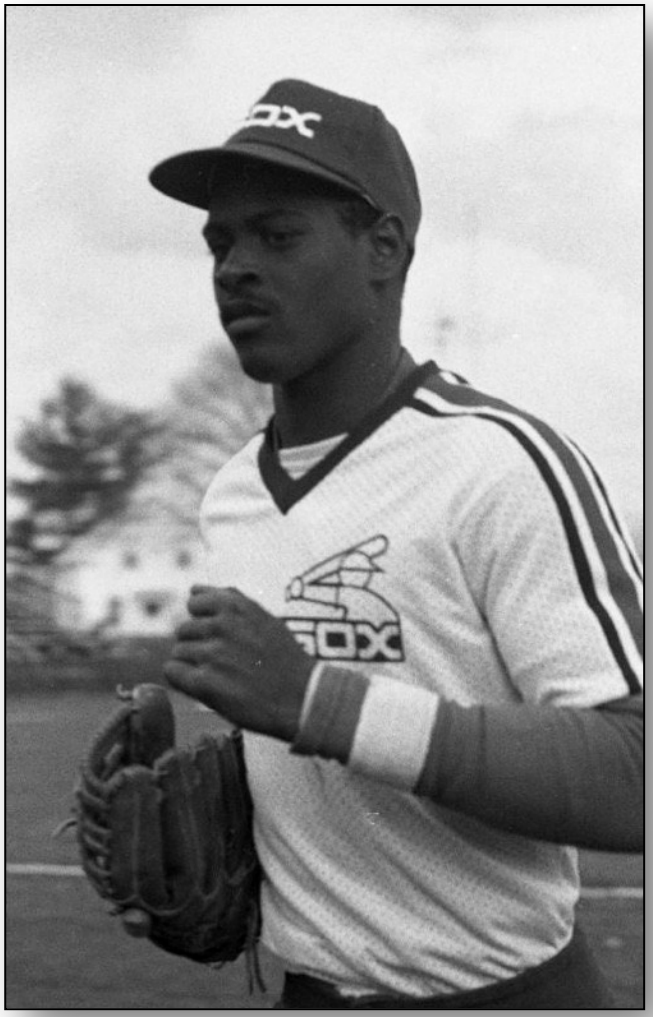
1983 Spring Training

This photo from 1983 Spring Training shows a mesh jersey that is similar but not identical to the one worn in 1981 a few pages prior. While we don't have the benefit of a color photo, it is a good guess that the shoulder stripes on the outside are red with a wider blue stripe between them in the center. The V-neck trim is red, and the screen-printed logo is likely blue.



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1987-1990 Home Batting Practice

During this period, the team uses both red and navy blue mesh batting practice jerseys—red for home games and navy for the road.

Numbers on the back are a bold or extra bold Block font. No names on back.

Bill Henderson Collection

Photo courtesy Jerry Reuss

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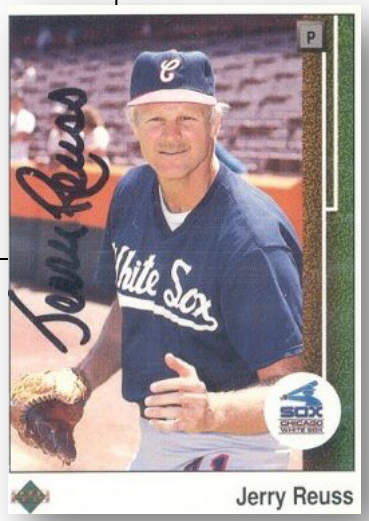
1987-1988 Road Batting Practice



- This version says *White Sox* with an underline.
- Numbers on the back are a single-color white block extra-bold font. No names used on back.

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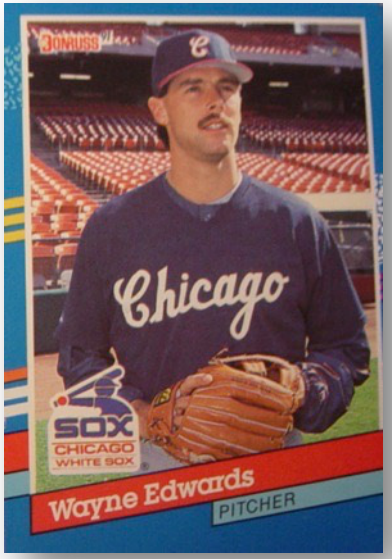
1989-1990 Road Batting Practice

Bill Henderson Collection



- This version says *Chicago* with no underline.
- The front wordmark varies by manufacturer—Rawlings versions use a lighter-stroke design, while Majestic versions appear bolder.
- Numbers on the back are a single-color white Block extra-bold font. No names used on back.

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1991-1992 Batting Practice

- Mesh V-neck pullover with two-color team logo lettering, made by Russell.
- No names on back
- Numbers are also two-color, Block style, white and gray.
- The 1991 version was produced by Wilson; the 1992 version by Russell.

© GameWornGuides.com

Early 1990s-2006 Alternate Batting Practice

In period news photos, the White Sox are frequently seen wearing this non-standard batting practice jersey during warm-ups from the early-to-mid 1990s through at least 2004. Made by Majestic, it is a black mesh jersey featuring distinctive knit trim on the sleeves, collar, and waistband, with a short front zipper and elastic at the waist.

The sleeves are striped in white, gray, and black, and the front displays the Sox lettering in a three-color design. Most notably, the jersey includes large gray mesh inserts at the junction where the sleeves meet the body. On game-worn versions, a small patch reading “Chicago White Sox” in simple print is sewn onto the left sleeve.

Although not part of the official uniform catalog, this style was worn regularly by players and coaches on the field over many seasons.

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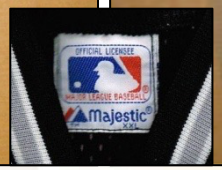
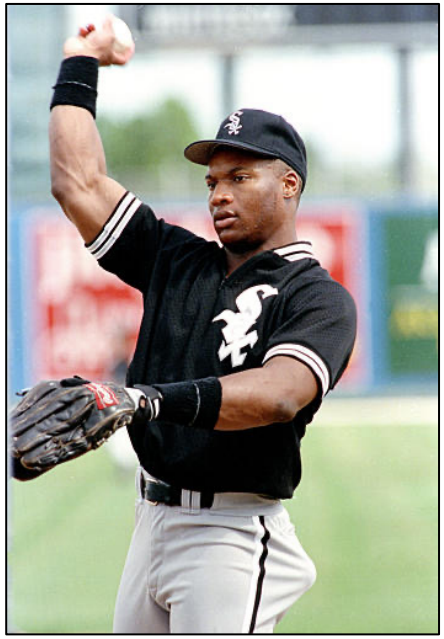
1991-1992 Alternate Batting Practice #2





Majestic supplied this pullover, elastic-waist batting practice jersey style to many teams in the early 1990s. Made of mesh, these jerseys feature multi-stripe trim, front slash pockets, and a short zipper at the neck.

On the examples shown, the top jersey uses block-style back numbers, while the bottom features Majestic Varsity number font—indicating that the latter was most likely factory-lettered by Majestic. This style includes two-color front lettering, a detail consistent with White Sox BP jerseys from 1991–1992 only.

© GameWornGuides.com

1993-2002 Batting Practice

Mesh V-neck pullover by Russell (early) or Majestic (later). Identify by three-color "SOX" lettering on front. Block numbers in three-color white/black/gray replaces 1992's two-color lettering. No names on back.

Above: *Later jerseys made by Majestic.*

Left: *Only 2000–2002 had MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on back of neck.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2003-2006 Batting Practice

Fabric is updated to an early moisture-wicking, non-mesh tech material. The jersey features a button-front design with underarm gussets made from a slightly different fabric type.

These jerseys are highly susceptible to fabric pulls and color fading, often turning brown with sun exposure and repeated washing. No name appears on back. Numbers are rendered in block font, three-color white/black/gray.

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2007-2010 Batting Practice

New for 2007, this Majestic Cool Base batting practice jersey features a one-button neck and uses heat-applied appliqués for both lettering and numbers, replacing traditional sewn tack-le twill. Small contrasting gray fabric inserts are sewn under the arm. Numbers are white/gray, no names on back used. Front lettering is three-color design, similar in appearance to the style used starting in 1993.

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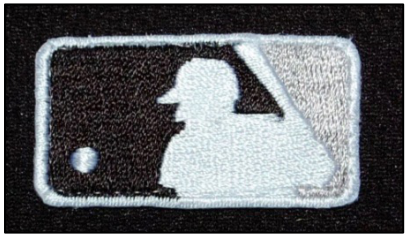
2011-2013 Batting Practice



The 2011–2013 version of the batting practice jersey transitions from the previous one-button pullover to a full button-front design. This change was mandated league-wide, with all teams adopting button-front styles beginning in 2011.

Made from Cool Base fabric, this version introduces full gray side panels, replacing the smaller gray underarm inserts used from 2007–2010. Back numbers are white twill outlined in gray. No player names are used.

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2012 Alternate “1972” Batting Practice

This red Cool Base batting practice jersey was introduced in 2012 to accompany the White Sox’s Sunday home “1972 throwback” uniforms. While not a reproduction of the team’s original 1971 spring training jersey, the “fauxback” nods to the era. The original 1971 white mesh tops are widely recognized as the first team-issued warm-up jerseys in MLB history, although were not worn again after that spring training year.

These red jerseys were likely worn only before Sunday home games in 2012, and many were also marketed to fans seeking a unique and memorable alternate style. White twill numbers are featured on the back. No names are used.

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2013 Alternate “1983” Batting Practice

This nostalgia-themed batting practice jersey was introduced to accompany the White Sox’s 2013 alternate “1983” Sunday home uniforms. It was likely worn only prior to those games. Made of Cool Base fabric in contrasting red and dark blue, it features the White Sox’s stylized swinging batting man logo from the 1983 era on the left chest. Names and numbers on the back are in white twill.

This jersey is not a reproduction of an actual BP style worn in the 1980s, but rather a modern reinterpretation designed for marketing appeal. It proved popular with fans despite not being historically authentic.

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2014-2016 Batting Practice

Except for minor trim updates, the 2014 batting practice jersey is nearly identical to the 2011–2013 version. White side panels are slightly smaller, and black-and-white knit trim is added to the sleeve openings and neck.

The back number is white twill outlined in gray. The front team logo uses a three-color scheme: white/black/gray. No player names appear on the back.

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2014-2016 Alternate “1983” Batting Practice

This one has proven difficult to track down. Announced by the White Sox as part of their 2014 uniform collection, it follows the updated construction used in Majestic’s 2014 batting practice jersey line. It features red/blue knit trim at the sleeve ends and collar. The red side panels are smaller than in previous versions, and the red detailing around the back of the neck—present in 2013—is no longer included.

Despite extensive searching, no confirmed photographs of the jersey being worn on-field have been found. As this style would have been worn only during pre-game warm-ups on throwback 1983 uniform days, media photos of them have been elusive.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the pre-season. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The White Sox use a design separate from their regular season standard set, combining their regular season 1980s batting man logo with their regular season current color scheme as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey also features a rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "AZ" representing where the White Sox spend Spring Training.

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2017 Spring Training

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before.

The White Sox use the same jersey from Spring 2016; a design separate from their regular season standard set combining their nostalgic 1980's batterman logo with their current black-white-gray color scheme as a basis for their Spring Training jersey. The name and back numbers are white patterned twill.

While most other teams simplified their back numbers to one-color on the new-for-2017 MLB Spring Training template, the White Sox did not need to simplify as they were using one-color only already. The 2017 jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “AZ” representing where the White Sox spend Spring Training.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice

***Left**: This example features an up-side-down "8" on the sleeve. A little surprising given the stark difference in the sizes of the top and bottom openings of the number.*

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls "lightweight twill" (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The White Sox jersey is black with gray back and underarm gussets. The stylized "Sox" logo from their home jerseys and caps appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank gray. Player number in white/gray Block on the left sleeve.

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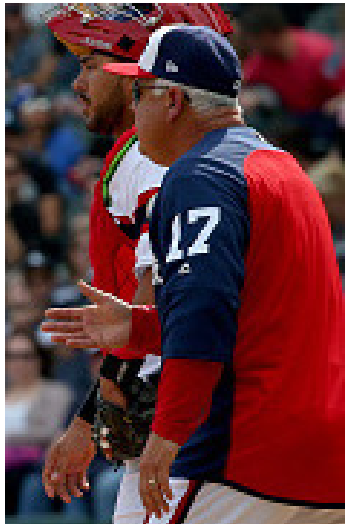
2017-2019 Alternate “1983” Batting Practice

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. As has been their style since 2012, the White Sox use a matching BP top when they wear their “1983” nostalgia game jerseys. The version is blue with red back and underarm gussets. The 80’s inspired batting man logo appears on the front left chest. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white Block on the left sleeve.



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2018 Spring Training

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The White Sox use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, combining their 1980s batting man logo with their current color scheme as their base. The name and back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "AZ" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The White Sox use their a design separate from their regular-season standard set, combining their 1980s batting man logo with their current color scheme, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "ARZ," referencing their Spring Training home. The name and front and back numbers are white/black/gray twill.

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2020-2023 Spring Training

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams would wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular-season alternates. For 2020–2023, the White Sox use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, combining their 1980s batting man logo with their current color scheme, with white/black/gray player name and front and back numbers.

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Special Events Jerseys

1990 Turn Back the Clock to 1917:
The *Very First* MLB Turn Back the Clock Jersey

Top middle: *This number font style is known as "NCAA," and it is used on various TBTC uniforms as well as some White Sox prototypes.*

- **July 11, 1990**: The White Sox become the first MLB team to host a Turn Back the Clock game. This game-worn replica of the 1917 uniform is tagged "1990 Special Edition."
- The uniform is made of double-knit fabric with tackle twill numbers. While player numbers were not part of the original 1917 jerseys, they were required by MLB rules in 1990, resulting in this necessary concession to historical accuracy.

Above: *Baseball card shows Carlton Fisk and Robin Ventura standing inside the construction site of the new Comiskey Park.*

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1990 Turn Back the Clock to 1917, continued

For a day, Comiskey is a blast from past

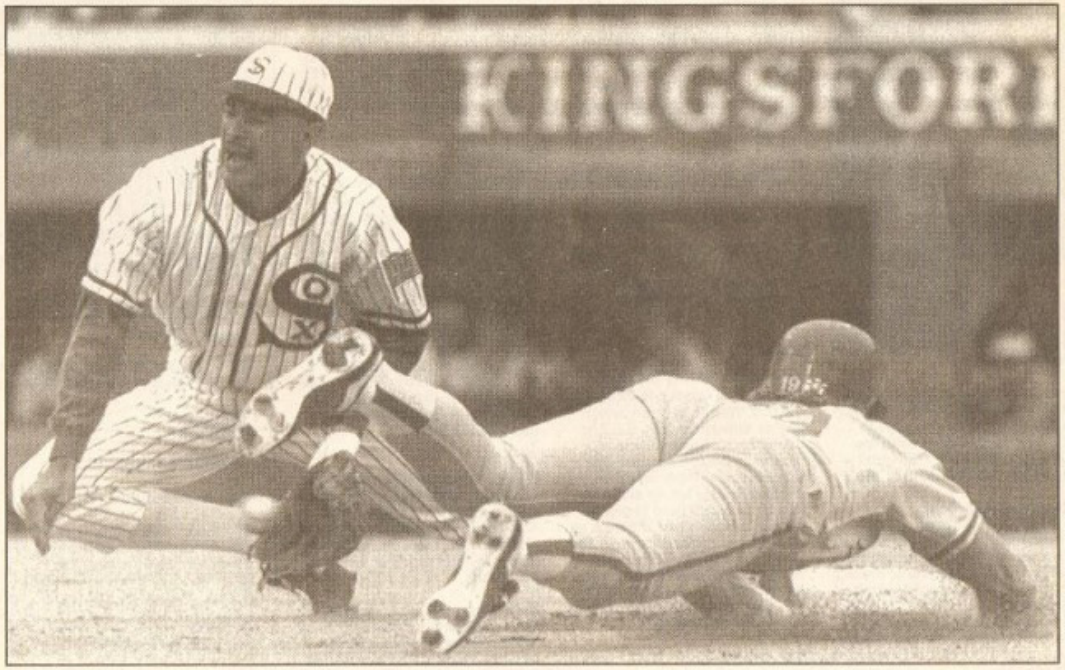
Associated Press

Chicago, Ill.
An organ grinder and his monkey made their rounds through Comiskey Park. A barbershop quartet harmonized in a corridor. Popcorn sold for a nickel. General admission seats were four bits.

In the crowd of 40,666, men wore bowties and straw hats, women were dressed in two-tone, ankle-length skirts with bonnets and parasols. For one day, it was 1917 again.

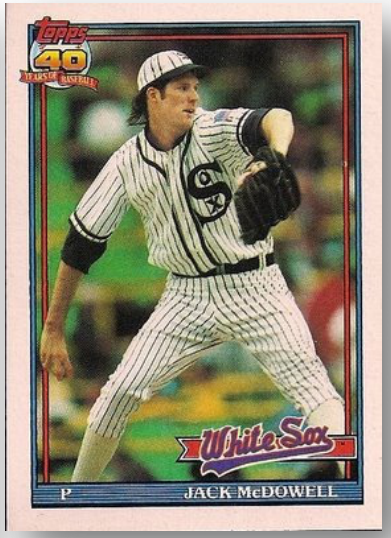
The Chicago White Sox, who are leaving Comiskey Park after this season for a newer model across the street, turned back the clock Wednesday in their 12-9 loss to the Milwaukee Brewers in 13 innings. They came dressed like the World Series champions of 1917 — the last Chicago team to win a World Series — with short-brimmed caps, all white socks with no stirrups and a uniform with a bloused look.

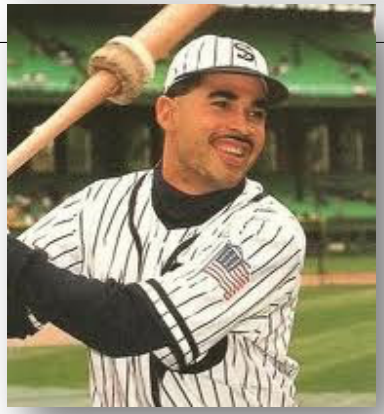
Comiskey continued on page 12C

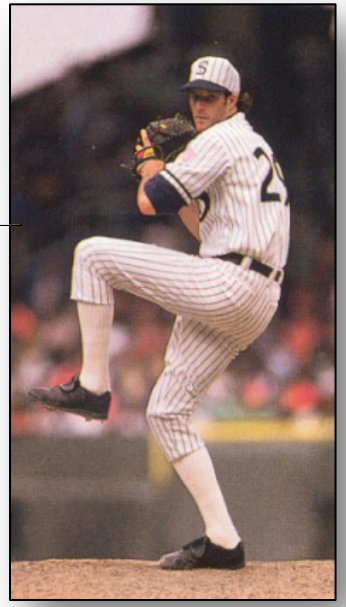


Associated Press

Chicago's Ozzie Guillen looked as if he had stepped out of the past in his 1917-style White Sox uniform.







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1993-1994, 1996, 1998 St. Patrick's Day

1993

1996, 1998 Three-color back numbers.

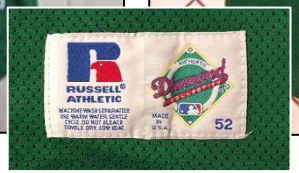
All sewn on, front logo is white/black. Back numbers are the same, except for 1996 and 1998 which are white/black/gray.

1994

During Spring Training in the 1990s, the White Sox occasionally marked St. Patrick's Day by wearing green jerseys. These events were promoted under the slogan "Good Guys Wear Green," a playful variation on the team's standard 1990s motto, "Good Guys Wear Black."

The jerseys appear identical across the years they were used, with no known seasonal variations in design.

1996



This model with the reversed logo (black outlined with white) is a retail sale version, and as far as I know was not used on the field.

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1995 Turn Back the Clock to 1964

Halper Collection

Left: 1966 and 1967 original jerseys. Notice tiny back numbers.

July 5, 1995: The White Sox hosted the Yankees for a Turn Back the Clock game to 1964. The Yankees, as usual, ignored the occasion, wearing their regular 1995 road uniforms.

Sleeve Number

Aside from the different player number font and the small sleeve patch, the reproduction White Sox uniforms from 1965 look almost identical to their current 1995 suits.

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 Turn Back the Clock to 1917

At home on June 16, 1997, the White Sox wore retro 1917 World Series uniforms for an interleague match-up against the Cubs. If the design looks familiar, it's because a similar version was later adopted as the team's Sunday alternate jersey in 2001.

However, the 1997 Turn Back the Clock jersey differs in several key ways. Most notably, it features American flags sewn on both sleeves, whereas the 2001 version has the flag on the left sleeve and the American League 100th Anniversary patch on the right. The 1997 model also includes a stiffer stand-up collar and longer sleeves—both absent from the 2001 jersey. On the back, the number font used in 1997 is called "NCAA" and appears in one-color navy blue. By contrast, the 2001 version uses the Red Sox-style number font and adds an American flag patch on the upper back collar (added after 9/11/2001).

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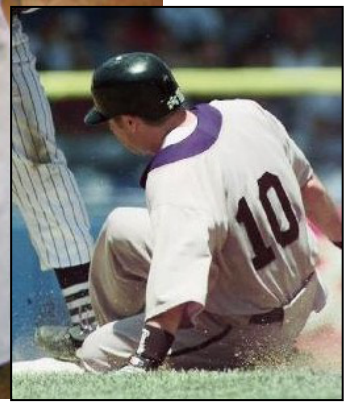
1999 Negro Leagues Tribute (1911 Chicago American Giants)



Uniforms from this set have surfaced signed, suggesting they were likely auctioned for charity at some point. These were worn on May 29, 1999, in a game against the Detroit Tigers, who dressed as the 1920 Detroit Stars. The White Sox uniforms were made of knit fabric by AIS

Below: *Photo of the 1911 Chicago American Giants.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Back The Clock to 1969

Bill Henderson Collection

The White Sox served as the road team in this July 19, 1999 Turn Back the Clock game, appearing as the 1969 White Sox from 30 years prior. Rawlings double knits were used in place of the original flannel uniforms. Their opponents, the Brewers, dressed as the 1969 Seattle Pilots.

The TBTC jerseys are reasonably faithful reproductions, featuring a beautifully rendered team script. However, the sleeve and neck trim is too wide—modern knit instead of the narrow trim used on the original flannels. Additionally, the unique 1960s White Sox number font—a hybrid of Red Sox style and Varsity—is not replicated. It is replaced by modern Block standard..

1970 original

© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Turn Ahead the Clock

- **September 10,1999** Turn Ahead the Clock night. As part of a Century 21 Real Estate–sponsored promotion, teams were encouraged to imagine what their uniforms might look like in the year 2021. That the White Sox design ranks among the least offensive of the group is perhaps the most generous assessment one can offer.
- The front logo is sublimated into the fabric, similar to a European soccer or cycling jersey. Back lettering is one-color metallic silver, applied as sewn-on twill
- The White Sox wore this jersey with a black undershirt and the Comiskey Park patch sewn on the left sleeve ***(right:*** news photo).

Daily Herald/Daniel White

© GameWornGuides.com

2000 Turn Back the Clock to 1902-1916

Above: *The authenticated game worn jersey has the sleeves cut shorter. Many players voiced their dislike for these styles that they believed hindered their play.*

This Turn Back the Clock game was played on August 12, 2000, in Tampa Bay against the Rays, who dressed as the 1922 St. Petersburg Saints, a local minor league team.

The White Sox wore navy blue uniforms representing their 1902–1916 road style. Made by Mitchell & Ness, the jerseys were knit with all-felt lettering and featured an ungainly ¾ sleeve construction.

Red Sox–style numbers were used on the back—an anachronism, as the original 1902–1916 uniforms would not have had any numbers at all.

2001 Turn Back the Clock: Fail

• USA Today, May 21, 2001: "Things have gotten so bad for the White Sox that their 1977 uniforms on (the Blue Jays') Turn Back the Clock day in Toronto never were tailored, leaving them only with caps from the year of the Blue Jays' inaugural season."

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2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1953

Steve Kraljic Collection

1956 original, same style as 1953

July 13, 2003: The White Sox wore Majestic-made double knit replicas of their 1953 flannel road uniforms in a TBTC road game against the Indians. ***Top right:*** For comparison, an original 1956 jersey—identical in design—is shown alongside.

Unfortunately, the reproduction missed the mark in several respects. The front "CHICAGO" lettering is too tall and lacks the subtle arch of the original. The back numbers are also oversized and do not accurately replicate the original font.

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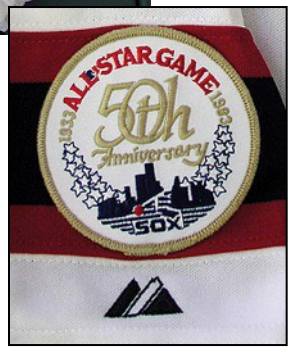
2003 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

September 6, 2003: White Sox playing as the 1983 team. The Majestic-made jersey is quite accurate, down to the 1983 All-Star Game patch on the sleeve.

However, the numbers and names are rendered in the wrong font. Instead of using the mid-1980s Sand-Knit fonts that appeared on the originals, Majestic substituted the team's then-current block font. Apparently, no one had a proper copy of the 1983 Sand-Knit templates on hand.



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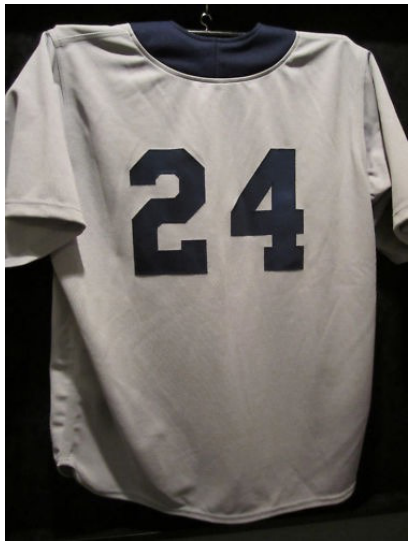
2004 Negro Leagues Tribute (1911 Chicago American Giants)

Steve Kraljic Collection

Game played on July 31, 2004, featuring the White Sox and the Tigers. The White Sox dressed as the Negro League's Chicago American Giants of 1911.

Back numbers are rendered in Block Extra Bold font.



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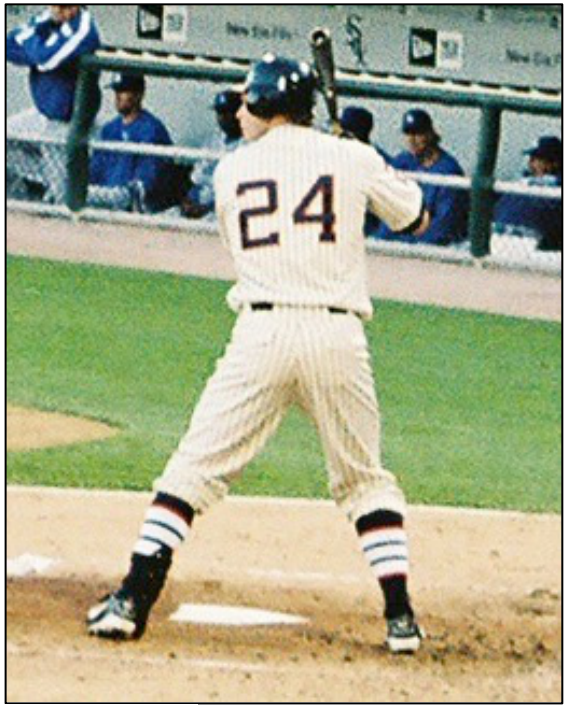
2005 Turn Back the Clock to 1959



Original
1959

June 18, 2005: Dodgers vs. White Sox Turn Back the Clock to 1959, a re-match of the World Series from that season. Cream pinstripe uniforms by AIS.

Very nice attempt at matching the odd player number font on both the back and the right sleeve. All lettering is black outlined with red.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005-2011 “Halfway to St. Patrick’s Day”

September 9, 2005
September 8, 2006
September 14, 2007
September 12, 2008
(RAINED OUT) September 18, 2009
September 17, 2010
September 9, 2011

- Interesting promotion first held in September 2005, featured green uniforms and hats, then held annually after that. Uniforms copy the home design, but replace all black elements with green.
- Note the Red Cross logo on the 2005 green batting helmet (in the photo at top right) for Hurricane Katrina relief.

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2007 Negro Leagues Tribute (1945 Chicago American Giants)

Steve Kraljic Collection

Game played in Kansas City, July 1, 2007. The White Sox dressed as Chicago American Giants. Knit uniforms made by AIS. Lettering is navy and red. No names on back; player numbers are in a font we have not cataloged here before.

The home Royals dressed as the 1945 Kansas City Monarchs. 1945 was the year that Jackie Robinson played for the Monarchs.

1945 Chicago American Giants

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Turn Back the Clock to 1983

- On July 20, 2008, the White Sox hosted a Turn Back the Clock game to 1983 in honor of Harold Baines. They faced the Kansas City Royals, who wore their standard royal blue alternate jerseys.
- The Majestic-made White Sox uniforms were beautifully stitched and closely matched the originals. The only notable differences are in the lettering: the replicas use Wilson Varsity numbers and Block Standard NOB fonts, whereas the original 1983 jerseys featured slightly different Sand-Knit variants for both numbers and names.

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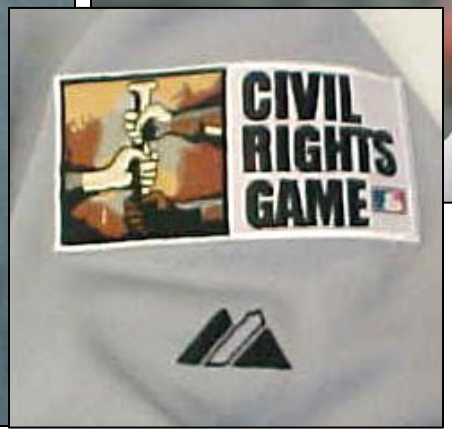
2008 Civil Rights Game



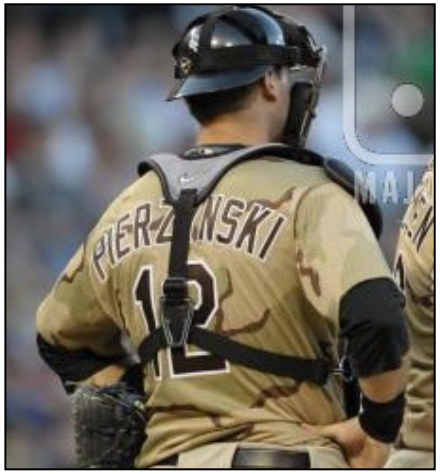
- This exhibition game pitted the White Sox against the New York Mets just before the start of the regular season on March 29, 2008. Continuing the theme started the prior year, team uniforms for this game are devoid of any team logos, featuring only the Civil Rights Game patch on the sleeve.
- Numbers on back are Block font in one-color black Block, no NOB used.

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 Independence Day

Worn only once, intended as a salute to the military on July 4, 2008. It is a mesh jersey.

Player name and number lettering on back is identical to home jersey, sewn in brown and white. No numbers are used on the front of this jersey. American flag patch is sewn to the left sleeve.



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2008 Negro Leagues Tribute (1920 Chicago American Giants)

- Game played July 26, 2008 vs. Detroit Tigers, in Detroit (who dressed as the Detroit Stars Negro League team).
- Knit uniforms made by AIS for the occasion.

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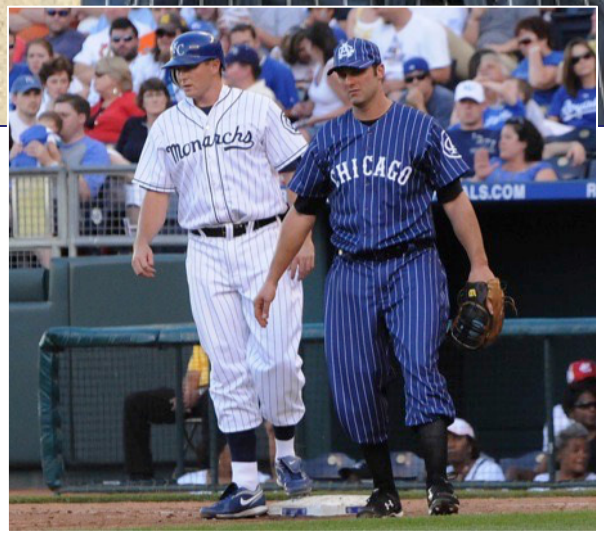
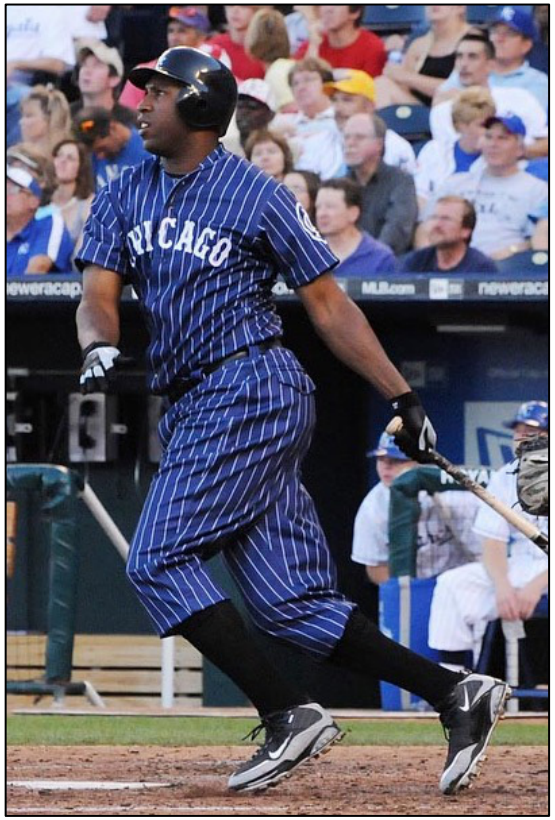
2009 Negro Leagues Tribute (1926 Chicago American Giants)



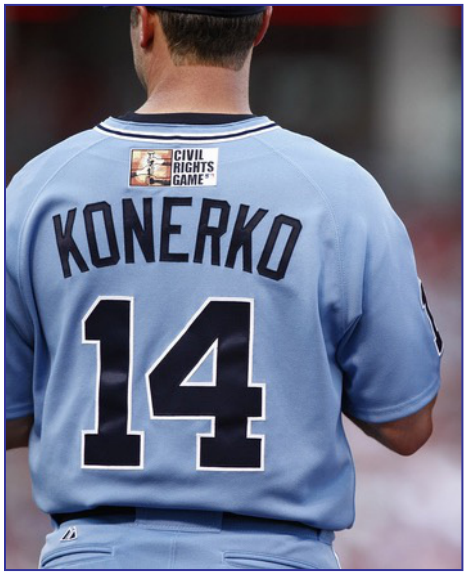


- White Sox vs. Royals, May 30, 2009. The White Sox dressed as the 1926 Chicago American Giants (road), visiting the Kansas City Royals playing as the 1924 Kansas City Monarchs.
- Knit uniforms by AIS.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Civil Rights Game

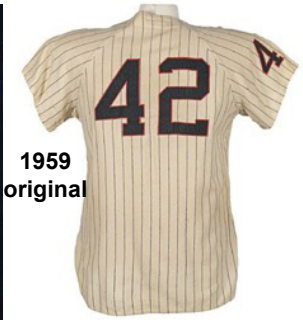
1964
original



- The 2009 Civil Rights game was the first one played as a regular season interleague contest instead of as an exhibition game. It was held on June 20 in Cincinnati between the Reds and the visiting Sox.
- Both teams wore 1964 style uniforms made by Majestic in double knit fabric.
- The White Sox' road uniforms are the correct shade of light blue, though rendered in knit instead of the original flannel. Two-color navy/white Varsity numbers adorn the back and right sleeve.
- The original 1964 lettering is generally correct though not identically reproduced; compare to the sample (inset). Front CHICAGO is too tall, and numbers on back are two inches too large, name on back is slightly too bold and not quite tall enough.
- A Civil Rights Game patch is sewn between the name on back and the top of the collar. This patch is approximately six inches wide; larger than the prior years' patches.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1959



1959 original

- 2009 Represented the 50th anniversary of the "Go-Go Sox" and their 1959 American League Championship. Their opponents, both in the 1959 Series and that day (June 25, 2009) were the Los Angeles Dodgers.
- The Dodgers declined to play along; they wore their regular uniforms instead, as manager Joe Torre did not want to create hype over a World Series that was 50 years ago.
- The Majestic pinstriped knits for the contest were not as accurate as the AIS recreated 1959 jerseys from 2005. These were just slightly off-white instead of cream-colored, and the player numbers were much too bold on both the back and the sleeve (***inset:*** see original 1959 jersey photo).

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2009 Turn Back the Clock to 1929

On August 16, 2009 the Athletics hosted the White Sox in a Turn Back the Clock game to 1929. Majestic made the replica knit uniforms.

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 Negro Leagues Tribute to 1926 Chicago American Giants

- On July 16, 2011, the Detroit Tigers host their annual Negro Leagues tribute game, and their opponent this year are the Chicago White Sox, as the Chicago American Giants of 1926.
- The blue pinstriped knit uniforms are made by AIS. White twill lettering is used, and the numbers on back are Wilson Varsity.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012-2014 “Halfway to St. Patrick’s Day”

2012: September 7; 2013: September 14; 2014: September 25. The White Sox continue the annual game promotion that they began in 2005, holding a “Halfway to St. Patrick’s Day” game at home in mid-September each year, and wearing these green pinstriped uniforms with green/white lettering. The uniforms, which are auctioned after the games, have year tagging and the same sleeve patches (including applicable memorials) that would be sewn on the sleeves of regular game uniforms. Through 2014 at least, these have been made of full weight knit and are not Cool Base. So, aside from the memorial sleeve patches worn in certain years and the team tagging, these odd-promotion jerseys appear identical since 2005.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Armed Services Day

As the guests of the Los Angeles Angels on May 18, 2013, the White Sox joined the Angels in wearing camouflage-lettered jerseys for the game. While they look very much like Memorial Day jerseys the team might have been wearing a couple of weeks later, the White Sox were at home for Memorial Day 2013 and therefore wore their own home uniforms, modified for that contest.

Desert camouflage lettering outlined with white and sewn on a medium-gray background is a decidedly low-visibility combination, and from any further than twenty feet away, these uniforms looked perfectly, completely blank.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013-2014 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

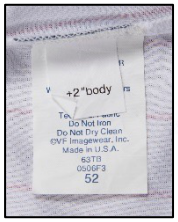
2013

On May 27, 2013 and May 26, 2014, the White Sox were the home team when MLB decreed that all teams should wear camouflage-lettered jerseys in a salute to the nation's military. Desert camouflage outlined with gray on the White Sox's black-pinstriped home uniform fabric made for a low-visibility combination, but better than some. Identify 2014 game uniforms by the inclusion of the DJR memorial patch on the right sleeve; the 2013 uniform has plain sleeves.

2014

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 Turn Back the Clock to 1972



On July 6, 2013, a Saturday afternoon, the Rays wore their "Faux-back" 1970s uniforms in a "pretend" Turn Back the Clock game. They invited the White Sox to play along, and the South Siders complied, wearing uniforms identical to their 2012 (prior year) alternate 1972 Nostalgia uniforms. Note that though the White Sox are the road team, they are wearing home pinstripe whites. These are a new set of uniforms and not the 2012 uniforms being re-used.

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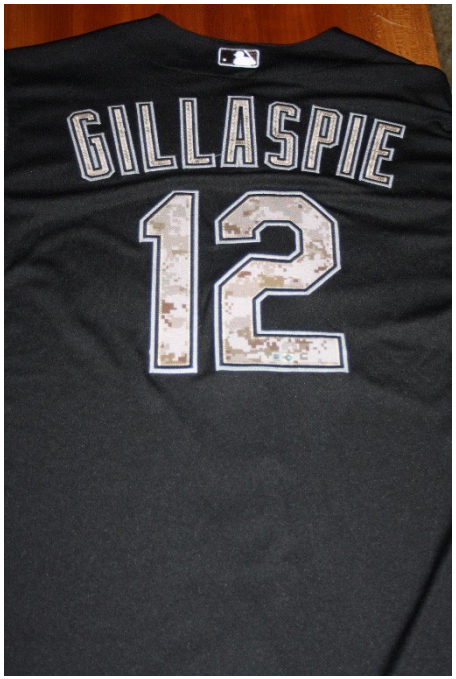
2015 Memorial Day



After two seasons giving their home jerseys the camo treatment on Memorial Day, the White Sox opt for their black alternate on May 25, 2015. Once again, the top layer of all player names, numbers, and the team wordmark is desert camouflage, while the rest of the jersey remains the same as usual. The camo lettering on the black jersey makes for much better contrast than in prior years, however, the smaller front numbers and the "Sox" logo are still hard to read, especially from a distance. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2015 Independence Day

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys, causing an unusual look of red and blue decoration on a black pinstriped jersey. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The White Sox wear their home white jerseys with the red-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in blue, including their front logo as well as front and back numbers. Player names on back are in blue. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1959

Both Chicago clubs lost legendary figures before the 2015 season – the Cubs with Ernie Banks and the White Sox with Minnie Miñoso. When the two teams met for interleague games in each ballpark, they honored both players with throwback uniforms. For the July 12 game at Wrigley, the White Sox wore this 1959 road jersey. These Majestic Cool Base throwbacks are slightly better than the similarly styled 1953 jerseys used in a 2003 game. Here, the black front lettering is much more accurate than the earlier attempt, but the black back numbering should be Block rather than the Varsity shown here. The White Sox retain the right-sleeve Minnie Miñoso memorial patch for the game, though, naturally, it was not part of the original. The Cubs countered with home jerseys from the same era, with every player wearing Banks' #14.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1959

Both Chicago clubs lost legendary figures before the 2015 season – the Cubs with Ernie Banks and the White Sox with Minnie Miñoso. When the two teams met for interleague games in each ballpark, they honored both players with throwback uniforms.

For the August 14 game on the South Side, the White Sox wore this 1951–1963 model home jersey. (Press reports and the jerseys' tags claimed it was a 1959 jersey, but Miñoso was a member of the Indians that season.) The cream-colored, navy pinstriped Majestic Cool Base jersey features the White Sox' classic logo in black/red on front, with player numbers in black/red on back and right sleeve. The back and sleeve numbers are much too bold compared to the originals.

All players wore #9 to honor Miñoso, and the jersey lacks the Miñoso memorial patch, though the Bill Pierce patch is present, and it relocates to the left sleeve to make room for the right-sleeve player number. The Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar, which was of course not on the original jerseys, is in the White Sox' standard black/white/gray color scheme. The Cubs wore similar-era road jerseys.

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2015 Turn Back the Clock to 1976

With the White Sox having some of the more memorable uniforms in baseball history, it was only a matter of time until the late '70s "leisure suit" uniforms came back as a throwback. On August 27, in a game at home against the Mariners (who wore their regular road uniforms), the White Sox resurrected their 1976–1981 collared pullovers. Made by Majestic, the jerseys are excellent replicas of that distinctive style, with the navy blue front and back lettering and numbers in the proper pseudo-turn-of the-century type style of the originals. Intended to be worn untucked, the game jerseys lacked the front tagging of the sample version at top left. The anachronistic Miñoso and Pierce memorial patches appeared on the right sleeve, as did the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back of the neck. Mercifully, the period-accurate shorts did not return.

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2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day on May 8, 2016 and May 13–14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the Majestic sleeve logo is rendered in pink and the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The White Sox wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering in pink with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are pink/dark gray. The 2016 version has the Eddie Einhorn memorial patch on the right sleeve

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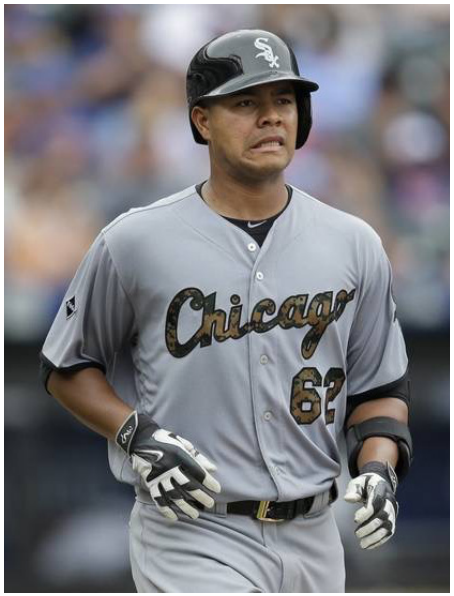
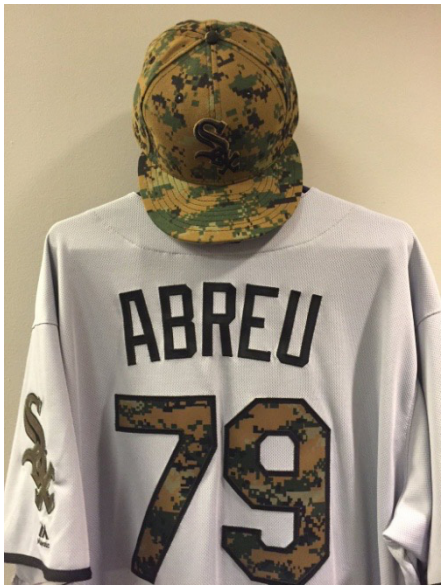
2016 Memorial Day





The 2016 Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The White Sox apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30. The front lettering and front and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and player names appear in single-color black. Like other teams, their sleeve patches are reduced to shades of green, gray, and black, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from the standard black/white. The team wore their Eddie Einhorn memorial patch on the right sleeve for this game as they did with their other uniforms that season.

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2016 Negro Leagues Tribute to 1926 Chicago American Giants

Steve Kraljic Collection

For the fourth time, the White Sox pay tribute to the Negro League Chicago American Giants with this particular uniform. In a June 4 road game against the Tigers, who wore Negro League Detroit Stars uniforms, the White Sox don these dark blue Majestic knit uniforms with white pinstripes. Front lettering in stylized white font (identical to their pseudo-throwback 1976–1981 uniforms) and player numbers on back in white Varsity. This is the first time Majestic made these uniforms (the first three were by AIS), and contrary to the earlier versions where the American Giants logo appeared as twill letters in a circle on the left sleeve, this year's sports a circular logo patch instead.

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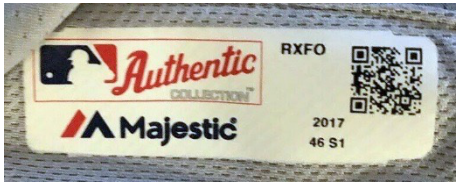
2016-2017 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms for Father's Day, June 19, 2016 and June 17–18, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The White Sox wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering in light blue with dark gray outlines. The player names on back are rendered in single-color dark gray, while front and back numbers are light blue/dark gray. The team's sleeve patches are also simplified to shades of light blue, gray, and white. All jersey trim, normally black/white, becomes dark gray. The 2016 version has the Eddie Einhorn memorial patch on the right sleeve.



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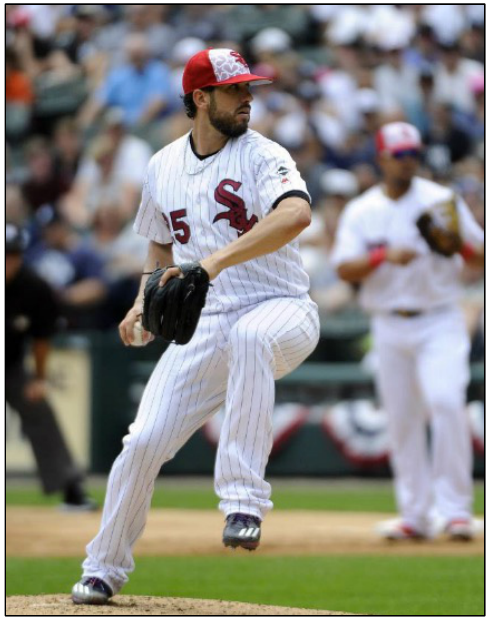
2016 Independence Day



MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck.

The White Sox are at home and wear their home jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the White Sox select the red twill version with blue outlines for their front lettering and for their front and back numbers, with a blue player name on back. The result is a design that looks like a color-inverted version of their home uniform from the 1950s and early 1960s, the last time they wore red on the current template. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. The team moved their Eddie Einhorn memorial patch to the left sleeve for this game in deference of the flag patch on the right.

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2016 Fail: Turn Back the Clock to 1976

Derek Damian Collection

I confess that before I included collector Derek Damian's jersey on this page I made him dig up the actual receipt from MLB.com to prove it was not a fake, after my experience buying one online that turned out to be as phony as a three dollar bill (see "Fake Authentics" chapter). I am satisfied this one is real.

Even in the wild 1970s, people shook their heads at this getup. Opposing teams taunted the Sox. ***Below:*** In the period photo showing players and coaches modeling the new uniforms before the start of the 1976 season, you can see the mugging going on among the subjects; no one wanted to take this seriously.

Your author remembers one of his favorite players, Greg Luzinski, a large man and a member of the Sox after leaving the Phillies, looking like he was wearing some sort of a forlorn, drapey Muumuu as he stood on the field in this getup.

This jersey will forever be known as the "Chris Sale Demolition Day" jersey, and were it not for this important footnote, it would get its single page of pictures, two paragraphs of description, and we would move on.

For those who may have missed the story, star pitcher Chris Sale demonstrated on that day of his frustration with the costumed spectacle know as Turn Back the Clock day, and also showed exactly how to NOT go about making one's grievances known to management. But allow me to first back up a bit.

Now, everyone remembers the White Sox's famous 1976–1981 uniforms. There has been nothing like them before or since in professional baseball. They featured blousy jerseys, meant to be worn untucked, with giant leisure-suit-like floppy collars. The team name, player name and numbers were all in a crazy sort of old-timey font. It was the 1970s, after all, a decade where taste and common sense took a vacation. The look was reportedly dreamed up by (then) White Sox owner Bill Veeck's wife as a costume meant to evoke baseball in the late 1800s. As a final disposal of tradition, an alternate set of short pants with heavy pads to be worn under knee-high white hose was supplied to be worn with these jerseys.

1976

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The 2016 White Sox had scheduled this July 23 event at the start of the season: Turn Back the Clock to 1976 day against the visiting Detroit Tigers. And they had promoted it heavily. Fans entering the stadium were to be given a very nice sewn-lettered replica of the team's 1976 navy road jersey, a model of the one that the players were to be wearing in that day's game. Chris Sale was scheduled to pitch that day. He later claimed that prior to that day, he had voiced his strong displeasure with the planned uniform selection, telling management that he could not play his best wearing something as unfamiliar and uncomfortable as he claimed these uniforms would be. Management made no change to their plans, and so, before the game, Sale entered the clubhouse and, in front of what fellow player Adam Eaton characterized as a large audience, took a pair of scissors to his uniform as well as an undisclosed number of teammates' uniforms, destroying them as they hung in the clubhouse. Eaton, knowing in advance what was to happen, saved his own uniform from destruction.

For his mischief, Sale was sent home that day and suspended for five games. He was also traded away after the season, but the club claims that this event was not part of that decision. He forfeited $250,000 in salary, and the team fined him $12,500 for the cost of the uniforms he destroyed. The game went on, with players wearing the team's regular-issue 1983-style nostalgia uniforms, and with teammate Matt Albers pitching instead.

In an interview after the incident, Sale said "The 1976 uniforms are uncomfortable and unorthodox. I didn't want to go out there and not be at the top of my game in every aspect that I need to be in. Not only that, but I didn't want anything to alter my mechanics… there's a lot of different things that went into it. Looking bad had absolutely nothing to do with it, Nothing… I get that you have to have the business side, and you want to take pictures of us with these things, whatever. If it's going to affect the style of play or the outcome of the game, I just thought that would be a no-brainer."

Left: *Chris Sale must have missed the locker of Southpaw, the White Sox's furry mascot. And Southpaw must not have gotten the memo, as he appeared at the game wearing his 1976 TBTC road jersey, probably the only one there.*

Below, *Sale's complaints about pitching in these jerseys could be legitimate, as he pitched in the home white version of it in the 2015 edition of Turn Back the Clock.*

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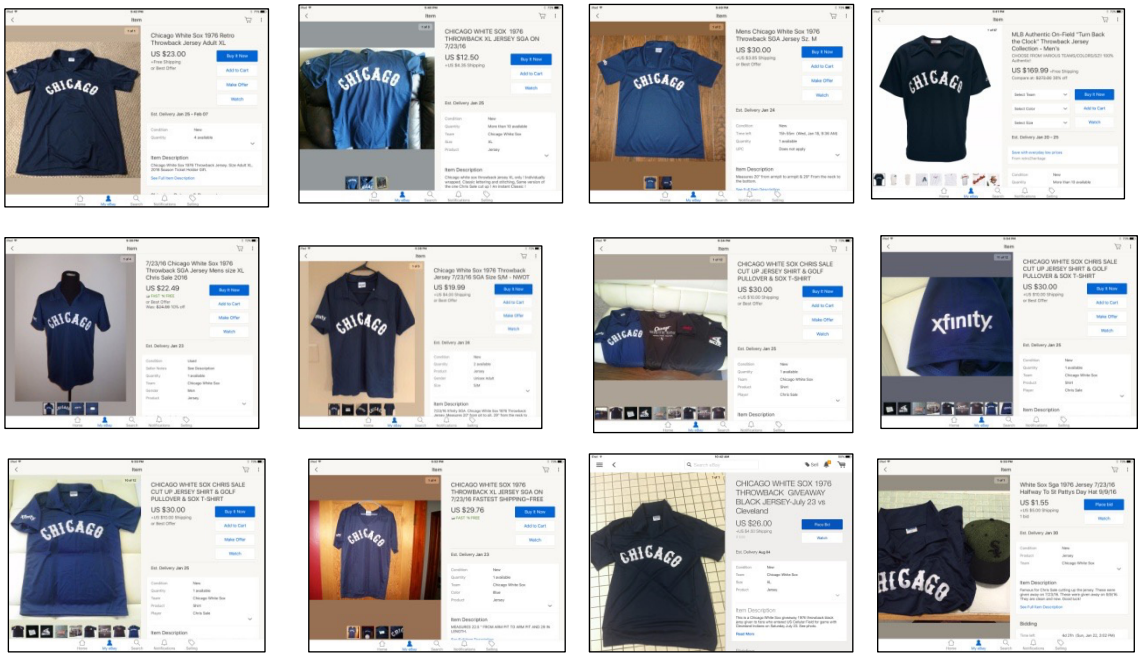
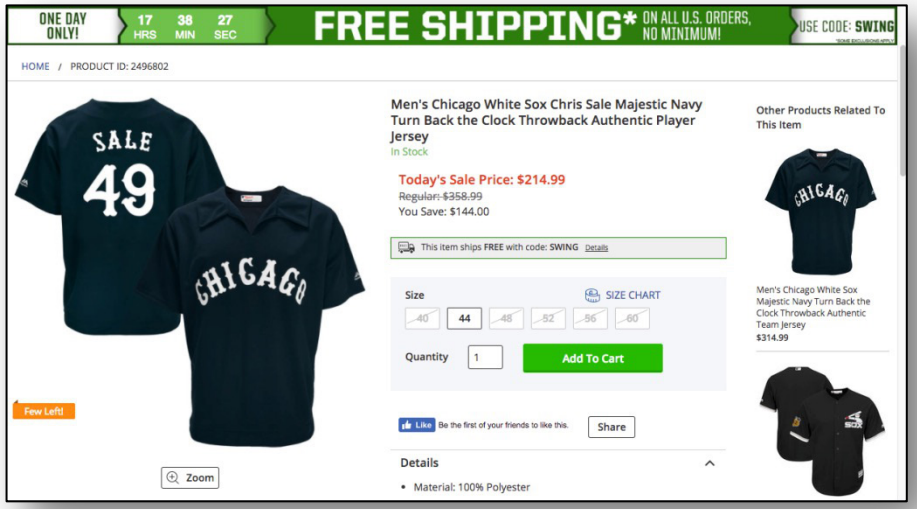
There is little argument that these dress-up contests are done for one reason: making money. Merchandising the event, selling the game-used gear, and marketing replicas in the team store and on MLB.com is the reason these events take place. Perhaps not ironically, the often trend-setting White Sox were the very first team to have a TBTC game, back in 1990, 26 years prior. Since that time there have been hundreds of nostalgia games, and hundreds of other costume events (pink uniforms for Mother's Day and the like). While fun for collectors, it all is a bit silly and must be somewhat humiliating for the professionals trotted out on the field wearing them.

So, why don't I have photos of a team issued example of the offending jersey to show you? That's an interesting question. Surely not ALL of them that were meant to be used in the game were destroyed. And they were available to buy from the Majestic online clubhouse store as Authentic gear, right? But immediately after the game, these were in low and no-stock online. Try as I might, I was unable to find a single photo of an actual team issued example. What I have been able to find are dozens of that day's giveaway jerseys from the stadium, all being offered for individual sale on eBay for prices from around $12-30. And so far as I know, Adam Eaton has not shared photos of his, saved from the pregame butchery. For a short time, the Majestic store on MLB.com had them back in stock for the "bargain" price of $319.99. Unintentionally but ironically, those lettered with now-traded Chris Sale's name and number were on sale for 1/3 off.





Above: *A small selection of the dozens of eBay listings for the souvenir jerseys from this ill-fated game, still selling in February 2017.*

Left: *The irony of Chris Sale's personalized (retail) authentic TBTC jersey selling on MLB.com at a serious markdown.*

References: Various web news sources; quotes are pulled from an article by Rich Mueller in SportsCollectorsDaily.com

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2017 Memorial Day

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The White Sox apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27–29, 2017.

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2017 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill–appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the White Sox wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

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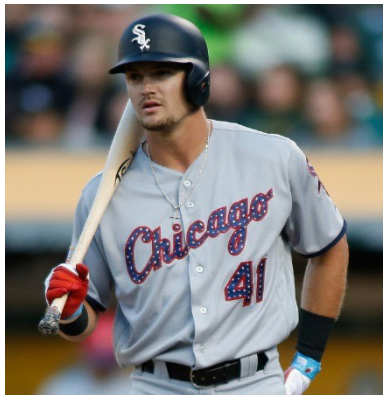
2017-2018 Independence Day (Road)



The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3–4, 2017, the White Sox wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and front and back numbers. Player names on back are in single-color red. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. Once again, team sleeve patches are embroidered in red, white, and blue. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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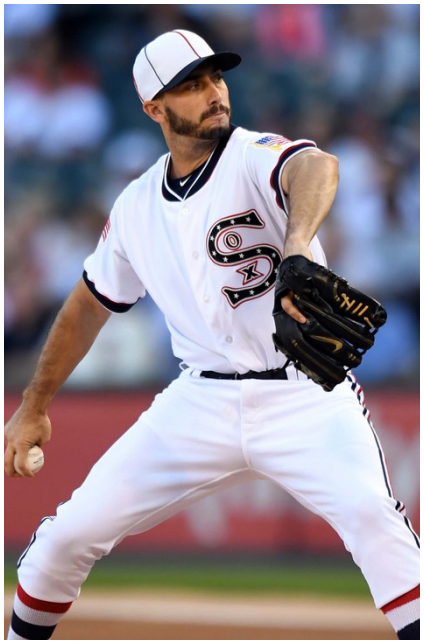
2017 Turn Back the Clock to 1917 World Series



Before 2006, the White Sox had last won the World Series in 1917, and for that series, debuted very patriotic uniforms in red, white, and blue with American flag patches and stars in their logo. Now, 100 years later, the style returns (as it has in a few forms in the past) for a throwback game on July 29. The team wore a throwback version of this 1917 World Series style as an alternate in 2001, and this Majestic Cool Base incarnation is very similar to that one, a full button front, where the 1917 jersey was half-button (see original at left). Navy/red umbers appear on back in McAuliffe-style Red Sox font (which, of course, weren't on the 1917 entry), while waving American flag patches correctly adorn both sleeves. White/navy/red sun collar and trim around both sleeve ends is also correct for 1917, though the proportions are different in this version. Of note, the 2001 alternate the team wore has the sleeve trim sewn on, where this version has knit trim sewn into the sleeve ends.

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2017 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2 ¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font.

On August 25–27, 2017, the White Sox wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and red sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide red/white/red trim. The front features the word "SOX taken from their official club wordmark, here rendered in white/red kiss-cut lightweight twill.

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2018 Turn Back the Clock to 1968

The White Sox throw back to their powder blue era with this 1968 road uniform on April 17, 2018. Originally made in flannel, this full-knit Majestic jersey captures the spirit of '68, if not the details. Navy "Chicago" script with "WHITE SOX" in the tail is close to the original, though slightly less bold. Navy back names check in here in Block, where names on the 1968 version were much taller and more angular. Blue/white front and back numbers are the right color but are rendered here in Varsity vs. what may have been a MacGregor house version of Varsity on the originals. White/navy/white braid properly encircles the neck opening, and an Illinois Sesquicentennial patch appears on the left sleeve.

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2018 Memorial Day

The 2018 Memorial Day jerseys repeat the pattern of 2017, with dark olive green/black front lettering and numbers joined by solid-color black player names on back. The outlines are nearly impossible to see as the two colors are so close in hue to each other. The back-of-collar MLB logo and team-specific sleeve patches also are repeated from 2017 with an olive green and black treatment. Trim elements are again simplified to single color black, and a green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the US military, is stitched to the right sleeve. The White Sox apply this style to their road gray jerseys on May 26–28, 2018.

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2018 Players Weekend

Players Weekend returns for a second year; a promotion intended to highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans. Brightly-colored jerseys are worn on the field on August 24–26, 2018, and once again, the Cool Base pullover jerseys are based on youth league designs with a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people with handwritten messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature an adaptation of the MLB logo showing the evolution of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic and set tags appear on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. The White Sox wear jerseys with gray bodies and black sleeves with white nicknames and red numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide black/white/black trim. The front features the word "SOX taken from their official club wordmark, here rendered in white/red kiss-cut twill.

CHICAGO WHITE SOX

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2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019. Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The White Sox wear a black version of a new jersey with "White Sox" taken from their secondary club wordmark logo (and similar to, but not a copy of, their 1987–1990 home jerseys) on front with the front lettering and back numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2021 Field of Dreams Game (1919 Home)

MLB at Field of Dreams is a recurring Major League Baseball regular-season game played near Field of Dreams in Dyersville, Iowa, a site popularized by the 1989 baseball film *Field of Dreams*. The first edition of the game was played on August 12, 2021, with the Chicago White Sox taking on the New York Yankees.

For the special game, the White Sox wear uniforms loosely based on their 1919 home uniforms, which are featured prominently in the movie (though they have thrown back to similar eras in the past, this is the first time the team explicitly said they were representing 1919, a year they most likely preferred to avoid given the game-fixing scandal that season). These cream-colored, pinstriped jerseys are made by Nike in Cool Base material, with the legendary “SOX” logo sewn in front in navy, and back player numbers in navy in a distinctive, almost art-deco style font. Numbers, of course, were not worn in 1919, and the anachronisms continue with Nike and MLB logos on front right chest and back of the collar, respectively. Wide navy braid encircles each sleeve above the opening.

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Prototypes and Oddballs

1971 Prototype Home?

White Sox manager Chuck Tanner is seen here in a promo image, wearing an unusual home jersey. This is the 1971–1975 version of the jersey (it is hard to tell if this is flannel or knit, but the style was the same in that era regardless of the material), but instead of the team's disc patch on the left sleeve, Tanner's jersey has his uniform number, a characteristic of the team's road jerseys only in that era. The home jersey had the number on the right chest, but Tanner's arm obscures if there is also a number there or not.

It is possible that the jersey is a sample that was made up for team approval in Tanner's size and lettered for him (a frequent practice in those days) and he simply wore it for the photo taken before the actual uniforms were in. We may never know for sure, but it is another interesting footnote to the White Sox and their many styles...

Thanks to Vintage Jerseys & Hats (@PolyesterUnis) on Twitter for surfacing this oddball.

© GameWornGuides.com

1972-1975 Prototype Home

This example was found and purchased by collector Steve Kraljic as a blank on eBay.

The White Sox first wore double knits in 1972, adopting the exact same style of their 1971 home flannels, even down to the zippers on front. The bold prototype shown here, however, may indicate that the team was at least open to considering a slightly more radical approach during the 1972–1975 run of this style (or that Wilson was hoping that they'd buy into it). This pullover knit jersey carries over the red/white "SOX" lettering on front of a white jersey with red pinstripes. However, it adds red/white/red/white/red trim around the neck opening and sleeve ends. The team's disc patch also makes the jump to this new version of the home jersey. Of note, the Wilson tagging in the collar dates from about 1974–1977, so it's possible, perhaps even likely, that this was presented for a uniform change not for 1972, but for the 1976 season, which is when the team opted to really break with tradition and go with their "Leisure Suit" sets instead.

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1972(?) Prototype Road

The White Sox made the jump to knit jerseys for the 1972 season, and this unusual jersey may have been a prototype for that season. Made by Rawlings, who did not make White Sox on-field uniforms until 1976, the jersey appears to be a gray/tan color (the White Sox ultimately wore blue road uniforms in that era) and features a Rawlings tag used between 1972–1986. The white/blue front script with “White Sox” embroidered on the tail matches that used by the team on its 1969–1970 road flannels, however the front and back white/blue numbers are a much bolder version of Varsity than was used by the White Sox in that era. The tagging likely precludes a date before 1972, so perhaps the White Sox were considering (or Rawlings was pitching) this combo, but the team ultimately chose simply to recreate their 1971 blue flannels with red/white lettering in knit for the 1972 season.

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1976 Prototype Home

This jersey is a surviving prototype of the new style previewed for the 1976 season. It was manufactured by Capital Ace of Tokyo, Japan—a company that would go on to supply uniforms for the White Sox during the “pajama top” era of 1976–1981.

The front lettering is tightly bound tackle twill, sewn to the garment with a heavy embroidery stitch. The back numbers preview the distinctive “Wild West” style that the team officially introduced and used 1976-1981.

© GameWornGuides.com

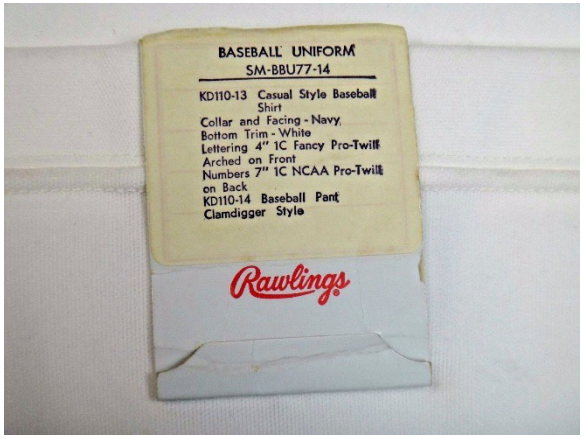
1976 Prototype Home

Nick DiSalvo Collection

These are two different Rawlings prototypes for the 1976 “Leisure Suit” uniform. Both are very close to the final style selected for team use, with the primary exception being the back number font.

The jersey on the right features owner Bill Veeck’s name. (While both jerseys carry the same number, the one with the NOB has the number sewn noticeably lower.) This unusual design is said to have been inspired by a whim of Veeck’s wife.

Notably, the back number likely represents the intended year of use and is rendered in the font known as “NCAA”—a style the White Sox would later use on the backs of several Turn Back the Clock jerseys.



Above: *We have located a photo of the Rawlings sample specification tag on one of these jerseys*

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1976-1977 Prototype Road

Bill Veeck was a consummate showman, known for creating out-of-the-box promotions and ideas never before seen in Major League Baseball. Yet the number of prototypes developed for these mid-1970s jerseys suggests that, eccentric as he was, Veeck and his team approached uniform design with serious consideration—exploring many possibilities before settling on a final look.

Presented here is a prototype of the White Sox's 1976–1981 road jersey, distinguished from the on-field version by its bright white collar. While the era's home jerseys featured contrasting blue collars, the actual road jerseys used matching collar fabric. This particular example is lettered for outfielder Richie Zisk, who played only the 1977 season with the team, possibly placing this prototype as a candidate to replace the all-blue road jersey soon after its introduction in 1976.

The Rawlings tagging dates to 1972–1984, firmly situating it within this distinctive and experimental era for the South Siders.

Above: *A blue-collared game worn jersey of this era for comparison.*

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1981 “Design the New Uniform” Contest

Three of the contest entrants that were rendered in the cloth by Sand-Knit (photo courtesy of Jared Wheeler, Mitchell & Ness)

For the 1982 redesign, the White Sox invited fans to submit new uniform concepts—resulting in over 1,600 entries. Some of the combinations were, frankly, quite unpleasant. The then-current Astros uniforms clearly influenced several of the designs, with bold color-blocking and unconventional striping.

Top right: The six finalist designs are shown.

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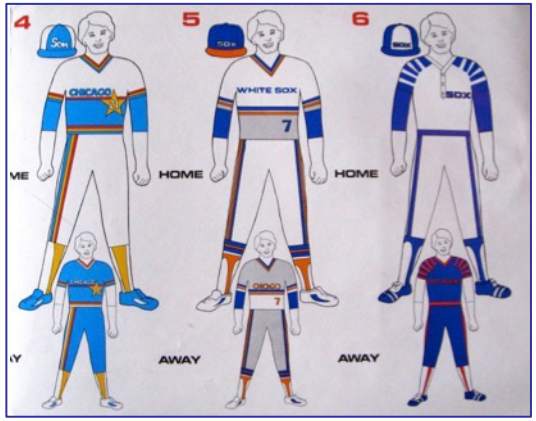
1981 “Design the New Uniform” Contest, continued

Chicago Tribune



© GameWornGuides.com

1982 Prototype Home

Above: *For comparison, normal game jersey.*

- Found for sale on eBay, where it was advertised as game-worn. The manufacturer tagging on this Sand-Knit jersey dates it to the 1982–1984 period.
- Note the extra red stripe running below the front lettering—a detail not seen on known game-worn jerseys of this style. Additionally, the red sleeve stripes are noticeably narrower than standard team-issued examples.
- While this jersey lacks the interior strip tagging on the back tail typically found on team-issued uniforms, it does feature the “Exclusive Sand-Knit” tag—usually reserved for team-spec garments.
- This is very likely a prototype version of the 1982 home jersey, manufactured by Sand-Knit.

© GameWornGuides.com

1986 Prototype Road

This is certainly a prototype button-front 1987 White Sox road jersey. It features what appears to be correct 1986 team tagging, is manufactured by Sand-Knit (the supplier of the 1986 uniforms), and includes the “Made Exclusively for the Chicago White Sox” tag sewn into the shirt tail. The jersey also carries the name and number of a rostered player from 1986, supporting the theory of authenticity.

Most likely, Sand-Knit created this jersey as a design proposal to submit to the team, incorporating realistic tagging to simulate an authentic garment. A similar uniform style was indeed adopted for the 1987 season, though with some differences: most notably, the “Chicago” wordmark on the final version is less stylized and lacks the underline seen on this prototype. For 1987, the White Sox ultimately switched suppliers, selecting Rawlings instead of Sand-Knit.

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1990s Prototype Batting Practice/Spring Training

Contrasting color mesh jerseys like these are sometimes seen used in Spring Training, used when the teams play split-squad games against other members of their same team.

Presented here for your consideration is a white mesh V-neck pullover Wilson batting practice jersey, featuring Block/serifs numbers on the back and the 1991 and later White Sox crest on the front. The Wilson manufacturer's tag on the lower front is a variation not previously cataloged among known game-issued examples, possibly reflecting its 1990s origin. A blank white rectangular twill plate is sewn to the lower front tail—typically an indicator of a prototype—but notably lacks the standard player or team information usually present. While this jersey may have been issued to a minor league affiliate, the absence of a Wilson sleeve logo suggests it could have been intended for MLB use. Wilson sleeve logos are often seen on minor league jerseys but are not permitted on ones used in MLB. Further verification from collectors or historians would be welcome.

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1990 Prototypes

Above: *The documentary revealed that team brass showed sample jerseys at local parties to gauge fan interest in the new designs. The images above are from reenactments in the film with what appear to be vintage prototypes.*

Below*: One of the prototypes at the time was a bold recoloring of the team's 1980s jerseys in the proposed new colors.*

In 2023, the White Sox and New Era released a documentary called Fitted in Black: How Hip-Hop Fueled The Greatest Rebrand In Sports. While the story mostly focused on the impact of the White Sox cap in hip hop culture, several former White Sox staffers described the process leading up to the team's 1990 rebrand, which included glimpses of prototype jerseys - some of which have not been documented in these pages before.

In the film, former White Sox VP or Marketing Rob Gallas said, "I was thinking actually about navy and silver, and we happened to ask a designer, 'What are the hot colors of the 90s going to be?' And instantly he said 'It's going to be silver and black.'" From that idea, the team made samples in both colors (as seen on the next page) and took a decidedly grass-roots take on focus group testing. Gallas noted that another White Sox marketing staffer "...took the uniforms to a neighborhood block party on the southwest side and then lay these jerseys over the a couch or put them on chairs and...let them see it and give us their opinion. And it was almost unanimous when people would see these samples laid out and they would immediately be drawn to the black and silver one with pinstripes."

The most interesting revelation in the documentary, was a sample of a jersey that was a black, gray, and white version of the team's 1980's "beach blanket bingo" look. Ultimately the White Sox did make a black alternate, but it was far more sedate that the sample shown in the film.

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More 1990 Prototypes

Bill Henderson Collection

These two nearly identical Rawlings jerseys were offered at auction in 2018. They are very likely prototypes for the 1990 season. The top one is in my collection and has navy with gray lettering and trim. The bottom one has black with gray lettering and trim. In a common practice, prototype samples are often supplied with the team manager's name and number on them. They are often tapered to make them look sleeker and more attractive. Keep in mind that this now-familiar jersey design was considered a "nostalgia" one in 1990 as the team had not then used this style wordmark since 1975. The two-color SOX front crest is just like the one adopted for the late-1990 pinstripe jersey and it appeared in reversed colors on the 1991 black alternate jersey as well.

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1990 Prototype Road

Continuing the trend of 1990 prototypes seen in the last few pages, here is what appears to be yet another. This time, it is a road jersey, very similar to what the team adopted, but with navy replacing black elements in the final design, much like one of the designs on the previous page. Again, we see this example made up to manager Jeff Torborg's specs, in size 46 with a tapered ("T" tag) body. One thing is for certain, the White Sox wanted to see a lot of options before they rebranded for 1990.

© GameWornGuides.com

Oddball Mish-Mash Road

The origin and intended purpose of this unusual Rawlings-tagged jersey remain unknown. It combines features from distinctly different eras: the collar evokes the 1976–1981 “leisure suit” style (with the addition of buttons at the neck), while the wordmark and sleeve patch align with the team’s 1991-and-onward design. The Rawlings jock tag is the 1992–1994 style, but it is only sewn on two sides—typically a marker of retail (non-team issued) garments. However, complicating that theory is the fact that it’s a size 42, a size rarely produced for retail and generally reserved for team-issued inventory.

This may have been a design prototype, though it’s difficult to imagine the club seriously considering a revival of the 1976–1981 aesthetic during the early ’90s, when nostalgia for that era was virtually nonexistent. A more plausible explanation is that it was a staff jersey, possibly made for a team trainer or clubhouse personnel. Similar hybrid garments were issued by other teams—though more commonly during the 1970s and 1980s, slightly predating this example.

© GameWornGuides.com

1992 Prototype Batting Practice

This curious BP top is hard to explain, but it may have been a sample created for team consideration. Russell became an official MLB supplier in 1992, and was allowed to display its “R” logo on jersey sleeves beginning that year. The White Sox began working with Russell at that time, while still maintaining a relationship with their previous supplier, Wilson. This jersey is made by Russell, and features the company’s 1992-only tagging, along with a “100% Polyester” flag tag beneath the jock tag—usually an indicator of team-issued garments. Russell’s “R” logo also appears on the sleeve, reinforcing the 1992 production date suggested by the tagging.

However, there are several anomalies. The front logo and back numbers are in white/black/white, a style the team did not adopt for batting practice or alternate black jerseys until 1993. In addition, the white/black/white neck and sleeve-end trim does not match any BP jersey the team wore during this period. This unusual mashup seems most likely to have been a sample made ahead of the 1992 season that the team ultimately rejected—but it may have inspired elements of the team’s design direction in the following year.

© GameWornGuides.com

1990s Alternate Oddball

The origin of this one is unclear. All the other prototypes for the 1990 redesign seen in previous pages came from Rawlings. This outlier, made by Victory Athletic, is a mystery. It has the sleeve ends and logo style from the 1993-and-later version of this jersey, so perhaps it wasn't intended for the 1990 change. Victory did make some throwback uniforms for MLB teams, and some prototypes for individual players to try—most notably thew Astros in the mid-to-late 1990s. A curious connection to this jersey is that one Astros throwback prototype used #17 on back like this one. The presence of the Victory logo on the sleeve here suggests it may have been a minor league issue, as it would not have passed muster with MLB. Also, given Victory's location in California, this one could have been made for a TV or film production too. Any info on this oddity would be appreciated!

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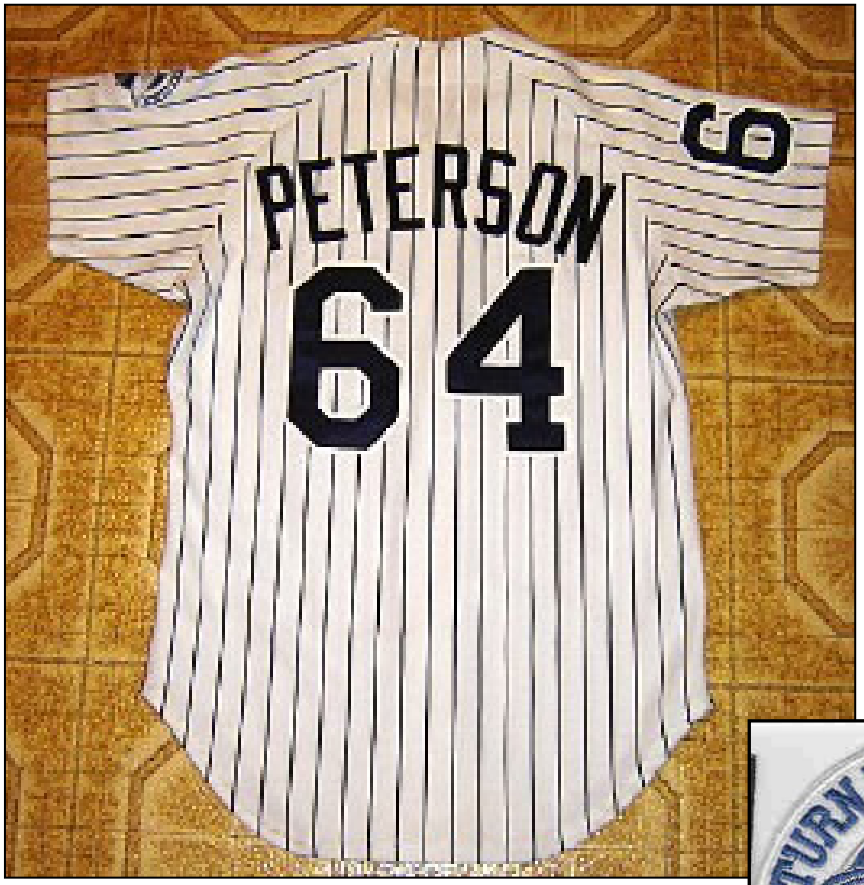
1993 All-Star Pregame Michael Jordan

Michael Jordan – July 12, 1993: Seen here as part of a celebrity pregame event at the MLB All-Star Game, Jordan is wearing a White Sox jersey with an Upper Deck patch on the sleeve and an Upper Deck-branded cap. (That's Tom Selleck in the Orioles uniform with Jordan, above left!) These kinds of product placements don't happen by accident—you can safely assume some sponsorship was involved.

© GameWornGuides.com

1994 Unused Turn Back the Clock to 1964

Photo: Barry Halper Collection



In searching for the date this game was played, we uncovered that while it was *scheduled* to be played on September 4, 1994 to recognize the anniversary of the White Sox finishing only one game behind the Yankees in 1984 (!) However, because of the MLB player strike of 1994, it appears this game was never actually played and was replaced by the game of July 5, 1995.

- 1994 scheduled Turn Back the Clock jersey is a replica of the Sox' 1964 era jerseys, though it looks almost identical to the team's regular-edition home jersey from 1994, except without a number on the front chest.
- Numbers are two-color, navy/white. Note sleeve numbers.
- The sleeve patch is a 1994 team addition; no such patch was worn on 1964 jerseys. Knit jerseys made by Wilson.

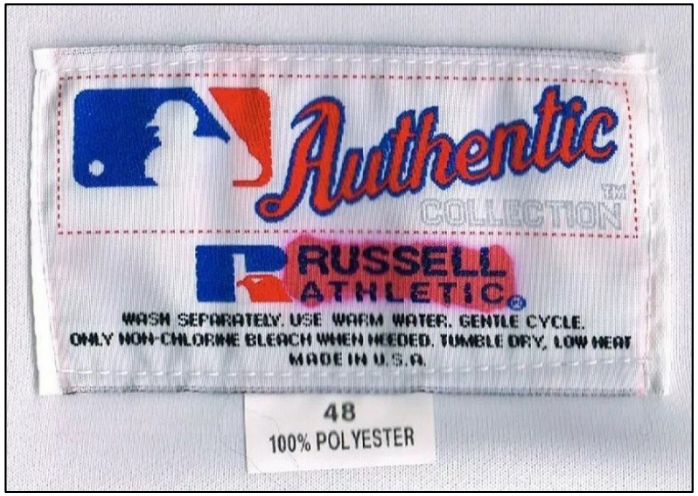
© GameWornGuides.com

1999 Prototype Home Vest

This is an early prototype of the White Sox's first sleeveless jersey design, worn in this configuration only in 1999. While it appears identical to the game-used version, two telltale signs identify it as a prototype: the use of "Player" and the number "5" on the back—common sample lettering from Russell—and the 1996–1999 style Russell tag. Notably, 1999 is the only year this jersey carried the Russell logo on the back neck; it was replaced by the MLB batterman logo starting in 2000.

© GameWornGuides.com

2001-2003 Prototype Home Vest



This plain white vest without pinstripes and with simple placket trim is likely a Russell prototype submitted to the team for consideration. The Russell tagging on this jersey dates to mid-2001–2003, The lack of a neck-sewn size tag, and the inclusion of the garment size/100% Polyester flag pinched under the front tail tag locker indicates it was made from stock that was created for team issue, not retail sale. The red mark on the tag signals that it was slated for disposal.

© GameWornGuides.com

2006 Prototype Gold Trimmed

The 2005 White Sox shocked the baseball world by sweeping the Houston Astros and winning the 101st World Series. The White Sox had last won the series in 1917, 88 years prior!

This gold-trimmed prototype jersey was made by Majestic for the White Sox's consideration, most likely to be used at the home opener of the 2006 season only (thus the number "6" on the back of the prototype), and mimicked the gold-outlined Red Sox uniform worn in 2005 when the Boston team won the 2004 World Series after a similar drought.

In the end, there were no special uniforms worn by the White Sox in 2006 to commemorate their World Series win, only a sleeve patch worn throughout the season.

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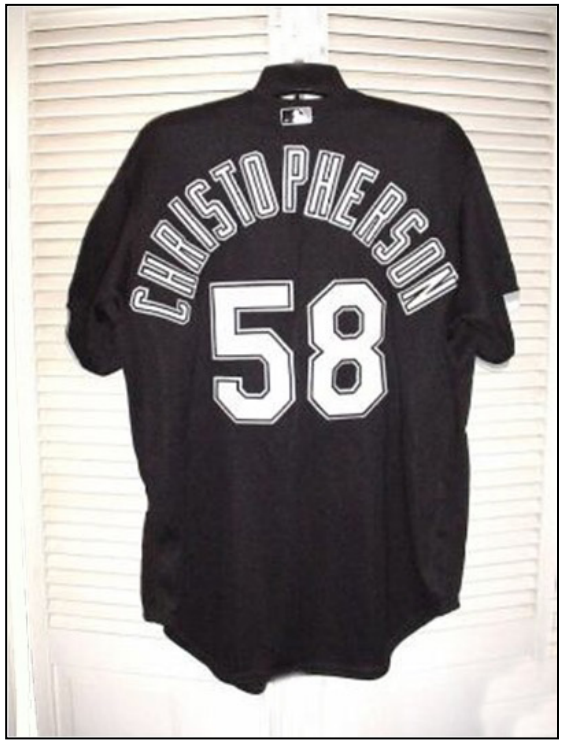
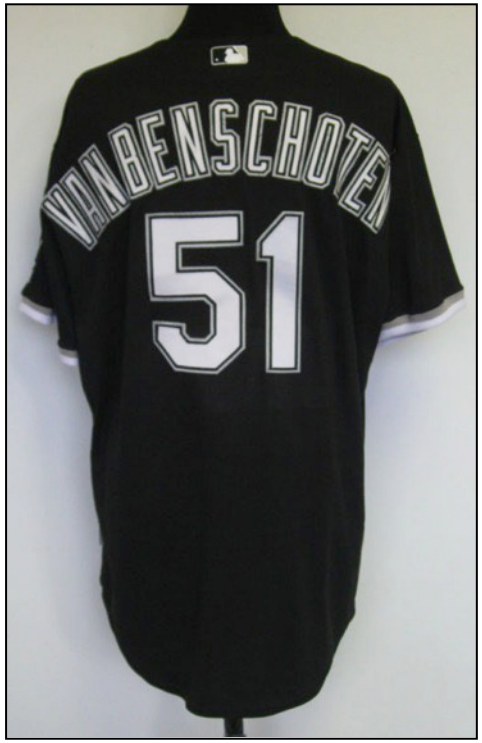
Extra Condensed Font for Very Long Names





Alternate black jerseys 1993–2017 use three-color names on back. When player names are very long, the tailor will switch to an extra-condensed and light version of the font for the name on back.

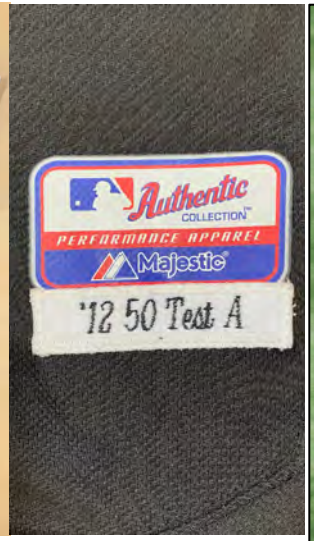
1987 Spring Training Pants

Normally we don't mention pants, but these are claimed to be from 1987 Spring Training, and I would bet money that the "SOX" graphic patch on the leg is covering up the old player numbers that are sewn underneath.

© GameWornGuides.com

2012 Flex Base Test Jerseys

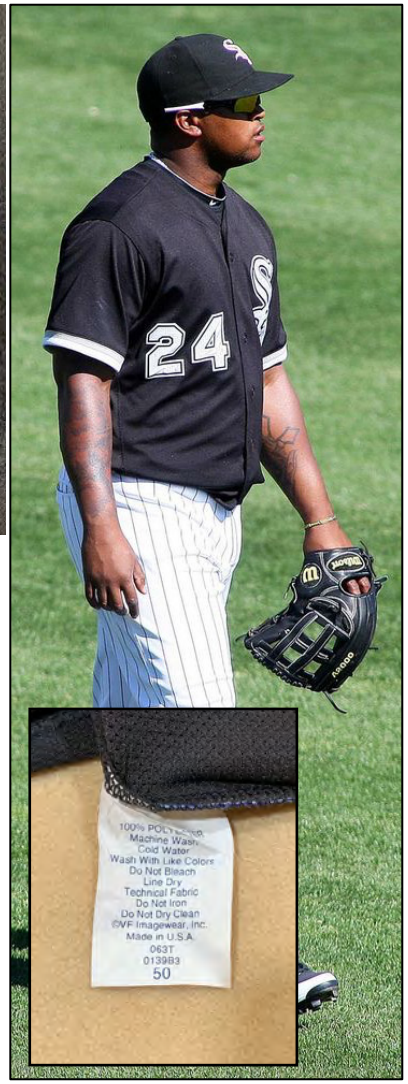
Bill Henderson Collection



In the competitive marketplace of supplying uniforms for professional sports teams, constant innovation has become a necessity. On-field uniforms not only have to be acceptable as work wear for hundreds of athletes, but they must also represent the vaunted brands of the teams they promote. Making changes to these garments is not a casual business. Rather, new ideas are developed, designed, and tested over a matter of years.

On this page and the next, we share two examples. These are Majestic Flex Base test jerseys that were game used during the 2012 season, a full four years before the new Majestic Flex Base "uniform system" was introduced league-wide. This jersey features the "Air Belt" mesh tail that was eventually adopted for the final

Continued, next page



Inside tag carries unique "063T" code

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2012 Flex Base Test Jerseys, continued

product, as well as heat-pressed mesh logos and numbers that were not ultimately used. The strip tag indicates that this is a test issue, as does the wash tag "063T" code, where the "T" likely also stands for "test." We have seen several other such examples with similar strip tagging. All were "Test A" jerseys. It is unclear if any other versions were tested in this way. But given Majestic's propensity for multiple versions of prototype uniforms, it is possible there are other iterations out there, especially since Majestic said they worked with more than 50 players to design and test this iteration of jerseys.

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2013 Nostalgia Alternate Sample

After throwing back to 1972 with a spot-on throwback alternate in 2012, the White Sox moved ahead a decade with a new throwback alternate in the 2013 season. That year, they brought back their popular 1983 “SOX” pullover for a handful of home games, and here we present a prototype for that style.

All the usual prototype signals are here, the size 46 jersey, the use of “Player” and the year (13 for 2013) on back, and the sample tagging, here reading WSX-HJ-D1-1-TBTC-1983” for White Sox home jersey, design one, sample 1, Turn Back the Clock, 1983.” Note the unusual application of the sample tag, that seems to be half-sewn into an interior hem rather than inside a button placket, which this pullover, of course, lacks.

Ultimately, the team chose this option for 2013. And, the team and fans liked it so much, it lasted as an option through 2024 in the MLB Style Guide, though it was last used on-field in 2023.

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2015 Alexei Ramirez wears #9 Miñoso Jersey

For the 2015 White Sox home opener on April 15, shortstop Alexei Ramirez wore Minnie Miñoso's name and number on the back of his home jersey in honor of the White Sox legend who passed away before the season. The jersey also had the Miñoso memorial patch on the right sleeve. He went back to his own name and #10 for the next game.

Alexei Ramirez salutes late Minnie Miñoso with uniform tribute
Doug Padilla, ESPN.com
April 11, 2015

Ramirez cleared the idea with the team, and that was good enough for the league. Normally, changing a uniform number or name on the back of a jersey would have to be met with league approval, but an MLB spokesperson said this was a "non-issue," calling it "a wonderful tribute to Miñoso."

Ramirez felt inspired to make the tribute.

"My relation with Minnie was beyond the field," Ramirez said through an interpreter after the game. "When I heard the news about his death, I thought that I had to do something to give him my tribute. And I kept in communication with the family and I asked them to wear his number today, and they accepted. For me, it's an honor."

Ramirez is expected to wear his regular uniform in Saturday's game against the Minnesota Twins, but he will keep Friday's uniform in his home to remember the occasion.

© GameWornGuides.com

2023: Whoops! Giolito's Skewed Sock Patch

Far Left: *Giolito's skewed sleeve patch on April 23, 2023.*

Left: *The proper orientation of the patch from a previous Giolito start on April 12, 2023*

Something was askew for White Sox pitcher Lucas Giolito on his April 23, 2023 start against the Rays (and it wasn't surrendering two home runs and four earned in seven innings of work to take the loss). Giolito's sleeve patch, which has provided a visual representation of the team's name on the black alternate jerseys since 1993, was sewn 45 degrees too far clockwise, making the white sock seem to recline vs. its usual "hanging" orientation.

© GameWornGuides.com

2023 Prototype Home

Soon after Nike took over MLB jersey manufacturing in 2020, they had intended to release their Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template as early as 2022. However, a source told Uni-Watch in 2022 that the plans were “pushed back at least to 2023, and possibly even 2024.” Ultimately, the new template was in fact delayed to 2024, but here we have evidence that prototypes were made up in advance of the 2023 season, if not earlier.

This White Sox home jersey, at first glance, is mostly the same as what they wore before and after the switch from Nike’s version of Flex Base to VPE. Closer inspection reveals that the template is VPE - including the lower MLB logo on back, smaller player name lettering, and perforated back numbers. (The home jerseys ultimately did not use perforated numbers.) The tell-tale “Player” and “23” on back reinforce this as a sample, intended for the 2023 season.

The heat-pressed inventory tag also reveals some info, and leaves us with some mysteries. It reads “DH0768 RX 2023 HOME CONVERSION JERSEY P2.” There is also a small, handwritten “1” on the bottom corner of the tag. Here, “RX” is a code Nike has inexplicably used for the White Sox elsewhere, and “2023 home” is self explanatory. The “DH0768” indication is not clear, although Nike has used a “DX” prefix for four-digit style numbers in its Vapor Premier Elite line for colleges, so this may be an internal model number for the pro jerseys. The use of “Conversion Jersey P2” is also unclear, unless it refers to converting from the Flex Base template to this one, and this is a second iteration of a sample.

© GameWornGuides.com

2024 Prototypes: Home/City Connect

RGVDEAL on eBay

RGVDEAL on eBay

In advance of the switch to Nike Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) in the 2024 season, Nike made prototypes of jerseys on the new template for team review. By the point that these samples were made, teams had already seen some early drafts with many missing or incorrect details, just to get a sense of the materials and construction. However, many of the later samples, like the two shown here, were very close to what eventually appeared on the field in 2024. These White Sox home and City Connect 1.0 versions are two such examples. In many ways they replicate the team's existing jerseys, just carried over to VPE, which meant that things like the original sleeve-end trim was now sewn into the edge of the sleeve instead of on it, and the team's sleeve patch was much lighter embroidery than before. The back numbers on these samples are also perforated, which was not an element of the earlier versions. However, when appearing on-field in 2024, the perforations were included on the City Connect jersey, but not the home one.

Note the sample information that is on the Nike tags, which read "WHITE SOX HOME JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT" and "WHITE SOX CC JERSEY 44 REGULAR FIT", with 44 being the size, which was not typical in earlier Nike samples that were usually size 46. Also, the designation of "regular fit" was something not commonly seen on jersey tags, so it may have indicated the intent to use "bucket sizing" on jerseys, where there were a handful of standard cuts in different proportions available to players rather than the specific customizations of years past. Nike's 2024 pants were also done in bucket sizing, which was very unpopular with players. It is unclear what the "DH0768-100" and "DN5210-010" text on the front tags mean. They are likely internal production codes, as all 2024 samples we have seen have different codes in these spots that we have not yet deciphered.

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Commemorative Patches

White Sox Patches

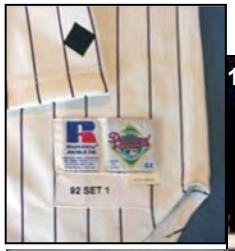
1983

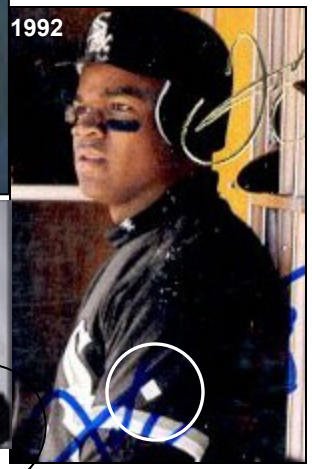
1984

1985

1991

1994
Spring Training




1992

1995

1995

1997

- 1983: All-Star Game.
- 1984: 6/46 Memorial Patch for coaches Charlie Lau and Loren Babe
- 1985: Comiskey Park 75 Years.
- 1991: Comiskey Park Inaugural Year.
- 1992: Black diamond (gray on black jersey) for the death of owner Jerry Reinsdorf's assistant Sherri Berto, and Maureen Schueler, wife of GM Ron Schueler.
- 1994 Spring Training: Black "31" patch in support of White Sox pitcher Scott Radinsky, who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease in February of that year.
- 1995: 95 Years (two versions: white is for black alternate jersey, black goes on home and road).
- 1997: Nellie Fox (worn on black alternate and road gray jerseys instead of Jackie Robinson patch) celebrating Fox's posthumous election to the Hall of Fame that year.
- 2003: All-Star Game.
- 2006: 2005 World Series Champions patch at home only, team game jersey version is black, gray and white. The color version sold at retail but not worn by the team.

2003

2005

Color version for retail sale not used by team

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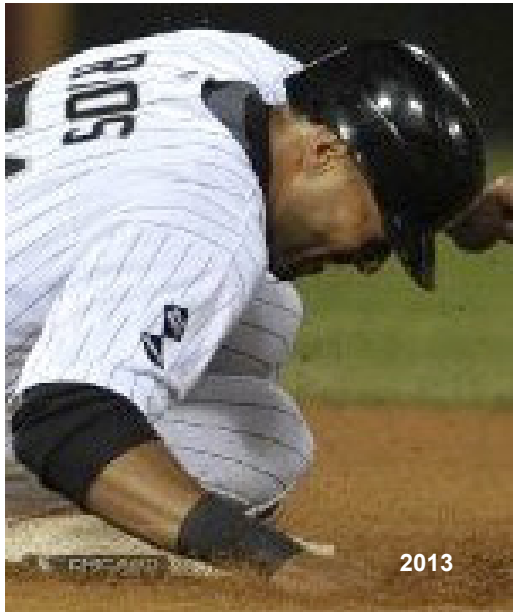

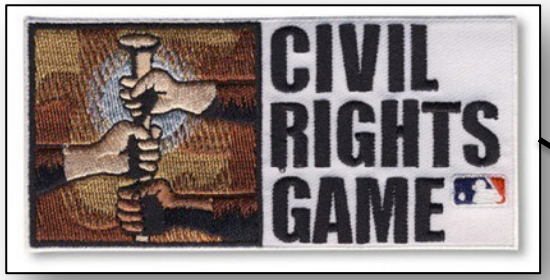

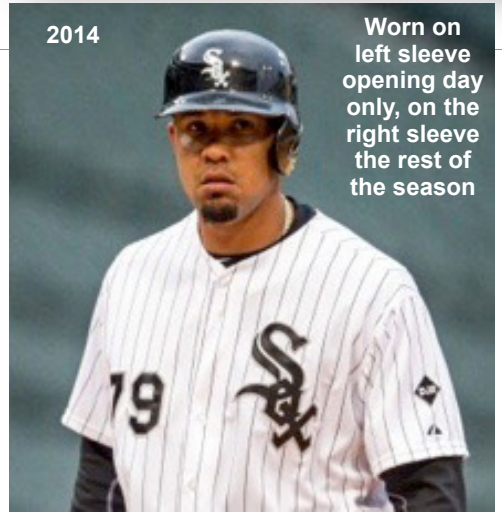

- 2012: “BMS” patch for Bill “Moose” Skowron added May 5, he had been the community relations representative for the White Sox. “HIC Man” patch coach Kevin Hickey added May 22.
- 2013, August 24: Texas at Chicago White Sox (Civil Rights game). This was the first such game where there were no special uniforms, only this patch temporarily glued to the chests of the players on the White Sox and Rangers for that single day.
- 2014: DJR memorial diamond added on the second day of the season to mark the untimely death of owner Jerry Reinsdorf’s son David. Worn on left sleeve opening day, but on the right sleeve the rest of the season.

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- 2015: “9” patch for former player and coach Minnie Miñoso, who died March 1.
- 2015, starting August 11: “19” patch for former player Billy Pierce, who died on July 31.
- 2016: “Eddie” patch for team vice chairman and minority owner Eddie Einhorn, who died February 24.
- 2016, April 13: “Heart of 29” patch in recognition of Rod Carew’s campaign against heart disease (Carew, who is a heart failure patient, wore #29 during his career). The opposing Twins, Carew’s former team, also wore the patch that game.
- 2020: “Farmio” memorial for former broadcaster Ed Farmer who died in April, right sleeve, all jerseys.
- 2021, starting July 10: Oval “MR” memorial patch for Meryl Reinsdorf, wife of White Sox chairman Jerry Reinsdorf. Meryl designed the White Sox 2005 World Series champions rings (as well as five Chicago Bulls NBA champions rings) and the patch echoes the White Sox ring design.
- 2025, starting July 11: 45 memorial for former pitcher Bobby Jenks

White Sox: Postseason Patches

2005 World Series
(right sleeve)

© GameWornGuides.com

2023-2025 White Sox Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

As of press time, the White Sox had not yet made a deal with a jersey patch sponsor. In 2023, the location of the team's typical sleeve patches varied depending on the handedness of each player, perhaps in preparation for a sponsor that did not materialize.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Chicago White Sox 1970 Home Game Used Jersey: Christian, Hopkins, Kelly

Examination Date: March 19, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0319J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made cream colored flannel jersey, size 42 (marked; measures closer to a 46) seven button-front, dark blue/white/dark blue uniform braid trim at sleeve ends, dark blue piping (not soutache) sewn into the placket Diamond-shaped vented with six-hole gussets sewn under each arm. "SOX" team crest on the left chest in dark blue twill. #18 on the left chest and on the back in the proper fonts and size for the team, also in dark blue tackle twill. Blue name on back, KELLY, in the team's tall font. Light table research shows that this jersey has been issued three times, yet it remains in near-pristine condition. Its most likely history is:

1) "Christian" player name tag in the neck. Outfielder Bob Christian was on the 1970 roster and played in twelve games in 1970 before being released on May 24, 1970. He wore #15. The barely discernible ghost edge of the second numeral, "5", is visible under the current "8" on the light table.
2) Ghosts of HOPKINS name on back are visible on the light table. Infielder Gail Hopkins played on the 1969 and 1970 White Sox with #18. Both Christian and Hopkins are listed as 5' 10" and 180 lbs. How this jersey came to be issued to Hopkins after Christian's release would be speculation, perhaps it was issued as a mid-season replacement or backup if one of his originally issued jerseys had become damaged. Regardless, Hopkins played in 116 games that season and this jersey does not exhibit heavy use.
3) Presently, the jersey retains #18 on its back and front, with the name KELLY stitched on back. Infielder Pat Kelly was signed for the 1971 season (6' 1" 180 lbs) and Hopkins had been traded to the KC Royals before the start of the season. Most likely, Kelly wore this re-issued jersey in 1971 spring training. The team changed uniform styles for the 1971 regular season, so it appears that at this point, the jersey was not used further.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson locker tag on the outside left tail is the correct style and the correct placement for the 1970 White Sox. Stitched beneath it is 1970-2 in blue hand chain stitch on it on the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. There is a cream-colored flannel tag sewn in the back of the neck with the original owner's name, "CHRISTIAN" hand chain stitched and matching exemplars. It is sewn through only one layer of the placket as is proper, the tag was sewn there before the jersey was completed and sewn shut.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition, far better than most of this style and age that I have evaluated. It is clean and bright and presents very well. The blue twill is burnished from use, but is not faded and is all securely attached an un-puckered. Even though it had been thrice-issued, it seems to have received limited use. There are no noted repairs.

Conclusion: In my professional opinion, this jersey is authentic and was made for and worn by multiple players of the 1970-1971 Chicago White Sox. The changes it exhibits had been done by the team back in the day. It is team-original and is free of damage or contrivance.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Carlos May 1971 Chicago White Sox Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: December 29, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1229J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made cream colored flannel jersey, size 44 (marked; measures closer to a 46) zipper-front, white with red chalk pinstripes. "SOX" team crest on the left chest in dark red over white. #17 on the left chest and on the back in the proper fonts and size for the team, also in red over white tackle twill. There is correctly no name on back. The team's embroidered logo disk patch in red, white and gray is stitched to the left sleeve. As received, this jersey had been restored earlier with front and back numbers that did not exactly match the original ghost marks. Besides being slightly too big and bold, the red twill used for the restoration was the wrong shade of red, too bright and not color-matching the front "SOX" crest. Additionally, the red color from the new twill lettering had run into the jersey fabric so that when the replacement numbers were removed there was clear damage from color bleed. I stripped the replacement numbers, and using the ghosts and my original team patterns, recreated the number sets using the correct colors of fabric. I media blasted them and organically dyed the new fabric to match the patina and wash-staining of the original 1971 crest. I washed the jersey using a commercial color run remover product that was common in the 1960s and 70s, which did its job admirably, I then re-sewed the replacement numbers in place over the original ghosts. While I steamed the fabric to help erase the stitching outlines left from the incorrect restoration, the old lines are still slightly visible under close examination.

At 6' 0" tall and 215 lbs, Carlos May wore #17, and this jersey would have been an appropriate size for him. He was a member of the White Sox 1970-1976, and played in MLB for ten seasons. In 1971 he appeared in 141 games and hit .294 in 500 at bats with seven home runs. Normally an outfielder, in 1971 only he moved to first base. When the White Sox acquired Dick Allen for the 1972 season, he went back to the outfield. May was all All-Star in 1969 and 1972. While playing for the White Sox he had the rare distinction of wearing his birthday on the back of his uniform, including his surname: "MAY 17." (*Wikipedia, Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson locker tag on the outside left tail is the correct style and the correct placement for the 1971 White Sox. Stitched beneath it is 1971-ST in red hand chain stitch on it on the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. (The meaning of the designation ST is unknown; usually it will stand for Spring Training. Speculation only, perhaps his jersey this jersey was prepared for him because his normal jersey was damaged or lost) There is a cream-colored flannel tag sewn in the back of the neck with his name, "MAY" hand chain stitched and matching exemplars. It is sewn through only one layer of the placket as is proper, the tag was sewn there before the jersey was completed and sewn shut.

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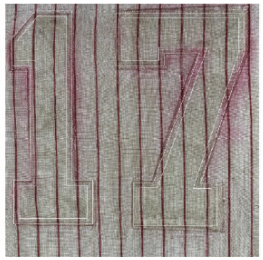
Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in very good condition, far better than most of this style and age that I have evaluated. It may have been used again in 1973 spring training, but the White Sox switched to double-knit jerseys for the 1973 regular season which would have rendered this style obsolete at the MLB level. Speculating that it had been stripped of its original numbers anticipating its re-issue in the minor leagues, but that it was never re-numbered and was spared being used and abused in the minors, as is commonly seen on so many of this style and issue jersey. The brass TALON zipper is original, and puckering of the flannel fabric behind the sleeve patch is evident showing that the garment was washed in hot water. There are no noted repairs.



Top left, the jersey as received with the earlier number restoration. Below, the light table reveals the original number ghosts after the removal of the replacements. Red color runs are visible, pre-laundering. Above right, the sleeve patch shows evidence of hot water washing as it has shrunk more aggressively than the flannel fabric beneath, leaving a significant pucker.

Conclusion: In my professional opinion, this jersey is authentic and was made for and worn by Carlos May of the 1971 Chicago White Sox. I have professionally restored the numbers front and back matching the original ghosts, and it is otherwise original and is free of damage or contrivance.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bill Melton 1971 Chicago White Sox Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 29, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0329J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made zipper-front road jersey of third baseman Bill Melton of the 1971 Chicago White Sox. Light blue lightweight flannel blend body with old-style nylon uniform braid in red/white/red banding the sleeve ends and sewn tight to the edge around the collar. Team tagging and player name sewn into the back of the collar. Size 42 which matches other examples worn by the player at this stage of his career, and reasonable for his size and weight (6' 2" 200 lbs) Player number "14" on the back and on the left sleeve. Original TALON branded zipper is still in place and operational. Diamond shaped panels with gusseted vent holes are stitched into the underarm seams.

Restoration Performed: As presented to me, the jersey had been sent to the minor leagues, and had its original "Chicago" wordmark removed from the front. A red over white MLB home-jersey style "SOX" crest had been sewn to the left chest. From the condition of the replacement crest and the careless way it was stitched in place, I would conclude that it was taken off another White Sox MLB (home) jersey and transplanted to this one. The White Sox were a frugal organization and typically re-purposed their equipment until it was completely worn out. A light table examination showed that the original "Chicago" MLB crest had been present sewn across both panels of the front, so the owner elected to restore it to original. I carefully removed the replacement chest SOX crest; besides being sewn in place it had been glued down with a liberal buttering of some sort of adhesive that had yellowed. I cleaned the area the best I could without using strong solvents that had the likelihood of damaging the original flannel. Some adhesive remains, as was unavoidable, and the fabric beneath the crest is slightly darker from having had less exposure to the sun for the time it was used in the minors.

Besides some weak spots and perforated holes on the jersey's front from the earlier removal of the original CHICAGO crest, the jersey was in good condition with its original numbers in place and all trim still present. I hand-washed the jersey in Woolite, and it surrendered a fair amount of dirt into the wash water leaving it considerably brighter, though still with some ground-in dirt remaining on the stomach area. I repaired the weak spots and holes on the front using matching blue thread and a darning machine, identical to typical "team repairs" of the period.

Continued, overleaf

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The jersey's owner, seeking complete faithfulness in restoration, procured another period-correct White Sox jersey, and asked me to transplant the front crest from that one to the Melton. I did, using the light table to guide the exact placement of the antique crest. So, while the crest has been restored, it has a look of originality that is impossible to match with new lettering. The team script is underlined with a tail that has the words "White Sox" hand chain-stitched on it. I stitched the crest in place using matching-color thread.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's manufacturer tag in the style used during the 1960s and through the 1973 season is stitched to the outside of the left tail, and exhibits a great deal of wear and edge fraying though it is still firmly attached. On the lower outside left front tail is hand chain stitch embroidery in red, matching exemplars, "1971 Set 3". The player name, "Melton" is hand chain stitched in red onto a piece of jersey-matching fabric and is correctly sewn into the inside of the back of the collar. The stitching holding the tag in place is invisible from the outside back of the jersey, indicating that the tag was stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, as is correct.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in good restored condition, with details as noted elsewhere in this evaluation. There is a telltale permanent dirty spot on the top of the right shoulder from having had a bat with pine tar rested there, countless times throughout its lifetime.

Here, the jersey as received and prior to restoration. Above right, the crest removal and the chest before and after glue removal. Below left, the highlighted ghost of the original CHICAGO script on front, as seen on the light table.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is a rarely seen example of a final-year flannel White Sox game worn jersey, uncommon today because most were simply worn out and discarded. It presents well and is faithfully restored, all original with the exception of the professionally transplanted team crest from another period jersey onto its chest. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bill Melton of the 1971 Chicago White Sox.

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Letter of Restoration/Professional Opinion

Tony Muser Rookie 1972 Chicago White Sox Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: August 31, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0831J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson made zipper-front double-knit jersey, size 44 (marked but measured slightly smaller- due to evident hot water washing) white with red pinstripes. "SOX" team crest on the left chest in red over white. #25 on the left chest and on the back in the proper fonts and size for the team, also in red over white tackle twill. There is correctly no name on back. The team's embroidered logo disk patch in red, white and gray, somewhat distorted from washing shrinkage, is stitched to the left sleeve. The placket is lined with linen for player comfort as is typical of Wilson jerseys of this period. Typical of Wilson pro jerseys, the inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without changes or contrivance.

"Palmer" is chain-stitched in the collar; pitcher Lowell Palmer was acquired from the Phillies after the 1971 season but did not make the opening day roster for the White Sox in 1972 and was traded to the Cardinals in June. Palmer never wore this jersey in a big league game, and this jersey was almost certainly reissued to and worn by a young Tony Muser. Muser joined the Sox as a mid-season call up playing in Chicago from July 10 through the end of the season in 1972, appearing in 44 games. Muser's first big season was 1973 with the White Sox when he became their full-time first baseman.

Muser played for four clubs in a nine year career. He was the manager of the Kansas City Royals 1997-2002, after which he was a coach, instructor and minor league manager for the Padres.

As Received: This jersey was well worn, with the linen lining inside the back of the neck worn through and partly disconnected on both sides of the neck, and the sleeve patch puckered and distortedly shrunk. The top layer of the front lettering (both team crest and front numbers) was badly frayed, and partly torn.Its owner wanted it restored. Had I removed the old lettering entirely, the puckered jersey fabric behind the lettering would have expanded into a wider shape and the new lettering would not have perfectly covered it. Since the white layer of twill was still presentable and well attached, we elected to do a measured and sensitive partial restoration to make the jersey presentable without destroying its originality. I carefully removed the top layer only of the front lettering, leaving the white outline layer attached. I washed the jersey to remove brown stains that came from the dried glue beneath the red layer of twill. Using scans of the original jersey as its own pattern, I cut new red front lettering (preserving the slight distortion of the original as removed), then media blasted it and lightly dyed it to simulate years of washing. I placed it exactly over the old spots and sewed in place with bleached-color thread. The end result is all but undetectable, as planned.

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Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson locker tag on the outside left tail is the correct style and the correct placement for the 1972 White Sox. Stitched beneath it is a 1" x 3" piece of white knit fabric with "72 Set 2" hand chain stitched on it on the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. Player name "Palmer" is chain stitched properly onto a 3" rectangle of white fabric and had been stitched into the neck prior to the placket having been sewn closed at the time of manufacture, so properly no stitching is visible from the outside back.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in fair to good condition, typical of others of this style and year that I have evaluated. Typical of White Sox first year knits, major puckering of the jersey fabric is evident behind the sewn lettering, caused by repeated hot water washing. It most likely was used again post 1972, either in 1973 spring training, possibly as a backup jersey for the same player in the 1973 regular season, or it was sent to the minor leagues.The white zipper is original. I have noted the details of the restoration above, I also flattened and resewed the partly-detached sleeve patch.

As received: The front lettering shows damage. Only the red layer was stripped from these two elements and replaced with aged twill to match.

Conclusion: This jersey was made for the Chicago White Sox in 1972, my conclusion is that it was issued first to Lowell Palmer, and then following his trade to another team it was reissued to Tony Muser and worn the rest of the season. In my professional opinion, it is authentic without contrivance and is in good mostly original, and minimally restored condition.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Rich Morales/Bucky Dent First Season 1973 Chicago White Sox Home Game Used Jersey

Examination Date: July 16, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0716J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson made double-knit jersey, size 40 (marked and measured) zipper-front, white with red pinstripes. "SOX" team crest on the left chest in red over white. #30 on the left chest and on the back in the proper fonts and size for the team, also in red over white tackle twill. There is correctly no name on back. The team's embroidered logo disk patch in red, white and gray is stitched to the left sleeve. The placket is lined with linen for player comfort as is typical of Wilson jerseys of this period. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original without changes or contrivance.

Rich Morales was a backup infielder for the White Sox in 1973 after having platooned in the infield in 1972. At the end of May after only seven at bats in seven different games, he was traded to the San Diego Padres. The White Sox brought up young Bucky Dent from their farm system who then appeared in 36 games from June 1 through the end of the season (35 as starting shortstop) before becoming the team's regular starting shortstop for the 1974 season. Both men were nearly identically sized, and it is most likely that with Morales' departure at the end of May, the same uniform was re-issued to Dent to start June. Because Dent lacked the number of at-bats for qualification as a true rookie, 1974 was considered his rookie season, when he finished second in ROY balloting.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson locker tag on the outside left tail is the correct style and the correct placement for the 1973 White Sox. Stitched beneath it is a 1" x 3" piece of white knit fabric with "73 Set 1" hand chain stitched on it on the familiar hand of the Wilson factory stitcher. The tag in the back of the neck is missing; it would normally have had the last name of the player hand chain stitched on a similar piece of fabric. The spot where the tag had been is cleaner than the surrounding fabric, which suggest to be that it was removed after significant use. Neck tags do not "fall off"- they are tightly stitched and all of the other stitching that holds on the lettering in place on this jersey are intact. Someone removed it, probably post-MLB use, for reasons that one can only speculate.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in good condition, better than most of this style and age that I have evaluated. It most likely was used again post 1972, either in 1973 spring training, as a backup jersey for the same player in the 1973 regular season, or it was sent to the minor leagues. It was spared the overuse seen on so many of this style and issue jersey . The white zipper is original, and puckering of the knit fabric behind the numbers is visible showing that the garment was washed many times. There are no noted repairs.

(Above) Exemplar shows the player name tag style that should be sewn into collar, below show this jersey with the tag ripped out.

Conclusion: This jersey was made for the Chicago White Sox in 1973, my conclusion is that it was issued first to Rich Morales, and then following his trade to another team midseason reissued to Bucky Dent and worn the rest of the season. In my professional opinion, it is authentic without contrivance and is in good original, unrestored condition.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bill Melton 1972 Chicago White Sox Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 21, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0621J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made zipper-front road jersey of third baseman Bill Melton of the 1972 Chicago White Sox. Light blue warp-knit body with old-style nylon uniform braid in red/white/red banding the sleeve ends and sewn tight to the edge around the collar. Team tagging and player name sewn into the back of the collar. The size tagging is illegible, but measures as a size 42 which matches other examples worn by the player at this stage of his career, and reasonable for his size and weight (6' 2" 200 lbs). As is typical of Wilson knits, the inside of the placket and around the back of the neck are lined with white linen for player comfort.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Only parts of the original Wilson's manufacturer tag remain stitched to the outside of the left tail, and exhibits a great deal of wear with more than half of it missing. On the lower outside left front tail is a rectangle of jersey fabric, with hand chain stitch embroidery in Navy Blue, matching exemplars, "72 Set 3". The player name, "Melton" is hand chain stitched in red onto a piece of jersey-matching fabric and is correctly sewn into the inside of the back of the collar, both tags in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher. The stitching holding the perimeter of the collar tag in place is invisible from the outside back of the jersey, indicating that the tag was stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, as is correct.

Restoration Performed: To begin, the jersey was in very poor condition, stripped of its numbers and front crest. The collar and sleeve trim was mostly gone, leaving behind only its attaching thread. Significant reverse-fade marks and remaining thread clearly showed that the original "Chicago" MLB crest had been present, sewn across both panels of the front, and besides its original #14, it had worn #60, most likely in spring training in multiple years after its regular season use was finished. The fabric beneath the "60" was very bright blue, indicating to me that this jersey spent more years with these numbers applied than it had with its original 14. The fabric of this jersey was exceptionally dirty and sun-faded, but also was stained unevenly with red, as if it had been soaked with other red garments in a laundry accident. The body of the jersey ranged from the near-original bright blue under the numbers and front crest, to a dull grayish-purple on much of the back and the tops of the shoulder. Discolored marks at the shoulders look like it was stored on a clothes hanger in the sun for a long time, causing additional fading. The original Talon zipper had failed, and was partly detached. The white linen placket lining was surprisingly intact given the condition of the rest of the jersey.

Continued, overleaf

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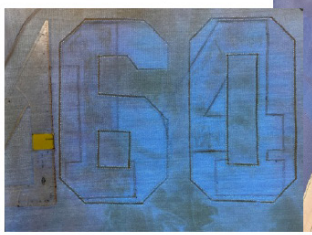
Besides the staining and fading, the body the jersey was still intact without holes or split seams. I aggressively hand-washed the jersey multiple times with different detergents, and it surrendered a fair amount of dirt into the wash water leaving it considerably brighter. I hand scrubbed the most discolored areas with a diluted solution of chlorine bleach to try to even out the color. I replaced the zipper with a brass one very similar to the original.

Using the original team pattern from my archive, I reproduced the front Chicago crest, and starting with team number patterns modified to match the shapes seen in the ghosts. I recreated the player numbers for the back and the sleeves. I used identical vintage trim to replace the missing and ruined trim on the sleeves and collar. The small "White Sox" adornment on the tail of the Chicago wordmark was recreated in a machine embroidery stitch in white thread. To match the patina/age of the jersey itself, all the sewn lettering and the trim was media blasted to remove its sheen and then organically dyed to dull the bright colors to make it better match the fabric of the jersey it was sewn to. It was stitched with off-white thread.

The result of this restoration is the rejuvenation of a jersey that had been left for dead, and it now appears presentable and in approximately the condition it would have been in after a season of use in MLB plus multiple years of spring training utility. The ghosts of the numbers "60" that had been on the back and sleeves remain visible as the fabric that had been beneath them is brighter than the surrounding areas. The "14" on the back is purposely slightly distorted from having been aged and steamed prior to application, and its shape exactly matches the original ghosts on the jersey back.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is a rarely seen example of a first-year knit White Sox game worn jersey, uncommon today because most were simply worn out and discarded. It presents well and is faithfully restored. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bill Melton of the 1972 Chicago White Sox.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Chet Lemon 1976-1978 White Sox Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: October11, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1011J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Chicago White Sox Rawlings solid-fabric white knit pullover jersey with floppy Navy Blue collar. Size 42, both marked and measured. CHICAGO arched on front in Navy twill in the team's wordmark font as used 1976-1981. These controversial jerseys were meant to be worn untucked in opposition to conservative MLB styles. On back is the name and number of popular outfielder Chet Lemon and his number 44. Its size matches exemplars for the player from this early point in his career and is reasonable given his listed height and weight, 6' and 195 lbs.

Chet Lemon played for the White Sox 1975-1981. During the years 1976-78 this jersey could have been worn, he was the everyday center fielder for the team. Lemon was known as one of the best defensive center fielders in baseball from 1977 to 1987. In 1977, he led the American League with 512 outfield putouts, the fourth highest single-season tally in major league history and the highest tally since 1951. He also totaled over 400 outfield putouts in four other years (1979 and 1983-1985). He led the American League with 44 doubles in 1979 and also led the league in times hit by pitch (HBP) four times, including a career-high 20 HBP in 1983. He was selected to the AL All Star team in both 1978 and 1979. After his career ended, he became a baseball instructor and coach. (Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia)

This jersey was presented without provenance, and confirming actual game use is difficult. Rawlings made this style jersey for the team 1976-1978. I have evaluated many of this style jersey over the years, and there are details/variations in a factory-applied player name and number lettering that I look for. The lettering on this jersey matches one of the font sets as used by the team very well. It appears that both the wordmark and the player name/number were stitched onto it on the same sewing machine, most likely at the same time. Notably, this jersey predates by a decade a time when MLB on-field jerseys were available to the public at retail. There were a very few shops, (among them Lansing Sporting Goods in Lansing IL) that would custom-order team-spec jerseys for retail customers, but this practice was rare at the time.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red "Mark of a Pro" rectangular tagging in the proper style for 1976-1978 is stitched inside the back of the neck, and is sewn through only one layer of fabric, indicating that it was properly stitched there before the placket was sewn shut at the factory. There is no flag tab present that would normally indite the year of issue and the set number, however these are commonly omitted and appear only about half the time on game jerseys in my observation. The tag is sewn on with dark green thread, another odd but consistent observation from my archives (usually on jerseys made in 1978)

Continued, overleaf

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Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in generally good condition, exhibiting appropriate wear. There are two slightly split seams; one on the top of the right shoulder and one at the bottom of the right side sam. The fabric colors are still reasonably bright and clean. The light table shows no signs of contrivance or re-lettering.

Above, exemplar photo shows use of the flag year/set tag on Rawlings White Sox jerseys 1976-1978 which was inconsistent. I have evaluated as many with them as without. Below, Lemon wearing this style jersey. At right, presented for interest is the inaccurate alignment of the back numbers, typical of the time. In a review of period news photos, a detail like this could prove useful to perhaps identify a specific game worn jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in good condition. It is properly lettered and is the right size for the player. It shows appropriate use and the correct vintage Rawlings tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications as would be issued to Chet Lemon of the 1976-1978 Chicago White Sox.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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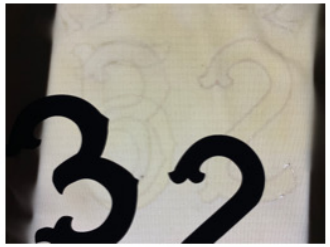
Document of Restoration

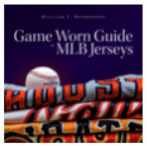
Steve Stone 1978 Chicago White Sox Home Game Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Chicago White Sox year tagged 1978 Rawlings jersey, Perez 52. Light table evaluation shows that this jersey had previously been lettered for STONE 32.

Work Performed: (August 2019) Stripped all back lettering, as there was clear ghost evidence that the lettering had all been replaced prior, including the "2"in the second position. (Evidence of slight mismatch of the current "2", plus several tiny holes from previous numeral's removal) Light table images, pre-stitching are shown below. All lettering was replaced with team font and ghost-matched lettering as had been there prior.





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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tom Seaver 1985 Chicago White Sox Game Worn and Autographed Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 25, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0325J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Chicago White Sox pullover Sand-Knit road game jersey, size 48 marked (with special tailoring), measures as a 46. This is reasonable for the player at this stage of his career and matches other credible jerseys in our exemplar collection. Unique design jersey style has wide sewn in bands of red and Navy Blue across the chest with "SOX" boldly spelled out and sewn in white twill. The same red/Navy/red stripe pattern repeats, ringing both of the jersey sleeves. Navy/red knit trim rings the jersey's V-neck. On back, player number 41 and name SEAVER in a steep arch, using the Sand Knit house block fonts. The Comiskey park 75 year patch is sewn to the left sleeve, and it appeared to be original. The jersey is autographed in blue marker below the "X" in SOX on the front, "Best wishes, Tom Seaver, #297 7-14-85". I have no professional opinion on the autograph. (Seaver was the winning pitcher when the White Sox beat the Orioles while on the road in Baltimore on 7/14/85). This jersey was presented without provenance, so the idea that he wore this jersey on that date for that win would be an assumption.

Seaver's career spanned 20 seasons in Major League Baseball, with the Mets, Reds, White Sox and Red Sox. With the Mets, Seaver won the National League's (NL) Rookie of the Year Award in 1967, and won three NL Cy Young Awards as the league's best pitcher. He was a 12-time All-Star and ranks as the Mets' all-time leader in wins. During his MLB career, he compiled 311 wins, 3,640 strikeouts, 61 shutouts, a 2.86 earned run average, and he threw a no-hitter in 1978. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1992. (*Wikipedia*). In 1985, Seaver went 16-11, pitching 238.2 innings with 134 strike outs and an ERA of 3.17. (*Baseball Almanac*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Sand Knit's tag set of two tags are stitched to the outside left tail. The first tag is the "Designed and tailored exclusively for the Chicago White Sox, American League, Sand Knit" the right tag is the Medalist Sand Knit size 48 tag, in the proper style for 1985 matching exemplars. This was artier to the time that on-field collection MLB jerseys were sold to fans, so it is a reasonable assumption that any White Sox jersey in this style with this tagging is a team issue. Inside the back tail of the jersey are two long fabric strip tags, respectively 3" and 4" long. The first reads "85 (star symbol) 48Z". The "Z" following the size designation is Sand Knit's identifier for special tailoring, and while it is not called out specifically, it appears to be for extra length. The second tag simply has the player's name "SEAVER" spelled out in capital letters in the familiar black marker handwriting of the Sand Knit tailor.

Continued, overleaf

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Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that all stitching is original and untampered with. The jersey shows signs of light to moderate wash and wear, most notably in the puckering of the front SOX lettering, the burnishing of the back numbers and slight fading of the blue attaching thread, and the yellowing of the tagging inside the tail. There is a stray blue dot from the marker beneath the autograph, a typical artifact on a jersey shoved in front of a player to sign. It is very likely that this jersey was pulled from use and then autographed, as it shows much less wear than typical issue White Sox jerseys in our on-hand collection and exemplar photo collection. There are several dirt marks on the jersey front above the X in SOX and on the white lettering of the word SOX.

Tagging form the jersey in review, top left; exemplars for other common player 1985 White Sox road game jerseys. Note that the two styles of Sand Knit manufacturer/size tags were used in 1985; the bottom left variant showing the MacGregor Sporting Goods name appeared late in 1985. The Kusnyer jersey is in our personal collection.

Conclusion: This jersey is in very good condition, is properly lettered, has no alterations of any kind and is without contrivance. It has the correct team tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and game worn by Tom Seaver of the 1985 Chicago White Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Frank Thomas 1993 Chicago White Sox Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J24

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Chicago White Sox Russell size 46 full-weight knit six-button pinstriped jersey of #35, Frank Thomas. While Thomas wore much larger jerseys later in his career, size 46 is correct for his use in 1993. Stylized "SOX" logo crest stitched in two colors, black over silver on the left chest. The number 35 is opposite on the right chest, as well as on the back, 5/1/2" from the collar with no player name above as is correct for the 1993 White Sox. Comiskey Park patch is stitched to the left sleeve. Frank Thomas was the American League MVP in 1993.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Both Wilson and Russell each were contracted to supply sets of home jerseys for the Sox in 1993. The Russell "R" is embroidered to the right sleeve end, as was permitted by contract; Wilson jerseys were not allowed to display a maker's mark. The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag is stitched to the outside front left tail, in the style that first appeared very late in 1993; generally seen on jerseys made post-season or in 1994. one with a steeply arched "Diamond Collection" script on the embroidered logo with 4-line wash instructions. There is no flag size tag in the collar, and a small "100% Polyester" flag tag is pinch-sewn beneath the tail locker tag: both characteristics correct for jersey made to team-issue specification vs. those made for retail sale. Team tagging is screened onto a piece of knit fabric and stitched beneath the locker tag on the tail, bearing the code 35-46-93-1 (Player 35, size 46, 1993, set 1). In our photo archives we see that the White Sox used at least three different styles of coding tail tags in 1993 on Russell jerseys, and other jerseys with this variant of the style tag also have the late 1993-style Russell tag, and all are for the team's biggest stars. Multiple examples of Thomas Set 1 1993 home jerseys are documented to have been auctioned over the years. Given these facts, it is a reasonable conclusion that, especially with Thomas's notable 1993 season that a number of sample jerseys were made at the end of the season to be used as gifts for loyal customers or team associates.

Wear & Repairs: The light table reveals that the numbers 35 on back had originally been sewn 3" lower, then removed and re-sewn the correct distance from the collar. Ghosts and some glue remnants remain behind. The jersey does not show signs of obvious use or washing; all elements are crisp and unblemished.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent unused condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and aside from the corrected mis-application of the back numbers, appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Frank Thomas of the 1993 Chicago White Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bill Melton 1971 Chicago White Sox Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: March 29, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0329J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made zipper-front road jersey of third baseman Bill Melton of the 1971 Chicago White Sox. Light blue lightweight flannel blend body with old-style nylon uniform braid in red/white/red banding the sleeve ends and sewn tight to the edge around the collar. Team tagging and player name sewn into the back of the collar. Size 42 which matches other examples worn by the player at this stage of his career, and reasonable for his size and weight (6' 2" 200 lbs) Player number "14" on the back and on the left sleeve. Original TALON branded zipper is still in place and operational. Diamond shaped panels with gusseted vent holes are stitched into the underarm seams.

Restoration Performed: As presented to me, the jersey had been sent to the minor leagues, and had its original "Chicago" wordmark removed from the front. A red over white MLB home-jersey style "SOX" crest had been sewn to the left chest. From the condition of the replacement crest and the careless way it was stitched in place, I would conclude that it was taken off another White Sox MLB (home) jersey and transplanted to this one. The White Sox were a frugal organization and typically re-purposed their equipment until it was completely worn out. A light table examination showed that the original "Chicago" MLB crest had been present sewn across both panels of the front, so the owner elected to restore it to original. I carefully removed the replacement chest SOX crest; besides being sewn in place it had been glued down with a liberal buttering of some sort of adhesive that had yellowed. I cleaned the area the best I could without using strong solvents that had the likelihood of damaging the original flannel. Some adhesive remains, as was unavoidable, and the fabric beneath the crest is slightly darker from having had less exposure to the sun for the time it was used in the minors.

Besides some weak spots and perforated holes on the jersey's front from the earlier removal of the original CHICAGO crest, the jersey was in good condition with its original numbers in place and all trim still present. I hand-washed the jersey in Woolite, and it surrendered a fair amount of dirt into the wash water leaving it considerably brighter, though still with some ground-in dirt remaining on the stomach area. I repaired the weak spots and holes on the front using matching blue thread and a darning machine, identical to typical "team repairs" of the period.

Continued, overleaf

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The jersey's owner, seeking complete faithfulness in restoration, procured another period-correct White Sox jersey, and asked me to transplant the front crest from that one to the Melton. I did, using the light table to guide the exact placement of the antique crest. So, while the crest has been restored, it has a look of originality that is impossible to match with new lettering. The team script is underlined with a tail that has the words "White Sox" hand chain-stitched on it. I stitched the crest in place using matching-color thread.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson's manufacturer tag in the style used during the 1960s and through the 1973 season is stitched to the outside of the left tail, and exhibits a great deal of wear and edge fraying though it is still firmly attached. On the lower outside left front tail is hand chain stitch embroidery in red, matching exemplars, "1971 Set 3". The player name, "Melton" is hand chain stitched in red onto a piece of jersey-matching fabric and is correctly sewn into the inside of the back of the collar. The stitching holding the tag in place is invisible from the outside back of the jersey, indicating that the tag was stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, as is correct.

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in good restored condition, with details as noted elsewhere in this evaluation. There is a telltale permanent dirty spot on the top of the right shoulder from having had a bat with pine tar rested there, countless times throughout its lifetime.

Here, the jersey as received and prior to restoration. Above right, the crest removal and the chest before and after glue removal. Below left, the highlighted ghost of the original CHICAGO script on front, as seen on the light table.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is a rarely seen example of a final-year flannel White Sox game worn jersey, uncommon today because most were simply worn out and discarded. It presents well and is faithfully restored, all original with the exception of the professionally transplanted team crest from another period jersey onto its chest. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bill Melton of the 1971 Chicago White Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Sandy Alomar Chicago White Sox 2003 Home Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J26

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Chicago White Sox, Majestic, six-button home white pinstriped jersey of #15 catcher Sandy Alomar. Team "Sox" crest on the left chest on black outlined with silver-gray twill. Number 15 on the right chest, on the center of the back, with the name "ALOMAR" arched above, all in the same colors. The fonts and placement are correct for the 2003 White Sox. Jersey is autographed ion the back between the name and numbers by the player. (I have no opinion on the autograph.) The 2003 All-Star Game patch is stitched to the right sleeve.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Majestic logo is direct-embroidered into the end of the left sleeve in black. The Majestic locker tag, appropriate style for 2003, is stitched to the bottom outside of the left tail. Beneath this is a rectangular team tag with the machine embroidery "03 48 S2" (indicating 2003, size 48, set 2) The inside side seam tag is coded "0062" which is the designation given to team-spec jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey does not show signs of wash or wear. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. There are lines of hard glue along the tops of the shoulder seams with some black paper stuck to it, as well as row of (non defacing) staple imprints along the bottom third of the jersey's width, indicating that this jersey had once been mounted for display

Provenance: A signed letter from Roberto Alomar (not Sandy Alomar) was presented with this jersey as provenance, saying that it comes from his personal collection and is "100% authentic", however it is generic, and does not include any information at all on what it refers to.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent unused condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Sandy Alomar of the 2003 Chicago White Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Frank Thomas 2004 Chicago White Sox Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: November 4. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1104J27

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2004 Chicago White Sox #35 Frank Thomas Majestic, size 48, six-button full weight white with black pinstripes knit jersey. It uses white pearl 4-hole buttons. 1" white/gray knit trim is sewn-in to the ends of each sleeve. "SOX" logo in two-color tackle twill on the left chest in black and gray. Player number "35" in the proper block font in the same colors on the right chest and on the back. THOMAS on the back, above the name, radially arched and direct sewn. There are no sleeve patches as is correct for 2004. All these characteristics match other jerseys in our photo archive. The lettering matches our templates in terms of style, colors, placement and outline-widths. Size 48 without tailoring is a reasonable size for Thomas; our records show he was wearing both size 48 and size 50 jerseys at this point in his career. The jersey is autographed on the front right above the numbers. (I have no opinion on the autograph.)

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Majestic Authentic Collection locker tag is sewn on the outer, lower left shirt tail. The Majestic tag style is correct for 2004. Inside side seam tag is coded "0062" which is the proper style number for team-specification full weight knit on-field White Sox jerseys. Beneath the locker tag is a machine embroidered rectangular knit fabric tag that is encoded "04 48 35" (2004 size 48 player number 35). The tag has a serged edge and is attached to the jersey with a straight stitch. The Majestic logo is embroidered into the end of the left sleeve., the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck patch is sewn on the back of the collar, in the correct Black/white/gray. (A note on team tagging: the typical White Sox team tag for 2004 was coded in the style "04 48 S2" with the final S2 meaning set 2. This tag looks fully legitimate, and given the fact that Thomas notably ordered extra jerseys to be worn and signed, it is reasonable in my estimation that his tags had his player number instead of the set number.) 2004 predates wide use of the MLB hologram authentication program.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all tagging, lettering and stitching is unaltered. It shows light wash wear, with visible wash wear on the inside seam tag. All twill lettering is crisp and unblemished with slightly frayed edges. There are no signs of any repairs. The autograph was certainly applied after the wash-wear to the jersey had occurred.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and shows appropriate use.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bo Jackson 1991 Chicago White Sox Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: November 13, 2020 **Certification Number**:

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings full-weight gray knit, six button Chicago White Sox road jersey of #8, Bo Jackson. Size 48 with (T)appeared tailoring noted. All lettering is two layer stacked twill, black over white. Upward sloped "Chicago" in team script on the front with the player number 8 below. On back is the number 8 with "JACKSON" radially arched and direct-sewn above, On the right sleeve is stitched the one-year only Comiskey park Inaugural Year patch; on the left sleeve is the team's secondary logo, a white sock in a black diamond outlined with white and stitched to a twill backing. Sewn-in 1" black/white knit trim rings the ends of both sleeves. A small Velcro closure is sewn between the second and third buttons.

The jersey is autographed on the upper left chest "Bo Jackson #8". I offer no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings script is embroidered into the end of the right sleeve between the knit trim and the commemorative patch. A Rawlings locker tag in the correct style for 1991 is stitched to the outside bottom of the left tail denoting the size as 48. Pinched beneath the right side of the tag is a white flag tag, "Set 2 1991". Beneath that is a 3/4" square of gray twill machine-embroidered with a capital letter "T", indicating that the jersey has been tapered narrower at the waist from the factory. The size is correct for Jackson.

Wear & Repairs: Injured most of the season, Jackson played in only ten road games for the 1991 White Sox, September 6 through October 5. The jersey shows signs of wash/wear, as would be appropriate use in that number of games. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alteratons.There is some staining of the knit sleeve end trim, a stain of a stray black dot on the inside of the lower left tail (probably accidental Sharpie from the autograph signing) and softening of the fabric and lettering and wrinkling/puckering of the tags that is consistent with a month's worth of use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has the correct manufacturer and team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bo Jackson of the 1991 Chicago White Sox.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Bo Jackson 1991 Chicago White Sox Black Alternate Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 17, 2022 **Certification Number**: 22-0417J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Rawlings full-weight black knit, six button Chicago White Sox road jersey of #8, Bo Jackson. Size 48 with (T)apered tailoring noted and measured (48" under the arms, tapered to 40" at the waist) All lettering is two layer stacked twill, white over Silver-Gray (a one year twill color). Two-color White Sox team crest on the front left panel with the player number 8 opposite on the right panel. On back is the number 8 with "JACKSON" radially arched and direct-sewn above. It is very clear to me that this jersey was stitched by Rawlings at the factory and was intended for on-field use. Jackson had been injured for most of the season and played in just 23 games from September 2 through October 5 that year.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Rawlings script is embroidered in white into the end of the right sleeve between the knit trim and the commemorative patch. A Rawlings locker tag in the correct style for 1991 is stitched to the outside bottom of the left tail denoting the size as 48. Pinched beneath the right side of the tag is a white flag tag, "Set 2 1991". Above that is a 3/4" square of black twill machine-embroidered with a capital letter "T", indicating that the jersey has been tapered narrower at the waist from the factory. The size is correct for Jackson and the noted tapering is measured as being present. In my experience, jerseys which are made as salesman-samples or as extras for signing events are *often not generally* specially player-tailored, regardless of what the tagging says.

Wear & Repairs: All elements of this jersey are crisp and the patches stiff, indicating to me that, if it has been washed, it was no more than one time. A light table evaluation of the garment shows that the lettering is all original and without alterations. There are several loose unclipped visible sewing threads on the jersey, notably in the center of the front 8 and the name on back on the letters J, N and O.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent, very lightly-used condition, is properly lettered, has player-specific tailoring, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has the correct manufacturer and team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications for Bo Jackson of the 1991 Chicago White Sox.

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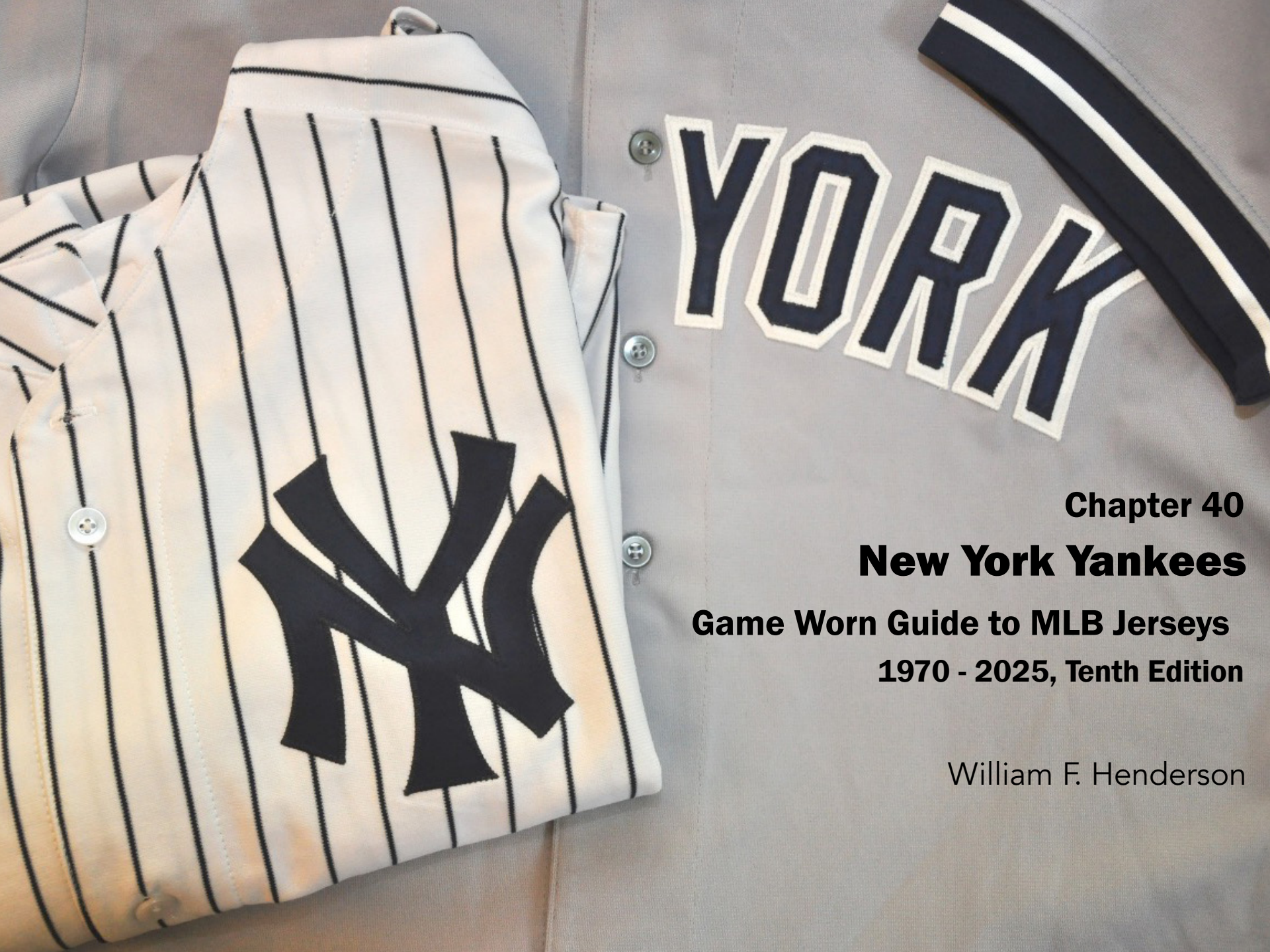

Chapter 40

New York Yankees

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970 - 2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Yankees Uniform History Notes

- In one respect, writing an overview of the Yankees uniforms from 1970 to present (2025) is very easy, because the team has made no real design changes to their uniforms, either home or away, since 1936. Except for tailoring and fit, their uniforms have looked the same for the past 90 years. The tiny, year-to-year changes are noted on the pages that follow.
- The interlocked "NY" logo first appeared on a Yankee chest in 1912. It has undergone minor changes in size and shape, but it is arguably the most famous logo in all of sports. In my travels, seeing people wearing Yankees-logoed shirts and hats is unsurprising anywhere on earth—China, Africa, Australia, Europe, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and on any of the Pacific Islands.
- While the Yankees are credited with being the first team in baseball to use numbers on players' jerseys, they have never put a player name on any uniform, either home or road (other than the gimmicky league-wide promotional 2017-2019 Players Weekend games). The franchise values team identity over individual recognition, an ethos that sets them apart from all other MLB teams.
- (Wilson) Varsity style numbers are used on the back of every home and road jersey (minus 1975 road) from 1973 to present. The 1975 Rawlings-made road jerseys use Block, as did the 1970–1972 flannels.
- It should come as no surprise to those who know baseball culture that the Yankees were the last team to enter the double knit era, joining in 1973 with a just two other laggards (the Expos and Royals), who probably waited more for financial reasons than to preserve tradition.
- The Yankees' new knit home uniforms for 1973 were nearly identical to the flannels of 1972. Both designs are button front, lacking any trim in those places other teams often put it: around sleeves, neck, and around the front button placket. The only change we note is that player numbers became Wilson "Varsity" in 1973, gaining serifs on many of the numerals.
- Flannel road grays for 1972 were very plain, as they had been for decades, featuring single-color Block "New York" lettering and bold player numbers on the back only. The first road knits the next year were spiffed up with sleeve-end trim and white outlines around the wordmark and numbers. Positively revolutionary for the Yankees at the time.
- In 2006, all MLB teams were given the opportunity to select one jersey style and try out the new Cool Base jersey fabric and construction, designed especially for games on hot days. All did, except for the Yankees. In 2014, five years after other teams adopted them, the Yankees allowed some players to wear Cool Base road jerseys only. Finally, in 2016, the Yankees switched to the new Flex Base uniforms both home and away, with the rest of the league. But their home jerseys were notably missing the vented side panels.
- The Yankees began observing league-wide holidays like Mother's Day and Memorial Day in 2013, wearing mandated special uniforms for those occasions. Prior to that, they avoided any break from tradition—even abstaining from wearing throwbacks except on very rare occasions (e.g., 1996 Negro Leagues tribute, 2012 Fenway Park centennial). To date, the team has only worn throwback jerseys on only three occasions, by far the fewest of any MLB team.
- Through 2019, the Yankees never wore a jersey manufacturer's logo on the sleeves of their game uniforms. It was omitted for contractual reasons as the team had a long-standing agreement with Adidas that forbade them from displaying the logo of any other manufacturer on their game uniforms. While various manufacturers have made their uniforms over the years, the Yankees had never displayed a maker's mark on their sleeves while every one of the other teams in baseball had done so.
- When Nike takes over making MLB on-field jerseys for 2020, the Yankees wear the"Swoosh" on the front of their jerseys like all other clubs, marking the first appearance of a manufacturer's logo on a Yankees game jersey.
- In 2024, the Yankees quietly introduced a refresh to their iconic road grays—the first visual update in more than 50 years. The sleeve-end trim and white outlines around the "NEW YORK" lettering and back numbers were removed, returning the jersey to the minimalist, single-color aesthetic last seen in 1972. It marked a subtle but significant shift toward cleaner design while preserving the franchise's classic road look.
- Also in 2024, the Yankees doubled down on their resistance to modern uniform trends by opting out of MLB and Nike's City Connect uniform program. They were one of only two teams to abstain (the Athletics being the other, due to their pending relocation), further solidifying their role as baseball's most tradition-bound franchise.
- From 1970 to 2025, the Yankees have stayed defiantly traditional—no names on back, no wild alternates, and minimal design changes. Fabric updates and branding were adopted reluctantly, and even minor tweaks came slowly. In a sport full of reinvention, the Yankees' look remains baseball's ultimate constant. The result: a uniform legacy as timeless and unchanging as the franchise itself.

I am always looking for new information and better photographs. If you can share new information, or offer corrections to this material, please send a note to me, at gameworngeuides@gmail.com Please tell me which page you are referencing. All contributors will be recognized by name in a future edition.

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Year by Year Summary

Yankees Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1970	Home Flannel	No	Block 1 color	No	-	-	-	Spalding
	Road Flannel	No	Special Block 1 clr	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1971	Home Flannel	No	Special Block 1 clr	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Flannel	No	Block 1 color	No	-	-	-	Spalding
1972	Home Flannel	No	Special Block 1 clr	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Flannel	No	Special Block 1 clr	No	-	-	-	Spalding/Wilson
1973	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Yankee Stadium 50th	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Yankee Stadium 50th	-	Wilson
1974	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1975	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Block 2 color	No	-	-	-	Rawlings
1976	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1977	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1978	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1979	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Munson Armband (aft 8/2)	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Munson Armband (aft 8/2)	-	Wilson
1980	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Munson Armband	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Munson Armband	-	Wilson
1981	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Howard Armband	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Howard Armband	-	Wilson
1982	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1983	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1984	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1985	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Sheehy Armband (aft 8/14)	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Sheehy Armband (aft 8/14)	-	Wilson
1986	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Maris Armband	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Maris Armband	-	Wilson
1987	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1988	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1989	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson

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Yankees Game Jerseys

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
1990	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	“1” for Billy Martin	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	“1” for Billy Martin	-	Wilson
1991	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Wilson
1992	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Russell
1993	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Russell
1994	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	MLB 125th	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	MLB 125th	Russell
1995	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Armband & 7 for Mantle after 8/13	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Armband & 7 for Mantle after 8/13	-	Russell
1996	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Mel Allen Armband (aft 6/18)	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Mel Allen Armband (aft 6/18)	-	Russell
1997	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	Jackie Robinson	Russell
1998	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Russell
1999	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	DiMaggio 5, Catfish Hunter Armband (after 9/9)	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	DiMaggio 5, Catfish Hunter Armband (after 9/9)	-	Russell
2000	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Bob Lemon Armband	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Bob Lemon Armband	-	Russell
2001	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	WTC Armband after 9/11	AL 100th Anniv	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	WTC Armband after 9/11	AL 100th Anniv	Russell
2002	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Russell
2003	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Yankees 100th Anniv	-	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Yankees 100th Anniv	-	Russell
2004	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	RICOH patch*	Russell
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Russell
2005	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	Salvation Army Relief**	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2006	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2007	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Lidle armband; “10” for Rizzuto (8/14 onward)	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Lidle armband;”10” for Rizzuto (8/14 on)	-	Majestic
2008	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Yankee Stadium Last season patch, Murcer armband July 13 on	All Star Patch	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Yankee Stadium Last season patch, Murcer armband July 13 on	All Star Patch	Majestic
2009	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	New Yankee Stadium Patch	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	New Yankee Stadium Patch	-	Majestic
2010	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Houk armband from July 22, Steinbrenner patch, Sheppard Patch from July 16	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Houk armband from July 22, Steinbrenner patch, Sheppard Patch from July 16	-	Majestic
2011	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2012	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2013	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Mariano Rivera Patch***	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2014	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Derek Jeter patch***	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2015	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	“8” for Yogi Berra****	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	“8” for Yogi Berra****	-	Majestic

* Worn Opening series in Tokyo only
**for Hurricane Katrina, on or after September 1 and for a brief period thereafter.
*** Patch worn the last home series of the season only
**** Starting September 23 until season end.
***** Starting September 7 until season end.

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Yankees Game Jerseys

These two styles continue from previous years

2016-2019

Change to Flex Base

Below: 2020 home and road only to show addition of Nike Logo, the first time the Yankees have had a manufacturer logo on their jerseys, 33 years after the rest of MLB

Switch to Vapor Premiere Elite

Year	Style	Front Numbers	Back Numbers	NOB	Nameplate?	Left Sleeve	Right Sleeve	Manufacturer
2016	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	“8” for Yogi Berra	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	“8” for Yogi Berra	-	Majestic
2017	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Gene Michael Armband *****	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Gene Michael Armband *****	-	Majestic
2018	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Majestic
2019	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Mel Stottlemyre Armband	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Mel Stottlemyre Armband	MLB 150th Anniversary	Majestic
2020	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Hank Steinbrenner memorial	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Hank Steinbrenner memorial	-	Nike
2021	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	Whitey Ford memorial	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	Whitey Ford memorial	-	Nike
2022	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	-	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	-	-	Nike
2023	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡^	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡^	-	Nike
2024	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color (no perf)	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray (refreshed)	No	Varsity 1 Color (no perf)	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Home Navy Blue*	No	Varsity 1 Color (perf)	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Navy Blue*	No	Varsity 2 Color (perf)	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike
2025	Home Pinstripe	No	Varsity 1 color	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road Gray	No	Varsity 1 Color	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Home alt Navy Blue*	No	Varsity 1 Color	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike
	Road alt Navy Blue*	No	Varsity 2 Color	No	-	STARR Ad patch‡	-	Nike

‡ patch sleeve varies based on handedness of player

^ Starting July 21

* The Yankees added their Spring Training/BP jerseys as official alternates in the MLB Style Guide for the 2024 season.

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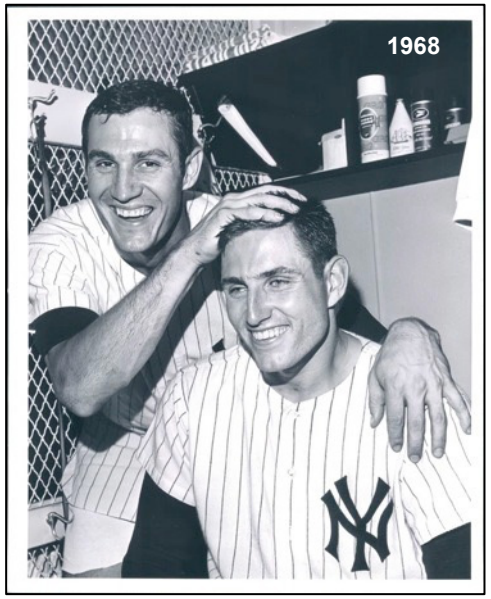

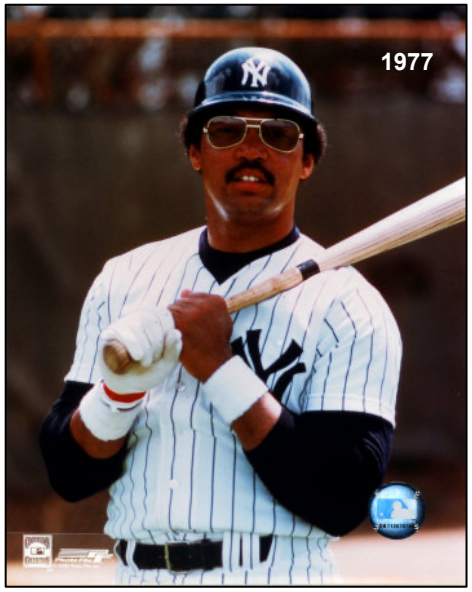

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Other Yankees Notes

The Yankees commitment to tradition is legendary. More than any other team in baseball they have refused to follow trends or fads, or make any changes to their on-field appearance

The Yankees have never strayed from a standard button-front jersey. No zippers, no pullovers, no wild colors, no changes… same basic home and road uniforms since 1936!

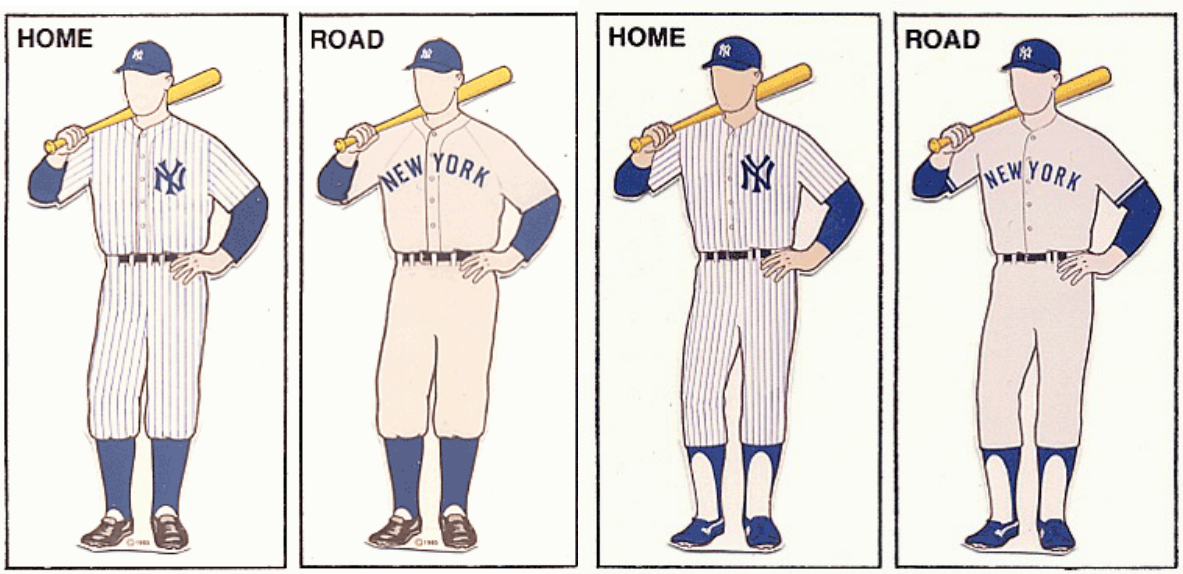
The Yankees first deviation from their standard uniform was to participate in a June 8, 1996 Negro Leagues tribute game against the Tigers in Detroit. They also played along with the Red Sox in 2012 for a Turn Back the Clock game to celebrate the centennial of the first game on the road at Fenway Park and participated in the inaugural Field of Dreams Game in 2021. Otherwise, no other throwbacks for the Yankees.

The Yankees first wore a sponsor advertising patch on their sleeves during the opening series of 2004 in Japan, for Ricoh, and a “Biofreeze” ad patch for the London Series in 2019. It was doubtlessly stipulated in a contract that they were required to in both cases.

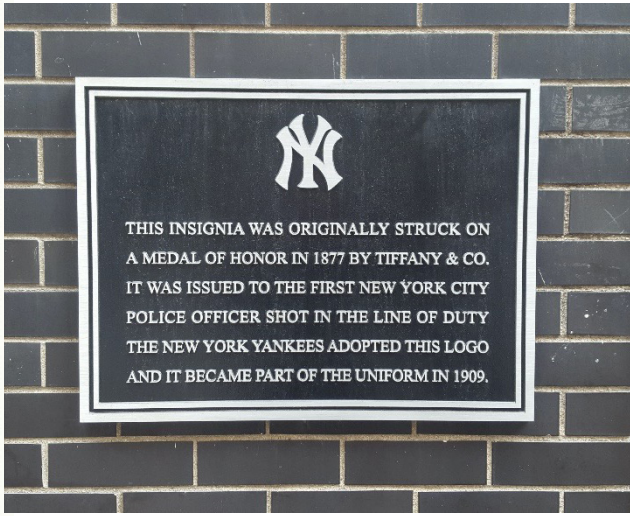
Then, starting in 2013, the Yankees have joined other clubs in observing various holidays (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Mother’s and Father’s Days) with league-mandated special uniforms, and for promotions like Players Weekend.

Finally acquiescing to what was perhaps inevitable, the Yankees added manufacturer branding to their on-field jerseys when Nike assumed the MLB on-field uniform contract in 2020. Let the record show they staved off this event 33 years after branding first appeared on the sleeves of other MLB teams.

Because the changes in Yankees jerseys are so slight, in this section we will use a timeline at the start of the game uniform chapter to note the small changes that happened year by year, chronologically and allow easier navigation.



1936 Yankees – and 1994 Yankees. (“Dressed to the Nines," Baseball Hall of Fame Website)



Above: *Plaque outside NYY Steak in Manhattan explains the origin of the team’s famous logo (M. Levin photo)*

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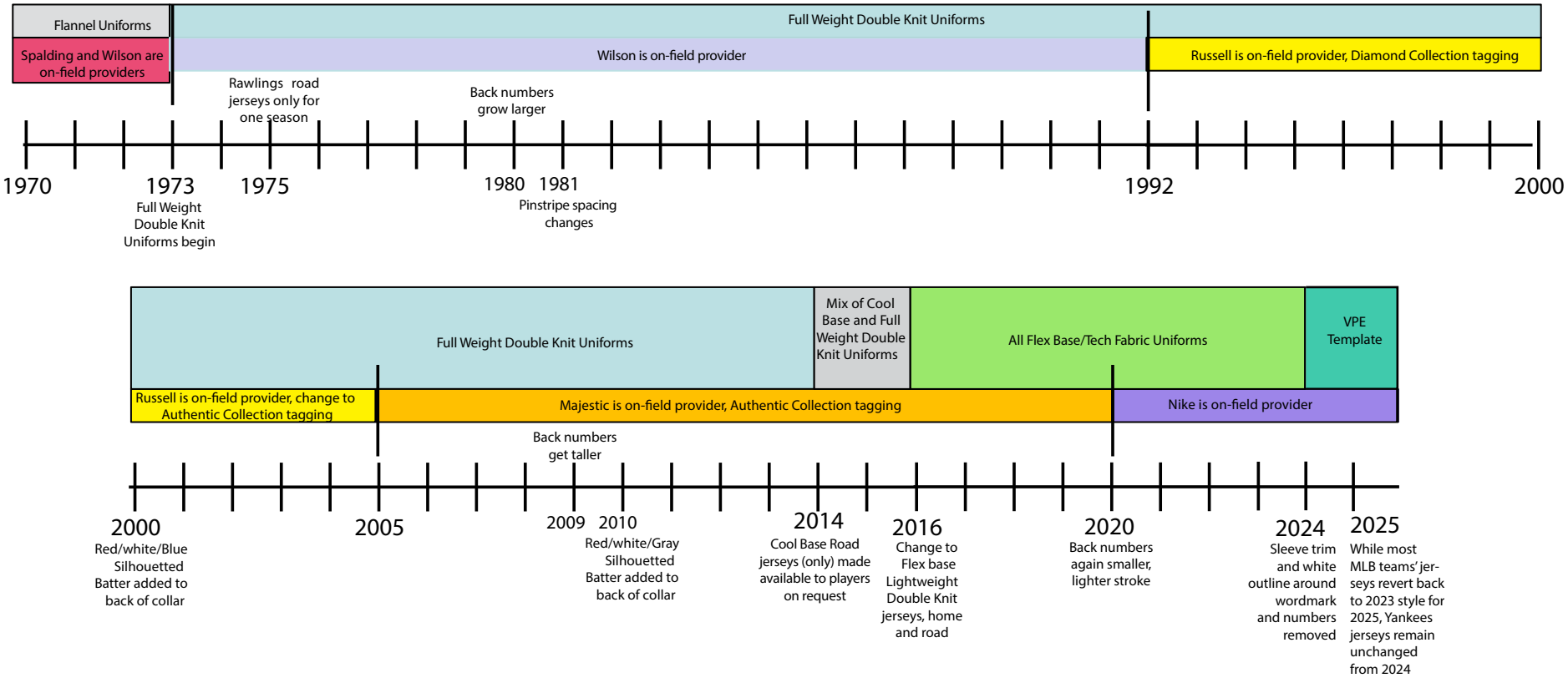
Home, Road and Alternate Jerseys

Yankees Visual Jersey Timeline

To the casual observer, Yankees jerseys had remained unchanged for 55 years. But certainly, none of us here reading this are casual observers, and the small occasional changes the team has made to jerseys are worth noting. The interactive timeline below will be useful in navigating the many small changes that the Yankees have implemented. Clicking on each small event date below will take you to the page that explains it in context. To get back to this page, ensure that you have bookmarks open, and click on the “Visual Timeline” tab in the bookmarks bar.



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Overview: Yankees in Flannel Jerseys — 1970-1972

Yankees uniforms from 1970–1972 (and earlier) were made of wool-blend flannel. Home jerseys are woven with an integral navy chalk pinstripe. The now-familiar interlocked 'NY' first appeared on team sleeves in 1909, moved to the front of home jerseys in 1912, then disappeared from the jerseys (while remaining on the caps) for two decades after 1916. It returned for good in 1936. While the front 'NY' has changed slightly over the years in size and shape, the basic look — a white pinstriped, button-front jersey with the 'NY' on the left chest — has remained virtually unchanged since 1936, something of a record in professional sports.

Road jerseys were as plain as possible: gray bodies, no trim, and a block-font 'NEW YORK' arched in navy blue across the front. Player numbers are one color, navy blue, on back only.

From 1970–1972, original front crests and back lettering were made of woven twill, not felt. The edges were zig-zag stitched to the jersey. Through 1976, many Yankees jerseys were lettered with natural fiber-blend (cotton or Rayon) twill, rather than the 100% polyester common to most other teams. This fabric had a rougher appearance with a wider woven rib in the fabric texture, and this fabric tended to bleach to purple after repeated washings. The twill was often backed with muslin as a fabric stiffener/stabilizer before being cut and sewn. Tackle twill, by contrast, is nearly impossible to bleach and is sewn without a backing.

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1970-1972 Home Flannels

In 1970, the Yankees wore home jerseys made by Spalding. For 1971–1972, Wilson took over as the supplier of the team's home jerseys. Spalding had supplied the Yankees with uniforms for many years, but after 1972 they exited the Major League Baseball uniform supply market entirely.

Original, unaltered Yankees flannel jerseys are very difficult to find. The team tightly guarded its uniforms from collectors, and reissued nearly every uniform—star player or not—throughout its minor league system. In the minors, jerseys were often stripped of their front crests, numbers, or both, and re-lettered to match the specifications of the minor league club to which they were assigned—then worn until they fell apart. Many still exist in their minor league livery, with owners possibly unaware of their MLB heritage.

Above: *A 1971 Yankees Wilson home jersey that I had restored to its original appearance.*

Bottom right: *In 1972, Yankees infielder Gene Michael guards second base in traditional flannels, contrasting with the visiting Tigers' brand-new pullover knits.*

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1970-1972 Home Flannels, continued

1972

1972

1970

1971

When examining period game photos from the 1970–1972 period, one will notice the variety of weights of back numbers found on player jerseys. It appears that different batches of jerseys were lettered using different number sets, and that, over time, old and new uniform sets were simply mixed together and worn interchangeably on the field. This was a detail that teams did not seem concerned with at the time. 1971 jerseys are tail-tagged '1971,' while 1972 examples are tagged simply '72.'

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1970 Home

1970 marked the final year that longtime supplier Spalding produced Yankees home jerseys. Note the very bold back numbers. The lettering was made of natural fiber-blend woven twill—not the 100% synthetic tackle twill used by most other teams. When washed in harsh detergents, the lettering would turn shades of purple. Spalding blue with red and silver tag on the outside front tail, size tag sewn adjacent, chain stitched two-character year designation, “70” below. Wash instructions appeared on a separate tag with a flag tab indicating the year and the set number. Player names were hand chain-stitched onto a piece of felt, which was then straight-stitched into the back of the neck. Neck tag stitching was completed before the placket was sewn shut, meaning the stitching from the neck tag should not normally be visible from the outside back of the shirt.

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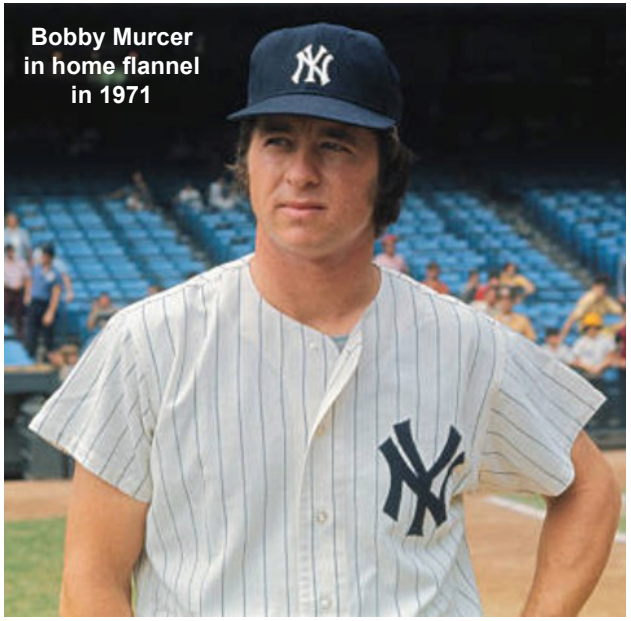
1971-1972 Home



Visually identical to the 1970 Spalding jersey, small rectangular Wilson tag on tail, hand chain stitched name in collar embroidered onto a piece of felt. The numbers are slightly less bold than those on the 1970 Spalding jerseys. These jerseys lack a separate washing instructions tag or a flag tag denoting the year and set number.

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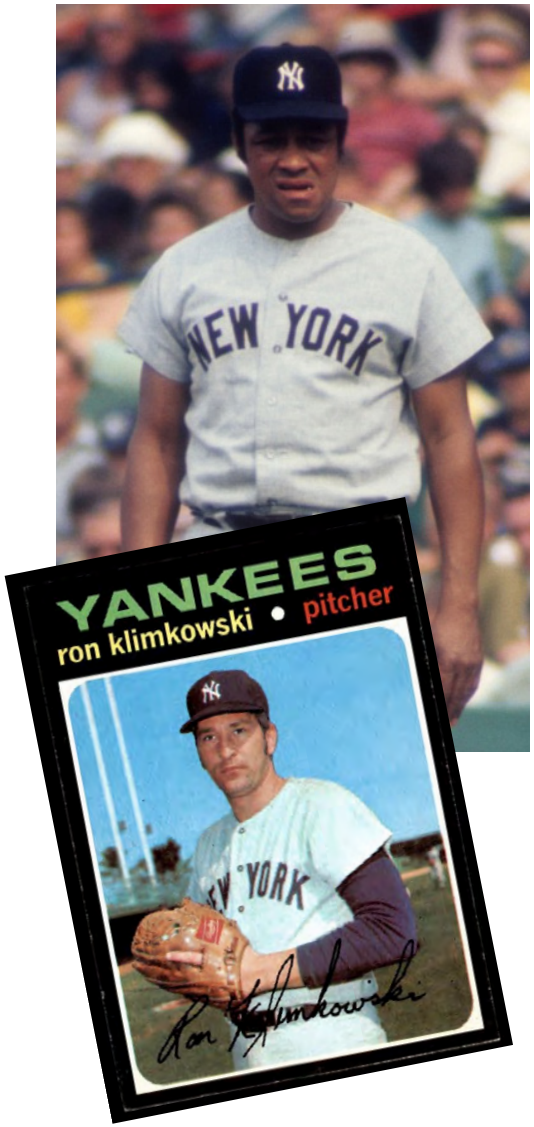
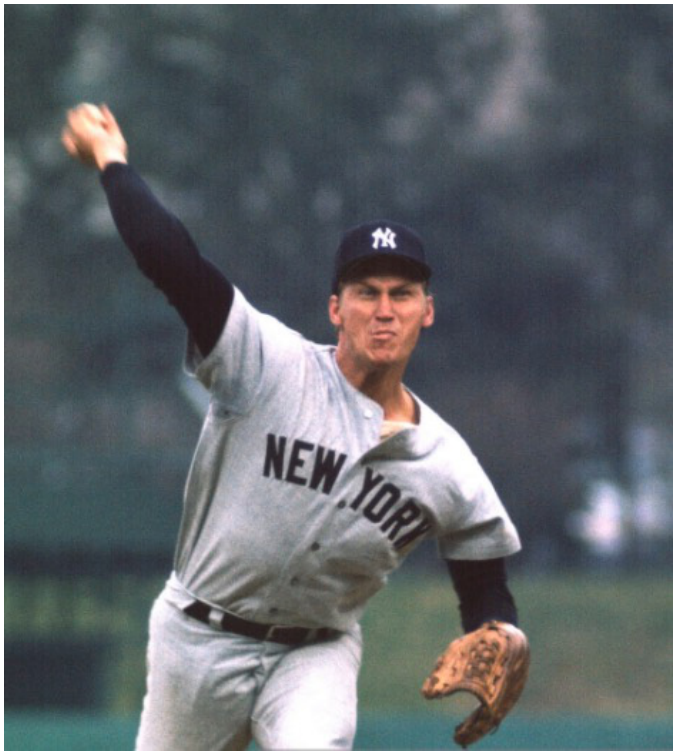
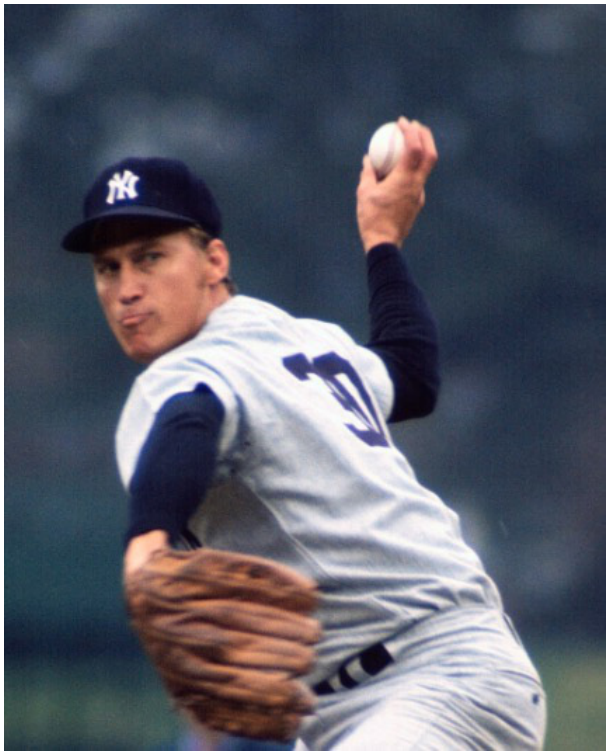
1970-1972 Road Flannels







Pure tradition: Old-school, unwritten rules dictate that a team's road uniforms should show no flash—and following that rule, these could not be plainer. The design features unembellished, navy block "NEW YORK" lettering arched on the front, and plain numbers on the back with no player names. Original game photos show that the "NEW YORK" wordmark on Yankees road uniforms at the tail end of the flannel era (1970–1972) was slightly bolder than in earlier years.

However, a high percentage of surviving jerseys have been restored after their original lettering and numbers were stripped for minor league use. Once in the hobby, new—often inaccurate—lettering was cut and resewn. Original, unrestored flannel Yankees jerseys are extremely rare—especially road jerseys, which were almost always stripped of their "NEW YORK" lettering for minor league reassignment. The original lettering was a cotton twill blend, zig-zag stitched directly onto the jersey.

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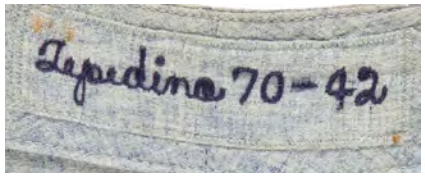
1970 Road

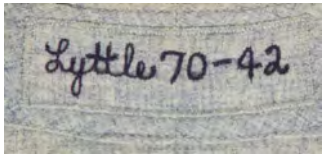
Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

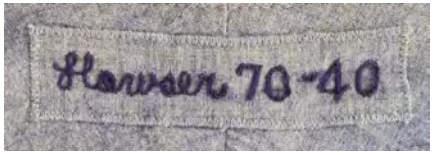
Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Wilson-made 1970 road jerseys feature a die-cut “NEW YORK” wordmark arched across the front. The letters were apparently laid out by hand, resulting in minor variations in arch and spacing. As mentioned earlier, original front lettering is uncommon, as most were re-purposed for minor league use and re-lettered. Wilson’s back numbers are plain but feature sharply angled corners, differing noticeably from the numbers used on home jerseys. Player tagging is hand chain-stitched onto a piece of jersey fabric (not felt), then zig-zag stitched onto the back of the neck—passing through only one layer, so the stitching remains invisible from the outside.

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



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1971-1972 Road

1971

1972

1972

The 1971–1972 road jerseys were made by Spalding and their numbers were a Block variant font, different from the Wilson jerseys. Spalding had long been the Yankees' sole uniform supplier, but after 1972, they exited the MLB uniform market entirely.

1972 tagging included a new white "Spalding Professional Made in U.S.A." label, with an adjoining navy year tag embroidered in silver thread, showing a two-digit year code. The neck tag featured the player's last name and a two-digit jersey size. These jerseys did not include a washing instructions tag or set numbers.

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1973: Switch to Knits

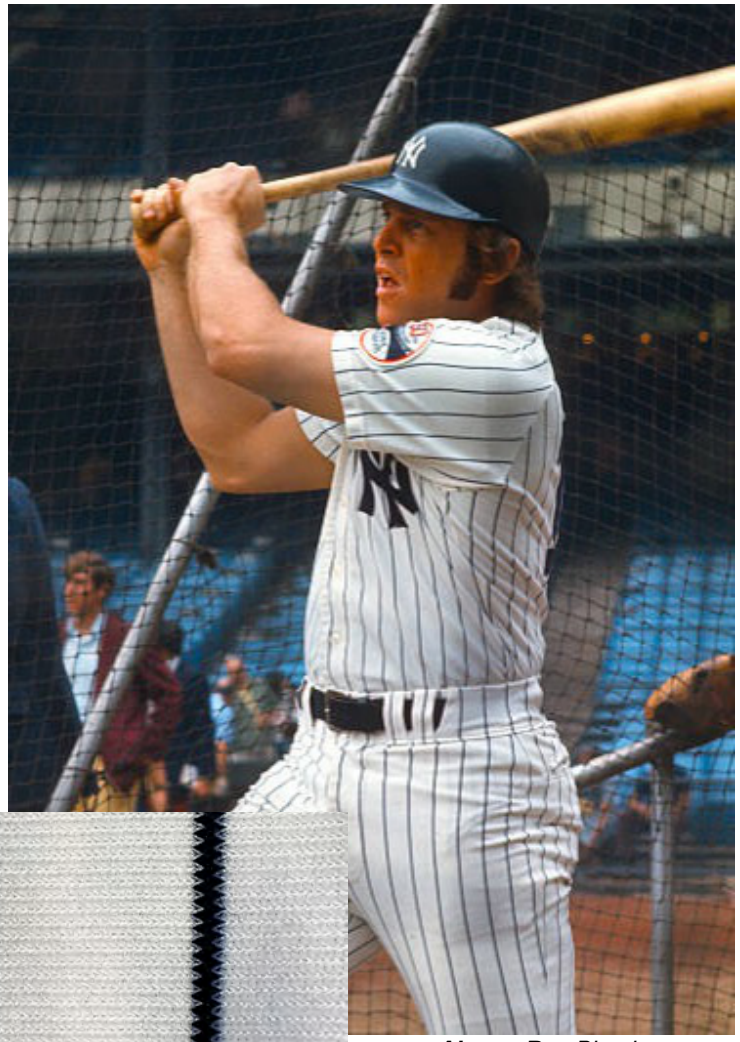
The Yankees were among the last MLB teams to switch from flannel to knit uniforms, waiting until the 1973 season. Nearly all other teams had converted by 1972. Driven by tradition, the team's front office likely resisted the change.

A key consideration was the team's requirement that the new uniforms retain the look of the chalk pinstripes woven into the old wool flannel fabric. The team did not want the pinstripes to appear too sharp, crisp, or artificially printed. The result ***(inset, below)***was satisfactory to the club, and beginning with the 1973 season, the Yankees took the field on Opening Day wearing double knits for the first time—home and road uniforms alike—all made by Wilson.

Visually, the new Wilson home uniforms appear virtually identical to the 1972 flannels—unsurprisingly. The stitched navy blue lettering remained cotton-blend twill (not 100% polyester tackle twill), consistent with what had been used on flannels in recent years.

The road gray uniforms were slightly modernized. They still featured block-arched "New York" lettering on the front, now in navy blue with a white outline. As their only nod to 1970s modernization, the road jerseys featured sleeve ends trimmed with 1" stretchy knit in a navy/white/navy pattern. This road uniform design remained virtually unchanged for the next 51 years, until a 2024 redesign removed the number outline and sleeve trim.

Wilson lined the inside of the button placket and collar with linen for player comfort. The linen lining was softer against the skin than the polyester seams and helped absorb perspiration.



Above, *Ron Blomberg, 1973 regular season.*

Above: *An inside-out view of a Wilson-made Yankees double knit jersey shows the linen lining that encircles the inside of the placket.*

Right: *Billy Martin in road knits, Spring Training 1985.*

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1973-1980 Home

1975

1973

Player numbers changed to the Wilson house font now commonly known as 'Varsity.'. The Wilson Varsity font differs from earlier styles by featuring bottom feet, or 'serifs,' on the numbers 1, 2, 4, and 7. The interior openings on the numbers 0, 6, 8, and 9 are four-sided, without corner bevels (numbers from 1973 that I have measured are 7.4" tall. These started as 7½" numbers). 1974 through 1977, the (one-color) numbers are approximately 6.8" tall on surviving original examples, suggesting they were originally 7" tall before being shrunk after repeated washings.

Road jersey numbers added a ¼-inch white border around all sides. Keen observers will note that in 1977, taller 7.5" numbers were introduced. However, some jerseys still featured the earlier, smaller numbers—suggesting either that two numbering patterns were in use simultaneously or that, more likely, the team was using up old stock.

Notably, the numbers became taller but not wider, giving them a marginally narrower appearance.. Many older jerseys have had their back numbers replaced with later, taller versions during less-than-perfect restorations.

Top: I restored the front crest on this Lou Piniella jersey, it had been sent to Tacoma for a year of use in the minor leagues. The bottom jersey has had its front crest less exactly restored and its original sleeve patch replaced with a reproduction. Very few Yankees jerseys of the 1970s and 1980s escaped a second life in spring training and/or the minor leagues.

1980

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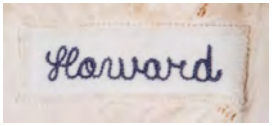
1973-1980 Home, continued

1976



Player numbers were specified to be sewn 5½" below the collar—about half an inch higher than on most other teams' jerseys. The digits were typically spaced approximately 1½" apart, compared to the 1" spacing commonly used elsewhere.

On this well-worn example, with original crest and numbers intact, note how the lettering has been bleached to a deep violet color. The twill fabric used by the Yankees during these years appears to have contained natural fibers—likely a cotton blend—which reacted to chlorine bleach by turning purple in the wash. This bleaching effect is not typical of the 100% polyester tackle twill used by most other teams—or by the Yankees in later years.

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1978 Home Jersey Worn in 1979 and/or 1980

Below: *1978—Notice the proper style and location of the Wilson tag; correct team neck strip tag style.*

This 1978 home jersey was issued to pitcher Don Gullett. 1978 marked Gullett's final season in baseball; yet, this jersey features a black armband on the left sleeve—something not worn by the Yankees that year. Black armbands were introduced following Thurman Munson's death on August 2, 1979, and were worn throughout the 1980 season.

Gullett retired after the 1978 season, and no Yankee roster player was issued #35 in either 1979 or 1980. The presence of the armband could be explained by the jersey being re-purposed—possibly worn by a coach, prepared for a call-up, or used during spring training. Gullett himself would not have worn the jersey with the armband in place. It was common practice for the Yankees to prepare and reissue jerseys as potential backups in subsequent seasons.

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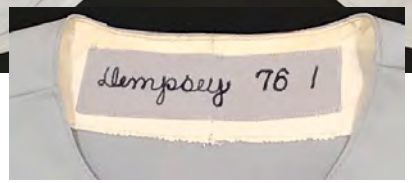
1973-1974, 1976-1980 Road

1977

Player numbers were specified to be sewn 5½" below the collar—approximately half an inch higher than the standard used by most other teams—and were typically spaced about 1½" apart, compared to the 1" spacing used by most other teams.

1976



1977

Notice the slight variation in Wilson tags on the two 1977 jerseys shown. That year marked a transition to a newer tag style, as seen on the Berra jersey—with serifs on the foot of the "4," a slightly bolder Wilson script, and a repositioned ® symbol.

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1975 Road

For reasons unknown, Rawlings supplied the Yankees' road jerseys only during the 1975 season. These jerseys differed slightly from their Wilson counterparts. The front "NEW YORK" wordmark used a shorter, squarer font with altered spacing and arch compared to the Wilson version. The back numbers used the Rawlings house font, which we now refer to as "Athletic Block." This font lacks the serifs (or "feet") seen on numerals like 1, 4, and 7 in the Wilson Varsity font.

Contemporary news photos show that some players occasionally wore earlier-issue Wilson jerseys on the field, identifiable by their differing number font. A red Rawlings tag appeared on the outside left front tail, accompanied by a flag tab indicating the set and year. The inside placket of these jerseys was not lined.

An embroidered player name strip tag was sewn into the back of the neck, using the distinctive stitching style ("handwriting") of the Rawlings stitcher, which differed from Wilson's. The Rawlings name tags were made from gray tackle twill with a slight sheen, in contrast to Wilson's use of matte gray jersey fabric.

Interestingly, a game photo has surfaced showing at least one player wearing a 1975-style Rawlings jersey in 1976.

Above: *Catcher Rick Dempsey wears an earlier-issue Wilson jersey with a different back number font as he visits Rudy May on the mound, September 20, 1975.*

Right: *Catfish Hunter pitches in 1975 wearing a Rawlings-issued road jersey from that season.*

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Team Lettering

Standard Yankees front crests and player number lettering were die-cut and supplied by the Liebe Company in St. Louis. While some teams economized by using a single die for the top layer of lettering—cutting the outlines by hand with scissors—the Yankees used dedicated dies to cut both the main color and the outlines.

Rectangular pieces of twill were stacked on the cutting platen, the “cookie cutter” die placed on top, and the hydraulic press activated—cutting all layers at once into identical letters and numbers. For authenticators, this means that original Yankees lettering from a given year should generally appear identical. Noticeable variations in lettering shape or size strongly suggest a re-lettering job.

Standard home jersey lettering was 7.5” tall, though surviving examples often measure slightly smaller—around 7.4”—due to wash shrinkage.

Note the style of the small Wilson manufacturer tag and its sewn location. The Wilson tag changed subtly over the years, as did its placement on the garment. Specific tag variations are addressed in the manufacturer tagging chapter and are not detailed here.

Photos with permission of the Liebe Company.

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1973-1976 Team Tagging

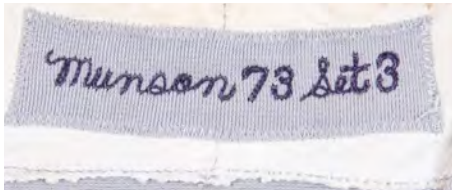
The Yankees consistently inventory-tagged their jerseys, though the location and format of the tagging varied by year—and often by jersey style (home or road). Jerseys lettered as “spares” at the start of the season, or later in the year for a traded player or call-up, often have different tagging conventions. Players were often reissued their less-used jersey from the previous season—home or road—to serve as a spare. Mid-season acquisitions often wore reissued spares originally assigned to another player in a previous year.

Jerseys issued from 1970–1980 typically featured an embroidered inventory strip tag sewn into the inside back of the neck. The embroidery was applied to a strip of matching jersey fabric (except on 1975 road jerseys) and zig-zag stitched into place. Authentic neck tagging should not show visible stitching on the outside back of the jersey. The inventory tag was sewn in during jersey construction, before the front placket was closed. If stitching from the tag passes through the collar and is visible on the back of the neck, the jersey should be viewed with suspicion.

Chain-stitched script was done freehand—non-automated—by skilled craftspeople using traditional chain stitch sewing machines. Experts can distinguish authentic chain stitching produced by the Wilson factory stitcher from imitations or contrived reproductions.

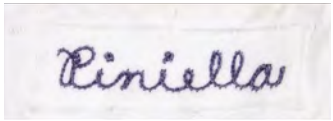
1975 road jerseys are unique and are covered separately on a previous page

1973 home jerseys commonly had name in collar and just year, or year and set number on the tail.



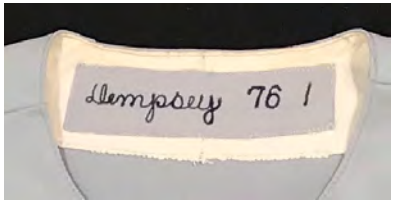
1973 road jerseys commonly had no tail tag

1974 home and road tagged identically



1975 home tagged the same style as 1974

1976 home jerseys commonly had name in neck and new style tail tag



1976 road jerseys commonly had no tail tag

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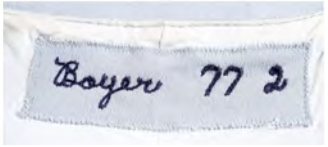
1977-1980 Team Tagging

For far longer than most other teams, the Yankees went to the trouble of embroidering the player's name and issue year into a strip tag sewn inside the neck of the jersey. As a result, Yankees jerseys typically lacked the standard "flag tags" sewn onto the manufacturer label, as was common for most other teams (the exception being 1975 road jerseys made by Rawlings).

Because the Yankees' uniforms changed little from year to year, it was common for older jerseys to remain in the trainer's room and later be reissued—sometimes with a number change—to a new player. A Yankees jersey with missing team tagging is almost always suspect, as tags did not simply "fall off," and later players had no reason to remove them. In most cases, jerseys with missing or altered tagging have been modified to obscure their true origin.

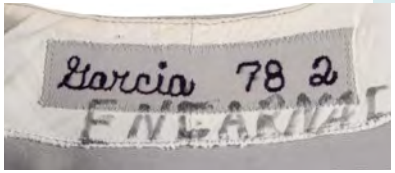


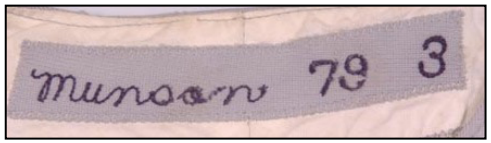
Two styles of tagging were used in 1977:

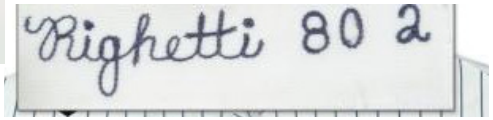
Player last name, year and set number in the collar with a plain tail; and last name only in the collar, with year and set number on the tail.

Beginning with the 1979 season, the National League asked its teams to add player names—at least to road uniforms—to help fans better follow the game. This created momentum for more teams to adopt names on jerseys, eventually influencing American League clubs as well.

Today, the standard across MLB is to include player names on all uniforms, and every other team has names on at least their road jerseys. The Yankees are the only team in MLB who have persisted with player numbers only and remain without player names on both home and road jerseys.







1978–1980: All tagging is on the neck strip, no team tagging on the tail.

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Sidebar: Yankees' Memorial Armbands

To mark the passing of former star players and other team associates—of which the Yankees have recognized many—the team has regularly worn plain black memorial armbands. When worn, these armbands appear on the left sleeve. A few especially significant individuals—such as DiMaggio and Mantle—have been commemorated with their uniform number stitched on the sleeve, either in place of the armband or in addition to it.

Examining game-worn Yankees jerseys for telltale stitch marks from removed armbands can provide clues as to whether a jersey was reissued in a later season or sent to the minor leagues. The example shown on this page is a case in point: evidence of armband removal from a jersey tagged for a season in which no memorial sleeve marking was worn.

Across different seasons, armbands were not always sewn in the exact same location on the sleeve—and even within the same year, small placement variations occurred from player to player. Especially when added mid-season, one can imagine clubhouse staff rushing to collect all uniforms, have the armbands sewn on, and return them to the team promptly. Game photos frequently reveal a lack of precision and consistency in armband placement.

A complete listing of sleeve memorials appears in the tables at the front of this chapter, with a nearly complete gallery of examples provided in a chapter ahead, "Commemorative Patches."

Shown here is a jersey with an armband in place, despite being tagged for a season in which no armband was worn. The most likely explanation is that Berra continued wearing this jersey into 1979, when the Thurman Munson memorial armband was added late in the season. The full authentication details can be viewed by clicking the thumbnail above.

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1981-1985 Home

The 1981 season marked a relatively minor, but notable, point of change. While Wilson remained the Yankees' sole uniform supplier, the spacing of the pinstripes on the home jerseys was adjusted. Before 1981, the stripes were spaced 1⅛" apart; starting in 1981, they were moved closer—just 1" apart.

The easiest way to spot the difference is by counting the pinstripes behind the "NY" crest on the chest: before 1981, the logo fits between five stripes; beginning in 1981, it fits between six.

1973-1980: 5 stripes = 5.65 " inches
1 1/8" between each stripe
Crest fits between 6 stripes

1981-2023: 5 stripes = 5 inches
1 inch between each stripe
Crest fits between 7 stripes

© GameWornGuides.com

1981-1985 Road

1981

1983

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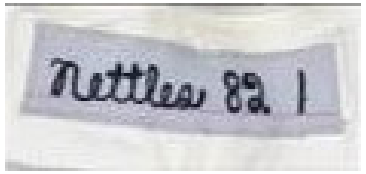
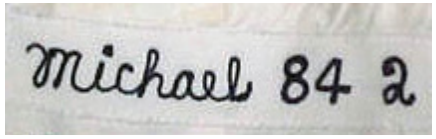
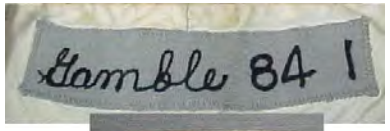
1981-1985 Team Tagging







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1986-1987 Home

1986

At first glance, this appears to be Don Baylor's 1986 jersey. But it is not—and this is where research and proper authentication become essential. Baylor had played for the Yankees 1983–1985, and went to 1986 spring training with the Yankees before being traded to the Red Sox just two weeks prior to Opening Day. Meanwhile, Tommy John had just rejoined the Yankees after a previous stint with the team,1979–1982. Baylor's departure left John's preferred #25 jersey available for his use, and according to John himself, he assumed Baylor's jersey and wore it throughout the 1986 season.

The Wilson tail tag changes for 1986. The new tag was larger—measuring 2⅝ inches by 1⅞ inches—and fussier in design. Made of shiny satin-like polyester, it reads: "*Tailored Exclusively for Prestige Teams by Wilson*." It features the red Wilson script logo centered above four lines of washing instructions embroidered in black. A halftone, light pink "W" in a circle—Wilson's secondary logo—was also centered on the tag.
It's possible Wilson anticipated Rawlings becoming the official on-field uniform supplier for Major League Baseball in 1987, and designed the tag to imply that teams wearing Wilson uniforms did so by choice—favoring the company's tradition and quality.
Indeed, many players and collectors prefer the tailored fit of Wilson uniforms—often noting the linen lining inside the placket and neck for added comfort, along with the overall quality of the fabric, seams, buttons, and zippers. Flag tags indicating jersey size and any custom tailoring notes were pinch-sewn beneath the bottom or side edge of the new Wilson tag.

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1986-1987 Home, continued

1987

Above: *The neck tagging on the jersey shown above differs from the examples presented at left as "typical" for 1986–1987. Click the link below for further insight into this variation.*

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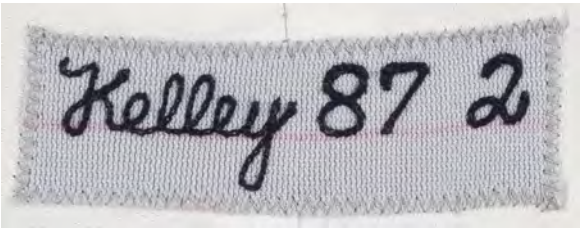
1986-1987 Road

1987



On this team-issued 1987 jersey, note the original—but slightly crooked—back numbers, a detail not uncommon for the era. These were placed and stitched by hand, often under tight deadlines.

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1988-1991 Home/Road

Wilson remained the Yankees' uniform supplier during this period, but the team's inventory strip-tagging style changed. The elegant, hand-embroidered chain stitching previously done by skilled individuals was replaced by computerized machine embroidery in a cursive script. The stitching was still applied to a strip of matching jersey fabric and zig-zag stitched into the back of the neck.

As before, authentic neck tagging should not show stitching on the outside back of the jersey, since the tag was sewn in place before the placket was closed during construction.

The format of the inventory code remained consistent from 1988–1991, and was the same for both home and road jerseys. Always compare with other examples from the same year to confirm consistency. While it is not impossible for a late-season Wilson factory jersey to have been produced and sent to the team with slightly different tagging, such occurrences are undocumented, rare, and should be approached with caution during authentication.

1991

1988

Above: *This jersey features team-applied replacement numbers, likely added for spring training use. Click on the letter of opinion for further details.*

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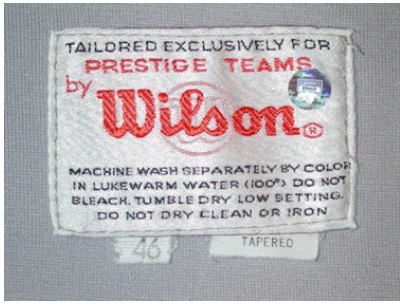
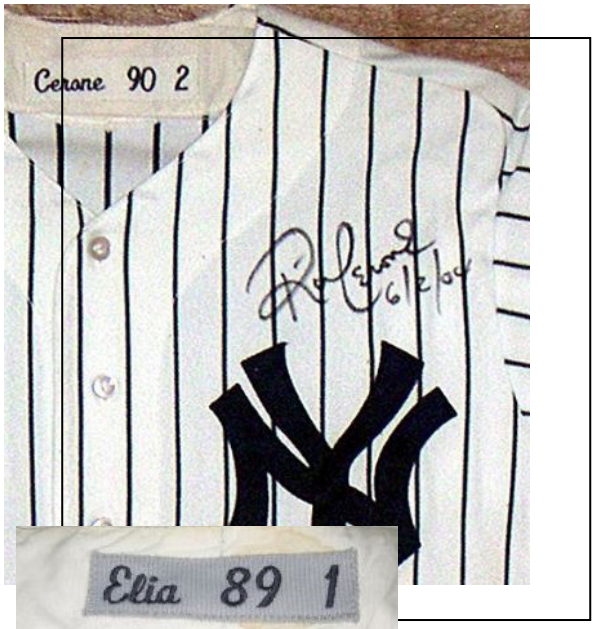
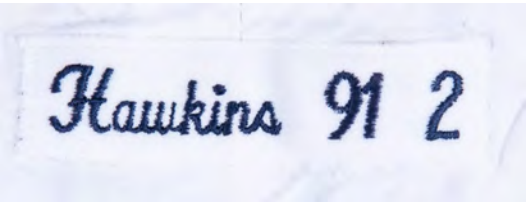
1988-1991 Team Tagging

Player names in the neck remained, but were now sewn in an automated, machine-generated cursive script—a style of tagging that continued through 1991.







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1992-2004 Home

Rawlings' five-year contract as Major League Baseball's official uniform supplier ended after the 1991 season, with Russell Athletic winning the business. Like Rawlings, Russell's deal did not require teams to use them as a supplier. However, clubs that did so displayed the Russell logo on the right sleeve, and Russell gained exclusive rights to market newly branded "Diamond Collection" on-field specification jerseys through an expanded network of retail outlets.

In 1992, after 16 exclusive seasons with Wilson, the Yankees switched to Russell. One notable change accompanying the transition was in jersey construction: prior to 1992, Yankees jerseys featured seven evenly spaced buttons from top to bottom. Starting with Russell's involvement, the design shifted to six buttons. The top two buttons were placed close together, while a five-inch gap separated the second and third buttons from the top—a detail easily spotted in game photos.

Yet the Yankees were granted a major exception not extended to any other team: while Russell manufactured the team's on-field uniforms, they were not allowed to display their logo anywhere publicly visible. Russell tagging appeared only on the hidden outside left tail of the jersey—there was no embroidered "R" logo on the sleeve, as seen on other teams.

The Yankees cited an exclusive branding and marketing agreement with Adidas that they claimed superseded MLB's league-wide uniform contract. In fact, in 1997, the Yankees and Adidas jointly filed a lawsuit against Major League Baseball, seeking to maintain full control over the team's trademarks. That same March, the Yankees and Adidas signed a $95 million sponsorship deal—one that deliberately excluded Major League Baseball Properties.

Pre-1992: seven evenly spaced buttons.

1992 and later: six unevenly spaced buttons.

Russell Retail-Sale Diamond Collection Authentics

Retail-sold Yankees Authentics differ from on-field-issued jerseys in two key ways: they feature an embroidered "R" logo on the sleeve end and a size tag sewn into the neck.

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1992-2004 Home, continued

This is a strong example of a Russell-issued, on-field Yankees jersey. Note the six unevenly spaced buttons, in contrast to Wilson jerseys, which featured seven evenly spaced buttons. I have examined this jersey for authentication purposes and determined that it was used during the regular season, then later updated with a World Series patch on the sleeve to serve as a potential "spare" for postseason use. Click the letter of opinion on the right to see it full sized.

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1992-2004 Home, continued

2001

The MLB silhouetted batter logo patch was added to the back of the collar on all MLB game jerseys beginning in 2000. From 2000–2009 the Yankees' version featured red, white, and blue. In 2010, the colors changed to blue, white, and silver-gray.

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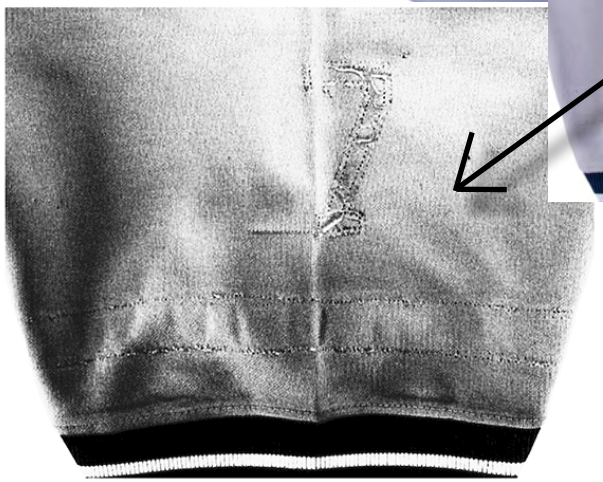
1992-2004 Road

Derek Jeter's 1995 Road Jersey: His First MLB Jersey



Left: *Enhanced image reveals the remnants of the removed #7 memorial and black armband on this 1994 Bernie Williams jersey. Both were likely taken off following the 1995 season, presumably so the jersey could be reused during 1996 spring training—a common practice at the time.*

I was able to authenticate this jersey and confirm that it was, in fact, the first one issued to Derek Jeter during the 1995 season. In typical Yankees fashion, the jersey was re-purposed—originally issued to teammate Bernie Williams as a 1994 road jersey. In addition to the visible ghosting from Williams' back number, the jersey shows clear signs of the removed 1994 MLB 125th Anniversary sleeve patch and the black memorial armband worn that season.

Click the document thumbnail below to view the full letter of authentication.

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1992-2004 Road, continued

1995

1995

Yankees jerseys in 1995 began the season with plain sleeves, but following the mid-season passing of Mickey Mantle on August 13, a black armband and his retired #7 were added to the left sleeve of both home and road jerseys.

2003

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1992-2004 Road, continued

2000

Left: Many Yankees jerseys from the 2000 season feature an unusually simple team tag marked "YO," which is believed to stand for "Year 2000." Fewer examples are tagged with the full "2000" designation.

Also beginning in 2000, the MLB silhouetted batter logo patch was added to the back of the collar on all game jerseys. For the Yankees, the patch featured red, white, and blue from 2000 through 2009, before transitioning to blue, white, and silver-gray in 2010.

During the 2000 season, Russell Athletic also phased out its "Diamond Collection" tagging. As remaining stock was used up, the new "Authentic Collection" tags—such as the one shown on this example—began appearing on jerseys.

YANKEES-STEINER COLLECTIBLES

Yankees – Steiner Collectibles
Letter of Authenticity

Congratulations on the acquisition of your Yankees – Steiner Collectible!

Memorabilia: 2000 Ramiro Mendoza#55 Game Used WS Road Jersey

The authenticity of this Yankees - Steiner memorabilia is unconditionally guaranteed, and the undersigned certifies that it was obtained as part of the Yankees - Steiner Collectibles Program, a direct partnership between the New York Yankees Baseball Club and Steiner Sports Memorabilia.

On behalf of the Yankees - Steiner partnership, we hope that you enjoy the addition of this amazing item to your collection.

Sincere regards,

Brandon Steiner
Chairman and CEO
Yankees – Steiner Collectibles

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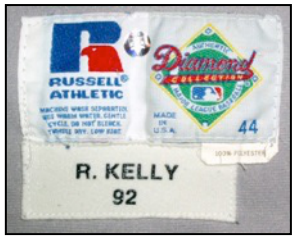
1992-2004 Team Tagging

Russell's team inventory tagging differed significantly from Wilson's. Instead of a strip tag sewn into the neck, Russell jerseys featured a colorful "Diamond Collection" tag sewn onto the outside left tail, with the jersey size embroidered directly into the tag itself.

Just below this tag was a white square of mylar-like plastic fabric, onto which team inventory codes were stitched. The format of these codes varied from year to year—sometimes including a player's name or number, and other times omitting them entirely. As shown here, the nomenclature was inconsistent even between players in the same season, possibly reflecting different uniform sets.

Additionally, separate and distinct set tagging was often used for postseason jerseys.



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Left: Note that the final two 1996 examples have Russell tags that feature the earlier “flat-angled” Diamond Collection script logo commonly used in 1992–1993. This version had been replaced by a more steeply sloped design in subsequent years.

While the reason for its reappearance is unclear, the most likely explanation is that an old batch of tags was retrieved from storage and used on the production line.

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The MLB “Silhouetted Batter” logo patch was added to the back of the collar on all on-field game uniforms beginning in 2000.The Yankees’ initial version (2000–2009) featured a navy, white, and red color scheme, which changed to navy, white, and gray in 2010. Russell tail tagging also transitioned in 2000, moving from the older “Diamond Collection” branding to the new “Authentic Collection” style. However, 2000 was a transitional year, and older tags continued to appear until existing stock was depleted.

By 2002, a subtle update to the Russell tag moved the ® symbol from the first line to the second. Even so, some jerseys still showed the earlier tag style, again due to use of leftover inventory.

For a more detailed breakdown, see the Manufacturer Tagging chapter.

Above: *Silhouetted Batter back-of-collar tag, with the red-white-blue colors used 2000–2009.*

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

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2005-2019 Home/Road

Majestic replaced Russell as the official on-field uniform supplier for Major League Baseball in 2005. The Yankees transitioned to Majestic as their uniform manufacturer that season, but the same branding policy remained in effect: no visible Majestic logo appeared on game-worn Yankees jerseys, and sleeves remained blank.

However, retail versions of “Authentic Collection” jerseys—made to on-field specifications—did include the Majestic logo on the left sleeve. All Yankees jerseys through the 2013 season continued to be made from full-weight double-knit fabric.

2005

2005

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1980, 2009, 2020: Numbers Change Slightly

1973–1979

1980–2008

2009–2019

2020–2023 reverts to 1980–2008 style pattern

Admittedly, these changes are subtle—likely imperceptible to most observers. But for authenticators, they represent critical details.

While the player number font on Yankees jerseys may appear unchanged over the decades, it has in fact evolved—becoming proportionally taller over time before reverting to a shorter height in 2020. For example, the one-color number "4" has consistently remained approximately 5⅜" wide, but the varying heights—overlaid in color above—show how the font appeared progressively skinnier as it grew taller without increasing in width.

- Wilson (1973–1979): 6¾" tall (tan silhouette)
- Wilson/Russell/Majestic (1980–2008): 7⅜" tall (blue silhouette)
- Majestic (2009–2019): 7⅞" tall (black silhouette)
- Nike (2020–2023): 7⅜" tall again

Full examples of these font variations appear on the road jerseys shown at left.

In the 1970s especially, inconsistencies in number size and shape were not uncommon. Before computer-stored patterns and laser-cut lettering, it was typical to find earlier-style numbering on later jerseys due to manual cutting and varied die usage.

The font change introduced by Majestic in 2009 appears to have gone largely unnoticed. It is unclear whether the change was intentional or inadvertent. Interestingly, it mirrored a similar adjustment made to Detroit Tigers numbers around the same time—perhaps reflecting Majestic's effort to standardize number fonts across teams and streamline production.

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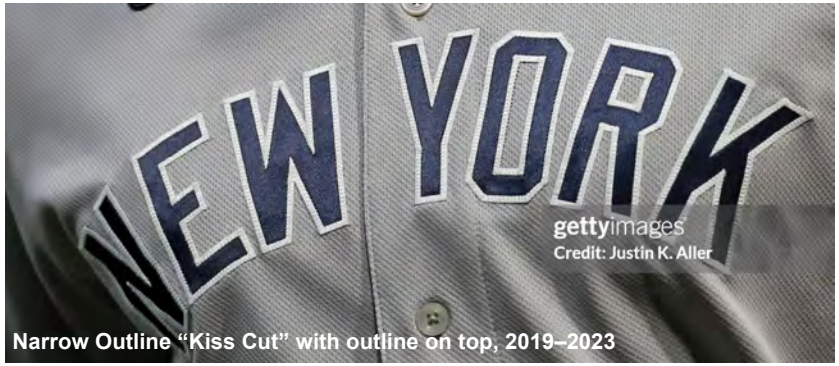
Road Wordmark Variations

Narrow Outline used 1973–1974, 1976, 1990–2018

1975 Rawlings Variant

Thick Outline Style used 1977–1989



Narrow Outline "Kiss Cut" with outline on top, 2019–2023

Single color, 2024–2025

For those with an obsessively close eye for detail, there have been subtle variations in the Yankees' road jerseys during the double-knit era—specifically in the thickness of the white outline around the "NEW YORK" wordmark.

The most noticeable differences appear in the splits of the letters N and W. When the white outline is thicker, the interior splits in those letters do not extend as deeply. The measurable difference between the thinner and thicker outlines? Approximately 3/32 of an inch.

- **1973–1976 (Wilson):** Generally features a narrow white outline.
- **1975 (Rawlings):** Slightly different lettering (note the "W"); still a narrow outline, with wider letter spacing.
- **1977–1989 (Wilson)**: Generally features a thick white outline.
- **1990–1991 (Wilson):** Returns to a narrow outline.
- **1992–2004 (Russell):** Narrow outline maintained.
- **2005–2018 (Majestic):** Continues with narrow outline.
- **2019 (Majestic) / 2020–2023 (Nike):** Uses narrow kiss-cut outline, with the white layer sewn on top of the navy base.
- **2024–2025 (Nike):** Transitions to a one-color wordmark, returning to the style last used in 1972.

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Road Wordmark Variations, continued

1973–1991: 7 buttons (1979 example shown)

1993–2000: With tight spacing, 6 buttons

2001–2015: Typically with medium spacing, 6 buttons

1995 example with wide spacing

As with the home jersey, the Yankees' road jerseys featured seven evenly spaced buttons from top to bottom prior to 1992. However, with Russell's takeover as uniform supplier in 1992, the design changed to six buttons, and the spacing of the top three buttons differed from the rest. The top two buttons are placed close together, followed by a five-inch gap between the second and third buttons.

This wider gap allowed for some variation in the placement of the "NEW YORK" wordmark, as it no longer had to contend with button alignment. On smaller jersey sizes, the "Y" often appears nearly centered on the placket. On larger sizes, the "Y" may shift farther to the left, contributing to minor but noticeable inconsistencies in layout.

2016–2023: Returns to tight spacing; six buttons

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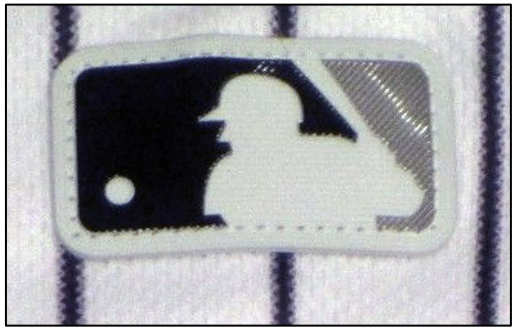
Changes in Application of MLB “Silhouetted Batter”

2000–2009

2010–2015



2016–2025

- When it comes to Yankees uniform changes, one must look closely—sometimes very closely—to spot distinctions from year to year.
- One such subtle change involves the MLB “Silhouetted Batter” logo, introduced to the back collar of all on-field jerseys beginning in 2000. From 2000 to 2009, the Yankees used the logo in navy, white, and red.
- In 2010, the logo was updated to navy, white, and gray. Interestingly, the Yankees had briefly used a navy/gray version of the logo on apparel as far back as 1996, though this predated its application to on-field jerseys.
- As a footnote: In the 1990s, prior to the league-wide collar patch, the Yankees used two versions of the silhouetted batter logo on their outerwear jackets—one in navy/white/silver, and another in silver/white/navy

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2005-2024 Team Tagging

On this page—Tagging (2005–2011): During this period, Majestic used a standardized team tagging system for all jerseys—home and road alike. The tagging consists of a simple flag tag pinched beneath the front locker tag, sometimes accompanied by player-specific tailoring tags. Unlike earlier eras, no additional information (such as set numbers, player names, or player numbers) was included on the team tag.

Only some jerseys from this period are labeled with an MLB Authentication Program hologram. Many—but not all—team-issued jerseys also bear a Steiner Sports serialized authentication sticker, while in some cases, players provided their own authenticated jerseys.

Starting in 2011, a Yankees serialized barcode sticker was added beneath the locker tag.

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Below: *All three of these are 2012—Note that the first one uses a "left over" Majestic tag with the rounded M.*

2013

2014

2014

2015

2016

2016

2017

Above: *2018—barcode tag was added inside the bottom of the button placket on team-issued jerseys. The scannable QR code typically replicates the information printed in English just to its left.*

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2019

2020

2021

2022 (Jackie Robinson Day example)

2023

2024

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2014: Cool Base Option—Road Jerseys Only

Majestic introduced its new tech-fabric "Cool Base" jerseys to Major League Baseball for the 2006 season, a development covered in detail earlier in this book. The Yankees initially resisted the adoption of this lighter, moisture-wicking uniform style and did not implement it until 2014—and then only for road jerseys.

Even at that point, Cool Base jerseys were issued only to players who specifically requested them. The remainder of the roster continued to wear traditional full-weight double-knit jerseys. Home uniforms were never offered in the Cool Base style, and while no official reason was publicly stated, insider discussions at the time suggested several concerns:

- The template construction interrupted the iconic pinstripes with vented side panels and underarm inserts that did not carry the striping pattern.
- The appearance of the pinstripes in the new mesh weave was reportedly unsatisfactory to the organization. Unlike the jagged-edged "engineered look" first approved when the Yankees switched to knits in 1973, the Cool Base version appeared inconsistent with the team's long-established aesthetic standards.

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2014 Road Comparison: Full-Weight vs. Cool Base

2014 Cool Base, first year of offering

2014 regular full-weight knit, still worn in 2014 by a majority of players

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2016–2023: Switch to Flex Base Template

Read the full story on MLB's adoption of Flex Base jerseys for 2016 in Chapter 2.

Above: *Note the absence of mesh side panels and the precise sleeve stripe alignment—both design elements specifically mandated by the Yankees.*

The Yankees did not fully adopt the league-wide uniform update until 2016, when all MLB teams transitioned to Majestic's new "Flex Base" on-field jerseys. These jerseys retained the Cool Base fabric but introduced several design upgrades to improve breathability and reduce weight. Key features included mesh side panels running the length of the jersey, a mesh tail panel called the "Air Belt", and a rubberized MLB logo patch on the back collar (marketed by Majestic as CFX). In addition, a new heat-pressed tag replaced the previous Cool Base woven tagging on the front tail.

Given the Yankees' longstanding attention to uniform tradition, Majestic made specific accommodations to preserve the team's iconic pinstripe look. The company developed a zig-zag patterned pinstripe that met team specifications, even though it was no longer "engineered"—that is, no longer woven through to the reverse side of the fabric. (Yankee double-knit jerseys had long been distinguishable by the fact that pinstripes were visible on both the front and back of the cloth.)

To maintain stripe alignment and aesthetic integrity, Majestic constructed the home jerseys with raglan-style sleeves to avoid shoulder stripe misalignment. They also eliminated the mesh side panels on the Yankees' home jerseys, which had been a standard part of the Flex Base design for other teams, as those panels would have interrupted the pinstripe pattern.

While Nike became MLB's official uniform provider in 2020, they continued using the Majestic Flex Base jersey template, fabric, and even Majestic's manufacturing facilities through (at least) the 2023 season.

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2016–2023: Switch to Flex Base Template, continued

Above: *New style of sewn-on knit sleeve end trim.*

Below: *Earlier sewn-in knit style.*

Beginning with the 2016 Flex Base road jerseys, the Yankees modified the wordmark spacing, tightening the layout across the chest. In line with the league-wide transition, the team also adopted “Kiss Cut” lightweight layering for both front wordmarks and back numbers—a technique Majestic claimed reduced weight by 10–20% compared to traditional layered twill. (See Chapter 2 for more details.)

The road jerseys also feature raglan-style sleeves, but unlike the home jerseys, they retain the vented mesh side panels, a standard element of the Flex Base template. On gray road jerseys, these vented panels and the sewn-on vented tail piece are far less visible than they are on pinstriped home jerseys.

Finally, the sleeve end trim underwent a construction change: starting in 2016, it was sewn on top of the sleeve fabric as an adornment. This differs from the earlier method, in use since 1973, where the trim was a separately sewn piece forming the sleeve end itself.

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2020: Nike Becomes On-Field Uniform Provider

First Manufacturer Logos on On-Field Yankees Jerseys

2020 marked a major shift in MLB uniforms, as Nike became the Official Uniform Supplier for both on-field and retail authentic jerseys, taking over from Majestic. Although the 2020 Yankees jerseys appear nearly identical to their 2019 Majestic predecessors, there was one immediately visible change: the Nike “Swoosh” logo now appears on the front right chest—a first for Yankees game uniforms.

As readers of this guide know, the Yankees had never previously allowed any manufacturer logos on their on-field jerseys (though such logos had appeared on batting practice gear). But in 2020, Nike—arguably the only American sports brand larger than the Yankees—broke through that long-standing tradition.

The change was controversial. It sent Yankee purists into a tailspin, and even Yankee haters were up in arms. Still, it reflected a broader shift in professional sports branding, where prominent sponsor logos have become the norm—NBA jerseys now feature corporate patches, and European football kits have long been saturated with ads.

In a more subtle change, Nike revised the Yankees’ player number font, reducing it to the pre-2009 height. (Majestic had made the numbers taller and narrower beginning in 2009.) While the 2020 Nike font closely resembles the older style, there are minor differences in stroke weight and proportion—the new font is slightly thinner and not an exact replica of the earlier one.

Otherwise, the 2020 Yankees jerseys are structurally identical to late-era Majestic Flex Base designs. They retain:

- The same zig-zag “engineered” pinstripes
- Raglan sleeves
- No side vent panels (unlike other teams’ versions)
- Even the patent number on the inside manufacturer tag is unchanged from 2019

Yet despite these similarities, the presence of the Swoosh marks a symbolic end of an era—the Yankees’ historic holdout against uniform branding has officially ended.

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2020-2023 Home

Aside from the new tail tagging and the Nike Swoosh on the chest, the Nike jersey shell remains identical to the 2019 Majestic Flex Base design.

Left: The Nike 2020 inside seam style tag. ***Right:*** Its Majestic Flex Base counterpart. Note that both tags reference the same U.S. patent number, underscoring the continuity in jersey construction.

In terms of lettering, player number fonts were reduced in height by ½ inch, returning to 7 3/8”, the same as pre-2009 sizing. However, the new numbers are slightly less bold than earlier versions, reflecting a standardized font now shared by the Yankees, Tigers, and Braves.

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2020-2023 Road

As with the home jerseys, the 2020 Yankees Nike road jerseys are functionally identical to the 2019 Majestic versions, with only a few subtle changes: a slightly smaller, lighter-stroke number font, and the addition of Nike-branded tail tagging and the Swoosh logo on the chest.

The sleeve-end trim continues to be sewn on, consistent with prior Flex Base styling. A black “HGS” memorial patch was worn in 2020 on the left sleeve to honor the passing of team co-owner Hank Steinbrenner.

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2024 Nike “Vapor Premiere Elite” Jersey Template

Nike Flex Base 2020–2023

Nike Vapor Premier Elite 2024

Following league-wide sweeping changes to MLB jerseys with all teams switching from Nike’s 2020–2023 continuation of the Majestic Flex Base jersey shell to its new Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, the jerseys of the 2024 season become an anomaly—a “one and done” season of changes that brought intense scrutiny from players and fans alike. Based on the negative feedback, especially from MLB players, Nike rolled back some but not all of the 2024 changes in time for the 2025 season.

The full rundown of the changes is outlined earlier in “The Basics” chapter, but generally speaking, 2024’s crop of jerseys had changed from earlier versions in several key ways.

- VPE home jerseys are off-white, or light cream color. The earlier Flex Base white jerseys are a bright, purer white. Grays are standardized.
- The front placket is narrower on VPE, which often causes team wordmark lettering that crosses the placket to break differently.
- Neck and sleeve trim elements (when used) are no longer sewn on top of the jersey material, but are now “sewn-in” to the jersey at the seams. Placket trim adornment remains the same, though the trim is now spaced closer together with the narrowing in placket size.
- For improved visibility, the MLB logo on the back of the jersey is moved several inches lower onto the back, down from the collar placket area where it had been since 2000.
- VPE loses the integrated mesh side and back tail panels that had been part of the Flex Base jersey template.
- Player names on VPE are much smaller, and for many teams are done in a standardized block font, all using a much steeper, nearly semi-circular arch.
- For teams with front numbers, the new 2024 font is simply always a reduced size of the back numbers. This was not the way it had been in the past for most teams, with front numbers being a font variant (smaller but usually wider and bolder) than the back font.
- Team logo sleeve patches, and in some cases sponsor sleeve patches change from traditional raised embroidery to flat printed plastic or to sublimated cloth/twill
- All lettering is done using a new more lightweight (thinner) kind of matte-finished twill (commonly called “Nike Twill”). Most, but not all jerseys incorporate barely visible micro-perforation on the numbers, front and back.
- Universally, nameplates are no longer used.

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2024 Home

The Yankees are a tradition-bound team, and the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in almost no changes to their classic home jersey. The most visible change for most teams is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Yankees have no names on back, and they choose not to standardize their back numbers. VPE also has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the knit trim around the neck and down the placket appears closer together than it once had for other teams. The Yankees have no such adornment, so it makes no difference. The team does not use perforated numbers on these jerseys in 2024. Aside from the slightly lower MLB logo on the back collar, (and the loss of the Flex Base mesh "air belt" that can't be seen on-field anyway) these are almost identical to their previous jerseys.

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2024 Road

The Yankees are a tradition-bound team, though they do decide to make changes to their road jerseys in 2024, but not because of the switch to Vapor Premier Elite (VPE). Instead, the team opts to remove the sleeve-end trim and white outlines from all lettering, making a final product that is as plain as it can be. Otherwise, the only (barely) discernible changes with the new VPE template are the redundant band of jersey-color trim around the neck opening and the lower MLB logo on the back of the neck. Numbers are not perforated on this style. It is almost as if the Yankees rebel against the supposed advances in jersey technology and go back in time to how their jerseys looked in the pre-1973 flannel era.

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2024 Alternate Home/Spring Training Home

For 2024, the Yankees include both of their blue alternate jerseys, which they only wear in Spring Training or BP, in the MLB Style Guide. Given that the team has no other alternates, this may have been forced on them as a way to keep these two outlier jerseys in their rotation. We document them here because they are made available for the team to use in 2024.

That said, the switch to Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) results in almost no visible changes to this style. The most prominent change for most teams is the league-wide rescaling of the back names and numbers, making them smaller, and arching the name lettering more prominently. The Yankees have no names on back, and they choose not to standardize their back numbers. VPE also has a narrower placket than Flex Base, so the knit trim around the neck and down the placket appears closer together than it once had for other teams. The Yankees have no such adornment, so it makes no difference. Otherwise, the only (barely) discernible changes with the new VPE template are the redundant band of jersey-color trim around the neck opening and the lower MLB logo on the back of the neck. They do opt for perforated numbers, which don't appear on their regular home and road jerseys, perhaps as an antidote to the Florida heat.

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2025 Home

The 2025 season brings minor modifications to elements of the VPE template across all teams' non-gray jerseys, a step toward more comprehensive changes to come for the 2026 season. Among them, back name and numbers are enlarged, in most cases, back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Yankees, of course, had no player names and they did not standardize or perforate their numbers, so they remain the same as 2024, and before. The team's ad patch is updated for 2025 as well. The jersey has the new-for-2025 white Nike jock tag, which is used on a handful of jerseys around the league.

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2025 Road

The 2025 season brings many changes to road gray jerseys across MLB. The 2024 VPE jerseys suffered from significant sweat-staining issues during games, so 2025 gray jerseys revert back to the same base fabric used for Flex Base, but applied to the VPE template (no mesh side panels or “Air Belt” back panel). Other pre-2024 elements return, including neck and sleeve trim being sewn on to jerseys again rather than sewn in, though the Yankees no longer have such trim on their road jerseys, so it is moot. Unless a team has contrasting trim that encircles the collar opening, the superfluous, jersey-colored set-in band of trim (which was largely invisible) is also deleted. Like other 2025 jerseys, gray jerseys also have back name and numbers enlarged, in most cases back to 2023 sizes, and perforated numbers are gone. The Yankees, of course, had no back names and they did not standardize or perforate their numbers, so they remain the same as 2024, and before. The team’s ad patch is updated for 2025 as well.

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2025 Alternate Home/Spring Training Home

Once again in 2025, the Yankees include both of their blue alternate jerseys, which they only wear in Spring Training or BP, in the MLB Style Guide. Given that the team has no other alternates, this may have been forced on them as a way to keep these two outlier jerseys in their rotation. We document them here because they are made available for the team to use in 2025. The changes from the 2024 version are few. The jersey itself appears the same, and since the Yankees have no back names and did not standardize their numbers, there's nothing to revert to pre-2024 standards, so they appear much the same as in 2024 and before. The only real updates are that back numbers are no longer perforated and the team's ad patch changes for 2025.

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2025 Alternate Road/Spring Training Road

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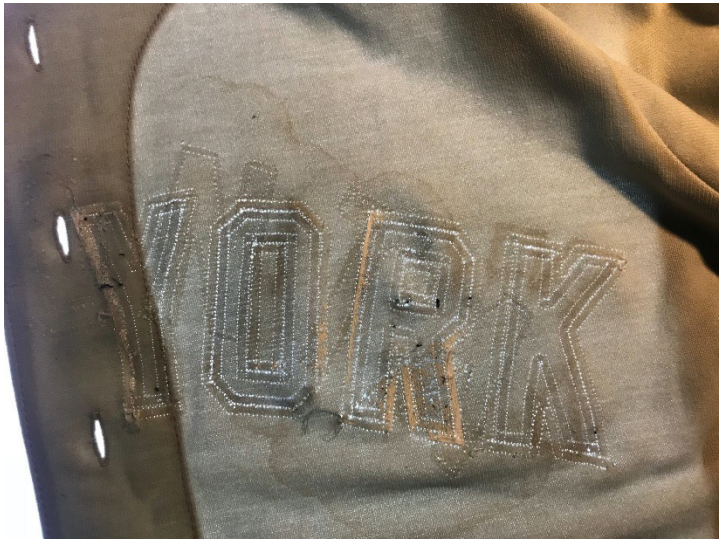
Yankees Jerseys and the Minor Leagues

From their founding through the late 1990s, the Yankees were—oddly and obsessively—protective of their team-issued jerseys, refusing to make them available to fans while simultaneously passing them down to the minor leagues for continued use, even those belonging to superstar players. As a result, it is rare to find pre-2000 Yankees game-worn jerseys that were not reassigned to the minors. Many had their numbers removed and replaced, front crests stripped off, and team tagging altered or eliminated altogether.

To meet the growing demand from a collectibles-hungry fanbase, unscrupulous "entrepreneurs" created a shadow market of counterfeit Yankees game-worn jerseys, duping buyers with fabricated or poorly restored pieces.

In 2005, Steiner Sports (later acquired by Fanatics) signed a formal agreement with the Yankees to market game-used memorabilia—including jerseys, bats, balls, and stadium seats. This move was widely welcomed by fans, as it finally offered a legitimate, trusted channel for acquiring authentic Yankees gear.

As an authenticator, I've encountered a staggering number of counterfeit and poorly restored Yankees jerseys over the years. But I've also had the privilege of helping restore some extraordinary pieces to their original glory.



Top row: *Chris Chambliss' 1977 road jersey was unceremoniously reassigned to the Yankees' Oneonta (NY) minor league affiliate.* ***Bottom left:*** *Mid-restoration of the Chambliss jersey reveals three sets of lettering ghosts on the front—only one of which is original.* ***Above:*** *The back numbers on this MLB gamer originally worn by Charlie Lau were sloppily replaced, the front crest removed, and then crudely "restored" in a later attempt.*

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Yankees Jerseys and the Minor Leagues, continued

Here is a set of “before and after” of a 1976 Thurman Munson jersey I had restored. It was sent down to the minors, regardless of Munson’s star status, and converted to a Tacoma Yankees minor league jersey for 1978. The crest was removed from the front and the numbers on back were both changed, from 25 to 15. In restoration, everything was removed, and the light table revealed the jersey’s past. Replacement lettering was cut, aged to match the patina of the shirt it was being sewn to, and was stitched in place using bleach-faded thread. The unrestored jersey was filthy and brightened considerably after a professional cleaning. Luckily, the original team tagging including the “Munson” neck tag was left in place. This is unfortunately not always the case.

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Yankees Jerseys and the Minor Leagues, continued

Steve Kraljic Collection

"Misrepresented" Game Worn Yankees Jerseys

The Yankees' resistance to selling retail team-spec authentic jerseys to fans (at least prior to Rawlings' retail authentic jersey contract in 1987) or game worn player jerseys at any time prior to the 2000s has contributed to a significant counterfeit market for these goods. While Wilson, the team's on-field provider was not authorized to sell Yankees crested jerseys to anyone but the team for its own use, they did offer the Navy chalk-pinstripe style jersey as a blank to authorized sporting goods dealers with whom they were affiliated. Some of these jerseys were lettered with the Yankees front crest without authorization, simply to fill a strong demand from rabid fans. Doubtlessly most of these were meat to be worn, signed, or simply displayed, but some found their way into the hobby represented as team-issued jerseys or have been represented as game worn. I have seen more than a few, to be kind.

Additionally, each year the MLB Yankees ordered a quantity of extra jerseys to be used for call-ups, trades, or emergencies should a player uniform be damaged in a game. Often these jersey were team-tagged differently than this made for the roster players at the start of the season— perhaps just with a year of issue designation. It is not uncommon to see these jerseys offered for sale with famous player numbers on them, being represented as game worn by their current owners. Therefore, knowing the team tagging details for each year are so important to any knowledgeable collector.

Finally, many Yankees jerseys circulate in the hobby that were almost certainly game used, but originated as minor league issues, or as MLB jerseys issued to and worn by other, less-famous players, and they have been customized to wear the numbers of star players. Very frequently the neck or tail tagging that had been on these jerseys is no longer present, and the claim is often made that it "fell off". I can assure you that, except for some extremely heavily worn flannels, player tagging does not "fall off"; it is generally removed because it does not match what an owner wanted it to say. These sorts of deceptions happen with every team's jerseys, but is more endemic with the Yankees because of the team's popularity and the earlier heavily controlled access to team-issued equipment.

From my archives, a blank, Wilson team-issued and year tagged 1991 Yankees home jersey, accompanied by a Steiner letter certifying its authenticity as a Yankees team issued blank. There is absolutely nothing wrong with this.. until someone buys it and turns it into a "team issued" Don Mattingly jersey. There are people who make a business of such deception, unfortunately.

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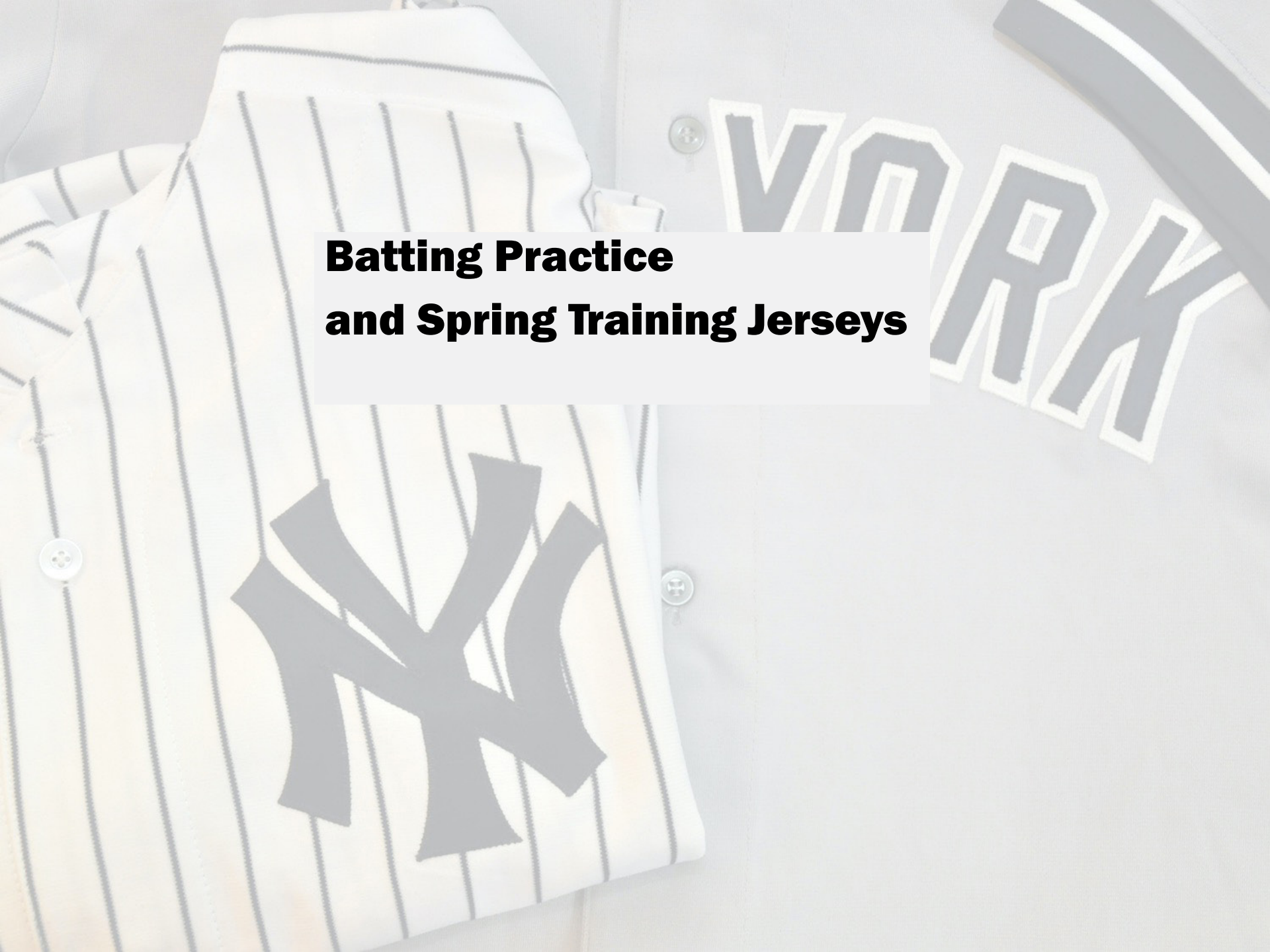
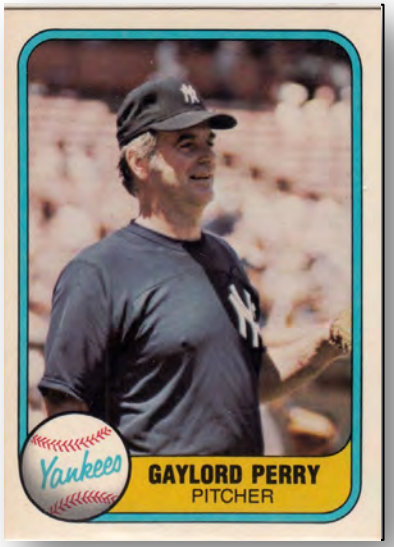
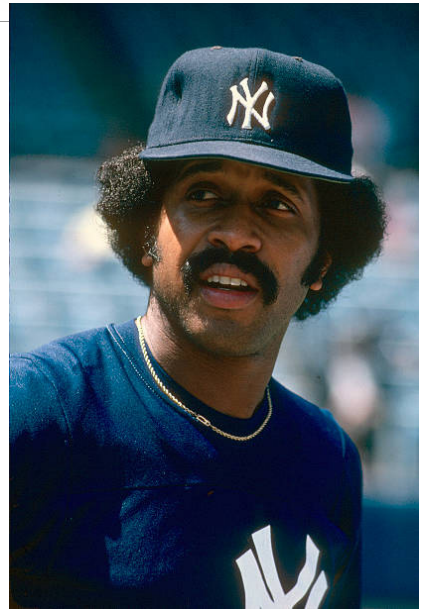


Batting Practice and Spring Training Jerseys

1979-1982 Batting Practice



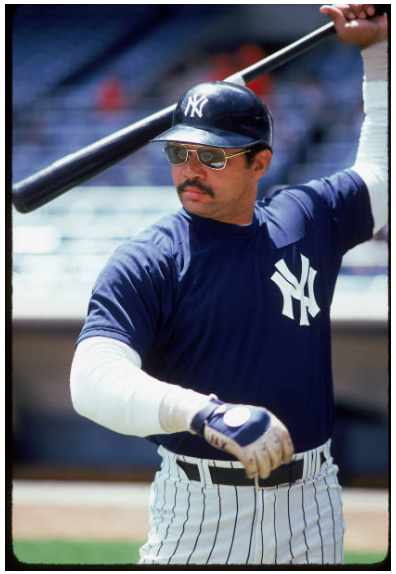


The very first Yankees batting practice jerseys were crew necks, rather than the later V-neck styles. Based on available evidence, they appear to have debuted in the 1979 season. The Majestic tag on this particular example dates it to the 1980–1982 period.

These are solid-fabric, lightweight jerseys—not mesh—and feature sewn-on twill lettering with no trim.

Due to a lack of reliably dated photos of Yankees warm-ups from this era, it's entirely possible that these early crew-neck jerseys and the V-neck styles shown on the following pages were worn concurrently on the field.

Top left: *1981 Perry baseball card using a 1980 photo.*
Right: *Reggie Jackson photo, dated 1979.*



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1981-1992 Batting Practice

Wilson, Roman Sport, and Sand-Knit all manufactured Yankees batting practice jerseys beginning in the late 1970s. Despite the different manufacturers, they all share a common construction detail: a horizontal seam across the upper chest.

Standard features across all versions:

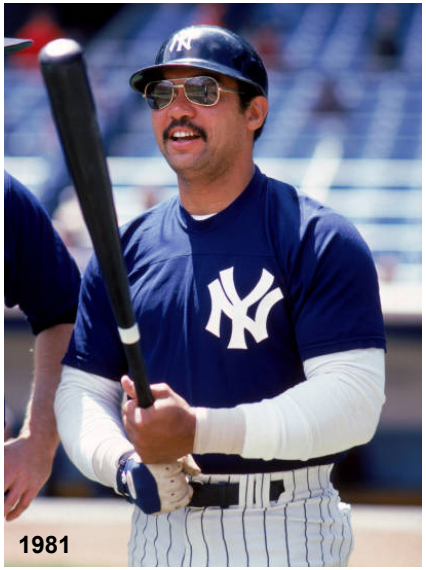
- No names on the back
- No trim on sleeve ends
- One-color white Varsity numbers

Details by manufacturer:

Wilson (#69): Features all sewn-on logos and numbers, representing an early production effort.

Roman Sport (#26, 1983 mesh model): Uses a non-standard Varsity number font (note the “2”), and a slightly bolder NY logo compared to Wilson’s version (see far right column).

Sand-Knit (#60, tagged 1983–1984): All lettering and logos screen-printed in Sand-Knit’s Varsity style.



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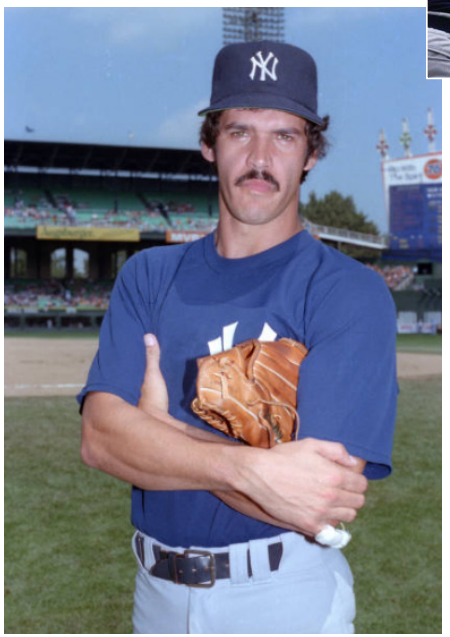
1979-1992: Batting Practice Variations

Pre-1986, Wilson V-neck mesh pull-over with flat tails, as early as 1979



1986–1988 Wilson mesh crew neck (rounded collar) with flat tails

The Wilson tagging on this two-button mesh Henley suggests early 1990s

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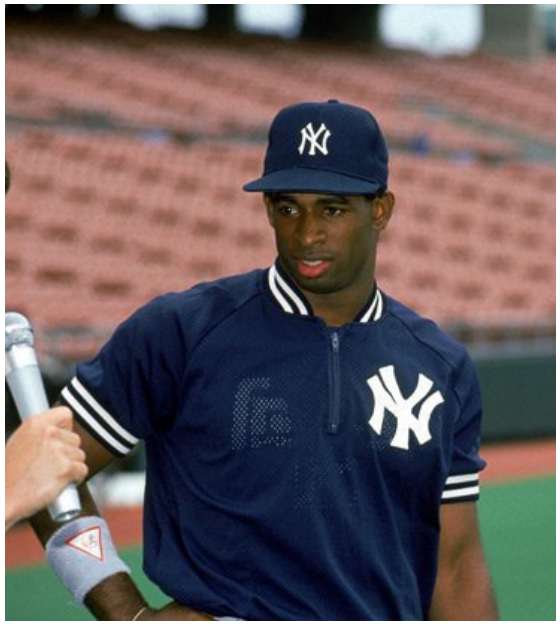
Early-Mid 1990s Alternate Batting Practice Zip-Neck



Left: *The large "Diamond Collection" patch on the sleeve appears to be part of a launch promotion and were not present on team issued gear.*

Majestic made these zip-neck, elastic waist warm-up jerseys and offered them to all teams. Its official style name was "The GameWarmer." A few teams picked it up, issued them to players, even numbering them on back. Others issued them blank to players who asked. Many seemed to have not used them at all. With the "Diamond Collection" patch on the sleeve, this jersey is likely a retail sale item or even an early factory sample. Steiner Sports reports that the Yankees issued a set of these to the team in 1990 (see photos of Deion Sanders wearing one in 1990), though they tell me those issued to the team were made by Starter. Notice the different sleeve end trim.

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1993-1996 Batting Practice

1992 or 1993

Navy blue mesh, knit white/navy stripes added at the sleeve ends

Russell uses two-button pullover Henley neck design. Majestic uses V-neck design. Both probably used interchangeably

“NY” logo on the front is slightly bolder than game jerseys.

Numbers on the back are white Varsity, no NOB.

1993 or 1994

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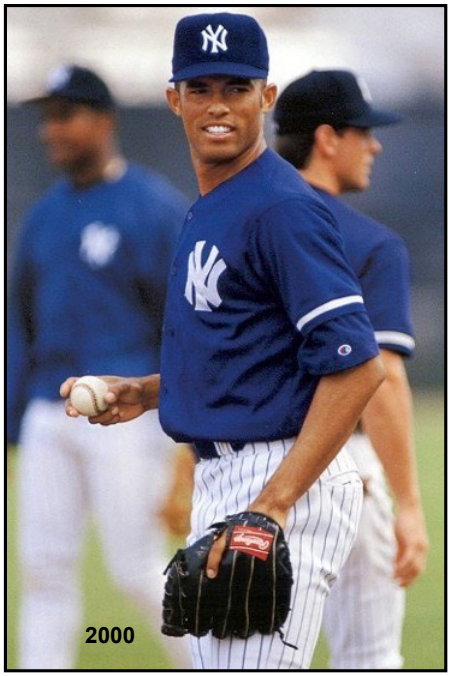
1997-2000 Batting Practice

Appears nearly identical to the prior version except the jersey is a mesh fabric full button front design.

The black disc with the white 5 in the center is the 1999 Joe DiMaggio memorial.

MLB Silhouetted Batter logo appears on back collar in 2000.



On these examples, note the Majestic logo—embroidered in navy blue thread to render it virtually invisible on television.

Far left: The Yankees, by contractual agreement, do not display manufacturer branding on their game uniforms, but apparently undershirts are exempt from this rule.

Right: observe the nearly imperceptible black armband worn in memory of Bob Lemon, as well as the blacked-out Majestic logo on the 2000 batting practice jersey.

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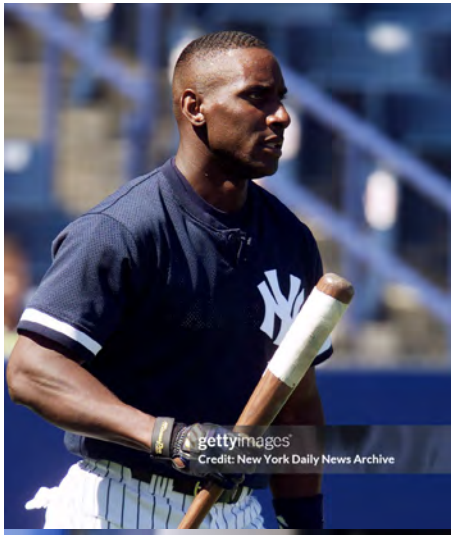
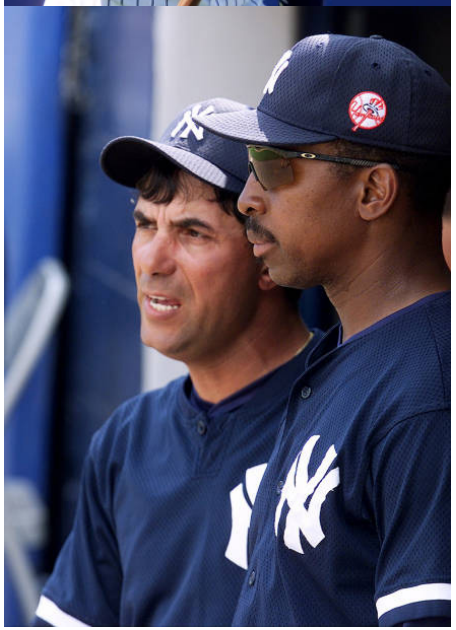
2000-2001 Spring Training Home

Top: *The jersey is claimed to be Jeter spring training 2000 or 2001. I cannot be sure this is actually his, but it has the back-of-the-collar Batterman logo as was started in 2000.*

Bottom: *Jersey said to have been issued to pitcher Denny Neagle.*





Photos from 2000 Spring Training reveal that many Yankees players were still wearing the two-button Henley-style batting practice jersey—a style that had last been officially issued in 1996. Multiple images of manager Joe Torre show him alternating between this older Henley version and the newer full-button front style.

Left: Coaches Lee Mazzilli and Willie Randolph are pictured together, each wearing a different style jersey. This highlights how, particularly Spring Training, things are not always… "uniform."

While in-season photos of Yankees wearing their warm-ups are more difficult to find, it appears that some players continued to wear this Henley style even during the regular season.

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2000 Spring Training Road

Prior to the 10th Edition, we had included this jersey as an oddball; a “phantom” that existed only as a rarely seen retail item with Authentic tagging, but was not worn on field. However, recently uncovered photographs have confirmed that it was indeed worn as a road jersey during 2000 Spring Training. At present, we have found no evidence that this style was carried over into the regular season, nor do we believe it saw use again in 2001.

“NEW YORK” in gray and white layered twill. Sleeve end knit trim is elastic white/gray/navy. Examples at lower left are both retail sale jerseys, the one at the right has later-style Majestic tagging on the tail.

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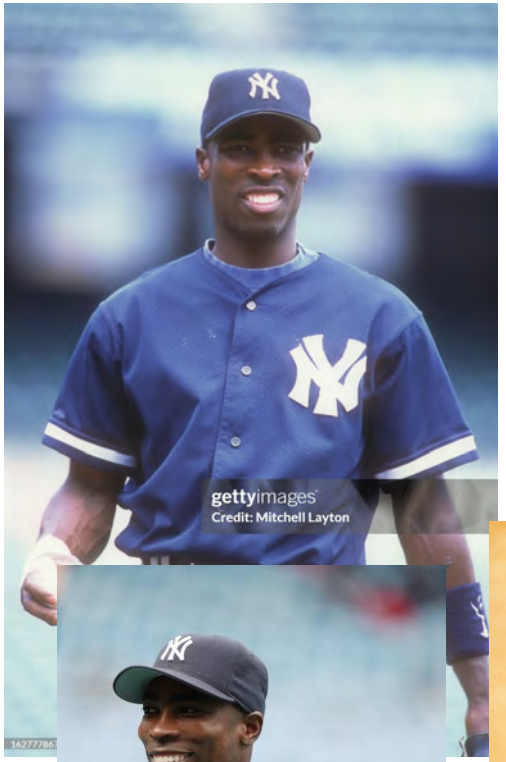
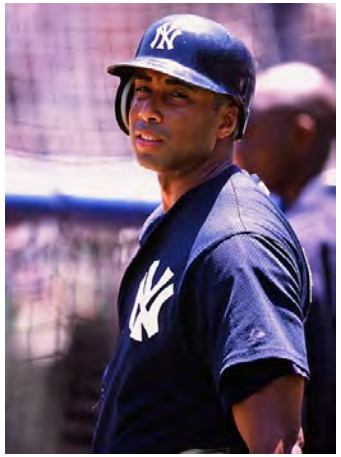
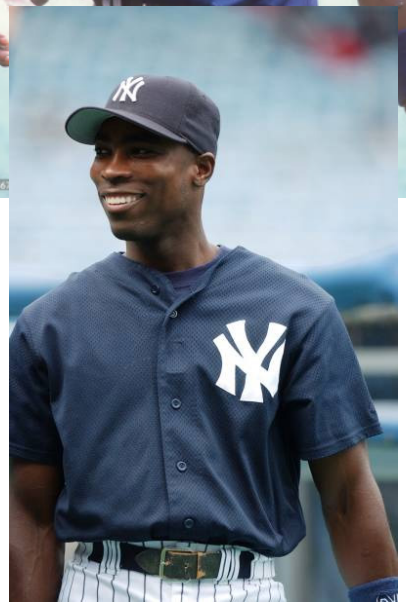
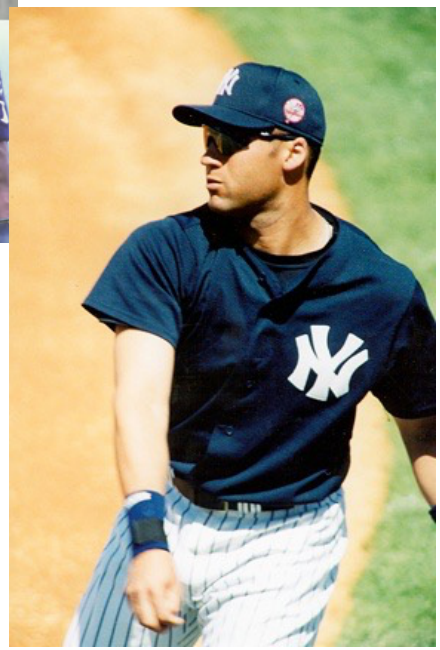
2001-2002 Batting Practice



Two year style, navy blue mesh button front with no sleeve-end stripes. “NY” logo on front is very bold. Velcro closure between the second and third buttons observed on game-spec versions. The MLB “Silhouetted Batter” logo is on the back of the neck. Notably, 2002 marks the final season in which Yankees batting practice jerseys are issued with blank sleeves, free of any visible manufacturer branding.







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2003-2006 Batting Practice

- Introduced in 2003, made of a new, softer, non-mesh first-generation “tech” fabric.
- Button-front design.
- Plain navy blue jersey with no sleeve-end trim.
- “NY” logo on front is bolder than on standard game jersey.
- One-color (white) Varsity numbers on back.
- No player names used.
- Beginning in 2003, the Yankees begin displaying the Majestic sleeve logo on batting practice jerseys only.

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2007-2010 Home Batting Practice/ 2007-2008 Road Batting Practice

Home version, with white side panel, used 2007–2010.

The Yankees display the Majestic sleeve logo on batting practice jerseys only.

Road version, with pale gray side panel, used 2007–2008 only.

The Yankees' two versions of the 2007 all-MLB batting practice jersey redesign remained as conservative as ever. Both styles are pullover tops with a single-button neck. There are two distinct versions:

- The home jersey features white side panels to coordinate with the home pants.
- The road jersey features pale gray side panels to better match the road gray pants.

The Yankees went to the extra effort of having two nearly identical jerseys made solely to align the side panel color with the appropriate pants. Other features include:

- Single-color white Varsity-style numbers on the back
- Heat-applied appliqués (not sewn)
- No player names (of course), consistent with Yankees tradition

The road version was replaced after 2008, as detailed on the following page.

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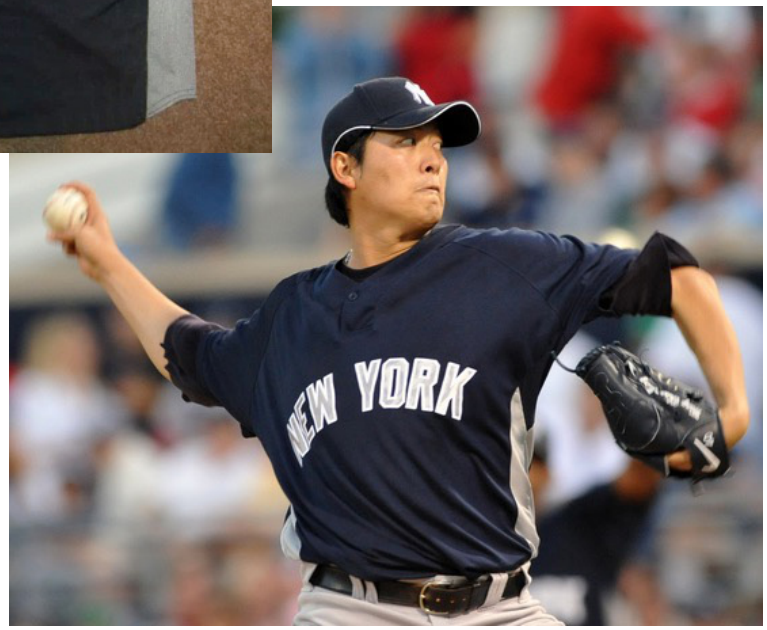
2009-2010 Road Batting Practice



- For 2009, the Yankees change the road batting practice jersey while leaving the home batting practice jersey alone.
- The front wordmark changes to mimic the road game jersey, with “NEW YORK” arched across the front, but in silver gray outlined with white.
- Side panels are gray on bottom and navy at the top under the arms.
- Wilson Varsity numbers in the same two-color appliqué as the front wordmark are heat pressed onto the back.
- Pullover design with a one-button collar.
- Majestic logo appears on sleeve, consistent with Yankees practice of allowing branding only on BP jerseys.

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2011-2013 Home Batting Practice

The home BP jersey for 2011 reflects MLB's league-wide transition to a button-front design. It features a navy body with solid white spandex side panels and a white team logo sewn on the left chest. Player numbers are rendered in single-color white, Wilson Varsity font, and unlike previous heat-applied versions, these are sewn directly onto the fabric. As always, the Yankees display the Majestic logo only on their BP jerseys, not on game uniforms.

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2011-2013 Road Batting Practice

- The Yankees continue to use different batting practice jerseys for home and road uniforms.
- The 2011–2013 road batting practice jerseys adopts a button-front design but is otherwise identical to the 2010 version.
- Features a navy blue body with solid gray side panels.
- Front “NEW YORK” wordmark and back numbers are two-color, silver-gray outlined in white.
- Both the wordmark and numbers return to sewn twill material.
- The Majestic logo appears on the sleeve, as it does only on Yankees’ BP jerseys.

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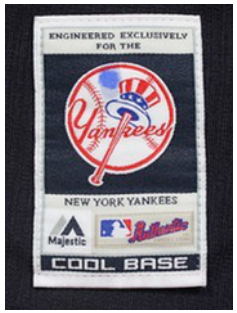
2014-2016 Home Batting Practice



Minor changes are made to the Yankees' home batting practice jersey for 2014. Narrow knit trim is added to the neck and sleeve openings. The neck trim includes a thin white stripe, but the sleeve trim—unlike that of all other MLB teams—remains plain. White side panels now extend to cover the bottoms of the sleeves but reach only halfway down the sides, compared to the full-length white side panels used in 2013. All lettering is sewn twill. As always, the Yankees display the Majestic sleeve logo only on batting practice jerseys.

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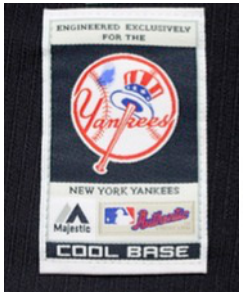
2014-2016 Road Batting Practice

The Yankees display the Majestic sleeve logo on BP jerseys only.



Minor changes are made to the Yankees' road batting practice jersey for 2014. Narrow knit trim is added to the neck and sleeve openings. The neck trim features a thin gray stripe, while the sleeve trim—unlike that of all other MLB teams—remains plain. Gray side panels now extend to cover the bottoms of the sleeves but reach only halfway down the sides, compared to the full-length gray panels used in 2013. All lettering is two-color gray/white twill.

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Read the full story on MLB's new for 2016 Spring Training Jerseys in Chapter 8.

2016 Spring Training Home

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Yankees use a design separate from their regular season standard set, reminiscent of their regular season batting practice jerseys, as a basis for their Spring Training home jersey. The back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Yankees spend Spring Training. The left sleeve has the Yogi Berra "8" memorial patch. Like their game jerseys, the Yankees' Spring Training jerseys do not have the Majestic logo on the left sleeve.

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2016 Spring Training Road

For the first time in 2016, MLB introduces a Spring Training-specific jersey intended to be worn for workouts and games in the preseason. The jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features a special printed twill, decorated with "2016" and Spring Training symbols, as the main twill layer for every team. The Yankees use a design separate from their regular season standard set, reminiscent of their regular season batting practice jerseys, as a basis for their Spring Training road jersey. The back numbers are gray patterned twill/white. The jersey also features a rubberized, CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading "2016" and "FL" representing where the Yankees spend Spring Training. The left sleeve has the Yogi Berra "8" memorial patch. Like their game jerseys, the Yankees' Spring Training jerseys do not have the Majestic logo on the left sleeve.

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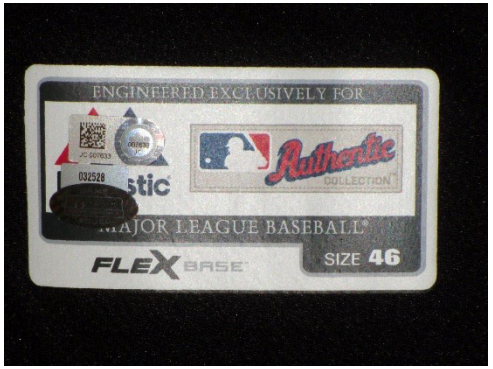
2016 Alternate Home Batting Practice



At some point during the 2016 season, we believe the Yankees phased out their official Majestic batting practice jerseys—which featured navy fabric with white underarm panels and sleeve logos—in favor of these plain navy blue "alternate game jerseys" that lack the Majestic sleeve logo. This example from my collection includes team-issued tagging, indicating its use as part of the official uniform set.

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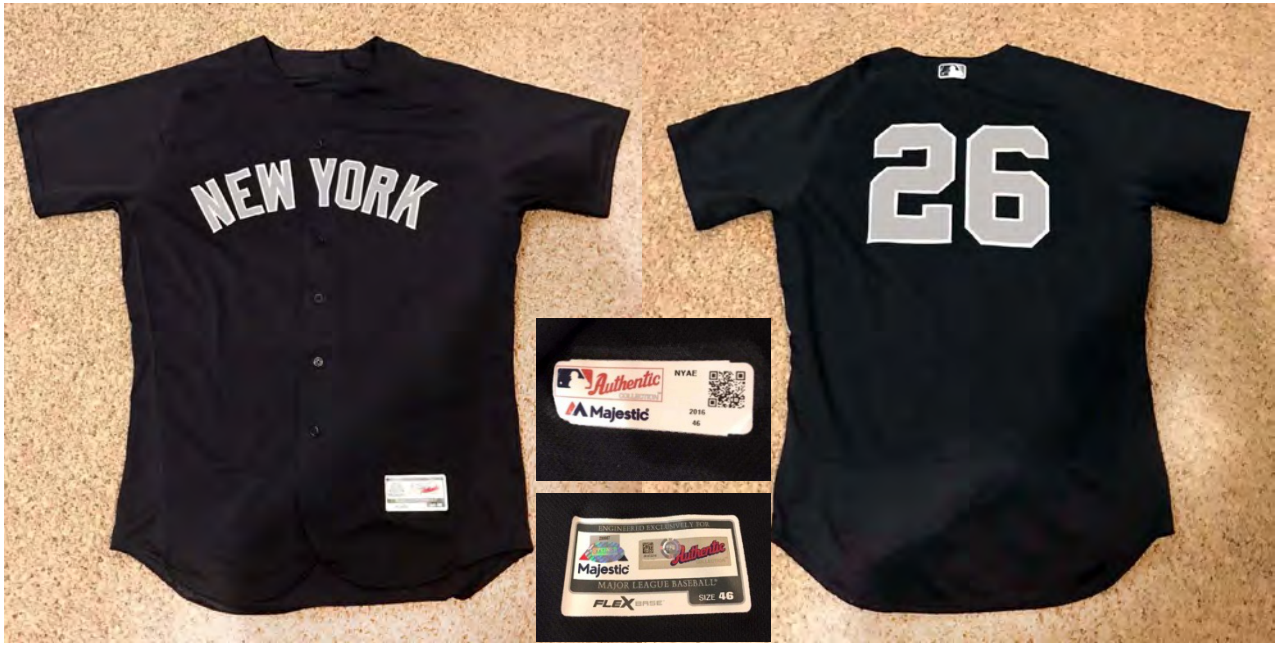
2016 Alternate Road Batting Practice



Here's an interesting item: During the 2016 season, the Yankees quietly began wearing their navy Spring Training road jersey style as a batting practice jersey on the road. This version omits the white side panels, making it more conservative than the official road BP jersey. It features gray-on-white front lettering and back numbers in plain twill (without the Spring Training pattern), and it lacks both the Spring Training sleeve patch and the memorial #8 for Yogi Berra. At bottom left is an excerpt from the Majestic catalog identifying this style as the "Alternate Road Navy." Notably, the on-field version lacks a Majestic sleeve logo—consistent with the Yankees' long-standing policy of keeping manufacturer logos off game uniforms, even when worn as warmups. One can only imagine Majestic wasn't thrilled about this. We've found no press photos of the team wearing the "Alternate Home Navy" as a home BP jersey, however.

Even though the jersey uses the Flex Base template with lightweight-style twill for the front lettering, the team-issued versions retained old fashioned layered twill for the back numbers.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice Home

With many players opting for lightweight cage jackets, which are devoid of player identification, instead of traditional BP jerseys with player names and numbers, Majestic introduces a replacement product that may be an attempt to gain acceptance by the pros on field while being more attractive to fans at retail. New for 2017, official team batting practice jerseys are replaced with what Majestic calls a 3/4 Sleeve BP Trainer. The new hybrid is cut in a pullover jacket silhouette, including a short zipper at the neck, but made of Cool Base jersey material. The underarm and back panels are of Cool Base mesh, like the sides and tail of Flex Base jerseys. Team logos and other lettering is in what Majestic calls “lightweight twill” (as described in Chapter 8). The Majestic logo is applied to the middle of the left sleeve, and a new, heat-pressed Cool Base tag adorns the left front tail. The Yankees home batting practice jersey is blue with blue back with white underarm gussets. The interlocking "NY" logo appears on the front left chest in white. The back of the jersey is blank. Player number in white Varsity on the left sleeve.

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2017-2019 Batting Practice Road

Yankees cap logo
1949–2025

The Yankees' road version of the new-for-2017 Spring Training jersey closely resembles the home version shown on the prior page, with a few key differences. Most notably, the underarm panels are gray rather than white, and the front logo is rendered in gray outlined with white. However, the most significant distinction is the use of the team's cap logo on the jersey—a narrower, taller, and differently proportioned version of the familiar interlocking "NY." For years, the Yankees have used separate designs for their cap and jersey logos. The Yankees were not alone in making this cap-logo switch—the Tigers also adopted their cap logo on Spring Training jerseys in 2017. But while Detroit acknowledged and incorporated the change into official team artwork, the Yankees made no formal mention of the deviation from tradition.

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2017 Spring Training Home

Spring Training-only jerseys return for all teams in 2017 with some minor design modifications. Just as in 2016, the jersey is based on the Flex Base game jersey template and features special printed twill, this year decorated with “2017” and Spring Training symbols. However, all teams now use the same twill, in single-color white with gray printing, replacing the many team-specific combinations from the year before. The Yankees only used single-color white patterned twill on their 2016 Spring Training jersey, so the change makes no difference in 2017. The Yankees again use a design separate from their regular season standard set for their home BP jersey, reminiscent of their regular season BP jerseys from the 2002–2006 period. The back numbers are white patterned twill. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Yankees spend Spring Training. Like their game jerseys, the Yankees’ Spring Training jerseys do not have the Majestic logo on the left sleeve.

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2017 Spring Training Road

The Yankees continue their custom sine 2007 of having different Spring Training jerseys for home and road games. The road version has “NEW YORK” on front in gray twill outlined with white using the new kiss-cut, lightweight twill method. All Spring jerseys for 2017 have single-color back numbers, in white with a gray “Spring Training 2017” pattern. The jersey features a recolored version of the rubberized CFX patch on the right sleeve in the style of an Interstate highway sign, reading “2017” and “FL” representing where the Yankees spend Spring Training. Like their game jerseys, the Yankees’ Spring Training jerseys do not have the Majestic logo on the left sleeve.

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2018 Spring Training Home

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design theme of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Yankees use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, also used as their regular-season batting practice jerseys, as their base. The back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2018 Spring Training Road

The 2018 Spring Training jerseys continue the general design of the previous year, again featuring all player name and number lettering using each team's regular fonts in one layer of twill printed with special Spring Training and 2018-year-specific patterns. The Yankees use a design separate from their regular-season standard set, also used as their regular season batting practice jerseys, as their base. The back numbers are sewn on in white patterned twill. A new CFX patch, shaped like home plate, is stitched to the right sleeve, featuring "2018" and "FL" representing their Spring Training home.

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2019 Spring Training Home

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Yankees use a design separate from their regular season standard set, reminiscent of their regular season batting practice jerseys, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The front logo and back numbers are white twill.

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2019 Spring Training Road

The 2019 Spring Training jersey evolves to create yet another iteration of the theme of the last three years. This time, jersey backs abandon the single-color printed twill treatment of the past and return to regular season multi-layered team-color twill like 2016, yet without 2016's printed patterns. The Yankees use a design separate from their regular season standard set, reminiscent of their regular season batting practice jerseys, as the base for this design, carrying a new CFX patch on the right sleeve, featuring "2019" and "FLA," referencing their Spring Training home. The front lettering and back numbers are gray/white twill.

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2020-2023 Spring Training Home

2020

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular season alternates. For 2020–2023, the Yankees use a design separate from their regular season standard set, a blue jersey white the white interlocking NY logo on front left chest, with white back numbers. The 2020 home version has the 25th Anniversary of Steinbrenner Field patch on the left sleeve.

2020

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2020-2023 Spring Training Road

Spring Training is simplified for 2020, league-wide. For the first time since 2016, Spring Training jerseys eliminate the special sleeve patch indicating the year and location of a team's Spring Training home, and now the lettering is the same non-patterned, multi-layered twill as the teams wear in the regular season, making many teams' spring jerseys identical to their regular season alternates. For 2020–2023, the Yankees use a design separate from their regular season standard set, a navy jersey with NEW YORK in gray/white on front, with gray/white back numbers.

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Special Events Jerseys

1996 Negro Leagues Tribute (1934 New York Black Yankees)

From the *Toledo Blade*, June 9, 1996:
"As part of a Negro League salute yesterday, the Tigers wore replica uniforms of the Detroit Stars while New York was garbed in the colors of the New York Black Yankees. It was the first time the Yankees ever wore anything different from their traditional uniform."

June 8, 1996: In their first-ever participation in a throwback game, the Yankees faced the Tigers—who were dressed as the Detroit Stars—in a tribute to the Negro Leagues. The Yankees wore a replica of a 1934 New York Black Yankees jersey. The Black Yankees were based in New York City, operating as an independent club from 1932 to 1935, before joining the Negro National League from 1936 to 1948.

Game photos above by Dennis Philpot, courtesy of Matt Philpot

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2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1912

Shown as used in the game; neither team wore player numbers on back.

- In the Yankees' second-ever Turn Back the Clock game—and their first wearing period versions of their own uniforms rather than Negro League attire—they joined the Boston Red Sox in celebrating the 100th anniversary of Fenway Park's opening in 1912.
- The game, held on April 20, 2012, featured both teams in 1912-style reproductions of their respective uniforms. In a notable first, players took the field without numbers on their backs. Until then, all throwback games commemorating pre-number eras had still included back numbers.
- These Majestic reproductions were made of gray double knit and, in keeping with the period look, lacked manufacturer logos on the sleeves.

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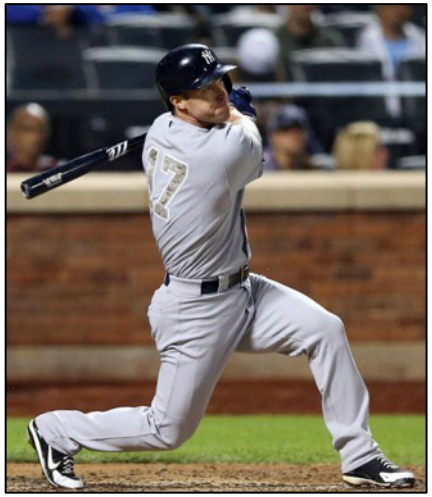
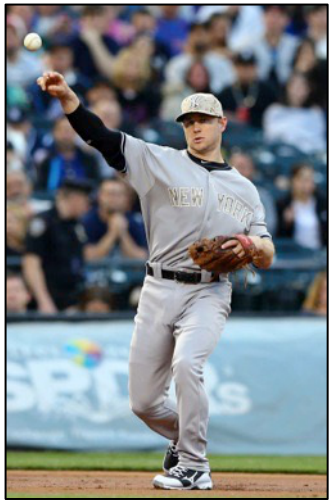
2013-2014 Memorial Day

Read the full story on MLB's Memorial Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.





MLB mandated that all teams wear camouflage-lettered jerseys for Memorial Day in both 2013 and 2014. The Yankees, who were the visiting team each year, appeared at the Mets on May 27, 2013, and at the Cardinals on May 26, 2014. Any instance of the Yankees altering their uniforms is notable, as it happens so rarely. The desert camouflage lettering, outlined in white on gray fabric, was nearly invisible in game action—something clearly evident in photos. After seeing the effect in 2013, I was surprised the look returned for 2014.

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2013-2014 Military Appreciation Day

July 13, 2013: The Yankees hosted the Twins and staged their own "Military Appreciation Day," during which they altered the team logo and player numbers to a nearly invisible desert camouflage—supposedly in support of the armed services. I'll admit, I don't like the idea of camouflage-lettered uniforms. Were this any other team, I'd simply note the event and move on.

But the Yankees are a special case. They've avoided tampering with their iconic uniform for decades—eschewing player names on the back, declining to participate in Turn Back the Clock games, not wearing green St. Patrick's Day jerseys, and steering clear of the Turn Ahead the Clock travesty. They participated in MLB's mandated camouflage-lettering for Memorial Day in 2013 and 2014, but only because they were the visiting team those years.

This particular event, however, feels different—an elective deviation from tradition, and in my view, a chance to merchandise a new product. To me, this marked the first time the Yankees had, of their own accord, violated what many consider to be the sanctity of their uniform.

Editor's note: An overreaction on my part? In hindsight, probably yes. Since originally writing this jersey's narrative several editions ago, the Yankees have continued to push back against other promotional grabs like City Connect uniforms—and have never worn green jerseys on St. Patrick's Day.

(Note: This jersey was also worn on July 20, 2014, in a repeat of the same promotion.)

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2015 Memorial Day

For Memorial Day, May 25, 2015, the Yankees one again add camo to their home jerseys, this time as part of the league-wide mandate. For this entry, they learn from the invisible-wordmark mistake of their previous year's Military Appreciation Day jersey, and wisely outline the desert camo front logo and back numbers in navy blue. Typically, these adornments appear in single-color navy only, so the team here adds an extra layer of twill, and the outcome is far more legible than the camo home jerseys from 2014. In 2015, the MLB Silhouetted Batter neck tag is changed to dark green/khaki/white rather than its typical colors from 2014.

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2015 Independence Day

Read the full story on MLB's Independence Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

For Independence Day 2015, all 29 U.S.-based teams adopt patriotic "Stars and Stripes" uniforms for the first time. For this day, all uniforms are re-lettered in a combination of red, white, and blue, regardless of what the team's normal color palate might be. Jersey trim and patches remain the same as the team's regular jerseys. All teams sport a stars and stripes version of the MLB Silhouetted Batter logo on the back collar. The Yankees wear their home white jerseys with the blue-background version of the starred twill, which features large white stars; all lettering outlined in red, including their front logo as well as back numbers. The Yankees are one of four teams (with the Dodgers, Royals, and Tigers) whose lettering goes from one layer to two for this special promotion. An American flag patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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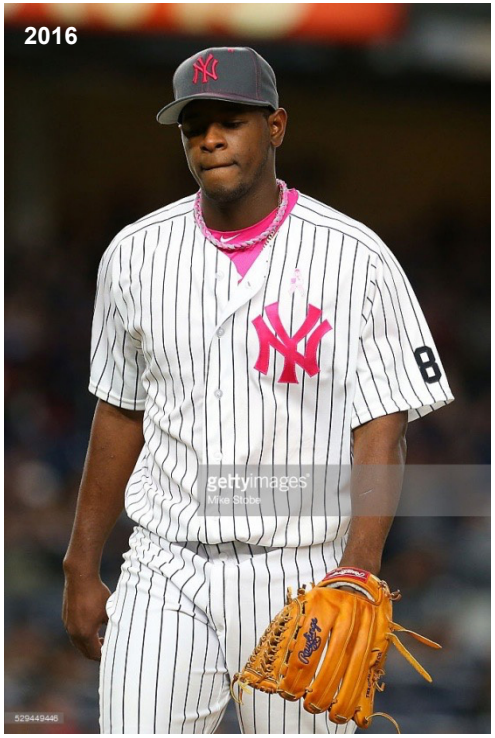
2016-2017 Mother's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Mother's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

2016



2016

May 14, 2017 (night)

All teams wear special pink-trimmed uniforms for Mother's Day, May 8, 2016 and May 13–14, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the pink MLB Mother's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Mother's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark pink/light pink/white. The Yankees wear their home white jerseys with the front logo lettering and back numbers in pink. In 2016, they continued to wear the black "8" on the left sleeve in honor of Yogi Berra as they did throughout the season. In 2017, their May 13 game was postponed by rain for a day-night doubleheader on the 14th. The evening's game honored Derek Jeter's number retirement and enshrinement in Monument Park, so the Yankees wore a special patch to mark the occasion on the right sleeve of the pink-trimmed jersey.

May 14, 2017 (day)

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2016 Memorial Day

The Yankees apply the camouflage trimmings to their road gray jerseys for the game on May 30, 2016. Memorial Day jerseys are constructed in the Flex Base style for the first time, and the ChromaFlex MLB logo at back neck becomes black and dark gold for all teams. The new, league-wide template, with higher-visibility woodland camo lettering and black outlines, makes this set more legible than in prior years. The front lettering and back numbers are rendered in woodland camo with a black outline, and trim elements are also simplified to single-color black from the standard blue/white/blue. They continued to wear the “8” on the left sleeve in honor of Yogi Berra as they did throughout the 2016 season. These jerseys have the Majestic logo on the left sleeve, which their standard game jerseys, and their other 2016 special event jerseys, lack.

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2016-2017 Father's Day

Read the full story on MLB's Father's Day Jerseys in Chapter 5.

All teams wear special light blue-trimmed uniforms for Father's Day, June 19, 2016 and June 17–18, 2017. All jerseys are of Flex Base construction with the rubberized front tag applied to the front left tail. Every team also features the light blue MLB Father's Day ribbon on left chest (a carryover from past Father's Days), while the back of the collar MLB Silhouetted Batter patch appears in dark royal blue/light blue/white. The Yankees wear their road gray jerseys with the front logo lettering and back number in light blue with dark gray outlines. All jersey trim, normally blue/white, becomes dark gray. In 2016, they wear the "8" on the left sleeve in honor of Yogi Berra as they did throughout the 2016 season. Both sleeves are blank in 2017.

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2016 Independence Day

MLB creates yet another new Independence Day jersey template for the 2016 iteration, now built on Majestic's new Flex Base jersey construction. Each Independence Day jersey has a ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB appliqué sewn on the back of the neck. The Yankees are on the road and wear their road jersey. All clubs have a choice of two styles of star-spangled lettering twill and the Yankees select the red twill version with blue outlines for their front lettering and for their back numbers. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim, normally blue/white, becomes single-color blue. They continued to wear the "8" on the left sleeve in honor of Yogi Berra as they did throughout the 2016 season.

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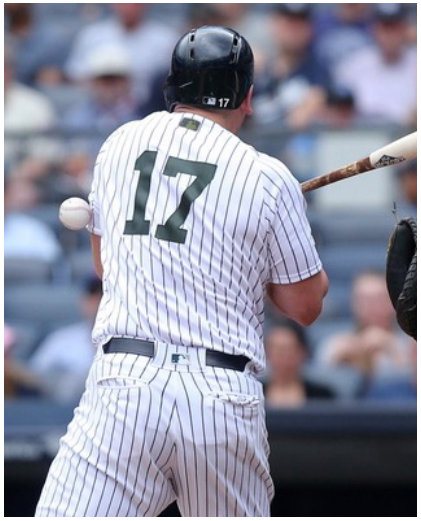
2017-2018 Memorial Day (Home)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green. The back-of-collar MLB logo switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve. The Yankees apply this style to their home white jerseys as worn on May 27–28, 2017 and May 26–28, 2018.



© GameWornGuides.com

2017 Memorial Day (Road)

The next incarnation of Memorial Day jerseys replaces the previous camo twill pattern with a new style that uses the team fonts in dark olive green with black outlines. The two adjacent dark colors are very difficult to tell apart, especially at a distance. All player names on back are now single-color black, while the back-of-collar MLB logo and team patches switch to an olive green and black treatment. A green bar patch with five black stars, representing the five branches of the U.S. military, appears on the right sleeve, and all trim elements are also simplified to single-color black. The Yankees apply this style to their road gray jerseys as worn on May 29, 2017.

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2017 Independence Day (Road)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill – appropriately in red/blue or blue/red. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 1–2, 2017, the Yankees wear their road gray jersey with blue patterned twill/red front logo lettering and back numbers. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve. All jersey trim is single-color blue.

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2017-2018 Independence Day (Home)

The 2017 version of MLB's Independence Day jerseys introduces a new patterned twill, one with a slightly less-busy pattern of stars and the addition of stripes suggesting a waving American flag. Teams again have a choice of two different color options for the new twill–appropriately red or blue. The jerseys themselves are again Flex Base with typical manufacturer and set tagging. A ChromaFlex rubberized "stars and stripes" pattern MLB applique patch is sewn on the back of the neck. On July 3–4, 2017 and July 2–4, 2018, the Yankees wear their home white jersey with blue patterned twill front logo lettering and back numbers. Every jersey has an American flag patch sewn on the right sleeve.

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2017-2018 Players Weekend

To highlight players' personalities and to appeal to younger fans, MLB introduces the colorful Players Weekend promotion. In addition to relaxed regulations on team-standard color and design of cleats, bats, and other equipment, MLB encourages players to wear nicknames on the backs of a new set of very colorful jerseys. Meant to evoke the look of youth league designs, the two-toned Cool Base pullovers feature bright and contrasting body and sleeve colors, and include a patch on the right sleeve with space for players to show their appreciation to special people in their lives with handwritten black marker messages. Both the patch, and the back-of-collar logo, feature a variant of the MLB logo showing the growth of a ballplayer from childhood to adulthood. Heat-pressed Majestic manufacturer and set tags are applied on the front left hem, and the Majestic logo is embroidered on the left sleeve. All numbers on back are in single color Varsity, and the player names in 2¾" single color Block Condensed, regardless of the team's usual font. On August 25–27, 2017 and August 24–26, 2018, the Yankees wear jerseys with navy blue bodies and gray sleeves with white nicknames and numbers on back. Sleeves and V-neck opening are lined with wide gray/white/gray trim. The front features their "Yankees" script from their jackets and secondary "Top Hat" logo, here rendered in white/navy kiss-cut lightweight twill. ***The August 25, 2017 game is notable because, for the first time in their long and storied history, the Yankees wore jerseys with NOBs. Leadoff man Brett Gardner—one of three Yankees to display his actual last name instead of a nickname—becomes the first Yankee in franchise history to bat with a NOB after 114+ years!***

© GameWornGuides.com

2019 Players Weekend

The third incarnation of Players Weekend turns the colorful jersey concept on its ear, reducing all teams to monochromatic designs in either black or white, with all team sleeve patches and trim removed, leaving a clean but stark template. Gone are the contrasting sleeves and special patches with messages of inspiration. MLB says that this new approach is to emphasize the colorful, personalized cleats, bats, and other gear the players choose for the promotion, which spans August 23–25, 2019.

Jerseys are now button-front Flex Base, with appropriate Majestic manufacturer and set tagging. Back-of-collar CFX MLB logo is now silver and black. All teams also wear a memorial patch for Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, a white “45” in a black circle, on the left sleeve. Most teams removed this patch before auctioning off the jerseys. The Yankees wear a black version of their road jersey with the front lettering and back varsity numbers rendered in black/gray with gray nickname on back.

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2021 Field of Dreams Game

MLB at Field of Dreams is a recurring Major League Baseball regular-season game played near the *Field of Dreams* movie site in Dyersville, Iowa, made famous by the 1989 film. The inaugural game takes place on August 12, with the Chicago White Sox facing off against the New York Yankees.

For this special event, the Yankees wear a version of their 1919 road uniforms, featuring a plain block "NEW YORK" across the chest in navy blue and player numbers only on the back, rendered in a modified McAuliffe-style font. Anachronistic details include the Nike logo on the right chest and the MLB logo on the back collar—modern additions that intrude on the vintage aesthetic.

The original 1919 road uniform, for comparison.

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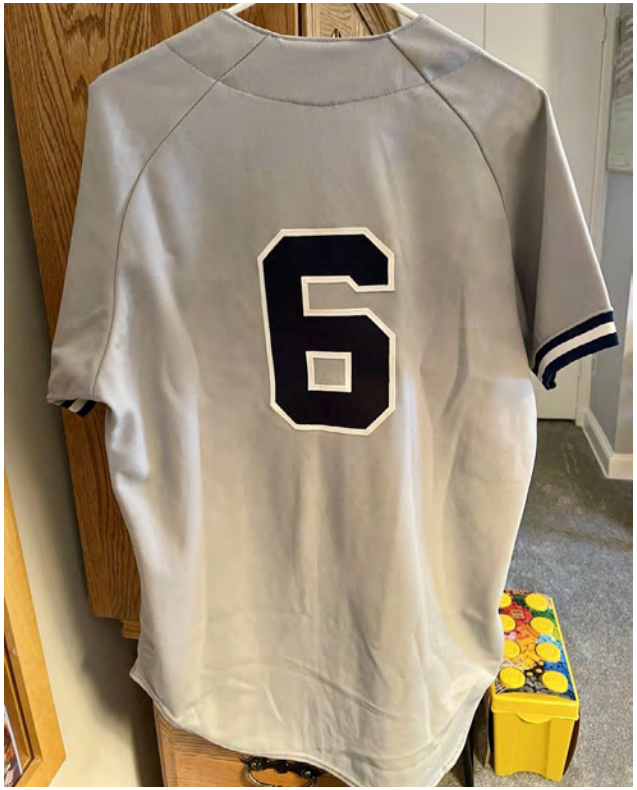
Prototypes and Oddballs

1978-1985 Sample Road?



The jersey presented here was identified as a sample, though apart from the Wilson tag being positioned differently than on team-issued versions, there is no definitive evidence to confirm that status. The Wilson tag itself dates to the 1978–1985 period, during which Wilson produced all Yankees road jerseys. Notably, 1978 marked a change in the width of the white outline surrounding the front lettering. This particular example features the wider outline style introduced that year, suggesting it may have been a sample created to reflect or test that updated design.

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1990s Prototypes — Adidas/AIS

The owner of these jerseys says that they are prototype game-style jerseys made for the Yankees to be considered for team use.

The one on top is made by Adidas, interesting because the Yankees have a long-standing exclusive athletic licensing deal with Adidas, which has contractually kept any other manufacturer's logo off of any Yankee field-worn apparel for many years. The Yankees always have "plain" sleeves on their game jerseys. Adidas owns Reebok, and both have been a major supplier of jerseys for other sports, including the NBA, NFL and NHL, but has never made a jersey worn by MLB.

The bottom jersey is a prototype made by AIS, a Mets uniform supplier for several years.

AIS has supplied movie prop jerseys over the years, and this AIS jersey may be an example of that.

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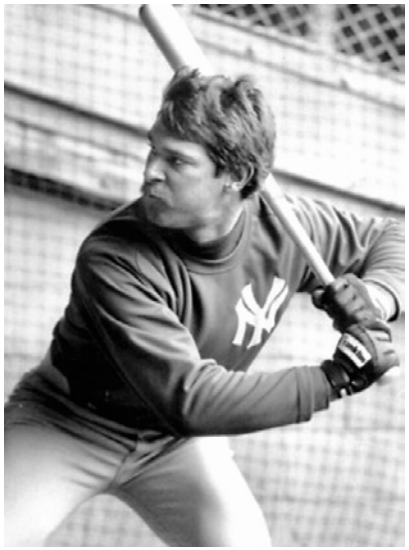
1992 Long-Sleeved Spring Training/Batting Practice

I had never encountered long-sleeved knit batting practice jerseys until I came across these. At one point, a number of them were offered for sale. A Steiner letter of authenticity I located after a previous edition dates these jerseys to 1992, and the Russell tag style on the tail supports that dating. The sleeves are constructed in two pieces—almost as if the jerseys were originally short-sleeved and had longer sleeves added later. A close-up photo of the tag confirms that the fabric is of solid knit construction, not mesh.

Above: *Close-up shows slash pockets on front. Size is "XL" instead of being more typically numerically sized. Don Mattingly wearing one similar to this at right.*



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1990s Prototype Road?

This oddball may be a Russell prototype jersey submitted to the Yankees for consideration. It features one of the team's alternate wordmarks from their official print artwork—such as what appears on team letterhead—"New York" rendered in an elegant script. The jersey itself appears to be a retail-spec shell, as it bears the Russell "R" on the sleeve—something that would never appear on a Yankees on-field jersey. It includes the 1994–1998 style Diamond Collection tag on the tail. The black "X" marked on the tag typically signifies that the jersey was designated for disposal and is not to be represented as a first-quality item.

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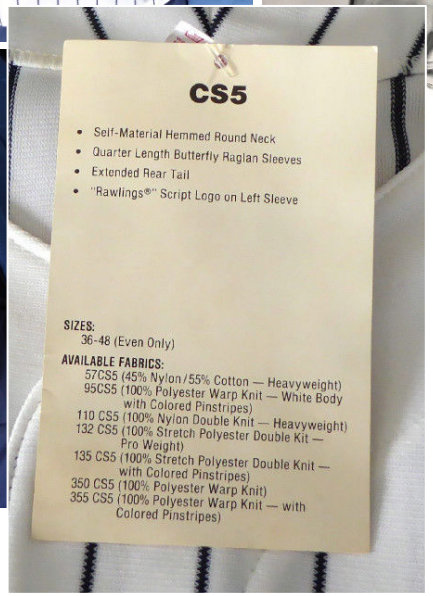
1990s Samples — Competing Manufacturers

The tagging on these Rawlings jerseys strongly suggests they were samples submitted to the Yankees for consideration. The home jersey features 1992–1994 Rawlings tail tagging, displays Don Mattingly's number, and includes an intriguing paper tag in the neck that outlines its design characteristics. It may have been proposed as a minor league option, or perhaps it was simply a style sample used in a salesman's kit. The gray road jersey lacks a sleeve logo and is year-tagged 1998, with its tail tag sewn inside—consistent with typical team-issue construction. However, the Yankees did not wear Rawlings jerseys in 1998.



CS5

- Self-Material Hemmed Round Neck
- Quarter Length Butterfly Raglan Sleeves
- Extended Rear Tail
- "Rawlings®" Script Logo on Left Sleeve

SIZES:
36-48 (Even Only)

AVAILABLE FABRICS:
57CS5 (45% Nylon/55% Cotton — Heavyweight)
95CS5 (100% Polyester Warp Knit — White Body with Colored Pinstripes)
110 CS5 (100% Nylon Double Knit — Heavyweight)
132 CS5 (100% Stretch Polyester Double Kit — Pro Weight)
135 CS5 (100% Stretch Polyester Double Knit — with Colored Pinstripes)
350 CS5 (100% Polyester Warp Knit)
355 CS5 (100% Polyester Warp Knit — with Colored Pinstripes)

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1992-1993 Coaches' Spring Training

According to the Steiner Sports letter that accompanies this jersey, it is an early 1990s Spring Training mesh style worn by coaches on the field. During this period, players wore navy jerseys with white lettering.

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1999(?) Home Oddball

Here we have an unusual Yankees “home” jersey with “New York” on front rather than the team’s classing “NY” ligature. It is manufactured by AIS—a company that never made Yankees uniforms but did produce jerseys for the crosstown Mets for several years. The tagging indicates that this jersey could date back as early as 1999, though there’s no other way to ascertain a date. It is unlikely that AIS made this as a prototype for the team given the “New York” lettering, which would not have passed muster with the tradition-conscious Yankees. AIS did, however, occasionally produce uniforms for television, movies, or commercials, particularly when productions were not licensed to use official team logos. It’s plausible this jersey was created for that type of use. Curiously, it bears the number 32—retired by the Yankees in honor of their first Black player, Elston Howard, in 1984. Since Howard passed away in 1980, this jersey would not have been created for his use in any photo or video shoot.

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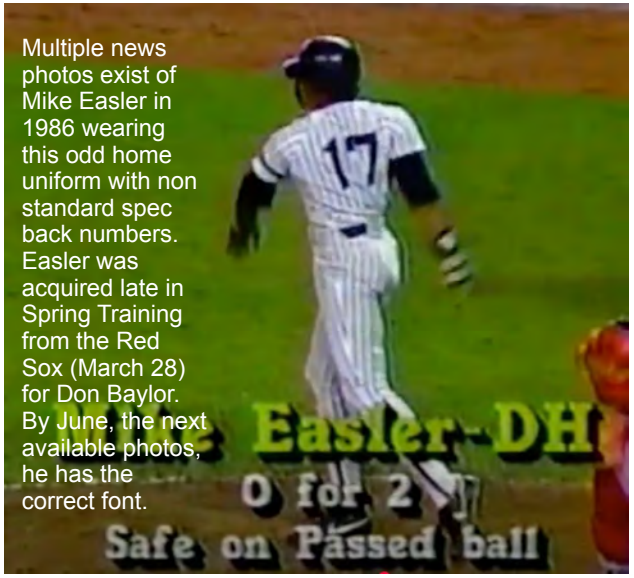
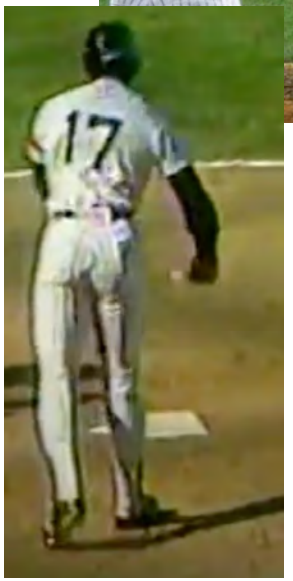
More Oddballs

Top left: This navy (or possibly black) Yankees batting practice jersey features Authentic Collection tags but displays a curiously color-reversed front logo—something I had never seen before until this example surfaced on eBay. While it could potentially be a "fashion" jersey, such items are generally not issued with Authentic Collection tagging, which makes this piece all the more unusual.



Multiple news photos exist of Mike Easler in 1986 wearing this odd home uniform with non standard spec back numbers. Easler was acquired late in Spring Training from the Red Sox (March 28) for Don Baylor. By June, the next available photos, he has the correct font.



Top, center: In the 2010 playoffs, pitcher David Robertson entered the game with this uniform gaffe that most would miss, even when it is clearly pointed out. His uniform was numbered using the wrong lettering font: it is Block font (as used by many teams, including the Cardinals, Rockies, Mariners and White Sox). The Yankees use Varsity font on their home jerseys, and have done so exclusively for decades. A correctly lettered, game worn Yankees #30 jersey from 2001 is shown, inset. (Thanks to Paul Lukas's Uni-Watch blog for this eagle-eyed catch.)

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“Authentic Collection”...but Not Game Worn

2002 style design

2011–2013 style design

Despite being sold with the “Authentic” label sewn into the tail, the Yankees do not wear green jerseys on St. Patrick’s Day. In fact, most MLB teams do not participate in this tradition—each year, only a few clubs actually wear green jerseys on the field. While these jerseys carry the “Authentic” designation—a term once reserved for true on-field gear—they are made by Majestic specifically for fans. In recent years, Majestic has produced these green jerseys for nearly every team, regardless of whether they are worn in actual games.

© GameWornGuides.com

2010 “Three Memorial” Jersey

- I believe the 2010 Yankees jersey marks the first “three-memorial” jersey in American sports history. Remarkably, heading into the All-Star break at mid-season, it featured no memorials at all!
- First, Bob Sheppard, the Yankees’ legendary stadium announcer, passed away at age 99 on July 11. Just two days later, on July 13, team owner George Steinbrenner died. That same evening, during the All-Star Game, Yankees players wore a simple black armband honoring both men.
- Immediately after the break, on July 16, the armband was removed. In its place, a Sheppard memorial patch was added to the left sleeve, and a “GMS/The Boss” Steinbrenner patch was placed on the front of the jersey.
- Then, just a week later on July 21, former Yankees manager Ralph Houk died. The club responded by adding a black armband on July 22—creating what is believed to be the first jersey in MLB history to feature three separate memorial tributes at once.

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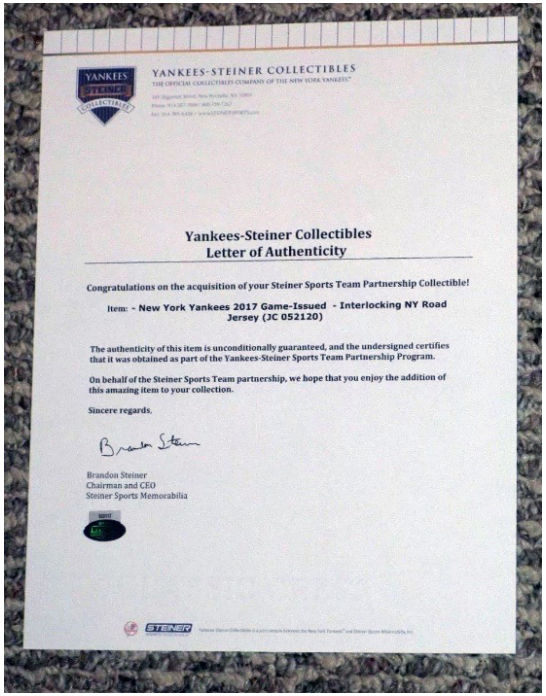
2012 Prototypes: Turn Back the Clock to 1912



YANKEES-STEINER COLLECTIBLES
THE OFFICIAL COLLECTIBLES COMPANY OF THE NEW YORK YANKEES

Yankees-Steiner Collectibles
Letter of Authenticity

Congratulations on the acquisition of your Steiner Sports Team Partnership Collectible!

Item: - New York Yankees 2017 Game-Issued - Interlocking NY Road Jersey (JC 052120)

The authenticity of this item is unconditionally guaranteed, and the undersigned certifies that it was obtained as part of the Yankees-Steiner Sports Team Partnership Program.

On behalf of the Steiner Sports Team partnership, we hope that you enjoy the addition of this amazing item to your collection.

Sincere regards,

Brandon Steiner
Chairman and CEO
Steiner Sports Memorabilia

Shown here are two prototypes for the Yankees' 2012 Turn Back the Clock to 1912 game. The top jersey is a pullover with a four-button neck closure and a number on the back ("12" signifying the year it was to be worn, as typical). The D1-1 on the strip tag indicates this was version one of the jersey tested. These jerseys were worn as shown in the bottom prototype, with a full button front and no player numbers on back. This version's tag identifies it at D1-3, meaning the third version. We have yet to see version two in the hobby, and we wonder what the difference would have been, perhaps full button with player number on back, or four-button with no number? Perhaps one day we will learn.

The Steiner letter that accompanied the top jersey simply list it as "game issued" without calling attention to its variation from what was worn on the field. Likely the samples were cast aside in the locker room and was gathered up and sold as part of a cleanup.

© GameWornGuides.com

2014 Derek Jeter Retirement (Retail Only)

Not worn on the field, but featuring “Authentic Collection” Majestic tagging, this specially lettered gold-over-navy Derek Jeter retirement tribute jersey became a hot collector’s item in 2014. It includes the team patch worn on the right sleeve during Jeter’s final home games, commemorating his 20-year Major League career—spent entirely with the Yankees.

© GameWornGuides.com

Annual ‘Dress Like Mariano Rivera’ Day?

The Yankees on April 15 each year.

Mariano Rivera himself—every day, every year—the final player in Major League Baseball permitted to wear #42 on the field.

- Of course, all the Yankees at left are wearing #42 in honor of Jackie Robinson, as does every player in the MLB each April 15. But through 2013, the Yankees held a unique distinction: they had a player on their roster who wore Robinson’s #42 not just for one day a year, but every day.
- When MLB universally retired the number in 1997, the league “grandfathered” it—allowing any player then wearing #42 to continue doing so for the remainder of their career.
- Mariano Rivera, already active at the time, continued to wear the number with dignity and distinction until his retirement in 2013. He was the final player in all of MLB still entitled to wear #42 full time. Upon his retirement, the Yankees retired the number again—this time, for Rivera himself.

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1974 “Almost-Was” Road Reverse-Pinstripe; and Early 2000s Retail Revival?

Yankees mulled jersey change in 1974

Originally Published: September 30, 2010

By Paul Lukas

With most MLB teams having solid-colored alternate jerseys nowadays, the old protocol of wearing white at home and gray on the road has been reduced to a quaint relic. It's not unusual to see a color-against

color game, and just last week the A's and White Sox went black against black.

But with the pomp and circumstance of the postseason looming, *old-schoolers* can take heart in the knowledge that the Yankees will always wear their pinstripes at home and their grays on the road. Thus has it ever been, thus will it ever be.

Except it almost wasn't. Although most fans aren't aware of it, the Bronx Bombers nearly gave their road uni a major overhaul in the 1970s. Former Yankees PR director Marty Appel spilled the beans on that one in his 2001 book, Now Pitching for the Yankees, which included the following passage:

> ***"In 1974 I walked into [then-general manager] Gabe Paul's office to find samples of new Yankee road uniforms draped across his sofa. They were the opposite of the home pinstripes—they were navy blue with white pinstripes. The NY logo was in white. Gabe liked them. I nearly fainted. ... I think my dramatic disdain helped save the day and saved the Yankees from wearing those awful pajamas on the field."***

Looking exactly like the 1974 jersey described in the book excerpt at left, this example is decidedly newer. The tagging places it as a Majestic product from 2000 or later. The internal tag code near the bottom—“6260”—is unfamiliar, but Majestic garments coded in the 6000 series are typically retail items not made to team-issued specifications. Team-spec garments, by contrast, usually carry codes beginning with “006x.”

There was a time when jerseys bearing the “Authentic Collection” tag were made for on-field use first, with retail versions produced for fan sale thereafter. But in later years, that practice grew murkier. Majestic, for instance, produced green St. Patrick’s Day jerseys with “Authentic” tags—even though only a handful of teams ever actually wore them in games.

It’s understandable from a retail standpoint: keeping Yankees merchandise fresh is a challenge. The team hasn’t meaningfully changed its home or road uniforms in decades and refuses to chase every promotional opportunity with new designs. As a result, most fans who want an authentic Yankees jersey probably already have one. My contacts at Majestic do not recall this jersey being part of their catalog, but in my view, the inside tagging supports that it is a legitimate Majestic product—just not one made for the Yankees to wear on the field.

Far right: *None of these navy pinstripe jerseys should be confused with the uniforms worn by the concession vendors at Yankee Stadium, who wear a similar jersey but with white buttons and the team’s batting helmet version of the interlocking NY logo on the chest, and “Yankee Stadium” in white on the left sleeve.*

© GameWornGuides.com

2020 Sample Nike Home

Though Nike's 2020 entry into MLB jerseys resulted only in the re-branding and relabeling of Majestic's previous Flex Base jersey template, it appears that Nike still produced sample jerseys for team inspection. Here is one such example, made up for the YANKEES.

This jersey's pedigree as a sample is apparent in a few details. First, it is size 46, a common sample size, and the player number "20" represents the year for which the sample was made.

Outwardly, this classic home white jersey appears just as it did on the field in 2020, a testament to the fact the team was not planning any changes for that season. However, there are still some small details in this sample that were updated before the full run of 2020 jerseys went into production. First, a heat-pressed neck tag which was not used in on-field jerseys. Next, an interior hear-pressed tag, almost twice as tall as the ones used by Majestic before and Nike after, appears inside the placket, however, it was removed from this example. It's absence means we cannot get more information about if this was a first or later sample made for the team. However, this tag's location is still telling, as it was used by Majestic for team tagging, but Nike versions moved these tags below the jock tags on the lower front of the jerseys.

Finally, the "0730" code on the back of the laundry tag is the same used for Majestic's version of the Flex Base template. By the time these jerseys were released in 2020, the product code had been updated to "0890" to reflect the new Nike jerseys, even though nothing had really changed.

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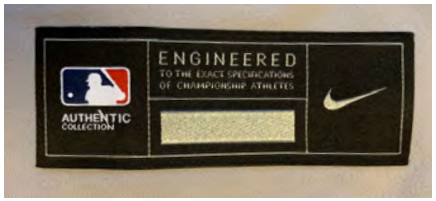
2021 Prototype Nike Oddball



This may be the most unusual oddball we have ever discovered. In fact, it is hard to even begin to discuss what this item may be. At first, it seems like a poorly executed fan jersey, or even a bad counterfeit. But on closer inspection, and with some research, it is harder to dismiss.

This borderline futuristic Yankees jersey appears to be a sample made in collaboration between Nike and a company called Bemis Associates, which describes itself as “a leader in adhesives and bonding solutions, partnering with apparel, industrial and consumer electronics brands.” Bemis’ logo is next to Nike’s in the collar of this jersey. In terms of its apparel business, Bemis makes flexible, thermoplastic materials that allow for the manufacturing and embellishing of garments without sewing. Of note, almost every element on this jersey, from front and back lettering to sleeve decorations to Nike’s jock tag, are all applied without stitching. The lone exception is the ChromaFlex MLB logo on the back of the neck, which is sewn on. Even the jersey itself was assembled a very minimum of stitching. The neck/placket, bottom hem, and even the shoulder seams are fused together with a reinforced, plastic tape of sorts, which closely resembles some of the products Bemis makes and sells for use in active wear. As hard as we have tried, we cannot identify the “NAC” or “N^C Innovation” logo, but we will get to that in a moment.

Aside from being free of most stitching, the jersey itself is a thick, heavy polyester that seems to contain some elastic or spandex, as it stretches in all directions. It is of a similar construction and cut to some college baseball jerseys Nike has made, such as the Vanderbilt jersey seen at right. Both the Vanderbilt jersey and this sample have a flat placket with plastic snaps on front and large perforations for ventilation on back, so there is precedent for Nike making this type of jersey.

(continued next page)

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2021 Prototype Nike Oddball, continued

These detail images show how each decorative element on the jersey is applied without stitching. The two “sleeve patches” (the Yankees top hat logo and American League logo) are a rubbery, textured material that stretches with the jersey, but does not appear liable to cracking or breaking when stretched or folded. The player name, here “Yankees,” is in the same material. The front NY logo and back player number 21 are a different material, though both are also applied without sewing. They are puffy and perforated with textured borders. They too are flexible, but not as much as the other elements shown on this page.

We have seen other examples of Nike samples using a team name as a player name, so though not common, it is not unique. Given Nike’s practice, which was common with other manufactures in the past, we assume the “21” player number represents 2021, a time when this jersey was made, or was intended to be used. Assuming the sample was made a year or more in advance, it likely predates Nike’s arrival in MLB for 2020, perhaps by a year or more.

(continued next page)

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2021 Prototype Nike Oddball, continued

We realize you were not expecting NBA shorts in this publication, but bear with us. As further provenance for the oddball Yankees jersey as being an actual, possible prototype, we share this pair of NBA shorts that has the same Bemis, Nike, and NAC logos as the jersey. This pair of shorts may have been made as an All-Star Game sample, given the design, but with the "Nike" logo on the waistband, it is unlikely that a specific team was associated with it. The shorts include a paper tag that outlines the various decorative and manufacturing materials used throughout, including the "SF" or "Sew Free" construction. Nike has been the NBA's official uniform supplier since 2017, so it is likely that this pair of shorts was an official collaboration between Nike and Bemis to show the league what the two companies could do together.

Given that Nike was set to take over MLB uniform production for the 2020 season, and the likelihood that the Yankees sample shown in the previous pages was made in advance of that date, and it includes the CFX MLB logo and Nike's authentic collection tagging, it is possible that the sample may have been a similar Nike/Bemis collaboration for MLB like the NBA shorts shown here. The choice of the Yankees, one of MLB's most traditional and conservative teams, is curious, even controversial. But maybe Nike was going all-in on change and innovation, they may have chosen to rock that boat. And in reality, the sample may have been an exercise in what the companies could do given modern materials, construction, and embellishments, and less a suggestion for what they would want to do for (or to) the Yankees.

As for the "NAC Innovation" logo seen on both of these sample items, we have reached a dead end, despite many online searches, including trademark databases. Perhaps "NAC" is Nike Authentic Collection, and the "innovation" part speaks for itself with how futuristic the jersey is? More research is required on that element. But one thing is for certain...as upset as many MLB fans were when they saw Nike roll out its 2024 Vapor Premier Elite uniform template, we can only imagine what would have happened if the Yankees, and other teams, took to the field in a concept such as this.

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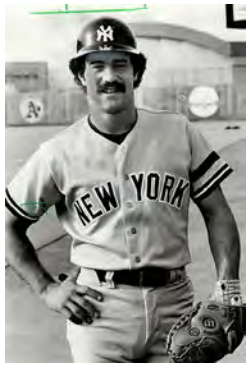
Commemorative Patches

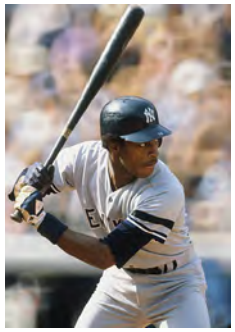
Yankees Commemorative Patches

1973 —Original patch has white border, many reproduction patches lack this.

1979, after August 2: Armband for Thurman Munson



1980 all season: Armband for Thurman Munson.



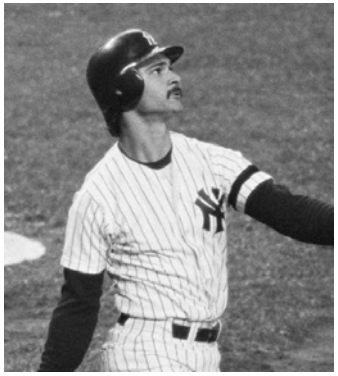
1981 all season: Armband for Elston Howard.

- 1973: Yankee Stadium 50th anniversary.
- 1976: Billy Martin alone wears armband for Casey Stengel.
- 1979, starting August 3 to end of season and all of 1980: Black armband on left sleeve for Thurman Munson.
- 1981: Black armband on left sleeve for Elston Howard.
- 1985: Black armband on left sleeve for long time clubhouse attendant Pete Sheehy, after August 14.
- 1986: Black armband for Roger Maris all season.

The Yankees have worn commemorative armbands in 14 seasons since 1979. These always appear on the left sleeve, and are generally sewn directly above the sleeve seam. In several years multiple memorials have been worn, with some being added mid-season with the passing of a former player or in the case of 2001, with the events of 9/11.

Here, I am sharing photos of all of these memorials, on both home and road jerseys, and the dates they appeared.

1985, after August 14: Armband for long time equipment manager Pete Sheehy.



1986: All season armband for Roger Maris.

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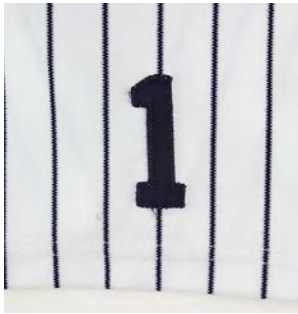
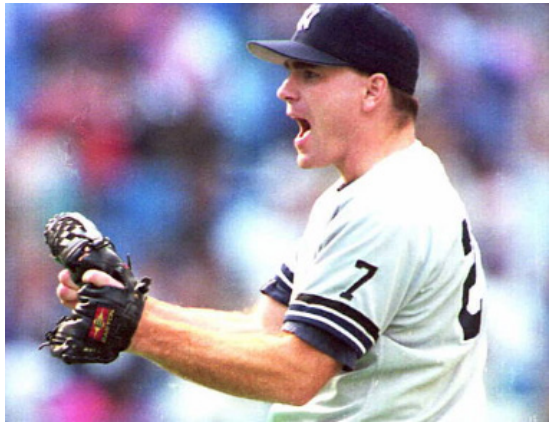
Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued



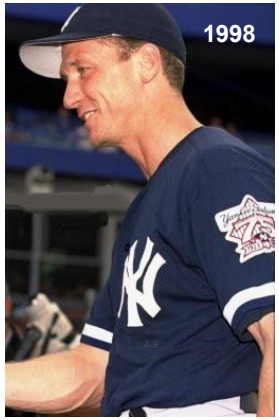
- 1990: Black "1" worn for Billy Martin all season. (no armband).
- 1995: Black Armband on left sleeve The number "7" above the armband for Mickey Mantle after 8/13/95.
- 1996: Black Armband on left sleeve for broadcaster Mel Allen after 6/18/96.
- 1998: Yankee Stadium 75th anniversary (in white) worn only on batting practice jersey. Gray bordered version exists, but not used. The were both intended for use on game jerseys but a dispute during the discussion of the desire for a new stadium and resulting hard feelings relegated them to batting practice jerseys only.

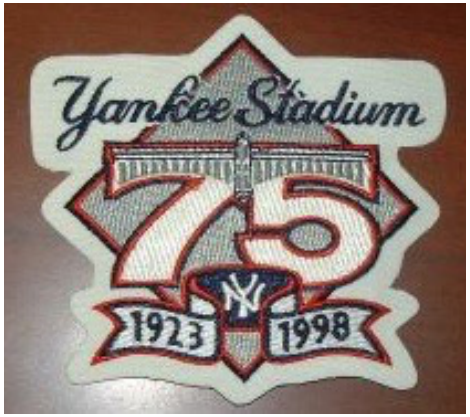
1990: All season black "1" for Billy Martin (no armband).



1995: After August 13: combination black "7" and armband for Mickey Mantle

1996: After June 18, armband for former broadcaster Mel Allen





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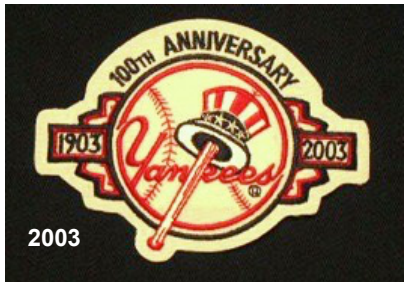
Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued

1999: From start of season, black 5 alone for Joe DiMaggio ***(above)*** armband added after September 9 for Catfish Hunter ***(right).***

2000: Bob Lemon armband

2001: Armband (and USA flag on back of neck) after 9/11/2001

- 1999: Black "5" on left sleeve for Joe DiMaggio all season, black armband added for Catfish Hunter after September 9.
- 2000: Black armband on left sleeve for Bob Lemon all season.
- 2001: Black armband (WTC victims) post-9/11. home jersey only.
- 2003: 100th Anniversary, worn on BP as well (recall the Yankees were not charter members of the American League, joining in 1903, and therefore were not entitled to wear the "Charter Member" AL patch in 2001).
- 2004, March 30–31: "Ricoh" Sponsor patch worn for opening series in Tokyo against Devil Rays.



2004 Opening Series in Tokyo, Japan, March 30–31

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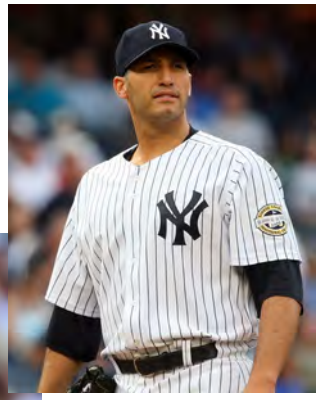
Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued

2005: September 9–10 only

2007: Armband worn all season for pitcher Corey Lidle; black "10" added after 8/14 for Phil Rizzuto.

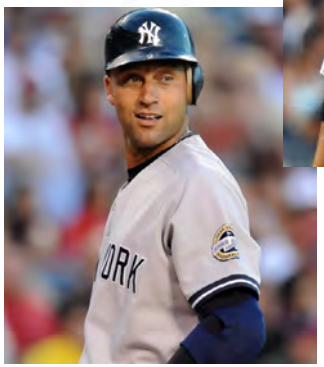
- 2005, September 9–10: Salvation Army patch, post Hurricane Katrina,
- 2007: Black armband on left sleeve of both home and road uniforms for Cory Lidle, worn all season including Spring Training
- Then "10" worn above arm-band from August 14 onward for Phil Rizzuto
- 2008: Black armband for Bobby Murcer from July 13
- 2008: Yankee Stadium Final Season patch, left sleeve
- 2008: All-Star Game patch, right sleeve
- 2009: Yankee Stadium Inaugural Patch on both home and road jerseys (unusual for a stadium commemorative patch to be worn on a road jersey).

2008: From start of season, All-Star and Yankee Stadium patches, both are worn on home and road jerseys



2009

2008: Armband added for Bobby Murcer July 14 (after All-Star break)



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Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued

2010

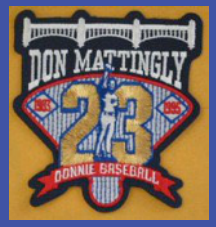
- Following the passing of long-time public address announcer Bob Sheppard and owner George Steinbrenner, the New York Yankees wore a black armband in memory of both men at the All-Star Game on July 13. Starting with their series at home against Tampa Bay on July 16, the team replaced the armband with two patches, one with the initials "GMS" on their left chest for Steinbrenner, and on the left sleeve, a patch honoring Sheppard.
- When former manager (1966–1973) Ralph Houk died July 21, the team added a black armband on their left sleeve on July 22, making this probably a first: a three memorial patch uniform.

2010

2010

2010: Armband added after July 22

Not worn by the Yankees: These four examples are fan merchandise patches. While they may be officially MLB-licensed, they were never worn by Yankees players. The Yankees do not wear commemorative patches or gold-trimmed jerseys to mark division titles, league championships, or World Series victories.



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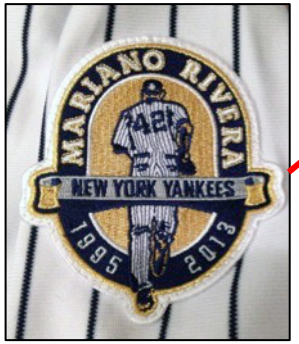
Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued

April 1, 2013



September 22–26, 2013

September 2014 home games

- 2013, April 1: The 2013 season started with every team in MLB wearing a patch commemorating the tragedy of the Sandy Hook school shooting in Newtown, CT on December 14, 2012 in which 26 children and teachers died. Originally, the patch was to be worn only by the Red Sox and Yankees, the two teams closest to the locale; the commissioner of baseball asked the other 28 clubs to participate.
- 2013, September 22–26: Team wore left-sleeve patch commemorating the retirement of Mariano Rivera, arguably the greatest closing pitcher of all time, who spent his entire 19-year career with the Yankees, the last 17 as their closer, a phenomenal accomplishment. Home jerseys only.
- 2014, September 7–11 and 18–25: Team wore left-sleeve patch on home jerseys for team captain Derek Jeter who spent his entire 20-year Major League career with the Yankees.

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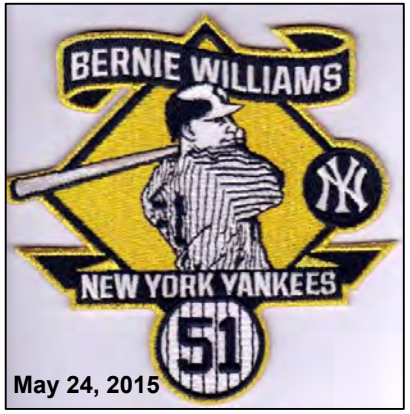
Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued



May 24, 2015

May 17, 2015

August 23, 2015

August 22, 2015

Starting September 23, 2015 and all of 2016

- 2015, May 17: Negro Leagues Baseball patch with #28 for Ernie Banks. For this game, the Yankees were in Kansas City, and the Royals wore uniforms of the Kansas City Monarchs, for which Banks had played 1950–1953.
- 2015, May 24: Bernie Williams patch worn in honor of his number retirement that day.
- 2015, August 22: Jorge Posada patch worn in honor of his number retirement that day.
- 2015, August 23: Andy Pettitte patch worn in honor of his number retirement that day.
- 2015, starting September 23 and all of 2016: “8” Memorial for Yogi Berra (without an armband)

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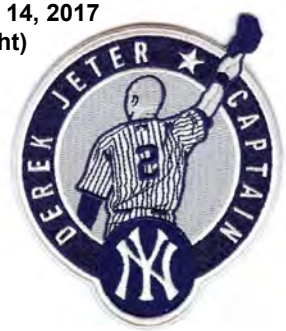
Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued

May 14, 2017
(night)



June 29–30, 2019

- 2017, starting September 7: Memorial armband for former player, coach, and executive, Gene Michael.
- 2017, May 14 (night game of doubleheader): Derek Jeter number retirement patch, worn on right sleeve of Mothers Day pink-trimmed jersey
- 2019: Memorial armband for former player and pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre.
- 2019, June 29–30: Biofreeze sponsor patch (left sleeve) and MLB London Series patch (right sleeve) for games in London vs. Red Sox.
- 2020 Spring Training: Steinbrenner Field 25th patch, left sleeve Spring Training home jerseys only
- 2020: HGS memorial patch for former General Partner/ Co-Chairperson Henry G. "Hank" Steinbrenner
- 2020, September 11: "We Shall Not Forget" patches on left chest in honor of 9/11 anniversary
- 2020, October 9: "16" number on right sleeve (above HGS patch) for Whitey Ford, who died the day before.

October 9, 2020

2020 Spring Training

September 11, 2020

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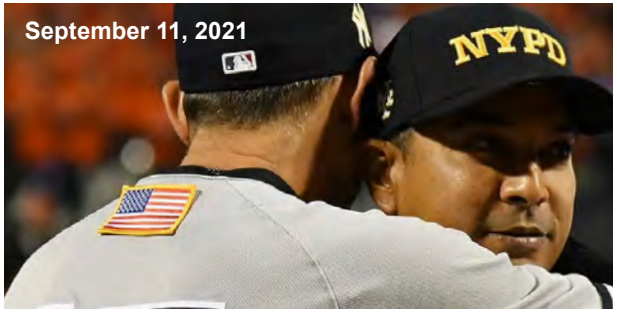
Yankees Commemorative Patches, continued

- 2021: “16” patch for Whitey Ford
- 2021, September 11: American flag patch on back of collar in recognition of 20th anniversary of 9/11. Patch was adhesive, and many fell off.
- 2023, May 5–7: Green Mental Health Awareness Month ribbon for games against the Rays, who wore this same ribbon for all of May 2022 and May 2–7, 2023 in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, following the suicide of Rays bullpen catcher Jean Ramirez.



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2023-2024 Yankees Advertising Patches

With the start of the 2023 season, teams were permitted to sell an advertising patch, up to four inches square, to appear on one of their jersey sleeves. The sleeve on which the patch appeared could change from player to player, and each team that sold a patch handled the placement differently.

The Yankees struck a sponsor patch deal with Starr Insurance. The patches first appeared on July 21, 2023.

The patch is blue with the Starr Insurance logo in white.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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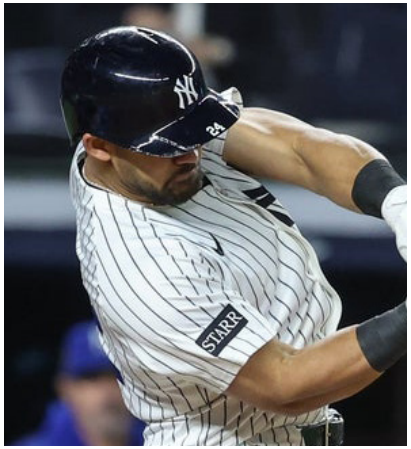
2025 Yankees Advertising Patches



The Yankees update their ad patch for 2025. The patch is now a blue rectangle with simply the sponsor name “STARR” in white lettering.

The placement of the patch varies depending on the handedness of each player.

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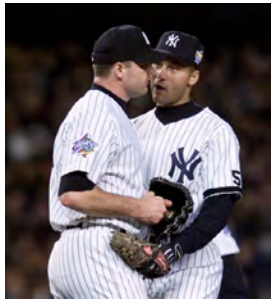
Yankees Postseason Patches

1996 World Series (right sleeve)

2000 World Series (right sleeve)

1998 World Series (right sleeve)

1999 World Series (right sleeve)



2001 World Series (left sleeve, above armband)

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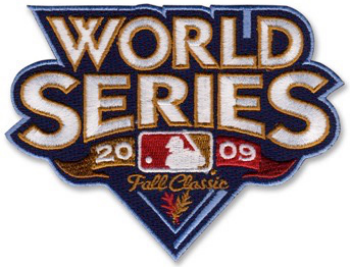
2003 World Series (right sleeve)

2017 AL Wild Card

2017 AL Division Series

2017 AL Championship Series (right sleeve)

2009 World Series (right sleeve)



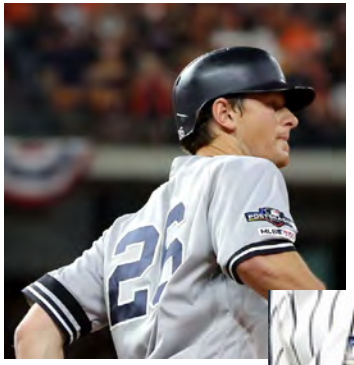
2018 AL Wild Card

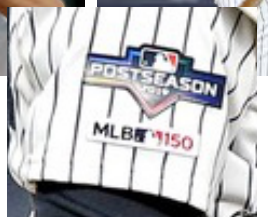
2018 AL Division Series (right sleeve)

2015 AL Wild Card (right sleeve) single game "series"

2019 AL Division Series

2019 AL Championship Series (right sleeve, above MLB150 patch)





Back

Document of Restoration

New York Yankees 1971 Munson Home Jersey

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: New York Yankees home flannel jersey year tagged 1971 with "Munson" name sewn in collar, tackle twill #16 on back. Light table examination shows #15 had been on the jersey previously. Presumably this jersey was used in spring training, its number was changed; the font is not standard; but the front "NY" crest seems undisturbed.

Work Performed: Removed the back numbers, lifted the pattern from the shadows and found it to match the team template for numbers in 1971. New numbers were cut from backed wool felt; Because there was minor discoloration from dirt and use that made the replaced back number ghosts more obvious, the jersey was laundered and steamed prior to reapplying the replacement back numbers. The replacements were stitched with a small zig zag stitch in the same manner as the originals would have been.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications
Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
The Dream Shop: MLB Jersey Restorations
http://GameWornGuides.com *http://TheDream.Shop*

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Billy Martin 1977 New York Yankees (Manager) Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: December 8. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J09

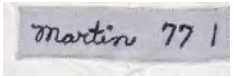
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 7-button knit gray size 42 New York Yankees jersey issued to and worn by manager Billy Martin. "NEW YORK" is arched in tackle twill across the front in navy with a white outline in the 1977-appropriate font. Number "1" in two color navy and white tackle twill with no name on the back is correct as well. Sewn-in Navy/white/navy knit sleeve end trim. Size 42 is correct for Martin. As Yankee manager, Martin led the team to consecutive American League pennants in 1976 and 1977; the Yankees triumphed over the Los Angeles Dodgers in six games in the 1977 World Series.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag size 42, appropriate for use for the 1977 season, is sewn onto the front outside left tail of the jersey. Team collar tagging "Martin 77 1" (which indicates 1977 season, and set 1) is hand chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher onto a rectangular strip of gray knit fabric, and then sewn properly inside the back of the collar with stitching invisible from the outside back. The tag is original and unaltered.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the lettering on this jersey is original and without alteration. It is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times; letters and numbers show signs of puckering and loose threads from repeated washing and use. The jersey' linen placket lining shows dirt and wear commensurate with at least a season's worth of use. There is evidence of the removal of left sleeve armband. Though the jersey is dated 1977, the team did not wear armbands until July 1979 and all through the 1980 season, for the passing of Thurman Munson. Martin was famously fired and rehired multiple times by team owner Steinbrenner, and after being fired for 1978 he returned and managed the team in 1979. Since no other player (save for Bobby Murcer 1969-1974) was issued the eventually retired number 1 that had been Martin's from his 1950s playing days, and the fact that the Yankees often kept prior years' jerseys to reissue if needed, it is very reasonable to assume that this jersey was reissued to Martin in 1979, perhaps as a "set 2" backup. Martin was fired again at the end of the 1978 season, so he would not wear it with armband in 1980.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits good use. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Billy Martin in the 1977 and probably again in the 1979 seasons.



William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop

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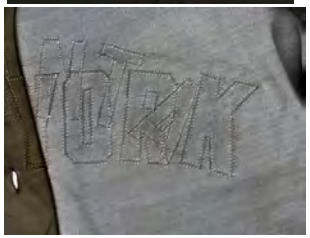
Back

Document of Restoration

Yankees 1976 Dempsey Road Game Jersey, Front Restoration

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of a restoration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: Yankees road gray 1976 jersey of catcher Rick Dempsey, front with "New York" improperly restored; sewn too low and in the wrong arch. Strong evidence of prior minor league ONEONTA wordmark having been removed, very faint ghost evidence of original NEW YORK visible on light table.
Work Performed: Replacement NEW YORK stripped from front, glue cleaned and fabric streamed, Cut a new replacement wordmark from team pattern, age-matched the fabric using media blasting and organic dyes. Using light table, stitched the recreated wordmark over the original ghosts, stitched with age-matched thread. Photos of before, during and after are below. The back of the jersey was left untouched.



Top row, at left, before and center and right, after restoration. Back is all original. Middle row shows pre-fabric steaming and ghosts for all three word marks that had once been present. Bottom right, the aged and dyed new wordmark, laid over white twill to show the difference in shade.

William F. Henderson
Professional Authenticator and
Restoration Specialist

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications
Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
The Dream Shop: MLB Jersey Restorations
http://GameWornGuides.com *http://TheDream.Shop*

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Elston Howard 1976 (Coach) New York Yankees Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J16

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1976 New York Yankees, seven-button home pinstripe knit jersey. The Yankees intertwined "NY" wordmark in Navy twill is sewn to the left chest. Number 32 in one color Navy tackle twill with no name on the back in the proper font/size correct for the Yankees in the 1976 season, and the correct 5 1/2" from the collar. Jersey has the correct 1 1/8" pinstripe spacing properly used in 1976, as opposed to the 1" spacing used in 1981 and after. Size 46 is reasonable for Howard. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. After a 13-year career with the Yankees starting in 1955, Howard played his final two seasons with the Boston Red Sox. He retired and rejoined the Yankees as first-base coach in 1969, a role he filled through the 1979 season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson was the exclusive maker of the Yankees' home jerseys in 1976. The small rectangular Wilson manufacturer/size tag noting the size as 46, is in the proper style as typically used through the end of the 1977 season. The tag is stitched on the outside left front tail. "Howard" is hand chain stitched in the Wilson factory tailor's familiar handwriting onto a white knit rectangular strip of fabric in a style consistent with other examples of 1976 Yankees home jerseys in our archives. The strip is then stitched into the inside back of the collar. Appropriately, the tagging has been stitched to the placket so that the zig zag stitches are not visible from the outside back of the collar. This method was employed at the factory, with the team tagging added prior to the collar flap being stitched closed. Below the Wilson size tag on the left tail is a rectangle of knit fabric with "76 1" hand chain-stitched in the familiar and correct style.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitched elements of this jersey are original and unaltered. While the jersey body remains in overall good condition, the sewn-on elements— the interlocked NY logo on front and the player number on back are badly bleached to a pale purple. My observation is that Yankee jerseys of the early and middle-1970s used a type of fabric for their lettering that was different from that used by other teams. Typically (Webster/Liebe-made) MLB-standard jersey tackle twill is practically impervious to bleaching. However, this period-original Yankees twill has a sheer white cloth backing, is damaged by chlorine

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bleach and shrinks aggressively when washed in water that is too hot. The thread on the player name tag inside the back collar shows some signs of bleach-fading as well. The thread holding the back numbers and front crest in place is failing and coming out, visible on the inside of the jersey. it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed very many times; the numbers have shrunk by almost 1/2" from their original height and have seriously puckered the fabric beneath them. The fabric is not bright white any longer, having acquired an even ivory-gray tone. The placket lining shows only moderate signs of sweat staining and puckering from use. The original buttons remain in place. I would judge that this jersey was used multiple seasons and might have been reissued in the minor leagues as was the fate of most Yankees game jerseys of this period, though notably it retains its original front crest, however it is hard to imagine that this garment acquired this much wear while still being used in the Major Leagues by a coach. This jersey is notably very dirty overall likely as much from handling, display and storage than from use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, has no other alterations. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by coach Elston Howard of the New York Yankees during the 1976 season.

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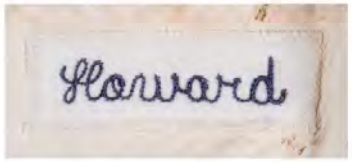
Principal, and Professional Authenticator



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Letter of Professional Opinion

Yogi Berra 1978 (Coach) New York Yankees Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J15

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1978 New York Yankees, seven-button home pinstripe knit jersey. The Yankees intertwined "NY" wordmark in Navy twill is sewn to the left chest. Number 8 in one color Navy tackle twill with no name on the back in the proper font/size correct for the Yankees in the 1978 season, and the correct 5 1/2" from the collar. Jersey has the correct 1 1/8" pinstripe spacing properly used in 1978, as opposed to the 1" spacing used in 1981 and after. Size 44 is correct for Berra. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. The jersey has a black armband on the left sleeve, though notably armbands were not worn in 1978. Armbands were worn for Thurman Munson after 8/2/1979 and all through the 1980 season. In these years, the Yankees typically kept a set of the players' prior year's jerseys as backups.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson was the exclusive maker of the Yankees' home jerseys in 1978. The small rectangular Wilson manufacturer/size tag noting the size as 44, is in the proper style as typically used through the end of the 1977 season; we would not deem it unusual to occasionally find these style size-tags on 1978 jerseys as the maker's supply of the older ones was exhausted. The tag is stitched on the outside left front tail. "Berra 78 2" is hand chain stitched in the Wilson factory tailor's familiar handwriting onto a white knit rectangular strip of fabric in a style consistent with other examples of 1978 Yankees home jerseys in our archives. The strip is then stitched into the inside back of the collar. Appropriately, the tagging has been stitched to the placket so that the zig zag stitches are not visible from the outside back of the collar. This method was employed at the factory, with the team tagging added prior to the collar flap being stitched closed. There is no team year tagging on the tails of Yankee jerseys in 1978.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitched elements of this jersey are original and unaltered. While it remains in overall good condition, it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times; the fabric is not bright white any longer, having acquired a slightly grayish tone. Front crest and back numbers have lost their original sheen and are a flat tone. there are several dirt scuffs and splattered brownish stains between the bottom two buttons. The placket lining shows signs of sweat staining and puckering from use. The original buttons remain in place. I would judge that this jersey was used all season, and was saved into 1979 as a backup, yet was spared reissue in the minor leagues as was the fate of most Yankees game jerseys of this period. This jersey is also rather dirty overall likely more from handling and storage than from use.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits use and wash wear, and aside from the incorrect armband application for 1978, has no other alterations. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Yogi Berra of the New York Yankees during the 1978 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Don Gullett 1978 New York Yankees Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date:December 8. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J08

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

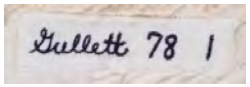
Description: 1978 New York Yankees, seven-button home pinstripe knit jersey. The Yankees intertwined "NY" wordmark in Navy twill is sewn to the left chest. Number "35" in one color Navy tackle twill with no name on the back in the proper font/size correct for the Yankees in the 1978 season, and the correct 5 1/2" from the collar. Jersey has the correct 1 1/8" pinstripe spacing properly used in 1978, as opposed to the 1" spacing used in 1981 and after. Size 44 is reasonable for Gullett at 6' 0" and 190 lbs. to have worn. The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. 1978 was Gullett's final season in baseball; he started 8 games and went 4-2. Playing for only nine seasons, Gullett was a member of six World Series teams (1970, '72, '75, '76, '77, and '78), including four consecutive world champions -'75 and '76 Reds, and '77 and '78 Yankees (Wikipedia)

The jersey has a black armband on the left sleeve. Armbands were worn for Thurman Munson after 8/2/1979 and all through the 1980 season. Gullett retired after the 1978 season, and no Yankee roster player was issued #35 for either 1979 or 1980. The presence of the armband could be explained as this jersey being worn by a coach or prepared for use in case it was needed by a call-up, or could have been used in Spring Training. Gullett would not have worn it with the armband in place. It was common for the Yankees to prepare and reissue jerseys as potential backups in subsequent years.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson was the exclusive maker of the Yankees' home jerseys in 1978. The small rectangular Wilson manufacturer/size tag noting the size as 44, is in the proper style as typically used through the end of the 1977 season; we would not deem it unusual to occasionally find these style size-tags on 1978 jerseys as the maker's supply of the older ones was exhausted. The tag is stitched on the outside left front tail. "Gullett 78 1" is hand chain stitched in the Wilson factory tailor's familiar handwriting onto a white knit rectangular strip of fabric in a style consistent with other examples of 1978 Yankees home jerseys in our archives. The strip is then stitched into the inside back of the collar. Appropriately, the tagging has been stitched to the placket so that the zig zag stitches are not visible from the outside back of the collar. This was done at the factory, with the team tagging added prior to the collar flap being stitched closed. There is no team year tagging on the tails of Yankee jerseys in 1978.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitched elements of this jersey are original and unaltered. While it remains in overall good condition, it is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times; the fabric is not bright white any longer, having acquired a slightly grayish tone. Front crest and back numbers have lost their original sheen and are a flat tone. The placket lining shows signs of sweat staining and puckering from use. The original buttons remain in place. I would judge that this jersey was used all season, and was spared reissue in the minor leagues as was the fate of most Yankees game jerseys of this period.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and aside from the incorrect armband application for 1978, has no other alterations. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Don Gullett of the New York Yankees during the 1978 season.



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Letter of Professional Opinion

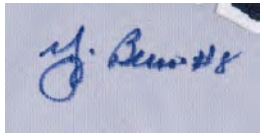
Yogi Berra 1981 (Coach) New York Yankees Game Used Road Jersey and Pants

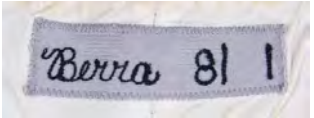
Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201JP01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray seven-button knit gray New York Yankees jersey issued to and worn by coach Yogi Berra during the 1981 season. "NEW YORK" is arched in tackle twill across the front in navy with a white outline in the 1981-appropriate font and placket spacing. Number 8 in two-color navy and white tackle twill with no name on the back as is correct for the Yankees. Navy/white/Navy 1-1/4" sewn-in knit trim at the end of each sleeve. The placket of the jersey is lined with linen for player comfort. Berra has signed the jersey "Y. Berra #8" just below the team wordmark on the left side. I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph, but a Beckett letter of authenticity for it is included The Elston Howard black armband is properly sewn to the end of the left sleeve, properly for 1981 leaving about an inch of gray jersey fabric showing between it and the sleeve-end trim. It appears to be original and unrestored.

Matching gray Wilson size 38 pants are included, with a proper manufacturer tag, team strip tag in the correct style sewn inside the front inside of the waistband, hand chain stitched BERRA 81 1 23 (where the 23 is the inseam measurement). The pants show wash wear, and have two back slash pockets each secured by a single gray button, as well as a front custom 2" small pocket watch-style slash pocket just below the first belt loop on the right side. That pocket lacks any type of closure, and shows obvious dirt/wear around its edge indicating it was accessed frequently. The zipper is operational and an additional single-button closure is added above the zipper.





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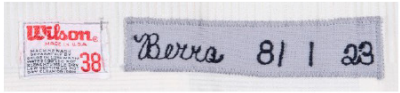
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag showing the size 44 sewn to the left outside front tail, appropriate size for Berra and correct style for use for the 1981 season. Team tagging "BERRA 81 1" (which indicates player's name, 1981 season, and set 1) is hand chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher onto a rectangular strip of gray knit fabric, and then sewn inside the back of the collar. It is properly stitched before the placket/collar lining was sewn closed, so that no stitching from the tagging is visible on the outside back of the jersey. Pants tagging is detailed above.

Wear & Repairs: It is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times; all lettering shows signs of puckering, fabric edge-softening and and a few loose threads from repeated washing and player use. The linen placket lining is stained from sweat around the neck and yellowed throughout. Jersey is original with no alterations, and appears to have been pulled from circulation and avoided a second life in the minor leagues as was so common with most Yankee jerseys of the period. The second button from the bottom is a non original replacement. There is a random blue pen mark just above the Wilson tag that undoubtedly happened when Berra autographed the jersey.

Conclusion: The jersey and pants in review are properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. They are consistent with known exemplars, exhibit appropriate use and wash wear, and appear to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey and pants combination is genuine and was worn by Yogi Berra of the New York Yankees during the 1981 season.



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Letter of Professional Opinion

Don Mattingly "Rookie" 1983 New York Yankees Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: December 17. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Road gray seven-button knit gray New York Yankees jersey issued to and worn by Don Mattingly during the 1983 season. "NEW YORK" is arched in tackle twill across the front in navy with a white outline in the 1983-appropriate font and placket spacing. Number "46" as he wore during his first two seasons in the majors, in two-color navy and white tackle twill with no name on the back as is correct for the Yankees. Navy/white/Navy 1-1/4" sewn-in knit trim at the end of each sleeve. The placket of the jersey is lined with linen for player comfort . Jersey is signed twice on the front by Mattingly, once on the left above the wordmark in what appears to be ballpoint pen, and again below the wordmark in blue Sharpie. I have no opinion of the authenticity of the autographs. The Wilson tag bears two serialized stickers, one BB78030 by JSA for the autograph, and the other of Schulte Sports #3397, though no certificates accompanied the jersey when I reviewed it.

After a brief seven-game call-up in 1982, Mattingly registered a full rookie season in 1983, with 279 at bats in 91 games, playing as a part-time outfielder and first baseman. *Mattingly was named to the American League (AL) All-Star team six times. He won nine Gold Glove Awards (an AL record for a first baseman), three Silver Slugger Awards, the 1984 AL batting title, and was the 1985 AL Most Valuable Player. He served as captain of the Yankees from 1991 through 1995, when he retired as a player. The Yankees later retired Mattingly's uniform number (23), making him the only Yankee to have his number retired without having won a World Series with the team.* (Wikipedia)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag showing the size 42 sewn to the left outside front tail, appropriate style for use for the 1983 season. Team tagging "Mattingly 83 1" (which indicates player's name, 1983 season, and set 1) is hand chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher onto a rectangular strip of gray knit fabric, and then sewn inside the back of the collar. It is properly stitched before the placket/collar lining was sewn closed, so that no stitching from the tagging is visible on the outside back of the jersey.

Wear & Repairs: It is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed multiple times; letters and numbers shows signs of puckering lettering edge-softening and and a few loose threads from repeated washing and player use. Jersey is original with no alterations, and appears to have been pulled from circulation and avoided a second life in the minor leagues as was so common with most Yankee jerseys of the period.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Don Mattingly of the New York Yankees during his rookie season of 1983.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Tommy John New York Yankees 1986 Home Game Jersey

Examination Date: July 26, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0726J01

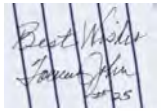
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: New York Yankees team specification Wilson size 46 with tapered tailoring seven-button home pinstriped jersey. Yankees' NY crest stitched in Navy Blue to the left front chest, player number 25 on back in the proper font, color, and the correct 5 1/2" from the collar. Jersey placket is lined with linen for player comfort. The jersey is autographed on the front left tail "Best Wishes Tommy John #25" I have no professional opinion on the signature. There is a black armband on the right sleeve commemorating the death of Roger Maris, as was worn by the team in 1986. Tommy John, known as "The Bionic Man" due to his groundbreaking ligament replacement elbow surgery that caused him to miss the 1975 season, had a remarkable 26 year career. He was the first player to ever return to the majors after the surgery that now informally bears his name. He was a four-time MLB All-Star and has the second most wins (288) of any pitcher since 1900 not in the Hall of Fame (*Wikipedia*)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Embroidered Wilson "Tailored Exclusively for Pro Teams" tagging in a style first seen in 1986 is sewn on the outside of the left front tail with size 46 flag tag pinched under its right border. This size is reasonable for John's use. Inside the neck is a white rectangular knit strip tag zig zag stitched in place with the code "Baylor 86 2" on it. The tag bears the identifiable and unmistakable chain stitched handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher of the time. Baylor had been on the Yankees 1983-1985, and went to 1986 spring training with the Yankees before being traded to the Red Sox just two weeks before the start of the season. John had just rejoined the Yankees, having had played there prior in 1979-1982. Baylor's departure left John's preferred #25 jersey available for his use, and according to his own statement, he assumed Baylor's jersey and played the season in it.

Provenance: The jersey is accompanied by a letter on Tommy John's professional stationary that describes the origin of this jersey and certifies that he wore it during the 1986 season. The letter is signed by John, though I have no professional opinion on the signature.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of wear that are appropriate for game use. The twill lettering is burnished, slightly puckered and has edges softened by use and the wash; the jersey has been laundered to a slightly off-white color, and there are small pulls throughout. The tagging is wrinkled and puckered; the edges of the tailoring flag tab is frayed. The linen placket lining shows clear signs of wear, with creases, puckering and slight yellowing consistent with game use and laundering.



Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a tagging identifiable and consistent with other exemplars. It is my considered opinion that this jersey shows use and was made by Wilson to team specifications first for Don Baylor, then was worn by Tommy John of the 1986 New York Yankees.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Don Mattingly New York Yankees 1987 Home Game Jersey

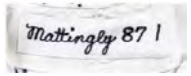
Examination Date: April 27, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0427J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: New York Yankees team specification Wilson size 42 seven-button home pinstriped jersey. Yankees' NY crest stitched in Navy Blue to the left front chest, player number 23 on back in the proper font, color, and the correct 5 1/2" from the collar. Jersey placket is lined with linen for player comfort. There is no maker's logo stitched on the sleeve as was the Yankees' arrangement with MLB, exempting them from displaying any brand logo on game uniforms. Notably, team-specification Yankees jerseys of this period were hard to acquire as the team seemingly shunned the collector market. Retail authentics were made in comparatively small quantities by Rawlings in 1987 and had a sleeve logo.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Embroidered Wilson "Tailored Exclusively for Pro Teams" tagging in a style first seen in 1986 is sewn on the outside of the left front tail with size 42 flag tag pinched under the right border. This size is correct for Mattingly's use. Inside the neck is a white rectangular knit strip tag zig zag stitched in place with the code "23 87 2" on it. A faint ruled red line is drawn in pen horizontally across the bottom third of the tag as a guide for the stitcher to embroider his numbers. The tag bears the identifiable and unmistakable chain stitched handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher of the time. While the tag appears legitimate, it does not match exemplars from our reference library that are on every other 1987 Yankee jersey in our database; those all have the last name of the player in script, followed by the two-digit year and the set number. (See examples below). While it is possible that this jersey was sewn in a separate order from the others that were presumably issued at the start if the season, and therefore has different style tagging, we have no other examples of 1987 Yankees jerseys team tagged in this way. Though we did not perform a complete photo matching exercise, this jersey is not pictured in the half dozen or so photos of Mattingly in 1987 found in the library of Getty Images.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey shows signs of wear that can easily be attributed to game use. The twill lettering is burnished and has edges softened by use and the wash, the jersey has been laundered to an off-white color, and there are small pulls and stains throughout. The linen placket lining shows the clearest signs of wear, with puckering and yellowing consistent with game use. Other dirt stains on the front of the jersey could be from improper storage.



Pictured above and below: Typical examples of 1987 Yankee jersey team tagging from other authenticated jerseys sold at auction.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good used condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a tagging identifiable as done by Wilson in their shop, though the format of the tag is different from multiple examples in our library. It is my considered opinion that this jersey shows use and was made by Wilson to team specifications for Don Mattingly of the 1987 New York Yankees.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Andy Pettitte 1996 New York Yankees Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: January 21, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J23

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1996 six-button size 48, full weight knit, Russell-made pinstriped New York Yankees #46 (Andy Pettitte), white with Navy pinstripes jersey. The Yankees "NY" crest is sewn to the left chest. The player number is sewn to the back in the correct color and font for the 1996 Yankees. The 1996 World Series patch is sewn with a straight stitch to the left sleeve, the Mel Allen memorial black armband is on the right sleeve. The jersey is autographed on the upper left chest above the team crest. I have no opinion on the autograph, but a Beckett Letter of Authenticity referencing the autograph is included.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Russell Diamond Collection manufacturer tagging sewn on the outside left front tail that is consistent with the the year of issue. Below the manufacturer locker tag is a rectangular mylar tag with PETTITTE - 96 computer-printed on it, consistent with other 1996 Yankees jerseys in our reference archives. Also sewn pinched below the manufacturer tag are two small fabric flag tabs:"100% Polyester" and one that reads 2" extra length. As is correct for team-issued Yankees jerseys, contractually there is no Russell manufacturer logo embroidered on the sleeve end.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The team and tailoring tagging flags are still crisp and unworn, While it has a World Series patch on its sleeve, we do not have evidence of him wearing this particular jersey in the Series. The team issued players new uniforms for the post season but often put patches on a regular season jersey to have as a backup should it be needed. Evidence of use and washing is slight.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in excellent lightly worn condition, is properly lettered, and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging and very light wear. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by Andy Pettitte of the 1996 New York Yankees.

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Letter of Authenticity

1995 Derek Jeter New York Yankees Game Used Road Debut Jersey

Examination Date: January 17, 2020 **Certification Number**: 200117F7

This letter will serve as the opinion of Sports Investors Authentication LLC regarding the item in review.

Description: New York Yankees Russell size 46, full-weight knit six button road gray jersey, "NEW YORK" arched on front, #2 on back both in Navy Blue outlined with white. Navy/white/Navy knit sleeve end trim sewn in. Jersey is autographed on left front "Derek Jeter Game Used 5-29-96 MLB Debut" (SIA has no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph). Jersey is affixed with two Steiner Memorabilia hologram stickers on the locker tag on front. A Steiner Collectables Letter of Authenticity accompanies the jersey. Jeter was an emergency May, 1995 call-up when shortstop Tony Fernandez and backup Pat Kelly were both injured. The team was on the road at the time, and rather than getting a brand new jersey, Jeter received a hurriedly made one made from a 1994 issue cast-off Bernie Williams road jersey.

Photo Match/Provenance: Sports Investors Authentication conclusively matched Derek Jeter wearing this exact jersey in his 1995 call-up season. We were able to reference several unique identifiers in order to conclusively match this jersey. In addition jersey comes with a Steiner Letter of Authenticity referencing that this jersey was worn for Jeter's 1995 call up season

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Russell Diamond Collection tail tagging in the proper style for the period, sewn on the outside left tail. As is correct for Yankees on-field jerseys, there is no Russell logo branding on the sleeve, and no size tag inside the neck. Beneath the Russell locker tag is sewn a rectangular piece of white cloth with very faded dot matrix printing on it that says: "51 B. Williams 94" beneath that tag is a flag of white fabric on which is printed, 100% POLYESTER. These tagging characteristics match exemplars in our database.

www.sportsinv.com Sports Investors Authentication info@sportsinv.com

Letter of Authenticity

1995 Derek Jeter New York Yankees Game Used Road Debut Jersey

Wear & Repairs: This jersey is in good condition, displaying a great deal of use and wash wear. A light table examination clearly shows the shadow of the removed 1994 MLB 125th Anniversary sleeve patch, and faintly shows the shadows of the removed #51 on back, Bernie Williams' number. Thick crusty glue remnants on the left sleeve show where the "7" memorial worn in 1995 for Mickey Mantle had been, and there are distinct markings of the presence of the black armband, also now removed. The tags on the jersey all have frayed edges from repeated washing, and the fact that the 1995 memorials have been removed suggest that this jersey may have again been re-used for the following Spring Training. Notably, the player number "2" sewn to the back is rather sloppily stitched on, not up to the normal standards of Russell for team jerseys stitched in their shop. Instead, this is typical of a clubhouse stitching job, and it was likely hurriedly done on the road, perhaps even using a take-off number from another jersey carried in the the trainer's kit of team emergency extras.

Regarding the armband: notable in game photos, Jeter's was sewn on somewhat puckered and visibly crooked, rising higher of the outside surface of the sleeve than on the underside. Again, these are reasonable signs of a clubhouse rush job. The crooked armband shadow and the placement of the memorial "7" exactly match game photos overlaid in our photo-matching process.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and its alterations are all explainable and reasonable. Its authenticity is bolstered by Jeter's inscription on front and the LOA from Steiner Auctions, as well as being photo-matched. Therefore, it is the considered opinion of Sports Investors Authentication that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Derek Jeter of the New York Yankees during his 1995 call-up season.

David Randolph
Managing Member

Bill Henderson
Lead Authenticator

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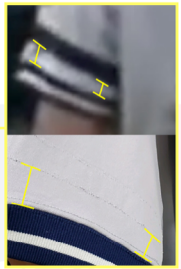
Photo Match Evaluation

1995 Derek Jeter New York Yankees Game Used Road Jersey

This letter will serve as the opinion of Sports Investors Authentication, LLC regarding the item in review.

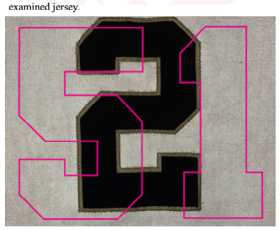
Derek Jeter in the 1995 Wild Card game on October 1, 1995.



We used multiple photos from different angles in order to conclusively photo match this jersey to being worn by Derek Jeter in the 1995 season.

Pink translucent overlay below shows alignment of shadows of the removed armband and "7" memorial overlaid on game photo.

Light table image highlights the shadows of the removed #51 of Bernie Williams from the examined jersey.



Examination Date: January 1, 2020 Certification Number: 200101D1

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Don Mattingly 1995 New York Yankees Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: February 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J26

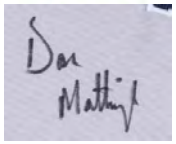
This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1995 New York Yankees Size 44, Russell full-weight double-knit six button road jersey, #23 issued to Don Mattingly. All elements match Yankees 1995 team issue specs. Navy/white/Navy knit sewn-in sleeve end trim, "NEW YORK" arched on the front in Navy outlined with white. Wilson Varsity "23" on the back in the same colors, sewn the team-spec 5 1/2" from the collar. the size of this jersey is appropriate for Mattingly. Memorial #7 stitched to the left sleeve, with a 1995-spec 3/4" black armband (armbands are usually 1", 1995's was 3/4' and sewn with a very tight 1/4 gap to the sleeve end trim; perhaps narrower trim was used because of the dual memorials used that year.) The jersey is signed by the player in black Sharpie on the left front panel below the team wordmark. I have no opinion on the autograph.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: As is correct with Yankees jerseys of this vintage, there is no embroidered Russell logo on the sleeve. There is no tag inside the neck, instead, a small 100% Polyester flag tab is pinch-sewn under the bottom edge of the locker tag, a hallmark for team issued jerseys. Also pinched below and sewn around its perimeter is a white mylar-fabric tag with MATTINGLY-95 computer-printed on it in slightly faded black ink. All of these aspects match exemplars for 1995 Yankees team-used road jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original and unaltered. The jersey is in very good condition, and shows signs of use; the flag tags and year/player tag are curled and frayed from laundering. The stitching has come loose along the bottom of the year tag.There is some minor puckering of the back numbers; there are a few small pulls in the fabric, and it has softened from use and washing, but overall the jersey is well preserved and is bright and clean.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars, has no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and sewn to team issued specifications and worn by Don Mattingly of the New York Yankees during the 1995 season.



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Letter of Professional Opinion

Alfonso Soriano 2001 New York Yankees Home Game Worn Jersey

Examination Date: December 17. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J05

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

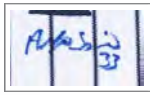
Description: 2001 New York Yankees Alfonso Soriano #33, Russell" full weight knit, size 46 white pinstripe jersey. The Yankees "NY" crest is sewn to the left chest. The player number is sewn to the back in the correct color and font. The American League 2001 100th Anniversary is sewn to the left sleeve. The jersey is autographed on the front under the NY crest in blue Sharpie, and a serialized tag referring to the autograph is attached to the back of the size tag, branded by the National Sports Autograph Network. (I have no opinion on authenticity of the autograph.)

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: Russell "Authentic Collection" manufacturer tagging sewn on the outside left front tail consistent in style with the the year of issue, 2001. The MLB Silhouetted batter patch in red, white, and blue (the tag colors used by the Yankees 2000-2009) is stitched to the outside back of the collar. 2001 Yankees jerseys are not team tagged, but team issues have no neck flag tag, and instead have the size marked on a small white mylar-cloth flag tag also printed with "100% Polyester" pinched beneath the locker tag on the tail. These aspects are consistent with other 2001 Yankees jerseys in our reference archive. Also sewn below the manufacturer tag is another flag tab: '2" Extra Length', tailoring that appears consistent with other Soriano jerseys in our exemplar library. As is correct for team-issued Yankees jerseys there is no Russell manufacturer logo embroidered on the sleeve end. This jersey lacks the back of neck flag patch and the black armband that were added to Yankees in field jerseys after the events of 9/11.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching is original and unaltered. The team and tailoring tagging flags show fading from wash wear that is consistent with use. There is some minor softening/fraying of the edges of the back numbers.

Conclusion: *While we did not attempt to perform a conclusive photo match of this jersey,* looking at the images of Soriano in the Getty Images database it is clear by distinguishing elements that he wore multiple jerseys in 2001, prior to 9/11, and that the alignment of several elements: the back numbers, front crest, buttonhole alignment on the placket, pinstripe alignment at the placket closure, sleeve patch and back-of-neck Silhouetted Batter patch may match details seen in several photos.

The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use and wash wear, and appears to have no alterations of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Alfonso Soriano of the New York Yankees during the 2001 season.



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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Masahiro Tanaka 2014 New York Yankees Road Jersey

Examination Date: December 8. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J06

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 2014 New York Yankees Size 52, Majestic Cool Base six button road jersey, #19 issued to pitcher Masahiro Tanaka. All elements match Yankees 2014 team issue specs. Navy/white/Navy knit sewn-in sleeve end trim, "NEW YORK" arched on the front in Navy outlined with white. 2014 was the first year that Yankees road jerseys were available to players made in Cool Base fabric, issued only upon player request. Wilson Varsity "19" on the back in the same colors, sewn the team-spec 5 1/2" from the collar. Navy/white/silver silhouetted batter patch on the outside back of the neck. Tanaka started 20 games in 2014, going 13-5. At 6' 3" and 215 lbs, the size of this jersey is reasonably appropriate for Tanaka.

Manufacturer and Team Labeling: The outside left front tail has the Cool Base style heat-pressed Majestic Authentic collection label, with the size tag "52" integral to the label. As is correct with Yankees jerseys of this vintage, there is no embroidered Majestic logo on the sleeve. On the inside seam is sewn the Majestic cloth/Mylar tag with the team-issue spec code "0630" printed on it, which decodes to team-issued-specification and Cool Base fabric construction. Pinched and layered with the inside seam tag is a mylar tag with "2014" printed on it. On the outside tail, a Yankees serialization label is applied, with a barcode and the serial number 0000004774. *Notably*- there are no MLB or Steiner hologram labels on this jersey. By 2014 we would note that Steiner serialization of Yankees jerseys was nearly universal on certifiable game-worn jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: The jersey is in very good condition, and shows some signs of washing; all garment tags are curled and frayed from laundering. There is some minor yellowing of the white twill layer. A light table examination shows that all sewn elements are original.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged, lettered, and numbered. It is consistent with known exemplars, and appears to have no alterations of any kind and came directly from the New York Yankees. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and sewn to team issued specifications for Masahiro Tanaka of the New York Yankees during the 2014 season.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Mariano Rivera New York Yankees 1996 Negro League Tribute Game Uniform

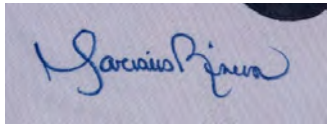
Examination Date: February 1, 2021 **Certification Number**: 21-0201J19

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray Russell size 44 full weight knit jersey and matching size 34 waist pants, issued to pitcher Mariano Rivera for the Yankees June 8, 1996 Negro Leagues Tribute game, when the team appeared as the 1934 New York Black Yankees. This is a significant uniform because on this date, for the first time in their history, the Yankees broke from their strongly-held tradition of wearing only their regular home and road uniforms agreeing to wear a special uniform on the field. The Yankees played the Detroit Tigers who suited up as the Negro League Detroit Stars. Gray jersey with extra-long sleeves, navy soutache rings the sleeve ends and the placket. "YANKEES" is spelled out in a stylized font arched across both front panels. Player number 42 on the reverse in an ornate old-time font used for this game. In only his second season with the Yankees, Rivera did not appear in this game. Jersey is signed by the player on the front left below the wordmark. I have no opinion on the authenticity of the autograph. Matching gray pants have seven belt loops, a two snap front and zipper closure, two slash pockets on the rear and similar soutache stitched down the sides of each leg with elastic at the bottom of each leg hole.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Russell Diamond Collection locker tag noting the size as 44 is stitched to the outside bottom front left tail. Pinch-sewn beneath it are two flag tags, one says 100% polyester, the other + 3" sleeve length. A sticker on the back of these tags assigns serial number A257456 from the National Sports Autograph Network. There is no accompanying certificate with this jersey. The lack of a size flag inside the back of the collar, and the presence of the small 100% Polyester tab under the locker tag are hallmarks of jerseys made for team issue vs. those made for retail sale. To our knowledge, the only jerseys in this style that exist are the ones the players wore in the game. All others we have seen are similarly autographed, and we believe they were all auctioned after the game. The pants are

Continued, overleaf



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Russell tagged as Diamond Collection size 34, and have a computer printed sewn in label in the waistband that reads RIVERA 34-32-96 (waist 34, inseam 32, 1996). There is no player-specific tagging in the the jersey, which we believe to be correct.

Wear & Repairs: These uniforms were worn for a single game, and this uniform shows only a few tiny fabric pulls and no signs of wash wear. It is possible that it has never been washed, especially since Rivera did not play in the game. A light table evaluation shows that all sewn elements are original and untampered with.

Conclusion: The uniform in review is in excellent condition, and has appropriate wear for having been worn once. It is properly lettered and numbered, and appears to have no alterations of any kind and has a team-issue style tagging. It is my considered opinion that this uniform was made to team specifications and worn by Mariano Rivera of the 1996 New York Yankees.

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Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion/Restoration

Oscar Gamble 1980 New York Yankees Game Worn Home Jersey

Examination Date: May 6. 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0506J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1980 New York Yankees, seven-button home pinstripe knit jersey. The Yankees "NY" wordmark in Navy twill is sewn to the left chest. Number 17 in one color Navy tackle twill with no name on the back in the proper font/size correct for the Yankees in the 1980 season, and the correct 5 1/2" from the collar. Jersey has the correct 1 1/8" pinstripe spacing properly used in 1980, as opposed to the 1" spacing used in 1981 and after. Size 40 is reasonable for Gamble to have worn; it matches multiple exemplars for him at this period of his career, and reasonable for him at 5' 11" and 165 lbs The inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort.

As received, this jersey has the clear ghost of a removed armband on the left sleeve end, which I restored at the request of the owner. Armbands were worn for Thurman Munson after 8/2/1979 and all through the 1980 season. It is not unusual for armbands or other year-specific patches to be removed from Yankee jerseys at the end of a season, as jerseys were regularly reissued for use in spring training, used as backup jerseys for the next season or were sent to the minor leagues. Gamble had a part-time role on the 1980 Yankees, appearing in 78 games and hit .278 with 14 home runs. His career spanned 17 years with seven teams, including two stints with the Yankees.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson was the exclusive maker of the Yankees' home jerseys in 1980. The small rectangular Wilson manufacturer/size tag noting the size as 40, is in the proper style as typically used 1978-1985 season. The tag is correctly stitched on the outside left front tail. "Gamble 80 1" is hand chain stitched in the Wilson factory tailor's familiar handwriting onto a white knit rectangular strip of fabric in a style consistent with other examples of 1980 Yankees home jerseys in our archives. The strip is then stitched into the inside back of the collar. Appropriately, the tagging has been stitched to the placket so that the zig zag stitches are not visible from the outside back of the collar. This was done at the factory, with the team tagging added prior to the collar flap being stitched closed. There is no team year tagging on the tails of Yankee jerseys in 1980.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitched elements of this jersey are original. When I received this, the back numbers were loosely held on by stitching that was failing. Without removing any of the original threads, I re-stitched the numbers only where necessary to re-secure then to the jersey. The jersey was very dirty and badly stained, almost certainly from improper storage and not exclusively game use. As a part of its rehabilitation, I pre-treated and soaked the garment before laundering it to remove the dirt and stains, and it came mostly clean. While it remains in overall good condition, it is clear that this jersey has seen a great deal of use; The placket lining cleaned up beautifully but still shows signs of sweat staining and puckering from use. The original buttons remain in place. I would judge that this jersey was used all season, and may have been used by Gamble again as a back-up jersey after 1980, as he remained with the Yankees through the 1984 season.

Above, Exemplar tagging

Above, sleeve showing clear ghost of the removed Munson armband.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits game use and wash wear, and aside from the restoration of the armband application and the reinforcing of the back number stitching, has no other alterations. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Oscar Gamble of the New York Yankees during the 1980 season.

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Back

Letter of Restoration/Letter of Professional Opinion

Yogi Berra 1977 New York Yankees Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: October 19, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1019J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 7-button knit gray size 44 Wilson-made New York Yankees jersey issued to and worn by Yankees coach Yogi Berra. "NEW YORK" crest is arched across the front in navy with a white outline in the 1977-appropriate font. Number "8" in two color navy and white tackle twill with no name on the back is correct as well. Sewn-in Navy/white/navy knit sleeve end trim. Size 44 is correct for Berra. As is consistent with Wilson jerseys, the inside of the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. The jersey is autographed in black just above the Wilson tag on the front left tail. I haver no professional opinion on the autograph's authenticity.

After a storied, 19-year (1946-1965) Hall of Fame career (the first 18 with the Yankees; his final season with the Mets), in 1976, he rejoined the Yankees as a coach. That year the team won its first of three consecutive AL titles, as well as the 1977 World Series and 1978 World Series, and (as had been the case throughout his playing days) Berra's reputation as a lucky charm was reinforced. Casey Stengel once said of his catcher, "He'd fall in a sewer and come up with a gold watch." (Wikipedia)

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Wilson manufacturer tag size 44, appropriate in style for use for the 1977 season, is sewn onto the front outside left tail of the jersey. Team collar tagging "Berra" is hand chain stitched in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher onto a rectangular strip of gray knit fabric, and then sewn properly inside the back of the collar with stitching correctly invisible from the outside back. The tag is original and unaltered. 1977 Yankees jerseys had two versions of tagging, some had player name only; others had name, 2 digit year and set number.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the tagging and all lettering on this jersey are original and without alteration. It is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed multiple times; Wilson tagging, letters and numbers show signs of burnishing from washing and use. The jersey' linen placket lining shows some yellowing and wear commensurate with use. The fonts on both front and back are exact matches to other 1977 Yankees road jerseys in our reference library. Notably, this jersey was pulled from use and preserved; the vast majority of team issued Yankees' jerseys from this season were stripped of their front crests and sent to the minor leagues to be repurposed.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly sized, tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits appropriate use. It is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by Yogi Berra of the New York Yankees during the 1977 season.

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Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Clete Boyer 1988 New York Yankees (Coach) Game Jersey

Examination Date: November 2, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-1102J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1988 seven-button size 46, full weight knit, Wilson-made gray New York Yankees road jersey of coach Clete Boyer. Navy/white/navy knit sleeve ends, NEW YORK arched on front in Navy Blue over white. On back is the number 57 which is a replacement. The light table reveals that this jersey originally wore #40, which was Boyer's number in 1988 (Wikipedia). As is typical of Wilson jerseys, the placket is lined with linen for player comfort. Size 46 is consistent with other jerseys attributed to Boyer, post-playing career.

Boyer had played third base for the Yankees 1959-1966. After retirement as a player, he returned as a coach for the Yankees during Billy Martin's several managerial tenures with the club. Clete was the brother of Cardinal star Ken Boyer,

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson "Prestige Teams" manufacturer tagging sewn on the outside left front tail that is consistent with the the year of issue. Pinch-sewn under the side of the tag is a small size tab noting the jersey as a size 46. Inside the back of the neck is a rectangular double-knit gray tag with BOYER-88-2 machine embroidered in Navy script, tagging sewn in place prior to the placket of the jersey being sewn closed as is correct for team issue. This tagging consistent with other 1988 Yankees jerseys in our reference archives. Contractually there is no manufacturer logo embroidered on the sleeve end. The jersey has a tiny STEINER *Yankees Collection* hologram sticker on the front tail tag. Steiner provided distribution for Yankee game jerseys in this period. The label is not serialized.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all stitching on front and the team and manufacturer tagging is original and unaltered. The back number has been replaced with numbers that are not the exactly correct font for the MLB Yankees, this was likely a spring training reissue. The tagging is wrinkled from use, indicating multiple washings.There are a couple of stains on the back of the left sleeve. The jersey is free from damage and is in very good, used condition.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in very good condition with a number change on back, and appears to have no other alterations of any kind. It has a team-issue style tagging and moderate wear. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made for and worn by coach Clete Boyer of the 1988 New York Yankees.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

Back

Letter of Professional Opinion

Chris Hammond 2003 New York Yankees Game Used Road Jersey, World Series

Examination Date: November 26, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-1126J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Majestic road gray, size 50 (marked and measured), six-button full-weight knit, #39 New York Yankees jersey. "NEW YORK" is arched in tackle twill across the front in Navy with a white outline in the period-appropriate font. Number "39" in two color Navy and white tackle twill with no name on the back is correct for the Yankees. A light table evaluation shows that the numbers on back are original. The Yankees' 100th Anniversary patch is stitched to the left sleeve, and the 2003 World Series patch is on the right sleeve. The jersey has two flag tags noting special tailoring: +2" extra length and -1" body taper. Examples of other Hammond game jerseys have proven elusive, but the size is reasonable for the 6' 1" 195 lb. Player. The jersey length is 33" from the top of the collar to the end of the back tail. This does not reflect the additional length as marked on the tag. The lack of body taper is noted.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: A period-correct Majestic Authentic Collection manufacturer tag, with both size "50" and a white 100% polyester tab, along with the two aforementioned special tailoring tags, are sewn into the front outer left tail of the jersey. As is correct for on-field Yankees jerseys of this vintage, there is no Majestic logo embroidered to the sleeve. A rectangular cloth tag is straight stitched below the jock tag with "2003" printed on it, matching exemplars. Normally, on the inside side seam, a white garment style tag would be pinch-sewn, showing the model number of the garment, however this tag is missing and is most likely a result of the garment being taper tailored as noted. The MLB Silhouetted Batter patch in red-white-blue is stitched to the back of the neck, as used by the Yankees 2000-2009. There is a tiny, unserialized Steiner tag adhered to the jock tag on this jersey to support its origin; generally game-worn Yankees jerseys from this time have such a sticker. This time period pre-dates the bar coding of team-issued jerseys.

Wear & Repairs: It is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times; the lettering and numbers shows signs of puckering, heavy wash-burnishing and frayed fibers around the edges from repeated use. The wash-wear to the tagging is significant, the bottom edge of the team year tag has come loose; this jersey has clearly received a full-season of use. The Yankees appeared in the 2003 World Series, and while the team was issued a new set of uniforms for the postseason, it was not uncommon to have postseason event patches sewn on a regular season jersey in case a backup jersey was needed. As such, it is unlikely that this jersey was worn in the Series, but not impossible.

Conclusion: I would conclude that this is the 2003 regular-season game-used jersey of Yankees pitcher Chris Hammond with the 2003 World Series patch likely added to make it available as a backup jersey. It shows strong use, is all original and properly lettered without contrivance. It has the proper characteristics to be team issued. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Chris Hammond of the 2003 New York Yankees.

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Letter of Professional Opinion

Dick Howser (Coach) 1973 New York Yankees Game Used Road Jersey

Examination Date: December 8. 2020 **Certification Number**: 20-1217J09

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 7-button knit gray size 40 knit New York Yankees jersey issued to and worn by third base coach Dick Howser. "NEW YORK" is arched in tackle twill across the front in navy with a white outline in the 1973-appropriate font. His number "34" in two color navy and white tackle twill with no name on the back is correct as well. Back numbers are widely spaced as was typical of 1973 issues. Sewn-in Navy/white/navy knit sleeve end trim. The jersey is lined inside the placket with white linen, typical of Wilson-made Yankee knit jerseys. 1973 was the first year that the team wore double-knit jerseys, replacing their traditional flannels. The Yankees were among the last teams in baseball to switch away from flannels.

Dick Howser enjoyed an eight year MLB career 1961-1968 as an infielder for the Athletics, Indians and Yankees. He is best known for managing the Kansas City Royals during the 1980s and leading them to their first championship in 1985. Following his playing career, he immediately joined the Yankees as their third base coach for ten seasons, 1969- 1978.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Wilson manufacturer tag size 40, appropriate for use for the 1973 season, is sewn onto the front outside left tail of the jersey. Team collar tagging "Howser 73 Set 1" is hand chain stitched in navy embroidery thread in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher, onto a rectangular strip of gray knit fabric, and then sewn properly inside the back of the collar with stitching invisible from the outside back. The tag is original and unaltered.

Restoration Performed: Typical of Yankees jerseys of the 1970s, this one was certainly sent to the minor leagues when its MLB service was through. The MLB "New York" wordmark was stripped and replaced by "Yankees". In 1974, the Yankees had four minor league clubs, and three of them were named "Yankees". The back numbers are original and remain untouched on the jersey. Stripping the minor league front lettering, the ghost of the 1973 NEW YORK wordmark was clearly evident. The jersey was hand laundered. Using the original team pattern, I recreated it, then aged it with media blasting and organic dyeing and stitched it exactly overtop the original ghosts using off-white thread to make it better match the patina of the rest of the aged garment.

Wear & Repairs: A light table evaluation shows that the back numbers on this jersey is original and without alteration. It is clear that this jersey has been worn and washed many times; the numbers show signs of minor puckering, fading, burnishing and loose threads from repeated washing and use. The jersey' linen placket lining shows dirt and wear commensurate with at least a season's worth of use.

Continued, overleaf

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Top: As received. Back numbers are original, but front crest has been replaced for minor league use. Below, with the MiLB crest removed, the ghosts of the original font crest are evident.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It exhibits good use. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine and was worn by coach Dick Howser of the 1973 New York Yankees.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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Chapter 41

All-Star Game BP/Home Run Derby

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

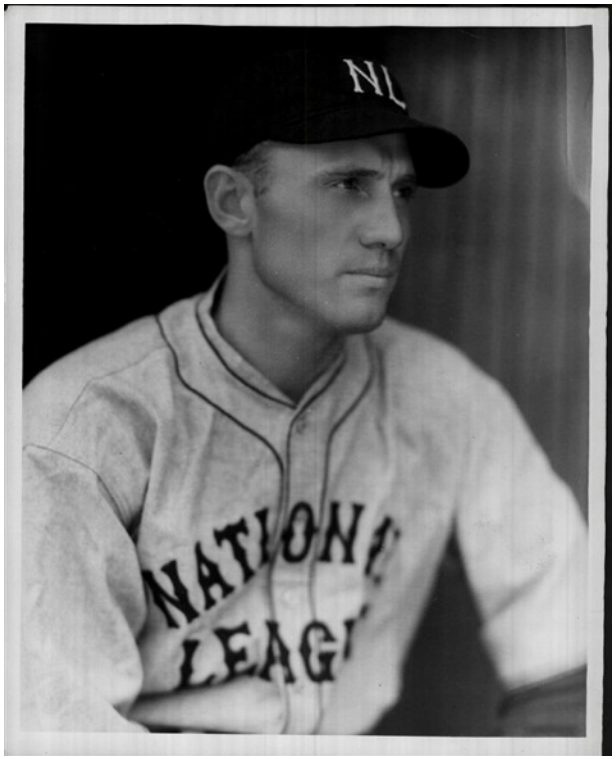
1933 – The First All-Star Game

The paragraphs below are excerpted from Baseball Almanac https://www.baseball-almanac.com/asgbox/yr1933as.shtml

Baseball's newest contribution to the romance of American sports, the All-Star Game, made its debut on July 6, 1933, at Chicago's Comiskey Park. It was initiated at the insistence of Arch Ward, a sports editor for the Chicago Tribune, to coincide with the celebration of the city's "Century of Progress" Exposition. By the 1930's, baseball had already established itself as America's favorite pastime and the national exposition provided the perfect stage to introduce baseball's best to the rest of the country. Many did not believe that a contest of this magnitude could possibly live up to the fans' expectations, especially for those who lived in the far western states and had never been to a Major League baseball game.

The novel idea of a single game made up of the most exciting assemblage of ball-playing talent ever brought together on the diamond at one time, seemed too good to be true. In 1933 and 1934, All-Star teams were selected by the managers and the fans. The National League's manager John McGraw and American League's Connie Mack were chosen to lead a line-up of big hitters including Lou Gehrig, Jimmie Foxx, Al Simmons and the one and only Babe Ruth. "We wanted to see the Babe," said Bill Hallahan, the National League starter. "Sure, he was old and had a big waistline, but that didn't make any difference. We were on the same field as Babe Ruth."

With fellow All-Star Charlie Gehringer on first in the bottom of the third, The Babe drove one into the right-field stands, the first homer in All-Star history. The crowd, according to one account, "roared in acclamation" and the first All-Star Game, won by the American League on the strength of Ruth's homer, was a resounding success.



Left: Carl Hubbell of the Giants and Lefty Grove of the Philadelphia A's. In the first All-Star game in 1933, the NL All-Stars wore special "National League" jerseys, while their AL counterparts wore their own team home jerseys. Beginning the next year, both teams wore their own jerseys, and have continued to do so ever since.

Special thanks to Rob Holecko, who assisted with the research for this chapter

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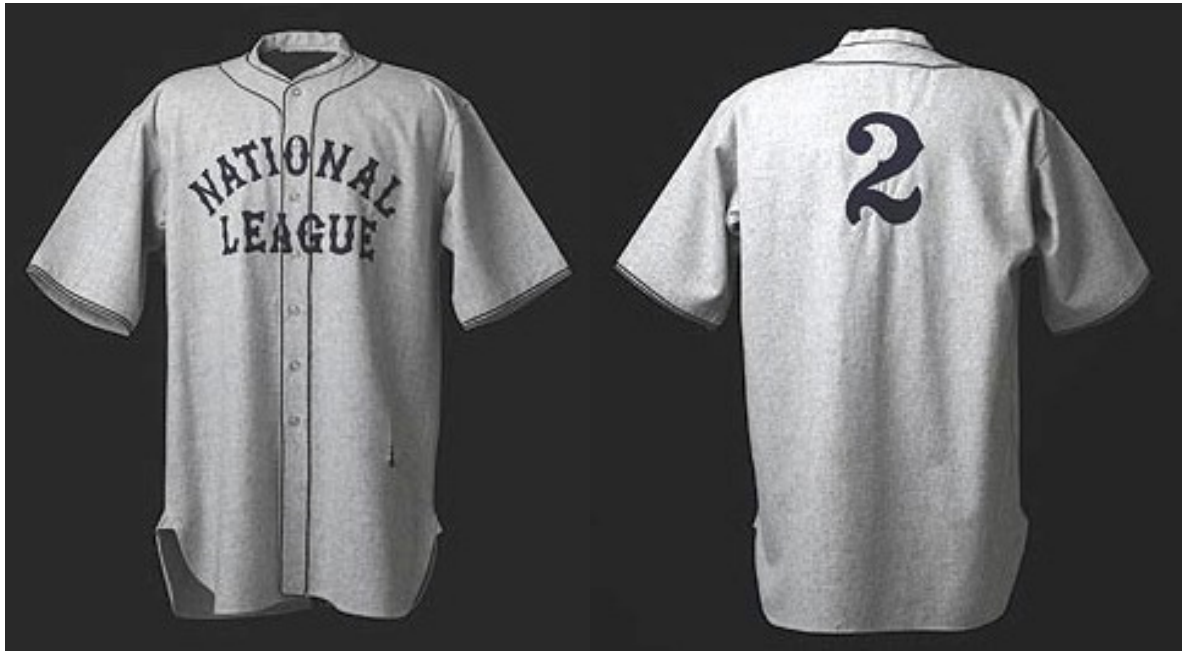

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All-Star Game Attire

1974 AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM - Seated in front: Greg Diulus, batboy. **Bottom row:** Bobby Murcer, Cookie Rojas, Bobby Grich, Jack McKeon, coach; Earl Weaver, coach; Dick Williams, manager; Whitey Herzog, coach; Brooks Robinson, Al Kaline, Dave Chalk, Carlton Fisk (on injured list). **Middle row:** Frank Robinson, George Hendrick, Jeff Burroughs, Bert Campaneris, John Hiller, Reggie Jackson, Darrell Porter, Thurman Munson, Jim Sundberg, Carl Yastrzemski, Don Money, John Mayberry, Freddie Frederico, trainer. **Top row:** Jackie Moore, batting practice pitcher; Luis Tiant, Joe Rudi, Jim Hunter, Wilbur Wood, Rod Carew, Rollie Fingers, Mike Cuellar, Gaylord Perry, Steve Busby, Harry Dunlop, batting practice catcher. (Dick Allen was absent when photo was taken.)

Aside from that first All-Star Game in 1933 where the NL team wore common jerseys, the "Midsummer Classic" has long featured a symphony of colors and styles, with each team member wearing the full home or road uniform of his regular team. This is unlike any other team event in American sports. For those of us growing up in the 1970s and 1980s, scenes like the ones on this page are what the Baseball All-Star Game was all about. How proud we were to see OUR players on the field on OUR uniforms during the game!

Because it is considered an exhibition contest and not a league game, players are allowed to wear some uniform accessories that they normally are not. Most notably are the wild selection of shoes one sees in the game… for many years it has seemed that every player used the contest as a chance to wear non-team issued white shoes.

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Claimed 1977 All-Star Batting Practice

All I know about this jersey is presented right here. It is autographed and was auctioned represented as a BP jersey from the 1977 All-Star Game. Everything on this jersey is screened on. I would note that 1977 was about the very first year that any team started wearing team-issued warm-ups for any reason. I see no mention of its manufacturer, and no tagging is visible I cannot comment to the authenticity of this, and we will continue to look for other examples.

The **LIVE** Auction is open for online pre-bidding until **Monday, September 18 at 10pm EST** . High Bids & Ceiling Bids placed during the pre-bidding period will be executed competitively during the Live Auction. Additional arrangements for phone & absentee bidding are being accepted at 610.524.0822 or info@huntauctions.com.

Lot Number: 25

Description: *Mike Schmidt autographed professional model batting practice jersey attributed to c.1977 All-Star Game. Wilson size L pullover jersey with "National" across the front, along with "SCHMIDT" and #20 on the back. Schmidt signed the front in silver marker rating 8 out of 10, and signed the back in blue marker rating 6/7 out of 10. Minor stains on the back numbers. Originally obtained by a collector who received items directly from players and team employees in the period, and includes letter of provenance from the original recipient and LOA from Hunt Auctions: EX/MT*

Estimated Price Range: ($1,000-$2,000)

Current Bid: $ 1,100.00
Next Minimum Bid: $ 1,210.00
Enter either the Next Minimum Bid or your Ceiling/Maximum Bid.
Your Bid: $ SUBMIT

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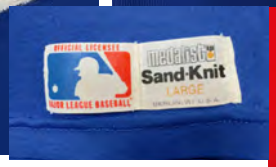
1982-83 All-Star Game Warm-ups?

I admit that I know nothing about these, except that Mitchell & Ness used to sell replicas of them at one point. They carry Sand-Knit tag that was used (by my estimation) in 1984-1985. I believe the front logo is screened on, not a patch. The tail tagging that says “1983 All-Star” mirrors the style of team tagging used by Sand-Knit for teams in those years. I haven’t a single photo that shows these being worn by players. The ones on the left inexplicably have the 1982 All-Star patch on the left sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

1982-83 All-Star Game Warm-ups?



Photos of some more examples of these were unearthed by collector Steve Kraljic, including the first example we have seen of the red American League version. Everything on these jerseys is screened on, including the sleeve patches. The AL version has a crew-neck collar, unlike the V-Neck of the NL jersey. Recall that in the early 1980s, Sand Knit had limited rights to make "authentic replicas" prior to Rawlings getting the official nod for the 1987 season, as discussed in an earlier chapter. We can assume that their rights to make replica versions of the All-Star warm-ups. Whatever the circumstances, these certainly were not widely distributed, as examples are certainly uncommon, at best.

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Starting 1997: All-Star Game BP/Home Run Derby

In 1997, Major League Baseball introduced league-specific BP jersey for players to wear during warm ups before the All-Star game each year. The All-Star BP jerseys generally have reflected common design elements of the host team, such as host team colors, or player name and number fonts, and usually include the All-Star game logo/ patch somewhere on the uniform.

The Home Run Derby's participants wear the official All-Star BP jersey during that contest, and watching this popular televised event is where most people see the All-Star jerseys being worn.

From the first Home Run Derby in 1985 through 1996, All-Star participants wore their own team jerseys or BP gear.

Because I have not considered these "game jerseys," I did not include them in this guide in the past . However, the request to include them has been the single most frequent reader comment over the years.

On the pages that follow I will provide a look at the All-Star jerseys for both leagues from 1997 to 2025.

More information:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Home_Run_Derby

Right: *Mark McGwire in the 1996 HR Derby contest in Philadelphia, wearing his Oakland A's uniform. This was the year before official All-Star jerseys were worn by all players.*

© GameWornGuides.com

1997 All-Star BP

The AL jersey is red with navy front knit trim and the NL is the reverse, navy with red knit trim. Player -worn jerseys feature two-color Varsity lettering for the number and name on the back, retail versions often have one-color lettering.
The front wordmark incorporates the 1997 All-Star logo below the second “A” in “American” to the right side on the AL jersey, while the NL jersey has the logo to the left side, under the last “A” in National.
The jerseys feature the Jackie Robinson 50th Anniversary patch on the right sleeve and the player’s team patch on the left sleeve. The only thing “borrowed” from the host Cleveland Indians are the team colors of red and blue.
Note that the 1997 All-Star jersey does not include the same All-Star patch worn by the host Indians on their uniforms during the season.

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1998 All-Star BP

The AL jersey is black and the NL jersey is green, and both have purple knit trim on placket and the sleeve ends. For 1998, the jersey again uses standard Block name lettering and Varsity numbers, this time both are two-color, white/ purple. Material is a shiny lightweight micromesh knit fabric.

The jerseys feature the 1998 All-Star Game logo patch on the right sleeve and the player's team patch on the left sleeve.

Both jerseys feature a Colorado Rockies mountain logo element for the second "A" in the front wordmark . Retail jerseys often have single-color lettering.

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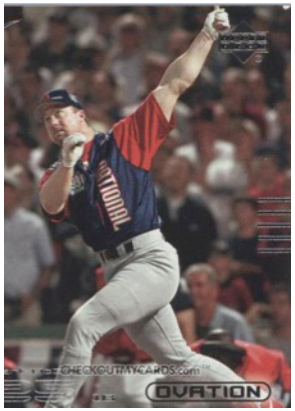
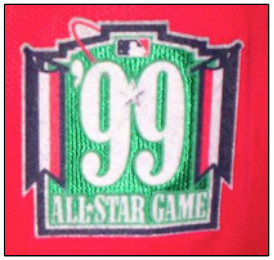
1999 All-Star BP

The 1999 version of the All-Star jerseys are sleeveless vests with contrasting-color undershirts.
The AL jersey is red with a navy undershirt, while the NL is the reverse. These jerseys use a distinctive vertical lettering style in metallic silver twill with the same theme as the “Turn Ahead The Clock” jerseys of the same year, and the same font as used in that game by the White Sox and a couple of others. These jerseys feature a 1999 All-Star Game logo appliqué on the right front, but oddly *not* the one the Red Sox players had been wearing on their sleeves all season.





Another different All-Star game logo is screened on the undershirt left sleeve. The player’s team patch is smaller and in an unusual place-on the back below the collar.

© GameWornGuides.com

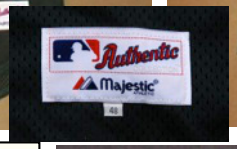
2000 All-Star BP

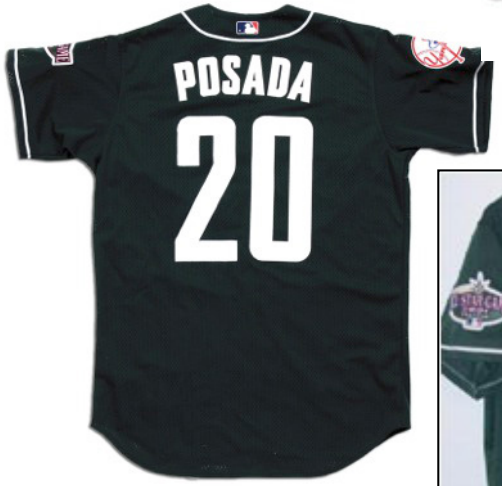
Sleeveless vests are used again in 2000. The AL jersey is red with navy undershirt sleeves. The NL is again navy with red undershirt sleeves. Again, a stylized font is used for player numbers which are extra tall.

The jerseys also feature shoulder seam piping in the contrasting (navy-red, red-navy) color. The player's team logo is on the undershirt left sleeve, This year the All-Star game logo patch does not appear at all on the BP jerseys, however the year "2000" is sewn in the style of the logo and appears on the front of both jerseys; above the "National" and below the "American" wordmarks.

© GameWornGuides.com

2001 All-Star BP





The 2001 jerseys are dark green for the AL and deep red for the NL. They use the same player number font as 2000. All jerseys feature the individual player's team logo on the right sleeve and the All-Star Game patch on the left sleeve. Both AL and NL jerseys feature white front and sleeve knit trim. The Mariners add their hometown touch by using their compass symbol in a vapor trail on the fronts of both teams' jerseys.

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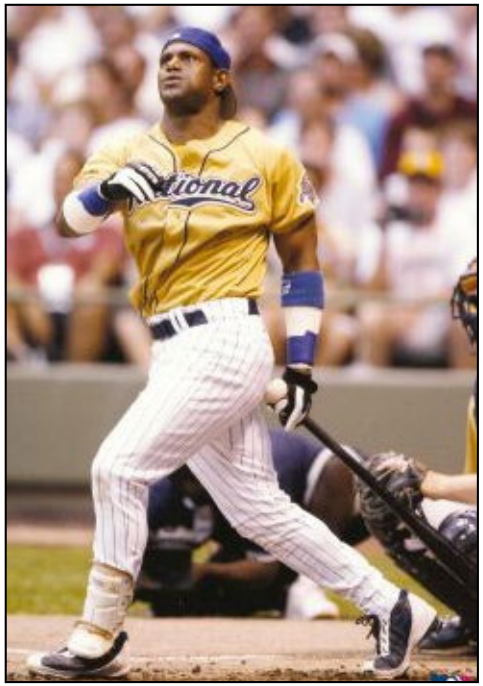
2002 All-Star BP



For the 2002 game in Milwaukee, team jerseys have a decidedly “Brewers” look. Blue for the National League and gold for the American League, the name and number on back are in the Brewers’ own lettering font (though in one-color only). The All-Star game patch is on the left sleeve and the player’s individual team patch on the right.

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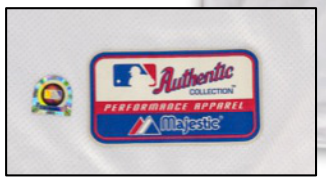
2003 All-Star BP



The 2003 All-Star Game is hosted by the Chicago White Sox, and the team jerseys have several elements that are related to the team.

The National League jersey is black and the American League white, both with gray trim and lettering elements in White Sox colors. The front wordmarks are in an old-timey font that inspired by the National League's jerseys from the inaugural All-Star Game, also held in Chicago, in 1933 (a photo of that jersey is below for reference).

As in past years, the All-Star Game patch is on the left sleeve and the player's individual team patch is on the right.

The first Cool Base All-Star jerseys, these feature piping along the sleeve from the collar to the sleeve end and also have under-arm Cool Base style panels of a contrasting color.

Press reports of the time indicated that these were to be used in the game as well, just like the NL did 50 years prior. After player criticism, the idea was scrapped, and players wore their own team jerseys, as had been long-standing custom. MLB planned the same for 2004, but it did not come to pass.

A 1933 National League All-Star Game jersey, the inspiration for the font used on jersey fronts in 2003.

© GameWornGuides.com

2004 All-Star BP

The Astros host the 2004 All-Star game, and lend their 1965-1974 shooting star element to the National League jersey, and the prominent front chest star of their 1975-1993 uniform to the American League jersey.

The 2004 jerseys are black (American) and white (National) and use the Astros' brick red trim. The jerseys use a standard Block lettering style as they had in 2003. The lettering is sand/brick (AL) and brick/black (NL). The jerseys also feature red and beige striping along the sleeves from collar to cuff.

Once again, the All--Star Game patch is sewn on the left sleeve and the player's home team logo patch is on the right.

© GameWornGuides.com

2005 All-Star BP

In an odd touch, many players born outside the U.S. have their national flags sewn above the wordmark of their jerseys. In 2005, MLB is pushing baseball hard as an international sport, and this to me is a bit over the top.

The 2005 All-Star jerseys are in the colors of the host team Tigers, navy and orange. Standard white single-color lettering used for the player name, but a unique italic font number font for the number, navy /white (NL) and white/orange (AL). The All-Star Game patch remains sewn on the left sleeve and the player's home team logo patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2006 All-Star BP

Pittsburgh hosts the 2006 All-Star Game, and the team BP jerseys bear more than a passing resemblance to Pirates jerseys. Colors and fonts of both wordmarks and player numbers are all lifted right from the Pirates style book. Again, the All-Star patch is seen on the left sleeve, and the logo patch of the individual player's team is on the right sleeve.

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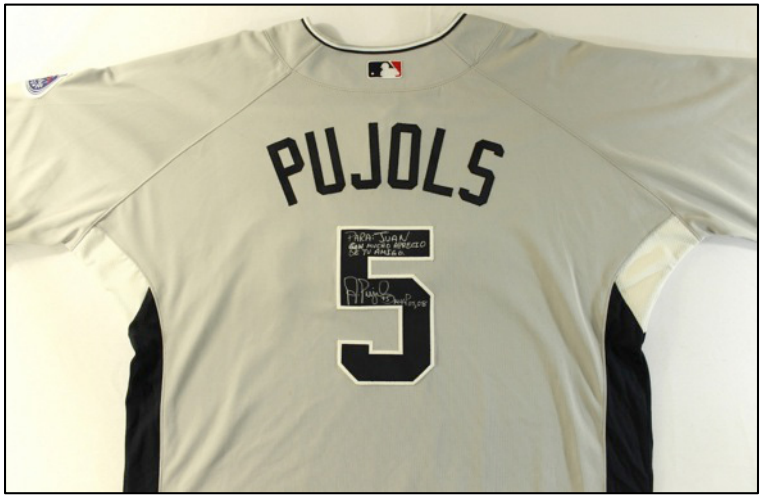
2007 All-Star BP

The 2007 All-Star jerseys are in orange and black, the colors of the host team, the San Francisco Giants. Standard black or white single-color lettering is used for the name, and a unique font that looks quite similar to the Cubs font is used for the player number, in either black or orange with white outlines. For the second year in a row, the jersey has a Cool Base-style under-arm panel.

The All-Star Game patch is retained on the left sleeve and the player's team logo patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2008 All-Star BP



The 2008 All-Star jerseys use the gray, navy and white scheme of the host team Yankees. The front wordmarks feature the subtle design element of the Yankee Stadium upper deck façade, and use the Yankees' Varsity style numbers on the reverse. Again the jersey features the Cool Base-style under-arm panel.

The All-Star Game patch remains on the left sleeve as has become the tradition, and the player's team logo patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

© GameWornGuides.com

2009 All-Star BP

The St. Louis Cardinals host the 2009 Midsummer Classic, and both of the teams' batting jerseys use a navy, red, blue-gray, and white scheme.

Names and numbers on back are in the same font as the Cardinals, and front wordmarks are in a Cardinals-like script, have a bat running across the front just like Cardinals' jerseys do, and both feature an image of the St. Louis arch. These jerseys have the Cool Base-style under-arm panel.

The official All-Star patch remains on the left sleeve and the player's team logo patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

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2010 All-Star BP

The 2010 All-Star BP jerseys borrow the navy and red color scheme of the hosting Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. Player numbers are in the Angels' special font. Wordmarks for both leagues borrow the Angels' general wordmark style, and both feature a halo over the first letter of the word.

The All-Star Game patch is again sewn on the left sleeve and the player's team logo patch is again sewn on the right sleeve.

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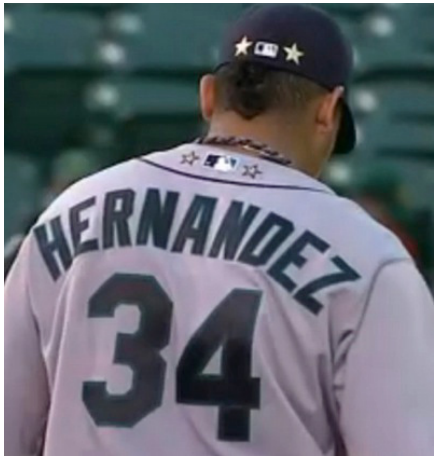
2011 All-Star Game: Collar Stars



07/01/11 11:44 AM ET
All-Stars to wear stars before the big game
By Mark Newman / MLB.com
For the first time, players chosen for the All-Star Game will be distinguished by uniform for regular season games. During the July 4-10 games leading up to the 2011 All-Star break, any players selected for the 82nd Midsummer Classic on July 12 in Phoenix will wear caps and jerseys adorned with stars. Rosters will be announced at noon ET Sunday during the 2011 MLB All-Star Game Selection Show Presented by Taco Bell on TBS.

Two gold stars, outlined with team colors, will be affixed to either side of the MLB silhouetted batter logo on the back of the jersey for all games July 4-10, as well as the back of the cap for all games July 5-10. You will be able to get this look, because during that tribute week, the MLB.com Shop will have those special-star MLB Authentic Collection jerseys from Majestic and caps from New Era.

In addition to the 66 players who are announced Sunday, fans will add the 34th men for each team via the 10th annual All-Star Game Final Vote Sponsored by Sprint. One player from the American League and one from the National League will be chosen from that ballot, which launches at 1 p.m. ET Sunday, and after being announced as winners at 5 p.m. ET on Thursday, they will have their uniforms distinguished with those stars for games through July 10.

Starting July 4, 2011, players who are selected for the 2011 MLB All-Star Game are eligible to wear small stars on their jersey collars, on either side of the MLB Silhouetted Batter patch. The jersey stars are gold with contrasting color outline specially matched for each team. Caps with plain gold stars without outlines and the 2011 All-Star Game patches for are also provided for the players.

Uni-Watch (my favorite source for all important news items such as this one) had reported that the Yankees and Cardinals refused to apply the stars, that Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw did not want to wear the stars and asked them removed (after removing the stars from his hat by himself), and Orioles representative Matt Wieters, who removed his as a “team gesture” according to manager Buck Showalter. The idea was not repeated in subsequent years, though the stars were still worn for the All-Star Game only through 2016.

Star-less Yankees All-Star Derek Jeter

Indians’ Jersey Stars

(This page also appears in the Commemorative Patches Chapter)

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2011-2016 All-Star Collar Stars as Worn in the All-Star Game

Through 2016, the stars are worn by players in the All-Star game itself. The stars are two-color and are color coded to match each team uniform. These two jerseys were ones actually worn in the All-Star Game. Notice that they have the All-Star patch on the right sleeve

© GameWornGuides.com

2011 All-Star BP

The 2011 All-Star BP jerseys use the color scheme of the host Arizona Diamondbacks. They used a unique lettering style, with single-color (black or red) names, and player numbers in the Diamondbacks' special font.

The All-Star Game patch remains on the left sleeve and the player's team logo patch was again on the right sleeve.

For the first time, a special patterned twill is used for player numbers on game jerseys, here resembling the skin of a Diamondback snake, for style, but also presumably to foil counterfeiters.

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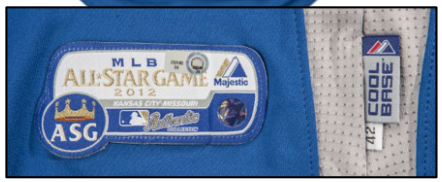
2012 All-Star BP



The Kansas City Royals play host to the 2012 All-Star game, and following recent tradition, the BP jerseys borrow more than a few design elements from the host team's uniforms. In this case, jerseys in the Royals' "Atlantic Blue" with white trim were worn by the American League team. National League players wore royal blue jerseys with "Yankee Gray" side panels and trim.

The front wordmarks feature gold stars dotting the "I's." Official All-Star patch is sewn on the left sleeve, and each player's home team patch is sewn on the right sleeve.

Carrying over into 2012 is a special pattern being incorporated into the player numbers on the back of the uniforms, a trick first seen in 2011. The pattern for this year's game is a montage of baseball images associated with this year's contest. Crowns, stars and streaks; "KC" cap logos, silhouettes of baseball players, tiny baseball diamonds and the All-Star Game 2012 wordmark logo are hidden in there. Close-up details of that pattern is shown as background, here.

© GameWornGuides.com

2013 All-Star BP

The Mets host in 2013, and carrying on the theme, the official jerseys for the game have a Mets influence. Starting with the colors of blue and orange for the American Leaguers, reversed for the National League jersey. Player numbers are in the Mets' Block font, and both the All-Star patch and the jersey-front wordmark feature the New York skyline, the prominent element in the Mets team logo. The blue twill used for player numbers has a star-pattern throughout, as shown below.

© GameWornGuides.com

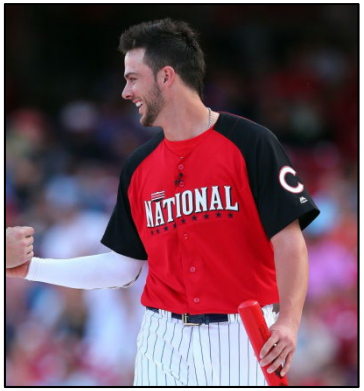
2014 All-Star BP

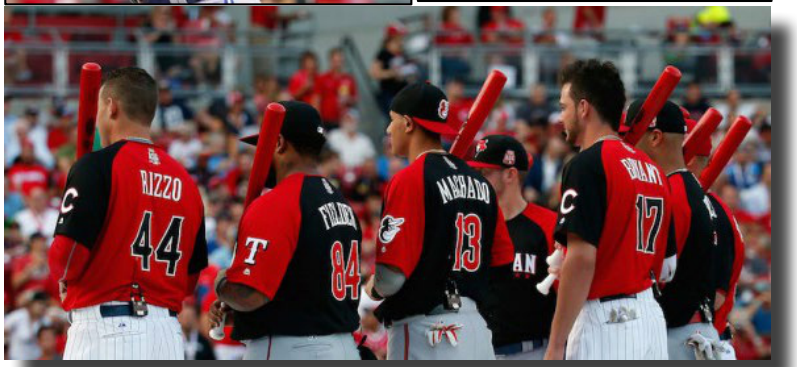
The Twins play host to the 2014 game, and the jerseys are red and blue, the Twins major colors. One problem: *Both teams' jerseys are red and blue*–as shown to the left, only switched back-to-front depending which team they play for. This is just fine when everyone on the team is facing the same direction, but highly confusing when everyone is on the field together. Player name and number fonts are the same as used by the Twins, the official All-Star patch features the Minneapolis skyline and a silhouette of Target Field. But the jersey wordmark, for the first time since 2005, does not contain a noticeably "home team" design element. All-Star patch on the left sleeve, team patch on the right.

© GameWornGuides.com

2015 All-Star BP

Both leagues' jerseys carry the colors and player name/number fonts and design cues of the host Cincinnati Reds. Luckily, 2014's confusing back/front color switch scheme is not repeated. Jerseys are made using the Majestic BP jersey pattern, and tagged as "Cool Base." Front wordmark for both teams is a rather large piece of red or black twill, with sewn on twill letters and applique stars, and the twill is then sewn to the jersey front. Red or black ASG patch is sewn to the back of the neck, and each player's team secondary logo is sewn to the left sleeve. Oddly, the official 2015 All-Star patch is not sewn on these jerseys.





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2016 All-Star BP

These jerseys are Cool Base, not Flex Base in construction.

The San Diego Padres host the 2016 contest, and choose their memorable 1970s style sheet and palate of colors for the game's warmup jerseys. American league jerseys are "Padre Gold" with "Padre Brown" sleeves and side panels. National League jerseys are exactly the opposite in construction. The 2016 All-Star patch is on the right sleeve, and each player's home team logo is on the left sleeve, in combinations of yellow, brown and red/orange twill.

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2016 Jersey Hem Signatures/Stars as Worn in the All-Star Game

For 2016 only, each All-Star's jersey for the game not only had stars applied to the back of the collar, as seen on the previous page, but also had the player's own signature applied to the bottom right hem of the jersey in gold, along with gold stars, one for each of his All-Star Game appearances. These can be seen in the pregame photo at far left, while the images at left shows the signature and stars for 10-time All-Star David Ortiz. Aside from the few who were in the park for pregame workouts, this detail was invisible to all viewers as soon as the players tucked their jerseys in for the game. The "feature" only lasted one season.

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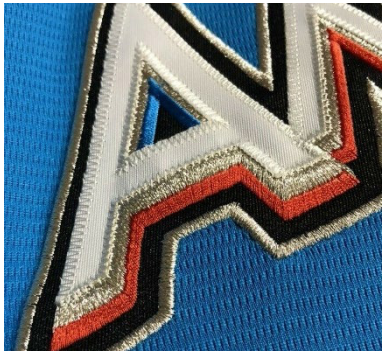
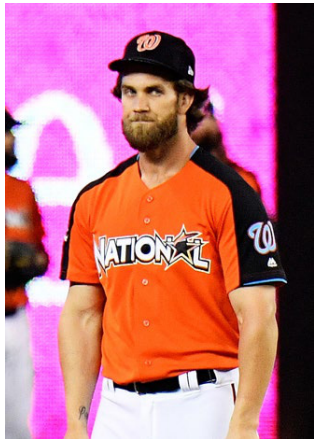
2017 All-Star BP

The 2017 All-Star Game lands in Miami, and Miami's bright colors are on full display. Borrowed from the hosting Marlins, the AL wears teal Cool Base jerseys with black sleeves while the NL gets orange Cool Base jerseys with black sleeves. Both sides have team patches on the left sleeve and the 2017 All-Star Game patch on right, white names on back, and black/white back numbers in the Marlins' custom font. Front wordmarks are an elaborate combo of twill and embroidery, just like the Marlins' own jerseys.





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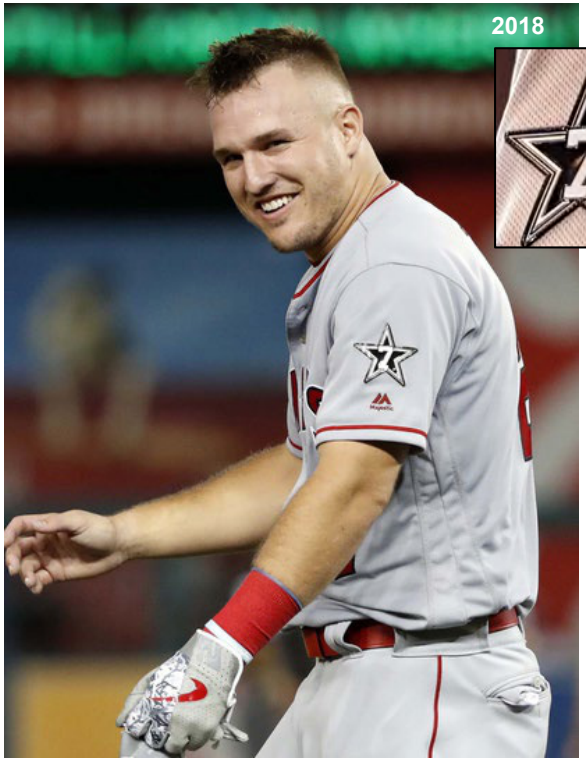
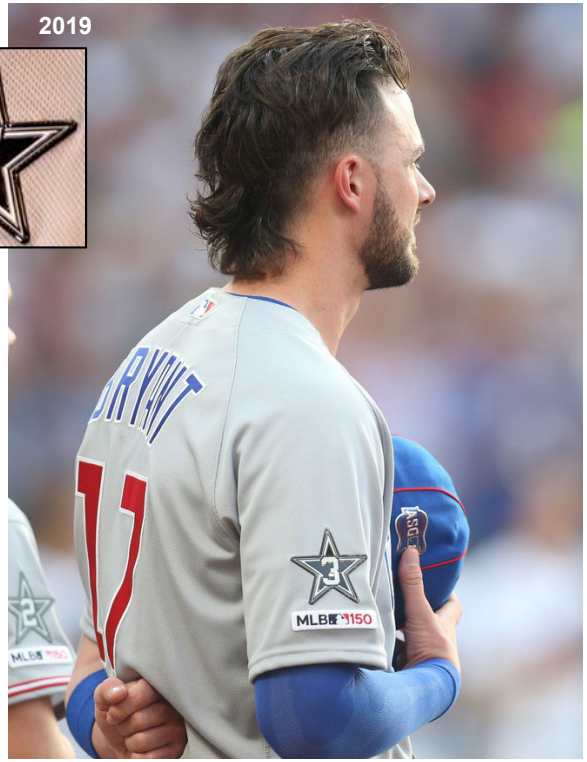
2017-2019 Star Sleeve Patch as Worn in the All-Star Game





Starting in 2017, collar stars (and jersey-tail signatures and stars) give way to a CFX patch, shaped like a star, displaying the number of times a player has appeared in the All-Star game. The patch is black and gold in 2017, then changes to black and sliver for 2018-2019. During the game, it is worn on the left sleeve in 2017-2018, and the right sleeve in 2019.

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2018 All-Star BP

Held in Washington, DC, the 2018 All-Star game again borrows the host team's colors and iconography for the All-Star BP jerseys, and DC's image, of course, focuses on its role as the U.S. capital. The AL wore blue, the NL red, and each team's jersey had the other color around the neck in a faux collar design, as well as in wide stripes up the side of the jersey. Both jerseys also had a center side stripe in white with silver stars. Both team's front logos incorporate printed twill with script that, according to *The Washington Post*, comes from an essay by baseball historian John Thorn ("Baseball is not a conventional industry. It belongs neither to the players nor management, but to all of us. It is our national pastime, our national symbol and our national treasure."). The "American" wordmark features the Washington Monument while the "National" League displays the dome of the U.S. Capitol. Both teams use white player names and gray/white back numbers in the Nationals' font, with team logos on left sleeve in red and white for the AL and blue and white for the NL. The right sleeve bears the CFX All-Star Game logo patch.

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2019 All-Star BP

The 2019 All Star Game, held in Cleveland, again borrows the host team's color scheme – red for AL, navy for NL – here in a sleeveless Cool Base jersey. Both sides have their league affiliation on front in a guitar-shaped graphic (a nod to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's presence in Cleveland), with the AL lettering blue/silver, and NL red/silver. Both sides have player names in light gray with numbers in medium gray/light gray Block. A CFX rubberized patch bearing an alternate version of the ASG logo is sewn on the back of the jersey collar, and each player's team's logo patch, reduced to blue/white for AL teams and red/white for NL teams is sewn on the right chest. Players wear gray shirts under the jersey.

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2019 Tyler Skaggs Patch in All-Star Game

Soon after the death of Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs, each All-Star wore a black “45” patch on the right chest of their game uniforms in Skaggs’ honor. His former teammates Mike Trout and Tommy La Stella also wore 45 as their uniform numbers for the game. The patches were adhesive, so several fell off during the game, and at least one player wore it on his cap instead.

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2021 All-Star Workout Day

Post-pandemic, MLB changed things up for the All-Star week festivities as far as uniforms go. Rather than a dedicated BP jersey for Workout Day and practice, all participants wore their home uniforms for these events. The one special element was universal recognition for the recently deceased legend, Hank Aaron, in the form of all uniformed personnel wearing his uniform number 44. (Perhaps it is a preview of things to come if MLB ever declares an annual Hank Aaron day as it has for Jackie Robinson and Roberto Clemente.) MLB auctioned off the jerseys in support of the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation, which Aaron started with his wife Billye in the hope of inspiring young people to develop their skills and pursue their passions.

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2021 All-Star Game

In a disappointing break of longstanding tradition (which was suggested as far back as 2003 but scrapped), the “BP” jerseys moved from the Workout Day and Home Run Derby into the All-Star Game itself. For the 2021 game, MLB and Nike introduced completely new uniforms for the Midsummer Classic, featuring a two-color logo and one-color abbreviated wordmark to indicate a player’s team on front. Both jerseys also had a wide sleeve-end trim with a floral pattern on it, perhaps a holdover from when the game was originally intended to be in Atlanta. American flag patches adorned the left sleeves, in red and white for AL and blue and white for NL. (Blue Jays players also wore a Canadian flag patch on right chest under the Nike logo.) Both sets also carried the CFX All-Star Game patch on the right sleeve.

AL All-Stars wore a blue jersey with red team lettering vertically on front, red player name on back, and tan/red drop shadow numbers. NL had white jerseys with red team and player name lettering, with blue/red drop shadow player numbers. A row of stars under the back number indicated how many All-Star games that player had participated in. Fan response was decidedly negative.

Detail of floral sleeve-end pattern from the American League jersey.

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2021 All-Star Game

Shown here, all 30 2021 All-Star jerseys, compiled by Chris Creamer for his site sportslogos.net. Our thanks to Chris for letting us use these images.

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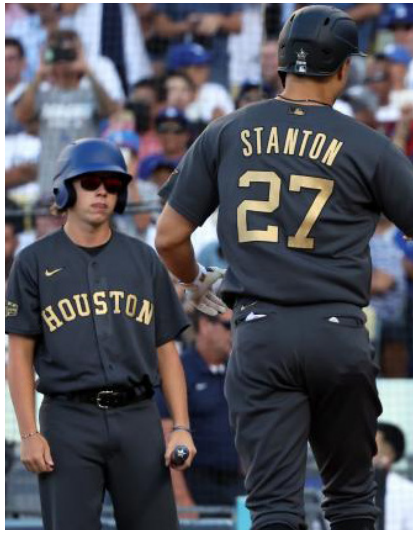
2022 All-Star Game

The 2022 All-Star Game game brings a hybrid approach to the tradition of players wearing their own uniforms and standardized uniforms per league. In what feels a lot like Players Weekend 2019 all over again, the All-Stars are outfitted in monochromatic versions of their team uniforms, dark charcoal for AL and white for NL. Front and back lettering on both is metallic gold/black. Names on back are in a rounded condensed font, while numbers are block. All team lettering on front is reduced to two colors, regardless of the original, and no front numbers are used even if the team usually has them. In what was a preview of the future Nike Vapor Premier Elite template of 2024, back numbers are perforated with tiny diamond-shaped holes, and sleeve patches are heavily silk-screened twill vs. CFX or embroidery. The All-Star Game patch adorns the right sleeve, while the star patch celebrating the number of All-Star appearances for each player returns on the left, after being absent since 2019.

Above right: Detail of perforated back numbers



These jerseys call to mind those worn by Vanderbilt University baseball, another Nike client.

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2022 All-Star Game

Shown here, all 30 2022 All-Star jerseys, compiled by Chris Creamer for his site sportslogos.net. Our thanks to Chris for letting us use these images.

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2023 All-Star Game

Left: The ASG 23 text inside the collar. Right: Detail of perforated back numbers

The 2023 All-Star Game, held in Seattle, brings not only another new look to the Midsummer Classic, but also a look at new jersey template to come. Nike unveiled its Vapor Premiere Elite jerseys during the game, which were adopted league-wide the following season.

As for 2023, the jerseys borrowed from Seattle's color scheme, with the AL in teal and NL in Navy. According to MLB, the jerseys also honored "the region's natural beauty with a print that blends elements of the nearby Pacific Ocean, forests, topography and the movement of air. All lettering for both teams was white, with the Mariner's compass logo - here with an MLB logo in the center - replacing the final "A" of each team name. Player numbers appear on back and front (the back numbers were perforated), while the All-Star Game logo patch (complete with sponsor logo) resided on the left sleeve, and a matching-color version of each player's team logo was on the right.

Like many of Nike's recent releases (such as City Connect) the jersey contained details not visible when worn, but desirable at retail. "ASG 23" letter was heat pressed inside the back collar, and "The Future is Here" with the compass coordinates for Seattle were pressed just above the jock tag in the tail.

The pattern on the 2023 All-Star jerseys is reminiscent of the one used on Premier League team Liverpool's 2020-21 away jersey, also made by Nike, with "Vapor" branding.

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2024 All-Star Game

Above Left and Center: The tag sewn in to the bottom of the placket

Above Right: The printed, sewn, and perforated back numbers

The 2024 All-Star Game, held in Texas, brings a second Vapor Premiere Elite (VPE) jerseys to the game, in some very interesting color combinations.

Where these jerseys usually nod to the host team's own branding, the 2024 jerseys were completely unrelated. They AL features a tan body with bright orange sleeves and bright blue sleeve trim. The NL checks in with a black jersey, bright blue sleeves, and bright orange sleeve trim. Though the jerseys share some colors, the choices seem random and, frankly, garish. Perforated back numbers also feature an intricate stitching and printing pattern to imply a drop shadow. The All-Star Game patch (complete with sponsor logo) resides on the right sleeve, and a matching-color version of each player's team logo is on the left.

Like many of Nike's recent releases, the jersey contains details not visible when worn, but desirable at retail. A small "ASG" tag is sewn into the bottom of the placket, and a screened "ASG 2024, Arlington, TX" patch is sewn above the jock tag in colors matching the jersey.

These jerseys seem more like an in-your-face example of what Nike and Fanatics could do with baseball jerseys rather than what they should do. The backlash from fans and media was equally loud and brazen, and MLB announced that players would return to wearing their own teams' uniforms in the 2025 game.

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2025 All-Star Game BP

Note these are renderings of retail jerseys, game-used jerseys vary.

Top: The heat-pressed graphic above the jock tag (left) and a detail of back numbers (right).

Bottom: Detail images of the patterns in the AL and NL lettering,

The 2025 All-Star Game, held in Atlanta, brings back the tradition of players wearing their own teams' uniforms in the game. Consequently, MLB also returns to using the game's BP jerseys as its template for annual creativity.

The BP jerseys nod to Atlanta baseball history, taking most of their cues from the team's classic 1970s uniforms, a reference to Hank Aaron when he eclipsed Ruth's career home run total.

The AL features a navy body with red/royal/red sleeve trim and red trim around the collar and placket. "AL" is on front in lower-case cursive in patterned white/royal 3D drop shadow/red. Front number is yellow/royal, back number is white (with a printed gray stripe)/royal/red with a yellow player name. The NL has a royal body with red/navy/red sleeve trim and red trim around the collar and placket. "NL" is on front in lower-case cursive in patterned white/navy 3D drop shadow/red. Front number is yellow/navy, back number is white (with a printed gray stripe)/navy/red with a yellow player name. Oddly, the "AL" and "NL" marks intentionally overlap the placket trim.

The 2025 All-Star Game patch (with sponsor logo) appears on one sleeve and a recolored version of each player's team logo is on the other. Patch placement varies based on player handedness.

Like many of Nike's recent releases, the jersey contains heat-pressed graphics above the jock tag that are not visible when worn on-field, but desirable at retail.

Though they were available at retail with players' own jersey numbers, these were only worn on-field during the home run derby, when all AL players wore "3" to honor Ruth, and all NL players wore "44" for Aaron.

The on-field jerseys are made on Nike's Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, and had perforated front and back numbers, despite this feature being eliminated from other VPE jerseys in 2025.

Though made with players' own numbers at retail, and for presentation ceremonies at each ballpark (left), all AL players wore "3" for Babe Ruth, and all NL players wore "44" for Hank Aaron during the Home Run Derby, the only time these jerseys were used.

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All-Star Oddballs: 1999 NL Prototypes

MLB went “futuristic” with the 1999 All-Star BP jerseys, but these prototypes show that a more traditional approach was also in play, and even when the scales tipped to vertical, metallic lettering, there was still more tinkering to be done.

At left is a prototype of a 1999 NL jersey, featuring a more traditional horizontal wordmark in white/blue/gray that shares its font and star/bunting treatment with the game’s logo and other collateral from the year. The jersey itself has sleeves - which the chosen jerseys did not - and carries a gray-border version of the 1999 All-Star Patch on the left sleeve. The jersey is blank on the back, giving us no indication of what was planned for player names and numbers. It is likely that a team logo patch would have gone on the right sleeve.

At right is another prototype, though this one trends much closer to the chosen design for the year. Here we see the familiar distinctive vertical lettering style in metallic silver twill with the same theme as the “Turn Ahead The Clock” jerseys of the same year. What differs from the final version is the wide, red outline around the silver front lettering, that presents more as a large patch than individual letters (though the chosen design is also one piece of red twill, it is cut much more closely to the outline of the lettering. This jersey also has the same flocked alternate All-Star Game logo on the right chest that was used on the final version of this design.

Both jerseys also feature the older-style “Diamond Collection” logo on the jock tags, rather than the later “Authentic Collection” branding that was used on the actual jersey in 1999, suggesting an earlier manufacturing date, as would be expected of prototypes.

Note the much wider red outline on the prototype version of the front lettering (top) than that used in the actual jersey (bottom).

That, and the use of the earlier “Diamond Collection” tag on this example, suggest this was a close-to-final iteration of the jersey that was ultimately used in 1999.

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All-Star Oddballs: 2008 AL Sample-Prototype

Shown here is a sample American League All-Star jersey for the 2008 game, which was held at Yankee Stadium. Note the sample tagging that reads “TASGAML08” that attests to this s a prototype.

Overall, it appears that the design was close to final by the time the sample was made, as it appears identical to the actual version at right, save for the lack of a heat-pressed jock tag on the prototype.

2008

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All-Star Oddballs: 2017 Prototypes

From the looks of these prototypes for the 2017 All-Star Game BP jerseys, everyone might have been forced to wear black to play baseball in Miami in July. Miami's retractable-roof ballpark is air conditioned...but still. These samples are basically color-inverted versions of what actually made the field in 2017, with black bodies instead of black sleeves, and bright orange and teal for sleeves and side panels, where the actual jerseys limited the black just to sleeves. The front lettering and player names remained the same, however, the black/white back numbers of the final jerseys differ from the orange/white versions here. Even though these are just used for workouts, BP, and the home run derby, the color similarity between the two teams would have been confusing.

Note that the heat-pressed tags, located inside the placket on both, read "HRD-NAT-IN-F-1-2017" for the AL jersey and "HRD-NAT-CU-F-1-2017" for the NL. The "HRD" is likely "Home Run Derby" which takes place on All-Star Workout Day when these jerseys were intended to be worn. The "NAT" is curious, suggesting National League, despite also appearing on the AL jersey. The "IN" and "CU" stand for Indians and Cubs, the teams the players chosen for the samples represent, and the F-1 likely indicates the version of this particular style among other prototypes. The use of these two players is also interesting - it is unclear why they were chosen rather than "Player 17" or some other generic back lettering. Both were All-Stars that year, but it is likely the jerseys were made up well in advance of the teams being selected.

A friendly reminder of the jerseys as worn on the field, also available earlier in this chapter.

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All-Star Oddballs: 2020 NL Prototype

In the 2020 edition, we showed the screen caps at left from “MLB The Show 20” video game, which were confirmed to have been the intended designs by a trusted source of Paul Lukas, then-author of the Uni-Watch blog. Since then, we have come across a sample of one of these jerseys, as well as two other samples (on the next page) that show that the rescheduled game in 2023 was originally intended to follow this design before it veered in a different direction.

The top jersey, intended for the 2020 game, is similar to the video game still, though the wordmark differs slightly and there is no front number. This one is on the Vapor Premier Elite (VPE) template, including the set-in neck trim and perforated numbers, three years before it actually debuted. Oddly, the player name is on a nameplate, though nameplates had all but disappeared by 2020. Note the unusual sample wash tag inside the jersey, once we have not seen on other MLB jerseys.

It is unclear how close these came to production given the cancellation of the 2020 All-Star Game after the start of the season was delayed during the COVID lockdown starting in March. Given the different wordmark and lack of front numbers in the sample vs. the video game still (which are often accurate) it is possible changes were made after this sample stage.

The next page shows two more samples that indicate the intent to reuse this style for 2023, an idea that was ultimately scrapped.

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All-Star Oddballs: 2023 NL Prototypes

These two different samples were made for the 2023 game in Los Angeles, which had been rescheduled after the 2020 game in LA was canceled. They show that the overall design displayed on the previous page was at least in serious consideration, with modifications, once again for the 2023 contest.

Both samples shown here share the same design, but differ slightly from the 2020 sample on the previous page, adding a blue front number and removing the nameplate on back. Also VPE, these have navy collar trim and an NL patch on the right sleeve, which the 2020 prototype lacks.

On the top example, note the familiar heat-pressed tag that reads “DJ6530 SET-IN WEAR TEST QPP” There is also a hand-written notation correcting the style of sleeves on the jersey as raglan, which is correct for this jersey. It is likely that QPP means “Quality, Process, and Procedures” which is a stage of quality control to ensure that a sample will meet expectation of look, feel, and durability. This could be where the “WEAR TEST” designation comes in.

The bottom jersey indicates it is also a wear test from the “WT” designation on the tag, and even goes so far as to call this the “2020” jersey, even though the tag and jersey both indicate that “23” - referring to the year of the game - is to be used as player number on back.

Though we are not completely sure, we would surmise that the top sample is a later version than the bottom, given that it was assigned a style code of DJ6350, something the bottom version lacks, which may indicate it was further along in the design process.

Regardless, when the 2023 NL All-Stars took the field in LA, this style jersey was nowhere to be found, and has become just a footnote in All-Star history.

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All-Star Oddballs: Errors

Thanks to Steve Sale for this contribution

Where we are reminded there is no "I" in team… nor apparently in "American" (1998) or "Piniella" (2001) either.

For your inspection, a 1999 "Nntional" League jersey

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Chapter 42

Stitchers' Stories

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Researching this book through its many editions has brought me into contact with dozens of fascinating people. The most interesting of all, are the people who were there at the start: those who have played an active role in helping to create these team uniforms, bringing them from the drawing board to the cloth. I have found these people as a group to be creative, gracious, humble and very giving of their time.

I reached out to some of these behind-the-scenes friends and asked if they would like to contribute some of their memories to share with my readers. Their enthusiastic responses fill the next several pages. Here you will read some memories of:

- **Steve Sale**, who served as the tailor for the Oakland Athletics for fifteen seasons.
- **Ross Yoshida**, the long-time Director of Graphic Design for the Los Angeles Dodgers.
- **Todd Radom**, an extraordinary graphic designer whose work you have seen everywhere, whether you realize it or not.
- **Patsy Elmer**, my long-time collaborator and friend, who serves as the professional stitcher for so many pro teams, including being a part of the birth of the Arizona Diamondbacks.
- **Jim Haught**, who worked for years behind the scenes in Cincinnati as stitcher for the Reds.
- **Mark Huesman**, who shares his stories as a stitcher for the Baltimore Orioles.
- **Joe Hilseberg**, who shares his insight from his time working as a stitcher in the Baltimore area, also for the Orioles.

I hope you enjoy this look behind the scenes by the people who have helped make our hobby possible.

Steve Sale

Stitcher for the Oakland Athletics, 1988-2003

In 1976, I had just graduated from high school, and the A's held an open tryout for walk-ons and free agents at the Oakland Coliseum. I attended the tryout, knowing I had NO chance of being signed, but I thought this was a way of experiencing first hand what it was like to be on the same field that my favorite players played on. WOW! Just to be on that field was an experience. I then thought that maybe I could get a job working on the grounds crew. I just really wanted to get a job being part of my favorite baseball team, and I wasn't going to let ANYTHING stop me. In 1988 I pursued an opportunity that would fulfill a lifelong dream.

Ever since I was a teenager, I have always been fascinated with baseball jerseys. The style, lettering, and what made them cool to wear. Knowing I couldn't afford the real thing, I would design replicas as close to the real thing as possible. My attention to detail was so evident that I would constantly hear comments from people such as "where did you get that 'real' jersey" because my lettering looked so professional. Cardboard from old file folders and the drugstore copy machine became very good friends when I designed my patterns. Over the years, I noticed lettering variations among the players on same teams and tried to make sense of the rhyme and reason for the lettering not looking "uniform." In the early 1980's, there was a sporting goods store near where I lived that lettered the A's uniforms, and I was one of the store's regular customers. I was like a kid in a candy store looking at the various actual jerseys that were lettered for the players. I scrutinized the jersey lettering, comparing the thickness of the letters used for both long and short names, tackle-twill, etc.

Don Baylor with the incorrect jersey that helped Steve Sale get his job with the A's.

Just after the 1988 season started, the manager of that sporting goods store decided not to do the lettering anymore, and that based on my knowledge of lettering and being an A's fan, he told me I should contact the A's clubhouse manager, Steve Vucinich, and apply for the job. Finally, here was the opportunity to purse my dream—to work for the Oakland A's—and I didn't want to miss out on this opportunity. I went to the Coliseum without an appointment in the hope of meeting "Vuc." While looking for Vuc, I couldn't believe I was in the same locker room as the famous "Swinging A's" of the 1970's. To me, where I was standing was hallowed ground. Shortly thereafter, I found Vuc and introduced myself. I explained that I knew the person who was currently lettering their jerseys, and since he was stepping away, he felt I was qualified to replace him. Vuc, not knowing anything about me, proceeded to show me a couple of jerseys while explaining to me the correct color green twill, and the lettering/numbering styles the team was using. Vuc showed me two jerseys, one which Vuc didn't know was lettered incorrectly. I didn't want to appear as a know-it-all, so I waited until Vuc was finished explaining what he needed. The incorrectly lettered jersey was a Don Baylor #12. I told

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Vuc the Baylor jersey was incorrectly lettered, and I showed him the comparison between the Baylor and a correctly lettered jersey. I pointed out that whoever lettered the Baylor had used full block (Varsity) letters for the name, and the nameplate was made of twill instead of the jersey knit. When Vuc compared the two, he said, "Well I'll be damned, I've never noticed that. You've got the job." That was the start of my fifteen seasons as the team stitcher, the fulfillment of achieving my dream of working for the Oakland A's.

My time spent with the A's was rewarding, and at times could be stressful with special requests, player moves, etc. However, I wouldn't have traded those seasons for ANYTHING. I was living my dream, and I knew how lucky I was. I still recall that the first jersey I lettered was a 1988 Jim Corsi #41. In addition to taking care of the A's lettering needs, I was responsible for the visiting clubs that required immediate attention due to roster moves or alterations. In the beginning, I didn't know how to use a sewing machine, so I farmed out the sewing. After only a few weeks of farming out, my wife bought me a sewing machine, and with her help, I taught myself how to sew. Now ALL the money was staying in my pocket.

Some of the most stressful periods were one week before Opening Day when rosters were finalized, and September 1 when rosters expanded. My role was very similar to that of a doctor being on call. You never knew when you would be called, but you needed to be ready and available. In fact, something my wife doesn't let me forget is when we were planning our wedding date, I told her we had to make it on a day when the A's were on a road trip in case I was needed. She wasn't thrilled, but I redeemed myself when we returned from our honeymoon early to attend a Neil Diamond concert with near floor level seats. My wife, who has always been an A's fan, was more excited to see former A's players Sal Bando, Ray Fosse, and others sitting in the row behind us.

Whenever people find out about my stitching career, the two most common comments have been "you had a real cool job," and "I bet you have some great memories and stories." Yes to both. Some of the most memorable experiences I had were when superstars Jose Canseco and Mark McGwire were traded away and Rickey Henderson came back home (again). In my position, I was sworn to secrecy involving trades. It was fun knowing about trades before the press did. Whenever team personnel (including announcers) saw me in the clubhouse, they knew something was going on. I would get asked, "Hey Steve, who are we getting?" I couldn't say anything, so I just smiled.

Prior to the 1989 World Series against the Giants, I had to sew on the World Series patches and black armbands on the jersey sleeves. The armband was to honor MLB Commissioner Bart Giamatti, who passed away unexpectedly just prior to the World Series. When I brought the jerseys back to the clubhouse after getting them ready for Game 1, Dave "Hendu" Henderson acted like a little kid on Christmas morning. Hendu stopped me as I entered the clubhouse and begged me to let him see his jersey before anyone else saw theirs. Hendu searched the rack, found his jersey, grabbed it, and proceeded to walk through the clubhouse showing the other players. Hendu's smile was from ear to ear. He was one of the classiest people you would ever meet.

Dave Henderson (42) was thrilled to wear his 1989 World Series jersey and begged Sale to see it as soon as he got to the clubhouse.

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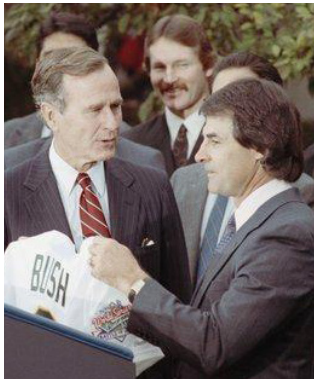
Other notable memories were the times when celebrities were appearing at the arena next door to the stadium and I would get requests to make jerseys for them. The most famous celebrity request I received was to make a jersey to be presented to President George H.W. Bush when the A's went to the White House after winning the 1989 World Series.



A's manager Tony LaRussa presents President George Bush with a jersey lettered by Steve Sale.

When visiting ballclubs came into town, I was responsible for lettering their jerseys due to roster moves or emergencies. One such emergency involved the Seattle Mariners when Goose Gossage's road jersey was left behind in Seattle. I would bring my sewing machine with me for such emergencies, so I could help if a visiting club had a problem like this one . Since Gossage was a relief pitcher who might have been called into the game at any moment, I had to work fast. From time to time, Gossage would come in and check on my progress while reassuring me not to stress and asking me if he could get me a water. Talk about a role reversal. Another class act, Goose was. His jersey was finished in time.

Fans who have seen "Moneyball" will recall that in the movie, A's general manager Billy Beane was actively trying to acquire pitcher Ricardo Rincon from the Cleveland Indians. When the Indians came to Oakland, I was in the A's clubhouse gathering jerseys to take home to work on. As I was getting ready to leave, things got crazy. Vuc had told me to stick around because the A's were possibly making a roster move. Sure enough, after the game had started, Rincon was dealt to the A's. I was given a blank jersey to make for Rincon and I was told I could sew it at home, as long as I had it back the next day before the day game. Meanwhile, Rincon was told he could go back to his hotel as he would not be needed that night. When Billy Beane came into the clubhouse, he asked where Rincon was. When he heard Rincon was sent back to the hotel, he was furious. He wanted someone to call Rincon and tell him to return to the ballpark immediately in case he was needed to pitch. This meant I had to start working on making Rincon's jersey right away. I needed a place to set up my sewing machine, and the only room available was A's manager Art Howe's office. Then Beane decided to watch the game on the in-house monitor next to me in Howe's office! Talk about stress! As I'm sewing like crazy, Beane strikes up a conversation with me, asking how things were, etc. From time to time, Vuc would send in his clubhouse guys to check on my progress. To make matters worse, Howe called the clubhouse to see if Rincon was going to be in uniform soon. Of course, it depended on how fast I could finish sewing Rincon's jersey. I finished Rincon's jersey midway through the game, and he wasn't needed that night to pitch that night after all. But that was too close of a call.

The 1988-2003 seasons were very special and memorable for a lifelong A's fan who lived the dream of working for his favorite team. Not many people can say that. Thanks to Steve Vucinich for giving me that chance back in 1988.

An A's fan since they moved to Oakland in 1968, Steve Sale was the stitcher for the Oakland A's from 1988 to 2003.

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Ross Yoshida

Director of Graphic Design, Los Angeles Dodgers

Ross Yoshida, Director of Graphic Design for the Los Angeles Dodgers, shares a few behind-the-scenes stories about his work on the iconic Dodgers uniforms.

Jersey Lettering

I always loved that the Dodgers had our own "exclusive" fabric that we used for our blue lettering — the subtly textured stretch polyester known as "Dodger Twill", unique within the uniform industry. In 1999, that (amongst other things, which I'll get to later), changed. For some reason, the Dodgers went away from one of the cool little details that had made our uniforms special for over twenty years, and joined every other team in using plain old tackle twill lettering.

Detail of Dodger Twill (top) vs. Tackle Twill (bottom).

When I took my position in 2001, I sought to change that. Either go back to the "Dodger Twill" or try something new. Personally, I didn't like how the twill had a reflective sheen under both stadium light and natural light. When told Dodger Twill was being phased out, I asked to try a textured "glacier twill" (similar to what the Mets once used), a chain stitch and even a felt material similar to what was used on old flannel baseball jerseys.

Unfortunately, none of those ideas really panned out. Glacier Twill didn't come in the Dodgers' exact shade, chain-stitching was too costly (and had no precedent in Dodger history) and felt was simply too heavy for modern jerseys.

I still don't like the sheen of tackle twill…. Under Armour takes over in 2020… stay tuned.

Jersey Patches

In 2007, while a freelancer, I was asked to design the Dodgers' "50th Anniversary in Los Angeles" logo, which would become the sleeve patch in 2008. Since then, I've designed two other jersey patches… the 2010 "55 Since '55" patch (commemorating the 55th anniversary of the Dodgers' first championship) and the 50th Anniversary of Dodger Stadium patch. The design of

Three Dodgers patches designed by Ross Yoshida

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the 2008 patch didn't turn out exactly how I would've liked, but it was the first patch design of mine to appear on the field of play so it'll always be my 'baby.' The person I was working with insisted on palm trees being a part of the design… as a native Angeleno, I guess I take palm trees for granted — but they ended up being a nice addition.

Alternate Gray Uniform

I'm of the personal belief that having two road gray jerseys is a bit of overkill, but before the 2014 season, a Dodger executive came to me in a panic. He was very concerned that our road uniforms didn't say 'Dodgers', and we were going to be on the world stage, opening in Sydney, Australia against the Arizona Diamondbacks as the designated road team. I argued that it'd be fine—even without 'Dodgers' on the jersey, the blue script and interlocking LA on the jerseys sleeves, caps and helmets would suffice to brand the team. Unconvinced, he had me come up with a series of mockups of potential alternate gray jerseys with "Dodgers" across the chest (including one that was basically a throwback to our road jersey from 1977-1998) and others various trim options. In the end, what was chosen was basically a gray version of the Dodgers' home white jerseys.

But that's not the end of the story… it was assumed the new, trimless gray road jerseys would just pair with the existing road gray pants with the blue soutache down the legs (remember, the Dodgers' "Los Angeles" road jerseys have matching blue trim on the sleeves!). No way. The new alternates had to be matched with their own set of pants — sans blue trim. Is this a bit of overkill to order an entire new set of gray pants, with the only difference being an absence of what amounts to to 1/8" wide blue stripes? Maybe… but, when it comes to the on-field look of a historical club, either do it right or don't do it all.

Fixing the Script

One thing I've always viewed as sacred, even as a kid, is the classic "Dodgers" jersey script. As I got older, I came to know that my team had been wearing virtually the same uniform design since 1939. Seeing other teams in my baseball card collection change their look quite often, that fact struck me as pretty cool.

My entire life, the "Dodgers" jersey script had remained exactly the same—until 1999 when the script I was familiar with inexplicably changed. I'm sure that 99.999% of fans didn't notice anything had changed, but to this hyper-aware graphic designer, the thinning of the script, with increased gaps between letters, elongated underflourish and steeper angle, was akin to blasphemy. It literally bothered me every time I'd watch a Dodger home game on TV. Fast-forward to 2002… guess who's now the Dodgers' graphic designer? Although too late to change anything for the 2002 season, I was determined to right a wrong and restore the sacred Dodgers script to past glory. With the help of my friend in merchandise apparel, I sent a memo to Majestic, who had just become our new uniform supplier. The memo can be seen in this book… and you can see how it was made clear that Majestic was to discard any old artwork and move forward only with artwork that was provided. Unfortunately, some things tend to die a slow death and there are unfortunate examples of the 'bad' script creeping into retail merchandise. However, the on-field version of the script was as pristine as could be in 2013, and has stayed that way ever since. (I also chose to modify the 'Los Angeles' script at this

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In 2002, Yoshida and the Dodgers sent these updated script guides to their apparel suppliers, giving them very specific direction to correct the team's logo script on all jerseys.

time to make it more consistent and cohesive with our home 'Dodgers' script — but that's not as interesting of a story.)

The Future?

I hope I've provided some insight into some of the things that have gone on behind the scenes at Chavez Ravine — and least from a uniform standpoint. There are other things I have tried to do, including removing the LA patch from the sleeve (a battle I've stopped fighting but may revisit if/when the time is right), creating a custom number font and re-introducing belt tunnel trim on the road pants, but those have all been shot down from above.

Under Armour takes over in 2020, and, if I'm still in my position with the Dodgers, I'd like to see what they can bring to the table. I do know they manufacture a gray fabric that is sublimated to look like gray wool flannel… hmmmmm..

As of 2025, Ross Yoshida is in his 20th season as Director of Graphic Design for the Los Angeles Dodgers. He started with the Dodgers in 2001, worked elsewhere between 2005-2008, and returned in 2009 ("Just when I thought I was out, they pulled me back in!" he says).

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Todd Radom

Professional Graphic Designer

I've had the good fortune to have enjoyed a lengthy career as a sports designer. I graduated from New York's School of Visual Arts in 1986 (the year of the New York Mets' most recent World Series win, but that's a whole different story). The process of creating art in those days was a truly tactile, handmade experience, wholly different than that of today. It was both time-consuming and expensive, and it required a specific skill set that isn't required in the contemporary digital age.

Deft and careful handling of sharp objects, such as X-Acto knives was in play every single day, and the aroma of rubber cement and acetone filled the air. Daily exposure to toxins has diminished, but the work continues for me all these years later.

My first professional sports identity assignment was for the Knoxville Smokies, the Toronto Blue Jays' AA Southern League affiliate. This took place in 1992, right at the dawn of design's digital age. At that time I was making a solid living doing hand-lettering, logo design, and illustration for a range of advertising and publishing clients. Creating bespoke artwork—literally by hand—for clients such as American Express, AT&T, and Penguin Books was both lucrative and interesting. My first investment in computerized tools came later that year. A turbo-charged Mac Quadra 700, early versions of Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop and Quark Xpress, a flatbed scanner and a couple of other small items cost something like $15,000 then, the rough equivalent of $26,000 today—but I digress.

The Smokies identity was a purely artisanal affair. I drew sketches on tracing paper with markers, affixed them to more rigid paper, and presented them to the client. I am a confirmed packrat, as such, I still have much of the original artwork from that project.

Refinements were made and faxed for approval(hey, it might have been primitive but we DID have faxes).

When the project was approved, I prepared final, camera-ready artwork. I owned a Photostat machine, an enormous contraption that was essentially a huge camera with an integrated darkroom attached in the back. We'd put a piece of original art

The evolution of the Knoxville Smokies logo by Todd Radom

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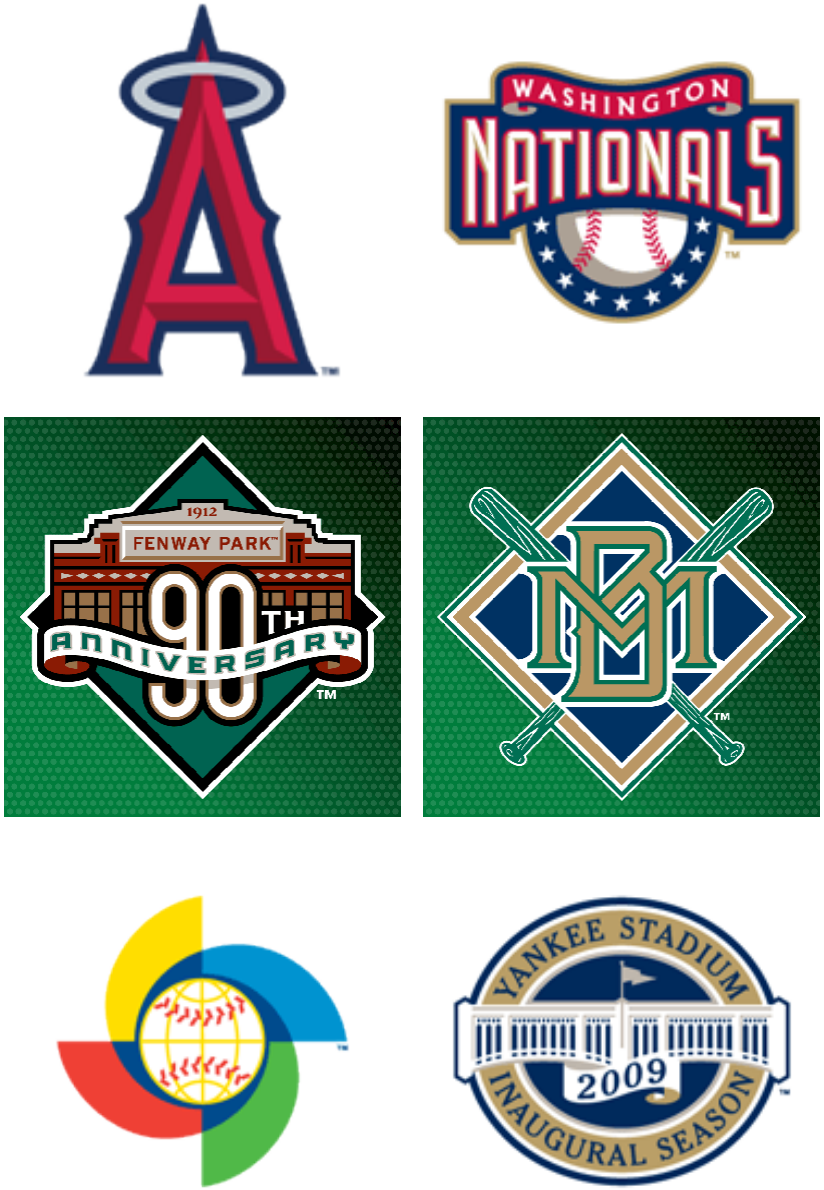
or typography face-up on a piece of glass, zoom in or out, and project the image onto a piece of photo paper. The paper was then exposed to a chemical bath, dried, then rolled out. All in black and white.

The art for each color was assembled and pasted onto separate layers of acetate, which were manually aligned and composed, sandwiched together, and marked up. Uniform lettering was rendered at full width, 17-18 inches wide.

Looking at these images a quarter century later, I cannot help but feel kind of nostalgic. All of this is, of course, now created and delivered digitally. The process is less hands-on than it used to be, but it's also far more efficient and far less toxic.

Todd Radom is an independent graphic designer specializing in branding for professional sports franchises and events. Todd's work includes the official logos for Super Bowl XXXVIII and the 2009 NBA All Star Game, as well as the graphic identity for Major League Baseball's Washington Nationals and Los Angeles Angels. Among the leading designers in the professional sports industry, his two decades of work with the NFL, NBA, and Major League Baseball have resulted in some of the most familiar icons of our popular culture.



Right: A selection of Todd Radom's logos for Major League Baseball. (Top) Anaheim Angels, Washington Nationals (Middle) Fenway Park 90th Anniversary, Milwaukee Brewers (Bottom) World Baseball Classic, Yankee Stadium Inaugural Season

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Patsy Elmer: Owner, Big Time Jerseys
Attending at the Birth of the Arizona Diamondbacks

The Diamondbacks Expansion Draft Party

It was November 18, 1997 and I was one of four ladies behind the stage during the Arizona Diamondbacks expansion draft party held at the Civic Plaza in downtown Phoenix. The draft was under a huge white tent and was shown on live TV. We had hauled in our equipment in the back of a truck to set up our own makeshift sewing area with an industrial sewing machine, heat press, tables, chairs, extension cords, a box full of letters and a rolling rack of 35 brand new Diamondbacks jerseys. To help speed up the process, we had previously sewn the backs of each jersey with the numbers #1 through #35.

One of the draft officials would come backstage and hand me a piece of paper with the name and draft number of the next draftee. It was written to make sure we had the correct spelling and so no one else could hear the name given. We had five to seven minutes to sew the name on the jersey with the number that referenced his draft round. Once we finished the jersey, I gave the official the thumbs up and he would let the announcer know by nodding his head. Once the name was officially announced, the jersey was brought to the stage to show the audience and everyone applauded in approval. Each jersey was individually hoisted to hang from the rafters until all 35 of them were done and hanging for all to see.

During the event, we caught the attention of many people who were walking by and of course they would stop to ask questions and see if they could possibly get a glimpse of the names we were sewing on the jerseys before they were announced. As I talked with them, I strategically positioned myself in front of the sewing machine so they couldn't see the draftee name that was getting sewn on the jersey by our seamstress.

I was so honored to be a part of Diamondbacks history in this way. It was a very exciting experience and one that I will always hold close to my heart.

After this event was over, the Diamondbacks decided to reduce the size of their player name-on-back letters from 3.75" to 3" and their back numbers from 8" to 7.5". This meant that all the hundreds of letters that we had made for our inventory were now obsolete and could not be used on game jerseys. We had spent so many, many hours hand tracing, hand cutting, heat pressing and sewing more than 2,500 two-color letters that would never be used.

"Bruce"

We have a large statue by the name of Bruce in downtown Phoenix. Normally he is completely naked. Every time I would pass by him, In my mind's eye I could see him wearing a giant Phoenix Suns uniform,and I imagined myself making this uniform for him. In 2010, the Suns were in the Western Conference Finals. I had just finished a very important rush order for a lady in the Suns organization

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and she was so grateful that she said if ever there was anything she could do for me, just to let her know. I thought that this was my golden opportunity. I asked her if I could make a Suns uniform for the naked statue on Washington and Central. She didn't know who to ask but said she would find out for me. Later that day, she called me with the name of the property manager that oversees the statue. I called him and told him of my desire to dress the statue in his own Suns uniform. He granted me permission on the spot and that was my first of several Arizona team uniforms that I have had the opportunity to make for Bruce. He and I have now become good friends.

The following year, 2011, was the 10-year anniversary of the Diamondbacks' World Series title. I was fortunate again to be granted permission to make Bruce his own Arizona Diamondbacks uniform identical to the one worn by the team in 2001 when they won the World Series. Just to give you an idea of the size of this statue, he is 9' tall with a chest of 65", his waist is 55" and his inseam is 46". There is only one human being that I have ever sewn for whose measurements come anywhere close to these measurements and that is the one and only Shaquille O'Neal.

The uniform took six yards of fabric and took me approximately four days to draft the patterns, cut and sew the uniform and included two fittings on the statue. The name/# on the back was World Champions #01 with the American flag above the name. The letters were 4" and the back numbers were 9" tall. All the lettering cut files were generously and authentically provided to me by my good friend Bill Henderson. Because there had been several attempts made by thieves to steal the Suns uniform, I sewed loops inside the waistband of the pants and to the hemline of the jersey so I could run a cable around his waist and connect to the hemline of the jersey and locked the uniform to the statue. The building offered 24-hour surveillance for security, but attempts were still made to steal the D-Backs uniform without success.

A couple of colleagues of mine in the business of making mascots and props offered to make his cleats and mitt. I sent them photos of his feet with a tape measure next to them so they could have his measurements because they couldn't physically be there to measure his feet. I have since dressed Bruce in his own AZ Coyotes, Phoenix Mercury and Super Bowl XLIX uniforms.

Patsy Elmer has been sewing names and numbers on jerseys for Arizona professional sports teams for more than 20 years. She started at another company and launched her own business, Big Time Jerseys, in 2008. She now works with five employees for such clients as the Phoenix Suns, the Arizona Coyotes, and the Arizona Cardinals.

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Q&A with Jim Haught

My Experience as a Stitcher, Koch Sporting Goods, Cincinnati Ohio

Q: What was your role at Koch's?
At first, my job was primarily to fill team orders for baseball, basketball and bowling (big business in Cincinnati), as well as inventory control. But before long, I became the "pro jersey guy" because I had ordered jerseys from Koch's for several years before I worked there. This work involved sewing jerseys for the Reds or Bengals, or visiting teams, might need during their seasons, as well as pro jerseys for retail customers.

Q: At Spring Training, how did the team order the new season's uniforms?
The Reds would send over a bunch of odds-and-ends of uniforms from the previous season, usually to be re-lettered/renumbered for Spring Training use. New uniforms were not used until Opening Day, and came directly to the team from the manufacturers (for many years it was Rawlings home jerseys, Wilson away, with one year of Goodman home). There was a lot of mix-and-match with sizes and years of jerseys, as they scrambled to get enough jerseys for non-roster people, rookies, etc.

Q: What was reused from last year at the start of the new season?
As far as I know, everything was new on Opening Day: two home and two road jerseys for each player. The only exceptions might be a last-minute roster move or trade, and we made those up on the morning of Opening Day.

Q: How much time did you get, and what problems did you have with the new season orders?
Opening Day was like a fire drill, because it was a day game and there would always be a few roster moves or number changes—that sort of thing. We tried to anticipate what might happen, but there were still surprises.

When the Reds went to Goodman home uniforms in 1985 (and switched from Wilson to Rawlings for road jerseys), they also switched the number font and went to two-color letters and numbers on the home jerseys. So we had to have them send us enough lettered jerseys to make a full set of patterns hand-copying the existing nimbers, in addition sending is the blank jerseys for the new guys. And all of this had to be done manually, in time for the jerseys to be worn a couple of hours later!

A 1984 Reds jersey (left) and a 1985 jersey (right) for comparison. Note the change in font and the addition of a very subtle layer of white outline in 1985.

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Q: How did you handle patterns and the twill cutting?
We made the letter and number patterns by laying a piece of onion-skin paper over the jersey and doing a "rubbing" of it with a tailor's crayon. The thread stuck up a little bit and left a mark when rubbed, and those outlines were punched with a motorized stylus with an oscillating needle in it.

The pattern was then laid atop the tackle twill and rubbed with a powder that left little dots that were used as cutting lines (the powder disappeared when the numbers were heat-pressed). The letters/numbers were then cut with scissors. I later started using an X-Acto knife, which was faster for me, because I had built models all my life. It was also easier to cut out the centers of script letters, etc.

Q: What typical errors happened?
I'm happy to say that I never made any real "errors" like spelling a name wrong or getting a number wrong. I would check everything about 20 times to make sure of that.

We did have a "situation," though, when Buddy Bell was traded to the Reds. Max Venable gave up his #25 to Buddy, so we had to do a number change on his jerseys in addition to getting Buddy's ready. Problem was, the Reds changed to 8" numbers that year, and Max is a short guy. When I put his new #9 in the standard location, the bottom of the 9 tucked into his pants! So we had to redo that.

A 1985 Dykstra road jersey.

A similar thing happened when I made up Lenny Dykstra's jerseys when he got called up to the Mets. This was the pre-"Nails" days, and he wore—if you can believe it—a Rawlings size 40 road jersey. That's really tiny, and tapered, and it was hard to get a nameplate and number high enough to avoid the same problem Venable had.

Q: What about mid-season things like sewing memorial armbands on the whole team's uniforms— how was this done?
I never had to deal with that on a large scale, though I'm sure it would all have been done manually, a jersey at a time, just as we did for individual or retail jersey orders.

There were smaller things, such as in the middle of one season when Dave Concepcion was named Reds team captain. That involved getting all of his jerseys, and sewing stock Stahl's plain-block-narrow letter Cs to the sleeve. This probably lasted until the next full set of jerseys (set 2 or Set 3 for that season) came from the factory.

Q: What are the pros and cons of using nameplates?
I sure wish the Reds had used nameplates, or at least two-color letters and numbers, on their home jerseys then. When we had to do a name/number change, it was horrible to try to remove the red adhesive residue left from the tackle twill. No matter how much dry-cleaning fluid we used, there was always a bit of pink residue left behind.

The letters were 4" high then, so a nameplate would have been huge, and hard to make "lay down" without wrinkling, especially after it had been washed a few times.

A 1983 Jeff Russell Rawlings Reds home jersey that had the lettering removed, leaving pink residue behind.

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Q: How were mid-season trades and callups handled?
This was one of the real perks of my job. I would get a call from equipment manager Bernie Stowe: "Hey, Jim, you coming to the game tonight?" (Koch's was only about a mile from Riverfront Stadium, and I parked there during the week.) He would leave me a ticket if I needed one, and after the game I would go by the clubhouse and he would give me a paper bag (!) full of jerseys. He would then tell me what they needed, and that I couldn't tell anyone about the trade that had been made. I would get the jerseys made up ASAP the next morning, and take them back to the stadium. If things were more time-critical during the day, he would bring the jerseys by the store and we would do them while he waited, or I would bring them to the game that night.

September callups were a matter of getting the names and numbers, and the Reds would round up whichever jerseys they had left—all sorts of different sizes and years. There was no computerized inventory or anything like how it's done now. You might see a rookie with jerseys that were two different sizes and three years apart.

Visiting teams would usually bring what they needed to the store, and we did them as super-rush jobs.

Q: What happened to uniforms at the end of the season?
A number of them were saved for spring training, some went to the minors and in later years, I believe there was some sort of bulk sale to collectors such as Dick Dobbins. So they went in several directions.

Q: Did the team order extras to sell at retail?
I never saw game jerseys in the Reds gift shop during those years, nor am I aware that they sold jerseys via mail-order. Koch's was the only place I knew where one could get "real thing" jerseys for Reds and other MLB teams then. I got my first ones in 1977, for $45 each. Not game-worn, but the next-best thing.

Q: Did you do vertical arch lettering? How was it done?
We did do it, but it all had to be done manually, at a drawing board. We kept folders for each team with data and photos —often from *Sports Illustrated*—in them. Those were the primary reference, and we would take rubbings of visiting teams' jerseys to have for reference to get size, placement, arch, etc. correct. But much of it was done by eyeball, and best judgment. There was no such thing as Illustrator or other programs to do this work so much better and faster. But I will say that the work we did at Koch's stands up well today – much better than many attempts I've seen through the years.

Q: What do you think when you look back on your work?
I really enjoyed doing this work, and I got a big kick out of seeing jerseys I made on national TV. It was exciting, and I made some great friends in the game as a result. But with the birth of our first son in late 1985, I needed to make more money, and that was not going to happen in that job; so I left at the end of that year and worked in screen-printing for the next few years. Much better pay, but I missed being "on the inside," even just a little bit.

From 1983-1985, Jim Haught worked at Koch Sporting Goods in downtown Cincinnati. Koch's was, and still is, a large full-service store. Koch's also served the Reds and Bengals for many years with training camp/Spring Training and in-season needs.

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Mark Huesman

Stitching in Baltimore for the Orioles

My interest in personalizing baseball jerseys started when I was 12, wearing a cheap replica of the Orioles orange v-neck jersey. I made numbers from whatever black and white fabrics my mom had in her surplus fabric bag and hand-stitched the whole job. I still have that jersey and treasure it as the start of this passion. A Home Economics class in 8th grade pushed me into using a sewing machine and I've been stitching my sports jersey numbers, names and logos ever since.

My first exposure to game-quality jerseys occurred at The Orioles Store at Baltimore's Harborplace where the actual Wilson pro-quality orange jerseys were sold for $50. It was pricey for an allowance-saving 15 year old in July 1981, but I bought one, then futilely searched fabric stores for real tackle twill. Satiny twill from Joann's was the closest, but it would wrinkle in the wash. Sports lettering places wouldn't sell swatches from their tackle twill rolls thinking I'd be stealing business from them. Finally, I got a part-time job at one of those businesses and at three others over the years to keep me supplied in tackle twill for my own projects. The place where I worked in the mid-'90s got the Orioles stitcher business and I've stayed there part-time ever since, keeping me involved with the uniforms of the Orioles and other Baltimore teams like the Ravens, AHL Bandits and indoor soccer Baltimore Spirit. I've pressed and stitched game jerseys, added and removed patches, prepared Fantasy Camp, Ball Girl, and First Pitch jerseys, and customized some jackets for Orioles manager Buck Showalter. I've even tailored some baseball jerseys from scratch for mascots like the Oriole Bird, a Michigan J. Frog, and a Chick Fil-A cow.

Over the last 45 years, I've amassed a nice collection of Orioles game-worn jerseys as well as game-quality throwbacks that I've "Frankensteined" from other sources. In every instance, I take great pains to make sure the logos, names and numbers are accurate for the era. Throwback jerseys that the Orioles have worn have not benefited from that same level of scrutiny. As Bill has stated many times, there are throwbacks created where little effort was made to get the details right. Is there some secret rule that they are contractually obligated to create jerseys that couldn't be passed off as authentic vintage?

An original 1979 Orioles jersey (left and the 2001 TBTC version (right) for comparison. Note the incorrect number fonts and NOB style on the TBTC.

The inaccuracies can be maddening. A memorably frustrating occurrence for me was the Orioles 2001 throwback to my beloved 1975 orange v-neck Wilson jerseys. Mitchell and Ness

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sent the full named-and-numbered set directly to the team. The Orioles sent one jersey to be prepared for a last minute roster acquisition (Kohlmeier #30, shown in the O's Special Jerseys section). Not getting to see any of the other jerseys from the set, I had to guess which number and name style was used, automatically assuming that my 1975 patterns would be wrong and needing to guess which manner of wrongness was used. I owned four of the real game worn jerseys from that era and had my accurate patterns with the "adorably tiny" 5-1/2" full block back numbers and 2-1/2" tall vertical arch names. I rolled my eyes, let out a sad sigh, and placed the current 7-1/2" plain block numbers on the back with a radially arched name. It turns out that I had correctly guessed the wrongness. The game was on TV the next night and it was disheartening to watch.

The *coupe de grace* of throwback stories occurred in 2004 when the Orioles planned a "Turn Back the Clock" event to commemorate their 50th anniversary by wearing uniforms from their first season of 1954. Apparently, no one from the Orioles or Majestic looked for a vintage photo showing the backs of those 1954 jerseys, even though the Internet did exist back then. The 1954 jerseys showed up (from Majestic) with player names on them, and only THEN was I (the vintage jersey expert) asked if the jerseys were supposed to have names. The answer was "no," so ALL of the jerseys had the names removed the day before and the day of the game. And the black back numbers had an orange outline, also wrong, but we only had time to fix one thing.

(Left) The back of a 2004 Orioles TBTC with incorrect orange outlines and low numbers after incorrect NOBs removed. (Above) A closeup of the back shows remnants of the former NOB.

Back in 2014, the Orioles revisited the 1954 throwbacks and this time remembered to omit the names on the back. They still got the number font wrong, using the top layer of the current style instead of a slightly thicker version of the Royals plain block with feet (serifs). Since that game, a few of those jerseys have been brought to the stitcher job for numbering, and I always have to ask (with a deep sigh), "Do you want the number to match the throwbacks, or do you want it done right?"

Despite some aggravations, I've really enjoyed putting my skills to work on jerseys that have been worn in big league games in stadiums and on TV. My store days ended in 2019, so I got my own heat press and industrial strength sewing machine to equip my spacious basement workshop to enhance jersey collections near and far.

Mark Huesman has been stitching his own jerseys for decades, along with working at Baltimore-area shops that have given him the opportunity to do work for several professional teams in different sports.

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Joe Hilseberg
Baltimore-Area Stitcher

Growing up I had always had a thing for design and logos. I was always doodling my favorite logos on my schoolbooks and by the time I had gotten to high school, a majority of my doodles would be sports logos and uniforms. I was really into teams that had great uniforms. Also around this time I was really getting into the NHL, although we did not have a team in Baltimore. My favorite player was Ed Belfour of the Blackhawks. I just really loved his mask design and thought that the Blackhawks had some of the best looking uniforms in the league. He was also amazing in Sega's NHL 94!

That year for Christmas my parents bought me my first Blackhawks jersey. It wasn't personalized yet because the local shop was swamped with Christmas orders. I went the shop a week or so later to drop it off for customization and struck up a conversation with the owner. I discovered that they were the ones that did the lettering for all of the local sports teams, including my favorite, the Orioles. I was really impressed. I joked that I wished that I worked there and I was told that I could start tomorrow!

An example of the first version of the Orioles' 1999 Cal Ripken, Sr. memorial patch with a white border, colored in with Sharpie by Joe and his coworkers.

I ended up working there in some capacity for the next eight or so years. Full time in the summers, and part time during the school year. Even on some weekends after I got my first job at a graphic design agency. I was just hooked to being a part of creating jerseys. To this day I still have a heat press in my house so I can create whatever comes to mind.

Two Cal Ripken, Sr. memorial patches from Joe's collection. Joe and his coworkers decided how the memorial should look, rather than the team or MLB, and Joe cut the twill himself, by hand.

One of the cool parts I really liked about working there, and with the Orioles specifically, was when we had to do something special or unique to the jerseys. Most commonly this was with any sort of special patch or memorial.

1999 was one of those years that stuck out because we had to create and apply all of the memorial patches for Cal Ripken Sr. They were just simple pre-made full block 7's that we had ordered to be used for the home and road jersey. Black was out of stock for our initial order, so we had to use ones with a white border, and had color them black with a Sharpie! We switched most of them when the black ones arrived.

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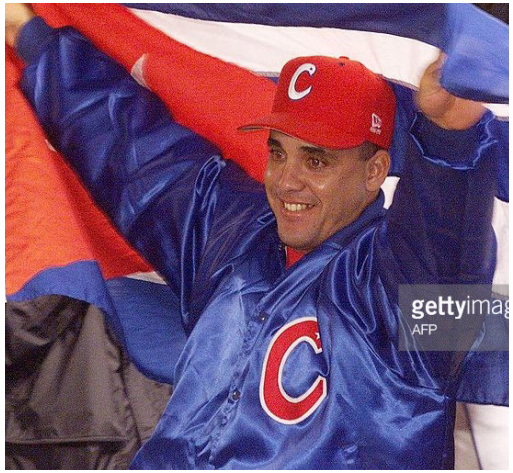
The ones for the black alternate jersey were a different story. In order to have the black 7 pop off of the black jersey we decided to have an orange and white outline around the 7. Each one was hand cut by me out of tackle twill and then sewn on by our seamstresses. I still have two unfinished ones I kept for my collection. The cool part was that WE decided how it should look. Not sure if that would happen today.

That same year was also when the O's were playing a mid-season exhibition game against Cuba at Camden Yards. We had to put all of the large circle patches on our jerseys and the only spot that made sense was where the Cal Sr. 7's were. We had to remove all of them, replace them with the Cuba patch, and then put the 7's back on above the bird patch on the left sleeve. What a nightmare!

We put all of the patches on the Cuba jerseys too. It was crazy seeing the difference in quality between their jerseys and MLB ones. Their jerseys were really thin, and all of the lettering was heat-applied flock. For that game the O's decided that they would provide the Cuban team with new satin jackets. Of course they didn't exist yet, and we found out about it the morning of the game!

The sleeve patch worn by the Cuban National Team and the Orioles for their 1999 exhibition game, which Joe applied to jerseys for both teams,

We rushed to get C's hand cut to be used on the jackets that matched the hats… well at least that was Mark's job. I had to bolt from our shop outside of Baltimore down to Upper Marlboro to pick up the jackets from the supplier. A 130-mile trip! I got the jackets and made it back to the shop in less than 2 hours! Not sure how I didn't get pulled over! We applied the C's and sent them to the stadium all by 5pm. A crazy day! I also still have one of the C's that wasn't used as a souvenir.



A player from the Cuban team wearing a jacket that was a gift from the Orioles, and the work of Joe's company.

It was crazy days like this that made doing the uniforms fun. It was a different time back then. The local shop was more valued and relied upon for more of the load. It seems now that more and more is being done by the manufacturer and by machines. It's a shame.

In addition to stitching in Baltimore shops, Joe Hilseberg is known for making sure his friends and family (mainly his twins) have the best looking gear, usually made by him. He is also an award-winning and nationally recognized BBQ pit-master, who has taken on Tuffy Stone, Moe Cason, and Myron Mixon… and come out on top.

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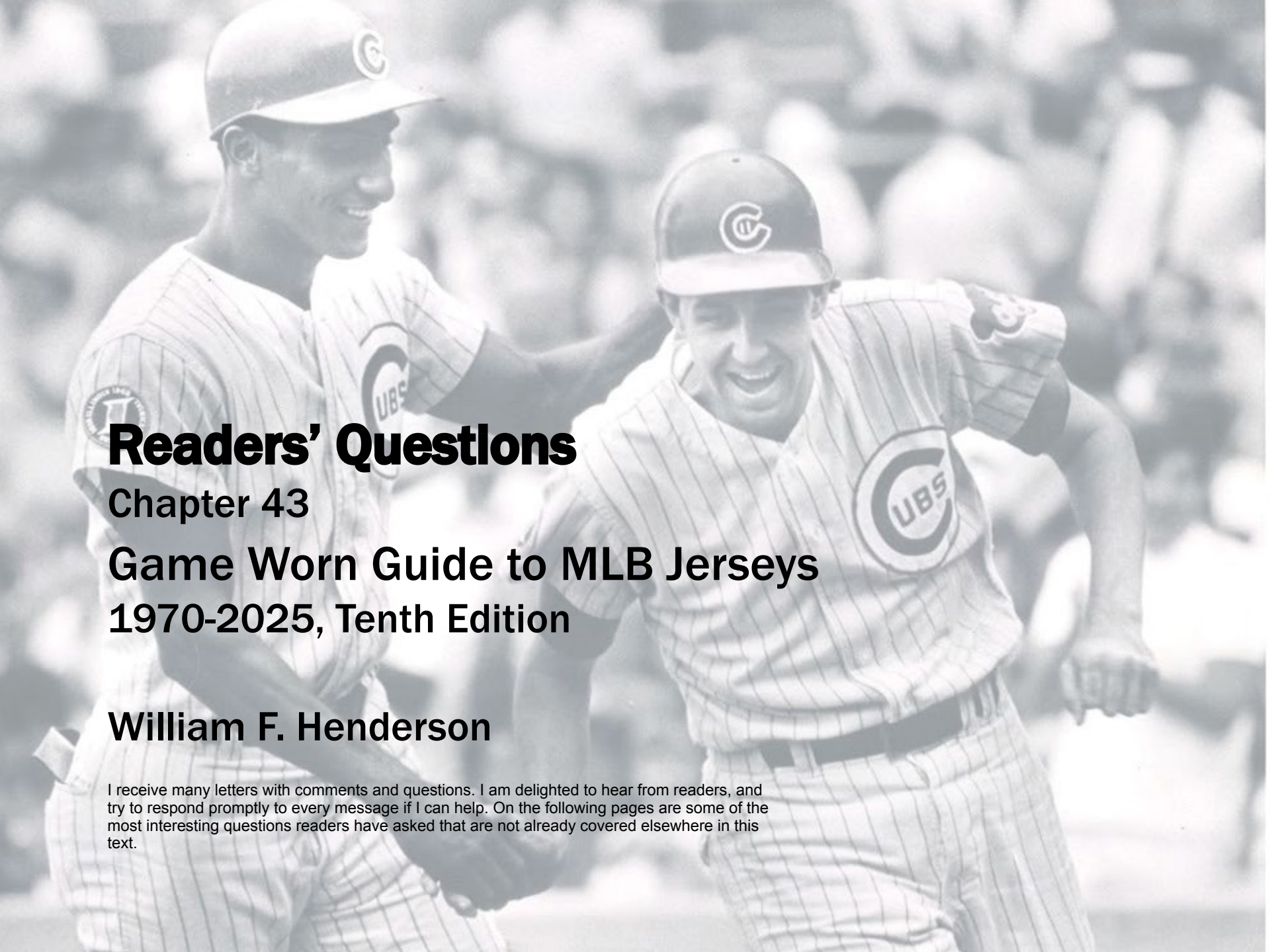

Readers' Questions

Chapter 43

Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

I receive many letters with comments and questions. I am delighted to hear from readers, and try to respond promptly to every message if I can help. On the following pages are some of the most interesting questions readers have asked that are not already covered elsewhere in this text.

Restoration/Lettering Questions

I have a MLB jersey from a semi famous player that has a lot of wear and the lettering is faded. Is it worth more if I restore the lettering and trim?

Generally when an item is in its original condition, and is not restored, you should leave it alone. Things are only original once. Replacing the team wordmark and the player name and numbers because they have faded and show use is not a smart idea generally. If you are looking for a jersey that is nicer and you want to wear it to the game, by all means create a reproduction and sell the original to somebody who will value it in its current unrestored state.

I have a MLB jersey that was worn by a 1980s semi famous player. The name and numbers have been changed. It is worth more if I restore it back to what it originally was?

Whenever anyone asks me anything with the word "worth" or "value" in the question, I ask them to stop and take a step back. The first question I ask is, what is your purpose in owning it? Do you want to wear it and enjoy it? Do you want to cash in and sell it to the highest bidder? Or do you want an interesting story to tell. Usually the answer is a combination of all three.

Things are "worth" exactly as much as the next person is willing to pay for them. And most of the collectors I work with are less interested in selling and more inclined to enjoy keeping, growing, and discussing their collections with friends and other collectors.

If it makes you happy to restore a modified jersey in your collection to its original appearance, by all means follow these rules that I observe in my practice.

- Perform an accurate restoration. Make sure that the original fonts and fabrics are used, and that the light table is used to lift all available ghosts so that they are perfectly covered with the replacement lettering. I also age (media blast and organically dye) new lettering to match the patina of the old as much as possible; it just looks better.
- By all means—document the restoration! I recommend at the very least a Letter of Restoration, or preferably a full Letter of Opinion of Authenticity of every jersey that is altered. Without it, the future owner will have no idea if your restoration is accurate—or if you simply modified a blank jersey to appear to belong to a famous player, therefore destroying the collector value instead of enhancing it!

Here is a link to a document with more detail on this topic.

A seller on eBay offers pre-cut authentic jersey lettering for sale. Is this a good deal?

It could be, but only if the seller is using good materials cut from correct patterns, and you have a plan in advance to complete the sewing after the lettering arrives in the mail.

Regarding quality, start by ordering one set and see what you think of the quality. If you are satisfied, then order more.

Regarding sewing, don't underestimate the difficulty of finding someone who can and will do the work for you to your specifications. So, I would advise to FIRST find someone in your area who will agree to do the sewing. Don't be surprised if local shops refuse to do this sort of work. Few want the hassle of dealing with sewing your lettering on your jerseys—because if it is done wrong, they know that they will be left with the work to fix it, possibly damaging both the garment and the lettering in the process.

Very, very few people are able to do the stitching with the precision collectors expect. Unless you have a sewing machine of your own, the confidence to try, and all the many colors of thread that you'll need to do the job right, this may not be the best option for you.

This on-line advertiser offers a complete selection of lettering kits that appear slightly less than accurate. If they look OK to you, don't let me stop you. (mine are correct to team specification, and are shown applied to the jersey. Theirs are shown loose and skewed to the sides.)

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Can I cut and sew my own lettering?

Professional shops cut twill using automated cutting machines that read right from the computer files, but if you are doing one or two, and are reasonably artistically skilled, you can trace the lettering on graph paper and cut the twill by hand with a sharp scissors.

The problem is in the cost of acquiring the raw materials. Tackle twill is available in a wide range of colors but is generally sold in rolls or sheets in quantities that are aimed at a commercial lettering shop, not for a hobbyist with a single jersey to letter.

If you are planning on customizing many jerseys, buying the patterns and twill may be a consideration. If you have only a few to do this may be fun to try but is probably not a cost-effective solution.

Regarding stitching, there is nothing magic about sewing numbers and letters on baseball jerseys. If you have a sewing machine and have practice with a zigzag stitch you can do it. You can spray adhesive on the back (like 3M Super 77) to tack it down. While athletic twill has a heat-sensitive adhesive backing that tacks it to the fabric, I strongly recommend against trying to heat the lettering to tack it down, as you are likely to scar the jersey with too much heat. Sewing many layers of twill together may require more power than some home-use machines possess, but two layers shouldn't be a problem for most.

What are jersey nameplates made from?

Nameplates should be made from the same fabric that makes the jersey. Some people substitute twill fabric, but it is very difficult to match the color and texture this way. Even whites don't match well. The manufacturer makes a matching quantity of knit cloth available to the lettering shop when the jerseys are ordered, often precut and even with the edges hemmed to prevent fraying. The edges must be hemmed before the nameplates are used.

Now, many of the jerseys being restored by collectors are older and are not easily matched with new, currently stocked fabrics (see the pages entitled "Shades of Gray" in the "Basics" chapter). Add to this the fact that older jerseys are faded or dingy because they have been washed dozens (or hundreds) of times, and the issue of color match becomes even more apparent.

The most likely source of donor fabric for old jerseys is old uniform pants, or sometimes other cut-up jerseys. Well stocked shops (like mine) or individuals skilled in restoring uniforms often will have an inventory of old uniform pants that they can use to make matching nameplates.

Keep all of these things in mind when considering the cost for restoring or lettering old jerseys. Good work costs good money, and if you find someone whose work you like, try not to be too price sensitive if you want to keep that relationship strong.

Properly sewn, team-spec nameplates should usually be serged around the edges before they are sewn on the jersey to look original prevent fraying . This is extra work that many retail shops don't bother with.

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I bought a jersey and I want to change the player name and number. Can I take the old name and number off? Will it leave marks?

Tackle twill is usually both sewn and glued on. If you carefully remove the thread and apply a warm iron to the back of the garment, sometimes it is removable leaving few marks. At the opposite extreme the lettering might be glued so firmly that it will not come off at all. The actual result is typically somewhere in between. Usually the lettering will come off but leave some glue marks behind, which can be removed with dry cleaning fluid. The more sheer types of fabric like Cool Base are very susceptible to fabric pulls and discoloration, so exercise particular care with these.

Back in the "old days" (pre-2000) jerseys were routinely stripped and reissued by teams. The whole purpose of tackle twill lettering was to make this easy and possible. Pulling the thread and a little cleanup, and the jersey could be reissued to another player in a jiffy. But the combination of new tech fabrics that are very thin and are easily damaged, and the fact that teams just don't reissue jerseys to other players anymore, so they are less worried about the remove-ability of the lettering, mean that recent jerseys are harder to re-letter.

Since forever, all stitched pro jerseys have used heat/pressure adhesive as well as thread to hold the lettering in place. However, many/most of the new tech fabric jerseys (Cool Base/Flex Base) use a very sticky adhesive backed twill that is meant to be applied without heat. In general, most lettering can be still removed with enough time and patience. But unfortunately, we won't know if there is staining underneath that is permanent until we take things off.

Generally, dark colored, full-weight knit jerseys (not Cool Base) are the easiest to strip and clean. Light colored jerseys can be a challenge if the old lettering has been applied with too much heat, because heat can cause the color of the appliqué to leech into the fabric. With too much heat the color is not "on" the fabric anymore, it is "in" the fabric and once the chemical change happens, there is no reversing it.

The worst projects to tackle are multi-color stitched-through lettering designs with drop shadows, like the current San Francisco Giants and the 1990s New York Mets. The current Cincinnati Reds is the absolute worst case. There is a tremendous amount of thread holding these letters in place, and on the drop shadows, backstitching is used on the sewing machine to reinforce the application. Removing all these thread clumps and knots from tech fabrics is very time consuming and the result is often less than desirable, leaving perforations in the cloth.

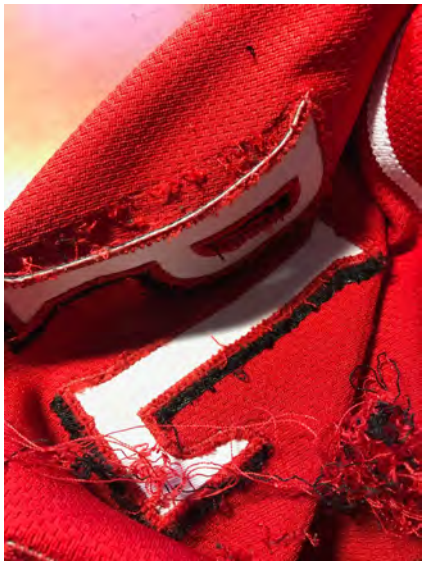
Removing lettering from some later-issue Mitchell & Ness double knit jerseys is daunting, as these are stitched on giant industrial sewing machines that apply thousands of tiny tracer stitches as part of the automation process.

Especially on very old jerseys that have been sent to the minors and re-lettered, expect to see fabric sun-fading around the numbers when they are removed. This really can't be easily addressed.

Removing lettering is done with a seam-ripper from the front (lettering side) of the jersey. You must work slowly and carefully. The seam ripper is very happy to rip holes in your shirt if you aren't careful. After removing thread, if the lettering is still stuck down, it is best not to force it off. I have chemicals that will dissolve the glue and prevent damage to the fabric beneath. I can send you a "how to" document that shows how to use a seam ripper.

What does this mean? Clearly, it is always best to start with unlettered, blank-back jerseys for your project. But sometimes this isn't an option, and if you buy previously-lettered jerseys, budget around $55-$75 to have the old lettering removed, glue cleaned, and the jersey laundered/fabric steamed to remove traces of the old stitching holes. And be prepared to accept a result that may not be perfectly undetectable.

This video shows me using the dry-cleaning gun to remove glue/ink staining.



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Authenticity Questions

Should I have my jersey(s) authenticated?

There are a number of reasons to have your jerseys professionally authenticated, and some reasons why it might not make sense, those which I'll cover at the end of this discussion.

Authentication is a good idea to cement the value If your jersey is of a notable player (not necessarily a superstar). Once done, keep in a safe place you won't have to think about it again. Reasonably speaking, the cost of the authentication should be more than made up with the enhanced selling price or value of the item in hand.

Most auction houses will insist on an authentication, and if you don't provide them with one they accept, they will get it done for you, at your expense. You will pay the price they quote you, and some will not share the full results with you, especially if it does not pass. And you will generally not have an opportunity to choose or to speak with the authenticator at all. If you are selling yourself, say on eBay, a trusted authentication is "a must" to get the true value of your item. I often hear, "I don't need an authentication because I am not planning on selling my collection," but unless you are somehow immortal, you are not going to live forever; your collection will certainly outlive you! Your spouse, or worse, someone who doesn't really care about you or your collection will be left to disburse it after you have gone. They will generally have no idea what to do with it, and it is likely to be sold for a fraction of its value. I dislike immensely talking with people who brag about what they "stole" from a widow.

You can get your jerseys looked at if you simply want peace of mind, or for possible recourse from a recent purchase. Many jerseys I evaluate were purchased with the stipulation that they will pass an independent authentication. Sometimes, sellers hope that simply making this offer to you will convince you that the jersey they are selling you is an authentic collectible and you won't bother to check. Unfortunately, a significant number of jerseys I have evaluated in this situation have not passed my inspection and were returned within the time limit the seller stipulated. Don't let your heart cause you to make a poor investment ownership decision you can't recover from.

Steps to Take

If you have a jersey in your collection that you would like evaluated or authenticated, or a significant collection of jerseys that you want to have properly insured against loss, I can help. Consider your objective:

• Are you just curious to learn more about what it is and where it may have been used, for your own information, and see if a deeper examination is warranted?

• Do you want a detailed authentication done for the purpose of cementing the value of the item, or for possibly selling it either now or sometime in the future?

• Do you want to try to photo-match your jersey to actual game use?

• Do you need authentication done for estate or insurance purposes, either for a collection of retail authentic jerseys or for individual valuable pieces?

To make this easy, for all these choices, let's break it down:

Level 1: A Quick Look Evaluation "for your information only"

I don't believe in wasting your money or my time. The purpose of this exercise is to determine if a deeper examination is warranted. If you wish, for $75, I will take a look at your jersey, either in-hand or from a good set of photos. I need to see stitching (from the outside and inside) and tagging. I'll comment on what I see, based on my experience, in a brief telephone conversation. This service does not include a written document. From this evaluation, I will absolutely not be able to tell you if your jersey is game worn.

If you then opt to have me do a more detailed authentication for you, I will credit you the cost of this initial evaluation.

Level 2: Detailed Authentication, Evaluation, Photos, and Write-Up

For suspected team-issued or game-worn, or especially any significantly historic jersey to command a good price at auction, it quite simply needs to be authenticated. For example, if you suspect you have a Gary Carter Mets jersey that you think was worn during the 1986 season and want to make that claim in your listing, with a legitimate letter of authentication you might get $5,000 for it. Without one you might get $900. It's that simple. Clearly, the investment in having it credibly authenticated is worth the expense.

I only authenticate things I can hold in-hand. I try to keep my pricing simple and affordable. Keep in mind it takes me as long to examine an item and determine it is authentic, or not authentic. Frankly, the inauthentic ones often take me longer.

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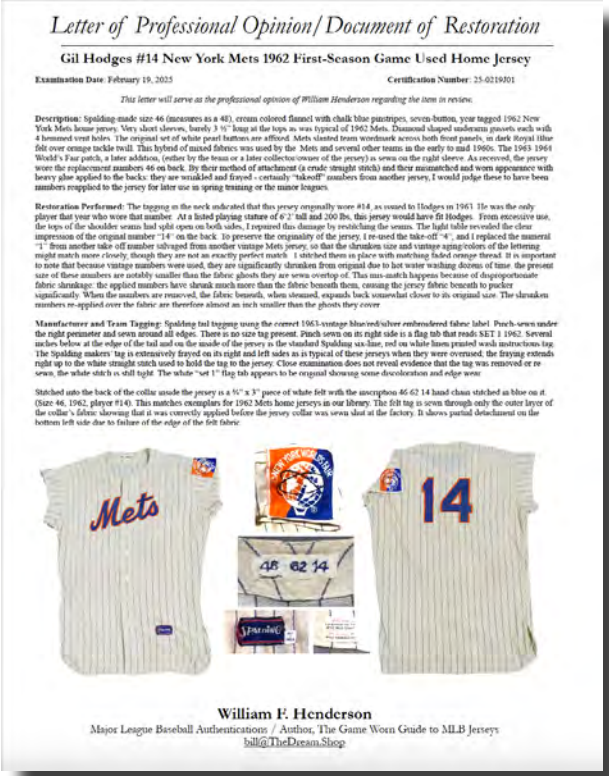
Other Authentication Services

If you were to lose part or all of your collection in a fire or by theft, you will quickly find that your homeowners or renters insurance policy simply does not cover "collections." If you have any sort of a collection, the burden is on you, in advance, to document what you have. After it is gone it is simply too late to decide to document it.

Insurance Valuation Letter

If you have a significant number of retail authentic jerseys or more common-player game-worn jerseys hanging in your closet, for a negotiated fee based on the amount of my time required, I can help you put together an inventory document to submit to your insurer that shows a reasonable retail replacement value for these items. My experience is that, after a loss, telling the insurance company that you had 50 authentics that are now gone, they will be disbelieving and will ask you for proof of the purchase of each one. Unless you keep records better than 99.9% of everyone in the world, you will not be able to provide that documentation and they will not pay the claim. My documentation will record and certify that you did in fact have this many authentic jerseys and their average retail replacement value is nominally $250 each… that's $12,500 in total you would otherwise be "out".



Letter of Professional Opinion / Document of Restoration

Gil Hodges #14 New York Mets 1962 First-Season Game Used Home Jersey

Examination Date: February 19, 2025 **Certification Number**: 25-0219J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Spalding-made size 46 (measures as a 48), cream colored flannel with chalk blue pinstripes, seven-button, year tagged 1962 New York Mets home jersey. Very short sleeves, barely 3 ½" long at the tops as was typical of 1962 Mets. Diamond shaped underarm gussets each with 4 hemmed vent holes. The original set of white pearl buttons are affixed. Mets slanted team wordmark across both front panels, in dark Royal blue felt over orange tackle twill. This hybrid of mixed fabrics was used by the Mets and several other teams in the early to mid 1960s. The 1963-1964 World's Fair patch, a later addition, (either by the team or a later collector/owner of the jersey) is sewn on the right sleeve. As received, the jersey wore the replacement numbers 46 on back. By their method of attachment (a crude straight stitch) and their mismatched and worn appearance with heavy glue applied to the backs: they are wrinkled and frayed - certainly "takeoff" numbers from another jersey, I would judge these to have been numbers reapplied to the jersey for later use in spring training or the minor leagues.

Restoration Performed: The tagging in the neck indicated that this jersey originally wore #14, as issued to Hodges in 1963. He was the only player that year who wore that number. At a listed playing stature of 6'2" tall and 200 lbs, this jersey would have fit Hodges. From excessive use, the tops of the shoulder seams had split open on both sides, I repaired this damage by reshifting the seams. The light table revealed the clear impression of the original number "14" on the back. To preserve the originality of the jersey, I re-used the take-off "4", and I replaced the numeral "1" from another take off number salvaged from another vintage Mets jersey, so that the shrunken size and vintage aging/colors of the lettering might match more closely, though they are not an exactly perfect match. I stitched them in place with matching faded orange thread. It is important to note that because vintage numbers were used, they are significantly shrunken from original due to hot water washing decades of time: the present size of these numbers are notably smaller than the fabric ghosts they are sewn overtop of. This mis-match happens because of disproportionate fabric shrinkage: the applied numbers have shrunk much more than the fabric beneath them, causing the jersey fabric beneath to pucker significantly. When the numbers are removed, the fabric beneath, when stressed, expands back somewhat closer to its original size. The shrunken numbers re-applied over the fabric are therefore almost an inch smaller than the ghosts they cover.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Spalding tail tagging using the correct 1963-vintage blue/red/silver embroidered fabric label. Punch-sewn under the right perimeter and sewn around all edges. There is no size tag present. Pinch sewn on its right side is a flag tab that reads: SET 1 1962. Several inches below at the edge of the tail and on the inside of the jersey is the standard Spalding six-line, red on white linen printed wash instructions tag. The Spalding makers' tag is extensively frayed on its right and left sides as is typical of these jerseys when they were oversized; the fraying extends right up to the white straight stitch used to hold the tag to the jersey. Close examination does not reveal evidence that the tag was removed or re-sewn; the white stitch is still tight. The white "set 1" flag tab appears to be original showing some discoloration and edge wear.

Stitched into the back of the collar inside the jersey is a 6½" x 3" piece of white felt with the inscription 46 62 14 hand chain stitched in blue on it (Size 46, 1962, player #14). This matches exemplars for 1962 Mets home jerseys in our library. The felt tag is sewn through only the outer layer of the collar's fabric showing that it was correctly applied before the jersey collar was sewn shut at the factory. It shows partial detachment on the bottom left side due to failure of the edge of the felt fabric.

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
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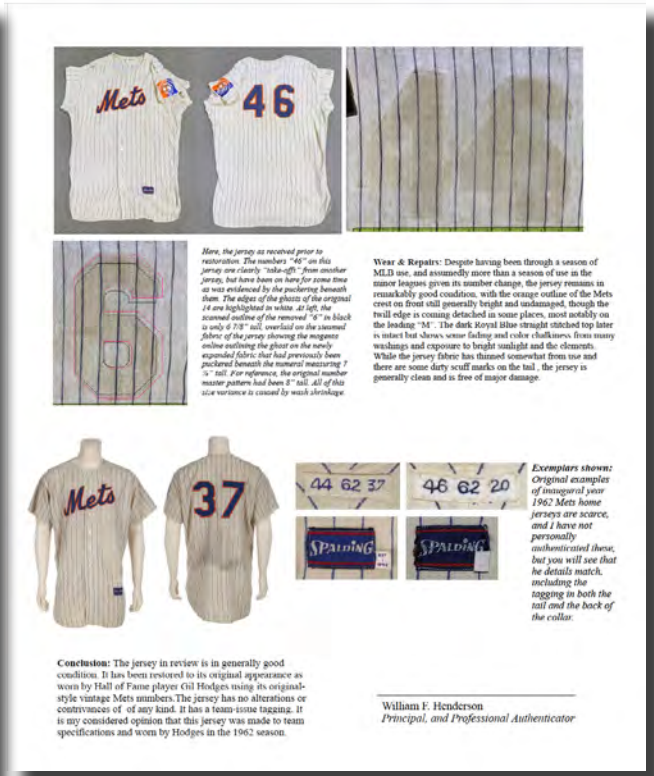

Here, the jersey as received prior to restoration. The numbers "46" on this jersey are clearly "take-offs" from another jersey, but have been on here for some time as was evidenced by the puckering beneath them. The edges of the ghosts of the original 14 are highlighted in white. At left, the scanned outline of the removed "6" in black is only 6 7/8" tall, overlaid on the stressed fabric of the jersey showing the magenta outline of the ghost on the newly expanded fabric that had previously been puckered beneath the numeral measuring 7 ½" tall. For reference, the original number master pattern had been 8" tall. All of this size variance is caused by wash shrinkage.

Wear & Repairs: Despite having been through a season of MLB use, and assumedly more than a season of use in the minor leagues given its number change, the jersey remains in remarkably good condition, with the orange outline of the Mets crest on front still generally bright and undamaged, though the twill edge is coming detached in some places, most notably on the leading "M". The dark Royal blue straight stitched top liner is intact but shows some fading and color chalkiness from many washings and exposure to bright sunlight and the elements. While the jersey fabric has thinned somewhat from use and there are some dirty scuff marks on the tail, the jersey is generally clean and is free of major damage.

Exemplars shown: *Original examples of inaugural year 1962 Mets home jerseys are scarce, and I have not personally authenticated these, but you will see that he details match, including the tagging in both the tail and the back of the collar.*

Conclusion: The jersey in review is in generally good condition. It has been restored to its original appearance as worn by Hall of Fame player Gil Hodges using its original-style vintage Mets numbers. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Hodges in the 1962 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

Authentication of individual valuable items for insurance/estates

There is no avoiding it—if you have jerseys in your collection worth more than, say, $250 each, you need to have an expert's letter certifying their authenticity if you hope to be covered for their damage or loss. And, if you want to insure a valuable item for its true worth, your insurance company will certainly require an authentication and possibly an appraisal before covering a collectible item for its market value. Without any question, getting valuable items authenticated is a wise investment.

When not to authenticate?

Frankly, there are many jerseys that are not worth an independent authentication, from a financial standpoint. These include jerseys, say, post-1987 that were issued to non-star players, and recent jerseys that come with a MLB authentication hologram and a reference in the MLB database. (Though, for famous players or jerseys from big events, many auction houses will still require an independent third-party authentication to lessen the chance of representing a fraudulent item.)

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I just bought a jersey from a seller who claimed it was game worn by Ozzie Smith/Gary Carter/George Brett/Curt Schilling when he played for the Cardinals/Mets/Royals/ Red Sox. I will send you photos. I am now thinking it is not real. Can you tell me if you think it is authentic?

I am asked questions like this one all the time, and as a professional authenticator, it is unwise for me to offer casual opinions on any jersey's authenticity. While for a long time I have politely declined any comment, I now offer a structured and limited $75 "quick look" service for such items. This service is designed to allow an owner (or potential purchaser) to decide if an item is worth a more detailed evaluation. It does not include a written evaluation. Contact me, Bill@TheDream.shop, for more information. A short document is linked here explaining the process.

I have a team issued Sandy Koufax jersey from when he was a Dodgers spring training instructor in the 1970s. What do you think it is worth?

It sounds like a flippant answer, but it is true…any item is worth exactly what the next buyer will pay for it. I casually but regularly monitor jerseys sold at online auctions and note that they sell for predictable and consistent prices over time. At these auctions there are few insane bargains, and few sales that conclude for amounts far higher than I would expect. It's a fair market—and this is good for both buyers and sellers. Conversely, the "asking prices" for similar items from many (but not all!) dealers are often 20-50% higher than the same items will bring at auction; you can tell if a dealer's prices are higher than the market if you see the same items in stock for sale month after month after month. Dealers who turn their inventory over regularly are pricing their items more closely with what the market will pay. It's pretty simple.

Regarding your Koufax jersey, you don't mention provenance—which is true proof of an item's origin. For the sake of my reply, I'll assume that your item is authentic, but you don't have any real iron-clad proof that it is. That's the real status of most items like yours in the hobby. It wasn't carelessness, people were just happy to acquire an item like this and didn't bother with all the details of where it came from or how they got it. But based on looking at the results of thousands of auctions, I can make the following observations.

The first issue that will influence a buyer paying top dollar is *provenance*. And "top dollar" requires really good proof that an item is real, like a certificate on official letterhead signed by the Dodgers and Koufax and then notarized, with corresponding photographic proof that the item in hand is the same one referenced in the letter.

Secondly, jerseys worn by famous players when they were coaches or instructors do not command the same value from hardcore collectors as items worn during their playing careers. It's just the way it is. Sandy Koufax never wore a double-knit jersey during his playing career; he retired several years before they came about.

Your best guess as to the worth of an item is to search various auction houses, dealers' and online auction sites for already-sold items like yours. eBay over the years has been a very stable predictor of the street value of collectibles of all types. Items there rather go for much more or much less than my conditioned expectations, and are based strongly on items' proof of legitimacy.

Finally, if you want to try to sell it with minimal risk, sell it with a "reserve" on auction. This way if your price is not met it won't sell. Keep in mind that many bidders will not participate in reserve auctions on principle. The simpler solution is to make the opening bid the minimum price you would accept for the item. Just be aware that this will also discourage some bidders as well.

Why don't you use more examples of famous players' jerseys when you show photographs in each chapter? I would rather see more photos of real Barry Bonds or Derek Jeter jerseys than those of players that nobody has heard of.

The reason for the inclusion of mostly "no-name" players is that in determining authenticity, it is very valuable to be able to see clues that are present in the game-prepared jerseys of everyday players, because these are far less likely to have been tampered with and are more probably completely original. Many star player jerseys in the hobby are not authentic originals. My goal is to provide readers with the basic facts of authenticity, and therefore when given the choice of including photos a common player jersey of or one from a superstar, I will skip the famous jersey almost every time.

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My question is why did some teams use two different jersey companies, even in the same year? And why was the lettering not the same on all jerseys by all makers?

It was not at all uncommon for MLB teams to have used two or more vendors to create the teams' uniforms in any year. In fact, as you look through the pages of the Guide you will see that it is actually more common than not.

The reason is financial. Companies like Wilson and Rawlings want to be publicly associated with Major League teams. Supplying the Mets with uniforms translated into tens of thousands of little league and high school uniforms sold in the New York area, and even more balls, bats, gloves, and sets of catcher's equipment. For promotional consideration of some kind, equipment was offered to the MLB teams at a substantial discount in most cases or might have been "paid for" in part or in full by a corresponding advertising team licensing agreement. Keep in mind that before 1987 there were no manufacturer names of any kind visible on MLB uniforms, by the rules.

In choosing multiple companies to supply uniforms, teams multiplied the amount of money they could save on needing to purchase other equipment. In the Mets case, during the early 1970s Rawlings supplied the team's home uniforms and Wilson supplied the road ones. Other teams (like the San Francisco Giants, Chicago White Sox, and Atlanta Braves) for many years have had two suppliers, each one delivering a full set of each home and away uniforms. These were sometimes noted as "SET 1" and "SET 2". Typically, teams had two full sets of uniforms, both road and home, for each season. This was in case a day game followed a night game, or a uniform was damaged or lost/stolen. Some teams, notably the Oakland A's for several years, used as many as five suppliers for the team's myriad of alternate uniforms.

Which brings us to the question as to why the team scripts, graphics, patches, and numbering were often different when comparing jerseys made by different manufacturers. I can't say that the reason is "nobody cared," because that would probably be a blanket statement that is just not true. But I will say that branding and graphical consistency was far less stringent because it was far harder to accomplish in the pre-digital age. Players were viewed in person from afar, in television and newsprint in grainy black and white images.

The ability to "preview" designs was just not possible under tight time frames in the pre-computer age as we take for granted today. And patterns for numbers and scripts were often made of paper with pinholes, or sometimes like cookie cutters made of steel or alloy, designed to be struck with a mallet from the top to cut the fabric that would be sewn to the uniforms. These patterns were created painstakingly by hand (by someone with blacksmith skills, literally!) and they were the possession of the uniform company that owned these precious dies.

So, telling Spalding to use the same patterns for numbers as used by Wilson was not a matter of sharing a computer digitizing file. It was often a matter of pinhole paper, or steel, solder, and craftsmanship. At the very least, the patterns were flat stencils made of hardboard, Talcum powder was sprinkled around the edges, and then someone with a sharp scissors went to work.

Even team wordmarks or logo scripts were re-created by each manufacturer on a drawing board, usually using various source material as a reference point. "Official artwork" belonging to the team marketing department was still years away. I worked in an art studio during the 1970s while in high school, and the cabinets that held original art were huge, shallow-drawer monstrosities, each drawer filled with cellophane taped together tissue paper, velum, and all smelling of India ink. This "was" the artwork—storing things on a hard drive for immediate retrieval, resizing and reproduction was not even imagined at that point in time!

Copies of the originals were made by artists taping tracing paper over the original and making a hand drawn copy. Increasing the size by 10%, say, required a large platform camera, film, and a darkroom, or it required some sort of a shadow box with pulleys and lenses (a "Lacey-Luci" was the trade name of one) that allowed an original to be projected onto glass and traced in a new size…all by hand using a sharp pencil and a French Curve.

The Mets example is a good one—different versions of the fairly simple Mets script were used by Spalding/Wilson/Rawlings and Goodman (who used two different styles—one in the 70s and one in the 80s). I am certain people noticed, and probably it annoyed some greatly, just as inconsistencies in uniform lettering annoy people now. But it was less well-distributed and was just something that people lived with then. A simpler time, it was!

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Tagging variations from normal

Mr. Henderson:

I have a question about the 1984 Wohlford and Rose jersey Rawlings tags that are in your Montreal Expos section. I noticed the Rawlings tag is the four-line variety (1985-1987), even though the flag tag reads 1984. Was it possible that 1984 jerseys had the 1985-1987 four-line washing instruction Rawlings tag?

My answer:

Thank you for writing! It is these sorts of little inconsistencies that I am delighted that people pick up and share with me.

The dates of manufacturer tag use are approximate. I suspect that this means that the tag style I noted as being first used in 1985 probably actually started some time in 1984. The old stock was used up (both jerseys and labels!) before the switch was made to the new style tag across the board. If you told me it was a 1990 team tag on a 1984-era jersey, I would take special note—but this is close enough to be likely legitimate.

Finally, any characteristic noted on a jersey of a famous name player (like Rose) will cause me to address the item with a heightened level of suspicion. People fake these jerseys all the time, for reasons explained in the chapter "Is it Game Worn?" But if the Wohlford jersey has the same characteristics, my suspicions would be mostly eased, in this case. I doubt many people are making fakes of his jersey.

Team year tagging is incorrect?

A retired MLB player writes to ask:

I found your book and all the research fascinating. I have a question and have attached a photo of my first jersey.

I was drafted by my first club in 1970. I wore this flannel jersey during my first Spring Training camp in 1972 . Notice that the tagging on the jersey's tail says it is from 1970.

Why they would add my name to a uniform in 1970 and let it sit for a few years until Spring Training of 1972 is a mystery to me. Maybe they just held onto it when I was signed, and lettered it when needed. I wouldn't have thought anything of this until after I read my team's chapter in your book. I know it is authentic because it is mine!

My answer:

The fact that you were drafted in 1970 and your 1972 Spring Training jersey has a 1970 year tag is probably just simple coincidence. Old stock that is sitting around from prior years is used up, especially when your team's uniform design has stayed the same for many years. As a Spring Training rookie, your jersey may have been used before by another player and recycled, or it may have been "old stock" lettered for your first use.

Note that for the regular season, your team switched to knit jerseys. So surely, if you recall, you were issued a new knit jersey for the regular season since you indeed made the big league squad. Thank you for sharing with us–it is very cool that you have saved your first jersey.

(His reply: "Your Opening Day scenario sounds logical. Hell, I was there and I don't remember!")

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Financial Questions

Should I get insurance for my collection?

- Collectors are often surprised when they take the time to calculate the replacement value of their collections. Even owning 30 authentics of the common variety can be valued reasonably at $5,000. Yet very few collectors bother to make sure their collections are insured, and that's a mistake.
- The trouble is, simply insuring *collections* is not easy to do. You will probably find that if you contact your current homeowners' insurance company that they will have vague answers for you. The most common answer is "We don't insure collections but will insure specific items of value if you can provide an appraisal." This answer is problematic for most jersey collectors, because getting your collection appraised is not as easy as, say, having a coin collection valued.
- However, first consider the retail value a new, store bought authentic and use it as a baseline. Ask your insurer if they will accept this as a reasonable replacement cost for any single item in your collection. If they agree, this may be good enough for most collectors. Today, most "common" game worn jerseys are valued under $250. Assume that you can get $180 as a retail price valuation for each, and if the insurer will accept this as valid in the event of a loss, it may not be worth the additional trouble to get an appraisal done. In this case, I believe it is good practice to send your agent a detailed, itemized list of your collection whether they ask for one or not, to refer to in case of a claim. Update it yearly. If you have particularly valuable items that ought to be appraised or your insurance company will not accept a retail estimate of value, by all means have these items appraised. Having a collection that is worth many thousands of dollars left uninsured is just plain irresponsible.

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General Questions about the Book and Collecting

Are all the uniforms in the book in your collection? How many uniforms do you have and where do you keep them all?

I own in the neighborhood of 1,500 authentic MLB knit jerseys, but only a few flannels. Probably 2/3 of them are game worn. I have casually been looking for "one of every style" without really imagining I'd ever reach that goal. Most of the ones I am missing now are the really hard to find ones, jersey styles from the 1970s when the only jerseys ever made were the ones the team used, when there were almost none made for retail sale. Not surprisingly, these are the really expensive ones as well. While some of my collection is indeed pictured in this book, most of the photos I use are not my jerseys. Over time I have looked for examples that are better than mine, sharing with other collectors and collecting photos from select, reputable dealers. I have purposely avoided sharing examples of jerseys from star players unless I have authenticated them myself. The chance that a un-authenticated star player jersey is contrived in some way is too high for me to consider using it as an example in a trusted reference like this one.

I have a large dedicated storage closet, almost 25 feet long and two jerseys high, where my collection is hung in team alphabetical then chronological order.

Double-knit jerseys are easy to store safely. As long as the place is dry and without direct sunlight, it's usually OK. There are fewer worries from things like moths, discoloration, or decay that affect natural fabrics like cotton and wool.

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It seems that game worn jerseys from the 70s and 80s are much smaller than those from more recent years. Have players gotten that much larger?

The average jersey size today is indeed significantly larger than the average jersey size 20 or more years ago. I have no scientific data on player size, but it does seem that there are far more beefy linebacker-sized players in MLB today than there were 25 or more years ago.

However, I think the biggest contributor to this change is in how the players prefer to wear their uniforms. Skin-tight was the style back then, baggy is the norm now. Styles change, and the trend has begun to swing back. After all, baggy was fashionable back in the 40s and 50s too.

Sizes of jerseys (or men's suits) are actually the measurement around the wearer's chest. A size 44 represents a 44-inch chest measurement. Therefore, a size 44 jersey laid flat should measure 22 inches across the front at the armpits. Back in the 70s and 80s, many of the gamers were size 42 or 44 and they actually were 42 and 44 inches in circumference. Today there seem to be far more jerseys in the size 48 to 50 range because players like to wear the uniforms loose and baggy. Today's jerseys also often run larger than their printed size by as much as two inches, varying by manufacturer.

Check out these photos at right from the 70s and 80s. Those are some tight pants!

Top: The Athletics line up for the start of the 1989 World Series. ***Bottom left,*** the photo of 1982 Expos show why that team's uniforms of the era always seem to be at least one full size smaller than the label says. Those pants are so tight you can almost read the labels on the underwear. ***Bottom right,*** Brewers players in a 2007 Turn Back the Clock game simply have it all wrong.

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Yellowing knit jerseys

A former MLB player writes to ask, *"While cleaning yesterday, I opened the drawers that store the uniform tops from my career. I was surprised to find that some of them have yellowed over the years. What can be done to restore the original white color without damaging the lettering?*

My Answer: Your problem is a common one, and happens especially often with 100% nylon jerseys, vs. those that are "100% polyester," these being a blend of nylon and other synthetics. The early Pirates jerseys and the Goodman Dodgers jerseys are very susceptible to this, among others, and I don't know exactly why it happens, though it appears most frequently on jerseys that are folded and in drawers vs. those on hangers in the open air. I suspect it has something to do with the nylon contacting the acids in wood in a piece of furniture over a period of time.

The lettering on these uniforms is very resistant to damage, luckily, so the yellowing in the fabric is usually removable without negative effect to the twill. Here are the steps I follow:

Use Woolite diluted at 25% in a basin of warm water, and lightly scrub the yellowed areas of the jersey with a bristled brush. Then soak the jersey in Woolite and water for a few hours, kneading it and rubbing the fabric gently against itself once in a while to circulate the soapy water through the material.

After the pre-soak, rinse it thoroughly and hold it up to see if the yellowing is gone. If not, repeat the process. Afterwards, washing the jersey in the machine on gentle cycle will often do the trick.

If this doesn't work, move next to the same process with Oxiclean, and then finally Clorox II or a very diluted chlorine bleach as your last resort, keeping the soaking time to an absolute minimum. The first thing to fade with bleaching is the thread that attaches the lettering, then the knit trim The rest of the garment are usually very resistant to damage. You should see some Twins jerseys that I have scrubbed with almost direct bleach to get them clean...the Twins are another team than never wasted a penny, and their facilities had reddish dirt that seemingly stained everything !

Air dry, do not tumble dry when done. Then hang them on hangers with air circulating around them and they will be good for a few years again.

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Why don't you print this as a hardcover book and sell it that way?

I'd love to print it. But the result would cost more than 99% of buyers would be willing to pay for it. I have looked at all sorts of alternatives, including printing in black and white, shrinking the pages to fit four screens on a single open leaf of a book, grossly abridging the content, printing the American League separate from the National League—and the math just doesn't make sense; I still end up north of $100 per copy. I'm afraid I'd end up with hundreds of unsold copies getting musty in my garage. Maybe someday I'll figure out a solution. In the meantime, some avid readers have printed and bound their own copies by bringing the file to the local copy center. One reader told me he did it overnight on the color printer at work. Shame on him. The photo above is my editing copy for the **2007 edition** *which is only 1/3 as long* as the current one, and shows how thick this work is when printed two screens to a page on regular letter paper!

Could you show an example of every jersey from every year for every team?

Where this seemed like an impossible idea at one point, we have gotten much closer to that ideal. There are thousands of new photos in this edition, as well as pages showing the actual sleeve placement of commemorative patches, World Series patches, and memorial armbands

Are you ever going include jerseys going back before 1970?

If I live long enough, yes. I am asked this question more than occasionally, let me answer candidly. I would like to author team-by-team editions that cover the postwar years, and I do have many thousands photos that would support the effort. The challenge, and my commitment, is that any research I would publish on such a topic must be very accurate, and the amount of research I would need to do to compile such a work to ensure accuracy that is up to my standards would be staggering.

Compared to this book which covers 1970-2025, there are a few important factors that make covering 1945-1969 a much harder task:

1) There are far fewer surviving examples of original, unaltered jerseys from these decades. First, in those days the only team jerseys made were the ones that were made for the players to wear! Teams made-do with two sets of jerseys that had to last an entire year, and sometimes they would be used for two years or more. Then, when the club was done with these uniforms, they were often stripped of all lettering, patches, and team insignias, and sent to the minor league team to have something else sewn on them to be used for a few more years until they were truly ready for the rag bin.

By my educated estimates after doing hundreds of restorations and authentications, 95% of all pre-1970 jersey have been altered in some way between the day they were originally issued and now. As a researcher, I don't want to represent photos of items that are inaccurate as the model for collectors to reference as the real thing.

2) Research of original source documents is far more difficult in these decades. Not only was it a long time ago, but in those decades there were far fewer photographs taken. Photos were for the newspaper, for the most part, which had a shelf life of one day. Newspapers from major cities are available on microfilm at larger libraries, featuring grainy and toneless black-and-white photos, but the time, effort, and expense to research this bygone era properly is 100 times harder than doing research on the past 50 years. I have the greatest admiration for author Marc Okkonen who documented the history of baseball uniforms year-by-year all the way back to 1900 in his now long out-of-print book *Baseball Uniforms of the 20th Century*, last printed in the early 1990s.

Do you plan to expand to include caps and jackets? Socks? Pants?

No. I have decided to limit my research to team jerseys.

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Document of Restoration

If I am doing work on your game worn jersey, a critically smart idea

If you are having any restoration work done on a game worn jersey, I strongly recommend you add this step. It is a short but very important document that explains and shows with a few photographs what we did in our work. This simple step can be the difference between your item being accepted or rejected by an authenticator, auction house, or buyer in the future.

The problem: When an authenticator puts your jersey on a light table, evidence of that jersey's past life comes to life. If you are returning a player jersey to its original configuration after a stint in the minors, I always do my best to put the replacement lettering perfectly and directly overtop any original ghosts that remain. But now, after repair, what the authenticator will see is the ghosts of the old, removed minor league or reissue lettering. Their conclusion may well be that the jersey has been tampered with to turn it into something it was not. Let me be clear: *You do not want your jersey to fail an authentication.* In our digital age, databases are kept and shared so that the next person researching your jersey at another place and time may stumble on this data and at worst, incorrectly assume you are trying to commit a fraud.

The solution: Having a document of the process of your jersey's restoration becomes a part of its permanent provenance. In it, I will include photos of before, and after, and a short paragraph or two about the work that was performed. While this is not an authentication in itself, it can accompany a full authentication document, one that I can also do for you if you wish, while the jersey is in my hands.

A sample **Document of Restoration** is offered on the next page. My charge for creating it is only $75, and having it at the time of resale may mean hundreds, or even thousands of dollars of difference in the price realized.

Final thought: If your response to this is: *"No, I sure don't need this. I am not planning on selling. I am going to always keep it."* I hate to be so blunt, but your collection will most definitely outlive you. And someone you love is going to be charged with selling your collection after you have left us. The worst calls I get are not from widows with undocumented collections to sell, but are instead from smug people who brag to me about what they "stole" from a seller who didn't know what he or she had. Invest the $75 and keep the document with your important papers, and forget about it.

The Dream Shop: http://GameWornGuides.com http://TheDream.Shop

Document of Restoration

San Diego Padres 1977 Home Jersey #37

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Diego Padres Wilson-made 1977 home jersey. As received it was #53 and without a name on back. Jersey is tail tagged 37-77. Clear glue/shadow evidence exists of the original #37 on back and front, as well as the removal of a nameplate, likely for use in spring training of the minor leagues. All thread holding on the front wool mark is bleached grady white.

Work Performed: Removed the numbers from front and back, replaced with new ones using team font and matching to the shadow of the original numbers. Replaced name on back per 1977 roster on nameplate exactly matching the team alphabet font and vertical arch lettering style. Nameplate was made from a pair of used game pants. Twill lettering was media blasted prior to stitching to jersey to reduce the sheen for a better match to the original lettering, and all was sewn with bleached-color thread for a better match. Spot hand re-dyed the existing bleached brown thread.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications
Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
The Dream Shop: MLB Jersey Restorations

Document of Restoration

San Francisco Giants 1981 Road Jersey- Whitson

This is not a letter of authenticity. Its purpose is to document the history of an alteration of a jersey in our shop.

As Received: San Francisco Giants black road jersey with 1981 year tagging, lettered for O'Malley 35 with the team 1982 patch on the sleeve. Research and light table evidence shows that this jersey had originally been issued to pitcher Ed Whitson in 1981. Both of the front numbers had changed, the nameplate replaced and the back number "5" was unoriginal. The front team script and the "3" on back are original.

Work Performed: To return the jersey to its 1981 appearance: Removed the front numbers, sleeve patch, nameplate and the back numbers. Because the back #3 was so worn and stained, we elected to make an exact duplicate rather than attempt to make all new work match the worn out 3. Cut and stitched new elements, sewed with bleached orange thread to match the original front wordmark, aggressively cleaned the fabric and covered a hole in the back that had been caused by the rough removal of the original number 2. Cut and sewed replacement name on back in Giants vertical arch style on a properly serged-edge black knit nameplate Media blasted and dyed the new lettering to more closely match the patina of the old, stitched in place exactly over the original ghosts as seen on the light table. Stitched on new numbers on front and back with color matching ivory thread. All removed elements were returned to the collector.

William F. Henderson
Restoration Specialist and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications
Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
The Dream Shop: MLB Jersey Restorations
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"Quick Look" Validation Service-
What your $75 gets you, and what it doesn't

I am frequently asked if something "looks authentic". I am a professional and I don't like to give flip answers, but I realize that some jerseys are not worth getting a $250-$500 authentication done. I also know that some people simply might like an educated second opinion before buying an item that they've seen offered for sale.

For $75, I will examine your item from a detailed auction listing, a good set of photographs you email to me, or if you prefer, you can send the item for me to see. If taking photos, I need good straight on photos of front and back. I want to see ALL the tagging, close up, from the back and front, including inside seam tagging if it exists. I need to see the lettering stitching detail inside and outside. I want to see the trim and buttons.

I will invest up to a half of an hour of my experience comparing your example to my massive database of images, and to other full evaluations I have done. I'll research auction results if I need to.

Then I"ll schedule a short phone call with you to discuss what I have seen, and give you some food for thought. From this, you can make your own decisions about what to do next.

Very importantly- what it's not

- A "Quick Look" does not include a written document.
- ***It also does not permit you to tell a seller that I have looked at their item, and for you to tell them what I think.*** Rather, any discussion you have with another party must be positioned that the thoughts and observations are your own. Any conversation with a potential seller that starts with, *"I asked Bill Henderson to look at this and he said.."*, is just not what this is about. Please just don't do that, for both of our sakes.
- I will not be able to tell you that your jersey actually game worn from a "quick look". About the only way to do that is with a photo match, or a trusted letter of provenance.
- I will not be able to tell you what something is worth.

It's also important to realize that for some items, a "quick look" just may not be a responsible solution. I must reserve the right to decide not to offer an opinion. If this is the case for you, I'll tell you so before we even begin, or will simply refund your money without offering an opinion. I don't want to waste anyone's time or money.

A "quick look" is a first step. If you decide you want a full and written authentication, I will credit the money spent on it towards the full authentication.

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Chapter 44

Acknowledgments & Closing Notes

The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys

1970-2025, Tenth Edition

William F. Henderson

Contributors – Tenth Edition through 2025

As the list of contributors has grown quite long, I want to express my sincere thanks to all the individuals and organizations who have assisted in gathering data, researching events, checking for errors, and proofreading. With each new edition, I receive a wealth of contributions and corrections, all of which I deeply appreciate. Compiling a research volume like this is an ongoing process—there is always more to learn and more to add.

Many collectors are acknowledged throughout this book for sharing photos of items from their collections. Their names appear in the captions accompanying each image.

I would like to give special recognition to Rick Subrizio, who served as the editor of this edition. Rick did far more than simply edit; while I focused on updating all pre-2020 content, Rick took on the enormous task of collecting and creating the hundreds of pages documenting jersey changes and additions from 2020 to 2025. Given the sheer volume of changes during this time, this edition simply would not exist without his dedication.

Collector Steve Kraljic made substantial contributions as well. In addition to providing images from his extensive game-worn jersey collection, he updated the team summary pages at the beginning of each chapter and proofread the entire text for accuracy and consistency—a Herculean effort.

I also want to give special thanks to those sports memorabilia auction experts who care deeply about the integrity and authenticity of the products they represent and who generously allowed me to share photos from their past auction catalogs, sprinkled throughout this guide. These include:

Crown Sports Auctions
12018 West 95th Street
Lenexa, Kansas 66215
https://www.crownsportsauction.com/

Goldin Auctions
160 E 9th Ave suite a, Runnemede, NJ 08078
https://goldinauctions.com/

Heritage Auctions
2801 W. Airport Freeway Dallas, Texas 75261-4127 https://www.ha.com/

Huggins & Scott Auctions
2301 Broadbirch Dr., STE 150
Silver Spring, MD 20904
https://www.hugginsandscott.com/

Hunt Auctions
256 Welsh Pool Rd. Exton, PA 19341
https://huntauctions.com/

Juilen's Auctions
13007 S. Western Avenue, Gardena, California 90249
https://www.juliensauctions.com/en

Kruk Jerseys
210 Campbell Street
Rochester, MN 48307
https://www.krukcards.com/

Lelands Auctions
435 NJ-34 unit h, Matawan, NJ 07747
https://lelands.com

MEARS Online Auctions
1234 Manitoba Ave, South Milwaukee, WI 53172
https://www.mearsonlineauctions.com/

Robert Edward Auctions
P.O. Box 430
Chester, NJ 07930
https://robertedwardauctions.com/

SCP Auctions
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Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
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Joseph Dixon
Steve Dodell
Aaron Doster
Robert Eden
Patsy Elmer
Tom Entwistle
Todd Evans
Ben Farlow
Matthew Fast
Joe Fisher, Majestic Sportswear
Frank Fleizach
Mark Fletcher
John Fonte
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Headley Hollandsworth
Frank Holman
Dominick Hyman
Jay Jackson
Daniel Jackson
Scott Johnston
Mark Kaczorowski
Jeremy Kahler
Harrison Katapodis/ dormroomjerseys on eBay
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Jonathan Longar
Lance Lopera
Paul Lukas
Kyle Mace
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RGVDEAL on eBay
Alex Rocklein
Steve Sale
David Sanchez
Mike Santangelo
Jason Scott
Owen Seaton
Jay Shelton
James Sheu
Alex Shuman
Tim Stephan
Aaron Stilley
Rick Subrizio
John Swain
Brian Sylvester
David Taub
Jason Taylor
Derek Teets
David Tobener
Dan Van Unen
Joe Varner
Rudy Visokay
Nick Waddell
Warren Waterman
Bob Welsh
Jared Wheeler
Dwayne White
Paul Wiederecht
Trevor Williams
Howard Wolf
Al Yellon
Ross Yoshida, Los Angeles Dodgers
John Zajac
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Han Zhang

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Research Notes

CHRIS WILKINS/AFP/Getty Images

Photo Credits

I confess that as I collected photographs over the years I did not consistently make notes of where they all came from. Many are fair-use watermarked proofs from Getty Images, UPI and the Associated Press. If you notice a photograph within that is yours that is not properly credited, please drop me a line and I will add the credit in the next edition.

Many of the jerseys pictured are from dealer inventories and other enthusiasts' personal collections. As these items change hands over time, perhaps when looking through this guide you'll see a jersey that you personally own. I hope you will be pleased with the fact that it is being used as an example of correctness to other collectors.

Gaylord Perry being honored in festivities before the 1993 All-Star Game, wearing a special jersey with the lettering of every team for which he played. That's Reggie Jackson on his right.

Edition Changes

Rather than try to highlight a long list of specific changes for readers of past editions, I have placed a small coding dot at the lower left corner on pages that have been significantly changed since the 2019 Ninth Edition:

- A Green Dot means that the page is new and that the information documented here is new and was not found in previous editions
- A Yellow Dot means that the reader should note additional facts or changed i information and photos on this page, significantly changed since the last edition.

In many cases I have added new photographs but have not added new information worthy of note. These pages are left unmarked.

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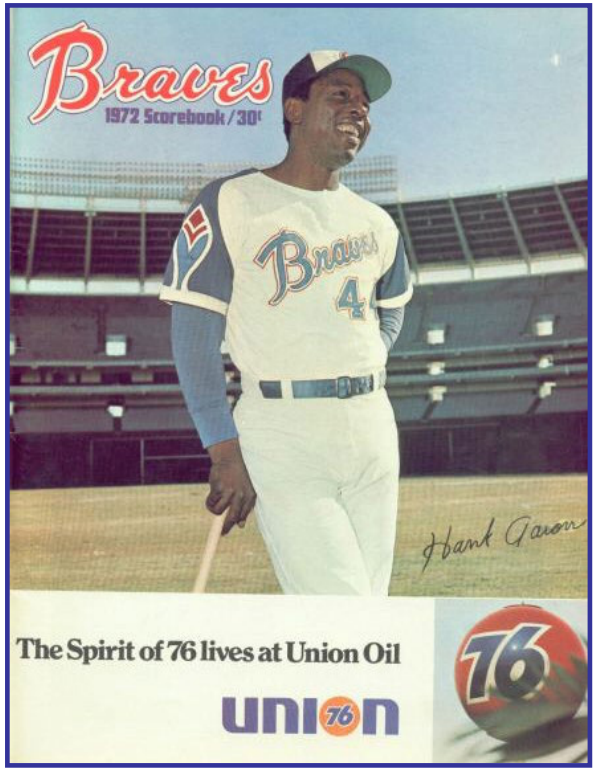
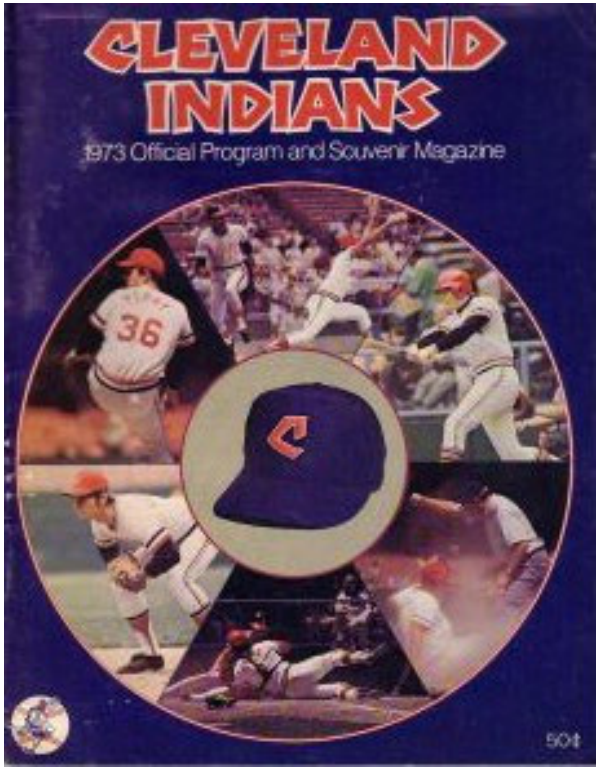
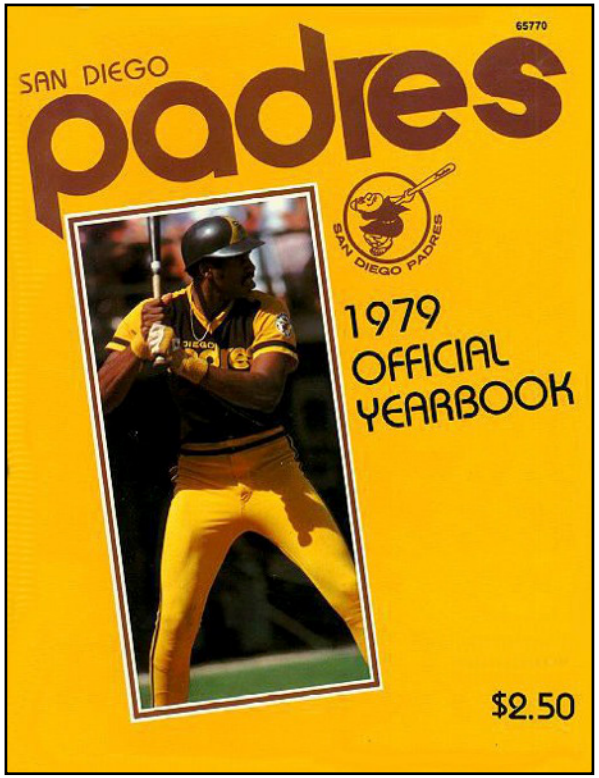
Team Publications Used in Research

Team publications- like yearbooks, scorecards and programs are a good source of photos, but they often use studio head-shots of players, photos from prior seasons or photos taken in spring training. Game action photos most times come from prior years. These can be a very useful resource, if they are not the sole source used to determine dates of uniform usage.







(Far Left) This Braves 1972 Scorecard features a year-correct 1972 photo of Hank Aaron on the cover. The 1972- only font of the front numbers is the giveaway. *(Center and Right)* However, these other two team publications' cover photos are not accurate for the year printed on the covers. Each shows photographs from the prior year when the teams wore different styles.

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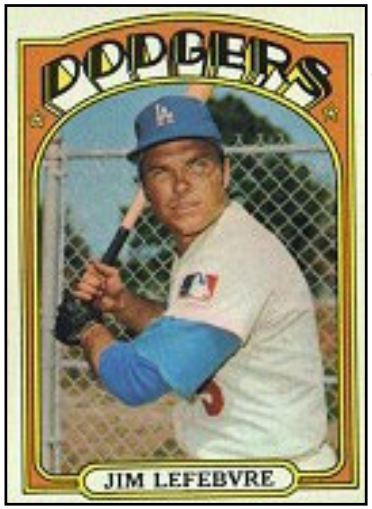
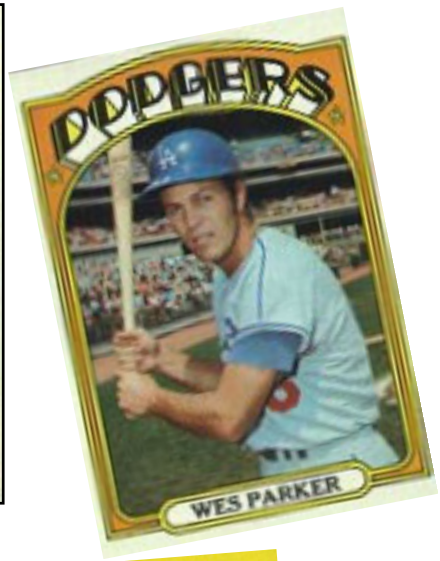
Using Baseball Cards In Research





Let me first attest that I am absolutely not an expert on baseball cards. Cards may be the most prolific source of old time photos of players dressed in uniform, but they are often terribly inaccurate for dating uniforms, and I never use them as a sole source of research.

The main reason is that the photos on the cards rarely come from the regular season of the year that the card is released for. Only since the late 1990s have cards started to show current-year photos of players with any degree of regularity.

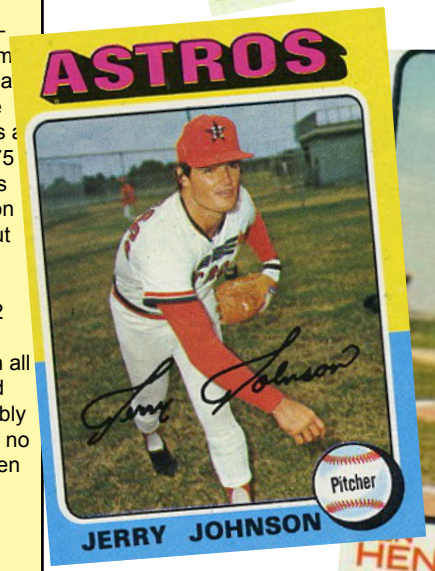
Usually, the cards show the prior year's photos, (if not older ones) or are photos taken in spring training. This is not helpful if we are trying to nail down the details of a style worn in a particular regular-season. Spring training uniforms are almost always the prior-season's old uniforms; new regular season uniforms are not broken out until opening day.

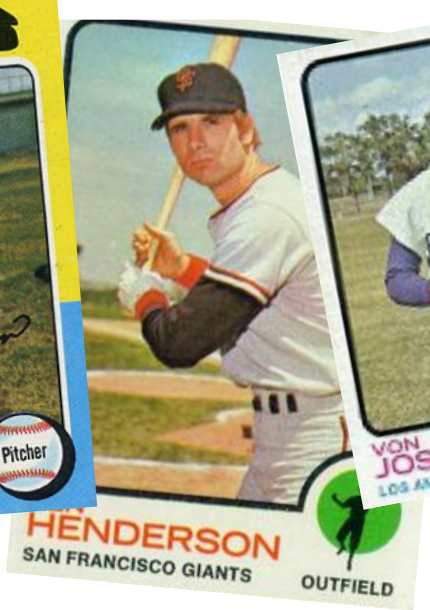
Sometimes, the photos on cards are doctored in the most un-Photoshop 1970's prehistoric fashion! A traded player wearing a flannel Indians jersey might have the Indians script airbrushed out and sports a Cincinnati Reds cap literally cut and pasted on his head.

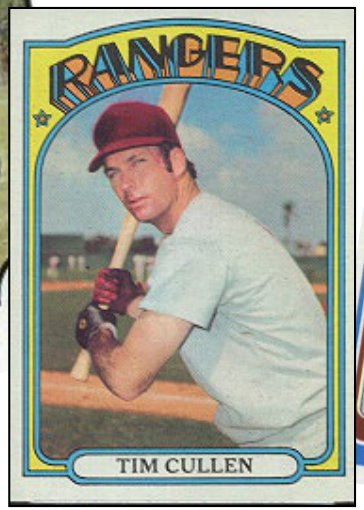
It is not uncommon to see a 1973 card bearing a picture of a player taken in 1972 spring training, wearing a 1970-issued jersey.

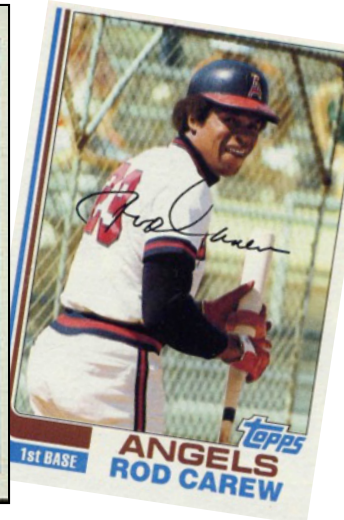
Throughout this guide I've sprinkled period baseball cards showing particular styles being worn. But these cards are rarely issued in the year of the uniform I am trying to illustrate,they are usually issued a year or more later.

Some typical examples: on 1972 cards, Dodger Jim Lefebvre wears a 1969 uniform. Next to him Wes Parker wea a 1971 flannel uniform. The Astros Jerry Johnson wears a 1972-74 uniform on his 1975 card. Ken Henderson wears a flannel 1971-72 uniform on this 1973 card. It's 1973, but Von Joshua sports a 1963-69 era Dodgers jersey. Tim Cullen of the first year 1972 Texas Rangers wears his 1971 Senators uniform with all logos airbrushed away. Rod Carew wears what is probably a spring training jersey with no name on back in a year when the Angels most likely wore names during the season.









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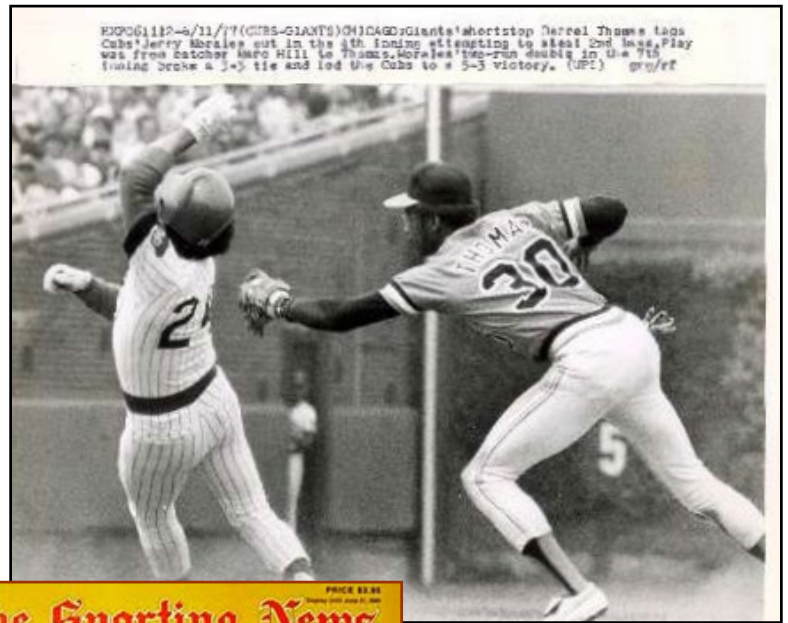
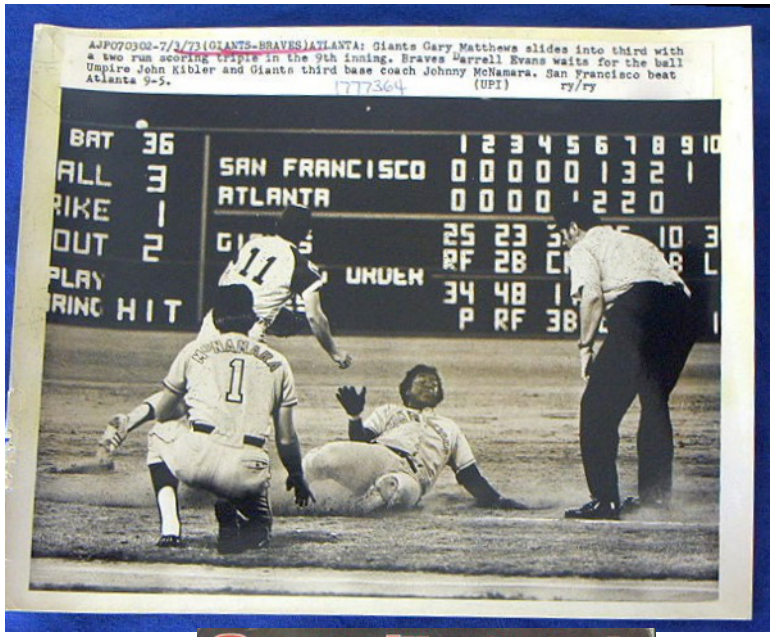
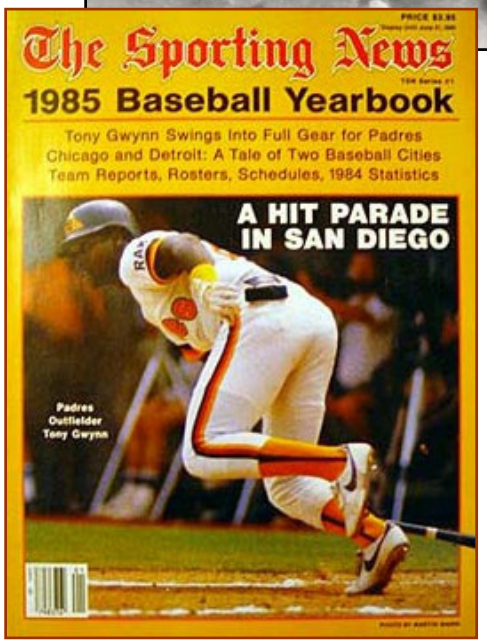
News Photos and Magazine Articles in Research



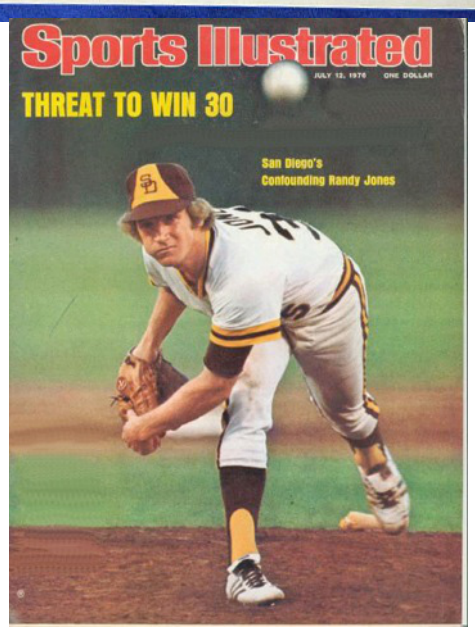




These are a much more accurate source of current year information. Newspaper wire services (like AP or UPI) almost always run photos of the prior day's game, and they are helpfully dated, though they are nearly always in black and white.

Magazines like Sports Illustrated almost always run current photos with their stories, in color. These are good sources to validate styles or variations worn in a particular year.

But, it would be a mistake to assume magazine photos are always from the current year. The Sporting News 1985 Yearbook at left features a 1984 photo of Tony Gwynn on the cover. An easy give-away is the fact that 1985 Padre uniforms changed styles and looked completely different.



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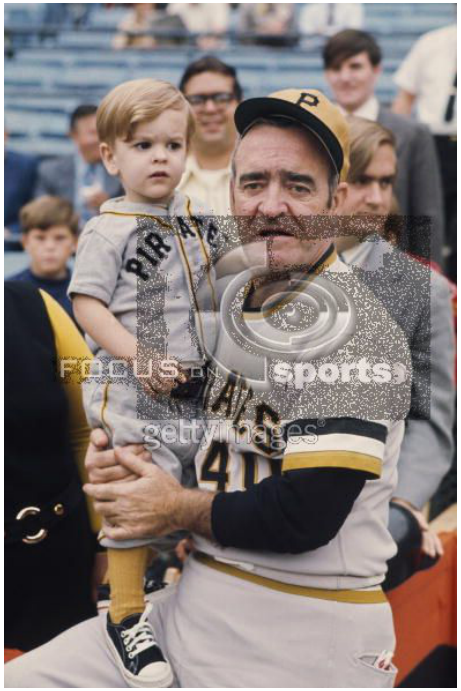
Web News Sources Used in Research

As we have established already, the Internet is a wonderful fountain of information that is readily available. Yet it is filled with unchecked, often thoroughly incorrect information. Unfortunately, errors published on the Internet gain a life of their own, being replicated and repeated at the speed of light until they are believed to be facts.

Therefore, for any photos I have taken from the Internet I always try to verify the dates from a second source.

A fantastic example are the millions of photos that are available to preview on Getty Images, (www.gettyimages.com) a site used by publishing and news professionals as a nearly unlimited archive of licensable news pictures. Anyone can go there, type in a few search words, and within seconds can be viewing news photos from last month, or from forty or more years ago.

Regarding baseball images, I have quickly learned that while the dates and photo captions are interesting, they are very often incorrect citing the wrong players, places and especially incorrect dates. This is not a complaint, just a caution. Readers write to me citing Getty Images as the source of their information, but further investigation on my part often determines that Getty's dates are inaccurate. Still, it is a wonderful resource if used in conjunction with other research to corroborate details.



Getty Images Photo Caption: **OCTOBER 1971:** Pittsburgh Pirates' manager Danny Murtaugh poses for the camera with a well dressed youngster from the crowd during the 1970 World Series at the Three Rivers Stadium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (Photo by Focus On Sport/Getty Images)

The photo at left was certainly not taken at Three Rivers Stadium in Pittsburgh as the caption claims. Manager Danny Murtaugh is wearing his road gray uniform

Getty Images Photo Caption: FLUSHING, NY-1972: Willie Mays #24 of the New York Mets and Cesar Cedeno #28 of the Houston Astros talk during batting practice at Shea Stadium during the 1972 season in Flushing, New York. (Photo by Focus On Sport/Getty Images)

I can tell the photo above was taken in 1973, not 1972 as the caption claims. The Astros used this vertical arched wordmark on the front of their gray uniforms in 1973 only.

Getty Images Photo Caption: **Nick Esasky swings**
1988: Nick Esasky of the Cincinnati Reds swings at the pitch during a MLB game in the 1988 season. (Photo by: Jonathan Daniel/Getty Images)

This photo caption claims it was taken during the 1988 season, only the Reds had changed uniform styles in 1988, and all 1988 lettering was outlined in white. This photo is from 1987 or earlier, and that is not Nick Esasky, either.

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Acknowledgements

Finding facts about isolated games that happened many years ago sometimes starts with a single thread. Even with the resources of the Internet available, the research on this page took me two hours to do. But finding the date of the game helped in finding a photo of a game worn jersey to show in the Mets chapter.

How Research Is Done From a News Photo

These two tiny photos were the only evidence I had from an unknown TBTC game. Follow along to see how these tiny images offered the researcher clues to their origin.

1) First we looked for clues from the players in the photos, difficult because the images are grainy; there are no names on the Met uniforms; and the Reds' base runner's numbers can not be seen. But we can tell the Mets are in home uniforms and the Reds are in grays.

2) But both Met players are easily identified. Rickey Henderson controversially wore Willie Mays' (unofficially retired) #24 during the two years he played there. #99 is pitcher Turk Wendell (5 years with Mets) covering first base. At right Dave Collins coached first base for two years. The only time all three of these people would have been in these positions simultaneously could have been 1999 or 2000.

4) The teams are reprising 1969. We can tell because the 1969 MLB patch is visible on Henderson's sleeve as he slides into second base, almost surely trying to break up a double play. It is highly likely that the Mets were commemorating the 30th anniversary of their 1969 World Series Champs. Therefore 1999 is more likely but...

5) …notice how many of the players in long sleeves. A check of the weather for the four dates in question shows that on June 1 and 2 1999 it was very warm during these days with temperatures in the mid 80s or higher, and cool at night with temperatures dipping as low as 52 degrees. , But April 25 and April 27, 2000 were cooler days with nightly lows of respectively 39 and 46 degrees. Hmmmm…

3) To narrow down the search further we perused the box scores. There were nine games between the Mets and Reds in New York in 1999-2000. Both Henderson and Wendell played together in only four of them. Henderson was on base in all four, and the runner appears to be safe in the right photo so Wendell would not have gotten a putout for his effort in the box score. Knowing who that runner is would help a lot.

In the end, the author's conclusion tips slightly to either April 25 or 27, 2000. Mets collector Nick DiSalvo verifies that indeed this game was played on April 25, 2000. Flannel jerseys by Mitchell & Ness with a special 4-25-2000 tag on the tail. Mystery solved!

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About the Author

On Facebook, Look for and follow the page ***Bill Henderson/Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys*** *as well as his jersey restoration website,* ***The Dream Shop.***

Bill Henderson readily admits to a lifelong obsession with baseball uniforms. Born in 1961 in suburban Philadelphia, he grew up watching the perpetually last-place Phillies and did his best to emulate them in Little League—despite not being a particularly good player. As a pitcher, he earned the nickname "Ball Four," and after coming home at age nine complaining of being hit by a pitch, his mother solved the problem by keeping him home lest he get hurt. Denied the right to wear the uniform he had earned, he wondered if he'd ever wear one again. Today, friends and family joke that he may never stop until he owns every uniform.

Bill has since established himself as both a professional authenticator and a historic restorer of authentic jerseys. He now pursues this passion through The Dream Shop, the company he founded.

Happily retired from corporate life, Bill previously enjoyed a long career as a marketing executive for international companies in industries entirely unrelated to baseball. His work took him all over the world, including several years living in Japan in the early 2000s.

In addition to authoring the book you're reading, Bill has painstakingly recreated nearly every game-worn player name and number font used in Major League Baseball since 1970, using original uniforms as reference. This comprehensive body of graphical research is preserved in the collection of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, NY. His historically accurate fonts have been used commercially by Mitchell & Ness, Majestic, and others—and are occasionally (though not always) seen on the field during MLB's Turn Back the Clock games.

Bill's interests extend well beyond baseball. He restores vintage automobiles and regularly writes articles on antique auto restoration for hobbyist magazines and websites. He also plays the violin and enjoys performing with amateur symphonies, pops orchestras, and community theater pit orchestras in the Philadelphia area, where he lives with his family.

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About the Editors

Rick Subrizio, *editor of the Seventh through Tenth Editions*. A life-long Red Sox fan, Rick learned his love for the game the way many do – from his father. His interest in sports uniforms also came, indirectly, from the same source. When Rick was 8 or 9 years old, his father bought him a replica Red Sox jersey from the souvenir store across the street from Fenway Park.

Years later, after graduating from college with a degree in English, Rick was fortunate to work for his hometown Red Sox in marketing and public affairs. He went on to earn a law degree, and has worked in marketing and communications for educational institutions and in the nonprofit arts field.

Rick lives outside of Boston with his wife and two young children. He still has the replica Red Sox jersey.

Stephen Kraljic, *Contributing editor, 10th edition* - Steve's fascination with baseball began as a long- (and still) suffering Mets fan after attending his first game at Shea Stadium in 1976. What started with baseball cards and box scores grew into an appreciation for baseball aesthetics — especially the bold colors and wild experiments of 1970s and early '80s uniforms. He collects vintage baseball jerseys, with a fondness for rare one- or two-year styles that captured fleeting moments in uniform history. He holds degrees from Notre Dame and NYU, and has spent his entire career in commercial real estate finance.

Moriah Levin, editor of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth editions. In addition to this Guide, she has edited From Swampoodle to South Philly: Baseball in Philadelphia & the Delaware Valley (The National Pastime), contributed to the Uni Watch blog, and held multiple roles with Mitchell & Ness Nostalgia Co. between 1993 and 2006. Moriah lives in South Philadelphia.

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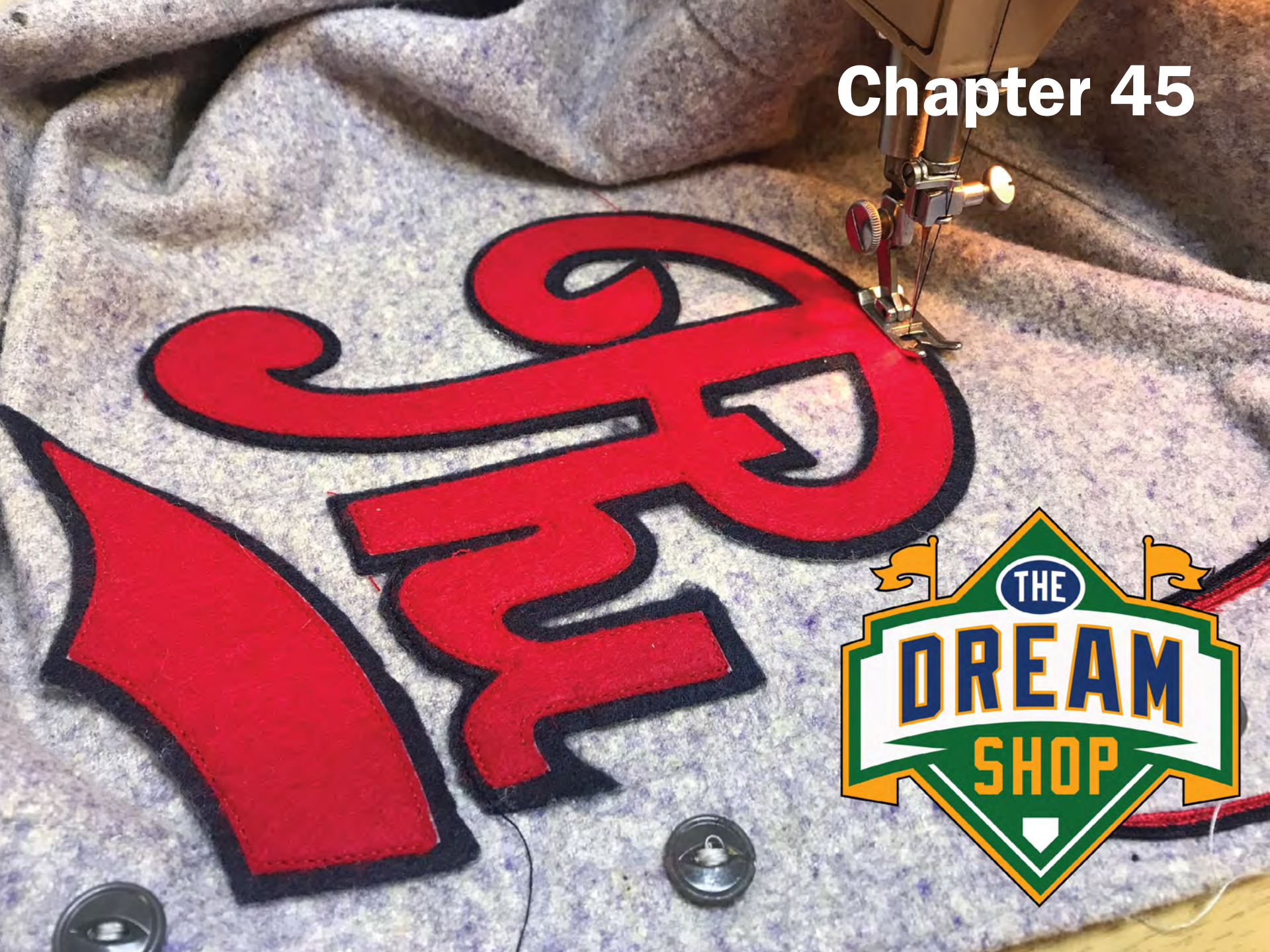
Chapter 45



Introducing The Dream Shop

Exacting Jersey Restorations, Professional Lettering, Original Creations

I've been an MLB jersey collector for many years, and it is my passion for the history of the "look" of the game that led me naturally into my role as a historian and author. Now, I've taken the step to retire from my corporate career and move full-time into researching and restoring game worn jerseys.

In 2017, I first hung out my shingle as sole-proprietor of "The Dream Shop," promising MLB jersey customization done correctly, as well as offering the highest quality restorations of game worn jerseys. I was frankly amazed at the response. Before the year was over, it was clear that if I wanted, I could do this full time, and in late 2018, I decided to make the switch.

Since then, I have added two stitchers and a fabric cutting specialist to the team, but I still do all the customer contact, research, art, and layout myself. It is my goal to remain small and highly focused on quality and customer satisfaction. I pride myself on setting realistic expectations, delivering an excellent product, all while providing excellent communication. I think these three items are key to the success of any business.

A basic description of the services I provide are on the next page. Examples of my work follow. For much more information, please visit my website, http://TheDream.Shop, and for regular updates follow my blog at https://www.facebook.com/gameworn guides/

Email: Bill@TheDream.Shop

Restorations

- For decades, MLB teams sent their old jerseys to Spring Training and to the Minor Leagues for reuse, where player names and numbers were stripped and changed. Sometimes even the front scripts were removed. I can expertly restore these jerseys to their former appearance.
- I have recreated nearly all the fonts for player name and numbers for every team and every year going back into the 1950s. I use a light table and computer tools to determine what was originally on a jersey. I use this information, as well as my library of historical media, to recreate what once was.
- I stock dozens of colors of tackle twill and felt, and inventory more than 200 pair of game used MLB pants that I use to make exactly matching player nameplates. I use various proprietary methods to pre-age and color correct twill for accurate re-lettering of aged originals, including stitching with age-bleached thread colors. I stitch everything just as it was done originally.

Customization

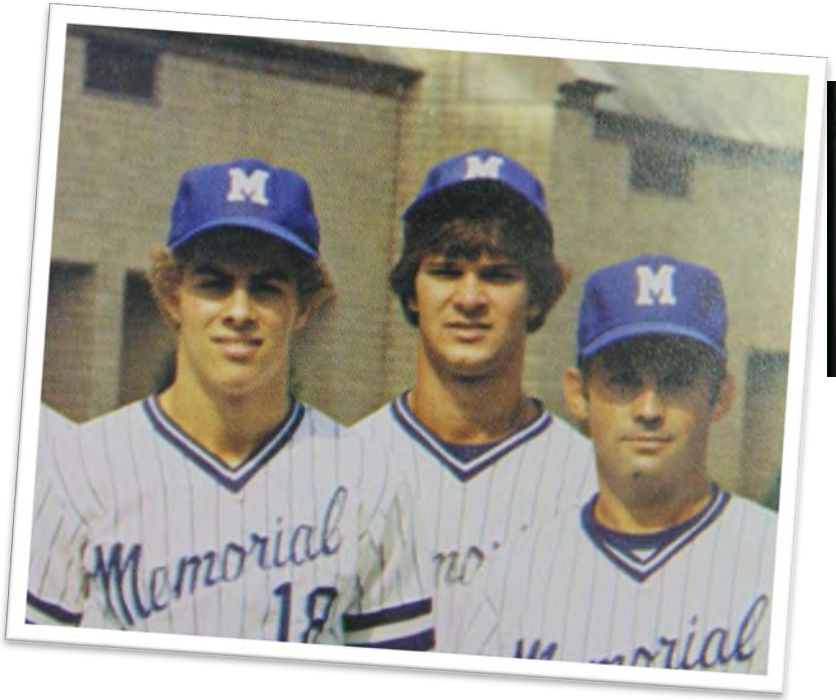
- With painstaking research, I have recreated the actual team fonts and the hundreds of custom cutting patterns needed to customize blank jerseys or re-letter prelettered ones for every team, every jersey style and every year.
- I strive for accuracy in every detail: knowing whether your jersey gets a name on back or not, a nameplate, the proper arch of the player name, the proper size and placement of front and back numbers, the right colors of twill and correct outline thicknesses, to name just a few details.
- And at no extra charge, I will always send you a proof for your approval before I sew a thing, a unique aspect of my service.

Recreations

I am a skilled graphic artist and can recreate your high school jersey, a jersey from the minor league club that played in your town when you were growing up, or strictly one-off MLB jerseys that simply are not available anywhere else in reproduction. You need to supply me with your ideas and the blank jersey (or jersey I can strip) to use as a donor canvas. I'll do the rest.

For example, here, I was commissioned to recreate an exact copy of Don Mattingly's high school baseball jersey. Using the donor jersey at top right and a few available photos from yearbooks, I made the jersey shown bottom left.

A key note: I know I do good work. I know that what I create could be passed off as original and not a reproduction. Therefore, every reproduction I make is tagged on the inside, invisibly when worn or displayed so that in the future it is unlikely to be innocently passed off as something illegitimate. My goal is to make it difficult for someone to knowingly commit a fraud.



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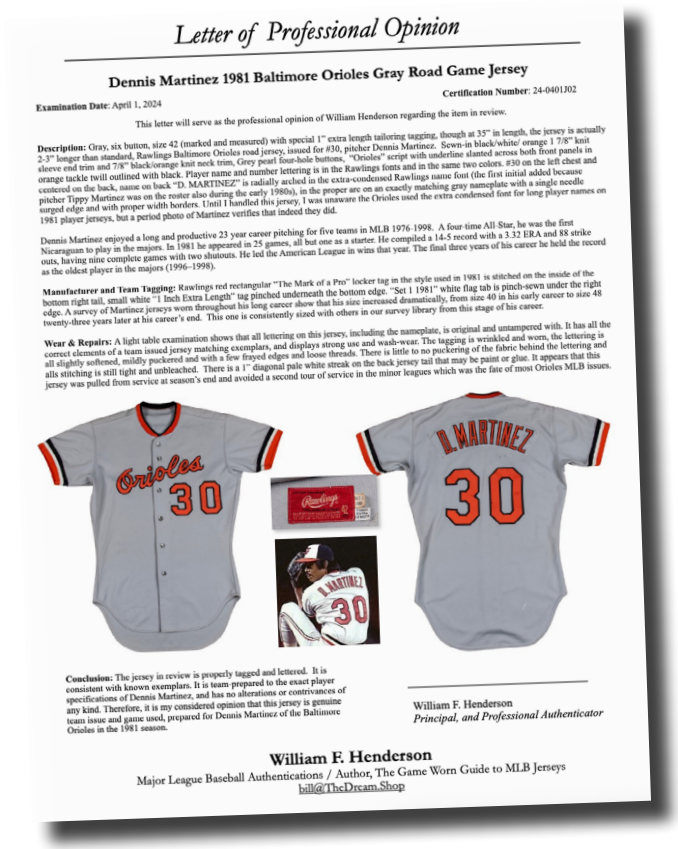
Authentications

My massive collection of game worn jerseys as well as decades of research and my collection of nearly one million reference photos allow me to reliably authenticate your jerseys. My reputation means that my opinions are accepted by collectors worldwide and by the major auction houses.

I am knowledgeable, detailed, and fair, and charge market rates for my services.



Letter of Professional Opinion

Dennis Martinez 1981 Baltimore Orioles Gray Road Game Jersey

Examination Date: April 1, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0401J02

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Gray, six button, size 42 (marked and measured) with special 1" extra length tailoring tagging, though at 35" in length, the jersey is actually 2-3" longer than standard, Rawlings Baltimore Orioles road jersey, issued for #30, pitcher Dennis Martinez. Sewn-in black/white/ orange 1 7/8" knit sleeve end trim and 7/8" black/orange knit neck trim, Grey pearl four-hole buttons, "Orioles" script with underline slanted across both front panels in orange tackle twill outlined with black. Player name and number lettering is in the Rawlings fonts and in the same two colors. #30 on the left chest and centered on the back, name on back "D. MARTINEZ" is radially arched in the extra-condensed Rawlings name font (the first initial added because pitcher Tippy Martinez was on the roster also during the early 1980s), in the proper are on an exactly matching gray nameplate with a single needle surged edge and with proper width borders. Until I handled this jersey, I was unaware the Orioles used the extra condensed font for long player names on 1981 player jerseys, but a period photo of Martinez verifies that indeed they did.

Dennis Martinez enjoyed a long and productive 23 year career pitching for five teams in MLB 1976-1998. A four-time All-Star, he was the first Nicaraguan to play in the majors. In 1981 he appeared in 25 games, all but one as a starter. He compiled a 14-5 record with a 3.32 ERA and 88 strike outs, having nine complete games with two shutouts. He led the American League in wins that year. The final three years of his career he held the record as the oldest player in the majors (1996–1998).

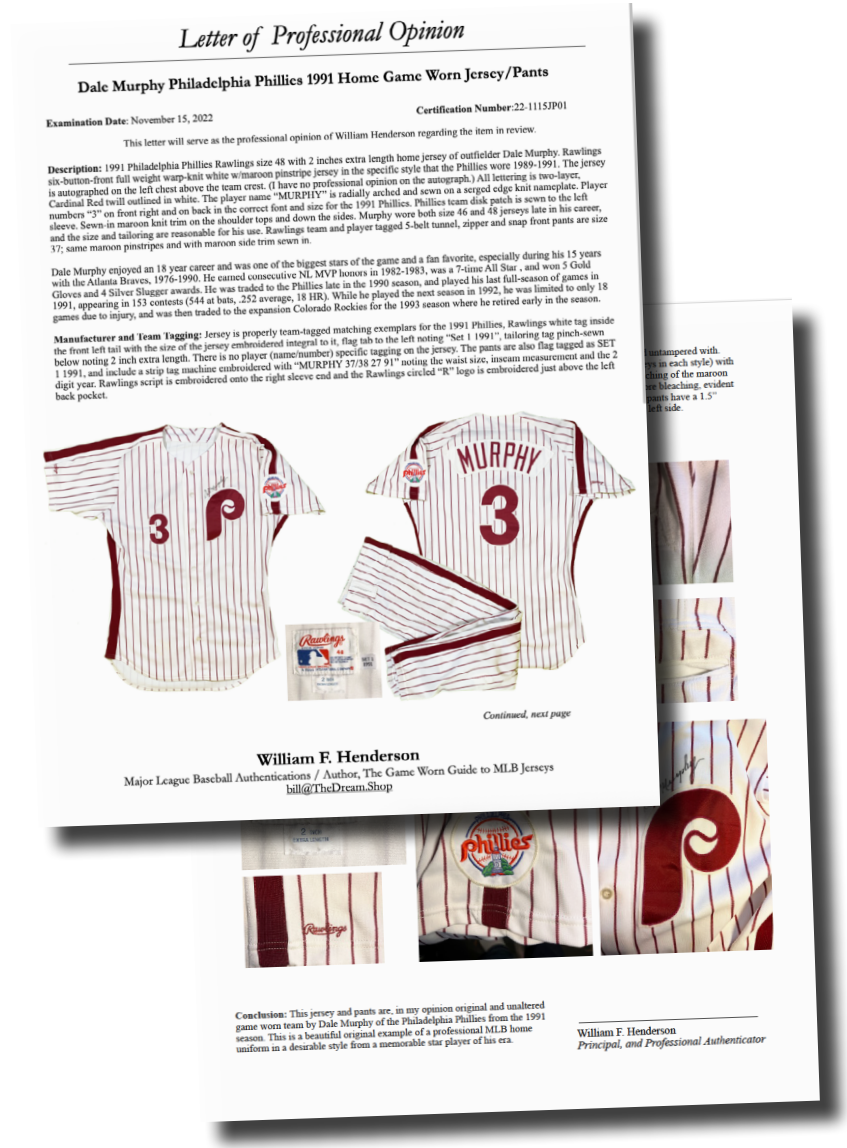
Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Rawlings red rectangular "The Mark of a Pro" locker tag in the style used in 1981 is stitched on the inside of the bottom right tail, small white "1 Inch Extra Length" tag pinched underneath the bottom edge. "Set 1 1981" white flag tab is pinch-sewn under the right edge. A survey of Martinez jerseys worn throughout his long career show that his size increased dramatically, from size 40 in his early career to size 48 twenty-three years later at his career's end. This one is consistently sized with others in our survey library from this stage of his career.

Wear & Repairs: A light table examination shows that all lettering on this jersey, including the nameplate, is original and untampered with. It has all the correct elements of a team issued jersey matching exemplars, and displays strong use and wash-wear. The tagging is wrinkled and worn, the lettering is all slightly softened, mildly puckered and with a few frayed edges and loose threads. There is little to no puckering of the fabric behind the lettering and alls stitching is still tight and unbleached. There is a 1" diagonal pale white streak on the back jersey tail that may be paint or glue. It appears that this jersey was pulled from service at season's end and avoided a second tour of service in the minor leagues which was the fate of most Orioles MLB issues.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is properly tagged and lettered. It is consistent with known exemplars. It is team prepared to the exact player specifications of Dennis Martinez, and has no alterations or contrivances of any kind. Therefore, it is my considered opinion that this jersey is genuine team issue and game used, prepared for Dennis Martinez of the Baltimore Orioles in the 1981 season.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications / Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
bill@TheDream.Shop



Letter of Professional Opinion

Dale Murphy Philadelphia Phillies 1991 Home Game Worn Jersey/Pants

Examination Date: November 15, 2022 **Certification Number**:22-1115JP01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: 1991 Philadelphia Phillies Rawlings size 48 with 2 inches extra length home jersey of outfielder Dale Murphy. Rawlings six-button-front full weight warp-knit white w/maroon pinstripe jersey in the specific style that the Phillies wore 1989-1991. The jersey is autographed on the left chest above the team crest. (I have no professional opinion on the autograph.) All lettering is two-layer, Cardinal Red twill outlined in white. The player name "MURPHY" is radially arched and sewn on a serged edge knit nameplate. Player numbers "3" on front right and on back in the correct font and size for the 1991 Phillies. Phillies team disk patch is sewn to the left sleeve. Sewn-in maroon knit trim on the shoulder tops and down the sides. Murphy wore both size 46 and 48 jerseys late in his career, and the size and tailoring are reasonable for his use. Rawlings team and player tagged 5-belt tunnel, zipper and snap front pants are size 37; same maroon pinstripes and with maroon side trim sewn in.

Dale Murphy enjoyed an 18 year career and was one of the biggest stars of the game and a fan favorite, especially during his 15 years with the Atlanta Braves, 1976-1990. He earned consecutive NL MVP honors in 1982-1983, was a 7-time All Star , and won 5 Gold Gloves and 4 Silver Slugger awards. He was traded to the Phillies late in the 1990 season, and played his last full-season of games in 1991, appearing in 153 contests (544 at bats, .252 average, 18 HR). While he played the next season in 1992, he was limited to only 18 games due to injury, and was then traded to the expansion Colorado Rockies for the 1993 season where he retired early in the season.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Jersey is properly team-tagged matching exemplars for the 1991 Phillies, Rawlings white tag inside the front left tail with the size of the jersey embroidered integral to it, flag tab to the left noting "Set 1 1991", tailoring tag pinch-sewn below noting 2 inch extra length. There is no player (name/number) specific tagging on the jersey. The pants are also flag tagged as SET 1 1991, and include a strip tag machine embroidered with "MURPHY 37/38 27 91" noting the waist size, inseam measurement and the 2 digit year. Rawlings script is embroidered onto the right sleeve end and the Rawlings circled "R" logo is embroidered just above the left back pocket.

Continued, next page

untampered with.
ys in each style) with
thing of the maroon
are bleaching, evident
pants have a 1.5"
left side.

Conclusion: This jersey and pants are, in my opinion original and unaltered game worn team by Dale Murphy of the Philadelphia Phillies from the 1991 season. This is a beautiful original example of a professional MLB home uniform in a desirable style from a memorable star player of his era.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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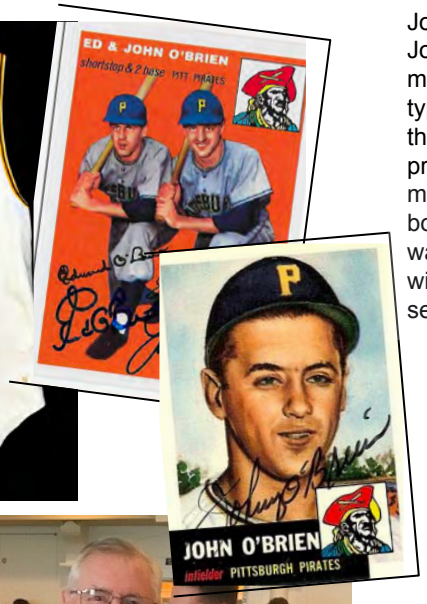
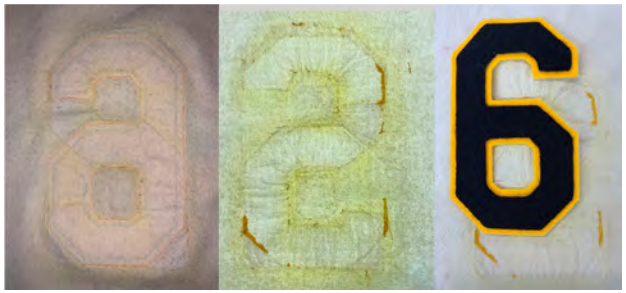
A Few Dream Shop Restorations...



Joseph Quinn is a friend and neighbor of former Pirate John O'Brien. Joseph found Johnny's original (but altered) Pirates jersey offered in a Heritage auction and asked me to fix it. At top left, the jersey as I received it from Joseph. The yellow staining is typical... yellow is an insidious color that tends to run, and stain other fabrics more than you would think. While the jersey was well used, it was still intact and had been properly cared for over its life. Removing the old back number, sometimes there is mystery, but not this time! The outline of the old original 6 was clearly visible from both the back and front. I make the new one of of layered felt, just like the original was, and straight-stitched it in place. I did not attempt to bleach the fabric. Messing with bleach on old flannels can produce unintended disastrous results. The way I see it, every mark and stain tells a story.

Johnny and his twin brother Ed were the only twin brother combination to appear on an MLB baseball card!



Johnny receiving his 1957 Pirates jersey from Joseph-- it's not a replica, it's the actual one he wore 62 years ago. And if this is how 87 years old looks, I can't wait to get there.

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Restoration of Rusty Staub's 1972 Mets Road Jersey

Here is the jersey as received. Staub was traded from the Expos to the Mets in 1972. The jersey was probably sent to the minors immediately after that year, and it was not treated well. The minor-league applied "Mets" crest on front was decidedly non-MLB spec, the blue trim on the front had been removed, and the Mets sleeve patch is bleached so much that the orange embroidery thread is now pink.

The numbers on front and back are original, though, and must be preserved. We're going to make it look like it did when Rusty last wore it, in September 1972.

It is autographed on front by Staub, and it was said to have been a gift to a New York police officer. Notably, in 1986, Staub founded the New York Police and Fire Widows' and Children's Benefit Fund, which supports the families of New York City police officers, firefighters, Port Authority police, and emergency medical personnel who were killed in the line of duty.

The first step is to carefully remove the minor league wordmark. The presence of an autographed inscription would make the use of any chemicals in this area very risky. Notice the neck tag-- hand chain stitched in the Wilson factory stitcher's familiar hand. The tag is made of flannel, surely left over from 1971 Mets uniforms that were made of this blue-gray material. 1972 was the first year in knits for the Mets. Staining of the linen placket lining is typical. Next, the stripped jersey goes on the light table, where if you look carefully and can see beyond the "METS" shadow, we can glimpse the ghost of the "New York" lettering that had once been there. We are going to restore it to its former place of honor. I recreate the front art using an unrestored original jersey, fine-tuning it to the shadows on the light table so it will perfectly match.

The tag decodes to Player #4, size 46, 1972.

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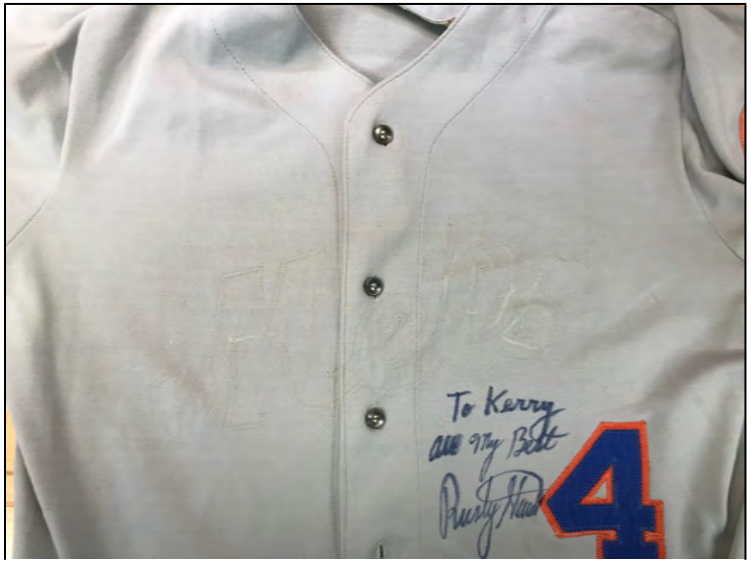
The art file I created drives the computer-attached cutter and cuts the lettering in two simultaneous, sandwiched layers like magic. But we can't just sew them on the old jersey. Compare the new lettering at top to the worn old "M" we took off the shirt. The shiny new lettering next to the old weathered numbers will look very wrong. We have some work to do to make this restoration look right.

I tack-glue the lettering to a piece of cardboard, and then media blast it in my blast cabinet. The blasting removes the sheen, lightens the fabric slightly and softens/frays the edges. This jersey is so worn that to make the new match the old, I really must heavily beat this new lettering in the cabinet, strafing it with fine abrasive fired from inches away at 120 PSI for over a minute straight.

The result is seen at bottom, left.

Next, I stitch the layers of the media-blasted lettering by hand, intentionally using thread that is several shades lighter than the twill to simulate age, closely matching the old numbers that are held in place with original thread that is severely bleached. This technique will make the old match the new much more closely.

In the meantime, I lightly spot-cleaned stains on the jersey that would show when the stitching was complete and steamed it to close-up the old stitching holes. The "Mets" shadow will never fully disappear, and it shouldn't. It is a part of history.



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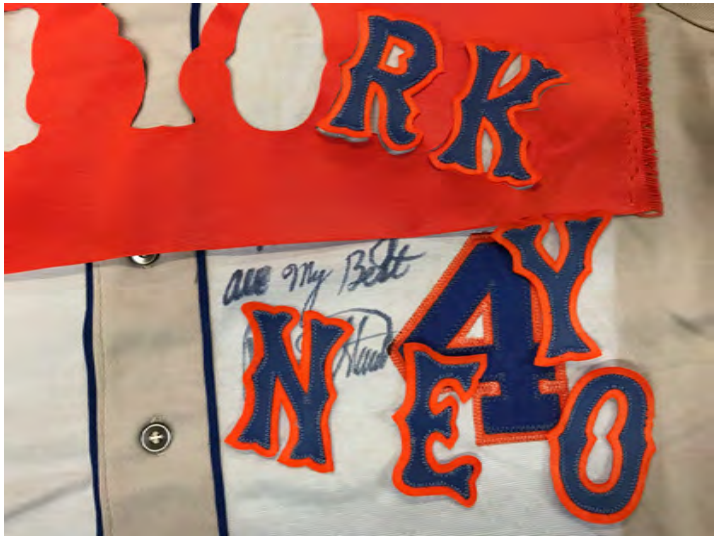

I am fortunate to have some vintage 1/8" royal blue knit trim to restore the placket before re-applying the wordmark. Also notice my replacement of the missing sleeve-end black arm-band that was worn in 1973 for the passing of Gil Hodges

Next, the media-blasted lettering needs to be slightly dyed to match the old lettering it will sit beside. My secret concoction of organic liquid is heated on the stove to almost boiling and allowed to cool slightly, and then the letters get a bath. My solution helps stain the fabric to make it look like its been used and washed 200 times. The strength of the solution and the length of time I let it seep depends on how dramatic I want the effect to be. The goal is to make the brand-new lettering match the 45-year-old originals. Dyeing is followed by a cold-water rinse...then followed by blotting and slowly air drying on paper towels.

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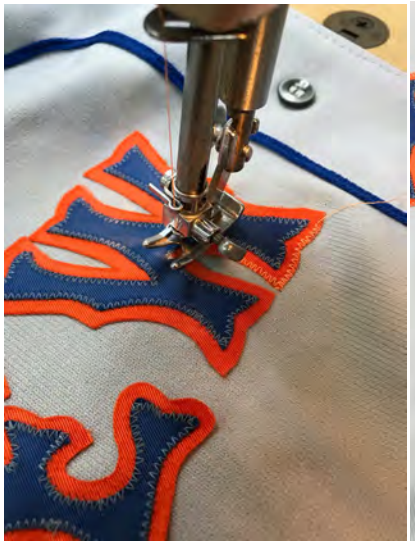

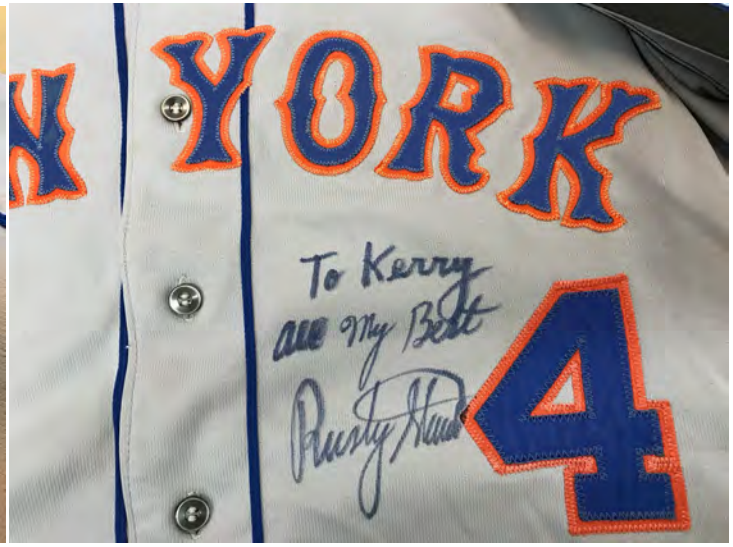

Using the light table for alignment, I tack-glue down the pre-stitched letters onto the jersey front. The perfectly-placed lettering is sewn to the jersey directly on top of the ghosts using, again, a bleached-out shade of thread that closely matches the old original.

Here is a close-up of the result. The New York script matches the original number almost perfectly in color and sheen. The finished product, next to the starting point, is shown below.

To complete the job, I always recommend to collectors that they allow me to create an illustrated document of restoration for them, one that will be essential to cement the history of the jersey and important if it is appraised or auctioned in the future. Having such a document removes the guesswork for an authenticator and shows the craftsmanship that went into the restoration.

Document of Restoration

Rusty Staub 1972 Mets Road Jersey

As Received: This gray Wilson jersey had a very well worn non-spec "Mets" script logo sewn on the front and "4"s on the front and back. It has a 1972 MLB spec team tag in the collar. My estimation is that the Mets wordmark replaced NEW YORK on front when this jersey was sent to the minor leagues. It was common practice to replace the MLB team city name on road uniforms with something more appropriate for minor league use. The Mets sleeve "skyline" patch is also certainly original. Repeated laundering and exposure to the sun has caused it to fade heavily. The jersey is autographed on the front by Staub and includes a personal inscription. Part of the autograph ink touches and overlaps the edge of the front number. No attempt was made by me to authenticate the autograph. Notice the neck tag – hand chain stitched in the Wilson factory's stitcher's familiar hand. The tag is made of flatned, surely left over from 1971 Mets uniforms that were made of this blue-gray material. 1972 was the first year in knits for the Mets. Staining of the linen placket lining is typical. The tag decodes to Player #4, size 46, 1972.

William F. Henderson
Major League Baseball Authentications
Author, The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys
The Dream Shop: MLB Jersey Restorations

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1972 White Sox Road Jersey- Back from the Dead

"It's not worth saving. Just send it back to me and I'll decide later what to do with it."

That's what Mark Fletcher, the owner of this jersey, had told me. At his instruction, we had just completed another project, "borrowing" the front crest from this 1972 White Sox road knit jersey to transplant onto and restore a more valuable 1971 road flannel. This jersey was like the bones of the donor. And clearly, it had had a hard life: From all appearances, after being issued to infielder Bill Melton for the 1972 season, it was renumbered to 60, a perfect spring training number for a prospect, and then used for multiple years in the team's spring training camp. No roster player had been issued No. 60 in the following five years that this jersey would have seen duty (counting 1976 spring training).

"It will end up hanging in your closet for the next 30 years if we do that," I cautioned. "Then someone will throw it away. Let me restore it. It won't be cheap, but with proper documentation it will be worth something and you can sell it if you want." I knew it would be worth it because so few of these 1972 White Sox jerseys remain. The only ones made were the ones the players on the team wore — there were none made for collectors or fans, and most of the originals were stripped of their front script and sent to the minors.

Mark agreed. And he specified that he wanted it restored to look old, with the lettering media-blasted and dyed to make it match the patina of the base garment. And so we began the process of restoring a jersey that otherwise would have been discarded and forgotten.

This was our starting point — a very dirty, badly stained jersey shell, naked and with shredded trim. Prior to my getting it, someone had removed the "60" and then, likely seeing how badly it was stained underneath, just gave up on it.

Close up, we could see what appeared to have been a washing machine disaster: The fabric was stained purple in many spots, then bleached by the sun (especially on the shoulder tops, as is common). Glue and thread remained showing the outlines of its history. The front zipper was also history, hanging like a spiny noodle from the placket:

I used my light table to lift the images of what was once sewn onto the jersey. After doing this for many years, I have amassed a fairly compete set of team patterns culled from handling and authenticating so many jerseys. But when a jersey is this worn out, the fabric has often shrunk and become distorted from use and hot-water washing. On top of that, most original lettering was hand-cut with scissors, so no two jerseys are exactly alike. I needed to be sure

Before and after- a teaser for what is ahead.

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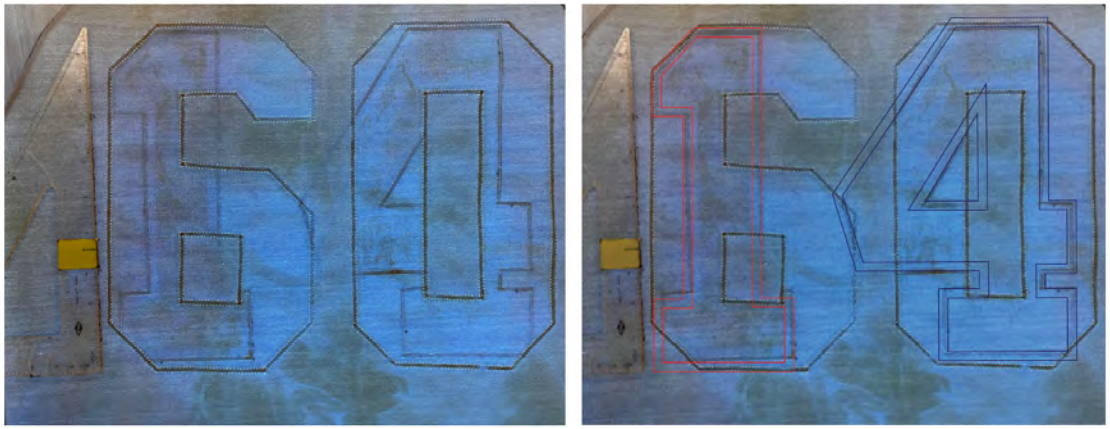
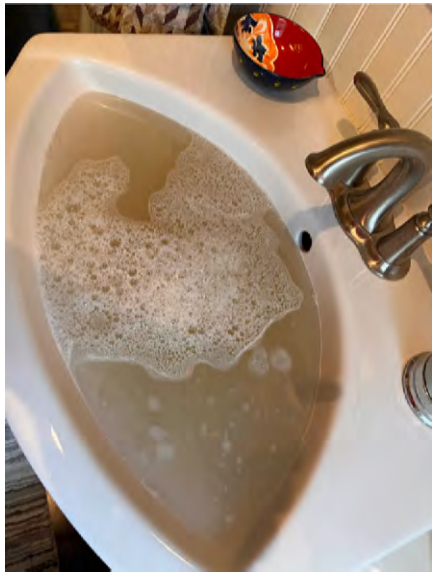
that the lettering I cut for the restoration would exactly cover the rather pronounced ghosts. Here you can see the outlines of the original 14 from the back, with some distortion in the fabric under the “4.” I do not cut lettering with distortion baked in — rather, I cut it to spec and then shrink it with steam to make it conform:



Mark had told me that he had washed the jersey before he sent it to me. Nevertheless, this is what my hand-washing in OxiClean generated:



I then hand-scrubbed the stained fabric with a mixture of OxiClean paste (powder barely dissolved in a little water) and a diluted solution of Clorox. (Caveat: I do this outdoors and wear a hazmat mask.)

After thoroughly rinsing the jersey multiple times in clean water to remove all traces of the detergent, I dried the fabric by laying it flat in a towel and then tightly rolling it up in the towel. Then I hung it to dry in the sunshine.

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Meanwhile, I created all the necessary cutting patterns on my computer in Adobe Illustrator. For the red fabric, I decided to use is a slightly lighter color called University Red, not bright Crimson Red. I have found that when we age-distress the lighter shade, it looks more true to the aged patina we are seeking.

I laid the cut pattern images on top of the jersey photos to create a proof, which I sent to Mark for him to review and approve. Every job that goes through here gets a proof — it's an important quality-control step and gives the client a chance to see what the final product will look like and request changes. No surprises, no mistakes, no rework. (I mistakenly put "#15" on the proof sheet, instead of "#14." That was later fixed.)

The jersey needed a new zipper. Original 1972 zippers were made by Talon and had "Talon" lettering on the tab. Vintage Talon stock is available, but it takes a lot of searching and can be expensive, so instead I sourced a brass replacement that looked identical except for the tab lettering.

Trim needed to be reapplied. This 1972 jersey used the old-style flat-woven nylon uniform braid that was common during the flannel uniform era, not like the polyester trim that's used today. Luckily, I have a collection of vintage trim made on the original machines and from the original supplier:

After cutting the lettering, I test-placed it on the garment to see if it covered the shadows. The small "White Sox" lettering on the tail of the logo was hand-embroidered by my seamstress, Emily, who also sewed in the new zipper, the new trim, and all the lettering. We used off-color thread to make it look like it had been washed many times instead of brand-new.

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The next step was media-blasting. The lettering was tacked firmly onto cardboard and then placed into my full-sized blast cabinet and strafed with a hand-mixed compound of abrasives to dull the sheen of the twill, soften the edges, and make it look like it's been used and washed a bunch of times. Here are before and after photos — the photo at the right is after blasting.

See how some areas of the printed ink on the cardboard have been blasted away? That's how I know when we have done it enough! I also blasted the trim to age it, prior to Emily sewing it on.

We want this lettering to look severely aged, but tackle twill is normally impervious to dyes and bleach. So I mixed up this concoction in my kitchen and boiled it on low for about 10 minutes on the stove. The trim was also boiled.

Once the dyeing was complete, I rinsed the lettering and left it wet. Working with the jersey on the light table, I aggressively steamed the lettering on the plate steamer to make it conform to the shapes of the ghosts on the jersey. Subtle tweaks in the shapes of the lettering can be made while the pieces are hot with steam. I also steamed the trim the same way to give it some age and pucker. (I wear gloves to do this, because steam is hot and dangerous.)

Emily stitched the trim in place. Look at the lining on the inner collar — it was yellowed in the earlier photos but now it's bright and clean.

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The final result! This jersey will never pass for new — nor should it. It is still discolored in spots, but the overall garment has been brightened considerably and the color evened out, thanks to our careful but aggressive washing. I want to be clear that the majority of the discoloration in the fabric on this jersey was due to it being absolutely filthy. Skillful washing brought a lot of the color back. But garments that are badly faded are going to stay faded, you can't return the color if it's gone.

The replacement trim looks just as it should — not jarring and new but slightly yellowed and harmonious with the base fabric. The aging of the twill is subtle — you don't even notice it, and that's the point. If left crisp and shiny, it would look out of place.

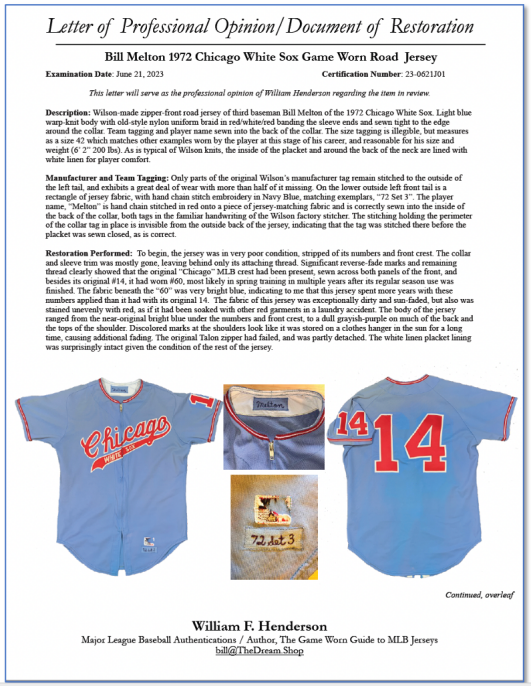
There is some intentional distortion of the rear-jersey "4," to match the ghost beneath.

Notice that we did not touch the tagging. That's because a jersey's tagging is like the serial number on a car or a gun — it should never be tampered with, even if it's missing or in bad shape. Sure, a jersey with original tagging in perfect condition is worth more, but tagging that's been tampered with, even with all good intentions, makes the jersey all but worthless to serious collectors. Many auction houses will not even touch such an item.

The final step, as always, is to document the process with a letter of restoration/authenticity opinion.

A job like this is a lot of work and is not inexpensive, but the end result has preserved a relic and made it something worth displaying. The documentation of its restoration and its authentication as a piece of 1972 White Sox history cements its future value if and when it is sold, even if that time is many decades from now.

I probably do about three restorations like this each month, though most are not this dramatic. I rarely take the time to photograph and write them up like this— it just takes too much time. In this case, spelling it all out, like the restoration process itself, was worth the effort.



Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Bill Melton 1972 Chicago White Sox Game Worn Road Jersey

Examination Date: June 21, 2023 **Certification Number**: 23-0621J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Wilson-made zipper-front road jersey of third baseman Bill Melton of the 1972 Chicago White Sox. Light blue warp-knit body with old-style nylon uniform braid in red/white/red banding the sleeve ends and sewn tight to the edge around the collar. Team tagging and player name sewn into the back of the collar. The size tagging is illegible, but measures as a size 42 which matches other examples worn by the player at this stage of his career, and reasonable for his size and weight (6' 2" 200 lbs). As is typical of Wilson knits, the inside of the placket and around the back of the neck are lined with white linen for player comfort.

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: Only parts of the original Wilson's manufacturer tag remain stitched to the outside of the left tail, and exhibits a great deal of wear with more than half of it missing. On the lower outside left front tail is a rectangle of jersey fabric, with hand chain stitch embroidery in Navy Blue, matching exemplars, "72 Set 3". The player name, "Melton" is hand chain stitched in red onto a piece of jersey-matching fabric and is correctly sewn into the inside of the back of the collar, both tags in the familiar handwriting of the Wilson factory stitcher. The stitching holding the perimeter of the collar tag in place is invisible from the outside back of the jersey, indicating that the tag was stitched there before the placket was sewn closed, as is correct.

Restoration Performed: To begin, the jersey was in very poor condition, stripped of its numbers and front crest. The collar and sleeve trim was mostly gone, leaving behind only its attaching thread. Significant reverse-fade marks and remaining thread clearly showed that the original "Chicago" MLB crest had been present, sewn across both panels of the front, and besides its original #14, it had worn #60, most likely in spring training in multiple years after its regular season use was finished. The fabric beneath the "60" was very bright blue, indicating to me that this jersey spent more years with these numbers applied than it had with its original 14. The fabric of this jersey was exceptionally dirty and sun-faded, but also was stained unevenly with red, as if it had been soaked with other red garments in a laundry accident. The body of the jersey ranged from the near-original bright blue under the numbers and front crest, to a dull grayish-purple on much of the back and the tops of the shoulder. Discolored marks at the shoulders look like it was stored on a clothes hanger in the sun for a long time, causing additional fading. The original Talon zipper had failed, and was partly detached. The white linen placket lining was surprisingly intact given the condition of the rest of the jersey.

Continued, overleaf

William F. Henderson
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Besides the staining and fading, the body the jersey was still intact without holes or split seams. I aggressively hand-washed the jersey multiple times with different detergents, and it surrendered a fair amount of dirt into the wash water leaving it considerably brighter. I hand scrubbed the most discolored areas with a diluted solution of chlorine bleach to try to even out the color. I replaced the zipper with a brass one very similar to the original.

Using the original team pattern from my archive, I reproduced the front Chicago crest, and starting with team number patterns modified to match the shapes seen in the ghosts. I recreated the player numbers for the back and the sleeves. I used identical vintage trim to replace the missing and ruined trim on the sleeves and collar. The small "White Sox" adornment on the tail of the Chicago wordmark was recreated in a machine embroidery stitch in white thread. To match the patina/age of the jersey itself, all the sewn lettering and the trim was media blasted to remove its sheen and then organically dyed to dull the bright colors to make it better match the fabric of the jersey it was sewn to. It was stitched with off-white thread.

The result of this restoration is the rejuvenation of a jersey that had been left for dead, and it now appears presentable and in approximately the condition it would have been in after a season of use in MLB plus multiple years of spring training utility. The ghosts of the numbers "60" that had been on the back and sleeves remain visible as the fabric that had been beneath them is brighter than the surrounding areas. The "14" on the back is purposely slightly distorted from having been aged and steamed prior to application, and its shape exactly matches the original ghosts on the jersey back.

Conclusion: The jersey in review is a rarely seen example of a first-year knit White Sox game worn jersey, uncommon today because most were simply worn out and discarded. It presents well and is faithfully restored. The jersey has no alterations or contrivances of of any kind. It has a team-issue tagging. It is my considered opinion that this jersey was made to team specifications and worn by Bill Melton of the 1972 Chicago White Sox.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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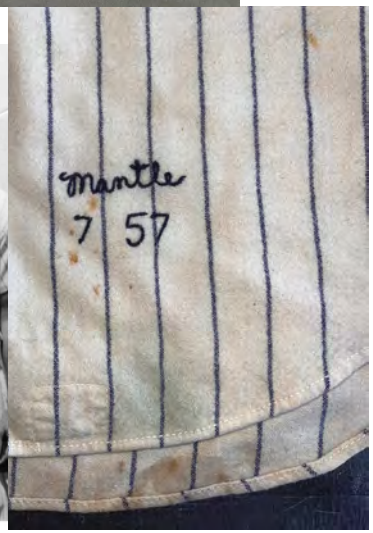
Mickey Mantle 1957 New York Yankees Home Jersey - Restoration

The jersey we have today to restore and authenticate happens to be Mickey Mantle's 1957 Yankees home jersey. That was an MVP year for him, a World Series year, and this jersey has been photo matched to him to his only game in his career where he hit for the cycle. It is here because it needs to be restored so it can go to auction.

The first question I am usually asked when people learn that I am restoring baseball jerseys is, "Restored? Why? What is the matter with them?" It's hard for people to grasp the idea that a historic Yankees jersey from an iconic player in a record-breaking season would be anything other than coveted and well preserved. And that's just not the case. Like with nearly all Yankees jerseys through the early 1990s, this one was sent to the minor leagues after its use in New York was completed. The Yankees had a huge number of farm teams, and because none of them used the iconic "NY" on the front, all of the jerseys had to be stripped for reuse. That was the case with this one. It went to Binghamton where it was repurposed as a Binghamton Triplets jersey



As received, the Triplets rest from the late 50s was still stitched to the front. Mantle's number seven was on the back, and his name is embroidered in the tail, one can only imagine the thrill of the player to whom this jersey was issued in the minors, having a chance to wear it.

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Looking at it more closely, we turn it inside out and find that it is absolutely filthy. It looks like coffee grounds and cat poop have been rubbed into it. There's a large L shape rip in the back of one of the sleeves. Looking at it, there's no sign that the Yankees crest was on the front, but I know if we some detective work we can find out more.

Putting it on the light table, we can see a few very faint marks where the Yankees New York crest had been on the front (more on that in a moment) but I also notice the signature puckering underneath the Triplets logo. That tells me it was washed many, many times with that felt emblem stitched in place. Puckering happens when the fabrics shrink at different rates during hot water washing. The amount of puckering tells me that it was probably used for multiple seasons in Binghamton before it was retired.

When it came to me, this jersey had already been photo matched. Yankees jerseys are easier than many to photomatch to game use for two reasons. First, the pinstripes help a great deal, we can see where they align at the seams, where the buttons are placed in relation to them, and where the emblems and numbers are stitched compared to the location of the stripes. And secondly, the shear number of photos of the Yankees that appeared in the media compared to other teams. The New York Press was all over them, and especially photos of Mantle were in the newspaper daily. Two different companies photo matched this jersey to over a dozen games including the game that Mantle hit for the cycle.

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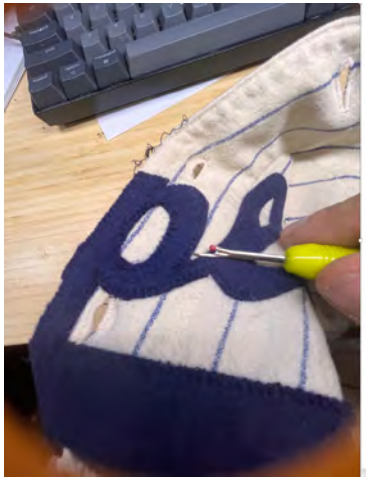
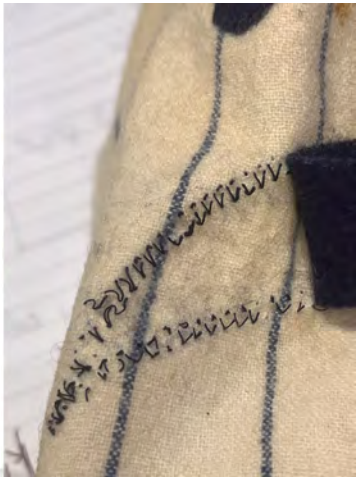
The light table shows that nothing has been changed on the back of this jersey, and the very fine and even puckering pattern of the flannel fabric beneath the felt number is impossible to reproduce. My conclusion is that the seven on the back is the original one and it is never been touched.





The first step is to carefully remove the Triplets crest from the front. This needs to be done with a magnifying glass, with a seam ripper, and done one stitch at a time.

After the Triplets crest has been removed, we can get started with the light table. We want to look not just for evidence of the Yankees crest on the front, but also the exact placement of it. With any luck it will match the photo matching documents that have already been completed.

(shown here on the light table but without any photo enhancement) So why is the Triplets shadow so prominent? The reason is primarily because the fabric beneath it is thicker than the surrounding fabric. As this jersey was washed dozens of times with the Triplets crest on the front, that area was protected in the washing machine and stayed thicker. Now with it removed, it is harder for the light to pass through the place it had been sewn. Sometimes the darker area is because of the application of glue that held down the lettering. That is not the case here, once unstitched the Triplets logo came right off.

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Using a combination of techniques which include using ultraviolet light, the light table and enhancing the image with all of the tools in Adobe Photoshop, we can now clearly see the outline of the Yankees emblem. If you look, you can also see the very clear darker outline of the Triplets emblem that was definitely on this shirt for longer than the Yankees NY was ever there.

Legacy ghost imprints on fabric are generally caused by four things: 1) Glue and dye transfer from the old emblem. 2) Fabric compression around the outline edges caused by the sewing machine thread. 3) Noticeable difference in fabric thickness under what would have been the placement of the original emblem. (This occurs when that spot is protected from abrasion during machine-washing by the old emblem, so as the surrounding fabric is abraded it becomes marginally thinner/more threadbare, and allows light to pass through it more easily, the result is a darker area on the light table showing the location of the old emblem.) 4) Small holes caused by the removal of the old emblem. I especially look for holes at the spots where the old and new emblem's lines may have intersected— these small spots are made especially weaker because they have been sewn over and had thread ripped out twice, making them more likely to produce a hole of some size.

In this case, there are no holes surrounding the perimeter of the Yankees NY emblem. It must have been carefully removed, back then. So why are the outline-edges darker? This is an artifact of zigzag stitching. Zigzag stitching was only introduced on commercial sewing machines in the late 1950s, and prior to then, all felt lettering was straight-stitched. When straight stitching is removed it leaves almost no mark, especially if the jersey has been washed many times afterwards. But zigzag stitching compresses the fibers in the fabric very slightly along the stitching line, moving the fibers closer together with the tension of the thread in the machine. The fiber compression causes a dark line in those spots. Because the original seven on the back is still zigzag stitched, we can be confident that the Yankees emblem on the front of this jersey was also zigzag stitched as well. Thanks to this artifact, we can see exactly where the NY logo had been placed. And not surprisingly, it matches exactly the photo match documents from 1957.

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This forensic work done, we now move to the next step which can be something more than nerve-wracking. We have to wash this priceless garment. I take consolation in the fact that these fabrics were meant to be washed from the beginning, so we are not doing anything revolutionary here. A basin of warm water and a quarter cup of Woolite is where we begin. I gently rub the fabric against itself to try to loosen up all of the dirt that is inside. A couple of stubborn stains require a spray of Oxiclean which helps loosen them up and get them out of the shirt. After washing, I rinse the shirt four times with a basin of clean water to get all of the soap out of it. Once it drips dry into the sink, I roll it tightly in a cotton towel to wick all of the water out of it. We will not be wringing this jersey dry! After this step is completed it is barely damp. I then hang it to air dry.

Re-creating the Yankees crest on the front is not a quick and simple process. It involves several steps to make sure that we get it perfectly correct. Going back to 1957, there were no computers or laser cutters. Original team name crests were most commonly cut by hand from felt, the outline set with a powder-dusted vellum pattern. Closely spaced pinholes in the vellum paper allowed talcum powder to fall through and define the edge of the emblem onto a piece of wool felt that was usually backed with a thin layer gauze-like dressmaker's interfacing to keep it from fraying. The emblem was then cut by hand using a pair of sharp scissors.

I have a library of scans of original Yankees crests going back to the 1920s. Before I re-create anything, I look in my library to see what I have that is very close to the emblem on the shirt. In this case, one of my standard 1957 archival emblems matched almost exactly. It needed only a slight bit of tweaking, that was probably related to shrinkage of the fabric of the jersey to make it match. We want to make sure that the new emblem covers the old ghost as much as possible. I was asked whether or not it made sense to find another more common-player 1957 Yankees jersey at auction and steal the front emblem off of it to stitch it in place, using a vintage replacement rather than making a new one. I recommended against this for a couple of reasons. First of all most of the 1957 jerseys that are offered at auction have replacement front crests; they are not the original ones for the same reasons I mentioned before. And secondly it is very unlikely that even an original crest would fit the shrinkage pattern on this jersey exactly. We'd end up with some sort of a mismatch that would be visible on the light table. I have the original Marino wool that was used back in the day, and I recommended that my recreation would be a better solution, and the jersey owner agreed.

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Here is the completed job– everything I've learned in my years doing this type of work goes into a conservation like this one. It has to be perfect; it is a piece of American history.

The final step is always a complete professional letter of opinion, documenting the restoration. I have included my evaluation here for you to read.

If you have enjoyed these stories of restoration, please visit my blog, https://www.facebook.com/gameworngnuides. There are many more shared there.

Photomatch evaluation done by Davius Sports, www.DaviousSports.com

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Letter of Professional Opinion/Document of Restoration

Mickey Mantle 1957 New York Yankees Game Worn Home Jersey, MVP Year

Examination Date: February 4, 2024 **Certification Number**: 24-0204J01

This letter will serve as the professional opinion of William Henderson regarding the item in review.

Description: Spalding made seven button cream colored professional grade flannel with Navy chalk pinstripe, size 44 New York Yankees home jersey, tagged for Mickey Mantle. Navy felt NY team logo is stitched to the left chest, and the player's number "7" is sewn in felt to the center of the back. The sleeves are set-in and the length is mid-bicep, appropriate to 1957 standards and matches period photos of the player. There is a 4" L-shaped tear in the bottom back of the right sleeve that is un-repaired. Some light staining remains on the right chest that oddly originated on the inside of the jersey, most likely from improper storage. There are a few tiny holes in the lower back, each smaller than a grain of rice, but otherwise the jersey is in generally good condition. A light table evaluation reveals that the number on the back is original and uncontrived, with only minor puckering of the jersey fabric beneath it from wash shrinkage. The seven plastic-pearl buttons appear to be original. This jersey has been partially restored, and details follow.

In 1957 Mickey Mantle played in 144 games for the Yankees, hitting a stellar .365 with 34 home runs. That year he won his second consecutive MVP award, leading both leagues in runs scored and walks and recording a career-high batting average of .365, second best in the AL. The Yankees fell to the Milwaukee Braves in that year's World Series. That season, Mantle reached base more times than he made outs (319 to 312), one of two seasons in which he achieved the feat. (Baseball Almanac, Wikipedia) On July 23, 1957 Mantle hit for 'the cycle' at Yankee Stadium, hitting a home run that nearly left the stadium (SABR).

Manufacturer and Team Tagging: The Spalding manufacturer's tag in the proper style for 1957 is stitched into the back of the neck. 1957 was a transition year for Spalding tagging; this is the earlier style, without the dot over the "T". It is sewn in the collar instead of the tail, and both styles of tags and placement locations are seen on 1957 examples, likely the old tags were simply used up until they were gone. The Spalding tag is sewn with the stitching invisible from the outside back of the collar, which means it was correctly sewn there before the placket was sewn closed. Punch-sewn under the right edge of the tag is a small white "44" flag tag noting the size. The chest measures 44", and matches the size worn by Mantle at this stage of his career. Near the bottom of the left front tail is chain stitched in Navy Blue embroidery thread, "Mantle 7 57" (player number 7, 1957) in the familiar hand of the factory stitcher, and matching exemplars. On the reverse flap of the tail is the small Spalding white with Navy and red machine-embroidered printing wash instructions tag, slightly discolored from use. Pinch-sewn under its right edge is a small white flag tab

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As received and prior to restoration, showing extensive stains that oddly are mostly on the inside and soaked through to the outside. Stains on the right shoulder could well be dirt stuck to remnants of pine tar. At bottom, torn right sleeve appears to have been caught on something and then yanked away, sacrificing a small piece of cloth at the corner of the "L" shaped tear. Bottom right, the fabric beneath the partly-removed Triplets crest shows that there is not dye-staining but that the fabric is both cleaner and denser where it was covered by the emblem. The slight blue tint is mostly micro-fibers of the felt embedded in the flannel fabric.

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cardboard patterns. The ghost on this jersey is a good match to one of my historic patterns, and digitally overlaying the pattern over the ghost provided a satisfying match. Photos are provided in this document.

Analysis of the ghosts gives us some insight as to the life of this garment. On the light table, the most obvious element is that the TRIPLETS lettering ghost shows up as darker in color. This is most likely caused not from any glue or staining on the shirt, but is instead an artifact from the increased thickness of the fabric that was protected beneath it compared to the rest of the jersey, which has lost some of its density after dozens of washings. The original NY that was on the jersey, likely for a single season's of use shows much less difference in fabric thickness beneath it (it was probably used in 1958 spring training and it may have been kept and used as an emergency backup by Mantle in 1958). This tells me the jersey was probably used for multiple years in Birmingham; far longer than it served as a Yankees jersey. Next, the ghost of the original NY is most apparent as a slightly darker outline around its perimeter. This is likely not glue, instead it tells me that it was sewn with a zig zag stitch, which nearly-microscopically compressed the fibers of the cloth closer together along the stitching line, allowing less light to pass through when shone from behind. The number on back is

Above, closely matching wool felt was used to reproduce the front Yankees crest. The "7" on back is the original, notice very fine puckering beneath from repeated warm water washing. At right, there of the original 7 mother of pearl plastic buttons. Below, the post-washing light table images enhanced with contrast show the ghost of the original NY. At center the same image presented as a negative, and at right an overlay of one of the period-correct Yankees front crest patterns from my archives.

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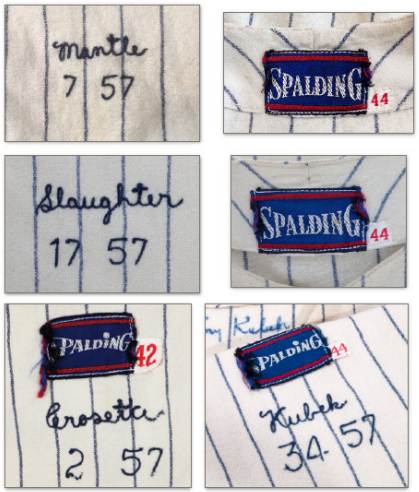

Tagging compared to exemplars: The jersey in review is shown at top. Directly below is Enos Slaughter's 1957 jersey (exemplars have been authenticated by others.) It has the same style tagging as the Mantle, old style Spalding tag in the collar with flag tab for size. The Crosetti and Kubiek examples at bottom use the new for 1957 tag with the dot over the "i" an the Spalding tag sewn above the player name/number designation all sewn on the outer left tail. The chain stitch embroidery "handwriting" matches in style.

that says SET 1 1957. All appear original to the jersey and are free of alteration or contrivance.

Wear and Repairs/Restoration Performed: As received, this jersey exhibited moderate/heavy use and wear. It wore the Navy felt front work-mark across its chest of the Birmingham (Alabama) Triplets, a Yankees level-A farm team, passed to the minor leagues after its MLB service was through. This recycling practice was common by nearly every team in baseball, and while it may seem unimaginable that a future Hall of Famer's game jersey from an MVP / World Series year would be treated so callously, that's just the way it was always done. Consider: In 1958, the Yankees had eleven farm teams in their massive enterprise, and sending the MLB hand-me downs of everything from uniforms to bats to catcher's equipment was a budget decision made without any sense of nostalgia. Collecting baseball memorabilia was just not a "thing" in 1957, and the Yankees stuck with their practice of recycling uniforms to the minors well into the 1990s.

The player number "7" on the back is original, and a close examination of the inside of the shirt shows very minor, even puckering of the jersey fabric beneath the sewn on lettering. That, combined with the good condition of the tags and the darkness of the player team tagging embroidery thread tell me that this jersey was generally well taken care of in its lifetime, and was neither washed in water that was too hot nor washed with bleach.

Examined on a light table, the ghost of the original chest NY insignia was slightly visible, but was mostly obscured by the Triplets crest. While the jersey body itself was overall relatively clean, the inside of the jersey had been splashed with a thick brown substance of unknown origin (almost looking like coffee grounds), and the large tear in the sleeve (it appears to have been caught on something; it is repairable but a small piece of the fabric is missing right at the intersection of the "L") makes it appear that it was carelessly stored. Luckily, there is little to no evidence of insect damage, so common with improper storage.

When I received the jersey for evaluation and restoration, my first action was to take detailed photos of the jersey, both inside and out. I put the jersey on the light table and photographed the front where the Yankees emblem would have been. Next, I very carefully removed the Triplets lettering, then I took photos on the light table again. The felt from the Triplets crest did not leave behind any major staining as is so common from felt fabric that has been pressed together for many years; however it did leave trace fibers of its felt pressed into the weave of the flannel fabric which remain there. Finally, I spot-treated the staining and hand-washed the garment, which brightened it considerably and removed the worst of the staining.

With the Triplets lettering removed, the light table revealed more of the Yankees insignia's shadow on the front. There are multiple slight variants of the Yankee crest, in that era there was no such thing as a standard digital pattern like we would have today; while some were die-cut, rather mostly they were hand-cut from felt with scissors with help from powder-dusted

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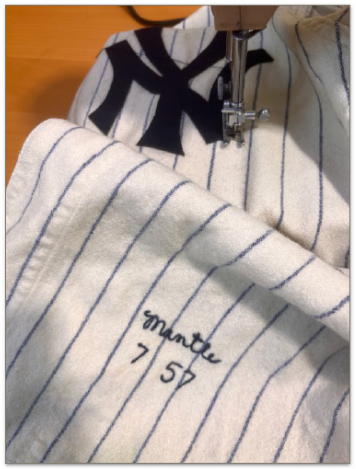
original and is zig-zag stitched, "new technology" for 1957, as the first such sewing machines appeared around 1955. For decades prior, uniform felt lettering was always sewn with a straight-stitch, appropriate for a non-woven fabric which would not unravel without a hem. Felt as formerly straight stitched to flannel is far more difficult to observe on the light table because there is far less fabric compression.



I cut the Yankees team crest from Navy Marino wool using my matching pattern, first backing it with a thin layer of heat-adhered binding as was done originally to keep the edges tight in the wash. Again, with the assist of the light table, I placed the crest exactly over the original ghost, then restitched it using the same size/frequency stitch, notably done on a 1957 vintage sewing machine.

As restored, the jersey presents well, though no attempt was made to fix the torn sleeve. There is some staining and yellowing of the fabric especially around the neck and on the sleeves, and on the right chest where the inside-staining was the most serious. The thicker fabric that was beneath the Triplets crest is apparent, and there is some yellowing and minor trace fiber fabric adhesion from the old felt to the weave of the flannel jersey from having been attached to it for so many years, both during and after its use. I would differentiate these marks from color-transfer staining, which is not present on this jersey. Staining is visible and noticeable in natural light.

Conclusion: During the 1950s, few Yankees jerseys, regardless of the stardom of the original player, were spared a trip to the minor leagues, where most of them were stripped and then re-lettered. This one followed that familiar journey, though it appears to have been generally well treated in its second life. While there is a rip in the back of the right sleeve, and there was a great deal of dirt inside the jersey when I received it, I would judge these as likely artifacts of improper storage. Once cleaned, overall the jersey fabric is still supple and is not threadbare. The jersey retains its original set of buttons. Its tagging matches exemplars and it shows moderate to heavy game wear.

I have determined that the back number and the tagging is original and uncontrived. In my faithful restoration I was able to clean the dried dirt residue splattered on the inside, lighten the stains with careful cleaning, and and determine exactly the shape and location of the original front cresting. I cleaned the jersey, after removing the Triplets crest, and replaced it with a material-correct Yankees crest that exactly matches both the period pattern and exactly covers the ghost on the fabric.

There are quite simply very few remaining Yankees jerseys at all from this period, as most were converted to minor league livery and then used to destruction; I suspect often discarded likely without many ever being recognized as having been MLB Yankees jerseys in their first life. Clearly this jersey from one of the icons of the Game in an MVP and World Series year is a significant piece of baseball history, and to have had the opportunity to authenticate and properly restore this historic piece is an honor indeed.

William F. Henderson
Principal, and Professional Authenticator

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